

### How a Cledhopper Made a General's Reputation

By F. A. MITCHEL

Johnny Hunter existed in 1861 in an Ohio regiment to fight for Abraham Lincoln's daughter, as the phrase had it in those days. Johnny was a farmer's boy and didn't know any more about war than he did about mowing a circus. It so happened that he fell under the command of a general who had graduated in the engineer corps at West Point, had been sent abroad during the Crimean war to observe the strategy of European armies and had written a report which had caused him six years later to be picked out for one of the great commanders of the war between the states. In short, he was at the apex of the pyramid of military intelligence, while Johnny was one of the many thousands who formed the base.

The force that Johnny served with formed the extreme of the right wing of an army whose commander was anxious to advance, but a fort so situated in a pocket in the hills that it was difficult to take was delaying him, for it is a military principle that an army must not leave a fortification in its rear. The scientific soldier who commanded this wing was approaching the fortification in accordance with the principles of military engineering—in other words, by zigzag trenches. The only objection to this plan of reducing the fort was that it took a lot of time and delayed an army of 70,000 men from advancing. Meanwhile the men who composed the army were costing the government immense sums of money, were dying of camp fever and were getting generally demoralized.

Johnny Hunter, who didn't know enough about military matters to keep himself in camp unless permitted to go elsewhere, one night, feeling restless, stole out without waking his tent mates, evaded the camp guard and wandered away. He was too stupid to avoid going in the direction of the enemy, and while men were crouching in the trenches he was stumbling along in the dark toward the fortification they were trying to dig out. Presently he came to a dirt wall. Lighting a match, he saw that it was inclined and about ten feet high, but he thought he could climb it and he did. At the top he laid his hands on something that felt like a log. By feeling along it he found that it was a log. Vaulting over it, he proceeded along the top of the dirt wall, which was some eight feet thick, and came to another log. In this way he discovered a lumber of logs side by side on top of the dirt wall.

Hearing a storm of snores below him, he concluded that they might come from Confederates, and concluded to retrace his steps. Sliding down the incline, he was groping his way back, as he supposed, over the same route by which he had come, when suddenly he dropped into a trench, falling on several sleeping men.

Angry at being disturbed in their slumbers, they reported Johnny's appearance among them, stating that he was likely a spy from the fort who had lost his bearings and fallen into a trap. The result was that the young man was sent to the rear in care of an officer, who was directed to turn him in as a captured spy.

In the morning Johnny's capture was reported to the general and after breakfast a staff officer was sent to bring him to headquarters. When Johnny appeared the general began to question him.

"Who are you?"  
John Hunter of Company B, —th Ohio."

The general sent for the captain of Company B and went on with his questioning. He asked Johnny how he happened to be out among the trenches at night, and Johnny told the story. When he came to the dirt wall, as he called it, and the logs the general pricked up his ears. He asked Johnny how many men he had heard snoring, and Johnny replied, "A hull lot." On being asked what he meant by "a hull lot" Johnny explained, "There must 'a' been four or five of 'em."

While the questioning was going on Johnny's captain came in and identified him as a private in his command. He was very severe in his manner to the culprit, being mortified that one of his men should have been caught in such a breach of discipline.

Within half an hour after the interview between Johnny and his commander the right wing of the army was drawn up in line of battle and an order given to march upon the fort. When the men reached it they clambered up the sides to the parapet, as Johnny had done the night before, without drawing a single shot. They found that what he had supposed to be a row of logs were Quaker guns—that is, logs shaped to represent cannon. A few lean Confederates in butternut were seen clambering up the hillside. They had been in charge of the fort and kept the guns from falling off their supports.

The commanding general was informed that a scout had discovered that the fort was practically deserted. The commander of the right wing was promoted, and the army advanced. As for Johnny, he was killed during the campaign that followed and never knew that he had informed one of the most scientific strategists in the army that he was besieging a deserted fort. Perhaps it was as well, since the general emerged from the war with great honors, and it would be a pity if it had been known that a stupid cledhopper had been at the bottom of his rise.

**Some Unfinished Books.**  
Dickens, Thackeray, Beaconsfield, Stevenson, all left unfinished novels. Byron had planned a continuation of both "Childe Harold" and "Don Juan" when death overtook him at Missolonghi. Coleridge never completed "Christabel," though for years before his death he toyed with the project, and the "Excursion" is merely a fragment of Wordsworth's design. Few writers have been so profligate as Wilkie Collins, who died when "Blind Love" was only three-quarters written, but left so elaborate a synopsis that his friend, Sir Walter Besant, completed it with ease.

**Yielding to the Majority.**  
A Philadelphia physician in declaring that insanity was frequently productive of sound logic tempered by wit told the story of a patient he once met in an asylum.

He came across this patient while strolling through the ground and, stopping, spoke to him. After a brief conversation the physician said:  
"Why are you here?"  
"Simply a difference of opinion," replied the patient. "I said all men were mad, and all men said I was mad, and the majority won."—Lippincott's.

**Same as Now.**  
Mrs. Styles—This paper says in the days of old Rome a woman's character was known by her dress. The toga was worn by the men, but the stola was the raiment for the women.

Mr. Styles—And I suppose it was the custom for the wife to have have half a dozen stolas to the old man's one toga.—Yonkers Statesman.

**Investigation.**  
The two British sailors had secured tickets to the dog show and were gazing upon a Skye terrier which had so much hair that it looked more like a woolen rug than a dog. "Which end is 'is' 'ead, Bill?" asked one. "Blowed if I know," was the reply. "But 'ere, I'll stick a pin in 'im, and you look 'wich end barks."

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**Leo Laconics.**  
Leo, July 19:—Crops are looking fairly well but needing rain. Tobacco is burning badly.  
Mrs J E Hemingway spent the week-end at the home of her mother, Mrs A A Brown.  
Misses Bela and Freda Carter gave a party last Friday night in honor of their guests, Misses Marie Eaddy of Rhems and Clyda Laurence of Florence. The occasion was highly enjoyed by all present.

Mr J Ed Hemingway was noted at Leo Sunday.  
Mrs Henry Ard, who has been seriously sick, is improving.  
Mr Ed Durant, who has been critically ill, is reported better.

W W B.

**Traveling Man's Experience.**  
"In the summer of 1888 I had a very severe attack of cholera morbus. Two physicians worked over me from four a. m. to 6 p. m. without giving me any relief and then told me they did not expect me to live; that I had best telegraph for my family. Instead of doing so, I gave the hotel porter fifty cents and told him to buy me a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, and take no substitute. I took a double dose according to directions and went to sleep after the second dose. At five o'clock the next morning I was called by my order and took a train for my next stopping point, a well man but feeling rather shaky from the severity of the attack," writes H W Ireland, Louisville, Ky. Obtainable everywhere.

**Chamberlain's Cough Remedy**  
Cures Colds, Croup and Whooping Cough.

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We have also placed our order for a complete line of Field and Garden Seeds, which will arrive as the planting seasons draw near. We are able to handle your order for any kinds of bulk seeds and will be pleased to furnish quotations.

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KINGSTREE, - South Carolina

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