The Story of the Last Days of the Rebellion, Told by Lieut. Gen. Sheridan.

Incidents of Events that Have Passed Into History Vividly Recalled.

A Charming Narrative.

P. H. Sheridan, in The North American Review. that occurred in the closing scenes of the Virginia campaign, terminating at Appomattox Court House, April 9, 1865, I feel it my duty to give history the follow-

When, April 4, 1865, being at the head The man and the mule were brought to a halt, and the mule and himself closely with ten other general officers.

We now come to the morning of the reamined, under strong remonstrances at 7th. I thought that Lee would not the indignity done to a southern gentleman. Remonstrance, however, was without avail, and in his boots two telegrams were found from the commissary general of Lee's army, saying: "The army is at Amelia Court-House, short of provisions. Send 300,000 rations quickly to Burkesville Junction." One of these dispatches was for the confederate supply department at Danville, the other for that at Lynchburg. It was at once presumed Lynchburg. It was at once presumed ing confederate army. On reaching that that, after the dispatches were written, the telegraph line had been broken by Gen. Crook north of Burkesville, and stantly turned north for Prince Edward's Gen. Crook north of Burkesville, and they were on their way to some station beyond the break to be telegraphed.

They revealed where Lee was and from them some estimate could also be formed that Lee had

stantly turned north for Frince Edward's brought down their guns to an aim on us, and great effort was made by their officers to keep them from firing. I halted, and hearing some noise behind turned in the frince Edward's court house, reported that Lee had

cust of the surrender. Gen. Lee was sitting, his hands resting on the hilt of his sword, to the left of and hearing some noise behind turned in the frince Edward's court house, reported that Lee had They revealed where Lee was and from them some estimate could also be formed of the number of his troops. Orders were at once given Gen. Crook to come up the road from Burkesville to Jettersville, and to Gen. Merritt, who, with the other two divisions of cavalry, had followed the road from Petersburg, on the south side of and year the Appropriates. south side of and near the Appomattox

To Jetterwille, while the Pitth army corps, under the lamneted Griffin, while where the lamneted Griffin, while the Pitth army corps, under the lamneted Griffin, while the Pitth army corps, under the lamneted Griffin, while the Pitth army corps, under the lamneted Griffin, while the Pitth army corps, under the lamneted Griffin, while the Pitth army corps, under the lamneted Griffin, while the Pitth army corps, under the lamneted Griffin, while was marked at a quick pace to the same point, and other road in front of Levis army blocked until the arrival of the rest of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Pitth Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Pitth Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Pitth Army of the Potomac the aftering the properties of the Pitth Army of the Potomac the Army of the Potomac

captured later in the day:

"AMELIA C. H., April 5, 1865.—Dear coming on the ground.

Manna: Our army is ruined, I fear. We are all safe as yet. Shyron left us sick. John Taylor is well, saw him yesterday. We are in line of battle this morning. Gen. Robert Lee is in the field near us. My trust is in the justice of our cause and that of God. Gen. Hill is killed. I saw Murray a few minutes since. Bernerd Terry, he said, was taken prisoner, but may get out. I send this by a negro I see passing up the road to Michlen-burg. Love to all. Your devoted son. "WILLIAM B. TAYLOR, "Colonel."

I accordingly sent out my escort to demonstrate and make as much ado as they could, by continuous

corps came up in the course of the afternoon, and was put into position at right
angles with the Richmond and Danville
road, with its left resting on a pond or
swamp at the left of the road. Toward
swamp at the left of the road. Toward

Toward sion of cavalry, and later Gen. Merritt, with his two divisions, and all took their

no attack was made by the enemy upon in every heart. Our long and waried the small force in front—the Fifth corps and three divisions of cavalry—and by the morning of the 5th 1 began to believe that he would leave the main road or nine days. Before sunrise, Gen. Ord if he could, and pass around my left came in reporting the near approach of flank to Sailor's creek and Farmville. To his command. After a hasty consultation about positions to be taken up by watch this suspected movement, early in the morning of the 5th I sent Davies' brigade of Crook's division of cavalry to make a reconnoissance in that direction. The result was an encounter by Davies with a large train of wagons, under escort, moving in the direction anticipated. The train was attacked by him, and about two hundred wagons were and about two hundred wagons were get a burned, and five pieces of artillery and a

rear of his retreating colums. Under sance had been made, and from whence of the Army of the Potomac, and comthis impression I sent to Gen. Grant could be distinctly seen Ord's troops in municated the conditions. THE FOLLOWING DISPATCH:

CAVALBY HEADQUARTERS, JERSEYVILLE, April 5, 1865, 3 p. m.—Lieut, Gen. U. S. Grant, Commanding Armies of the United States—General: I send you the inclosed letter, which will give you an idea of the condition of the enemy and their whereabouts. I sent Gen. Davis' brigade P. H. Sheridan, in The North American Review.

Public attention having of late been occasionally called to some of the events

Public attention having of late been occasionally called to some of the events

of the cavalry, I threw across the line of had turned our left flank and taken an-Gen. Lee's march at Jettersville, on the other road to Sailor's creek and Farm-Richmond and Danvile railroad, my personal escort, the 1st United States caval-ry, numbering about two hundred men, a tall, lank man was seen coming down the road from the direction of Amelia Court- moving columns of the enemy's infantry House, riding a small mule and heading and artillery, with which a series of con toward Burkesville Junction, to which flicts ensued that resulted in the battle of point Gen. Crook had early that morning been ordered with his division of cavalry to break the railroad and telegraph lines.

Sailor's creek, where Gen. Elwell lost his command of about ten thousand men, and was himself taken prisoner, together

and hearing some noise behind turned in the saddle, and saw a confederate soldier attempting to take my battle-flag from the color bearer. This the sergeant had no idea of submitting to, and had drawn his saber to cut the man down. A word the railroad, to reach Lynchburg by the road he had taken north of the Appomattox river, and that that was the longest road to get there. He had given the

vance at the station it was found that the advance guard of Lee's army was just a flashing of sabers, indicated a charge,

off, forty pieces of artillery captured, and four hundred baggage wagons burned. The railroad trains had been secured in the first onset, and were taken possession while the scenes thus related were taking place, the conversation I now speak of by locomotive engineers, soldiers in of was occurring between Gen. Gordon the command, whose delight at again setting at their former employment was so great that they produced the wildest confusion by running the trains to and fro on the track, and making such an un-earthly screeching with the whistles that I was at one time on the point of order-ing the trains burned; but we finally got them off, and ran them to our rear ten or fifeeen miles, to Ord and Gibbon, who at or near Amelia court house, pending the arrival of the Fifth corps. That corps came up in the course of the afterdesignated places. The Fifth corps, after its arrival, had thrown up earthworks and made its position strong enough to hold out against any force for the period which would intervene before the arrival of the main body of the Army of the Potomac, now rapidly coming up on the lines over which I had traveled.

On the afternoon and night of the 4th terms of the strenger and night of the 4th terms of the strenger and night of the 4th terms of the result. Merritt, Crook and Custer were at times, there. remained, for there was no rest the night On the afternoon and night of the 4th ter were, at times, there. Happiness was

could be distinctly seen Ord's troops in the distance, than he called a sudden halt, and a retrograde movement began to McLean's house in the village of Ap-

Looking to the left, to Appoint camp.

court house, a large group was seen near to the lines of confederate troops that had not much over three hundred yards. I halted for a moment, and, taking off my hat, called out that the flag was being vio-

lated, but COULD NOT STOP THE FIRING. which now caused us all to take shelter in a ravine running parallel to the ridge we absent from the room longer than about were on, and down which we then traveled. As we approached the court house, a gentle ascent had to be made. I was in advance, followed by a sergeant carrying my battle flag. Within 100 to 150 yards off from the court house and confederate

advance guard of Lee's army was just coming on the ground.

A SANGUINE ENGAGEMENT at once ensued. The enemy was driven of forty pieces of artillery captured and followed; Lieut. Allen was thus released. ing place, the conversation I now speak Gen. Gordon remarked: "Gen. Lee asks for a suspension of hostilities pending the negotiations which he has been having for the last day and night with Gen. Grant." I rejoined: "I have been constantly informed of the progress of the negotiations, and think it singular that while such negotiations are going on Gen. Lee should have continued his march and attempted to break through my lines this morning with the view of escaping. I can entertain no terms except the condi-tion that Gen. Lee will surrender to Gen. Grant on his arrival here. I have sent

horse, and taking hold of the saddle-bags, said in a jocular way: "Here, Sheridan, take these saddle-bags; they have one soiled shirt and a pair of drawers. You have burned everything else I had in the world, and I think you are entitled to these also." He was alluding, of course, these also." He was alluding, of course, the said of the sai

were settled, each army agreed to remain in statu quo until the arrival of Gen. Grant, whom Col. Newhall, my adjutant Gen. Gordon returned in company with Gen. Longstreet. The latter, who com-manded Lee's rear guard back on the burned, and five pieces of artillery and a large number of prisoners captured. In the afternoon of April 5th the main body of the Army of the Potomac came up. Gen. Meade was unwell and requested me to put the troope in position, which I did, in line of battle, facing the enemy at Amelia court house. I thought it best to attack at once, but this was not done. I then began to be afraid the enemy would, in the night, by a march to the right from Amelia court house, attempt to pass our left flank and again put us in the

to a ridge about a mile to his rear. Shortly afterward I returned from Gen. Ord
to the front, making for Gen. Merritt's
battle-flag on the right flank of the line.
On reaching it, the order to advance was
or not. We had waited some hours and, of the condition of the enemy and their whereabouts. I sent Gen Davis' brigade this morning around on my left flank, He captured at Fames' cross-roads five pieces of artillery, about two hundred wagons, and eight or nine battle flags, and a number of prisoners. The Second army corps is now coming up. I wish your were here yourself. I feel confident of a parturing the army of Northern Virginia, if we exert ourselves. I see no escape for Lee. I will put all my cavalry out on our left flank, except Mackenzie, who is now on the right.

On reaching it, the order to advance was left to diven, and every guidon was bent to the left of front, and as we swept by to the left of the night of Appin and the cavely free from artillery. No heed was deading an umber of prisoners. The Second army corps is now coming up. I wish your were here yourself. I feel confident of a number of prisoners. The Second army corps is now coming up. I wish your were here yourself. I feel confident of the enemy of Northern Virginia, if we exert ourselves. I see no escape for Lee. I will put all my cavalry out on our left flank, except Mackenzie, who is now on the right.

On receipt of this he immediately and to the deadly missles, and, with the wildest yells, we soon reached a point as front, who wildest yells, we soon reached a point and to the deadly missles, and, with the appint of the deadly missles, and, with the opened a heavy fire from artillery. No heed was with the deadly missles, and, with the opened a point and the deadly missles, and, with the appint of not the deadly missles, and, with the appint of not the deadly missles, and, with the appint of not the deadly missles, and, with the appint of not the deadly missles, and, with the appint of not the deadly missles, and, with given, and every guidon was bent to the I think, about 12 or 1 o'clock Gen. Grant

THE FIRST GREETING to the lines of confederate troops that the fallen back to that point. Gen. Custer fallen back to that point. Gen. Custer had not come back, and, supposing that had not come back, and, supposing that ent of the military academy. Gen. Lee was then presented to Gen. Grant, and was then presented to Gen. Grant, and was then presented to Gen. Lee had not come back, and, supposing that he was with the group at the court house, I moved on a gallop down the narrow ridge, followed by my staff. The court house was, perhaps, three-fourths of a mile distant. We had not gone far bemile distant. We had not gone far bemile distant. fore a heavy fire was opened on us from a the expression of relief from a heavy skirt of timber to our right, and distant burden. Gen. Grant's uniform was not much over three hundred yards. I soiled with mud and service, and he wore no sword. After a few words had been spoken by those who knew Gen. Lee, all the officers retired, except, perhaps, one staff officer of Gen. Grant's and the one who was with Lee. We had not been

> the door and said: "The surrender has taken place-you can come in again.' When we re-entered, Gen. Grant was writing on a little wooden, elliptical-shaped table (purchased by me from Mr. McLean and presented to Mrs. G. A. Custer) the conditions of the surrender.

section has just been seen near this place, and from the description given by the observer it certainly is a monster. Isaac Robinson, a sober and industrious citizen of this town, while clearing a strip of woods on the old Nugent farm, about a mile southeast of here, says he saw lying on a log this huge serpent, fully as long as a fence rail, and having a body of enormous size, being thicker than his yours, Isaac Reeling of the seen using paving material that the granter paving blocks furnished by your company are the most regular in shape and perfect in form, and as far as I have been able to judge, are possessed of as drauble feature as any material that has arm. He attacked it with a pitchfork and enormous size, being thicker than his arm. He attacked it with a pitchfork and it ran in the hollow of the log, and on Mr. Robinson's running a pole in after it the huge reptile became enraged and darted out, knocking the pole from Mr. Robin-son's hand and throwing it down the hill. His snakeship then almost flew down the hill, and went so swiftly that it made a humming and buzzing noise as it flashed through the weeds and bushes, with its enormous head several feet above the ground. Mr. Robinson says it parted the bushes before it and made a track like a sledrunner. He was very much frightened, and says it was the biggest snake he ever saw. It is supposed to be the same snake which was seen in the swamp on the Nugent farm just ten years ago, and which was trailed from the Tuscarawas river by the furrow it left in the corn field through which it crawled. It is certainly the largest snake ever seen alive in this part of the United States.

Grant on his arrival.

for him. If these terms are not accepted we will renew hostilities." Gen. Gordon replied: "Gen. Lee's army is exhausted. There is no doubt of his surrender to Gen. Grant on his arrival." Gen. Wilcox, whom I knew quite well, the Gen. Grant on his arrival."

Gen. Wilcox, whom I knew quite well, the Gen military academy, then stepped to his familiary academy. gained so fast that my husband and fam-

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