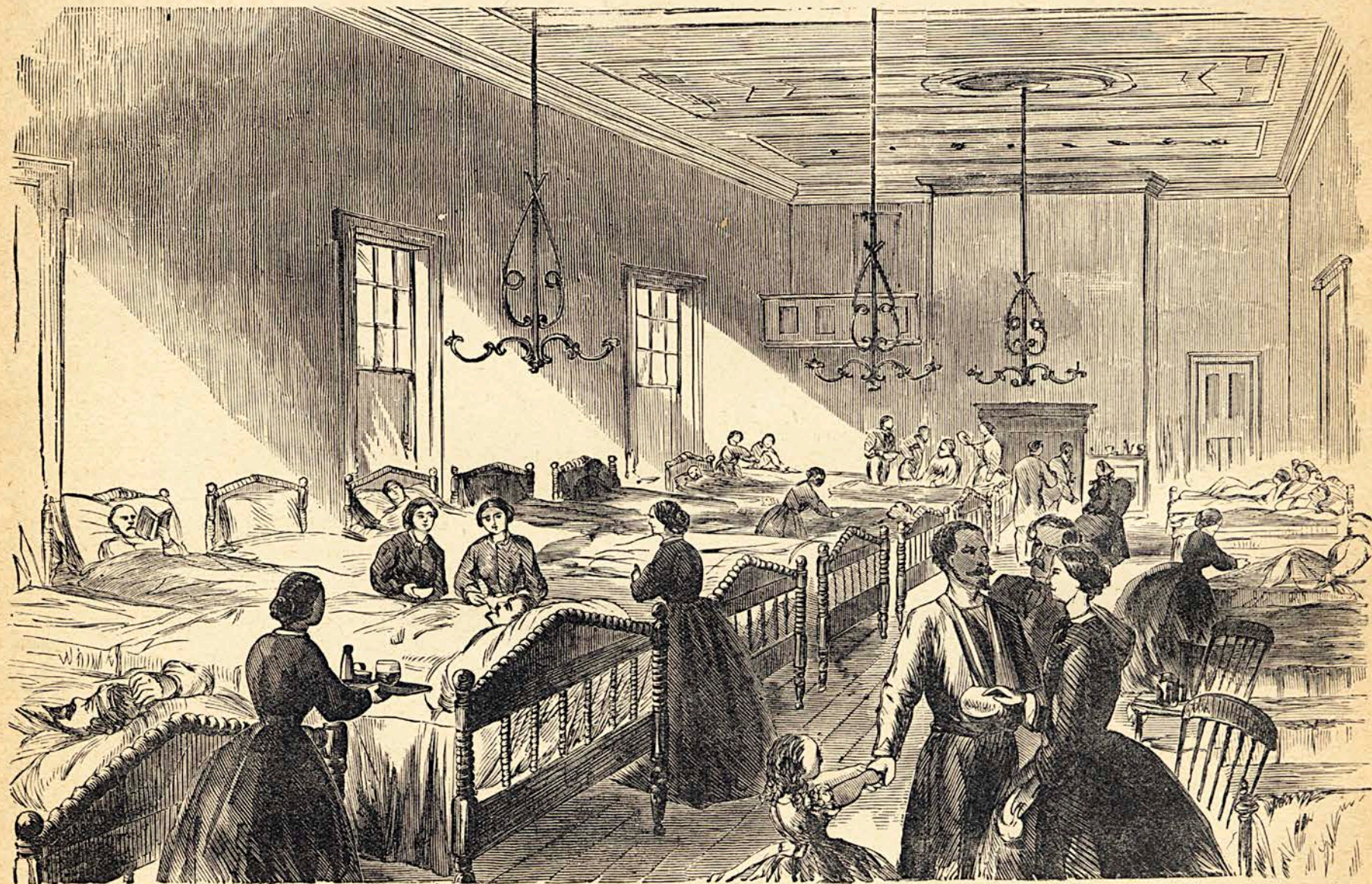


and recapture his camps. As these were about Shiloh Church, and that was the point that Beauregard was most anxious to hold, the struggle there was intense and bloody. About the same time, early in the afternoon, Grant and Beauregard did the same thing: each led a charge by two regiments that had lost their commanders. Beauregard's charge was not successful; Grant's was, and the two regiments that he launched with a cheer against the Confederate line broke it, and began the rout. Beauregard posted a rear guard in a strong position, and withdrew his army, leaving his dead on the field, while Grant captured about as many guns on the second day as he had lost on the first. There was no serious attempt at pursuit, owing mainly to the heavy rain and the condition of the roads. On the National side the official figures of the losses are: 1754 killed, 8408 wounded, 2885 missing; total 13,047. On the Confederate side they are: 1728 killed, 8012 wounded, 957 missing; total 10,699. General Grant says: "This estimate must be incorrect. We buried, by actual count, more of the enemy's

at the age of 35 was commissioned major-general in the regular army of the United States, and given command of all the troops about Washington.

For the work immediately in hand, this was probably the best selection that could have been made. Washington needed to be fortified, and he was a master of engineering; both the army that had just been defeated and the new recruits that were pouring in needed organization, and he proved pre-eminent as an organizer. Three months after he took command of 50,000 uniformed men at the capital, he had an army of more than 100,000, well organized in regiments, brigades, and divisions, with the proper proportion of artillery, with quartermaster and commissary departments going like clockwork, and the whole fairly drilled and disciplined. Everybody looked on with admiration, and the public impatience that had precipitated the disastrous "On to Richmond" movement was now replaced by a marvelous patience. The summer and autumn months went by, and no movement was

where the army that had won the battle of Bull Run was still encamped, and was still commanded by General Joseph E. Johnston. He now began to think of moving against Richmond by some more easterly route, discussing among others the extreme easterly one that he finally took. But, whatever were his thoughts and purposes, his army appeared to be taking root. The people began to murmur, Congress began to question, and the President began to argue and urge. All this did not signify; nothing could move McClellan. He wanted to wait till he could leave an enormous garrison in the defences of Washington, place a strong corps of observation along the Potomac, and then move out with a column of 150,000 men against an army that he believed to be as numerous as that, though in truth it was then less than half as large. It is now known that, from the beginning to the end of his career in that war, General McClellan constantly overestimated the force opposed to him. Meanwhile General Johnston quietly removed his stores, and on the 8th of March placed his army before



THE UNITED STATES HOSPITAL AT GEORGETOWN, D. C., FORMERLY THE UNION HOTEL.

dead in front of the divisions of McClellan and Sherman alone than are here reported, and 4000 was the estimate of the burial parties for the whole field."

After the battle, General Halleck took command in person, and proceeded to lay siege to Corinth. Both he and Beauregard were reinforced, till each had about 100,000 men. Halleck gradually closed in about the place, till in the night of May 29 Beauregard evacuated it, and on the morning of the 30th Sherman's soldiers entered the town.

CHAPTER IX.

THE PENINSULA CAMPAIGN.

WITHIN twenty-four hours after the defeat of McDowell's army at Bull Run (July 21, 1861), the Administration called to Washington the only man that had thus far accomplished much or made any considerable reputation in the field. This was General George B. McClellan. He had done good work in northwestern Virginia in the early summer, and now

made; but McClellan, in taking command, had promised that the war should be "short, sharp, and decisive," and the people thought, if they only allowed him time enough to make thorough preparation, his great army would at length swoop down upon the Confederate capital and finish everything at one blow. At length, however, they began to grow weary of the daily telegram, "All quiet along the Potomac," and the monotonously repeated information that "General McClellan rode out to Fairfax Court House and back this morning." The Confederacy was daily growing stronger, the Potomac was being closed to navigation by the erection of hostile batteries on its southern bank, the enemy's flag was flying within sight from the capital, and the question of foreign interference was becoming exceedingly grave. On the 1st of November General Scott, then 75 years of age, retired, and McClellan succeeded him as General-in-Chief of all the armies.

Soon after this his plans appear, from subsequent revelations, to have undergone important modification. He had undoubtedly intended to attack by moving straight out toward Manassas,

Richmond. This reconciled the President to McClellan's plan of campaign, which he had never liked.

The order for the transportation of McClellan's army was issued on the 27th of February, and 400 vessels were required; for there were actually transported 121,000 men, 14,000 animals, 44 batteries, and all necessary ambulances and baggage-wagons, pontoons, and telegraph material. Just before the embarkation, the army was divided into four corps, the commands of which were given to Generals McDowell, Edwin V. Sumner, Samuel P. Heintzelman, and Erasmus D. Keyes.

Another element of the highest importance had also entered into the problem with which the nation was struggling. This was the appointment (January 21, 1862), of Edwin M. Stanton to succeed Simon Cameron as Secretary of War. Mr. Stanton, then 47 years of age, was a lawyer by profession, a man of great intellect, unflinching nerve, and tremendous energy. He had certain traits that often made him personally disagreeable to his subordinates; but it was