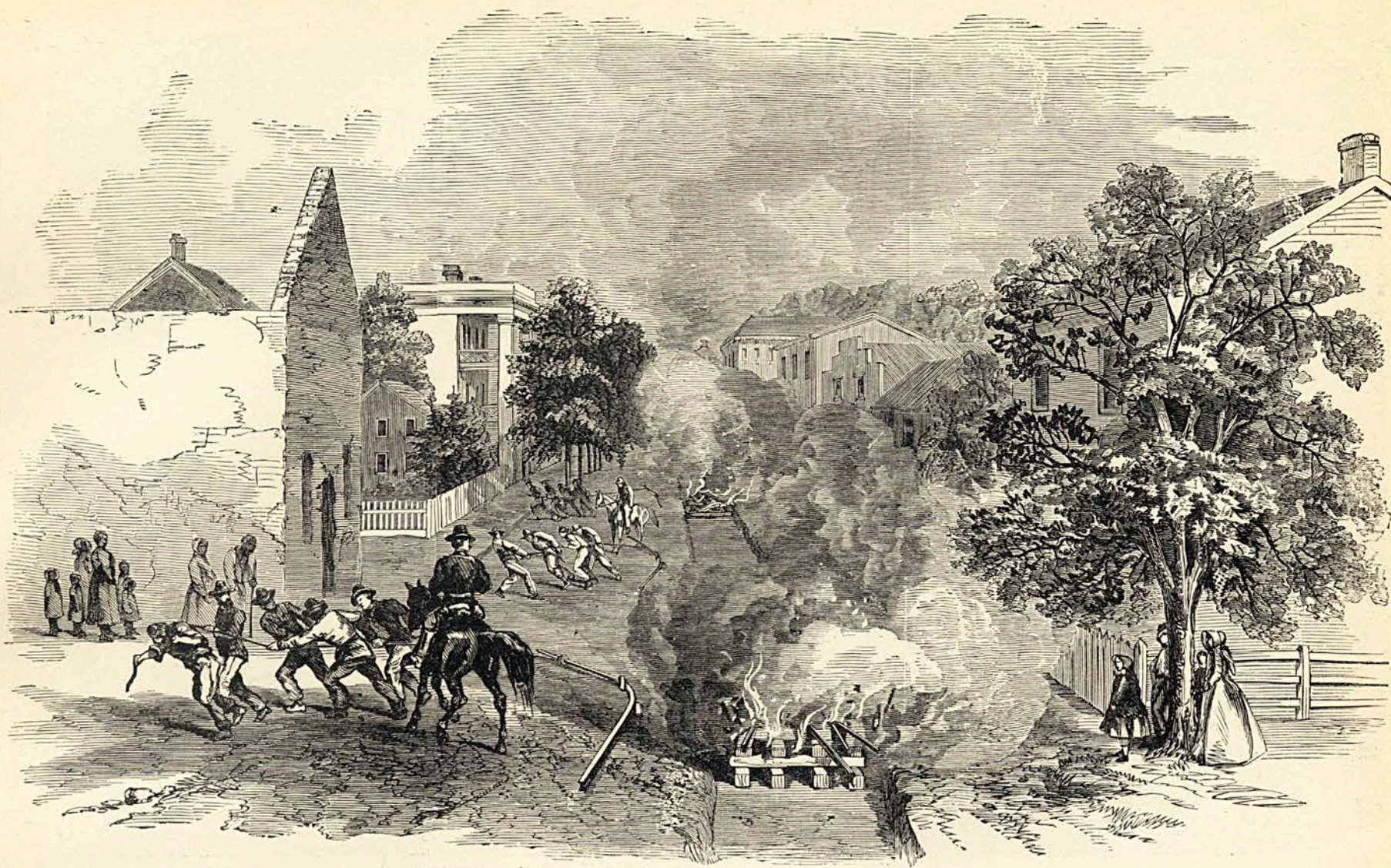




FEDERAL FORCES, AT JONESBORO, DESTROYING THE MACON RAILROAD.

FROM A SKETCH BY GEORGE D. SAYLLER, SECOND IOWA INFANTRY.

The art of destroying railroads was brought to perfection by the Northern armies. The mode of operation was as follows: A section was distributed along a piece of track, each man at the end of a tie. At a signal the ties were lifted and turned end for end with the ties on top. Each man then loosened his tie from the rails. The ties were then collected into piles, the rails placed upon them so that the centres were across the ties. The torch was then applied, but that did not complete the work. After the rails became heated soldiers seized them at the ends with hooks and bent them around stumps or trees, or, where these were not convenient, stakes fixed firmly in the ground. In grasping the hot iron rails a hook was used which gave a firm grip, and the track destroyers managed in the course of the operation to give a twist to the pliable metal which rendered it entirely useless excepting for melting and re-railing at a foundry.



UNITED STATES SOLDIERS, AT ATLANTA, GA., TEARING DOWN BUILDINGS SHATTERED DURING THE BOMBARDMENT.