

**CAMPAIGNS OF THE
CIVIL WAR.-IV. THE
ARMY UNDER POPE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649062553

Campaigns of the Civil War.-IV. The Army Under Pope by John Codman Ropes

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JOHN CODMAN ROPES

**CAMPAIGNS OF THE
CIVIL WAR.-IV. THE
ARMY UNDER POPE**

THE ARMY UNDER POPE

18324

CAMPAIGNS OF THE CIVIL WAR.—IV.

THE ARMY UNDER POPE



BY

JOHN CODMAN ROPES,

MEMBER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND THE MILITARY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Forsan et haec olim meminisse juvabit.

NEW YORK

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

743 AND 745 BROADWAY

1881

COPYRIGHT BY
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS
1931

TROW'S
PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING COMPANY
201-213 East 10th Street
NEW YORK,

To

THE MEMORY OF

MY YOUNGEST BROTHER

HENRY,

FIRST LIEUTENANT IN THE TWENTIETH REGIMENT OF
MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS, WHO FELL AT THE
BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG, JULY 3, 1863,

THIS ESSAY IS AFFECTIONATELY

Dedicated.

4

5

6

7

8

9

10



THE ARMY UNDER POPE.

CHAPTER I.

THE SITUATION IN JULY, 1862.

In order to understand the military situation at the time when General Pope was appointed to the command of the Army of Virginia—June 26, 1862—it will be necessary to go back a little.

The Cabinet of Mr. Lincoln found itself, in the spring of 1862, in the very difficult position of having called to the chief command of the army an officer in whom it did not place entire confidence. The attitude of General McClellan on many points was disliked; his political affiliations were distrusted; his extreme caution, so far as his own movements were concerned—his easy confidence when the matter at stake was the safety of Washington—his startling plan of removing the army to the Peninsula—all combined to awaken alarm, and to deprive him of that cordial support which his great undertaking required in order to be successful. He had even attempted to evade the orders of the President, by taking with him to Yorktown troops supposed to be needed for the defence of Washington; the Government had promptly interfered by detaining the entire corps of McDowell; and, though two divisions of this corps were

afterward sent to McClellan, the fact remained that he did not have at the outset of the campaign the overwhelming force on which he had calculated. The irritation caused by this found abundant expression in his correspondence with the President and the Secretary of War.

This, however, was not the worst consequence of this unfortunate state of things. Not only had Fremont—when, late in the winter, he had been relieved from command in Missouri—been given a considerable force in West Virginia, where a department had been unnecessarily created for his benefit, but, the moment McClellan arrived on the Peninsula, McDowell and Banks were detached from his control—the former being assigned to a new department, that of the Rappahannock, and the latter to another new department, that of the Shenandoah Valley. Here, then, were four separate and independent commands in Virginia, on the same theatre of war—a condition of things, it is safe to say, most unfavorable to military success.

Nevertheless, after McClellan arrived on the Chickahominy, on May 24th, the plan was that McDowell, who still retained three divisions of his corps—Franklin's having been sent to McClellan—together with Shields' division of Banks' corps, which had been transferred to McDowell's command, should join the Army of the Potomac from Fredericksburg. In pursuance of this plan, Porter had occupied Hanover Court House after a successful action, and the distance between the two forces was reduced to a matter of only twenty or thirty miles. Before the union was effected, however, Jackson made his brilliant raid in the Valley of the Shenandoah, driving the diminished force of Banks before him, and creating such alarm in Washington, that, despite the earnest remonstrance of McDowell, the plan for reinforcing McClellan from Fredericksburg was abandoned, and