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Great Play

A Stirring Story of Military Adventure and of a Strange Wartime Wooing

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#### **SYNOPSIS**

Beauregard is ready to fire on Fort Sum-ter. Frank Haverill, General Haverill's scapegrace son, is hiding in Charleston Edward Thornton annoys Mrs. Haverili. Lieutenant Kerchival West protects her

Haverill unjustly suspects West. He sends Frank a miniature of Mrs. Haverill to help reform him. Frank enlists in the Union army.

Captain Robert Ellingham, Confederate, loves Madeline West. Lieutenant West. soldier, loves Gertrude Ell The Union army is routed at Bull Run. Ellingham is with "Stonewall" Jackson in the valley of Virginia. Gertrude decides

to return to the Ellingham home at Belle

She gets through the Union lines accompanied by Belle Boyd, a Confederate spy. They meet Thornton, who is a pris-

Thornton escapes, captures Lieutenant Bedloe and takes from him Mrs. Haver-

Bedloe is Frank Haverill. He is taken to Libby prison. Marie Mason finds her lover, Captain Cox.

Six Union officers selected as hostages to protect Confederate prisoners threat-ened with death are returned to Libby

Bedioe escapes from Libby prison. Mc-Clelian, Burnside, Halleck and Hooker are successively beaten by Lee and Jack-

[Continued from last week-]

"General," one of his staff finally said as they moved cautiously down the shadowed road toward Chancellorsville. "don't you think this is a pretty exposed place for you?"

"No," he replied quickly. "The danger is over, and we must follow up the enemy. Go back and tell A. P. Hill to press right on!"

After this no one presumed to offer of firing ahead seemed to indicate that they had run upon a Federal skirmish line. The general turned his horse, but unfortunately went off the route and toward the front of some of his own one of welcome repose to both sides. troops who were lying on their arms and who had no idea that their commander had passed beyond the lines

They fired upon the party, killing one three of the signalmen. Jackson turned about and recrossed the road to enter his lines at another point when another company of Confederates belonging to Pender's North Carolina brigade delivered a volley at short range in the confusion and darkness.

Jackson's horse boited, a limb of a tree struck the rider in the face, and he reeled in his saddle. Bob Ellingham rushed forward and caught the bridle rein, while Captain Wilbourn helped the general to dismount. His left arm hung limp, and the officers removed his gauntlets, which were filled with the blood streaming from three wounds which he had received simultaneously. General Hill rode up at this moment and of others high in the Federal counand asked Jackson if he was seriously hurt.

"I think my arm is broken," was the feeble reply. "I wish you would get me a surgeon

An ambulance took him to the rear At the field hospital at Wilderness Tav



From "Battles and Leaders.

"General Jackson moved cautiously down the shadowed road."

ern Dr. Hunter McGuire amputated Jackson's left arm near the shoulder. Early the next morning a note came

"I cannot express my regret at the rein. The cavalry gave a fairly good occurrence. Could I have directed events I should have chosen to be disabled in your stead. I congratulate you upon the victory which is due to your energy and skill."

"General Lee should give the praise to God." said Jackson, fervently happy at the receipt of this message.

It still remained for General Lee to complete the victory which Jackson had begun, and he did so in a series of operations which occupied two strenuous days and involved risks fully as great as "Stonewall" had taken in his great flanking movement.

General Jackson meanwhile had been removed to the Chandler house, near Guinea Station, on the railroad from Fredericksburg to Richmond. Here his wife and child joined him, and he was not only comforted, but seemed to share with those about him the hope of recovery. Then came a change for the worse and pleuro pneumonia developed. His last words were: "Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees."

"If the head of Lee's army is at Martinsburg and the tail of it on the plank road between Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville the animal must be very slim somewhere. Could you not break him?"

So President Lincoln wrote to General Hooker toward the middle of June. But the Army of the Potomac was kept busy watching the Army of Northern Virginia, and the movements of the lat-

ter set the pace of action at that time. Lee had sent Ewell, Jackson's successor in command, to the valley to drive the Federal force under Milroy out of Winchester, thus clearing the route for another demonstration toward Washington. This accomplished, Ewell had entered Maryland, followed thither by Lee's other two corps under Longstreet and Hill.

Then, even as Lee had calculated Hooker also marched northward on a line parallel to his own, but, of course, much nearer to Washington. The buttle of Gettysburg was already planned in embryo, but the Federal side of it was not to be commanded by "Fighting Joe" Hooker. As soon as the Federal army was ready to cross the Potomac a new leader was put in the saddle in the person of Major General George Gordon Meade.

#### CHAPTER XI.

Whirling Through Winchester. HE great, epical three days' battle of Gettysburg, the most stupendous artillery and infantry combat that ever took place on American soil, saw the high water mark of the rebellion. Shortly after Pickett's column had dashed itself to pieces against the iron bound, flame fringed Union lines on Cemetery ridge the tide began to ebb, slowly but steadily, back from the hills of Pennsylvania and Maryland, below the old triumphant lines of the Potomac and the further remonstrance, and they rode on Rappahannock, finally to cease, twenty in silence, peering uneasily through the months later, by the remote banks of

> The Federal army, cautiously maneuvered by Meade, followed Lee into Virginia, but did not attack him, and the remainder of the summer season was

At the headquarters of the Federal Army of the Potomac, now encamped along the Rapidan, General Meade had a gorgeous Solferino silken flag with a engineer officer and wounding two or golden eagle in a silver wreath emblazoned on it flying over his tent. One day in March a silent, bearded stranger paused in passing to gaze upon this splendiferous emblem as he exclaimed involuntarily:

"What's this? Is imperious Caesar anywhere about here?

The bearded stranger was Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant, newly commissioned in command of all the armies of the United States. The Washington authorities had finally come to the decision that their immense plans of campaign should be put under one head for execution. Such head must necessarily be a hard and stubborn one. It rested, in the opinion of Mr. Lincoln cils of war, upon the sturdy shoulders of the conqueror of Vicksburg. General Grant was not addicted to high military strategy, but for direct tactics and plain fighting he was undoubtedly a match for General Lee.

The first important vacancy now to be filled in the Army of the Potomac was that of commander of the cavalry

When Grant asked for a chief of cavalry Halleck suggested General Philip Sheridan, who had served with distinction under his own command in the west and under Grant at Chattanooga. The suggestion therefore was one after Grant's own heart, and he promptly adopted it. The general belief indeed was that Grant himself had selected Sheridan, though such did

not happen to be the case. Personally Sheridan was not an imposing figure. Short and slight, he looked even younger than his age. which was just past thirty. He was reticent in speech and manner and to a casual observer seemed lacking in the essential qualities of a cavalry leader which had distinguished such officers in the Federal service as Sumner, Sedgwick, McClellan, Thomas,

Stoneman and others. "Does Sneridan say if he has a free hand he can beat the enemy's cavalry?" asked General Grant of General Meade a few days after crossing the Rapidan into the Wilderness, sixty miles from Richmond, to fight his way to the "Then let him go ahead and

That settled the dispute between Meade and the new cavalry commander, and thereafter the three divisions of the reorganized Federal mounted force under Generals Torbert, Gregg from General Lee at the front saying: and Wilson had comparatively loose



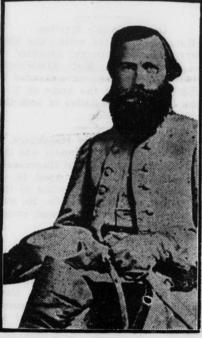
'The bearded stranger was Lieutenan

account of itself, but it found little of no opportunity for concentrated action in a region where even Grant's infantry hordes got in each other's way, even as Hooker's had in that same Wilderness around Chancellorsville.

The sanguinary horrors of the year before were renewed at Spottsylvania and the "bloody angle," but they could not stop Grant. He could keep up his "hammering" process all summer if necessary, because the resources of the Federal reservoir of human supply were so much greater than those of the Confederates that he could afford to

lose three men to Lee's one and still ultimately beat him. At Cold Harbor, the old McClellan battleground. the Federal losses came near to wiping out even this liberal margia.

Meanwhile Sheridan found his long awaited opportunity in a grand raid toward Richmond with an overwhelming force, including the enterprising brigades of Custer and Merritt, the object being to tear up Lee's communication with his capital and to be in a position to dispatch the remainder of the Army of Northern Virginia-if Grant had defeated it in the Wilder-



ry Leader and Beau Sabreur,

ness. This latter part of the program was never carried out, but in opposing it at Yellow Tavern, only a few miles from Richmond, the Confederates lost their gallant cavalry leader and beau sabreur, the incomparable Stuart.

Relentlessly the war went on. Lee a second time had checked the Federal forces at the gate of Richmond. Grant, in the middle of June, settled down in front of Petersburg, determined to "fight it out on that line if it took all summer." It did. In fact, the siege was destined to last ten long, weary

General Lee sent as large a force as he dared detach under Early, once more to march down the Shenandoah

valley and threaten Washington. Sheridan's orders from Grant were to press Early and cut Lee's communications by which he got supplies from the rich valley for his dwindling army. This was a large contract for the young commander of the Army of the Shenandoah. If he could fulfill it. Richmond was doomed and the days of the Confederacy were numbered. Moreover, this was the region where the prestige of the Federal arms most

sorely needed rehabilitation. Hence the desirability, as Grant said. of Sheridan's driving the enemy out of the valley and of leaving nothing there to invite their return. With some idea of the magnitude of the task before him, but confident in the strong backing and broad discretion given him by the lieutenant general. Sheridan made his plans to "sweep the valley so clean that a crow flying over it would have

to carry its rations." The defenders met this move with a relatively small force, but including as many troops as possible who had previously tramped the Winchester pike with "Stonewall" Jackson's "foot cavalry." Among these youthful veterans now led by Jubal Early was Colonel Robert Ellingham-still Bob to his Virginia comrades, as once again he faced

homeward.

Homeward indeed he marched, yet with strange feelings of anxiety and depression. What if the ill turn for

tune had taken of late pursued them now even beyond the Blue Ridge mountain walls? Far south, in Georgia, Sherman's army was marching victoriously to the sea. The Confederacy had been cut in twain by the fall of Vicksburg and again by the loss of Atlanta. Now Sheridan proposed to establish a line of communication with his base of supplies at Washington that would subdivide Virginia and isolate Richmond. The hardships as well as the horrors of war were now coming home to the people of the valley as

But ripened summer was all around. and outward peace and plenty abounded that late August afternoon when Ellingham galloped up the sunlit linden avenue to Belle Bosquet. Gertrude rushed out from the veranda to meet him. She was re-enforced by a buxom and animated young person wearing a blue dress of military cut and a solfier's cap.

"Why. Miss Buckthorn!" exclaimed Bob, flinging himself from the saddle and throwing the bridle of his horse to Josephus Orangeblossom, the negro hostler, who grinned an effusive dental welcome. "It is a delightful surprise to see you here-makes me think the war is over."

"Thank you. Lieutenant-oh. pardon me! I mean Colonel Ellingham, of course," responded Jenny. "Heartsease has come over to the valley, and so has papa-with General Sheridan. I hope there won't be any serious misunderstanding. Meanwhile I am a prisoner of hospitality, and I'm in no hurry to be exchanged.

"And now. Robert." Gertrude went on eagerly, "prepare yourself for more news. Some one else whom you know

"Madeline-but. no"-"But yes! How did you think of it? She was in Washington visiting Mrs. Haverill, and I urged her to come over here and see us-that before I knew of General Sheridan's intentions; they keep their plans so secret, you know. But Madeline accepted the invitation. and she's coming anyway."

"Hurrah!" cried Bob, flustered out of all self control. "Well, Sis, that's a big surprise you've sprung-and now, let's see what I can do in the same line. You have announced Madeline, maybe I can give you some information about her brother Kerchival."

Gertrude attered a little cry and her hand trembled as she laid it impulsively upon her brother's shoulder.

"Yes," he continued, with sudden seriousness, "you know Sheridan is bringing over a lot of people. He has the whole Sixth corps of the Army of the Potomac, under Major Genera! Wright, I understand, besides a division of the Nineteenth corps, and I don't know how much of the Army of Western Virginia, with General Crook. Besides, they say he is especially strong in cavalry, under Torbert, with such brigadier troopers as Wilson and Merritt and Custer. Our General Early bas got some re-enforcement from Longstreet's corps and will try to make it comes down Winchester way. Yes. girls, as I was saying, we expect to have rather a busy time."

Poor Bob said this in an offhand, flippant tone, but he was in an agony of apprehension lest he should be far away from Belle Bosquet when Madeline West arrived-if, indeed, she did safely reach that destination.

His fears in regard to the first part of the proposition were quickly realized. The very next day he was ordered to join his regiment at Shepherdstown, on the Potomac, where the Federal army was starting its vigorous offensive campaign.

Madeline West, as gentle and loving as she was loyal and courageous, came to the valley on the first day of September, with the first mellow mists of gold on the Massanutten mountains. Her welcome at Belle Bosquet made the place seem strangely dear to her from the first moment she crossed its

The next day Jenny was seated outoors under a cottonwood when black Josephus came clattering up on a mule. In half a minute the whole household were listening breathlessly to him: "It's de Lor's truth! De Yankees

have done druv de army out from Win-

chester! While they were talking an old mountaineer had slouched up to the gate, unobserved, though plainly enough to be seen. He stood a moment gazing about in aimless fashion, then quickly raised the flat stone cap on one of the brick pillars of the gateway, deposited something beneath it

CHAPTER XII.

and moved on.

Strange Fortunes of War. ERTRUDE excused herself, ran down to the gate, raised the the stone and took a packet of letters from beneath it. "My private postoffice," she whisper-

ed to Madeline. "Here is a line from Robert. You shall read it. Hello! and here is a dispatch for me to deliveryou know, dear, you are in Confed [Continued on page 7, Col. 1.]

The old fable of the grasshopper who sang and danced through the summer and starved in the winter is only a par-

able of life. If we would have strength

in old age we must store it in the sum mer of life. It is important that men in middle age should not allow the vital powers to run low. To prevent this requires something more than a stimulant. It requires a medicine which will increase the appetite, give the stomach power to convert the food eaten into nourishment, and increase the quantity and quality of the blood. Such a medicine is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It strengthens

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58-14

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