

WHEELER'S CAVALRY

Fought in Battles About Atlanta.

Atlanta Journal.

It is much to be regretted that Gen. Joseph Wheeler was unable to attend our battlefields reunion...

In my last conversation with "Marse Joe" I asked him if the best work of his career was not done in defense of Atlanta...

Certain it is that no harder fighting was done by the infantry than by the cavalry, dismounted in the trenches around our city...

To give anything like a detailed account of the fighting of Wheeler's cavalry in the Atlanta campaign would make my article too long...

On the night of the 21st General Wheeler moved around the enemy's left flank, and attacked a division of infantry occupying the town of Decatur in strong fortifications...

Probably some of the contemporary newspaper accounts of these engagements would not be uninteresting. A correspondent signing himself as "F. C. DeF." writes as follows:

galled their antagonists at every step. "General Wheeler last evening attacked the enemy's left in the neighborhood of Decatur and drove them back, capturing 500 wagons with supplies, and a large number of prisoners. He is still pursuing them."

On the 27th of July General Sherman made his last great effort to use his cavalry to destroy General Hood's communications, by sending out three grand raids under Stoneman, Garrard and McCook. These numbered ninety-six hundred picked men, splendidly armed, mounted and equipped.

About this time it was learned that General Stoneman, with 2,000 men, had moved early in the morning in the direction of Macon. Wheeler ordered General Iverson with his own, General Allen's and Colonel Breckinridge's brigades, to follow Stoneman rapidly, and attack him wherever found.

Wheeler encountered the enemy at Line creek, the bridge over which had been destroyed and barricades erected on the opposite side.

Taking advantage of a bend in the creek which enabled Wheeler to take a position which inflated their barricades, the enemy was driven from their position, the bridge repaired and our troops passed over.

At 12 o'clock, within two miles of Newnan, Wheeler overtook McCook's rear, and after marching a short distance encountered the enemy forming line of battle in his front with twenty-five hundred men.

Wheeler had with him not over six hundred (the rest of his command not being able to keep up with the rapid march) he decided to charge at once.

after the war the writer asked General Wheeler if he did not win this battle by sheer audacity. Smilingly the old hero replied, "Yes, I reckon I did."

To give further details of this engagement would make my story too long. McCook's magnificent command had been destroyed, and though several hundred escaped, it was only owing to the fact that our men and horses were too exhausted to pursue.

The force sent after General Stoneman had been equally successful, having encountered him some twenty miles from Macon, captured him, with 500 of his command, and dispersed the balance.

The net results of these operations of Wheeler and his cavalry were the delivery of thirty-two hundred prisoners to the Confederate authorities, as shown by the official records, and the killing and wounding of half as many more, making the loss to the union army of nearly five thousand men.

The object of these raids was not only the destruction of Hood's communications, but the liberation of the thirty thousand prisoners confined at Andersonville, for which General Sherman had sufficient arms and ammunition in his immense supply trains.

(PRIVATE) W. C. DODSON.

Taking the Census.

"This census business is all right when it is all over and done with, and we look with pride at the figures showing the wonderful increase of our great and glorious republic," said Major Bowen, of Kentucky; "but I had a job of enumerating in my State and the 21 cents a name I got isn't a drop in the bucket to the amount of trouble I experienced in getting the ignorant and timid colored people to answer my questions. They had all sort of queer notions about what the census was, some for drafting men into the army and some thinking they were to be put into the slavery again."

"Where you born in Kentucky?" I asked one colored woman. "No, sah, she answered readily enough. 'I wuz bawn in Louisville.' 'Can you read?' 'Oh, yes sah.' 'Write' 'Yes, sah.' 'Do you speak English?' 'The question staggered her much to my surprise and I repeated it more for the fun than anything else."

"No, sah," she hesitated. "I reckon I doan' know dat, sah." "Another woman read the names of her children from the family Bible. "Annie; born April 15, 1895," she said, and I put it down. "Johnnie; born April 15, 1895," she read again. "Hold on," said I. "That can't be. You've got them on the same day."

"Well, I reckon dat's right, boss," she explained, "deys twin's." "And those two instances," said the major, "are only two of a thousand or more."—Washington Star.

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The North and the South. General Shaw, Grand Army of the Republic commander, did not mean to wound the feelings of ex-Confederates and no doubt, as he said, got some of his inspiration from General Gordon's lectures at the north, which he presumably and unintentionally misinterpreted.

General Gordon, in good temper, put himself where we all know he belongs, and General Shaw accepted the situation. The fact is that the people of the north and south will not, for an indefinite period, come together on that question, and they need not attempt to do so.

General Garfield once said, in the house of representatives, assailing the southern members, that there could be no common ground of settlement until "We (of the north) who believe we were eternally right, get you (of the south) to admit that you were eternally wrong." Well, we of the south will never do that, and you of the north may as well cease your importunities in that direction.

At Antietam, not long ago, a monument was erected to the Blue and the Gray who fell there. In his address, on that occasion, Governor Smith said: "It is the only instance in the world's history of a single monument being erected to those who fought each on the field of battle."

The Federal government," declares Col. Wood, "could have placed in the field an army 212,614 superior in number to the entire Confederate forces without enlisting a single man from the northern States." The total enrollment of Federal soldiers during the Civil war was 2,778,300, and the number of pensions now on the government rolls is nearly 1,000,000.

These figures show the tremendous odds against which the south had to contend and the extent to which Europe was a factor in defeating the Confederacy.

The number of foreigners who were killed will probably never be known. The north, it is estimated by Col. Wood, lost altogether 359,527 men, who were either killed in battle or died from wounds or disease. The losses of the south aggregated 200,000 men, or one-third of the entire force engaged.

that only God could decide the right or wrong, and he and General Shaw, representing south and north, might leave the decision to the Higher Power. Let it suffice that the union is re-established and that we are all citizens of a common country, devoted to its honor, prosperity and true glory.

Let the north see to it that the republic shall remain the republic of Washington and Jefferson. Let the north strive to perpetuate the only union worth saving or possessing. We of the south will join in that common cause with heart and hand.

When she tripped into the car and took a seat the men stared at her. The women did likewise. Opposite sat a middle-aged woman with her 7-year-old daughter.

The child stared at the large button on the shirt waist, then pointing to it, asked: "What is that, mamma?" "It's very rude to point, don't you know my dear?" quoth mamma.

"Well, what is it?" she again inquired. The young woman heard the inquiry and reprimand and smiled at the perverseness of the child; then, holding out her hands, said, "Come here, little sweetheart, and I'll explain it to you."

"And you are going to answer questions?" inquired the child? "Just try me and see," replied the young woman.

"How old are you?" "I'm—" "Are you as old as my mama?" persisted the child. Mama frowned. The young woman smiled.

Before the car was out of sight she threw that "Ask me" button as far as she could send it. D. W. Molver, Takega, Ala., wrote: Our child's bowels were passing off pure blood and all prescriptions failed to relieve her, until we tried Teething (Teething Powders), and she is now doing well.

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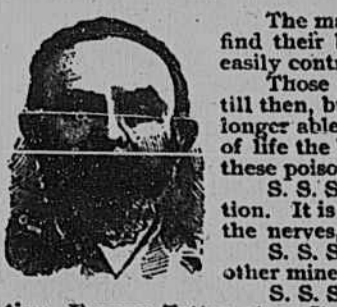
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