



EXPLANATION.—1. Brigadier-General Grant and Staff directing the movements of the troops. 2. Brigadier-General McClelland leading the charge at the head of the Thirty-first Illinois. 3. Thirty-first Illinois, Colonel John A. Logan. 4. Body of Lieutenant-Colonel Wentz, Seventh Iowa. 5. Body of Captain Pulaski, Aid-de-Camp to McClelland, killed while leading the charge. 6. Caisson ordered to the field from the rear. 7. Twenty-seventh Illinois, Colonel Buford, taking the camp colors of the Confederates. 8. Thirtieth Illinois, Colonel Fouke. 8 a. Twenty-second Illinois, Colonel Dougherty. 9. Light artillery, Captain Taylor. 10. Seventh Iowa, Colonel Lauman. 11. Captain Schwartz, Acting Chief of Artillery, taking the Confederate battery. 12. Watson Louisiana field battery. 13. Confederate artillery horses. 14. Battery of heavy ordnance at Columbus. 15. Encampment near Columbus. 16. Confederate ferryboat. 17. Columbus.

BATTLE OF BELMONT, MO., OPPOSITE COLUMBUS, KY., NOVEMBER 7, 1861.—FEDERAL FORCES COMMANDED BY U. S. GRANT; CONFEDERATE FORCES, BY LEONIDAS POLK.

FROM A SKETCH BY AN OFFICER OF GENERAL GRANT'S ARMY ENGAGED IN THE BATTLE.

Belmont was a remarkable affair, not officially designated a battle—only an engagement. The Union troops engaged had not previously been under fire. They lost in killed fully half as many as in wounded. The general average during the war was one killed to three wounded. Five infantry regiments participated, and four out of the five became noted throughout the war as fighting regiments, and are included in the 300 which sustained excessive losses in battle. The Seventh Iowa was, to use a much-abused army expression, literally cut to pieces. Its proportion of killed to wounded was over one and one-quarter to two. Over one-half of those present in the fight were shot down. Colonel J. G. Lauman, the commander, received a bullet in the thigh, Lieutenant-Colonel Wentz was killed, and Major Rice severely wounded. Three lieutenants were killed and four captains wounded. The first instance recorded in the war of a soldier killed in action, retaining in death a life-like position, was at Belmont. It was reported by Dr. Brinton, Grant's medical director, who saw and scrutinized the body. It was that of a Union soldier, shot through the head while kneeling to fire from behind a tree. His head fell forward against the tree, but his upright body rested on one foot and knee, and he held his musket in firm grasp.