

1316. Generals SHERMAN and THOMAS, with their indefatigable corps commanders, rode along the line with their staffs, personally superintending the parking of ambulances and ammunition trains, and assigning batteries to positions where they could be of the most service in the event of a general engagement.

CHANGE IN THE LINE.

At 9 o'clock Gen. SCHOFIELD was ordered to withdraw his corps from the part of the line between PALMER and HOOKER, and take a new position on the left of NEWTON's division of the Fourth Corps. PALMER closed up the gap between his left and NEWTON, and JUDAH's and Cox's divisions of SCHOFIELD's corps came up in the place assigned to them. Hovey's brigade of the Second Corps was left in reserve, and did not participate in the battle of to-day. By some mistake in the giving or reception of the order, Gen. Cox's division failed to get up in time, and JUDAH and the force on his right advanced upon the enemy, thus leaving a gap of half a mile between JUDAH's left and STANLEY's right, which was promptly filled by cavalry. Considerable confusion followed the announcement of the existence of this gap, and staff officers in vain rode for hours in search of Cox's division through the thick underbrush in which our line was formed. It was lost, and staff officers reported that Gen. SCHOFIELD could obtain no intelligence from it.

JUDAH'S ATTACK AND REPULSE.

Gen. JUDAH, just before noon, received an order from Gen. SCHOFIELD to open the attack, and though his left flank was liable at any moment to be turned, he informed Gen. SCHOFIELD of the fact, and at once moved forward upon the enemy's skirmishers. The boys moved rapidly through the vines and shrubbery, down the valley, drove the enemy before him, and with a cheer crossed the deep gorge near which the enemy had thrown up strong breastworks commanding the valley. The enemy opened a very destructive fire, and for half an hour the battle was a bloody one, the main lines being within a few yards of each other. The enemy at once opened a destructive fire from their artillery, which the brave division stood for some time, vainly striving by superhuman efforts to carry the breastworks. It was repulsed after a gallant effort, and retired into the valley in disorder. We had not yet got up on the left, and no artillery support was at hand. Nevertheless, Gen. JUDAH resolved not to retire without one more effort. Collecting together the fragments of his broken but not discouraged regiments, a new line was hastily formed, and the whole division were just in the act of advancing in a charge which all felt would have put it in possession of the enemy's line of works, when the division was

RELIEVED BY GEN. NEWTON'S DIVISION.

of the Eleventh Corps. In the meantime the gap in the line was filled, Cox took his position, and for an hour the incessant roll of the musketry, as volley after volley was poured into the ranks of the enemy, and as vigorously returned, told that the conflict was a desperate one. Artillery fire was delivered into the enemy's ranks rapidly, and with excellent effect. Their artillery did not do much injury, as PALMER had silenced eight guns with his regiments, who, under cover, acted as sharpshooters, and picked off the cannoniers as often as they advanced to work their pieces. No better evidence can be given of the desperate nature of the conflict between JUDAH's division and the enemy, than the loss in McLEAN's Brigade, which went into the fight with 1,388 men, and lost 545 in the short time it was engaged. Gen. NEWTON's division pressed the enemy strongly, and inflicted serious injury upon him. Every man, with the exception of half a dozen stragglers, stood up in the work like veterans. A piece of a shell struck Gen. HANSEN and MAXSON, both of whom escaped without serious injury. Gen. HOOKER remaining on the field for some time, while Gen. MAXSON is rapidly recovering from the effects of the shock. About 2 o'clock the firing on the centre, in front of NEWTON subsided into a slight skirmish fire.

GEN. COX'S DIVISION.

The division of Gen. Cox, which finally turned upon JUDAH's left, fought with great pluck and obstinacy, driving the skirmishers back upon their main line, and the line into their breastworks, from which they poured into his ranks an incessant fire of shell and ball, across valleys, up hills, through ravines they were driven, until they gained their first line of rifle-pits. Cox soon dislodged them, and sent them back to the second line of rifle-pits. At this moment Cox found that he was out of ammunition, and by some stupid blunder on the part of somebody the train were too far in rear from which to replenish his cartridge-boxes. Yet he was determined not to be foiled, and gathering together all his strength, he advanced his line. A cheer went up from his boys, and resounded through the hills as his serrated line advanced upon the enemy's works, which they carried at the point of the bayonet in splendid style; but not without the loss of many brave men.

WHAT PALMER'S FOURTEENTH CORPS ACCOMPLISHED.

The heaviest fighting of the day was on the centre. PALMER's Corps, on the right of NEWTON's Division, had heavy skirmishing along the whole line, lasting from half-past 12 o'clock, when CARLIN's Brigade, of JOHNSTON's Division, advanced down a slope of a hill, and drove the enemy into their breastworks on the south side of a hill rising out of the valley on the south. An assault on the breastworks was not ordered. The brigade at once sought cover in a ditch, formed by a dried-up stream, and until night covered them, acted as sharpshooters, and did execution in silencing batteries engaged in inflaming JUDAH and NEWTON. MICHELL's Brigade, of DAVIS' Division got into a similar position, and picked off every rebel whose head protruded above the breastworks.

TURNER's Brigade of BARN'S Division joined JUDAH on the left of PALMER's Corps, and fought desperately, but were compelled to fall back with JUDAH's Division. The loss in the corps, outside of TURNER's Brigade, was light. Capt. McDOWELL, a promising young officer of the Fifteenth Kentucky, was killed during the engagement. Capt. SHERIDAN, of the Sixth Ohio, well known in Cincinnati as an actor of some ability, is among the wounded, and will probably be compelled to submit to the amputation of his right arm.

WOOD'S DIVISION, FOURTH CORPS.

The Fourth Corps, under command of Maj.-Gen. HOWARD, the "one armed veteran," as he is styled in the corps, played a very conspicuous part in the travesty of war enacted to-day. All the corps, with the exception of BEATTY's fighting brigade, for which room could not be found, as the circle was gradually compressed as we advanced, was engaged and covered itself with imperishable glory. Wood's division was ordered into position on the right of Gen. STANLEY just before noon, and was soon hotly engaged with HAZEN's and WILLICH's brigades driving the enemy. For some time a destructive infantry and artillery fire was kept up, and ere long his main line advanced in overwhelming strength upon the enemy, who fled, at his approach, to his rifle-pits, from which the energetic Wood soon dislodged him and compelled him to seek shelter under cover of their breastworks, from which he was driven later in the day. HAZEN and WILLICH's losses were severe, but nothing in comparison with those in the Twenty-third Corps which, to-day, bore the brunt of the battle.

After three o'clock the resistance offered by the enemy on the centre, through which he had vainly striven to force a passage, grew more lax and very little firing other than skirmishing was heard.

THE ENEMY MASSING ON OUR LEFT.

Foiled at every point in his efforts to break our walls of iron that environed him, JOHNSTON early in the afternoon commenced massing heavily on our left, where STANLEY, with a brigade a division as ever marched to the music of the enemy while awaiting the developments of the enemy's attempt to break the center. Gens. SHERMAN and THOMAS were not slow to detect the enemy's design, and

PREPARATIONS TO RESIST IT

were at once commenced. Joe HOOKER's gallant Potomac veterans were selected at once, and immediately retired from the line and commenced moving to the left of STANLEY, whose flank was covered by McCook's Cavalry, in front of which JOHNSTON was massing his columns for the desperate effort. HOOKER arrived none too soon.

A MOMENT OF THRILLING INTEREST.

At 7 o'clock, when quiet reigned along the whole line, with an occasional interruption from a sharpshooter's rifle, the expected attack came. Down upon STANLEY's exposed flank came the enemy in overwhelming numbers. For a few minutes the line nobly resisted the terrific shock; but as it was renewed with tenfold fury by the enemy, who fought with a desperation equal to anything ever performed by our own soldiery, the line wavered, and the regiments on the left were giving back in confusion and disorder, when, above the roar of the artillery and musketry that seemed to make the old hills tremble and quake, a cheer was heard, and into the deadly breach, over the dead bodies of the fallen, came on the double-quick ROBINSON's brigade, who advanced to the assault with desperate determination to drive back the solid columns of the enemy, and save the army from disaster. Nobly they met the enemy, and when the shock of battle came, feeling like drunker men, the line of the enemy was broken and sent back, smarting under the shock. The contest was of short duration, but while it lasted, the roar of artillery and the roar of musketry told that this was one of the most critical moments of the day—a period when the heart of the listener seemed to stop in suspense. The Fourth Corps will never forget HOOKER and the noble brigade which, at a moment when the fate of the army hung in the balance, would have severed their own ranks and turned the tide of battle. A nation's thanks are due Joe HOOKER, and may it never forget ROBINSON's brave brigade, whose gallantry to-night is an every tongue.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED TO-DAY.

In summing up the results of the day, I am pained to say that, while we have driven the enemy at every point where he presented himself in force, our losses are heavy. Probably 2,000 will not cover the killed and missing. Nearly all of the killed and wounded are in our hands, as we were not driven a foot, except in those instances already recorded. Our line on the left center and centre has advanced over mile from its position of the morning. We have made heavy slaughter in the enemy's ranks—whose loss must be larger than ours. We have lost but a few prisoners, and taken about two hundred. Regt. 1, who is the Colonel of the Nineteenth Alabama Regiment, a very intelligent officer, who is here, at 55,000 lbs. in force, including POWELL, who is in general officer in Brig.-Gen. TUCKER, slightly wounded. So far, all goes well. The enemy is hemmed in between the

lens and the river, which is not now fordable, and will hardly let off without giving us a general engagement. When the student of military strategy takes up a map, and examines the country of this region of Georgia, he can not but feel impressed with the masterly movements of SHERMAN, which has placed us in so favorable a position.

SUNDAY, MAY 15.

During last night quiet reigned along the whole line, the enemy being very quiet and rarely firing a shot. The falling of trees and the sound of axmen, however, convinced our commanders that the rebels were erecting stronger fortifications upon the innumerable hills that rise out of the valley. A half past seven in the morning our skirmishers opened fire upon the rebel line, which was as vigorously returned upon the left and left-center. The enemy, however, did not seem disposed to attack with their main line, after the fearful slaughter and repulse that HOOKER administered to them last night. It was not until nine or ten o'clock in the morning that the Twenty-third Corps arrived from the right, and got into position on STANLEY's left. The Twenty-third Corps was immediately withdrawn from the right of the line and thrown in on the left. As our line was nearly fourteen miles long, these necessary changes occupied nearly the entire morning so that mid-day arrived ere we were ready to make the

ASSAULT ON THE ENEMY'S WORKS.

HOOKER threw forward BUTTERFIELD's division against the enemy's strongest position, supported by WILLIAMS' and GEARY's divisions, and the battle opened furiously on both sides. HOOKER fought for three or four hours, making a steady headway, carrying line after line of rifle-pits, until BUTTERFIELD's division encountered a lunette of formidable size. Several attempts were made to carry it and capture its guns, which were pouring a destructive fire into our lines, but the attempt was futile. The troops fought with great desperation, but as often as they advanced upon the lunette, the terrific volleys of musketry from the enemy in the fortifications hurled them back in confusion. At last BUTTERFIELD charged forward and took a position under the protecting works of the fort, so close to the guns within that they could be touched by the men's hands. In the effort to gain this exposed position, the contest was a bloody one, GEARY's division supporting BUTTERFIELD. WARD's brigade, which were participating in their first battle, fought with marked determination, and contributed much to secure the position.

HOOKER CARRIES THE LUNETTE BY STRATEGY.

After vain efforts to capture the lunette from which the enemy poured into our ranks grape, canister and shrapnel, HOOKER's forces gave up the unequal contest, and during the balance of the day lay under the breastworks protected from the enemy's fire, and picking off every rebel who showed himself above the works. Darkness found him in this position, and he at once mature plans for capturing the works by strategy, under cover of darkness. The pioneers were brought up; the ends dug out of the works, and the guns drawn out by the aid of ropes, under a destructive fire from the occupants of the works, who were driven out or captured, as our troops swarmed in through the opening in overwhelming numbers. The guns were four twelve-pound brass pieces; a number of battle-flags, including those of the Thirty-eighth and Thirty-fifth Alabama, were captured, with over two hundred prisoners. Prisoners report Gen. WATKINS (rebel) killed, and Gen. TUCKER wounded.

THE LOSSES IN HOOKER'S CORPS

were very heavy, especially in the repeated charges upon the enemy's works. Butterfield lost about 500; Geary 100, and Williams' division about 150, making HOOKER's loss about 750 in the battle of the afternoon. The Twenty-third Corps, which was moved around from the right, as a support for HOOKER, lost slightly.

GLORIOUS VICTORY BY HOVEY'S INDIANA DIVISION.

About 2 o'clock the enemy, learning from pri oners taken from us that Hovey's Indiana division of "raw recruits" held a position in the line, and smarting under their successive repulses on other portions of the line, hurled a heavy force upon Hovey, convinced that the recruits would run. Not so, however. The rebels held a strong position in a gorge in the hills, and out of their breastworks they swarmed in large numbers and made a furious attack upon the division, which nobly repulsed them after a short and bloody contest of fifteen minutes. The assault was renewed, when the "raw Hoosiers" charged upon them on the double-quick, under a heavy fire of grape, and literally mowed them down. They did not assault the Indiana division the third time. To-night the encomiums of the whole corps are being showered upon Hovey's division, who have written a glorious introductory chapter in their history.

A DESPERATE NIGHT BATTLE.

About 10 P. M., HOOKER's command commenced throwing up breastworks to strengthen their position, and to cover their movements, it was found necessary to advance their skirmish line. In doing so the skirmishers ran against the rebel line. Immediately a heavy artillery and musketry fire opened from both contestants, which lasted until 2 o'clock in the morning. The night battle was desperate and losses on both sides heavy—probably three hundred killed and wounded. At 2 o'clock the rebels were repulsed along the whole line; a deafening cheer rang out on the night air, and all was still save the piteous moans of the dying, who lay upon the bloody field, awaiting with anxiety the early dawn, when they were gathered into the hospitals, and every care bestowed upon them by our hard-working Surgeons.

MONDAY, MAY 6.

The morning was very bright, but the whole valley was filled with smoke and fog. At daylight not a gun was heard. NEWTON immediately advanced to feel the enemy, and discovered that they had disappeared.

THE RETREAT ACROSS THE OOSTANAULA.

Immediately upon being informed of the evacuation of the valley, Gen. HOWARD informed Gen. SHERMAN, and our lines at once advanced. It was discovered that the enemy had made good his retreat, carrying off all his artillery, but destroying his wagon trains by fire lest they should fall into our hands. I have just made a tour of the field on the left, and find it covered with rebel dead and wounded, all of whom were left in our hands for burial and treatment. Prisoners at 1 o'clock I write, 9 A. M., are being brought in by hundreds. The victory is complete so far, but would have been more so had

McPHERSON'S CORPS

been enabled to cross the river, and take a position in the rebel rear. McPHERSON made several attempts to throw down the pontoons, and cross his corps, but the enemy poured such a raking fire into his pontoons that the work had to be abandoned. I have no particulars of what was accomplished by McPHERSON's command, but I learn that the Fifteenth Corps, under LOGAN, lost 48 killed and 448 wounded.

OUR TOTAL LOSSES

are estimated at from 4,000 to 5,000, of whom fully 2,000 are so slightly wounded in the hands and feet that they will be fit for duty in two or three weeks. The killed will amount to about 800, among whom are many brave officers, who have left behind them brilliant records. Ohio has lost her full proportion. Indiana, too, will mourn the loss of many of her brave sons.

THE ENEMY'S LOSSES

are fully as large as ours, if not larger. In every assault upon our lines their loss was very heavy, and they were driven back, leaving hundreds of their killed and wounded in our hands each day.

THE PRISONERS IN OUR HANDS.

We have taken nearly four thousand prisoners and deserters, including many Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, Majors, and line and staff officers. Many of them were willing prisoners, who remained in the rebel works and surrendered when we advanced in pursuit.

THE PURSUIT OF JOHNSTON.

On the evacuation of the valley, the enemy crossed all his cars and locomotives and burned five spans of the railway bridge, which can be repaired, however, in one or two days. At nine this (Monday) morning, HOOKER's corps threw down pontoons and crossed near Resaca, while SCHOFIELD is crossing on the left, near Pelton. The cavalry under STONEMAN and COOK commenced the pursuit early in the morning, and at the present writing they are engaging the enemy with artillery. Brisk firing can be heard, and the rebel rear guard are evidently meeting with a warm parting salute from our cavalry, which this season is in excellent trim and superior to that of former seasons. McCook, STONEMAN, and KILPATRICK are dashing officers, who never refuse a fight, and invariably whip their antagonists, when the forces engaged are at all equal.

WHERE THE NEXT STAND WILL BE MADE.

Two battles, two defeats and two retreats have so dispirited the enemy that it is almost idle to speculate upon what he will probably do, or where he will make his next stand. SHERMAN is too much for JOHNSTON, especially on the flanking process, and it is not unlikely that the rebel chieftain will retreat until he reaches the Altoona range of mountains, where he can better protect his flanks than he could at Buzzard Roost and Sugar Valley. Citizens and deserters say that the Altoona Mountains are filled with very powerful fortifications, capable of great resistance, and that the enemy will make a stand there and give us battle. Be that as it may, the country may rely upon SHERMAN and THOMAS, and the invincible force they command for working out a more glorious victory than the one just achieved.

THE EXTENT OF OUR VICTORY.

For the benefit of those croakers who are never satisfied with the results of our movements upon the enemy, I will briefly state wherein our victory consists. We have driven the enemy over forty miles, compelled him to evacuate a position at Buzzard Roost that may be justly styled the stronghold of the Confederacy; recovered a large amount of territory, repulsed JOHNSTON in every attack upon our lines, taken 4,000 prisoners, compelled him to abandon his fortifications near Resaca, and destroy his whole ammunition and supply train, inflicted heavy loss upon him, and demoralized his army to a great extent. As an offset, the enemy has taken but 100 or 150 prisoners, inflicted a loss upon us equal to their own, and by their precipitate retreat stimulated our troops to greater efforts when they again meet JOHNSTON and his horde upon the field of battle.

THE RAILWAY AND TELEGRAPH.

To show that SHERMAN on his advance into the heart of Georgia is strongly in earnest and determined to conquer, I may state that he keeps the rail-

road communication with his army complete. Three hours after the evacuation of Dalton, heavy trains loaded with supplies arrived from Ringgold, and before night the town presented quite a business aspect. The rear guard of the enemy had not vacated Resaca two hours, ere the familiar whistle of SHERMAN's train was heard by the retreating army. The telegraph line was kept up well by Capt. VAN DUZEN, who followed in rear of our advancing columns, and repaired it thoroughly. Resaca is now the advancing depot for supplying the army, which is well provisioned with bacon, hard-tack, coffee, and all the ceteras of the Commissary Department.

THE STRENGTH OF THE ENEMY.

The strength of the enemy is variously estimated at from 55,000 to 70,000, by prisoners and deserters. The better informed, however, place their numbers at 55,000 to 60,000, which corresponds with estimates furnished by our scouts. We have in front Hovey's and HANSEN's corps, with about 20,000 of POLK's army, commanded by the Parson in person. Among the general officers holding commands are Johnson, Hardee, Hood, Stevenson, Pat Cleburne, Gibson, Bates and Polk.

PARTIAL LIST OF OFFICERS KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Brig-Gen Willich — both lungs, mortally.	Capt Ham, 37th Ohio—severe.
Brig-Gen Ward—arm.	Lieut-Col Jenkins, 31st Ohio—severe.
Brig-Gen Manson—leg.	Lieut Russell, 43d Ohio—mortally.
Brig-Gen Barker—leg.	Capt Buckley, 43d Ohio.
Brig-Gen Kilpatrick, severe.	Lieut Harmon, 35th New Jersey—slight.
Col Oplyke, 125th Ohio—severe.	Capt Head, 27th Missouri—mortally.
Col T J Henderson, 112th Illinois—leg.	Capt Howarth, 3d Tennessee—killed.
Capt Cox, 27th Missouri—severely.	Lieut Merryday, 3d Tennessee—killed.
Lieut Stone, 27th Missouri—severely.	Capt Duncan, 3d Tennessee—slight.
Capt Geo Goodwin, A D C—slight.	Capt Emory, 3d Tennessee—killed.
Lieut L Machlin, 53d Ohio—slight.	Capt Mosier, 3d Tennessee—killed.
Lieut Wise, 47th Ohio—killed.	Lieut Archer, 3d Tennessee—killed.
Capt Engle, A D C to Gen Schofield—killed.	Capt Clark, 3d Tennessee—mortally.
Capt South, 45th Ohio—mortally.	Capt Shawers, 3d Tennessee—mortally.
Lieut Moore, 118th Ohio—severe.	Col Buckner, 7th Ill., w'ded.
Capt Hutchison, 103d Ohio—severe.	Maj. Boyd, 54th Ind., w'ded.
Col. West, 24th Wisconsin, foot, slight.	Lieut. Blocker, 64th Ohio, severe.
Capt. Philpot, 103d Ohio, mortally.	Maj. Patterson, 63d Indiana, killed.
Lieut. Hutchinson, 101st Ohio, killed.	Lieut. Swank, 63d Indiana, killed.
Col. McVaine, 64th Ohio, killed.	Lieut. Clamlin, 36th Illinois, slight.
Lieut-Col Leonard, 51st Indiana—leg.	Lieut Hunter, 32d Ind—slight.
Capt. Wounded, G, 118th Ohio—leg.	Lieut Geo Sparks, 45th Ohio—leg.
Lieut Fayette Meredith, H, 3d Tennessee—wounded.	Lieut Emanuel F Clark, 31st Ohio—severe.
Capt Sol Teverbaugh, F, 11th Ohio—thump.	Capt Abram Chandler, D, 8th Indiana—arm.
Col Gilbert, 19th Michigan—severe.	Capt Phelps, 103d O—killed.
Col Gambre, 53d Ohio—killed.	Capt Woolgie, 11th Penn—killed.
Lieut Parker, 33d Mass—killed.	Capt Jas M Wells, 11th Pa—slight.
Lieut Bumpus, 33d Mass—slight.	Lieut Hanner, 29th Penn—slight.
Lieut Williams, 33d Mass—killed.	Lieut Stevenson, 27th Ind—slight.
Lieut-Col Floyd, 119th N Y—killed.	Maj Brown, 101st Ill—severe.
Capt Bray, 32d Ma—severe.	Lieut Alvord, 51st O—killed.
Col Ireland, 137th N Y—slight.	Maj Rollins, 55th O—killed.
Lieut Porter, 115th I—killed.	Capt Peck, 55th Oh—killed.
Capt Gleason, 50th Indiana, wounded.	Capt Penoply, 16th Ky—wounded.
Capt Melborell, 16th Kentucky, killed.	Lieut Jas Loverit, 16th Ky—wounded.
Lieut Hosmer, 101st Ohio, dangerously.	Col Hambricht, 79th Penn—slightly.
Lieut Howard, 16th Illinois, killed.	Lieut Col Bulliet, 3d Kentucky slightly.
Lieut Kniffin, 16th Illinois, killed.	Capt Chamberlin, 64th Ohio, wounded.
Lieut Ehler, 64th Ohio—killed.	Lieut Hall, 64th Ohio, wounded.
Lieut Nelson, E, 24th Ky—severely.	Capt Hedges, G, 24th Ky—severely.
Capt Durnubush, 1st Ohio—wounded.	Lieut Nelson, E, 24th Ky—severely.
Lieut Baxter 121st N Y—slight.	Lieut McIntyre, B, 24th Ky—slight.
Adj. Ramsay, Battery A 1st Ill—severely.	Capt Sam Davis, G, 77th Penn—thigh, severely.
Capt Carey, 24th Kentucky—slight.	Lieut Chas E Adamson, I, 31st Ind—slight.
Lieut E J Pocock, F, 51st Ohio—slight.	Capt Moses Crawford, F, 6th Ind—slight.
Lieut G F Benford, B, 38th Indiana—slight.	Lieut Walter Hastings, G, 96th Illinois—slight.
Lieut J H Haddy, G, 31st Indiana—slight.	Capt Jos E Miller, G, 5th Kentucky—both thighs.
11th Ohio Infantry lost 4 officers, wounded; 2 mortally; 15 men killed; 80 wounded, and 16 missing.	Capt McDowell, 15th Kentucky—killed.
10th Illinois Infantry lost 1 killed, and 11 wounded.	
23 Michigan Infantry lost 12 killed, 31 wounded.	
MAXSON's brigade, of Cox's division, Twenty-third Army Corps, lost 65 killed and wounded, of whom about 50 or 60 are killed.	
Col. KLEY's brigade, Cox's division, Twenty-third Army Corps, lost 12 killed and wounded, and 23 killed.	
24th Kentucky lost 6 killed, 54 wounded, and 19 missing.	

THE BATTLES NEAR RESACA.

Hard Fighting Saturday and Sunday—A Portion of the Enemy's Works Carried—The Enemy Massed Heavily on Our Left, but is Repulsed—Hooker Captures A Lunette and Four Guns by Digging—Johnston Abandons the Fight Sunday Night, Burns His Wagon Trains and Retreats.

From the Cincinnati Commercial, May 20.

You have already been furnished with a voluminous account of the operations under Gen. SHERMAN, up to the date of the battles at Resaca, and your readers have had an opportunity to become thoroughly posted with the important details of the first fortnight of Gen. SHERMAN's campaign, down to the eventful moment when he launched the bulk of his army at the rebel flank through Snake Gap, which movement was fully initiated Thursday, May 12. As predicted in that letter, the enemy immediately evacuated Dalton, having no alternative but a speedy retreat, or a full concentration at Resaca to deliver battle. On Saturday the battle was joined, Johnston being compelled to fight to gain time, and thereby lessen the immediate perils of retreat.

BATTLE OF SUGAR VALLEY, OR RESACA—SATURDAY, MAY 14.

The heaviest fighting of the campaign has taken place to-day, and though it was indecisive, we have cause to be thankful at the results.

Our line as formed last night was in the form of a semi-circle, to the northwest of Sugar Valley, while the Oostanaula River completes the circle on the southeast. Sugar Valley is a fertile little plain of about ten square miles in size, much broken by hills, which at this season of the year are covered by a dense undergrowth of small trees and vines, rendering them very difficult to penetrate. It was in this valley, between the projected Rome and Dalton Railroad and the river that encircles Resaca and Tilton, that the enemy made a stand after being closely pressed on his retreat from Dalton. From our centre to the river, the distance this morning was about seven miles. Our line extends completely around the valley, McPHERSON's right resting on the river near its junction with Oothkalaga creek, or Calhoun, while the left strikes the river north of Tilton, near the junction of the river with Swamp creek that takes its rise in the hills of Sugar Valley. Lick and Camp creeks also burst out from the hills into the valley, and empty their waters into the Oostanaula River, which is very broad and deep, but can be forded when the water is low, at six points. The above is as intelligible a description of the field as can be given without the aid of a map; and now for

THE OPENING OF THE BATTLE.

As I have already said, our line was formed in a half circle, extending from the river on the left to a point on the river near Calhoun. The corps occupied positions in the line as follows, extending from right to left: first, McPHERSON; second, HOOKER; third, PALMER; fourth, SCHOFIELD; fifth, HOWARD. Skirmishing commenced early in the morning, and many prisoners were brought in as the result, although the attack made by us was but faintly responded to. Skirmishing continued, with occasional truces, lasting from ten to thirty minutes all the morning. Meanwhile our general officers were not