



BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG, THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 2, 1863, AS SEEN FROM ROCKY HILL, ON MEADE'S LEFT.—FROM A SKETCH BY EDWIN FORBES.

There was never a more critical sunset in America than that of the 2d of July, 1863. The whole world knew that on the morrow the political fate of the American Republic would be put into the balance of destiny. The fighting on that day had been favorable to the Confederates. They had won nearly all along the line. The Federals were concentrating and confirming themselves on the line of the Round Tops, Cemetery Ridge, and Culp's Hill. The illustration on this page is from a sketch drawn on the evening before the great battle. The sketch was made from Rocky Hill, on the left of Meade's position, and looks over to the southwest, where the long lines of Longstreet, Hill and Johnston were ready and inclined forward, so to speak, full of spirit for the contest of the morrow.