



BATTLE BETWEEN GENERAL WILSON'S CAVALRY AND THE CONFEDERATES UNDER FITZHUGH LEE, AUGUST 21, 1864.

When Sheridan left Harper's Ferry to go up the Shenandoah Valley, he moved at first with great caution. These were his instructions, lest the enemy get past him for a northward raid; and this was his inclination, since he was advancing into an unfamiliar country. But his opponent, Early, knew every foot of the ground, and needed only to test the mettle of his adversary. So the rebel general acted on the offensive throughout the month that preceded the first decisive action at Winchester. As Early used his cavalry to harass the moving columns, so Sheridan used his cavalry to protect them. In the manœuvring for position, there were many engagements between the mounted troops of the respective armies. That between General James H. Wilson's Third Cavalry Division and the Confederate cavalry under Fitzhugh Lee occurred while Sheridan was solidifying his lines near Hallsboro, to get into shape to meet Early, who had already had reinforcements and expected more. Sheridan's cavalry were called in, as he was not yet prepared to bring on a serious, still less a general, engagement.



BATTLE OF FISHER'S HILL, VA., SEPTEMBER 23, 1864.—CHARGE OF GENERAL CROOK'S CORPS ON THE RIGHT.

FROM SKETCHES BY J. E. TAYLOR.