



CONFEDERATE CAVALRY CROSSING THE POTOMAC, JUNE 11, 1863.—THE ADVANCE OF LEE'S ARMY INVADING THE NORTHERN STATES.—FROM A SKETCH BY GEORGE LAW.

It was not to be expected that the Confederates would act wholly on the defensive. They were not any longer in that mood. In the initial passages of the war, they had been content to ward off invasion from the Confederate States. In a political sense their theory was to be let alone; but when the Federal Government bore down upon them, and traversed the sacred soil, and struck them in battle on a score of bloody fields, they changed their manner, and fought to win and conquer offensively as well as defensively. In the eastern field the year 1862 beheld them victorious. Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville added to their glory and their hope. By the opening of the summer of 1863, Antietam was forgotten, and Lee turned again to the North. He led an army of veterans that might well be a terror to any foe. The crossing of the Potomac was effected on the 11th of June. The cavalry led the advance. The illustration on this page shows the magnificent scene. It is reproduced from a sketch of the time. General Lee himself is shown in the foreground, answering the salute of one of his officers.