

The Second Battle of Bull Run

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The second battle of Bull Run (Manassas)—really three battles—lasted five days.

From Aug. 28, 1862 through September 1, 3,205 Americans were killed in action on the Bull Run battlefield in northern Virginia, where almost exactly a year before 888 Americans had died in the first big battle of the Civil War.

Both Blue and Gray had learned much of the art of war in the 12 months and both had paid dearly in blood for their knowledge.

First and last in the bloody five-day fight, 75,696 Federal troops fought on the rolling hills and in the woods of Manassas. Of that number, 16,654 were casualties—killed, wounded and missing.

In the gray ranks, 48,527 fought; 9,187 were killed, wounded or missing. The Con-

federacy could ill afford the manpower loss. The North could, and did, replace its ranks twice over with ease.

Clean-cut Victory
The battle was a clean-cut and resounding victory for the Confederates, thanks to the daring of Gen. Robert E. Lee and the tactical skill of Maj. Gen. Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson, plus much desperate fighting. But again the Confederates were unable to strike the last decisive blow to crush the Federal army.

The loser was Maj. Gen. John Pope, a fighting general brought in from the West by President Lincoln. Pope's fighting ability was not enough. He failed in the brain department. The gallant fighting of his troops was not enough to overcome this.

The fighting started Aug. 28 around Groveton, Va., south of the old Bull Run battlefield. Jackson's forces,

hidden behind an unfinished railroad embankment after they had destroyed Pope's main base at Manassas Junction the day before, pounced on a Federal division marching along the Warrenton Turnpike.

Both sides fought desperately, solid lines standing at short range and pouring fire into each other without flinching.

The Confederates had a 3 to 2 superiority over the blue-coats, who gave ground suddenly and slowly. By midnight they had withdrawn toward Manassas. Qualities were heavy. One Federal unit, the Black Hat Brigade with regiments from Wisconsin and Indiana, lost 33 per cent of its men.

Troops Concentrated

That ended the battle of Groveton but it fired Pope to believe he could trap Jackson. He concentrated his troops overnight on the old Bull Run field and ordered an attack in the morning.

All morning on the 29th the Federals attacked here and there along the line. One attack by troops under Union Maj. Gen. Franz Sigel penetrated the lines of Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill's left but could not hold on.

Pope arrived on the field at noon and directed a three-pronged assault. This attack also pierced the Confederate line but again the blue force could not keep their position. Some Confederates ran out of ammunition and threw stones at the attackers.

By nightfall each had enough and the fighting was broken off with both armies in about the same positions they had occupied in the morning. They bedded down where they stood, too tired to pitch a pup tent.

But Lee held in reserve the margin of victory. Maj. Gen. James Longstreet had arrived on the field about noon of the 29th with 32,000 men. That gave Lee a unified army. Jackson now had some help.

Lee had wanted to throw Longstreet's men into the battle immediately after their arrival.



VICTORY FOR CONFEDERATES—The second battle of Bull Run (Manassas)—really three battles—lasted from Aug. 28 to Sept. 1, 1862, and was a clean-cut victory for the Confederates. The first battle was fought around Groveton, Va., on Aug. 28. It was a short-range slugfest, casualties were heavy and finally the Union forces gave ground and retreated toward Manassas. On Aug. 29 the second battle opened as Federal forces attacked near Manassas. Despite heavy casualties night fell without significant change in the opposing armies' positions. The next day the Union Army renewed its attack. They bent the Confed-

erate line, but General Lee ordered General Longstreet to attack and the Union Army was caught in a vice. The Northern soldiers retreated and the second battle was over. The third battle came on Sept. 1 as General Jackson caught up with the retreating Union forces about four miles north of Centreville. There they fought all day, until the Union Army retreated again. The third battle was now over. The Union was now in trouble, militarily and politically, and it would be up to President Lincoln to pick up the pieces. This lithograph depicts the clash of the two armies on Aug. 28 near Groveton. (UPI)

ribbons.

All morning of the 30th Federals and Confederates reconnoitered each other and maneuvered for position.

Soon after noon nine batteries of Federal artillery exploded in furious fire. Behind the shelling, straight at Jackson's line, came 12,000 blue-coats, on a front a mile and a quarter long with skirmishers swarming ahead.

It was the corps of Maj. Gen. Fitz-John Porter, accounted one of the ablest Union generals, fresh from the Army of the Potomac and in

its first action of this campaign.

Porter's reinforced corps hit Jackson's line in depth. The gray lines bent in many spots under repeated assaults but it never broke. Jackson rode along the line encouraging his men but his situation soon became so desperate that he sent to Lee for help.

Now was the moment Lee had been looking for. Longstreet's force stood at right angles to Jackson's line, fresh and fretting for action. Pope's army was committed. Now

was the time to slam the door shut.

First off Longstreet turned 30 guns on the Federals, breaking up their assaulting columns with a devastating crossfire.

Then Lee ordered the crush.

Like a moving gate, Longstreet's troops swung out of the woods and caught Porter's troops in a vice, crushing them toward Jackson's line.

Caught between two lines of fire, the Unionists stood and fought in pockets for a time and then, as the vice closed, retired northward toward Centreville—orderly and still fighting this time, not in a rout as the year before at first Bull Run.

This time the Federals stood at Henry House and fought off the Confederates trying to break the army into panic. The year before it had been Jackson who stood so firmly at Henry House that he came by the name of Stonewall.

Rain came with darkness. The exhausted Rebels slowed. By midnight the Federals crossed Bull Run on the Stone bridge and destroyed it.

The armies spent the 31st marching, the Federals toward Alexandria and Washington, the Confederates in pursuit. The fighting was desultory, mostly skirmishing, as Pope sought to save his army and Lee trying as hard to annihilate it.

On September 1 Jackson caught up with part of the Union army at the Chantilly mansion, about four miles north of Centreville.

Here they fought all afternoon in the rain, one side

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Estimated 700,000 Visit Fair Booth

Salem—An estimated 700,000 persons have passed through the Oregon state highway department's travel information center during the first four months of the Seattle World's Fair.

The highway department noted that a recent three-day count showed almost 11 per cent of the World's Fair visitors have toured the department's booth.

Most visitors are casually touring the grounds, but many have asked for information regarding trip routings, tourist facilities and vacation activities in Oregon. Many use the information center as a resting and meeting place because of its ideal location. The exhibit has padded benches and a park-like atmosphere with a trickling fountain surrounded by ferns and plants.

gaining at one point and falling back at another.

Union Maj. Gen. Philip Kearny rode into Confederate skirmishes by mistake in the rain. They shouted to him to surrender. Instead he turned his horse and tried to escape and was shot down.

Brig. Gen. Isaac Stevens, promising Union general, also was killed at Chantilly (Ox Hill).

Pope drew his army back to the defenses of Washington, as Gen. Irwin McDowell had done a year before.

Now the Union cause was back exactly where it was then, the army licked and disorganized and generals accusing each other of treachery.

The bright hopes of the Peninsula campaign had gone aglimmering. The Army of Virginia—never really an army but a group of corps put together hastily—was an army no more.

"Well, John, we are whipped again. I'm afraid," Lincoln told John Hay, his assistant secretary.

Lincoln understated the case. He was the man who would have to pick up the pieces.

ment's exhibit. As many as 350 persons have passed through the information center in an hour during busy periods, with an average of 435 persons hourly and 5,250 daily.

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