

**MAJOR-GENERAL JOSEPH HOOKER AND THE  
TROOPS FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC  
AT WAUHATCHIE, LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN AND  
CHATTANOOGA: TOGETHER WITH GENERAL  
HOOKER'S MILITARY RECORD FROM  
THE FILES OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT,  
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, U.S.A.**

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Major-General Joseph Hooker and the Troops from the Army of the Potomac at Wauhatchie, Lookout Mountain and Chattanooga: Together with General Hooker's Military Record from the Files of the War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, U.S.A. by Daniel Butterfield

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# **DANIEL BUTTERFIELD**

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**Major-General Joseph Hooker.**

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Troops from the Army of the Potomac

at

WAUHATCHIE, LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN AND CHATTANOOGA,

together with

General Hooker's Military Record

From the files of the War Department, Adjutant-General's  
Office, U. S. A.

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## ADDRESS

by

Major-General Daniel Butterfield

at the

Battlefield Dedication Ceremonies at Chattanooga,

September 18, 1895,

by invitation of the National Commission.

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JAN. 14, 1927

This address has been printed by request of many officers and soldiers, veterans who served under General Hooker's command.

A copy will be sent to any veteran who served under General Hooker, upon receipt of postage stamps and directions, by addressing Col. E. B. HILL, Secretary, care of Maj.-Gen. Butterfield, Cold Spring, Putnam Co., N. Y. Cold Spring, N. Y., 1896.

23 Fifth Avenue.

Dear General Butterfield:

I do hope you will print your admirable address on Hooker. It should be in the hands of the veterans who served under him. Why don't you embody in it his plan of the Gettysburg campaign? Yours,

SICKLES.

Hastings, Minn., September 30, 1895.

My Dear General Butterfield:

Since my return from the National Celebration and Dedication ceremonies at Chattanooga, Chicamauga, etc., I have been asked many questions by veterans of what occurred, and especially of the 20th Corps and Hooker. I find your address has not generally been copied in full by the western papers, only extracts and allusions. The general love for Hooker among the veterans of both armies east and west crops out very strongly in the veterans' talk, and there is great anxiety to get copies of your speech. Pray send me some correct copies. I would be very grateful to you, as would thousands of the gallant Hooker's veterans, if you would publish your speech in pamphlet form and add to it Hooker's military record from the War Department. It will be prized and treasured, especially if you will add a good likeness of General Hooker. The old Army of the Potomac, and especially 3d and 5th Corps men in the west, are not entirely familiar with Hooker's work in the south-west.

Very truly yours,

WM. G. LE DUC,

Chief Quartermaster with 11th and 12th Corps expedition, and with 20th Corps under General Hooker.

The Florence, New York, November 20, 1895.

My Dear General:

You owe it to Hooker and to yourself to print and distribute among the 3d and 20th Corps veterans your address on his work at Lookout and Chattanooga, which you gave at the ceremonies in Chattanooga on the occasion of the public dedication. Of course it will be printed by Congress, as it was an official matter and you spoke by invitation of the committee having charge of the ceremonies under the Secretary of War, but many of the veterans will never see or read it. It will help the movement to build the equestrian statue contemplated in Boston, and it may pave the way for us to put the General's inspiring martial figure on Lookout Mountain. Do it by all means, and command me for any service to aid. Yours,

H. E. TREMAINE

To Major-General Daniel Butterfield, Craguide, Cold Spring, N. Y.

(Gen. Tremaine was Aid-de-Camp to Gen. Sickles in Army of Potomac and Volunteer Aid to Gen. Butterfield at battle of Resaca.)

ADDRESS OF MAJOR-GENERAL DANIEL BUTTERFIELD, AT  
THE REUNION AT CHATTANOOGA, WEDNESDAY  
EVENING, SEPTEMBER 18, 1895.

(General Butterfield was invited by the committee having charge of the arrangements for the Chickamauga and Chattanooga celebration to speak upon the subject of General Hooker and the troops from the Army of the Potomac brought with him to Chattanooga in 1863, with the request that as there were many speakers, to limit his remarks to 10 or 15 minutes of time.)

To speak of General Hooker and his forces brought from the Army of the Potomac here, with a view of doing justice to the work and the merits of both, in the great struggle which brought all the armies here represented into existence, would demand time beyond the limits to spare on an occasion like this.

I must not exceed the limits of proper thanks for your kindly and fraternal remembrance in a brief resume of the service of the detachment sent out to reinforce the Army of the Cumberland in its hour of great trial, and a few words of its Commander, that splendid soldier, General Joseph Hooker.

The lack of organized and serviceable information on the part of our Government and Commanders in the East, with the skill and ability of our opponents, permitted Longstreet's corps to be detached from the Army of Northern Virginia under Lee, in the presence of the Army of the Potomac under Meade, and fall upon the Army of the Cumberland with superior forces, while its



Commander, General Rosecrans, had been assured that no troops had been so detached.\*

Their arrival surprised Rosecrans at Chickamauga and produced a result calling for immediate reinforcement.

That reinforcement, sent when the gallant Army of the Cumberland was on the verge of starvation, accomplished its immediate purpose in opening up the line of communication with Chattanooga that Rosecrans' most brilliant strategy had conquered, and made possible a new and future base of operations, which, but for the timely arrival of Hooker with our Potomac troops, might possibly have been lost through the strength of the reinforced enemy.

That detachment under General Hooker, subsequently became part of the Army of the Cumberland until separated and merged into the Army of Georgia under General Sherman for the great pictorial March to the Sea, while its gallant and best beloved Commander, the grand soldier, whom every true patriot and soldier that served under him placed at the highest pinnacle for ability and true greatness, George H. Thomas, was left to guard and defend the lines and territory which the Army of the Cumberland had conquered.

This brief outline covers the events which brought together two corps of the Army of the Potomac with the Army of the Cumberland, and made them part of that Army. This service caused your special recognition today, and through its results, a knowledge on the part of all who participated, of the character and training of both armies.

There is no similar instance to my knowledge where a body of troops, equal to a small army, moved to and in-

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\* See correspondence with General Sharpe in addenda.

corporated with another and a larger army under a new commander, ever so quickly, so thoroughly, and so absolutely, became inspired with enthusiastic admiration, enthusiasm, confidence and respect for that new commander, as did our detachment of the Army of the Potomac; from its Chief, the gallant Hooker, down to the humblest private, all, feel towards that grand man, magnificent soldier, and great patriot, George H. Thomas.

Would that every citizen and inhabitant of the United States could understand and know, as we do, his merits, his services and his ability. He had no superior and few equals.

Our love for and confidence in him cemented the bond of union between our portion of the Army of the Potomac and the Army of the Cumberland, which has never been, and never will be broken as long as there are survivors.

Of the incidents of our service here before as Potomac Corps, we were subdivided and merged into the Army of the Cumberland and elsewhere, it is not vainglorious or immodest to speak of the splendid fighting of General Greene's New York Brigade at Wauhatchie, General Orland Smith's Brigade at the Hill we now call Smith's Hill in the Wauhatchie Valley, and the fighting of the other troops of our command, when Longstreet made his night attack to defeat our purpose and duty.

Hemmed in as you were in Chattanooga, our night fight in darkness only lightened by the flash of musketry gleaming on charging bayonets, you did not then so clearly understand and know what good work it was.

We were proud of it, we have been ever since, we are now, and we have a right to be. We were the more gratified and proud of it when we came to know and be of the Army of the Cumberland.

The arrival of the Army of the Tennessee here made it evident that reorganization would not further keep us in one body to particularly emphasize our Army of the Potomac training in the new field of duty. One corps entire was transferred, broken up and merged with troops under Generals Sherman and Grant. General Hooker was left with a portion of one division, and but for the breaking of the pontoon bridge from the Wauhatchie Valley across the Tennessee, having prevented Cruft's division of the Cumberland and Osterhaus's division of the Army of the Tennessee getting into Chattanooga for the planned and prepared assault of the Confederate line on Missionary Ridge you *may* never have known and seen, as you did, the brilliant and soldierly qualities of General Hooker, and the remainder of his detachment as exhibited in the assault thus caused.

The ability displayed in crossing Lookout Creek, surprising and capturing the enemy's pickets, forming the line up the side of the mountain, turning the enemies' flank, and moving down and around the face of Lookout, covering the crossing of Osterhaus's division of the Army of the Tennessee, and Cruft's division of the Army of the Cumberland, while sweeping the enemy out of their rifle pits, was a masterly and a great movement in the art of war. The union in a grand line of a division from each army, advancing to capture the mountain, around the front and over the nose of Lookout, amidst alternate fog, clouds and sunshine, the plainly defined and progressive line of battle of these combined forces, each and all pressing forward under physical difficulties of the worst character, with flags and leaders in advance, was an inspiring and brilliant spectacle, that none who witnessed it will ever forget.

It was an object lesson of mountain climbing in the face of the enemy to the troops in Chattanooga, of whose