

wall and fire them as rapidly as possible, exposing scarcely more than his head. Nearly half of French's men were shot down and the remainder fell back. Hancock's 5000 charged in the same manner, and some of them approached within 20 yards of the wall; but within a quarter of an hour they also fell back, leaving 2000 of their number on the field. Three other divisions advanced to the attack, but with no better result; and all remained in a position where they were just out of reach of the rifles in the sunken road, but were still played upon by the Confederate artillery.

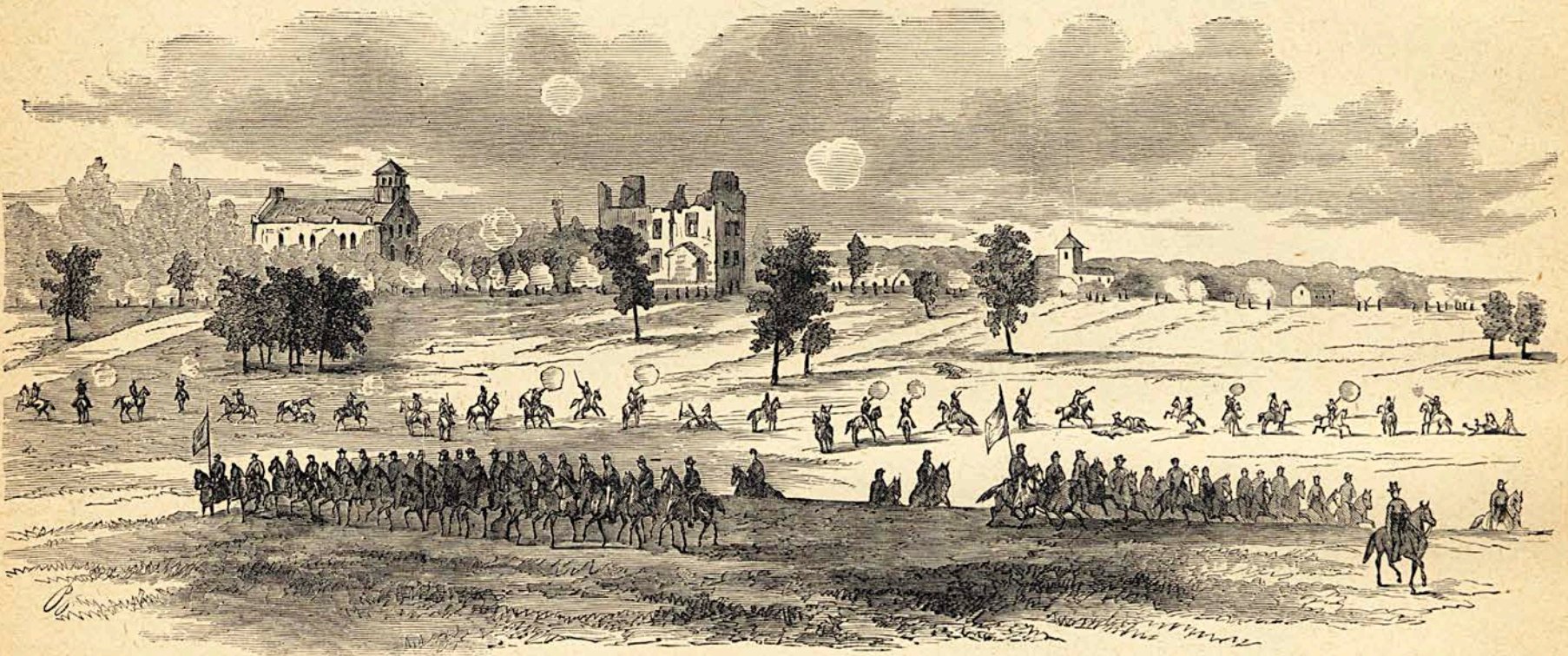
Burnside now grew frantic and ordered Hooker to attack. That officer moved out with three divisions, made a reconnoissance, and went back to tell Burnside it was useless and persuade him to give up the attempt. But the commander insisted, and so Hooker's 4000 rushed forward with fixed bayonets, and presently came back like the rest, leaving 1700 on the field.

The entire National loss in this battle was 12,353 in killed, wounded or missing, though some of the missing afterward rejoined their commands. Hancock's division lost 156 officers, and one of his regiments lost two-thirds of its men. The Confederate loss was 5309. Burnside planned to make a fresh attempt the next day, with the Ninth Corps (his old command),

ability, who, with 40,000 men, marched into eastern Kentucky, defeating a National force near Richmond, and another at Mumfordsville. He then assumed that Kentucky was a State of the Confederacy, appointed a provisional Governor, forced Kentuckians into his army, and robbed the farmers, not only of their stock and provisions, but of their wagons for carrying away the plunder, paying them in worthless Confederate money. He carried with him 20,000 muskets, expecting to find that number of Kentuckians who would enroll themselves in his command; but he confessed afterward that he did not even secure enough recruits to take up the arms that fell from the hands of his dead and wounded. With the supplies collected by his army of "liberators," as he called them, in a wagon-train said to have been 40 miles long, he was moving slowly back into Tennessee, when General Buell, with about 58,000 men, marched in pursuit.

Braggs turned and gave battle at Perryville (October 8), and the fight lasted nearly all day. At some points it was desperate, with hand-to-hand fighting, and troops charging upon batteries where the gunners stood to their pieces and blew them from the very muzzles. The National left, composed entirely of raw troops, was crushed by a heavy onset; but the next portion of the line, commanded by General Philip H. Sheridan,

September 19, with a loss of about 700 men on each side, and in the night Price retreated and joined Van Dorn. The combined force afterward (October 3) attempted the capture of Corinth, where Rosecrans was in immediate command with about 20,000 men. The place was especially tempting to the Confederates because of the enormous amount of supplies in store there. Rosecrans had taken a position three miles from the city, and in the first day's fighting the enemy forced him back to his intrenchments and captured two guns. Van Dorn, early the next morning, assaulted the intrenchments. His men were fearfully cut down by grape and canister, but succeeded in breaking through the line of works, and even made their way into the city, where there was desperate fighting in the streets. Reinforcements were brought up for Rosecrans, the tide was turned, and the Confederates were driven out again and repelled all along the line, after which they retreated in great haste. Their loss was about 6000; that of the National forces was 2359. The retreat began about noon; but Rosecrans did not begin pursuit till the next morning, when it was too late, and then he took the wrong road. Grant had expected him to gain a victory, and ordered him in that event to pursue without the loss of an hour; and to make sure of crushing Van Dorn's army, Grant at the



FIGHT OF DUFFIE'S CAVALRY, NEAR HUNTER'S HOUSE, CHARLESTOWN, VA., COVERING THE RETREAT OF THE FEDERAL FORCES.

which he proposed to lead in person; but General Sumner dissuaded him. In the night of the 15th, in a storm, the army was withdrawn to the north bank of the Rappahannock, and the campaign was ended.

CHAPTER XIV.

ROSECRANS AND HOOKER.

THE year 1863 began with several events of the first importance. On December 31st and January 2d there was a great battle in the West. On New Year's day the final proclamation of emancipation was issued, and measures were taken for the immediate enlistment of black troops. On that day, also, in the State of New York, which furnished one sixth of all the men called into the National service, the executive power passed into hands unfriendly to the Administration.

The Confederate Congress in 1862 passed a sweeping conscription act, forcing into the ranks every man of military age. Even boys of sixteen were taken out of school and sent to camps of instruction. This largely increased their forces in the field, and at the West especially they exhibited a corresponding activity. General Beauregard, whose health had failed, was succeeded by General Braxton Bragg, a man of more energy than

not only held its ground and repelled the assault, but followed up the retiring enemy with a counter attack.

When night fell, the Confederates had been repelled at all points, and a portion of them had been driven through Perryville, losing many wagons and prisoners. Buell prepared to attack at daylight, but found that Bragg had moved off in the night with his whole army, continuing his retreat to east Tennessee, leaving 1000 of his wounded on the ground. He also abandoned 1200 of his men in hospital at Harrodsburg, with large quantities of his plunder, and made all haste to get away. Buell reported his loss in the battle as 4348, which included Generals James S. Jackson and William R. Terrill killed. Bragg's loss was probably larger, though he gave considerably smaller figures. General Halleck, at Washington, now planned for Buell's army a campaign in east Tennessee; but as that was more than 200 miles away, and the communications were not provided for, Buell declined to execute it. He was then removed from command, and General William S. Rosecrans succeeded him.

In September, a Confederate army of about 40,000 men, under Generals Price and Van Dorn, had crossed from Arkansas into Mississippi, with the purpose of capturing Grant's position at Corinth. Price seized Iuka, southwest of Corinth, and Grant sent out against him a force under Rosecrans. They fought a battle, on

same time sent a force to strike it in flank. He was greatly displeased at the dilatoriness of Rosecrans, the more so as it was an exact repetition of a mistake made at Iuka, and for this reason that general was soon relieved from further service under Grant.

When Rosecrans superseded Buell, his army—thenceforth called the Army of the Cumberland—was at Bowling Green, slowly pursuing Bragg. Rosecrans sent a portion of it to the relief of Nashville, which was besieged by a Confederate force, and employed the remainder in repairing the railroad from Louisville. This done, about the end of November he united his forces at Nashville. At the same time, Bragg was ordered to move forward again, and went as far as Murfreesboro, 40 miles from Nashville, where he fortified a strong position on Stone River, a shallow stream, fordable at nearly all points.

Rosecrans, leaving Nashville with 43,000 men, in a rainstorm, the day after Christmas, encamped on the 30th within sight of Bragg's intrenchments. He intended to attack the next day; but Bragg crossed the river before sunrise, concealed by a thick fog, reached the woods on the right of the National line, and burst out upon the bank in overwhelming force. McCook's command was crumbled and thrown back, losing several guns and many prisoners. Sheridan's command, next in line, made a stubborn fight till its ammunition was nearly exhausted, and then slowly retired.