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Eng^d by A.H. Ritchie.

GEN. OLIVER O. HOWARD.

Will Man War No More?

Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard Does Not Think That the Modern Death Machines Will Prove Peace-Makers.

(Written for the Commercial Gazette.)



The very breaking out of our war in 1861, small rifles had attained considerable efficiency at a range of 600 to 800 yards, but the cannon as a whole on both sides were not better than the artillery employed in the Mexican war. It was easier to get

siege guns to the front for use in cases of need and our permanent works were very well manned, but the long ranges of all arms were never much in use until breech-loading and magazine guns came into play. In the outset of the Rebellion, the rifles in both armies were gathered from foreign quarters, mostly from Europe. Our old smooth-bore fire arms were altered over into percussion rifles. The calibers were so various that it was difficult for the ordnance and artillery to furnish the required ammunition.

In the battle of Fair Oaks, my right arm received two wounds, the first by a small, round Mississippi rifle bullet, the second by an elongated leaden projectile, shaped like a minie. And this was the second year of the war.

A year later, at Gettysburg, both armies had sharpshooters who were armed and equipped with rifles with raised sights, and could do effective work at a thousand yards. Still, the range of our cannon, some of which were rifled, could not be depended on to do material injury beyond twelve hundred yards. Some dreadful accidents occurred by attempting longer ranges with Parrot guns, the shot falling far short of the enemy and doing injury to our own men. In Lee's second expedition to Pennsylvania, our forces were about equally matched in cannon and in armament.

Gettysburg was a great battle. We had already come to thin lines, our infantry and artillery extending over five miles, with cavalry beyond. The Confederate forces were stretched over an extent of eight miles, besides the ground covered by Stuart's horse on their flanks. Considering the three days' battle the terrible cannonading of more than six hundred guns, the enormous charges and assaults, and the minor conflicts on the flanks, it is wonderful that the losses were not greater. By actual wounds and death they were in the aggregate only (killed) 8,334, (wounded) 30,971. Notwithstanding the great improvement in arms which was giving us three shots per piece every two minutes, the aggregate losses were not greater than in the battle of Waterloo and the struggles introductory to it. In fact, when arms were of the simplest kinds, and men came in closer contact, as in ancient battles, like those of Cyrus and Alexander, the relative loss of life to the number of engaged was greater than in most battles of our war.

Immediately after the close of our war, and doubtless in consequence of the lessons learned from it and from European nations, we adopted the breech-loading arms. Improvements have since gone on continuously until great ranges have been obtained—ranges of incredible extent. Some cannon shot with elongated projec-

tiles are reported to have attained distances from six to thirteen miles, and pieces of the heaviest caliber, which a few years before required from thirty-five to forty minutes for loading, can now be loaded and fired in less than two minutes.

With reference to small arms, General Merritt writes: "At the present time all the great nations of the world are armed with breech-loading rifles provided with sights graduated as high as 1,900 yards, using the center primed metallic case cartridge and cylindrical groove ball. These can be fired easily from five to seven times per minute with fatal effect up to a range of a mile or more. The elements that enter into this increase of range are reduction of caliber, increase of relative length of bullet, increase of twist in the rifling and the increase of the charge of powder.

Considering these plain statements, it is evident that the loss of life in the army and in the navy under circumstances equally favorable to the parties in contention should be great. At Gettysburg, such modern pieces of ordnance as I have described, placed by the Confederates on Oak Ridge to the west, and Benner's Hill to the north would have rendered our position untenable; yet the battle of Gettysburg could have been fought even then, had we possessed the new ordnance, and probably with not much greater loss of life. It would have been effected by rapid fortifying and by our seizing points on Oak Ridge and Benner's Hill, which could have been done the first day under cover of my reserve artillery had it been as long of range as that of to-day. With fires straight at the front, our knife-edge crest would have been just as difficult for the enemy to have touched at a long range; and there was no flanking position besides Benner's Hill for any ranges which could have displaced us. This suggests that battles may be practicable now as ever; but the conditions have so changed that they must commence at greater distances asunder, and it will never do to expose infantry, artillery or cavalry as was our custom then, in masses.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, the great cavalry leader of the Confederates in our war, in a graphic article in the Century, says: "If the horrors of war can be increased, the necessity of adopting some other method of settlement may receive greater consideration."

Speaking of our new magazine small arms, Lee remarks: "The magazine carries five cartridges, but is so arranged as to cut off, that the rifle may be fired as a single-loader until the enemy gets into close quarters. The progress in the rapidity of infantry guns since 1865 is marvelous. A soldier can now aim at an object and fire twenty shots in less than a minute, or if he rapidly throws his gun on his shoulder and fires without aim, forty shots may be discharged in sixty-eight seconds. If the cartridges in the magazines are reserved, and he begins the action by using his gun as a single-loader, he can fire fifteen shots with it in forty-seven seconds, or from the magazine throw a ball in the air every two seconds; whereas, in our civil war forty rounds of ammunition in the cartridge box and twenty in the haversack were a full amount for a day's fighting."

"At Gettysburg in July, 1863," Lee adds, "had the Federal troops been armed with the rifle now being issued to the U. S.

infantry and with the present improved field guns, Pickett's heroic band in the charge on the third day would have been under fire from start to finish; and the fire of massed infantry combined with breech-loading cannon would probably have destroyed every man in the assaulting lines. Pickett's right, when formed for the charge, was eighteen hundred yards from the Union lines; and the magazine rifle sight is graduated (it will be remembered) to nineteen hundred yards. With the weapons then in use the Federals did not open with artillery on the charging Southern troops until they were within a much closer range. In the recent war between China and Japan it was stated that a ball fired from a Japanese rifle called the Murata, similar to the U. S. magazine rifle, struck a Chinese three-quarters of a mile away in the knee, and crushed the bone to atoms."

The improvement in field cannon has kept pace with that in small arms. It is doubtful whether troops can be held in column or mass formation within two miles of an enemy firing the present modern breech-loading field guns. The extreme range of these 3.2 and 3.6-inch caliber field guns is over five miles, and when a suitable smokeless powder is found they may throw a projectile eight miles. Had McClellan had these guns when his lines were five miles from Richmond, he could have ruined the city. No troops can live in front of them when they are rapidly discharging shrapnel, two hundred bullets to the case; and they can defend themselves without infantry support, and can be captured only by surprise, or when their ammunition is exhausted.

Lee further says: "A steel shell with thick walls now does the work of the old-fashioned solid shot, and has in addition an explosive effect. The rapidity of fire has been much increased by the use of metallic cartridges which contain in one case projectile and powder, and five rounds of shrapnel can be fired from a single gun in less than one minute. Then, with the Maxim automatic machine gun, 60 shots per minute without human assistance, and the latest Gatling, delivering 1,800 shots per minute, it would seem that the splendid exhibition of courage with which brave men have charged to the cannon's mouth will never again be recorded on the pages of history, for no commanding General is likely to order a direct assault on an enemy occupying strong and defensive lines."

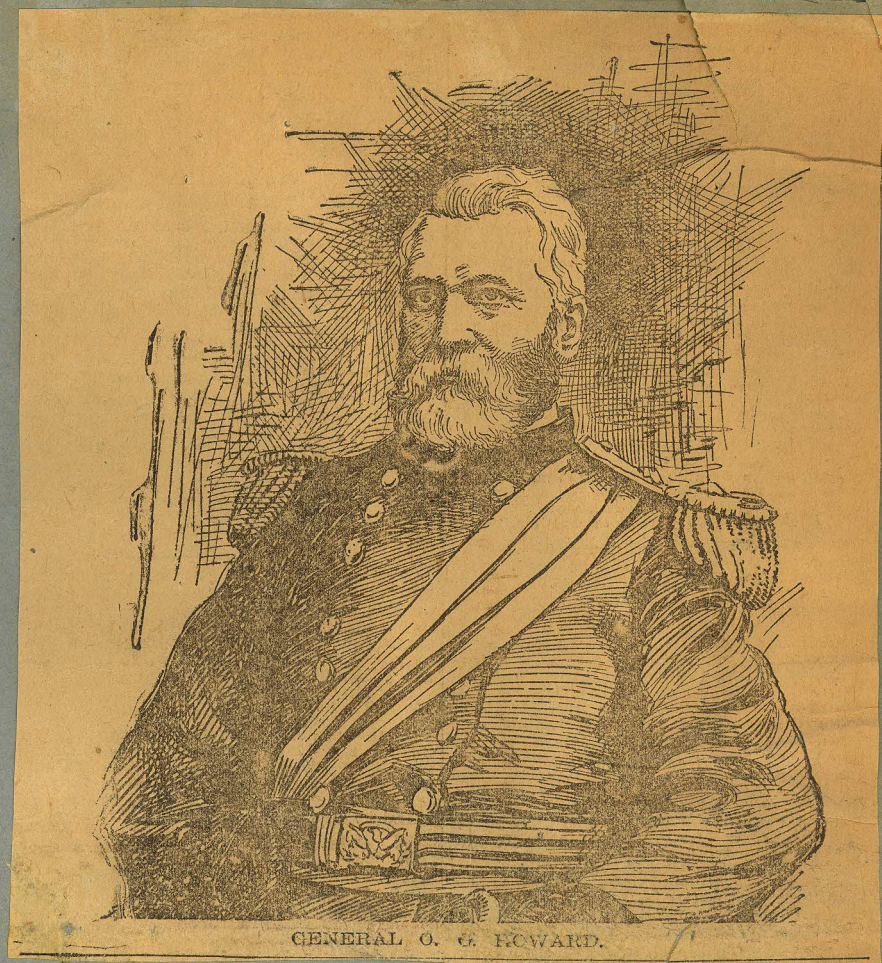
But, with reference to machine guns, such as the Gatling, which mow down everything unobstructed before them, I saw that the Indians in the Nez Perce war of 1877 quickly comprehended their sweeping power and deadly work; and they managed to find just where they were located, and kept most carefully beyond their range.

The wars that have taken place since ours, such as the Austrian and Prussian, the Franco-Prussian, the Turco-Russian and the recent struggle between China and Japan, do not fully sustain Gen. Lee's thought; but they do, indeed, demonstrate the necessity of great intelligence, not only on the part of the leaders and officers of rank, but of individual men. In all modern campaigns great preparation, great skill and new methods of organization will be required for either offensive or defensive operations.

Yet, in spite of the increase of terrors, I fear that the war spirit will not be materially diminished simply by the great destruction of human life as a result of the improvement in arms, because those who bring on the war do not have to do the fighting; and as a rule, nation may meet nation with equal armament and comparatively equal forces. As the homely proverb is, "What is sauce for the goose is also sauce for the gander." Sharp war, however expensive, will be as fair for one as for the other of hostile force.

The enterprise of Japan conquered China; but in time the enterprise of Chinese statesmen, with their innumerable hosts, may yet overwhelm Japan and Russia.

overrun India and conquer the world.
 Certainly no improvement in arms, on sea or on land could prevent such results, if the propelling sentiment of the Chinese people should take the military turn.
 I think we shall have to look to other causes than improvement in arms to secure the best interests of mankind.
 O. O. HOWARD.



GENERAL O. O. HOWARD.

The statement that Major-General O. O. Howard, U. S. Army, commanding the Department of the East, will take a leave of absence about June 1 next and remain on leave until the day of his retirement for age, November 8, 1894, is, to the best of our information, incorrect. It is true he had, some time ago, an intention to take a short leave prior to date of retirement to arrange certain private affairs, but that intention has, we learn, been abandoned, and General Howard, unless in the meantime he changes his plans, will remain on duty in his present command until required, by operation of law, to pass from the active to the retired list of the Army. Major General Miles has made formal application to be transferred to the East upon the retirement of General Howard. As he will then be senior major-general there is no doubt that his application will be approved. Upon the retirement of General Howard it is possible that there will be a general redistribution of commands and it is not unlikely that the much talked of Department of the South may be established. At least some of the southern representatives in Congress claim to have promises from both Secretary Lamont and General Schofield that they will then take under serious consideration the proposition to establish a Department of the South with headquarters at Atlanta, Ga. A change in the geographical limits of the existing Departments will be necessary to bring this about, and either the Department of the East or the Department of Texas will have to be abandoned. How all this will be done is a matter for future consideration.

THE retirement this year of Maj.-Gen. O. O. Howard, U. S. A., has naturally excited attention throughout the country, for the General is one of those prominent personages whose popularity has slowly but steadily grown since the close of the war. His firmness and steadfastness in good works have borne fruit. In a recent sketch of his life a writer says: "Gen. Howard still enjoys excellent health, and does not look a day over 50. Gen. Howard is one of the soldiers of the Civil War who came out of it poorer than when he entered the service of his country. He is a poor man to-day, depending entirely on the salary he receives from the War Department. Gen. Howard was recently chosen president of the National Temperance Society. In an address to the society he explained how it was that a man could attend numerous banquets, and, without drinking anything, be considered a good fellow among convivial companions. He said that he arranges for the filling of his wine glass with water before the banquet. When a toast was called for he drunk what looked like wine, but was in reality water. 'Yes, I expect to retire, according to the Regulations,' said Gen. Howard, when seen at his headquarters recently. 'I do not know yet what I will do when I leave the Army, as I am far from being a wealthy man. Literary work will undoubtedly take up a great part of my time, and I am connected with a good many societies, the Temperance Society presidency being my latest responsibility. I will be 64 in November, but I do not know just when I will give up my command previous to that time.'"

MAJOR-GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. A., and Rear Admiral Braine, U. S. N., responded for the Army and Navy and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion at the second annual dinner of the New York State Society of Colonial Wars, held at the Hotel Waldorf, Tuesday evening, Dec. 19, the 218th anniversary of the Swamp fight in Rhode Island.

THE statue of Nathan Hale, to be erected in the City Hall Park, New York City, by the Society of the Sons of the Revolution, will be unveiled on Evacuation Day, Nov. 25. President Frederick S. Tallmadge, of the Society, will make the presentation speech. Mayor Gilroy will accept the statue on behalf of the city. Speeches will also be made by Gen. O. O. Howard, U. S. A., and Edward Everett Hale. The Old Guard and U. S. Troops from New York Harbor will parade.

MAJOR-GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. A., after the date of his retirement for age is reached, Nov. 8, 1894, take up his residence at Burlington, Vt., where his son, Capt. Guy Howard, Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. A., is now stationed.

MAJOR GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. A., who is entitled to three aides-de-camp, but for many years has only had two, has selected as third in that very efficient officer on duty at Mt. Vernon Barracks, for some time past, Capt. W. W. Wotherspoon, 12th Inf.

MAJOR-GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. A., returned to Governor's Island early in the week from a short visit to Holyoke, Mass., where he delivered an interesting lecture for the benefit of the Y.M.C.A. of that place.

MAJOR-GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. A., and other prominent gentlemen were present on Monday at an entertainment of the Girls' High School, Brooklyn, and made addresses.

MAJOR GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. A., and Lieut. Godfrey H. Macdonald, A. D. C., returned to Governor's Island this week from a pleasant trip to Florida.

MAJOR-GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, U. S. Army, rejoined at Governor's Island, Oct. 14, from a pleasant visit to the Indian Conference at Lake Mohonk, N. Y.

Maj.-Gen. O. O. Howard and his wife will give a reception at their home on Governor's Island, New York Harbor, on Friday, June 27.

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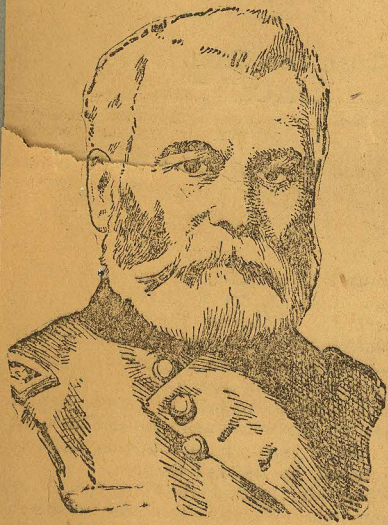
Gen. O. O. Howard Address to Union and Confederate Veterans.

There was another big crowd in Barnum's big tent to-night. It was a grand reunion of the Army of the Tennessee—Union and Confederate. The big tent which has held many large crowds, never before held one greater than that of to-night.

Gen. Grenville M. Dodge, of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, presided. After music by the band and prayer, he introduced the speaker of the evening, Gen. O. O. Howard, U. S. A.

Gen. Howard was greeted with applause as he stepped forward and in resonant tones began his speech. He said:

The very thought of this occasion brings to my recollection visions of the past. Late in October, 1863, it was a glorious, a spectacular welcome, though not very kindly in intent, that Longstreet gave me from the top of Lookout Mountain, as I entered its western valley. Stevenson also rather impolitely and inhospitably disturbed my slumbers as I was sleeping soundly that night in his vicinity, by attempting a noisy night visit to my friend, Gen. Geary, who was resting with his white wagons at Wauhatchie. Though in the operations I was comparatively triumphant and commended in Cumberland orders, yet all the horrors



GEN. O. O. HOWARD.

of a night battle, dark, dismal, bloody and unsatisfactory are upon me whenever I think of Wauhatchie and Lookout Valley.

As long as I live I can not fail to be grateful to Gen. Bragg, whom I have understood from his intimate friends to be a little crusty at times of indignation, that he sent Longstreet away, so that fighting Joe Hooker might, without his persistent opposition, gain a quantum of glory "above the clouds."

That removal of Longstreet rendered it possible for me to cross two long bridges and stand beside Grant and Thomas the 23d of November and watch them in battle. It enabled me to see how the Army of the Cumberland went into action, by which Orchard Knob was rendered famous. It enabled me also the next day to creep up the Tennessee with Steinwehr and Bushbeck as companions and shake hands with Sherman just as he was finishing his bridge; and there to meet for the first time John Logan, Frank Blair, Jeff C. Davis and a host of others already famous. In brief, it enabled me to participate in all the operations clustering around Missionary Ridge.

The next year after the war I was asked to give an oration at the laying of the corner stone of the great monument

on the Cemetery Hill, at Gettysburg. "The temptation came to me to make that address a personal vindication of this part, which provisionally I had played there in the great battle-drama but two years before. But the sacredness of the great conflict, in which comrades had struggled so hard, and at such an enormous cost had obtained their results, so pressed itself upon my heart that, I said to myself, No. By God's help, we will try to rise above self-assertion, self-vindication, and endeavor to look at the struggle of four long years as a whole. So I headed my subject "The American Volunteer." Again it appears to me that this occasion is a fitting one upon which to review that American volunteer. I know one, a God-fearing, conscientious, devoted son of New England; one born on a farm, and trained to all the handwork of farm life; later an academic student, a teacher of youth, a college graduate, and then lastly a theological student. Here at a seminary the war found him, with a handsome, healthful figure, a smiling face, a noble specimen physically, mentally, morally and spiritually of our best American life as can be found in New England. He volunteered at the first call, as a private soldier. He carried the musket, as we did in those days, carrying the piece in the left hand. As the war progressed he passed through every grade; that of second Lieutenant, First Lieutenant, Captain, Major, Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel and finally was brevetted a Brigadier General. He was engaged in more than twenty of the big battles of the war.

It is over thirty years since he was mustered out of the United States service. Let us take a look at him as he now appears. He does not seem so tall, only about 5 feet 9 inches; rather thin of flesh, a little stooping in the shoulders; his hair and beard much sprinkled with gray; and he halts in his gait.

How are you, comrade? Very well, thank you, but I suffer a good deal from these wretched old wounds—wounds received in Virginia and Georgia; I have worked hard since I saw you; yes, have a good home, a fine family; the girls help their mother, and the boys, bless their hearts, help me; yes, yes, but I am rather poor—have been forced at last to ask for a pension against the old days.

How about this pension business, comrade? Well, I did without it as long as I could, but thought that when the weakness and suffering came, initiated by the wounds and swamps of the war, that I deserved just a little help; guess it won't break up the dear old Government to help such a disabled and needy old fellow! Surely our unselfish volunteer is modest, seeing that the rich old Government itself owes its very existence to his suffering and sacrifice. But brave men and true, who have laid down their lives on the altar of their country, are the most modest of men, especially when asking even for their dues.

"My last visit, comrades, to the field of Gettysburg, in connection with a thorough revival in my mind of the details of the events connected with that greatest battle of the war, taken in connection also with the friendly intercourse with representative men who had been opposed to us on that ground, changed my attitude, if not my conviction of right, towards the Confederates who fought us. I was looking into Longstreet's face, while Sickles was leaning, supported by his crutches, against an enormous rock, when I said something concerning the demands of duty; General Longstreet answered me reflectively: 'We must be guided by the light within us; I have tried all along to stand firm to my conviction of duty, according to the light I have had.' These may not be his exact words; they are the substance; they set me to reflecting upon the counterpart of our American volunteer, namely, the Southern volunteer.

"It is coming into my heart this year as it came into the heart of General Grant, near the close of his life, to speak only kindly words. Lest we might injure the manhood of the noblest men of the South, I would press no chalice of exaction to their lips; I would not even boast of a victory, which cost us so dearly to win; I could not impute bad intentions to any but known wrong doers; and I would do and say those things which are tender and kind, which I know our Lord, through his spirit, would smile upon. The black men are advancing; the schools are almost universal; his home is being improved wherever vital religion and knowledge have found their way. Yes, in general, the battle for the right so hard to wage is steadily pressing back the hosts which are opposed to truth. On the floor of the Senate General Gordon pledges us unity of

arms and loyalty.

"Sometimes, comrades of battle, it seems amid our aches and pains and sickness and weaknesses as if our young people had almost forgotten us, did not half appreciate our work, our sacrifice, our suffering, our principles, our hopes. No, they call not do so, my comrades; this is part of what we gave, in order to transmit a magnificent heritage to children, and children's children. God alone makes up the difference; God alone adjusts the balances of justice; and he only is able to fill the soul of every waiting comrade with fullness from his own abundant perennial fountains. I covet for our comrades of war above all things, something that is beyond the love of wife and children, beyond the appreciative sympathy of grandchildren, yea, much more, namely: a life invisible but immortal, born within the soul, a life which shall have a power to make our companionship complete and perpetual; which can not dim; and which will expand with the ages. It is not a dream, it is described by the Great Apostle of love and charity, in these words: 'I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh, shall inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.' Grant and Thomas, Lee and Jackson understood this; they have tested the promise. Hundreds of thousands of comrades have gone on before. Let us, too, have the safe shield, bright and glistening as Christ can make it, when we join them there."

A Pretty Story of Lincoln.

[Leveiston Journal.]

Gen. O. O. Howard communicates a new anecdote of Abraham Lincoln. When the Merrimac retired from the contest with Lieut. Worden's homely little craft in Hampton Roads, the last shell fired by the Confederate vessel exploded exactly in the eye-hole of the pilot-house where Lieut. Worden was at that moment looking out. His eyes were severely injured, his face filled with powder and there was also a slight concussion of the brain. The moment this brave officer recovered his consciousness his first question was: "Have we saved the Minnesota?" When told she was safe, he answered: "I am satisfied." He was taken at once to Washington, and an incident connected with him there illustrates the character of Abraham Lincoln. A Cabinet meeting was in progress when it was told the President that the wounded commander of the Monitor was in the city. He instantly arose and took his hat, saying: "Excuse me, gentlemen, I must see this fellow," and went immediately to his room. Worden was on the sofa, his eyes bandaged, his face swollen and bloody. The President was announced and took his hand in silence.

"Mr. President, said the wounded man, "you do me great honor by this visit."

"Sir," replied Mr. Lincoln, while the tears ran down his cheeks, "I am the one who is honored in this interview."

Gen. O. O. Howard, U. S. A., commanding the Department of the East, was in Key West, Fla., Jan. 2, and after spending a short time looking over the city he embarked for Havana, from which place he returned on Monday. He was accompanied by his son and daughter. His visit to Havana was short, as the General wished to return and make an official inspection of the forts in Key West Harbor, also of Fort Jefferson on Dry Tortugas, and later he will go to St. Augustine to inspect St. Francis Barracks and old Fort Marion, spending a month or more in the State altogether.

VETERANS IN THE CITY.

Gen. Oliver O. Howard, commanding the Department of the Atlantic, and Mrs. Howard, were in Washington last week, in attendance upon the funeral of the Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston. Gen. Howard fought against Gen. Johnston all through the Atlanta campaign, but was a great admirer of the Southern leader. The liking was reciprocated by Gen. Johnston, and since the war they have been the best of friends.



Major General Oliver O. Howard.



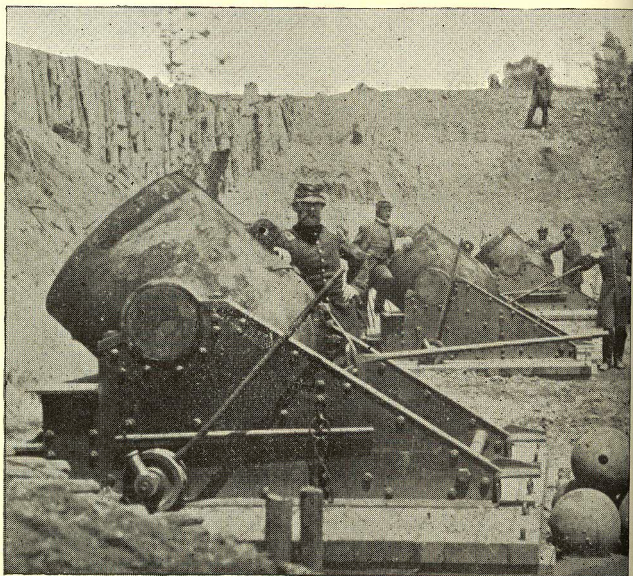
My Country 'Tis of Thee

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing :
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring.

My native country thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love :
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills,
My heart with rapture thrills,
Like that above.

Let musicswell
And ring from a
Sweet freedom
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With freedom's
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Great God, of



The Siege of Yorktown.

In the early spring of 1862 the Army of the Potomac laid a very heavy siege to Yorktown, Va. Immense batteries of enormous guns and mortars were planted all along the line by the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery. This is a battery of 13-inch sea-coast mortars.

SHE DREAMED IT.

How Col. Sherman was Forwarned of His Capture.

In reading Gen. Howard's graphic pen-pictures of the Atlanta campaign, every soldier who participated in that protracted succession of bloody encounters has his war-time enthusiasm rekindled and memory of minor incidents refreshed. The writer of this will supplement what Gen. Howard says of the capture of Col. Sherman, his chief of staff, by relating an incident that occurred that morning at the general's headquarters.

Abraham McMahan, surgeon of the Sixty-fourth Ohio, was then acting medical director of the Fourth Corps, and was present when Sherman paid his respects to the general. After the usual salutations Howard asked him if he had anything fresh. Sherman replied nothing, except that he had received a letter from his wife in Chicago the night before and with it a new uniform, which was then opened for inspection. He said his wife wrote him she was feeling very blue over a dream the night previous to writing, to the effect that he had been captured and was then a prisoner; nevertheless, she would send the letter and clothes.

Gen. Howard told him he might stay in that forenoon and reply to his wife and assure her of the unreliability of dreams, and he would go down and rectify the picket line, reported defective.

"Oh, no," said the colonel, "I'll do that, for I want to show the Johnnies my new suit."

Howard consented and pointed out the locality of the gap to be closed, and Sherman rode straight into it, and shortly after had a gray escort to admire his new outfit, and that afternoon took in the sights of Atlanta, nearly two months in advance of his headquarters comrades.

This incident was made known to us the day it occurred by a rebel deserter or prisoner (I have forgotten which), who came in soon after Sherman went out. The dream part of it was told me next day by McMahan.

Howard might have told how Sherman fell in with a Confederate officer who, aforetime, had been a guest of his at the Sherman House in Chicago, and through their former friendship the colonel's hardship as a prisoner was greatly ameliorated.—C. Woodruff, Adjutant, Sixty-fourth Ohio, Peru, O.