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9154
SIZES
36-50

by Marian Martin

Tiny bows highlight the curved yoke of this afternoon dress in which you'll make many graceful appearances now and all through winter.

Printed Pattern 9154: Women's Sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50. Size 36 takes 3 1/2 yards 39-inch fabric.

FIFTY CENTS in coins for this pattern - add 10 cents for each pattern for first-class mail. Send to Marian Martin, Medford Mail Tribune, Pattern Dept., 232 West 18th St., New York 11, N.Y. Print plainly: NAME, ADDRESS, with SIZE and STYLE NUMBER.

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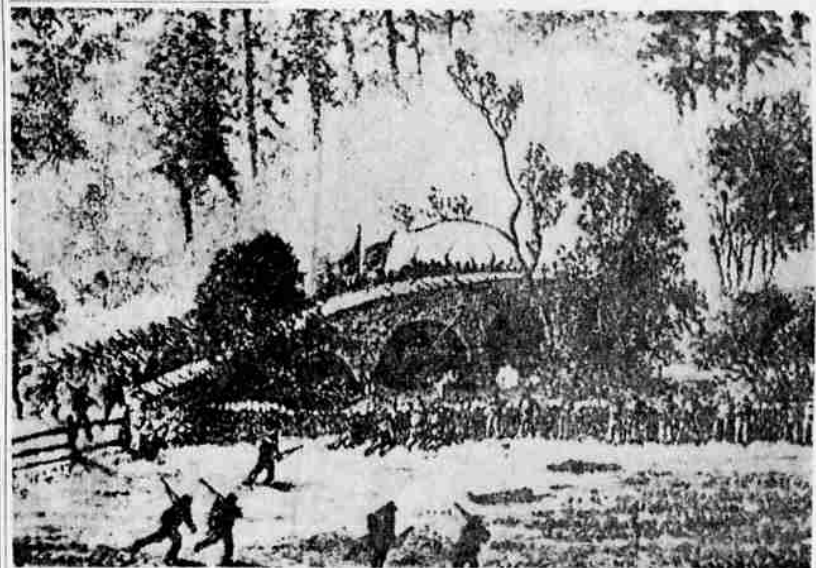


by Alice Brooks

Prettiest way to be warm - just crochet these loopy, luxurious hats in 3-ply yarn. The fluffy look in fashion's top shapes the cone and pillbox. Crochet in one or two colors. Pattern 7475: directions fit all head sizes.

THIRTY-FIVE CENTS (coins) for this pattern - add 10 cents for each pattern for 1st-class mailing. Send to Alice Brooks, care of Medford Mail Tribune, Needlecraft Dept., P. O. Box 163, Old Chelsea Station, New York 11, N.Y. Print plainly NAME, ADDRESS, PATTERN NUMBER.

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BLOODIEST DAY - The bloodiest day of battle in the Civil War occurred on Sept. 9, 1862, along the banks of this small stream in Western Maryland. About 125,000 men fought that day - 5,000 of them were killed and overall casualties totaled nearly 27,000. At this stream, the Confederate invasion of Maryland reached its high watermark, then

slowly receded. The Confederates called it a draw, but the Union called it a victory. Scratch victory though it was, President Lincoln seized on it and put the finishing touches on the Emancipation Proclamation. This drawing, courtesy of the Department of Interior, shows action on the bridge over Antietam creek. - (UPI)

THIS WAS THE CIVIL WAR

The Bloody Battle of Antietam

By MERTON T. AKERS

UPI Correspondent

The bloodiest day of battle in the Civil War occurred on Sept. 17, 1862 along the banks of a small stream in western Maryland called Antietam Creek.

Federals called the battle Antietam from the creek. Confederates called it Sharpsburg from a nearby village. Federals called it a victory. Confederates a drawn battle.

Nearly 5,000 men, Blue and Gray, were killed in action - 2,108 Northerners and 2,700 Southerners. All told there were 26,134 casualties - 12,410 Federals; 13,724 Confederates. About 125,000 men fought that red September day.

The Confederate invasion of Maryland splashed to a high water mark at Antietam and then receded back into Virginia where Gen. Robert E. Lee returned to the defensive. The two-week invasion was only a partial success. Lee's objective of recruiting in Maryland fell flat.

Hopes Vanish

His aim to lure Union forces out of northern Virginia, already devastated, was successful for only about a month.

Hopes of gaining a decisive victory on Union soil and swaying Britain and France into recognizing the Confederacy vanished.

One objective Lee did achieve. He fed his hungry men on the lush provender of Maryland.

After the battle of South Mountain on Sept. 14, Lee pulled his wing of the army back to Sharpsburg and made a daring decision to stand and fight despite the shaky position and inferiority of numbers.

Nearly half the army, under Stonewall Jackson, was at Harper's Ferry, south of Sharpsburg. Harper's Ferry was a rich prize still in the hands of the Federals. Lee had expected it would be abandoned when his army flanked it by crossing the Potomac between it and Washington. But the Federals held on and Lee divided his forces, sending Jackson to capture it. Jackson was to rejoin the army farther north. Lee depended on Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan advancing his Union Army of the Potomac cautiously. But Lee's order dividing his army had fallen into McClellan's hands and he was closing in more rapidly.

Jackson made short work of Harper's Ferry. He closed in on three sides. By Sept. 14 the more than 12,000 Federal troops at the Ferry were looking up into the muzzles of Confederate cannon on the heights around the town. Their situation was hopeless and at 9 a.m., on Sept. 15, Col. D. S. Miles surrendered. He was killed after the white flags went up.

11,000 Prisoners

Leaving the division of Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill at the Ferry, Jackson started his men immediately for Sharpsburg. Harper's Ferry yielded 11,000 prisoners (1,300 escaped) 13,000 small arms and 73 cannon.

Jackson's "foot cavalry" marched all night and reached Sharpsburg on the 16th, none too soon. McClellan had moved his army into a semicircle north, east and south of Sharpsburg that day but decided "it was too late to attack" before dark. Lee's Army lined up north and east of

Sharpsburg with its back to the Potomac, a dangerous position in case of defeat.

The battle of Antietam opened at dawn on Sept. 17. The corps of Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker hit from the Federal right, attacking Jackson's command under heavy artillery fire.

Hooker's men fought their way into Jackson's line but eventually were beaten off by reinforcements. Maj. Gen. Joseph K. F. Mansfield's corps next struck at Jackson but it, too, was repulsed. Mansfield dying at its head. Hooker was wounded in the foot.

Heaviest Fighting

About 8 a.m. Maj. Gen. Edwin V. Sumner marched his corps, the biggest in the Army of the Potomac, across the Antietam and attacked in about the same spot. Here along a sunken road, called from that day Bloody Lane, the heaviest fighting of the battle occurred.

The bluecoats charged the lane time after time only to be beaten back.

Finally after noon a Union charge carried the lane.

A Federal soldier described the scene:

"What a sight was that lane. I saw many a ghastly array of dead afterward, but none, I think, that so affected me as did the sight of the poor brave fellows in butternut homespun who died there."

At this point Lee's left and center lines were little more than threads. But McClellan, overestimating Lee's strength, held back his Sunday punch and missed his chance.

Soon after noon the fighting on the Federal right died down.

Then the Federal corps of Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside attacked on the left. He had been ordered to carry a bridge over the creek. Three items he sent his troops onto the bridge, which now bears his name. The creek could have been forded almost anywhere.

Perfect Target

The blue columns, which filled the bridge from guardrail to guardrail, gave Confederate cannoners a perfect target and they made the most of it, knocking out whole squads at a time.

But one Federal charge rolled over the bridge by sheer force of numbers. They reformed and went on up the slope.

Here, too, complete success eluded the Federals.

Burnside was on the edge of victory when part of A. P. Hill's division hit him on the left. Hill's men had made a forced march from Harper's Ferry, about half of them failing exhausted. But enough stood up to deliver the blow at 4 p.m. which saved the Confederate army.

All night Sept. 17-18 the armies buried the dead and tended the wounded by lantern light.

Lee held a meeting that night. He decided not to retreat, a move the rulebook called for under the conditions. It was noon of the 18th before Jackson and Maj. Gen. James Longstreet balked him out of an offensive.

McClellan, despite the fact that he had 24,000 troops who had seen little action the day before and two new divisions which arrived early on Sept. 18, felt too crippled to attack again.

That night Lee withdrew across the Potomac and back into Virginia with only a token pursuit by the Federals. Although McClellan felt too weak to attack, he wrote that day in a private letter:

"Those in whose judgment I rely tell me that I fought the battle splendidly and that it was a masterpiece of art."

Few agreed. Union Maj. Gen. George Gordon Mead summed up the battle this way:

"We hurt them a little more than they hurt us."

Scratch victory though it was, President Lincoln seized on it and put the finishing touches on his Emancipation Proclamation.

This was one of the turning points of the Civil War.

Servicemen

COMPLETES TRAINING

Army Pvt. Barbara A. Roley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul R. Roley, 421 SW Westholm St., Grants Pass, recently completed eight weeks of basic military training at the Women's Army Corps center, Ft. McClellan, Ala.

She has been assigned to the U.S. Army Medical Training center, Brooke Army Medical center, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. She entered the Army in May, 1962. She is a 1961 graduate of Grants Pass High school.

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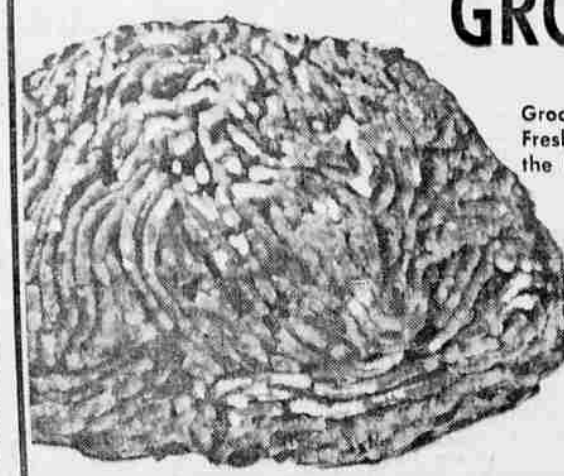
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See Complete List In Thursday's Mail Tribune Sept. 13

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