

GENERAL SAMUEL COOPER.

General Samuel Cooper, whose father fought in the Revolutionary war at Lexington, Bunker Hill, Monmouth and Germantown, was born in Hackensack, New Jersey, in 1798, and graduated from West Point when but seventeen years of age, receiving a commission as second lieutenant of artillery. The next few years were employed in garrison duty, and as aide to Generals Macomb and Worth, serving as chief of staff with the latter during the Florida war.

From 1842 until 1852, he did special duty at the National Capital, receiving, while there, his brevet as colonel for Mexican services. From 1856 to 1861, he held the post of Adjutant-General of the U. S. army, ranking as a staff-colonel. For a short time he acted as Secretary of War.

At the outbreak of the rebellion, Colonel Cooper joined the seceding forces, and was appointed adjutant and inspector-general of the Confederate army, with rank as senior general.

His special talent in military matters was in organizing, and in the systematic arrangement and maintenance of all affairs connected with discipline and administration. He prepared and published in 1836, a book of instruc-

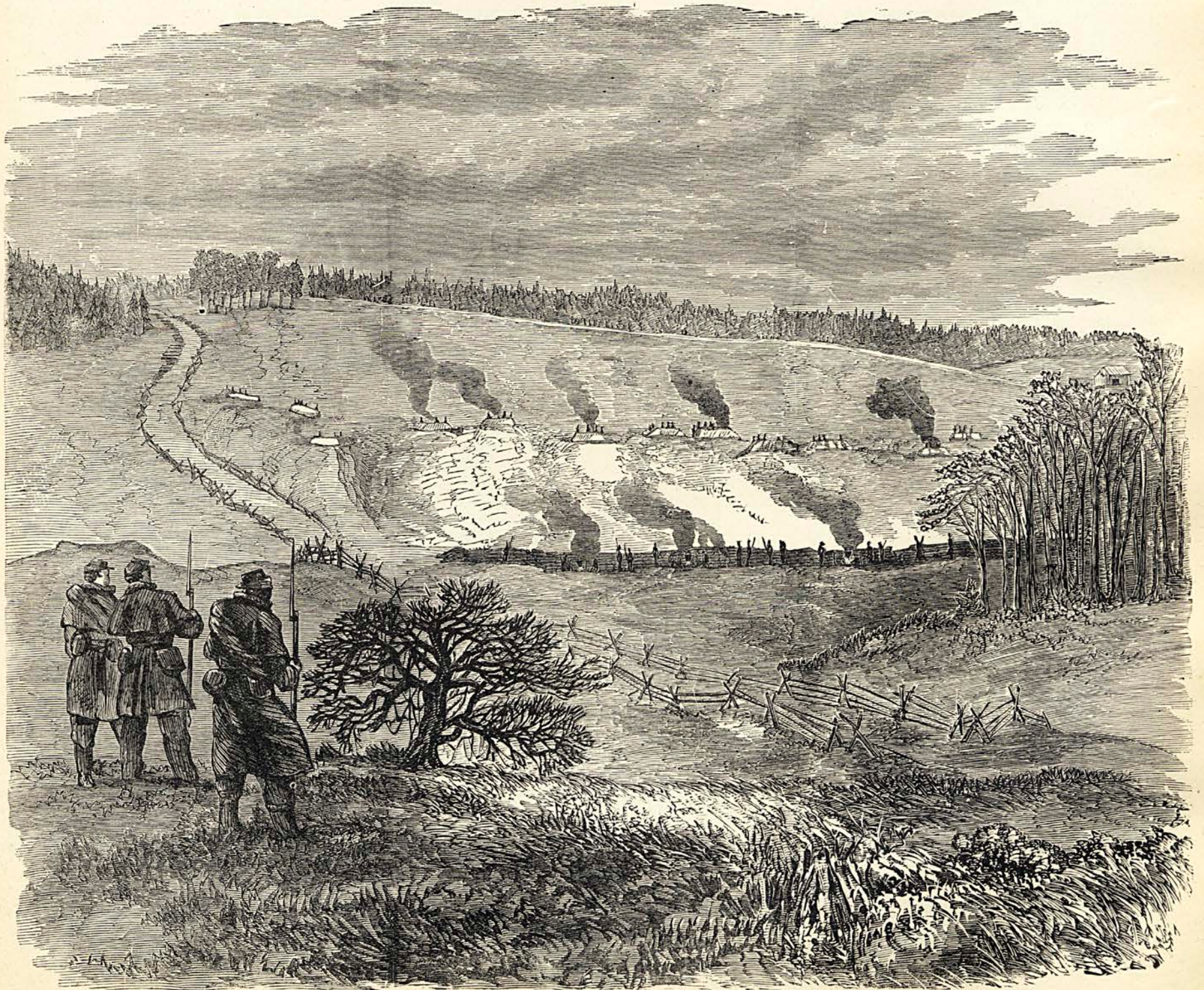


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tions for the militia and volunteers. His latter years were spent near Alexandria, Va., where he died in 1876.

THE MINE RUN MOVEMENT.

After the repulse of the invasion of Pennsylvania, by the defeat of his Army of Northern Virginia, at Gettysburg, General Lee retreated slowly to a final position south of the Rapidan River. General Meade had followed steadily, fighting many battles and constantly skirmishing. Meade's army crossed the Rappahannock in September, but soon after his force was reduced by the detachment of two corps which were sent to Tennessee, and he had to abandon his plans for an aggressive campaign, and devoted himself to manœuvring and to cavalry engagements. At the end of November Lee's front was pressing him hard, and Meade determined to crush him if he could. A defeat of Early by Sedgwick at Rappahannock Station was not followed up, and Lee withdrew to the Rapidan. Meade then advanced, at a cost of great labor and suffering, but discovered that the Confederates were so strongly intrenched along a tributary of the Rapidan, called Mine Run, that it would be unwise to attack him; and after certain demonstrations he withdrew.



BATTLE OF MINE RUN, VA.—POSITION OF THE ARMIES OF LEE AND MEADE, DECEMBER 1, 1863.

FROM A SKETCH BY EDWIN FORBES.