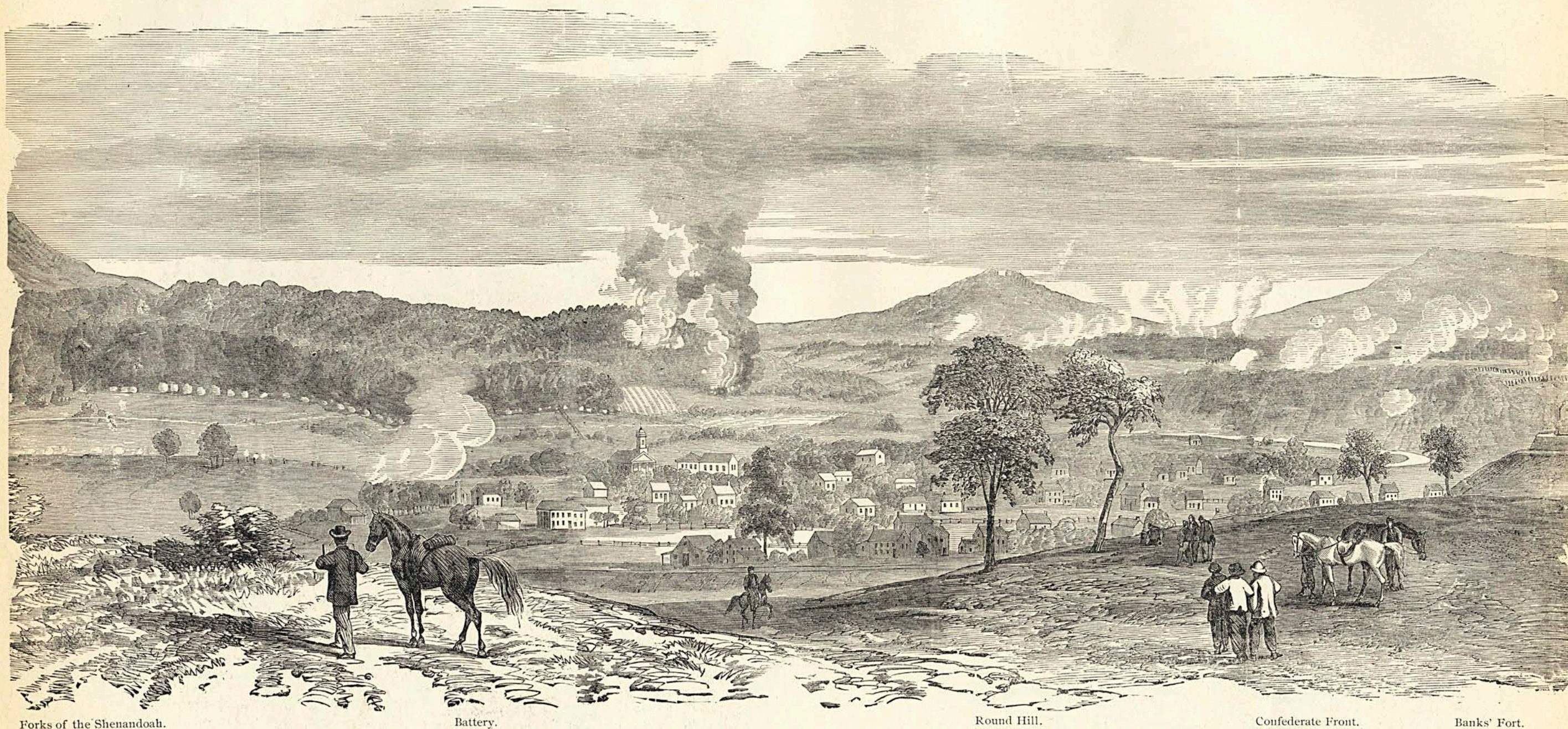




Forks of the Shenandoah.

Battery.

Round Hill.

Confederate Front.

Banks' Fort.

BATTLE OF FISHER'S HILL, VA., SEPTEMBER 23, 1864, BETWEEN THE FORCES OF GENERALS PHILIP H. SHERIDAN AND JUBAL E. EARLY.

True to his promise to be "after them to-morrow," Sheridan pursued Early's army from its defeat at Winchester to its new position at Fisher's Hill, some miles to the south. The resulting victory for Sheridan here was the outcome of knowledge and promptness. He knew that there was naturally no good strategic ground for a defence there, and by hurrying forward before Early had time to intrench he caught the latter at a disadvantage. Sending cavalry around to the enemy's rear to intercept retreat, and ordering Crook's corps to make a detour and attack the flank, he arranged a simultaneous attack in front with the main army. Everything worked so well that, although it was nearly nightfall before Crook arrived and began his attack, the brief interval of daylight that remained sufficed for the complete rout of Early's army. Crook appeared on his flank utterly unexpected and thus gained to the full the great advantage of a successful flank movement. Many guns and prisoners fell into Sheridan's hands, and the only thing that prevented the total destruction of Early was the successful opposition offered by his own cavalry to Sheridan's horsemen, who were to cut off the retreat.