

Mimic War on Bull Run Field

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 25.—(Special.)—Over the historic field of Bull Run in Prince William county, Virginia, where the forces of Beauregard, Johnston and McDowell met in sanguinary combat in July, 1861, and where a year and a month later Jackson, Longstreet, Lee and Pope tried conclusions to the discomfiture of the southern arms 30,000 soldiers made up of the flower of the regular establishment and militia organizations of states east of the Mississippi will participate in a series of sham battles which promise to be educational and noteworthy to the highest degree.

The maneuvers will begin at Manassas the last days of August and continue to the middle of September. The regular troops will arrive on the ground August 23 and leave September 15. The militia will arrive during September 3 and 4 and depart September 11 and 12. Every state in the Atlantic division except Mississippi will be represented.

Major General Henry C. Corbin, former adjutant general of the army and now in charge of the Military Division of the Atlantic, with headquarters at Governor's Island, will be in supreme command and the two divisions of the force, to be known as the Blues and the Browns, will be commanded by Brigadier General J. Franklin Bell and Brigadier General Frederick D. Grant, son of the famous soldier-president.

Brigadier General Theodore J. Wint, in command of the Department of the Missouri; Brigadier General Tasker H. Bliss, former collector of customs in Cuba, now of the war college; Colonel Butler D. Price of the Sixteenth infantry and General Russell Frost of the Connecticut National Guard will command the First, Second, Third and Fourth brigades, respectively, of the First division, and Brigadier General J. M. Lee, Brigadier General Thomas H. Barry and Colonel F. A. Smith of the Eighth cavalry will be in charge of the Second division.

The First division, under General Grant, will occupy Maneuver Camp No. 1, near Manassas, and will wear the old-style blue flannel blouses, while the enemy, the Second division, under General Bell, will be encamped at Thoroughfare, more than ten miles away, and will wear khaki uniforms.

During the five days that the actual maneuvers will last, problems of vital importance in modern warfare will be worked out, and in order that the regular and militia troops engaged may derive the most lasting good from the operations conditions of actual armed conflict will be approximated to the nearest possible degree.

Sentiment over memories of the great civil war had nothing whatever to do with the selection of the old Bull Run battle ground. There has been an impression in some quarters that the sham engagements are to be in a large measure a repetition of the first great battles of the civil war. Nothing of the sort. It is the new style of fighting, not the old, that the regulars and militia will be drilled in.

Congress, at its last session, appropriated a round million dollars to be expended this summer and fall in sham battles by the regular troops and picked militia from the various states. Of this sum, \$400,000 is divided between Generals Funston and MacArthur for maneuvers west of the Mississippi river. The remainder, \$600,000, goes to General Corbin for the operations of the Atlantic division, the field of Bull Run having been chosen for the first really eastern great camp of instruction since the firing upon Fort Sumpter.

The maneuvers will not include very much of the usual spectacular sham battle display of fireworks and smoke. The generals of the opposing forces will be given intricate problems of modern warfare to solve, and will be judged by the manner in which they handle them. The tests made with from 10,000 to 25,000 troops at West Point, Ky., and Fort Riley, Kan., last year will be carried out on a much more extensive scale. The maneuver camps, as shown in the map, will be ten miles apart. Major General Corbin's headquarters will be at Gainesville, which is almost directly between them.

There is no fault to be found with the sanitary conditions of the camp ground. The strip is about ten miles long and five miles wide, through an undulating country, neither too hilly nor too level. Army officers say the scene has not changed much since the battle of Bull Run was fought there. Some of the houses still have fragments of shot and shell sticking in them as reminders of that famous engagement. Many of the farms are in the hands of the same owners. Muddy little Bull Run creek still flows from the mountains to Aquia creek. The opposing camps are drained into different streams. Wells abound with good drinking water.

The transportation of so many troops, to say nothing of visitors, is a great undertaking for any one railroad. So far as Camp Manassas is concerned, the Southern railway has a monopoly. No other road goes near the place. Section gangs have been at work for weeks laying miles and miles of sidings and additional tracks. It will require more than 500 passenger cars to convey the troops, and as many more freight cars for the artillery, ammunition and commissary supplies. Sidings have



BRIGADIER GENERAL THEODORE J. WINT, U. S. A., COMMANDING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI, WHO WILL TAKE PART IN THE ARMY MANEUVERS AT THE OLD BATTLEFIELD OF BULL RUN.

been built to keep these cars in camp, but out of the way of the soldiers. Spurs have been constructed connecting the two camps. The railway will be taken advantage of in the mimic war, just as in real war, and the military problems to be worked out will give the citizen soldiery a better understanding of the requirements of modern military standards than could possibly be gleaned in years of practice at state camps. The interest in the forthcoming army maneuvers is an unmistakable manifestation of the appreciation of our people in our military institutions.

E. C. S.

Reminded Her

Businesslike Suitor—Miss Billmore, I have come to notify you that after consultation with my friends and much deliberation on my own part I have decided to ask you if you will consent—

Miss Pinkie Billmore (interrupting)—Mr. Wellup, do you think the right way to propose to a girl is to talk to her as if you were offering her a nomination for the vice presidency?—Chicago Tribune.

Vest's Idea of Age

On a certain occasion Mr. Vest had returned to the senate after one of his brief absences. Senator Hoar of Massachusetts, four years his senior, met him in the lobby, and chided him good-naturedly for not attending strictly to business when vital measures were being debated. "You're a fine young man," said Mr. Hoar, "to absent yourself at such a time and leave us old fellows—Cockrell and me and the rest—to handle these matters."

"You'll never be as old as I," said Vest, "if you live fifty years longer."

"Bless you, I was born in 1826 and was preparing for college before you came into the world," said the Massachusetts man.

"If you were born in 1726 you wouldn't be as old as I," said the Missourian. "You and Cockrell will see years, but you will never see age. You haven't lived as lively as I have—and I am wishing sometimes that I hadn't," he said with a weary smile.—Kansas City Star.

