

...in exact accordance with this doctrine... was in March, 1861, Mr. Colfax was chair- man of the Committee on Post Offices and... the right man, that Mr. Lincoln was non-... in his own very important State of Indiana...

It is not surprising that great military leaders in all ages and among every people should have been rewarded with the high- est public honors. Aside from the fact that the heroic qualities essential to military success are of all qualities the most uni- versally admired, there is the more cogent reason that no other public benefactors put a nation under such direct and manifest obligations. The benefits conferred by the writer, the man of science, the inventor or the man of letters, are indirect and remote. The benefits conferred by the inventor or the man of letters, are indirect and remote. The benefits conferred by the inventor or the man of letters, are indirect and remote.



ULYSSES S. GRANT.

SKETCHES OF THE LIVES AND SERVICES OF ULYSSES S. GRANT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES FOR Ulysses S. Grant and Schuyler Colfax.

now prepared to attack Corinth. It was with this design that Grant's army was sent up the Tennessee, and encamped at Shiloh. But the rebels did not wait to be attacked. They advanced themselves, with the bold and judicious design of beating the army at Shiloh, and then of marching northward, regaining all the ground they had lost, and retreating by an invasion of the States north of the Ohio. This hasty attempt was well nigh successful. The night before the battle of Shiloh, Beauregard, as the rebel council of war separated, had prophesied: "To-morrow night we sleep in the enemy's camp."

effective, but also in removing prejudices against them. Vicksburg and Port Hudson were now the only remaining two of that series of positions, most of them really impregnable from the river, by which the rebels had throttled the great artery of western commerce. His previous career naturally enough pointed out Grant for the command of the Vicksburg campaign; and the event showed that his absolute inability to let go where he had once taken hold, his inevitable continuance in hammering at his object, were exactly the qualities needed. For a little while, General Halleck himself came and commanded in person against Corinth, General Grant being second in command. Halleck being appointed General-in-Chief, Grant remained in command of the Army of the Tennessee, and of the military districts of Cairo, West Tennessee and Mississippi. The rebels knew as well as he that his face was set steadily towards Vicksburg; and to begin with, they attacked his troops at Corinth and Iuka in great force and with tremendous fury, in order to break up his plans. At both places they were however defeated. In October, the rebel General Pemberton was placed in command in Northern Mississippi, and in the last two months of 1862, took place Grant's first attempt against Vicksburg. The place had already been attacked by the two powerful fleets of Farragut and Davis, during seventy days, from the preceding May 18th to July 27th; but though 25,000 shot and shell had been thrown into it, not one gun had been dismantled, and only seven men were killed and fifteen wounded; a result which showed plainly enough how the place was to be taken if at all. Grant's movement was to be by land, southward from his post at Corinth, directly at Pemberton; while Sherman was to get footing if possible close to Vicksburg. The loss of Grant's main depot of supplies at Holly Springs, midway in his progress, broke down his part of the plan, and Pemberton then reinforcing Vicksburg, repulsed Sherman and broke down the rest of it. Grant now established his headquarters at Memphis, January 10th, 1863, and moved his army towards his goal by water. On the 2d of February, he reached Young's Point, a little above the city; his army was already there and at Milliken's Bend, just below. His purpose was one; to get his army across to the Vicksburg side and thence to prosecute his attack. First he tried a canal across the neck of the river peninsula opposite Vicksburg. Through this, if he could get the water to accept it as a new bed, he could take his forces below the city, out of reach of its guns, and cross over. But a flood burst into the unfinished canal and drowned out the plan. Then he tried to

clear out a longer water route to do the same thing, through a string of bayous and rivers back in the Louisiana swamps. A fall in the river broke up this plan, as a rise had done that before it. Then he tried a longer route of the same sort, beginning at Lake Providence, seventy-five miles north of Vicksburg, but it was found impracticable. Then resorting to the east side of the Mississippi, he sent a naval expedition to try to penetrate Yazoo Pass, and thence through the inconceivable tangle of the Yazoo swamps and their rivers, to get behind the outer rebel defences north of Vicksburg, and so make a lodgment. But this plan was checkmated by the hasty erection in the heart of the swamp region, at the junction of the Tallahatchie and Yazoo rivers, of a powerful fort, which the fleet tried in vain to silence. Then he sent another fleet to try another part of the same monstrous tangle, by way of the Big Sunflower river, but that effort miscarried much as the preceding one did. The obstinate commander had now tried six assaults upon his prey, and had been busily working at his failures for nearly four months. March 29th, 1863, he set his forces in motion for the seventh and successful effort. This was by what he had in fact recognized from the beginning as the best line of operation—by the south. It was however also the most difficult. As one of the historians of the war observes, a measure of the difficulties offered is given by the fact that Gen. W. T. Sherman was not disposed to advise it. The same writer adds, "It can only be said that there was in the composition of General Grant's mind that prompted him to undertake that which no one else would have ventured." Colonel Grierson's cavalry force was now launched down from Tennessee to go tearing through the whole interior of Mississippi, and thoroughly frighten all its people, while he should break up, as he circled far around Vicksburg, as many as possible of the railroads, bridges, and other means of communication, leading from the city back into the country, or from one part of the State to another. Grant's own troops moved down the river a total distance of seventy-five miles. The fleet and transports ran the batteries and ferried the army across at Bruinsburg; Grant moved at once three miles inland, and May 1st, beat General Bowen at Port Gibson. Then he moved eastward, drove Johnston out of Jackson, an important centre for railroad lines, and broke up all the communications in the neighborhood; then turning short about, he approached Vicksburg by forced marches; on May 10th, met Pemberton at Champion Hills and defeated him; followed him sharply up, forced the passage of the Big Black, drove Pemberton into the city, and on May 16th had formed his lines of attack. After a vigorous siege, which progress attracted the attention of the

whole civilized world, the place surrendered with 27,000 men, on July 4, 1863. The whole number of prisoners made crossing the Mississippi was 77,000. The great achievement freed the Mississippi, cut the rebellion in two, and restored a part of the question for the rebels to hold the Mississippi Valley. General Grant's commission as major-general in the regular army was dated July 4, 1863, the day of the occupation of Vicksburg. In the succeeding October it was placed in command of the great "Military Division of the Mississippi," consisting of three "Departments" of the Ohio, the Cumberland, and the Tennessee, and including the command of four strong armies; his own, Hooker's, and those of the Cumberland and the Ohio. Grant's next victory was that of Chattanooga, November 25, 1863, which substantially repaired the ill effects of the defeat of Rosecrans at Chickamauga, and secured the possession of the mountain elevated on which, in the next spring, Sherman advanced on his way to Atlanta. On March 10, 1864, Grant was appointed Lieutenant General, and placed in command of all the armies of the United States. The Union armies, as Grant himself had already remarked, in his dry way, had hitherto "acted independently, and without concert, like a bulky team, no two pulling together." Henceforward in his single strong hand, those armies worked together. In the campaign of 1864, the first act was the battle of the Wilderness. It was after six days battle that Grant sent to Washington the dispatch which ended with the grim remark, "I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer." Spotsylvania followed, and Cold Harbor, the investment of Petersburg, and the long series of assaults, forays, entrenchments and battles which ended with the surrender of Lee and the explosion of the Rebellion. Since the close of the war General Grant's life, although comparatively inactive, has not been wanting in valuable services to his country or in proofs of his exalted patriotism. The most conspicuous of these were furnished in connection with his occupancy of the War Department, and the removal of Sheridan. His acceptance of the position of Secretary of War and Council, after the suspension of Secretary Resner, in August, 1867, although criticized by some Republican newspapers at the time, was a step taken with the full concurrence of Mr. Stanton, and with a view to restoring the control of that important department for the benefit of the loyal people of the country. When, in January, 1868, the Senate refused to acquiesce in the President's suspension of Mr. Stanton, and restored him to the War Office, it was the