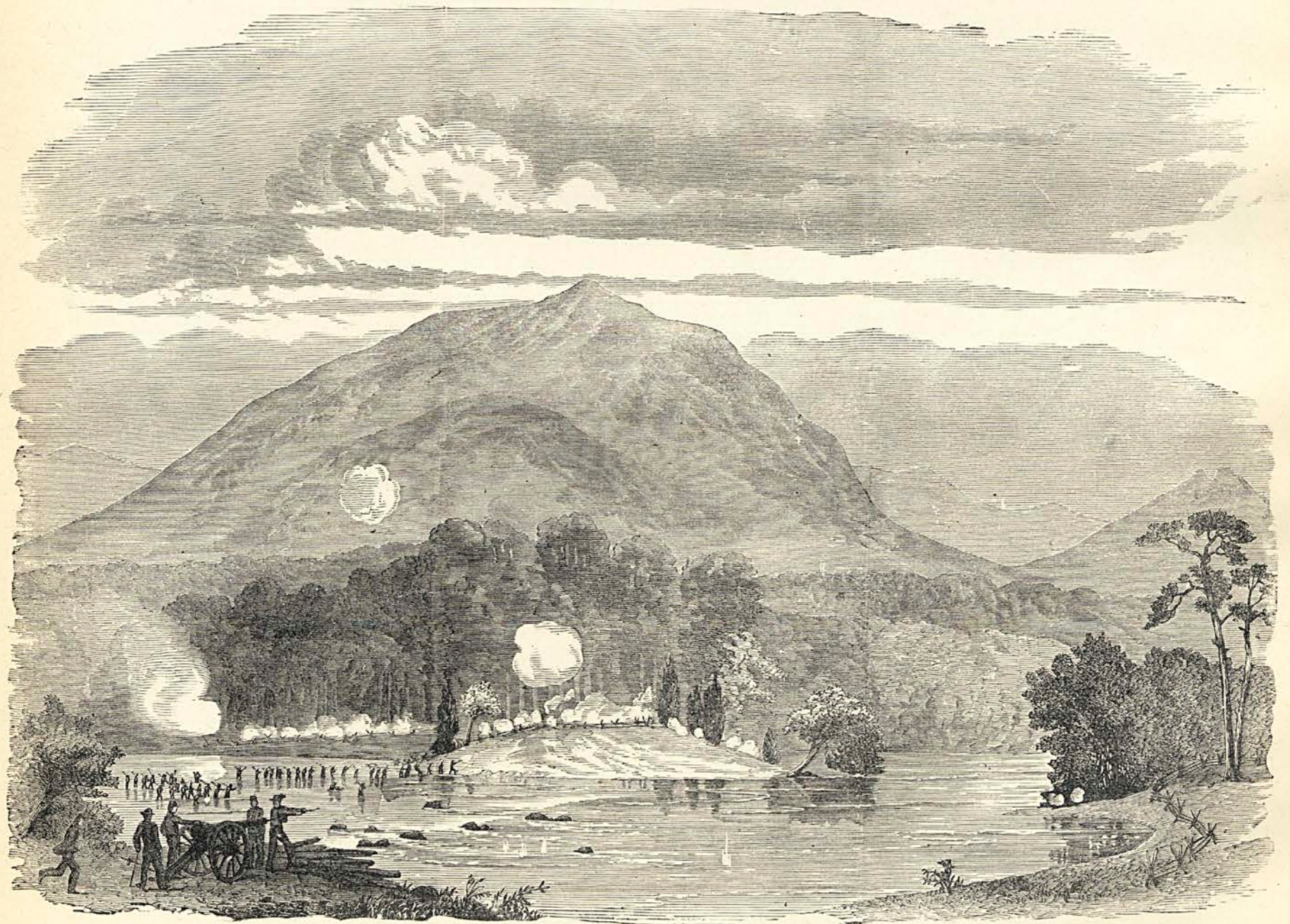




THE FEDERAL ARMY CROSSING THE COOSA RIVER, ALA., ON ITS RETURN FROM THE PURSUIT OF THE CONFEDERATES UNDER HOOD.
FROM A SKETCH BY STANLEY FOX.



THE FIGHT AT CEDAR CREEK, VA., FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 1864.—FROM A SKETCH BY J. R. TAYLOR.

The engagement represented here is a skirmish between Early's rear guard and Sheridan's cavalry, which harassed the retreating Confederates before they made their stand at Winchester on their way up the Shenandoah Valley with Sheridan on their heels. It was at this same point that later, after the Fisher's Hill engagement, Sheridan's own army was surprised and nearly defeated by Early. Having accomplished his original purpose of destroying everything in the valley that could maintain a hostile army, Sheridan had begun to return northward. Leaving his troops under General Wright's command, Sheridan had gone in person to confer with the authorities at Washington. He returned from this errand only to meet his men in full retreat, demoralized by the sudden onset of Early. It was then that he made his famous "Sheridan's ride," reaching Cedar Creek just in time to stop the retreat, reanimate his troops, and turn the promised defeat into a rousing Union victory.