

THE
FAMILY AND EARLY LIFE
OF
STONEWALL JACKSON

ROY BIRD COOK

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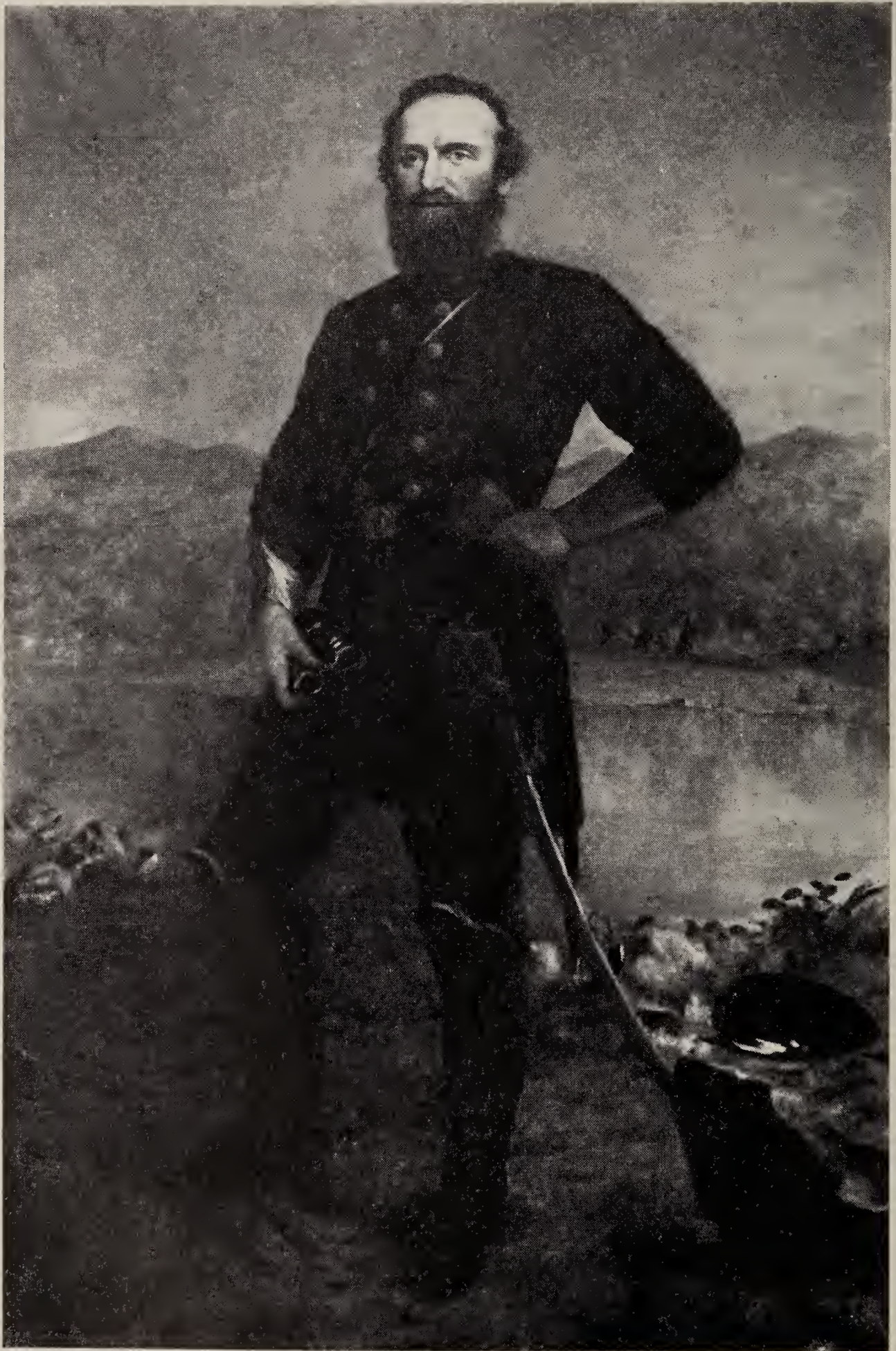
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The family and early life of
Stonewall Jackson



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GENERAL THOMAS J. (STONEWALL) JACKSON
—Portrait, E. F. Andrews.

The Family and Early Life^c of Stonewall Jackson

BY

ROY BIRD COOK

Author of

*Washington's Western Lands, Annals of Fort Lee,
Lewis County (W. Va.) in the Civil War, etc.*

Third Edition, Revised.

1948

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Preface

Stonewall Jackson, like many other great men, has been to a considerable extent the subject of legend. Thus, for instance, the impression has been left that he was reared in a wild and godless community and only became serious-minded and religious in later life. As a matter of fact, from early boyhood he was deeply interested in religion. Again, the fable has been spread broadcast that he walked from his home in western Virginia to Washington, D. C., in order to secure means to reach West Point, to which he had been appointed. Jackson was poor, but not so poor as this.

It is the merit of Mr. Cook's book that all the evidence bearing on the early life of Stonewall Jackson has been carefully sifted, so that the reader may be sure that what he finds bears the stamp of authentic history. Much new matter, garnered here and there, has been added; the result is that by far the most complete account of the youth of the great general is to be found in these pages. The notes on the Jackson family are also new and a most important contribution to the genealogy of famous Americans; they will be of interest to the many branches of the Scotch-Irish clan from which Stonewall Jackson derived his source.

H. J. ECKENRODE.

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Foreword

"The most striking figure of the Civil War on the Southern side, Stonewall Jackson," writes James Ford Rhodes in his *History of the United States*, "has the fascination of a character of romance. No characterization of him has fully satisfied his admirers. To some he seemed made up of contradictions, to others a rare consistency appears to run through his mature life."

The cause for which he fought and died has long ago been overthrown, but the intervening years have but accentuated interest in the life of one who fought for the right, as he saw it, not only in the Confederacy but in the War with Mexico.

Since the appearance of the biography by "A Virginian" (John Esten Cooke) in 1863, numerous books concerning the life of Jackson have come from the press at home and abroad. The work of Dr. R. L. Dabney, Jackson's chief of staff, published both in England and in the United States, represented the first definitive biography. But all writers alike, including his widow, Mary Anna Jackson, who wrote the deservedly popular *Life and Letters*, show a noticeable lack of knowledge of his early life, and many errors have crept into such works. The responsibility cannot be laid entirely to the writers, as Mrs. Jackson's letters, extant, prove that, due to the war and other causes, information was not available.

This condition was remedied somewhat by the appearance, in 1916, of the *Early Life and Letters of Thomas J. Jackson*, by his nephew, the late Thomas J. Arnold, of Elkins, West Virginia. This work is composed almost entirely of original material. The author had lived in the home of General Jackson as a boy; he had been a student at Lexington; he was a man who was most careful in all his work; he continually encouraged the present writer to conduct his own investigations leading

The Family and Early Life of Stonewall Jackson

CHAPTER I

Chronology

- 1824—January 21, born in Clarksburg, (West) Virginia, third child of Jonathan and Julia Beckwith Neale Jackson.
- 1826—March 26, Jonathan Jackson died.
- 1830—The mother, Julia Neale Jackson, married (2) Blake B. Woodson, of Cumberland County, Virginia, and removed to present Fayette County, West Virginia. Thomas (as named) Jackson found a home with his stepgrandmother, Mrs. Edward Jackson, and family at Jackson's Mill, near Weston, (W.) Virginia.
- 1831—October, Julia Neale Jackson Woodson died at present Ansted, West Virginia.
- 1841—June 8, Thomas Jackson appointed a constable of Lewis County, (W.) Virginia.
- 1842—June 18, conditionally appointed to West Point Military Academy from Weston, Lewis County, (W.) Virginia. Admitted July 1.
- 1846—July 1, graduated from West Point with brevet rank of second lieutenant of artillery.
- 1847—March 3, advanced to rank of second lieutenant, and on March 9, landed with Scott's army in Mexico. Advanced to first lieutenant for gallant

conduct in siege of Vera Cruz; to brevet rank of captain for conduct in battle of Contreras in August; and to brevet rank of major for heroic conduct at Chapultepec in September.

1848—June, returned to United States from Mexico City with Scott's army; stationed at Fort Hamilton, Long Island, New York.

1849—Company K, 1st U. S. Artillery, acting assistant quartermaster at Fort Hamilton, January 1 to October 1, between February 8 and March 10, and between August and September 13, in command company. On October 1, transferred to Company E, 1st U. S. Artillery.

1850—Sailed with his company from New York City, en route to New Orleans, October 27. Arrived at Tampa, Florida, November 6, at Fort Casey, November 10 to 13; left Tampa, December 16, arrived Fort Meade, December 18. On detached service at Fort Hamer, Florida, in November, during Seminole troubles.

1851—Absent from Fort Meade on a scout from January 26 to February. Reported February 1 as acting assistant commissary of subsistence and acting assistant quartermaster; reported sick in March. Granted nine months' leave of absence in War Department Special Orders No. 41, as of April 2, and departed on this leave on May 21. Appointed Professor of Artillery Tactics and Natural Philosophy at Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Virginia. In New York City and Henderson, New York, July and part of August. Reported at Virginia Military Institute, August 13.

1852—Formally resigned from U. S. Army, February 22; approved, February 29.

1853—August 4, married Elinor Junkin, daughter of Rev. Dr. George Junkin, then president of Washington

College at Lexington. In fall of 1854 his wife and infant child died.

1856—Toured Europe.

1857—July 16, married (2) Mary Anna Morrison, daughter of Dr. Robert H. Morrison, of Lincoln County, North Carolina.

1859—Took company of cadets from Virginia Military Institute to Harper's Ferry and to the execution of John Brown at Charles Town, (W.) Virginia.

1861—April 21, left Lexington with cadets in opening of the Civil War. On April 27, appointed colonel of Virginia volunteers; assumed command at Harper's Ferry, April 29; assigned to command of First Brigade in June; engaged in skirmish at Falling Waters, July 2; commissioned brigadier general, July 3; led First Brigade in first battle of Manassas, July 21; advanced to rank of major general, October 7; assigned to command of Shenandoah Valley, November 4.

1862—January 1, leaving Winchester, drove Federals from Romney across Potomac; did not believe himself properly supported and sent in resignation, January 31. Recalled resignation and engaged in battle of Kernstown, March 23; battle of McDowell, May 8; captured Front Royal, May 23; battle of Winchester, May 25; battle of Cross Keys, June 8; battle of Fort Republic, June 9. Marched toward Richmond, engaged in battle of Gaines' Mill, June 27; battle of White Oak Swamp, June 30; Malvern Hill, July 1.

Battle of Cedar Run, August 9; captured Manassas Junction, August 26; repulsed Pope's army, August 29-30, at battle of Chantilly and Second Manassas; September 1, entered Maryland; marched from Frederick, capturing Harpers Ferry, September

15; battle of Sharpsburg, September 17; repulsed enemy at Boteler's Ford, September 20; encamped in Valley near Winchester, September 20-November 22; advanced to lieutenant general, October 11, and placed in command of Second Corps; November 22, marched toward Fredericksburg; battle of Fredericksburg, December 13; entered winter quarters at Moss Neck on Rappahannock, December 16.

1863—May 1, led Second Corps around Hooker's flank at battle of Chancellorsville, routing right wing of Federal Army; was wounded and died at Chandler's, near Guinea Station, on May 10; buried at Lexington, Virginia.

CHAPTER II

Ancestry and Descendants

Jackson

Among the people who have contributed markedly to the making of American character are those designated as the Scotch-Irish, generally regarded as the most aggressive strain that came to America in colonial times. The English were the first and main contributors to the population; however, those who could trace their lineage back to Scotia, with a residence in the north of Ireland, were largely forced to locate in the interior. They became frontiersmen to derive their living directly from the soil, leaving to their English brethren the more prominent occupations of law and politics. Among the immigrants of the Scotch-Irish race, few, if any, were more prominent than the Jacksons. A strange analogy runs through the history of the Jacksons, particularly evident in a strong inclination to participate in public life. They have produced few writers and artists but many generals, politicians, and captains of industry.

It will be recalled that at the beginning of the seventeenth century James I of England, with a view to converting Ireland to Protestantism, formulated the plan of removing to that country Protestant families from the north of England and the south of Scotland. This plan was placed in operation in or about the year 1611, the first theater of settlement being the Province of Ulster. The settlers were men and women of high intelligence. It is recorded that in a document signed in 1718 by a group of men, out of 319 signers, 306 were able to write their names in full, only 13 signing by mark. These people were of the Presbyterian faith, and while there

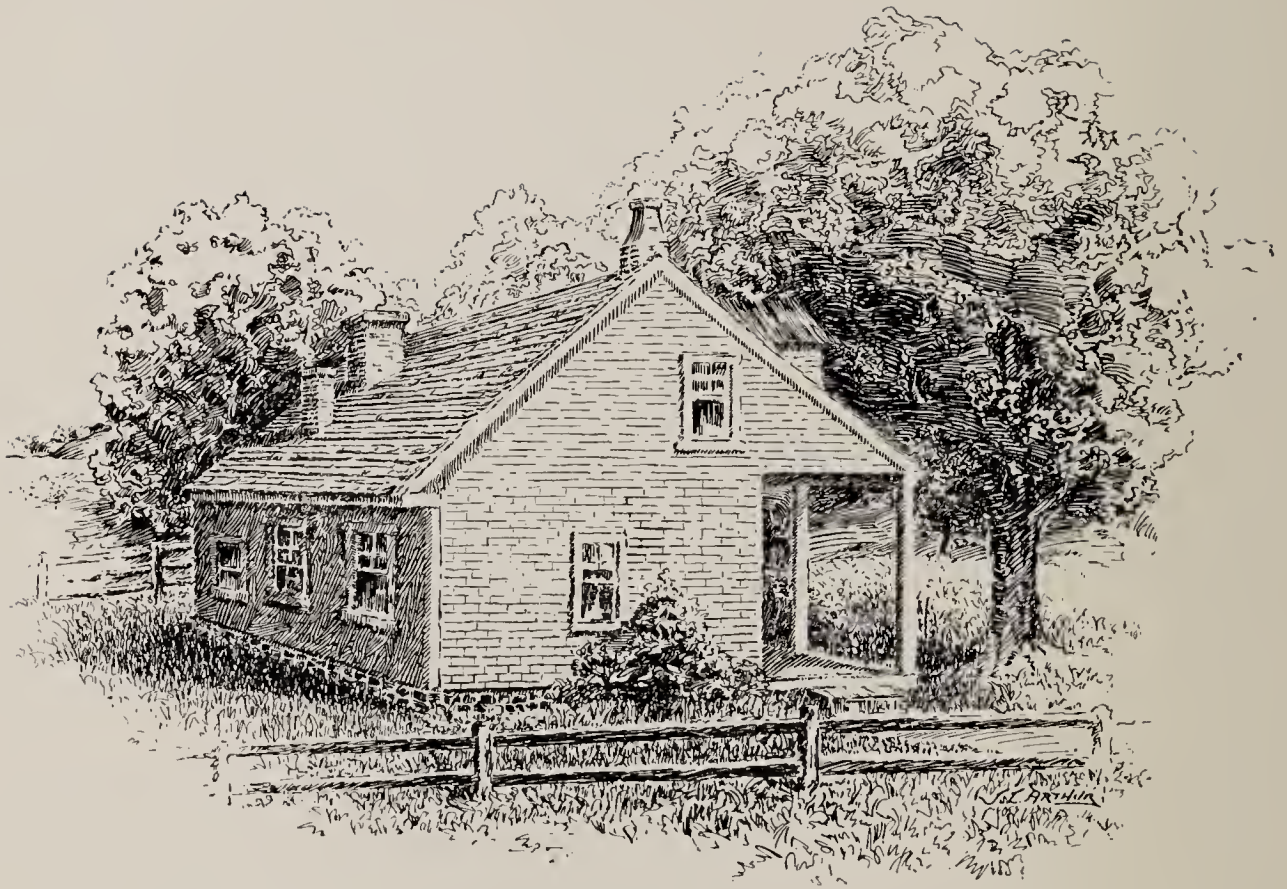
was much feeling against the local Irish, there were frequent intermarriages. Other families retained the original blood identity, but from that time forward were designated as Scotch-Irish. To this racial element belonged, and in it originated, the Jackson family.

The beginning of the story of the Jackson family, so far as written records go, leads back into the Province of Ulster in the north of Ireland, and is closely allied with the history of the counties of Tyrone, Donegal, Antrim, and Londonderry. The last named was originally Derry, but the title was changed by a charter granted by Charles II in 1662. At this time, the Irish Society of London controlled Londonderry and Coleraine, together with the fisheries, woods, ferriage, and lands lying between the Lough Foyle and the rivers Foyle and Bann. This society in turn sublet rights in this region to local officials, and this system may be said to have really established Protestant power in Ulster. In such manner the territory around Coleraine came into the hands of the Jacksons, and of them Robert Slade, Secretary of the "Society" in 1802, wrote:¹

Ambitious to acquire both property and power, they were often at odds with the authorities in London and were driven by these conditions to hold their territory at excessive rates imposed by the none too friendly London directors. In the year 1713, complaint was made that William Jackson had three uncles, who, with himself and tenants, were aldermen, so that six of the twelve aldermen of Coleraine obeyed his orders. Five of the twenty-four burgesses were his tenants, and Mr. Jackson desired to fill a vacancy with another tenant of his living twelve miles distant at Kilrea. This tenant was a brother of a burgess, and both were sons of an alderman. Thirteen members of the council [which included aldermen and burgesses] called upon the mayor for a judicial investigation of the matter, but the mayor, who was a relative of Jackson's, refused their request, although it was claimed to be made according to law. This was but the beginning of discord in the Bann Valley. In 1728 the Society expressed dissatisfaction with the Jackson family,



JONATHAN JACKSON
FATHER OF GENERAL JACKSON



HOUSE IN WHICH GENERAL JACKSON WAS BORN.
MAIN STREET, CLARKSBURG, (W.) VIRGINIA

which had opposed the political interests of the Society and had, through the control of the corporation of Coleraine, usurped the power to grant lands. The long arm which reached out from London had no sooner quieted Coleraine than Londonderry was in trouble for disregarding its by-laws. These controversies had probably little influence upon the lot of the humble tenant, except along the Bann, where the Jackson sway was felt. It was "commonly reported" that the Hon. Richard Jackson was forced to raise the rents of his tenants in order to meet his obligations, and that these tenants, near Coleraine, began agitation for the first great Scotch-Irish emigration to America.

Something of the magnitude of this emigration may be understood when it is noted that 4,200 people left in 1718, and after the famine of 1740, 12,000 left annually.

The residence of Hon. Richard Jackson stood just west of the bridge over the river Bann at Coleraine, on the road to Derry. Other roads radiated to Borough Castle of the Earl of Tyrone, about eight miles away; to Kilrea, twelve miles up the Bann River; to Antrim and Belfast to the south, and to Port Rush on the north. One standing on the bridge at Coleraine, at this day, will see in the beautiful view before him on the left bank of the Bann, a very pretty mansion and grounds still designated as "Jackson's Hall."

In the neighborhood of Coleraine was born in c1715²:

I. JOHN JACKSON, the first of the family of Lieutenant General Thomas J. Jackson, of whom we have any definite record. At the age of ten, his parents and two brothers joined one of the migrations from Port Rush, removing to London, where, after a year or two, his father died. In the meantime, the son had learned the builders' trade. Work of this character led to his immigrating to America in the year 1748, and his location in Cecil County, Maryland, where in July, 1755, he married Elizabeth Cummins, who was born January 8, 1723. Others of the same family origin found their way to America, settled on Long Island, later in New Jersey,

and finally found their way to the same general section of western Virginia. Still another line produced Andrew Jackson of Tennessee.

There is no evidence of a direct connection between these three Jackson families. The line of Robert and Edward Jackson, that traces through Long Island and New Jersey into the present central West Virginia, antedates the John Jackson family a number of years. A careful search of state archives and records of Cecil and adjacent counties in Maryland, failed to develop a bit of evidence concerning the family. Evidently John and Elizabeth had failed to leave an impress on public records and they certainly owned no property.

An interesting local tradition, however, was developed. This alleged that the father of President Andrew Jackson was among local people who immigrated to North Carolina prior to the Revolution, but during the same period that John Jackson resided there. The old Jackson home of the presidential line was a log house that stood east of Cowentown in the fourth district near the Maryland and Delaware line, which, owing to the fact that the walls were not perpendicular, was called "Bendy House." Accounts recorded long ago by old residents connect it with the parents of the hero of New Orleans.³

Concerning the early life of Elizabeth Cummins, little is known of a definite nature. She has been the subject of much conjecture and some misrepresentations. Various biographers have accepted the story that she was a fellow passenger on the boat that brought John Jackson to America. In later years, some writers have followed the statement of Mrs. Mary Anna Jackson that she was the daughter of the operator of a "public house in London called the 'Bold Dragoon,' from which he derived a good income and was supposed to own landed estates in Ireland."⁴ An escapade took place in which Elizabeth threw a silver tankard at a soldier, the result of which was to cause her to flee to America, paying her way by "binding herself" to work out the cost of the passage.

This statement was repeated by Gittings in his *Personal Recollections of Stonewall Jackson* (1899), and later caused a more recent biographer to list her as an indentured servant; a statement, however, carrying no thought of disgrace in any manner. It was quite a common thing at that period of history.

The origin of the tankard story is unknown, and a long personal investigation discloses no basis for it and no tradition of it west of the Alleghenies. John Jackson had a grandson, George W. Jackson, a son of Colonel George Jackson, who was born February 9, 1791, at Clarksburg. As a boy of ten, he worked with his grandfather in the Jackson Mill on Elk Creek. He served as a captain in the 19th Regiment of Infantry during the War of 1812; resigned in 1814. At the time of the death of his grandmother, Elizabeth Cummins Jackson, he was thirty-eight years old. His sister, Katherine, the wife of Dr. William Williams, born September 13, 1781, was then forty-seven years old and familiar with the life of her grandmother. The testimony of these two grandchildren can well be accepted as authentic evidence.

Writing from Weston, West Virginia, on May 20, 1871, to Jonathan Arnold of Beverly, the brother-in-law of General Jackson, Captain Jackson says:

Weston, May 20, 1871.

Dear Sir:

I regret that I did not see you when you were in Weston. As I understood from J. C. Jackson you desired some information relative to our family. I believe that I can give you the requisite information that you can rely on. I am now in my 81st year, and was about 13 or 14 years old when my grandfather John Jackson died in Clarksburg. I was placed in the mill with him, as he could not be induced to leave it, as it occupied his mind, etc. Many of the facts that I relate I had from him, some from my grandmother, some from my father [George Jackson], and all confirmed by a detailed statement by my sister, Mrs. Williams, who being intimate with my

grandmother for more than fifty years, had them often repeated to her. John Jackson, my grandfather, was born in Ireland. He, with his father and two brothers, moved to London when he was a child. John Jackson's father died when he was young. Arriving at manhood he emigrated to Maryland; he settled in Cecil County. He there married Elizabeth Cummins and remained some time after the birth of George Jackson, my father, and removed to Moorefield, thence to Pendleton County, thence to Buckhannon, thence to Clarksburg, where both died—grandfather at eighty-five and grandmother at a hundred and one years of age.⁵ Elizabeth Cummins and an orphan sister were born in England and raised by a maiden aunt; her sister married and emigrated to the city of New York. Elizabeth would have gone with her but was prevailed upon to remain by a promise that at her aunt's death she would leave her one thousand pounds. She [the aunt] died in two or three years. Elizabeth after obtaining the money sailed for New York, in search of her sister. After her arrival and diligent search, ascertained that she, her husband, and two children, had died of yellow fever the year preceding. She then went to Maryland and found some acquaintances from England with whom she lived until she married my grandfather in 1755. She often assured my sister and felt proud of it that the land patented in her name, including the [site of] town of Buckhannon, was paid for in gold she brought from England, and repeatedly showed with seeming pleasure a few guineas she retained until her death.

The question has often been asked if any relationship existed between my father and General Andrew Jackson, and upon enquiry of my father on that subject I obtained the following facts—Andrew Jackson and my father were members of Congress in '96 or '97 or '98, became intimate, and in after life corresponded, particularly during the exciting campaigns of 1824 and '28. While in Congress they compared notes on the probability of relationship—they settled on this alone, that their parents both lived in the same parish in Ireland; although they had no data to establish relationship and never claimed it, they believed it existed. Both were of Protestant families.

With respt., etc.

Geo. W. Jackson.⁶

Jona. Arnold.

In the spring of 1758 the young couple, with their one-year-old son, George, set out to find a new home. The prospect of settling on state lands, with little or no possibility of being pressed by settlers, possibly appealed to them. The reason will never be known, but they made their way over the mountains of Maryland, and continued up the valley of the South Branch of the Potomac River until they reached a point six miles south of present Moorefield, Hardy County, (W.) Virginia.

The site of the second home of the family has been located with reasonable accuracy. Many years ago Colonel T. Moore Jackson of Clarksburg, under the direction of the late Homer S. Carr, long a prominent attorney of Moorefield, instigated an investigation into this subject. A thorough examination of the records of Hampshire County, dating back to 1757, disclosed that Jackson at no time had a right to any land by patent or purchase. His claim simply occupied the status of a "squatter" which at that time was the right under which most of the land in this part of Virginia was held. Mr. Homer S. Carr, with the aid of Haman Scott and Dr. M. H. Gamble, late surgeon of the 23rd Virginia Regiment, C.S.A., attempted to locate the site. Their findings eventually fixed the place as being on Howard's Lick Road on the waters of Icy Lick Run, about a mile from the Harper Church, located on the main South Fork Road. This was about five miles south of Moorefield, Hardy County, which at that time was in the old county of Hampshire. Washington had surveyed lands in this section in 1747-48, at which time there was a residence in the bottom lands along the South Branch of the Potomac.

The location was about midway between the southern line of the South Fork Manor of Lord Fairfax and the South Fork settlement where lived Baron Jacob Brake, into which family the Jackson family intermarried and later removed with them to the waters of the Buckhannon River. The land was a part of the unpatented state lands

until March, 1791, when it was patented by Matthias Hite. After passing through the Hutton and Jacob VanMeter families, it was later owned by Mrs. Emma K. (H. S.) Carr. Mr. Carr reported that there is a slight elevation where the cabin stood; and H. M. Calhoun, the historian of the upper South Branch Valley, who visited the site in May, 1928, and checked notes thereon, reports that he found nothing but the stone of the chimney. The old clearing had then become covered with second growth timber. In this humble home, far in the heart of the main Alleghenies, in what is now Lost River State Park, were born seven of the eight Jackson children, among them Edward, the grandfather of General Jackson.

"In the fall of the ensuing year [1768]," relates Alexander Scott Withers in *Chronicles of Border Warfare*, "John Jackson [who was accompanied by his sons, George and Edward] settled at the mouth of Turkey Run, where his daughter, Mrs. [Josiah] Davis, now lives." This is the site long known as Jackson's or Bush's Fort and is near present Buckhannon, West Virginia. Large holdings of state lands were acquired in this region. Among them is a patent for 3,000 acres issued to Elizabeth Cummins Jackson, the fees being paid with English gold, a few guineas of which are still in the hands of descendants. She sold part of the land on which the city of Buckhannon is now located to John Patton. About 1815 it was laid off in some thirty lots, of which fifteen were sold at \$25 each.

The first county court of Randolph was held on May 28, 1787. The records show that John Jackson was appointed commissioner of revenue in 1787, and had been ordered into service as an Indian spy by Governor Henry Lee in 1786. He was made a justice of the peace, lieutenant of militia in 1787, and captain of militia in 1789.

Later in life, John Jackson and his wife removed to Clarksburg to live with their son, George. Here he died, September 25, 1801,⁷ and his wife survived until 1828. To John and Elizabeth Jackson were born eight children:

1. GEORGE. Born in Cecil County, Maryland, January 9, 1757, and died at Zanesville, Ohio, May 17, 1831. Married (1) Elizabeth Brake at Moorefield, November 13, 1776, who was born February 22, 1757, and died March 22, 1812; (2) Mrs. Nancy Richardson Adams on November 6, 1814, who was born in 1780 and died October 11, 1841.

In 1779 he organized a band of Indian spies that did excellent service. Appointed a captain in 1781, he recruited a company of 104 men to participate in the expedition of George Rogers Clark against Detroit, making a sensational journey with two guides into the wilderness of present Indiana.

The first county court of Harrison County was held in his house on the Buckhannon River, July 20, 1784. George Jackson was recommended and appointed a justice of the peace and, as such, was a member of the county court. He was a member of the Virginia Assembly, 1786-90, a member of the Virginia Convention that adopted the Constitution of the United States, 1788, a member of the Fourth, Sixth, and Seventh Congresses, founder of "Collins Settlement" in present Lewis County, and a member of the Ohio Legislature. Altogether, he was a man of great activity and prominence—a soldier and a politician.

Early in March, 1782, Indians appeared in the Buckhannon Valley, and some of the people were murdered without warning. Captain White, "the lion in the defense of the settlement in the absence of George Jackson," was killed in plain view of the fort. Soon thereafter, George Jackson is said to have run all the way from present Buckhannon to Clarksburg in the night for help, arriving in time to repel an invasion. These are merely high marks in the efforts of this man to take care of the people of that day. George Jackson fostered efforts to start schools and was a trustee of Randolph Academy in 1795.

Ability was not limited to the second generation, however, and of George Jackson's fourteen children by his two marriages, several became distinguished. Edward Brake (1793-1826) served in the Virginia Assembly, War of 1812, the Seventeenth Congress, was elected to the Eighteenth and resigned. John George (September 22, 1777-March 28, 1825) served in the Virginia House of Burgesses, the Eighth Congress and five succeeding Congresses; was brigadier general of militia and judge of the United States District Court. He married (1) Mary Payne, sister of Dolly Payne Todd Madison, and (2) Mary Meigs, daughter of Return Jonathan Meigs. George Washington (1791-1876) served in the army and will be noted later. Prudence (1789-1855) married Elijah Arnold, founder of the Arnold line in Lewis County. Other members of this line were scarcely less distinguished. William L., Jr., (1825-1890) served as lieutenant governor of Virginia, 1856-58, was a member of Stonewall Jackson's staff, commander of a cavalry brigade, and a judge of the superior court in Virginia and Kentucky. John J., Jr., (1824-1907) served as a United States district judge. James Monroe was a member of the Fifty-first Congress, and Jacob Beeson was governor of West Virginia, 1881-1885. Many others were prominent.

2. EDWARD (1759-1828), (about whom more will appear later).

3. JOHN, JR. Born 1760 near present Moorefield and died of yellow fever along the lower Mississippi River in the spring of 1821. His will was recorded in Lewis County, May 21, 1821, showing personal property of \$1,811.24 and six slaves. He married (1) Rebecca Hadden, April 10, 1786. Issue: Edward H.; Dr. David I.; Sarah, who married Alexander Ireland. Married (2) Elizabeth Cozad, July 2, 1797, daughter of Jacob Cozad. Issue: Jacob Jay; Mary, who married Joseph Guseman; Elizabeth; Major William W.;

Samuel; Rebecca; George R. John Jackson, Jr.'s first wife and Edward Jackson's first wife were sisters, Rebecca and Mary Hadden, daughters of David Hadden, an early settler of Randolph County.

4. SAMUEL. Born near present Moorefield. Married (1) Eleanor Smith, January 2, 1803, and (2) Barbara Reger, daughter of Jacob and Barbara (Crites) Reger. Several children, among whom were: Mary (Polly), who married Leonard Brake, September 3, 1823, and descendants went to Waupun, Wisconsin; Isaac, whose family went to Missouri; Henry; John; Jacob, whose family went to Missouri; Joel; William Crawford, who located in Vigo County, Indiana. (Barbara Reger was a sister of Phillip.)

5. HENRY. Born in present Upshur County, July 10, 1774, and died February 24, 1852. He married (1) Mary Hyer, May 20, 1800, who was born June 4, 1784. Issue: Esther, 1801; Elizabeth Permelia, 1802; William Vandevater, 1804; Hyer, 1806, went to California 1849; Edward, 1808; Mariah, 1810; Henry, Jr., 1813; Amanda Melissa, 1816; Rachel Cecelia, 1817; John Henderson, 1820, went to California, 1849; Jacob, 1821; Ulysses, 1824; Mary Sophia, 1827. Married (2) Elizabeth Shreves, on April 24, 1836, who was born December 10, 1813, and died April 11, 1887. Issue: Samuel Dexter, 1838; James Alonzo, 1840; Marion Orlando, 1841; Malissa, 1842; Roxana Columbia, 1844; George Washington, 1845, killed by Indians while crossing the plains; Artemesha, 1847; Clipso Meris, 1848; Gideon Draper Camden, 1852. Henry Jackson became county surveyor of Randolph County in 1793 and had charge of the famous Banks land surveys.

6. ELIZABETH. Married Abraham Brake.

7. MARY SARAH. Married October 23, 1788, by Rev. Isaac Edwards to Phillip Reger (brother of Barbara Reger), who served as ensign in the Virginia militia in the Yorktown campaign, and subsequently became

the first sheriff of Lewis County. Issue: Elizabeth, born 1793, died 1845; married Isaac Dix.

8. SOPHIA. Born September 11, 1763, died March 10, 1836; married Joseph (Josiah) Davis, born May 9, 1757, died October 18, 1832. Issue: John, Mary, Elizabeth, William J., Edward, Sarah, Henry, Joseph, Obedience, Margaret, and Jackson Gould.

II. EDWARD JACKSON, second son of John and Elizabeth Cummins Jackson, was born March 1, 1759, and died at Jackson's Mill, December 25, 1828. The minutes of the first county court of Randolph County, May 28, 1787, contain the following entry: "That Edward Jackson be recommended to the governor as a proper person to fill the office of surveyor, he being of probity and good character." He was appointed a justice of Randolph, May 29, 1787, and as such, a member of the county court; captain and colonel of militia, 1787; commissioner of the revenue, 1791; high sheriff, 1792; also served as a justice in Harrison County.

About 1801, Edward Jackson removed his family from below present Buckhannon to the homestead located below Weston, where he resided until his death. He acquired some knowledge of medicine, was an expert millwright, and a farmer of more than usual ability. He did much of the local surveying, laid out the site of the town of Weston, and was appointed a commissioner to construct a courthouse for Lewis County, November 4, 1819. In 1820 he was appointed a justice of the peace and represented Lewis County in the Virginia Assembly in 1822-23.

On October 13, 1783, he married Mary Hadden, born May 15, 1764, and died April 17, 1796, a daughter of David Hadden, who had removed from New Jersey to Randolph County in 1772. To this union were born:

1. George E., born December 23, 1786, died March 26, 1831; removed to St. Genevieve County, Missouri, in 1821.

2. David E., born October 30, 1788; married Juliet Norris, daughter of Captain John and Mary (Jones) Norris. Issue: Edward John (Ned J.) 1810-96; William Pitt, 1812-37; Nancy, born October 12, 1813, died 1891, married Minor Carr Hall, who died May, 1885; Mary Jones (a twin), born October 12, 1813, died July 11, 1900, married John Henderson Hays (issue: David, born December 22, 1835). David E. Jackson served as ensign in the Nineteenth Infantry, U.S.A., 1813-14; died of yellow fever near Memphis, Tennessee, after 1837.

3. JONATHAN, born September 25, 1790, died March 26, 1826 (about whom more will appear later).

4. Rachel, born July 8, 1792; married Jacob Brake, September 10, 1815, who was born August 1, 1785. Issue: Edward H., George W., Rachel, Leonard J., Mary, Jacob L., Catherine, Rebecca, David J., and Eliza.

5. Mary (Polly) Hadden, born February 19, 1794, died August 30, 1840; married November 30, 1820, Isaac Brake, who was born November 16, 1797, died January 17, 1885, near Buckhannon, West Virginia. Issue: Rachel Elizabeth, born January 4, 1822, died November 28, 1883; Edward Stalnaker, born February 20, 1823, died in infancy; Jacob, Jr., born October 10, 1824, died in infancy; Melville Shook, born August 6, 1826, died October 14, 1898; Diademina, born July 20, 1828, died September 12, 1904; Oliva, born September 7, 1830, died February 19, 1914; Mary Virginia, born October 5, 1837, died March 9, 1862; Isaac Newton, born August 30, 1840, died March 20, 1931.

6. Rebecca, born September 15, 1795, died July 18, 1889; married December 19, 1811, George White (son of Alexander White), who died October 1, 1858; removed to Pond Creek (Belleville), Wood County. To this union were born eleven children, among whom were Thomas Benton and David Jackson and others who settled in Ohio and Missouri.

On October 13, 1799, Edward Jackson married (2) Elizabeth, daughter of John (1754-1838) and Elizabeth Wetherholt Brake (January 11, 1772-August 19, 1835). Issue:

1. Catherine (Katy), born July 25, 1800, and died in Lewis County, December 3, 1876. On April 25, 1824, she married John White, born in Hardy County, May 2, 1794, died May 1, 1875, son of Alexander White, a soldier of the Revolution from New Jersey. Issue: Fortunas, born November 2, 1824, died July 31, 1901; married Lucy Gibson, December 9, 1847. Sylvanus, born January 15, 1827, died November 29, 1911; married Malinda Henderson, April 21, 1853. Marcellus, born March 17, 1829, died June 2, 1897; married Flora Gibson, December 25, 1856. George Edward, born August 17, 1831, died June 9, 1902; married Alice Fetty. Marellah, born February 2, 1834, died July, 1874; married Jacob Rohrbough, July 15, 1856. William Pitt, born August 15, 1836, removed to California, March, 1857; married Prudence Strader, December 31, 1854. Alexander Perry, born October 13, 1838; married (1) Mary Fetty, (2) Lovie Ireland, March, 1899. John McDowell, born February 18, 1841, died June 16, 1882, (killed by a falling tree); married Sarah Woofter, 1865; and Cummins.

2. Cummins E., born July 25, 1802, died in Shasta County, California, December 4, 1849.

3. James Madison, born April 3, 1805, died October 27, 1872; married (1) Eleanor Law, December 4, 1836, who died December 27, 1850. Issue: Margaret, who married Gaston Greathouse; Mary E., who married John Cunningham; Stokley R., born 1839, died 1906, married Mrs. Eliza Curry Armstrong; Nancy Elizabeth, born 1843, died 1922, married David J., son of John H. and Mary Jackson Hays, who was born 1835, died 1898; Edward Thomas, born August 4, 1848, married Julia A. Brake, February 19, 1874, died December 10, 1936, the last surviving first cousin of General Jackson.

James Madison married (2) December 30, 1851, Susan Ann Bailey, who died 1879.

4. Elizabeth (Eliza), born April 6, 1807, died February 22, 1849; married Nicholas Carpenter, July 3, 1830, and removed to near Mt. Vernon, Indiana.

5. John E., born January 22, 1810, died July 18, 1875; married Sarah Byrne and removed to Missouri.

6. Margaret (Peggy), born February 2, 1812; married Jonathan Thompson Hall, March 7, 1833.

7. Return Meigs, born March 15, 1814, died July 6, 1835, at St. Genevieve, Missouri. It is related that he died from the result of a standing jump to his own height, six feet.

8. Edward J., born October 29, 1817, died October 21, 1848, at Jackson's Mill.

9. Andrew, born March 16, 1821, died October 31, 1867; married Mary Deem and removed to Indiana. Later returned to Lewis County and died on Hughes River. Issue: Margaret, married Samuel Walker; Elizabeth; Catherine, married Charles Persinger; Susan; Martha; and Mary.

III. JONATHAN JACKSON, the third son of Edward and Mary Hadden Jackson, was born in Upshur, then Randolph County, September 25, 1790. He was educated at the Randolph Academy in Clarksburg and at the old Male Academy in Parkersburg, later taking up the study of law under his cousin, John George Jackson of Clarksburg. He was admitted to the bar in Harrison County in December, 1810, Randolph County in 1813, and Lewis County at the first court held at Westfield, just below Jackson's Mill in 1817. Jonathan served as Collector of Internal Revenue for the District of western Virginia, and by 1813 was recognized as one of the promising lawyers in Clarksburg.

On September 28, 1817, he married Julia (Judith) Beckwith Neale, born February 28, 1798, a school

acquaintance, daughter of Thomas and Margaret Winn Neale of Parkersburg. (See Neale.) Issue:

1. Elizabeth, born in 1819, died March 5, 1826.⁸
2. Warren, born January, 1821, died November, 1841, on Turkey Run, Upshur County, (W.) Virginia.
3. THOMAS (JONATHAN), (about whom more will appear later).
4. Laura Ann, born March 27, 1826, died September 24, 1911, at Buckhannon, (W.) Virginia; married, September 1, 1844, Jonathan Arnold of Beverly, born March 27, 1802, and died July 20, 1883. Issue:

(a) Thomas Jackson Arnold, born November 3, 1845, died January 10, 1933, at Arnold Hill; lawyer; collector of the port, San Diego, California; and author, *Early Life and Letters of General Thomas J. Jackson*. He married, June 1, 1876, Eugenia, daughter of General D. H. Hill, C.S.A., who was born April 29, 1852, and died November 24, 1934.

(b) Anna Grace, born March 23, 1848, died March 18, 1878; married Major C. H. Evans, December 12, 1866.

(c) Stark William, born December 20, 1851, died August 16, 1898; married Elizabeth Ellen Gohen, December 25, 1880, daughter of Thomas and Hannah Gohen.

(d) Laura Zell, born December 19, 1853, died in infancy.

Jonathan Jackson died March 26, 1826,⁹ leaving the young widow with three children. Every vestige of his property was swept away. On November 4, 1830, Julia B. Jackson, the widow, married (2) Blake B. Woodson, by Rev. Daniel Limerick. Woodson was a widower¹⁰ from Cumberland County, Virginia, and had located in Clarksburg where he had practiced law as early as 1824. When Fayette County was formed, Woodson was the first appointed clerk of the county. The family then removed to a new home located in what is now the town of Ansted.

The date of removal is not clear, but on October 10, 1829, Rev. Asa Brooks organized the Presbyterian Church in Clarksburg, and the session books show that Julia B. Woodson was made a member on May 17, 1831.

In the fall of 1831, a son was born to the Woodsons. He was named William Wirt and is the "Wirt," half brother of General Jackson, so frequently mentioned in letters. Wirt Woodson lived with various members of the family, went to California, and eventually located in Indiana. Here on November 25, 1863, he married Virginia LeNeve, born March 28, 1842, and to this union were born: Thomas Warren, born April 3, 1865; William Edward, November 5, 1866; Richard Louis, June 5, 1868; Henry Clay, February 23, 1870; Laura Luella, December 21, 1871; Walter, 1873, died in infancy; Kelly, 1875.

Wirt Woodson died at New Harmony, Indiana, November 26, 1875, and his wife died January 7, 1930.

Within a year after their mother's second marriage, the Jackson children were called to their mother's bedside. According to the records of the Presbyterian Church at Clarksburg, she died in "October 1831"; but two other dates in September have been recorded, and her daughter Laura affirms that her mother died "in November 1831."¹¹ It has been recited that Dr. John McIlhenny of Lewisburg conducted the funeral services and she was laid to rest in the, then, Westlake Cemetery. Today the visitor to her tomb in Ansted, West Virginia, reads:

Here lies Julia Beckwith Neale,
Born February 28, 1798, in Loudoun Co., Va.
Married, first, Jonathan Jackson.
Second, Blake B. Woodson.
Died Sept. 1831.
To the mother of "Stonewall" Jackson
This tribute from one of his old Brigade.

IV. THOMAS (JONATHAN), the third child of Jonathan and Julia Neale Jackson, was born in Clarksburg, (W.) Virginia, January 21, 1824, and died near Guinea Station,

Virginia, May 10, 1863. He married (1) Elinor Junkin, daughter of Rev. Dr. George Junkin, president of Washington College at Lexington, Virginia, August 4, 1853, who died Sunday, October 22, 1854. On July 16, 1857, he married (2) Mary Anna Morrison, daughter of Rev. Dr. Robert Hall Morrison, at "Cottage Home," (Charlotte) Lincoln County, North Carolina, who was born July 31, 1831, and died at Charlotte, North Carolina, March 24, 1915. They were married by Rev. Drury Lacy. To this union were born: Mary Graham, born February 28, 1858, died May 25, 1858; and Julia Laura (see immediately following).

V. JULIA LAURA JACKSON was born November 23, 1862, died August 30, 1889; married June 2, 1885, William Edmund Christian of Richmond, Virginia, born 1856, died February 6, 1936. Issue:

1. Julia Jackson, born June 5, 1887; married Edmund Randolph Preston of Lexington, Virginia, August 8, 1907. Issue:

(a) John Randolph, born July 25, 1908; died August 14, 1909.

(b) Anna Jackson, born August 2, 1910; married February 9, 1935, Emil N. Shaffner; issue, Henry, Randolph, T. J. Jackson.

(c) Elizabeth Cortlandt, born January 9, 1914; married John Creech; issue, Cortlandt, Katherine, John, Jr.

(d) Julia, born October 9, 1918; married James B. McAfee, 1941; issue, James B., Jr., Julia.

(e) Edmund Randolph, Jr., born April 13, 1923.

(f) Thomas J. J., born October 18, 1926.

Lieutenant Edmund Randolph Preston, Jr., great-grandson of General Jackson, graduated from West Point in 1945, and has been on active duty in Germany since leaving the Academy. It is reported that he entered the school and left without either



COL. EDWARD JACKSON HOME PLACE AND MILL, THE BOYHOOD HOME OF STONEWALL JACKSON, ABOUT 1837

J. L. ARTHUR



JACKSON'S MILL, NEAR WESTON, (W.) VIRGINIA, ABOUT 1843

—F. E. Myers

members of the faculty or classmates knowing his identity.

2. Thomas J. Jackson, born August 29, 1888; married Bertha Cook. Issue:

(a) Thomas J. Jackson, Jr., born November 19, 1917, died August, 1944; married Margy Ashcraft; issue, Lou Ellen.

Brigadier General Thomas Jackson Christian, Sr., U.S.A., grandson of General Jackson, graduated from West Point, June 13, 1911, served through World War I, and was in command of the Miami, Florida, Air Base in World War II. Thomas Jackson Christian, Jr., great-grandson, graduated from West Point in 1939; was made a full colonel before he was thirty; escaped in the fall of the Philippines; and was killed in France, August, 1944, on the 78th mission as a commander in the Air Corps.

(b) Marguerite Louise, born June, 1919; married Col. F. C. Fitzpatrick, July 2, 1941.

It may not be out of place to state here that in 1921 a splendid equestrian statue of General Jackson was unveiled at Charlottesville, Virginia, by two little great-grandchildren, Thomas Jackson Christian, Jr., and Anna Jackson Preston.

Neale

I. The first Neale of this family from which General Jackson was descended to immigrate to this country came from Ireland during, or at, the conclusion of the Cromwellian Rebellion some time between 1640 and 1660. He came from County Limerick to Northumberland County, Virginia, as Daniel O'Neill or O'Neal, with his wife, Elinor, and several small sons. The name was immediately Anglicized to Neal or Neil, and the spelling "Neale" permanently adopted in the next generation. It is also significant to note that the name, with the removal

of the "O," begins to appear in the parish records of the English Church.

Tradition has it that Daniel was a son of Thane O'Neill, Earl of Tyron; certain it is that early in the Old Virginia life of the family they claimed the right to use the "Red Hand of Erin" as a badge or coat of arms. The name of Lieutenant Daniel Neale, with various spellings, appears often in the parish and Northumberland County records after 1660. It is also worthy of note that in even earlier history of the eastern shore of Virginia, appears the name of a John Neale, and in Maryland a Neal family in which the given name of Peter often occurs, with neither of which there appears any connection. Daniel and Elinor had four sons: Daniel, CHRISTOPHER, Charles, and Robert.

II. CHRISTOPHER NEALE, born 1644, probably in Ireland, married Hannah Rodham about the year 1664. She was a daughter of Mathew Rodham of Northumberland County. In different records this spelling appears "Rhodan," but since the Rodham is carried as a given name for some generations, it seems to be correct. Christopher was a Burgess representing Northumberland County in 1685-86 and died in 1694. Records show also that a sister of Hannah Rodham Neale married Richard Kenner, and in 1664 Richard Kenner deeded land to his "sister" Hannah Neale. Hannah Neale was once charged with the practice of witchcraft by one LeBreton, but on withdrawal of the charges, the case was never brought to trial. Christopher and Hannah had issue: Christopher, born June 23, 1671; DANIEL, born July 26, 1673; John, born 1675; Mathew, born February 6, 1677; Richard, born August 28, 1682; Rodham, born September 8, 1685.

III. DANIEL NEALE married Ursula Presley, daughter of William Presley of "Mantua," Northumberland County. They moved to Westmoreland County where he died in 1713, his will having been probated December 19, 1713. Ursula married (2) Wharton Ransdall. Children of Daniel and Ursula were PRESLEY, Daniel, Christopher,

Rodham, Frances, and Hannah. Children of Wharton Ransdall and Ursula were Edward William and Sarah.

IV. PRESLEY NEALE married Margaret Fauntlaroy, daughter of Moore Fauntlaroy of Westmoreland County, and in this generation the family again moved further west to Fairfax County where he died in 1749. They had issue: Daniel, RICHARD, Elizabeth, Anne, Shapleigh, and Jamima.

V. RICHARD NEALE, born in Westmoreland County in 1743, married Frances Underwood in 1767. She was a daughter of Thomas Underwood. Richard Neale served as a private in the Second Virginia Regiment during the Revolutionary War under Lieutenant Colonel William Posey. Richard and Francis Underwood had issue: Judith Ann, George, Thomas, James, Richard, and William. In 1798 Francis Underwood Neale died, and in 1800 Richard married (2) a widow, Mary Nelson Smith, who had two children, Lewis Marshall Smith and Nancy Maria Smith. During this generation the family moved farther west to Aldie, Loudoun County, where Richard died in 1810.

VI. (a) Judith Ann Neale, born 1770; married Norman Beckwith, son of Sir Marmaduke Beckwith.

(b) George Neale, born 1772; married Sarah, daughter of George and Violet Gist Lewis.

(c) THOMAS NEALE, born 1774 (about whom more will appear later).

(d) James, born 1776; married Elizabeth Rogers, of Loudoun County.

(e) Richard, born 1778; married Harriet Winn.

(f) William, born 1782; married Nancy Maria Smith, daughter of his father's second wife. They were married in 1801, and lived at Aldie, Loudoun County, where he died in 1808 at the early age of twenty-six. Following his death his widow and children moved to Mason County, (W.) Virginia, in 1816.

VI. (c) THOMAS NEALE, was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia, August 12, 1774; died at Vienna (Park-

ersburg), Wood County, (W.) Virginia, February 28, 1834. He married Margaret Winn, daughter of Captain Minor and Frances (Withers) Winn, of Rockhill Plantation, Fauquier County, October 13, 1794, who was born in 1775, and died at Parkersburg, April 20, 1823. Issue:

(1) Harriet Winn, born Loudoun County, 1795, died at Parkersburg, 1823; married May 10, 1810, James Hardin Neal, son of Captain James Neal of Green County, Pennsylvania, and Wood County, (W.) Virginia.¹²

(2) JUDITH (JULIA) BECKWITH, was born February 28, 1798, and died at present Ansted, West Virginia, in October, 1831. The records of Wood County show that "Judith B." Neale and Jonathan Jackson were married by Rev. James McAboy, a Baptist minister, on September 28, 1817. She was born at what has long been called the "Peach Orchard Farm," located about five miles southeast of Aldie, Virginia (on SR705, two miles east from R15). She married (2) Blake B. Woodson, on November 4, 1830, at Clarksburg, (W.) Virginia.

(3) Elizabeth Williams, born 1800, died 1829; married September 13, 1823, Benjamin Willard.

(4) Thomas Underwood, born 1802, died 1823.

(5) Minor Winn, born 1804, died 1844; married in 1836, Francis Anna Minor.

(6) Richard, born April 5, 1807, died October 11, 1839; married Elizabeth Cook.

(7) Alfred, born March 27, 1809, died June 30, 1868; married, October 10, 1834, Ann Clementine Saunders. Issue: Leroy, Julia, Addie, Charles, Thomas, and Guy. Alfred Neale and his brother, William H., acquired James Island, in the Ohio River, and it was this family which had much contact with young Thomas Jackson.

(8) Frances, born 1811; married August 12, 1830, Thomas Pollard.

(9) William Henry, born May 23, 1813, died September 26, 1889; married Katherine Dills.

(10) Margaret, born 1815; married Alfred Johnson. The family moved to Missouri.

(11) Thornton Withers, born 1817, died at Mount Vernon, Indiana. Married (1) Elizabeth Cloud, (2) Martha Wallace.

CHAPTER III

The Jackson Homestead—Jackson's Mill

Three miles directly north of the city of Weston, in Lewis County, West Virginia, and a half mile below the mouth of Freeman's Creek, the West Fork of the Monongahela River, at an altitude of 1,000 feet, suddenly swerves to the east. After traveling a quarter of a mile, it swings back to the northwest, creating a peninsula of some proportion in a vast horseshoe curve. Wide bottom land for the first time marks the downward path of the river near the mouth of the tributary, Freeman's Creek; precipitous heights to the east rise to 1,200 feet, and on the west gradually ascend to a height of 1,300 feet. Like some giant thumb stuck out in the path of the stream, this peninsula could not escape attention, and it would indeed be hard to find a more suitable location for a home in the entire Monongahela Valley. Here Edward Jackson, in the beginning of the nineteenth century, decided to make his home.

The origin of his title is somewhat obscure. It has been set forth in various works that Edward Jackson patented 1,500 acres in this region, but as a matter of fact no such patent is of record. Yet from 1787 until 1801, he acquired six grants of lands comprising 10,418 acres, located on Elk, Glady, and Cove creeks, on Glady Fork of Little Kanawha (as assignee of Henry Banks, June 12, 1801) and on Tygarts Valley River.

From the records of the county court of Lewis it appears that in 1801 Edward Jackson acquired a land grant of 500 acres, issued to George See, on April 16, 1788. An examination of the Virginia records in the land office discloses only one grant in what was then Harrison County to George See, and that in 1788 for 218 acres "on

the waters of Tygar[t]s Valley River.” It has also been affirmed that he acquired a survey of some 854 acres made for George Bush on August 30, 1792, which took in much of the land around the mouth of Freeman’s Creek in sight of the Jackson home. But no transfer can be located. On the other hand, the records of Harrison County show that on December 20, 1786, Edward Jackson was “to have liberty to build a mill or mills on lands deeded to him by George Bush, at ‘Peadros Fish Pot,’ on the West Fork.” This title is still to be found in old records of this region, but the date would indicate that over fifteen years elapsed before the first actual mill was constructed, and there may be some confusion as to “west Forks.” The same order provided that a jury be named to report damages at the next court. But no report can be found.

The Virginia Assembly, however, on January 20, 1800, passed an act providing that “the MONONGALIA River from the south boundary of Pennsylvania, up to the confluence of the rivers, TYGER valley and WEST BRANCH, thence up the TYGER Valley river to John Nuzum’s Mill and up the WEST BRANCH RIVER to Edward Jackson’s Mill and up Simpsons creek to George Jackson’s mill, shall be forever considered and taken as a public highway, free for navigation.” The act further provides certain penalties and makes other provisions, some of which had some bearing on the later “canalization” of the lower river, as far as present Fairmont, West Virginia. Simpsons Creek is a small stream entering the West Fork of the Monongahela below Clarksburg. And assuming that the “WEST BRANCH” River had to do with the same stream, and it certainly did, it would indicate that “Jackson’s Mill” was erected and established at this location as early as 1799, as the act was passed in January, 1800.¹

As early as April 16, 1809, Edward Jackson sold three tracts of land to Alexander White, William White, and Manuel Alkire. And on September 7, 1827, Manuel Alkire, John Alkire, and Sarah Alkire sold 212 acres of the Bush

survey to Samuel L. Hays, who later, as a member of Congress, figures in this story. In 1837 Hays and his wife, Roanna, sold this property to James G. Sanson and John Harter. It is today sometimes called the "Stevens Farm" and in early years was associated with the land dealings of John G. Jackson.

In the subsequent litigation and following the death of Colonel Edward Jackson, who left no will, the property was sold by the United States marshal according to a decree of court and was bid in by Cummins E. Jackson. On August 26, 1830, he in turn transferred it to John J. Allen, a son-in-law of John G. Jackson. The deed specifies a tract of land situated in Lewis County, on the east side of the West Fork River, and "also that other tract of land situated on the west side of said river and opposite to the foregoing tract, being a tract of land on which the said Cummins E. Jackson resides, on which there is a mill, being the same land formerly occupied by Edward Jackson." It was sold under a decree of the superior court of law and chancery, "and being the tract of land originally patented by George See, and by him sold to Edward Jackson."

It seems that within a short time, John J. Allen reconveyed the homestead to Cummins Jackson, and that Elizabeth Jackson, the widow of Colonel Edward Jackson, acquired an interest in it. In November, 1835, James Madison Jackson qualified as the personal representative of Elizabeth Jackson and also as administrator of the estate of Return Meigs Jackson, with Edward J. Jackson as surety.

By 1850 the holdings of the late Cummins Jackson were involved in much litigation in the circuit court of Lewis. On March 26, 1853, an order was entered consolidating some five cases, and Caleb Boggess, Jr., M. W. Harrison, and William E. Arnold were named commissioners. On September 6, 1854, an order was entered confirming sale of 300 acres to J. Madison Jackson, acting

for himself and W. E. Arnold, and 212 acres to John White.

Adjoining the See patent to the north was a patent to James Keith, assignee of William B. Hacker, of Hampshire County. This was transferred on May 15, 1802, by Aleson Clark, D. S., Harrison County, to Mary Sleeth. James Keith and Mary, his wife, also sold to Edward Jackson, April 11, 1804, 400 acres which had been patented September 25, 1787. In April, 1823, the latter conveyed land adjoining "Jackson's Mills" to his grandchildren: Edward, William Pitt, Mary, and Nancy, children of David E. Jackson. Title to the homestead was held clear until November 3, 1820, when in a chancery case of William L. Jackson of Harrison County against "Edward Jackson, David W. Sleeth and George White, his sureties on a forthcoming bond in the name of John White for the use of the Ohio Company," the property was transferred by Edward Jackson to William L. Jackson, who agreed to assume the payment of \$1,800 due on the bond named. The property included "one tract of 500 acres including Jackson's Mills" and the following slaves: Nancy, Sampson, Lamar, Cecelia, Meria, Aaron, Lucy, Sam, and Louisa.

Jonathan Jackson of Clarksburg in the meantime met with financial reverses which led to considerable litigation. On July 24, 1824, in an action in which he was principal, and John and Edward Jackson and Dr. James McCally were sureties, Jonathan's "moiety" in the "mill place" was sold and also land in Lewis County called the mill place "where Edward Jackson lives." Included in the sale were lots No. 5 and an adjacent one on Main Street, Clarksburg, between "John Webster's and Elizabeth Britten."

Lewis Maxwell, attorney for Elizabeth (Brake) Jackson, widow of Colonel Edward, in July, 1835, entered suit against Cummins Jackson for a settlement of his father's estate who died intestate. Four slaves, "Aaron, Cecelia, Malinda and Marg," were mentioned in the bill

filed with Judge Edwin S. Duncan, Judge of Law and Chancery Court of the 18th Judicial District. Edward Jackson died Christmas Day, 1828. The bill of complaint had been filed but a month when Elizabeth Jackson died. James M. Jackson, her administrator, continued the case. The matter lingered in court for many years; Cummins died in California and the case was stricken from the docket in 1854. John White, a brother-in-law of Cummins, was appointed administrator of the C. E. Jackson estate.

In connection with the continued attempts at closing up the much litigated estate, Major Jackson from Lexington, Virginia, on April 11, 1854, wrote his sister, Laura Arnold, at Beverly, as follows:

My dear Sister,

Last night I received a letter from Uncle John White, in which he states that Uncle Madison is not willing to have Uncle Cummin's property sold so far as to pay off his [Cummin's] debts, and that Madison is opposed to having the Mills rented out again but is trying to get them into his own hands, and he already has got the negroes from Jacob Jackson. Uncle John thinks that the property ought to be sold so far as to pay off Uncle Cummin's debts, and the remainder to be divided among the heirs. And I think that such is the proper course. He offers to do the best he can for you and me, provided we wish him to do so. I have offered to give him my interest as an heir, because I was afraid that in going to law, I might spend more than my interest would be worth. I wish you would let Uncle John know whether he shall do anything for you or not. I hope that by this time all is well with you.

Ellie joins me in love to yourself and family,

Your brother

Thomas

The result was that on May 11, 1854, Thomas J. Jackson and his wife, Elinor, of Lexington, Virginia, "granted unto John White" all interest in the "estate of the late Cummins E. Jackson and the late Edward Jackson." At the time the deed was made the estates had not been

settled so it is apparent that while General Jackson never definitely came into possession of any property at Jackson's Mill, he did have an interest in his boyhood home.

George Oliver in the *Weston Democrat*, 1892, says:

In 1844 the old Jackson Mill property was owned by Cummins E. Jackson. He supplied Weston with a great quantity of lumber for building purposes. I have been informed that he owned some 1,500 acres in connection with the mill property lying on both sides of the West Fork.

In this same year Cummins Jackson patented 551 acres on Cutright Run and 570 acres on Jaw Bone Run. In 1838 he patented 612 acres on the West Fork, 200 acres on Freeman's Creek, and 500 acres on Coal Lick.

Attracted by the gold fields, Cummins Jackson and others left for California in the spring of 1849. Few people now living can appreciate the attraction this offered to Eastern folk. Whole companies of men left sections of the Valley of Virginia, and in the interior the exodus was marked only by the smaller numbers. Sylvanus White, writing to Thomas Jackson Arnold from California, under date of July 4, 1911, says of the party from around Weston:

I will now give you the names of the little party that left Virginia, the first of April, 1849, bound for California. The third day of April we left my father's (John White's on Freeman's Creek). In the party were Cummins E. Jackson, Edward J. Jackson (son of David), Calvin J. Brown, myself and brother, George E. White, all of Lewis county; James T. Jackson (at the time) of Parkersburg, Jonathan Ireland and John Gibson of Upshur county; White Vineyard and Griffin Vineyard from Randolph county; the latter later joined another train. (These were grandnephews of Colonel Edward Jackson's first wife, Mary Hadden.) Then from Gilmer county we had Shelton Furr, Othello Hays, Samuel Covert, William Queen and Morgan Queen.

This company arrived in California some time in July, 1849, and the colony was soon augmented by the arrival of others. Many in later years returned East, while others founded families who are still living on the Pacific Coast. Cummins E. Jackson, however, lived only a few months. He died in December of the same year of a fever contracted in the gold camps. The news did not reach Weston until in February, 1850, and after some delay, due to absence of proof of death, etc., the Jackson's Mill property was subdivided among his heirs, he, it seems, having died without a will.

On March 5, 1866, Andrew Jackson and Mary, his wife, executed a deed of trust to David J. Hays, conveying "all real estate descended to said Jackson on the death of Cummins E. Jackson or Edward Jackson direct."

By 1868 the two Jackson estates were settled. James Madison Jackson, on October 3, 1868, transferred to Stokely R. Jackson, 96 acres, part of the "old Cummins E. Jackson Mill property." John White, who had come to the Jackson's Mill section as a boy of three, was widely known. He and his wife, Catherine (Jackson) White, became the owners of the noted Mill, the home place of Mrs. White's father, Edward. Mrs. White inherited her interest in the property, and her husband purchased his interest.

John White died April 30, 1875, and willed his share of the property to his wife. He also provided in his will that \$100 should be given to the "daughter of General Thomas J. Jackson, my nephew." This was Julia Laura Jackson, who married William E. Christian. Catherine Jackson White died December 3, 1876, and in her will provided that the mill property be sold and the proceeds divided among her four sons: Fortunas, Marcellus, Alexander, and John. It was sold to William and Huldah Moxley, owners of the Moxley House in Weston, but it was never paid for and was repossessed in 1886.

On March 31, 1886, William E. Arnold, commissioner in a chancery case of "Marcellus White, administrator of

Catherine White, deceased, vs. Huldah and Wm. Moxley," sold the Jackson's Mill property, together with five acres of land, to Joseph Clifton for \$1,300. On November 5, 1913, this five-acre tract with the buildings thereon was sold by Miss Ella Clifton to A. T. Watson, acting for the Monongahela Valley Traction Company, for \$4,000 and was by this corporation deeded to the State of West Virginia, March 7, 1924.

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Since 1921, additional property has been acquired and donated by public-spirited people of the city of Weston and Lewis County, as well as by direct purchases. Under the direction of the State of West Virginia it now embraces 523 acres, which have been converted into a beautiful campus. It is known as the "West Virginia 4-H Camp," a division of West Virginia University at Morgantown. Here was founded the first unit in a great national movement, known as the 4-H Project, devoted to the upbuilding of boys and girls in health, head, heart, and hands, which has since spread to practically every state in the Union. What more fitting purpose could be served than the creation of Christian citizenship as a memorial to the boy who, with his motto, "You can be whatever you resolve to be," spent his youth at this spot and from here rode away to national and international fame as a man and a soldier?

In order to further the use of the location, the bed of the West Fork River has been changed and an airport constructed on the new area thus created. Many attractive cottages named for various counties have been erected; also a large dining hall modeled after Mount Vernon, assembly halls, swimming pools, and beautiful gardens.

Almost on the site of the original Edward Jackson home now stands an old pioneer log cabin. This almost perfect example of a pioneer home was erected by Henry McWhorter, at present Jane Lew, some miles away, in 1793. It was removed to the present site and dedicated on August 14, 1927.

On the north bank of the river bend and facing the broad bottom land directly south, Colonel Edward Jackson, in 1801, erected a two-story, hewn-log manor house, about twenty by forty feet, with an ell. The house was well constructed, nicely finished inside, and considered among the best in the community in that day. This home was occupied by the family until some years after the death of the widow of Edward Jackson, at which time portions were used in the erection of other farm buildings. The site can still be discerned about three hundred feet west of the location of the late Cummins Jackson house, on a rise in an open place among the old apple trees of the family orchard on the county road. This home, rather than that remembered by later generations and depicted in pictures, is the one in which Stonewall Jackson spent his boyhood days. The house was razed about 1843.

In 1808 an eight-foot dam was constructed in the river for the purpose of supplying power for a sawmill and a gristmill. In or near that year machinery was brought from one of the earlier mills of the Jacksons near Clarksburg and installed in a log building constructed on the east shore (opposite the present mill). Constant trouble was encountered; the bend in the river threw the current against that side and the erosion caused part of the building to slide into the river bed. To this day a slide area of some proportions still exists on this side and gives trouble to the road-makers and traction lines.

With the establishment of this mill the place became Jackson's Mill, and was the scene of constant activity for more than forty years. The mill certainly was in operation before March 17, 1806. On that date the Harrison County Court passed an order naming William Powers, David Sleeth, Paulser Butcher, Jacob Bush, and Adam Flesher to view a way for a road from "Edward Jackson's Mill" to the line of Mason County, near Point Pleasant.

At an undetermined time, but prior to 1830, the foundation timbers and machinery were removed to the opposite side of the river. Here they were housed in a building, a combination of hand-hewn lumber and lumber sawed in the mill mentioned above.

In April, 1833, Cummins Jackson built a dam, which, according to citations, was six feet high and 150 feet long. People objected to a new obstruction in the river, especially since Jackson failed to obtain a court order. He was indicted at the instance of Levi Maxwell, Samuel Brown, G. Fisher, and others. The case was in litigation until the spring term of 1839 when it was dismissed.

The wife of a distinguished local resident, born in 1834, related that the first mill building on the present site burned when she was but a small child, and the present building was erected thereupon. An old print examined by the writer bears the notation "Jackson's Mills, 1837," which would seem to indicate that the present building was erected in that year. The building is 40 x 40 feet, two and a half stories in height, with a native stone foundation. The material of which it is constructed is largely sawed by machine. An indication of the quality of the timber that once abounded in the community is shown by the hand-hewn beams, which are of poplar, 16 inches square, 40 feet long and free from imperfection.

The building contained two flour mills, two bolting machines, buhrs for corn and other grain. Power was supplied by two wheels located under the mill, operating horizontally, rather than the open overshot wheel as depicted by early artists. During the Civil War parties of Federal troops damaged the machinery and, like countless people since, carried away "relics" of the scene of the boyhood home of a Confederate general whose moves were on every tongue on both sides during his military career. The last grain was ground in July, 1892, by Wilson Arnold.

Thirty feet above the mill building, on a line with the dam, stood a one-story building until after 1873. With roof sloping like the gristmill, this structure housed the sawmill. Below these two buildings, on the road to the ford in the river, stood a carpenter and blacksmith shop and the barn. For a time a store was conducted nearby, and the place was a small self-contained community.

In the early forties (perhaps 1843, although one member of the family says it was new in 1848) Cummins Jackson erected a larger and more pretentious house on the north side of the river in the apex of the curve. It was a two-story frame building, in the shape of an ell with equal sides, having five windows in each side. It had no porch and commanded a view for some distance up and down the river. Stonewall Jackson probably, indeed in all likelihood, spent his vacations from West Point and his later visits in this home. As already noted, it was not his early home place. It was used as a residence by some member of the family for the greater portion of the time until the opening of the Civil War, although it had periods of vacancy even in that early day.

Cummins Jackson departed for the gold fields of California in 1849, and for the next four decades the home place went through a period in which it was often deserted for years at a time. The Jackson house was leased to others; the mill was operated at intermittent periods by Trowbridges, Whites, James Madison, and Andrew Jackson, the latter's connection with it ceasing about 1867.

Under such circumstances the house became simply a rambling deserted home; the old mill building was the rendezvous for ghosts and the alleged scene for the basis of the novelette, "Black Beelzebub," and other stories. Barney Hamback, a worker in the mill, had lost his life in an unfortunate affair in earlier years, and the superstitious believed that certain mysterious sounds did not cease until the iron bar from a bolting mill with which he had been struck had been made into horseshoes.



JACKSON'S MILL, 1920

CENTER—MONUMENT ON SITE OF CUMMINS JACKSON HOME

TOP—CUMMINS JACKSON HOME, THE MILL AND CEMETERY IN 1886



STONEWALL JACKSON AND HIS BOYHOOD HOME, 1889. (SEE NOTES.)

In the late forties a deputy United States marshal named Tharp appeared at the mills with a legal paper to serve on a local resident, who escaped by what seems a dangerous feat of jumping in the river from a window in the rear of the mill and swimming across. Later he performed a similar feat by escaping under the waterfall created by the dam. This man eluded pursuit by taking refuge in the old Jackson house. A Negro slave girl, passing in the road, screamed when intercepted, detracting attention momentarily from him. The person for whom the warrant was issued was later taken to the clerk's office of the courthouse in Weston to execute bond for appearance. He suddenly pulled a pistol from beneath his shirt, backed out of the door in the face of his surprised captors, mounted a horse, and left the community.

In the hills to the west is the alleged location of the lost Barrett lead lode, for which more than one searching party has sought in order to discover the origin of metal used for purposes legitimate and illegitimate.

After the purchase of the homestead in 1886 by Joseph Clifton, the mill and the Jackson house were repaired. The windows of the house had long been broken out and little sycamore trees had taken root in the accumulated debris on the floors. The mortar had fallen from the chimney, and under the hearthstones were found a number of old Spanish silver pieces. The stairway, if ever there had been one, was gone, and access to the second floor was secured by a ladder arrangement on the wall. One end of the basement was subdivided by a native stone wall, which created a small room, 6 by 16. In blasting a stone for steps for the house, several fossilized nuts resembling pecans were found embedded therein; these are still in the hands of the late owners. A porch was constructed on the two sides next to the road, the puncheon floors in the kitchen annex were replaced, and the place again became habitable. This is

the house usually shown in all the pictures as the "Boyhood Home of General Stonewall Jackson."

When it was announced that the millpond would be drained and the millrace repaired, residents of the neighborhood recalled that in 1867 a local man had died in another county. On his deathbed he was constantly talking of a "box buried in a stream or drain," and his words were supposed to have reference to something buried near the mill. The result was that a number of people appeared on the scene, and when the water was let out, the bed of the river was examined with pitchforks, bare feet, and other means for several hundred yards up and down, but to no avail.

After a period of operation running into the nineties, the mill was again closed. Floating logs in the river in timber runs did much damage to the property. For a number of years the mill and the house were used only as storage places. In the meantime, several attempts by patriotic organizations to buy and preserve the homestead failed.

The visitor to the home of Jackson's boyhood finds the scene greatly changed from the days "before the war." The old mill stands a silent sentinel at the river's edge, rising like a great white phantom of the past as is so well expressed in the words of Camden Sommers:

A shell, naught more, the old mill stood,
Grim jest of passing winters' snows;
Gruesome it stays, bathed in blood,
Filched where the big red moon arose,
A wreck of time—thus each thing goes;
All around the landmarks are falling—
That's life—the new is always calling.

Above the old millpond now passes an artistic concrete bridge, replacing the ford in the river below. The dam and millrace have ceased to exist, leaving only tumbled stones and decaying timbers to mark their place.

On a rise along the river near the junction of the Lightburn road is located the old Jackson family cemetery, surrounded by a neat iron fence, erected in September, 1904. Here one reads on the markers the names of "John Brake" and "Colonel Edward Jackson and Elizabeth Jackson, consort of Colonel Edward Jackson." Nearby are those of "James M. Jackson" and "Susan Ann, wife of James M. Jackson"; "Edward J., son of David and Juliet Jackson"; "Edward Jackson and Mary Jackson, wife of John H. Hays," and several others of the Jackson and Hays families.

Through negligence, the old manor house with its widespread porch went the way of Blennerhassett's mansion and other historic structures. It was destroyed by fire on Thursday, December 3, 1915. On its site stands a block of granite, four feet eight inches high, weighing about twenty tons, bearing a bronze tablet on which one reads:

This tablet marks the site of the boyhood home of General T. J. (Stonewall) Jackson, a soldier of great military genius and renown, a man of resolute, pure Christian character. Died May 10, 1863, of wounds received at the battle of Chancellorsville, Virginia.²

CHAPTER IV

Childhood

It is a far cry from Main Street in the present industrial city of Clarksburg, West Virginia, to that of the little village of the same name located in western Virginia in the early days of the eighteenth century. Yet to Jonathan Jackson, who inherited much business acumen and foresight, it was easily apparent that, in time, the town would be the leading one of the great interior, the key to the upper Monongahela, and therefore a good place wherein to settle for the practice of law. Here, in 1818, in what is now the very heart of the city (324-28 West Main Street), he erected a neat three-room brick cottage, with semi-attic and inset porch, of a type now fast disappearing.¹ No paved street lay in front. No concrete walks afforded means of egress and access. The street was the road, and alongside ran an ordinary fence surrounding a lot of some proportions with a gnarled old apple tree therein, which tradition related was set out by Benjamin Wilson from seed secured from famed "Appleseed Johnny."

To this home Jonathan Jackson brought Julia Neale, his Parkersburg bride. Described as a brunette, with dark brown hair and dark gray eyes, of medium height, handsome face; a close student and well educated, she at once became a favorite in the little town. Edward Jackson, the father of Jonathan, took much interest in the young couple, and gave to them some property holdings (inherited, it has been stated, but Jonathan Jackson died before his father). The law practice grew, and the young lawyer seemed destined to achieve success.

The children born to Jonathan Jackson came into the world with no thought of the troubles that were in store

for the family in the future. The father, like many in those days in a region far removed from banks and other financial institutions, advanced money and endorsed notes for his neighbors. In March, 1826, the oldest child, Elizabeth, contracted typhoid fever. The father turned his attention to the bedside of the sick one, and in the same month both passed to the great beyond, leaving the widow, a baby daughter, Laura, and two small boys, Warren and Thomas.

The investigation of the following weeks revealed that every vestige of the property of the family had been swept away. The Masonic fraternity, of which Jonathan Jackson had long been a member, came to the rescue and the bereaved ones took up their abode in a small three-room cottage furnished by the organization.² Turning to look for some means of livelihood, the mother took up sewing and, being solicited to do so, opened a three-months' school.

During this time came the opportunity for the future general's first exploration of the outside world. Left with a neighbor's child somewhat their elder while the school was in session, the little girl and the two boys, Warren and Thomas, did well enough until their protector deserted them. Warren raised a window, and the three youngsters got out as best they could and started down the road. The mother returned to find the house empty and for a time was nearly distracted, until it developed that Jesse Jarvis, for many years deputy clerk of the county court of Harrison, had found them and taken them to his home.

Jonathan Jackson owned "lot 5" and an adjacent lot opposite "on cross St" now known as Trader's Avenue. These were sold April 17, 1827, to Maxwell Sommerville, who on November 25, 1827, also acquired the interest of Julia B. Jackson in the property. John Wilson, Jr., on October 1, 1828, transferred to Julia Jackson a lot on which stood a small cottage. On November 3, 1830, she transferred this property to Augustine J. Smith, in trust,

the cottage and furnishings to be used for the support of her child. Laura, "after the death of the said Julia to be absolutely vested in the said Laura." Witnesses to the deed were Alexander Scott Withers, later to befriend her son in many ways, Thomas Primm, and Blake B. Woodson, to whom she was married the day following.

Laura became Mrs. Jonathan Arnold, of Beverly, and on June 4, 1859, conveyed this property, with "a small house thereon" to John McManaway. Located at what is now the northeast corner of West Main and South Fourth Street, here for many years stood the St. Charles Hotel.

Lot No. 5, on which the original Jackson home stood, and where the future general was born, by 1844 was owned by A. Werninger, who sold it to A. F. Barnes. Barnes owned it until 1870 when he sold it to David Davidson. The site is now covered by a three-story building erected in 1881. In August, 1911, the Stonewall Jackson Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy attached to this building a bronze tablet, which informs the public that it is the site of the birthplace of "General Stonewall Jackson." Here, on September 30, 1869, no less a personage than Horace Greeley—he who espoused enthusiasms so opposite—stood with bared head and addressed to the assembled crowd a touching eulogy to the spirit of the departed general.

With the year 1830, the story of the immediate family and its connection with Clarksburg comes to a close. But, in passing, it is interesting to make note of the happenings of the small town of Clarksburg, some of which, in a small way, had a bearing on events of years to come in the life of the future general. If either date is correct as to her death (1825 or 1828), Elizabeth Cummins Jackson, the widow of John Jackson the founder, had lived to see her grandson, Thomas, little knowing what the future held in store. His famous cousin, John G. Jackson, brother-in-law of President Madison, had been in his home. On all sides, the Jacksons and their kinsmen

held forth in the business life. Indeed it has been said that almost every one of them had a "mill."

On June 24, 1829, in the little courthouse, a meeting was held to make ready for the celebration of the Fourth of July. Blake B. Woodson, later to become Jackson's stepfather, presided. Dr. McCally, who had brought him into this world, was the secretary. The good doctor, by Christmas time, had told the public through the *Clarksburg Enquirer* that he "offers his professional services to the public. He has just received a fresh supply of pure and genuine medicines from the city of Baltimore." And Baltimore in that day was the hub of the universe for northwestern Virginia. The local editor complained that the Virginia Assembly in Richmond "had done but little business of interest to the West." Judge Edwin Duncan, a family friend and connection, was in Richmond. The talk of the town was the adoption of a new State Constitution. The local paper copied such news about that as could be secured from other papers. Engineers toiled along the hills of Harrison, attempting to build the Northwestern Turnpike, reaching out from Winchester to Parkersburg. And as a little social diversion, Captain John J. Allen, who married Mary, daughter of John G. Jackson, paraded the Harrison Light Dragoons of the 11th Regiment. Little did he know that he was to become noted in the law, head a State court, and write famous resolutions in the dark days preceding the opening of the Civil War.

Up the West Fork of the Monongahela, in the county of Lewis, soon to become Jackson's home, the April, 1830, elections for the House of Delegates gave G. D. Camden, 403; Thomas Bland, 397; Samuel L. Hays, 277; and "cousin" W. W. Jackson, 72—all men who later had something to do with Jackson going to West Point. And back of it all, the new State Constitution lost by a vote of 574 to 13. Indeed, the feeling about such matters presaged much of what was to come in the years of the sixties when the new State of West Virginia was created.

The Clarksburg paper gave much space to a notice from the *Kanawha Register* of Charleston which reported that "a meeting of the citizens of Greenbrier county is called at Lewisburg for the purpose of discussing the propriety of a separation from the Old Dominion in order to obtain equal rights." Then the paper turned from this important topic to carry notices that Clarksburg was growing. The town published long ordinances, and citizens were told that "every owner of any hog, shoat or pig shall pay 25c for every 24 hours that any such is let run at large within the said corporation." Such are some of the highlights, when Thomas Jackson the boy and his family removed to a new home.

The Virginia Assembly, in 1831, authorized the formation of a new county to be called Fayette, from the territory, in part, of Logan, Greenbrier, Nicholas, and Kanawha. It was sparsely settled at the time; little did anyone know of the great coal industry the future was to bring. The village of Gauley Bridge, where the Gauley River joined the New River and moved on down the valley as the Great Kanawha, was perhaps the largest town in the new territory. Sewell's Post Office, Coal River Marshes, and Mountain Cove merited names by that date. Since no county seat had yet been selected, the county government was started at Mountain Cove. Edwin S. Duncan, friend and family connection with the Jacksons at Clarksburg, and a local judge, became the presiding officer of the Superior Court of Law and Chancery, which met in April and September. He was a close friend of Lewis Summers of Charleston, judge of the neighboring circuit. Through this connection, Blake B. Woodson, stepfather of Stonewall Jackson, was named clerk of the new county and, with his family, moved to the Mountain Cove region, near or in what is now the town of Ansted.

At the time there was little in the way of settlement. The principal attraction was that the new home was on what was then called the "Great State Road," the famous James River and Kanawha Turnpike. Passing through

western Virginia to the Ohio River, the Turnpike was the tie to the east of that day. Over this route, starting in April, 1830, Porter and Belden inaugurated "fast" stage-coaches from Lewisburg to Charleston. Here the shaken-up passengers, after a ride along the cliffs of New River and a pause at Marshalls Pillar, now known as Hawks Nest, could take their choice of the steamers Paul Pry, Emigrant, and Perry. If the shoals at Red House willed, they might smoothly move to Cincinnati, Ohio, or up the river to the young city of Wheeling, (W.) Virginia.

On the removal of the Woodsons to Fayette County, Warren was sent to live with his uncle, Alfred Neale of Parkersburg. Thomas and Laura, for a short time after Mrs. Jackson's remarriage, seemed to have been at Jackson's Mill and then either went with their mother or were sent to the new home.

Correspondence of Thomas Neale shows that following the death of Jackson's mother and also that of Blake B. Woodson, his half brother, William C. Woodson, wrote to the Parkersburg relatives requesting that they send for the children. Mr. Neale, after conferring with General John J. Jackson, a relative, made arrangements to send for Laura and Thomas. Mr. Benjamin Willard and Mr. A. H. Creel, who made a business trip across the country to Charleston from Parkersburg, took a third horse along and rode approximately thirty miles to Gauley Bridge, to the home of a Mr. Buster where the children were supposed to be. When Willard and Creel arrived at the Buster home, they found that Cummins Jackson, of Jackson's Mill, had been there about ten days before and taken the children to the old home place below Weston.

Mr. Neale, of Parkersburg, as late as June 6, 1833,³ was writing to Lewis Maxwell, later member of Congress, at Weston, in an attempt to have the children come to Parkersburg. In the meantime other family adversities came on and the children remained in Lewis County to make their home with Elizabeth Brake Jackson, second wife of their grandfather, Edward Jackson, two maiden

aunts, and several uncles, among whom was Cummins Jackson, who was destined to take a great interest in the future general. Richard Fowkes was appointed guardian for Laura on April 21, 1834, but for some reason the guardianship was "rescinded the same day."

Some two years later Thomas left Jackson's Mill and resided with Isaac Brake in Harrison County for a short time. Shortly after this Laura rode behind her Aunt Rebecca White to Parkersburg. Some difficulty, either real or fancied by the young mind, arose, and Thomas suddenly appeared at the home of Mrs. John J. Allen in Clarksburg. After listening to his troubles, she told him he should return to his Uncle Isaac. "Maybe I ought to, ma'am, but I am not going to," was his reply. And he returned to Lewis County to live at the old homestead below Weston.

CHAPTER V

The Boy at Jackson's Mill

For twelve years the boyhood of the future general was spent at the Jackson homestead, an existence not unlike that of many others of the same period. Yet the lad was marked by many singularities that even then set him apart from the circles in which he moved. His strict adherence to truth, his unfailing honesty, and his courage are still proverbial in the community.

In the *Clarksburg Telegram*, in 1894, one of his former schoolmates wrote: "Tom was always an uncommonly behaved lad, a gentleman from a boy up, just and kind to everyone."

At a very early age Thomas did much work about the farm. The holdings of Edward Jackson had been increased by land patents issued to Cummins Jackson on Freeman's Creek and in other adjacent locations. Much was in primeval forest, the trees of which were cut down and hauled or floated to the sawmill, located at the foot of the millpond just above the gristmill. Indeed, the lumber for the gristmill, and that used in part in the old manor house, the store, and the blacksmith shop, was cut in this sawmill. Most of the neighbors' homes, as well as the thirty-odd houses, shops, and stores in the town of Weston, were built from lumber from the same source. Tom was often directed to take charge of the men and the few slaves engaged in the forest, a task he performed well, even though he would seem to us a mere child. His labors also took him to the gristmill, where he worked under the direction of the millers, all of whom felt an unusual interest in the orphan boy.

With all of his industriousness, he was a boy, with a boy's inclinations. Due to the fact that he was seized

with some obscure form of dyspepsia early in life, he was advised to seek all kinds of outdoor life. Although he continued to be troubled by nervous indigestion for the rest of his life, his health was not seriously affected by it.

Thomas was addicted to spells of contemplation. Sitting by the side of the millrace or at the end of the dam, he would be seen deep in a book or engaged in silent meditation. From this he would turn with great zest to his chickens, a collie dog, and a few sheep. The barnyard occupants were a great delight to him, and he was very proud of his sheep. When shearing time came he keenly enjoyed that procedure, later hauling the wool to the carding mill of a family connection, David Hays, at Jane Lew. The wool was taken home, spun, and made into clothing, some of which he wore. A small amount of flax was raised. Thomas worked on this with a flail, breaking it, and from it a coarse linen cloth was woven. He wrote much to his aunt, Mrs. Alfred Neale, concerning this phase of his boyhood.

South of the millpond stood a magnificent grove of sugar maples which were regarded by Thomas more or less as his personal property. In "sap season" the maples were tapped and the resultant product made into maple sugar, an operation in which Thomas was quite proficient. During the winter months he trapped rabbits along the river and in the forest back of the bottom lands.

Soon he learned to ride the horses and made several trips weekly to Weston for the mail and to secure books loaned by the village folk. He rode with his uncles in the fox hunt and took part in deer hunts in the fall. From this he went on to practicing on the race track, traces of which can still be seen on the farm of the late Wilson Arnold adjoining the home place. By the time he was twelve he could ride as well as any of the older boys in the races held at this spot.

In the summer of 1839, a number of running races were held on the Cummins Jackson track, and Thomas

Jackson rode his uncle's horses in most of the contests. A purchase of blooded stock, made shortly before this time, included "Kit," whose fame as a runner soon became more than local. To Robinson, one of the Cummins Jackson slaves, is attributed a piece of race track strategy that in the end had rather direful results for all parties concerned.

On Crooked Fork of Freeman's Creek was the Simmons farm, and on it was a course laid out for races. Nearby resided a man who owned the only real competitor for "Kit" in the community, and it was proposed to pit this horse against the Jackson horse which had made a record. Money was bet freely and local feeling on the outcome rose to a high pitch. Robinson, on the eve of the day set for the race, and probably at the instigation of others, took "Kit" up on Freeman's Creek. Procuring the other horse from the barn, he and his assistants ran several races, in all of which "Kit" was the winner.

The stage was set, word was passed to friends, and money was much in evidence. Tom Jackson was to ride "Kit." But an argument arose, and in the controversy Cummins Jackson announced that he would ride his own horse, and he put up more money. He was over six feet tall and much heavier than Tom. Due to this extra burden of weight, his horse lost the race. The tables were turned, a fight ensued, and feelings were aroused that reflected themselves in the community for several years afterward.

The river at that time—before the passing of the forests—was much larger in volume than at this day and could not be crossed except on a horse at the "ford." With the aid of "Robinson," a log was selected and Thomas burned out the inside and fashioned the trunk into the canoe of that period. His sister, Laura, who lived at Jackson's Mill until after 1835, made many trips in this improvised ferryboat. Tradition relates that Thomas once attempted to cross the river during a spring freshet,

but the current was so swift that he lost control and was swept over the dam, being compelled to swim ashore. Indeed, it is quite possible that years later, as Jackson lay dying, his mind reverted to the scenes of his boyhood when he uttered his last words: "Let us cross over the river and rest in the shade of the trees."

About three hundred feet from the site of the old Jackson home there still stands an immense chestnut tree. With it is connected a well-verified anecdote clearly illustrating the determination and grit of Stonewall Jackson as a boy. One night, in company with some boys from down the river and a few of the slaves with choice "coon dogs," he set out for the hills next to McCann's Run. The hours passed with little luck and the party started for home. The way led through a cornfield in the level bottom land north of the home place, and here the dogs routed out a big raccoon that sought refuge in this chestnut tree.

Clubs and other methods failed to dislodge the prey, and one of the slaves was told to "shin up" the tree. Eyes shining in the flickering light of a pine knot were all of the raccoon that could be made out, and these well out on a large limb. Obedient to instructions, the boy did his best, but the coon put up such a fight that he fell from the tree. He was not hurt, but declared the animal to be a bear and not a coon.

Young Jackson, laughing impatiently, said that he would get it, and started up the tree himself. Climbing out on the limb and encountering a resistance such as a large raccoon can give, he speedily dispatched it with a club. Needless to say, he was a hero among the boys for days thereafter.

The West Fork of the Monongahela then contained fish of a size and variety seldom found since the hills have been denuded of forest. Turtles of a rare size were easily caught, and such prey afforded opportunity to earn a little money. Thomas Jackson was quite a fisherman. As an evidence of his upright character comes the

story of his dealings in fish with Conrad Kester, the gunsmith at Weston. One morning he came by the home of Colonel John Talbott with a fine three-foot pike hanging over his shoulder.

Colonel Talbott hailed him, "Tom, that is a fine fish you have there; what will you take for it?"

"This fish is sold, Colonel Talbott," replied Thomas.

"I'll give you a dollar for it, Tom."

"I can't take it, Colonel Talbott; this fish is sold to Mr. Kester."

"But, Tom, I will give you a dollar and a quarter; surely he will not give you more than that."

Thomas straightened up, saying, "Colonel Talbott, I have an agreement with Mr. Kester to furnish him fish of a certain length for fifty cents each. He has taken some from me a little shorter than that; now he is going to get this big fish for fifty cents."

Kester also offered him one dollar for it, but he refused, giving him the same reason he had given Colonel Talbott.

Thomas took part in the social life of the community. On one occasion he started out to attend a party. On the way he had to pass a place said to be haunted, a terror to all the youth of the neighborhood. As he approached the spot, his horse was frightened by a white object in the road. "Who art thou?" cried Jackson. No reply. "Who are thou?" he demanded a second time. No reply, but the ghost grew taller. "Who art thou?" he asked the third time. No reply yet, but the ghost rose to an enormous height and spread wings in a threatening manner. He, who as a man faced cannon unflinchingly, as a boy succumbed to the ghost. "Lucy," he said to his horse, "if you ever did me any good, do it now." Lucy needed no further urging and fled at full speed to the ford, where Jackson crossed and rode to his destination by another route. His Uncle Edward played the ghost and told the story.

In the fall of 1836,¹ when Thomas was twelve years old, his brother, Warren, then teaching school in present Upshur County, came to Jackson's Mill on a visit. The two brothers went to visit their sister, Laura, at the home of their uncle, Alfred Neale, who resided just above Parkersburg on James Island. Here they learned of the custom then in vogue, of selling firewood to steamboats plying the Ohio River. As a means of monetary remuneration this appealed to their youthful minds. After a short visit at Pond Creek (Belleville), Wood County, at the home of George White, who had married their aunt, Rebecca Jackson, the two boys set out for southern waters.

This undertaking finally led them below the mouth of the Ohio where on an island in the Mississippi they located and plied their trade. Finally, in the throes of malarial fever, the undertaking was abandoned, perhaps against the desire of the older brother, Warren. The return trip was made by way of Parkersburg in February, 1837. The two boys were rather reluctant to talk of their experiences, of which two new trunks were the principal physical evidence.

In 1837, after thirteen years of legislation and some preliminary work, the actual construction of the noted Parkersburg and Staunton Turnpike through Lewis County got underway. On June 14 of that year, Major Minter Bailey, owner of Bailey's Hotel at Weston, was appointed a commissioner to sell contracts for construction. The contracts were made in July. A great amount of surveying was yet to be done, and the commissioner personally supervised the contracts let. Thomas Jackson secured a place under him during the summer and labored long and faithfully. Each day Mrs. Bailey packed a lunch for him and he spent a part of each lunch hour in reading and asking questions. Problems of engineering and the compass and level seemed to appeal to him very much. He was described as being one of the best

July 10th 1841 Rec^d of R. Ervin
 the following Executions for Collectⁿ
 (to wit)
 from William Fisher Sheriff M.H. 830 Oct 1839
 July to Credit Sept 15th 1839 785.75
 also Dec 8th 1839 3.40 875.15
 from Daniel Strongman for 11th Apr 1839 for 4.00
 from John Hesketh do 15th May 1839 do 6.80
 from Lewis Hefpitt do 22nd Aug 1839 do 12.00
 from James Pittman do 18th Oct 1839 do 9.70
 July to Credit Mar 27 1841 of 63 = 9.87
 from John Elford do 3rd Jan 1841 of
 This above list of Executions
 I bind myself to collect in a
 according to Law. Tho^s Jackson

COPY OF RECEIPT GIVEN ROBERT ERVIN BY JACKSON AS A CONSTABLE

Thomas J. Jackson

JACKSON'S SIGNATURE WHEN ADMITTED TO WEST POINT

fellows on the job, always doing just what he was told and doing it well.

In early years, Thomas displayed some interest in music. The old melodies of the slaves were known to him, and he could sing them through in their dialect. Like many boys in the rural districts of that day, he became expert in the making of "corn stalk fiddles." It is related that during a recess period of the school on McCann's Run he became so engrossed in the task that the teacher finally had to go out and bring him in to class.

About 1840 he came into possession of a regular violin, badly in need of repairs. Taking it to Conrad Kester, the gunsmith at Weston, with whom he was on the most friendly terms, he soon had the instrument in serviceable condition. After hours of patient practice, Jackson gained proficiency on it.

During the summer of 1840, Richard P. Camden, accompanied by John S. Camden and a young son, Thomas, set out on horseback to Lightburn's farm on a business errand. As they approached Jackson Ford, they heard the sound of a violin interrupting the stillness of the scene. Suddenly around the bend of the road came a short procession led by Thomas Jackson who suddenly ceased playing. By his side walked "Joe" Lightburn, carrying a flag; back of him marched a boy named Butcher, with a kettle, and some five or six other boys of the neighborhood, with a rear guard of three Negro boys, one of whom carried an old gun. A hurried consultation was held, and then the future military leader suddenly broke into the strains of "Napoleon's March," and with "eyes front," all of the young soldiers filed by the riders, passing out of sight without even a backward glance.

The educational facilities afforded by the State of Virginia at the time of Jackson's boyhood were very meager. During some years there were no schools of

any kind except a private school started at Weston in 1832 by Mathew Holt. There is no record to indicate that Jackson ever attended this school. Later, Robert P. Ray, at the instigation of Cummins Jackson, taught a term in a building generally supposed to have been near the Jackson home, if not one of the buildings there. Thomas attended his first sessions there and for a time went to a school on McCann's Run. This was the beginning of a strong desire for further learning.

Thomas' efforts were so strenuous along this line that they caused a loss to his Uncle Cummins, but one which he forgave. A well-authenticated tale is told that Cummins Jackson owned one slave who was somewhat above the average in mentality. Thomas made an agreement with the Negro that if the latter would provide pine knots, which were stuck in the jam of the fireplace and furnished light by which to study, he would teach him to read and write. This agreement was carried out, and the slave kept at the task until he became sufficiently learned to write a pass on the "Underground Railroad" and ran away to Canada.

As evidence of Jackson's extraordinary decision of purpose, the late William E. Arnold (1817-90), a distant cousin, relates an event that occurred while he was under the tutelage of a Mr. Mills, who taught a school near Westfield for a few months. "Thomas was a pupil," said Mr. Arnold, "and whilst on the way to school an overgrown rustic behaved rudely toward two of the girls. He was fired at his cowardly conduct and told him that he must apologize to them at once or he would thrash him. The big rustic, supposing that he was an overmatch for him, declined to do so, whereupon he pitched into him and gave him a severe pounding."

Mr. Arnold, writing in the *Weston Democrat*, further described his character:

He was a youth of exemplary habits. He was not what is now termed brilliant, but he was one of those untiring

matter-of-fact persons who never would give up an undertaking until he accomplished his object. He learned slowly, but what he got in his head he never forgot. He was not quick to decide, but then when he made up his mind to do a thing, he did it on short notice and in quick time.

Johnson Newlon Camden, who followed Jackson to West Point, recorded:²

I was raised in Lewis county with "Stonewall" Jackson, and knew him very well as a boy, I being some years his junior. I do not think I could add any information that you have not received from hundreds of others who knew him as well as I did. He had many of the characteristics as a boy that developed the man.

His untiring efforts toward self-improvement were noted by R. L. Dabney:

To prove himself worthy of his forefathers was the purpose of his early manhood. It gives us a key to many of the singularities of his character; to his hunger for self-improvement; to his punctilious observance from a boy of the essentials of a gentlemanly bearing.

Almost in sight of the Jackson home was located a little community, to this day known as Westfield. Here, in 1816, had lived the widow of William Newlon, in whose home Lewis County was organized; in that period here also lived Colonel Alexander Scott Withers and several others of more than local distinction. Several years later, certainly in 1837, Phillip Cox, Jr., "taught a school." The schoolmaster, beyond doubt, was a son of Phillip Cox, Sr., a well-known citizen and a soldier in the American Revolution. On June 13, 1838, Cox filed with Samuel Z. Jones, justice of the peace and also school commissioner, his report covering service as the teacher of a school.

This report is of more than passing interest. Cox had, it appears, six pupils. He listed them for "reference" as

“B” and “C.” The list is headed by Nancy Powers, a daughter of Ezekial Powers, who entered the school on December 25, 1837, and attended for 37 days. The charge for her tuition was \$1.11 and she used “ $\frac{1}{2}$ quire of paper” in “writing and geography.” Sarah Hall, age “12,” daughter of Polly Hall, entered on the same date, and attended 29 days at “3 c” per day. Her brother James, age “14,” did likewise, and both took up “spelling and reading.” Eugenius Brown, age “14,” daughter of Polly Brown, attended for 35 days, and the teacher noted that she took up “reading and writing and arithmetic and used 1 spelling book $18\frac{3}{4}$ c. and $2\frac{1}{2}$ quire paper $12\frac{1}{2}$ c.” Eugenius, it would appear, was a rather “apt” student. Then came “Heden” or Weeden Brown, age “12,” son of James Brown, who did not get started until January 18, 1838, and attended for 20 days. All of these were listed in the “reference” list as in “B.”

In “reference C” appears a boy named Thomas Jackson, whose age is set down at “15 years,” suggesting that he was born in 1823. He is recorded as a son of “Jonathan” Jackson. He attended school for 39 days, for which the schoolmaster filed a charge of \$1.17 to “the trustees of poor children,” under the system of that day. Cox made a notation under a heading, “books used and what branches of learning each child is engaged in,” that young Jackson took up “arithmetic.”³

The names of all these families are still to be found in the region and on the rolls of the old Broad Run Baptist Church.

In the fall of 1839, a private school was opened at Weston in the assembly room of the first courthouse⁴ of the county of Lewis, under the direction of Colonel Alexander Scott Withers. Thomas Jackson, through the kindness of his Uncle Cummins, was permitted to attend this school for some two months, walking or riding each day from the Jackson homestead. Colonel Withers was attracted by the evident sincerity of Thomas in his school

work and had observed him in the Jackson home where he was an occasional visitor.

Colonel Withers was not unknown in parts far removed from this locality as he was the author of *Chronicles of Border Warfare*, published at Clarksburg in 1831-32, a work that has since gone through six large editions and is considered a classic. Colonel Withers' tastes were domestic; he preferred the society of his books—the study of the Latin and Greek classics in the original—to public life which otherwise would have called a man of his ability and education.

For a time he maintained a residence in Weston and also lived a number of years below Jackson's Mill, near the mouth of McCann's Run, where he leased a farm that he later acquired in 1857. To the young people of the community, when he could be found in the mood, Colonel Withers was a delightful entertainer, lending them copies of his book and relating further stories of Indian warfare and tales of "old Fauquier County," where he was born in 1792.

Wearing the best of his attire and a tall silk hat, he called on the Jacksons one day, and while there bought a small sack of meal at the mill. It was prepared so that he could carry it to his home a short distance below on the river, but this he declined to do, stating that he would send Old Kit, a faithful slave, for the sack. Young Joseph Lightburn, about to return home from spending the day with Thomas Jackson, volunteered to carry it, but was informed by the Colonel that "gentlemen from Fauquier had servants for such tasks and worked their heads instead of their hands." Thomas thoughtfully replied, "Well, when one has money to go to William and Mary College, then he knows how to work his head." "Some day I will get you a job so that you can earn some money," replied Withers as he rode away. Later he fulfilled his promise.

During the winter of 1840-41 we find Thomas approaching his seventeenth birthday and teaching school. The

session lasted for some four months, opening on November 25, 1840. It operated under the prevailing "Literary Fund" school law of Virginia. At that time there were no "free schools" as we know them. The only discovered record is headed "The school commissioners of Lewis county, for tuition of poor children entered by Phillip Cox, school commissioner for the quarter year ending the 27 day of February 1841, in account with Thomas J. Jackson." The subjects taught, according to the record, were "reading and spelling"; the tuition was "3 cents" per day, and a total bill for "Five Dollars and sixty four cents" was filed with the authorities. The bill was approved by "Minter Bailey," J. P., on March 31, 1841, and final approval was given "for tuition" due by Phillip Cox, school commissioner for the county of Lewis, on April 5, 1841, and it was filed with Thomas Bland, treasurer of the school commissioners.

The school is said to have been conducted in a log building erected by one Valentine Butcher, near the mouth of Gee Lick of Freeman's Creek, not far from the Jackson home. The records show that there were five scholars: Harriet Butcher, age 12, and Emily Butcher, age 11, daughters of Mattie (or Matilda) Butcher; Louisa Butcher, age 12, daughter of Sarah Butcher; and Joseph E. Brown and Wm. R. Brown, age 12 and 11, sons of David E. Brown. Jackson, it appears, had some system of grading his pupils as A, B, and C. Emily Butcher made an "A" and "B," and her sister Harriet (1829-1911) made a "B." (On December 21, 1853, Harriet married James Gaylord [1825-1908].) There is yet in existence a "copy" Jackson is supposed to have "set" for his scholars in penmanship which runs as follows: "A man of words and not of deeds is like a garden full of weeds."

It is related that Thomas also taught another term of school, but the only record found is in a letter written by Smith Gibson to Congressman S. L. Hays, his neighbor, concerning Jackson's appointment to West Point, on June 14, 1842. In this, Gibson affirms that "I sent my children

to [school] him” and “he is in my opinion well skilled in arithmetic and is quite a smart youth.”

Considerable stress has been laid by various writers on the lack of religious atmosphere surrounding the boyhood of Jackson and on the alleged human frailties of his uncle, who was looked upon by many as the nominal head of the house. “Cummins Jackson, though temperate and energetic, was utterly devoid of Christianity, of a violent and unscrupulous character,” writes R. L. Dabney in his widely read and otherwise admirable work, *Life of Lieut.-Gen. Thomas J. Jackson*, “and the wonder is that the circumstances did not simply make him [General Jackson] another Cummins Jackson.”

Cummins Jackson, it is true, was a man of keen likes and dislikes and had a passion, it seems, for “goin’ a-lawin’,” according to the vernacular of that day. His ideas as to Christianity have not come down to us, but his conduct and attitude toward his orphan nephew do much toward effacing any bizarre stories that came to the ears of Dabney or his contemporaries. Early in life Cummins Jackson began to patent lands on adjacent streams. Squatters and settlers, both good and bad, who also received title to lands with overlapping lines, soon engaged him in endless controversies. In the *Clarksburg Enquirer*, September 12, 1832, he notified John Hardman and James Keith of a suit against them and called James M. Camp, Daniel Stringer, William McKinley, Thomas Bland, Weedon Huffman, and Gideon Camden, as his witnesses. To one familiar with these men it does not appear that he traveled in bad company. Moreover, some of the alleged violations of law took place after Thomas Jackson had gone to serve his country in Mexico; therefore, these could not have had the remotest influence upon his character.

There were others besides his Uncle Cummins who influenced the life of the future general: during five

years of Thomas' residence at Jackson's Mill his step-grandmother lived; until 1839 his uncle, James Madison, had much to do with the direction of affairs; his Uncle Edward, with whom he was quite a favorite, served as his legal guardian; and, in addition, there were two aunts and other uncles of more youthful years.

Opportunities for religious worship were not wanting. There had been a Baptist Society nearby on Freeman's Creek since 1820. There was the Broad Run Baptist Church, dating back to 1808, which often held Thomas' attention. And near the home of a family connection, John H. Hays, on Hacker's Creek, was the Harmony Methodist Church, organized in 1829 and presided over by that early "soldier of the cross," John Mitchell. In the town of Weston, where the "gentry" were no greater and no better than their country kinsmen, John Talbott, Jonathan Holt, and John L. Williams administered to the spiritual needs of the community during this period in a full-fledged Methodist Society.

A daughter of one of these men is authority for the statement that on several occasions "Thomas Jackson, a shy, unobtrusive boy, sat with unabated interest in a long sermon, having walked three miles in order to attend." Members of the Jackson family were connected with some of these church organizations, especially the Baptist, and it would not be too much to say that few communities of its period and population had a better religious background.

Dabney continues:

Men of the ruling houses like the Jacksons were too often found to be corrupted by the power and wealth with which the teeming fertility of the soil of their new country was rewarding their talents. Moreover the general morals of the community were loose and the irregularities too often found countenance from those of the highest station.

As a matter of fact, the "power and wealth" did not exist. Not even a bank was in existence in the county

until after Thomas Jackson had taken up his residence in Lexington. Land was cheap, money was scarce, local citizens were "land poor," and the "teeming fertility" allowed the gleaning of grain only after the hardest kind of labor in clearing the forest.

Continuing, Dabney says: "* * * no one will wonder then that as young Jackson approached manhood, his conduct became irregular" and he "became a frequenter of house raisings and log rollings." Strange indeed would have been a youth of that day who, with his elders, did not participate in these combination affairs of work and pleasure, about all that the limited social resources offered. True, these events could be made coarse and unproductive of good to the community, but not more so than certain social pleasures of this day and time. "Apple peelings, corn huskings," and those gatherings enumerated above were attended by the best and missed by few citizens of the town. From such a community life have come ministers and bishops in the church, public men and soldiers, citizens who by their example left the community a better place in which to live. Not the least of these was Thomas Jackson.

It is related, no doubt with some basis of truth, that the religious inclinations of Jackson were accentuated by the intense interest in the subject manifested by some of the slaves in the household, particularly "Granny Nancy Robinson." She was a typical "Southern mammy" but, unlike most of them, had been taught to read and write. She read and preached the Bible to all who would listen, and at one time held forth in a public meeting. Cecelia, who had charge of the domestic affairs of the home, was a devoted follower of the elder woman and the directing hand of the younger children in the neighborhood, who were all devoted to the faithful old servant.

Edward Jackson, as has been noted, owned nine slaves, as follows: Nancy, Sampson, Lamar, Cecelia, Meria, Aaron, Lucy, Sam, and Louisa. Meria, who helped in the

mill, Nancy, and Sampson, later belonged to Cummins Jackson; he also acquired Robinson and Mary, who remained with members of the family until the beginning of the Civil War.

In the spring of 1840, Benjamin Lightburn, of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, moved to the neighborhood and established a mill on the West Fork, a few miles below the Jackson homestead. Among the members of his family was a son, Joseph Andrew Jackson Lightburn, who was soon to become a great chum of young Thomas Jackson. Lightburn owned a book he valued greatly, *The Life of Francis Marion*, by Mason Weems; he also took a profound interest in religious matters. Jackson had a Bible with which he was quite familiar. It was no unusual sight for travelers to the "Ford" to see the two boys engaged in study and consideration of the problems and interests presented to their youthful minds by these two books. Who can say what influence the story of the "Swamp Fox" and the Bible had upon their lives? Both espoused military careers, in which they rose to high rank; the one surviving the Civil War was ordained a minister in the Baptist Church and continued to fight for Christianity as he had earlier fought for the Union. From this it would appear that Jackson's deep religiousness manifested itself at an early period in his life—much earlier than has generally been supposed.

Indeed there is but little question that the thought of becoming a minister received much attention from Jackson. In very early years he often voiced such a sentiment, and later he declared that if he had more education and could overcome a diffidence in speaking in public he most assuredly would have entered the ministry.

Writing from Lexington, Virginia, about 1852, to his Aunt Clementine (Mrs. Alfred) Neale, of Parkersburg, he said, in part:

The subject of becoming a herald of the Cross has often seriously engaged my attention, and I regard it

as the most noble of all professions. It is the profession of our divine Redeemer, and I should not be surprised were I to die upon a foreign field, clad in ministerial armor, fighting under the banner of Jesus. What could be more glorious? But my conviction is that I am doing good here, and that for the present I am where God would have me. Within the last few days I have felt an unusual religious joy. I do rejoice to walk in the love of God.

In December, 1841, Jackson wrote to his Uncle Alfred Neale, informing him of the death of his brother, Warren, which occurred in November of that year.⁵ In the spring of 1842, he wrote further:

I have received no answer to my last communication conveying the sad news of my brother's premature death. He died in the hope of a bright immortality at the right hand of his Redeemer. * * * As time is knowledge I must hasten my pen forward. We have received the smile of a bounteous providence in a favorable spring. There is a volunteer company being formed here to march to Texas, in order to assist in the noble cause of liberty.

Three members of this proposed company—William Newlon, Joseph Hill Camden, and Jonathan Wamsley—did go to Texas.

The happy days at Jackson's Mill were never effaced from the mind of the young general to be, not even in the darkest days of the Confederacy. Judge Gideon Draper Camden, of Weston and Clarksburg, writing in 1863, tells at length of a visit which he and Governor John Letcher made to the battlefield of Fredericksburg. In the midst of plans for continued military operations, General Jackson paused to tell them a story of a bear hunt with his uncles to Finks Creek, not far from the boyhood home, and to recount with zest his experiences and contacts with the McQuain family and others in this youthful episode.

We also have some other testimony as to the days at Jackson's Mill. Congressman S. L. Hays had a son,

Peregrine, long a prominent citizen of the Lewis and Gilmer county region. During the early days of the Civil War, he espoused the cause of the South, and was finally captured and sent to the military prison at Camp Chase, near Columbus, Ohio. On July 17, 1862, he wrote to Mrs. Mary J. Hays, whom he addressed as "cousin":

I am frank to own that I am still a little clanish and I feel a deep interest in the Jackson family not that I believe them better than anybody else but equal to any family in Virginia in point of intellect and real Virginia hospitality. I often think of the scenes of my childhood and the schoolboy days of C. E. Jackson, Madison, John, Return, Edward, Andrew, E. J. Jackson, Pitt, Mary, Nancy, and Warren, Thomas and Laura Jackson, and Margaret * * * T. J. Jackson bids fair to be as popular in the south as ever old General Andrew Jackson was. Thomas when a child was thought by his uncle to be the dullest of the three children and as a consequence received less education than Warren or Laura but time has proved that he was the most intellectual of the family, a man of iron will and nerve. The orphan boy who used to drive oxen, haul saw logs, plow and tend mill, has distinguished himself since the present war broke out. He is regarded as one of the best generals the south has. Rebel as he is, you ought to be proud of him.

The years moved on, and on January 11, 1898, from Troy, West Virginia, Hays again wrote his "cousin" Mary:

You, Maria Bush, and myself are the only ones left that were playmates in childhood and used to sport on the banks of the West Fork River at Col. Edward Jackson's Mill. All the others have crossed the river to rest in the shade of the trees.

CHAPTER VI

The Constable

On August 14, 1840, Governor Thomas Gilmer appointed Colonel Alexander Scott Withers a justice of the peace and, as such, a member of the county court of Lewis. As a justice, Colonel Withers was fearless, independent, and decided. In the spring of 1841, "all the acting Justices of the Peace" for the county were summoned to attend the "term for the purpose of recommending to the Executive of the Commonwealth suitable persons to be commissioned as justices."

At the same time, the offices of constable in the various districts became vacant. Colonel Withers, after a conference with Major Minter Bailey, a close friend, called on Cummins Jackson and suggested that his former pupil, Tom Jackson, be considered for the office of constable in the Freeman Creek or "District 2—West Fork." He thought it would help the boy a little financially, and more physically, and give him contact with other people. Objection was made that he was very young, but, nevertheless, his friends decided to support him. On June 8, all those interested were at the county seat to await the result, which is partly disclosed in the following court record:¹

At a court held for the county of Lewis, at the court house thereof on Tuesday, the 8th day of June, A.D. 1841.

The court this day proceeded to appoint constables in this county: Richard Hall and Thomas Jackson were put in nomination as candidates. There voted for Richard Hall: David Bennett, Joseph McCoy, Phillip Reger, Samuel Z. Jones, Richard Dobson, Jacob Lorentz, John Reger, James Malone, Mathew Holt, Benjamin Riddle, Alexander Huffman and James M. Camp, 12. For Thomas Jackson: Minter Bailey, Alexander S. Withers, Williams Powers,

Simon Rohrbough & Jacob J. Jackson, 5; and the said Richard Hall having received a majority of the votes of the Justices present was declared duly elected.

One can imagine with what pangs of disappointment the result was learned by the youthful aspirant. Richard Hall, his opponent, was a resident of the near neighborhood, an excellent man and the founder of a family prominent in the annals of the county. Among his supporters were residents of the Collins Settlement section and portions of the present Upshur County, one or more of whom were connected with the Jackson family. Jackson's supporters, as will be noticed, included Bailey and Withers, the two men who espoused his candidacy, William Powers, who had furnished much assistance to Withers in his literary pursuits, Simon Rohrbough, and one of the distantly related Jackson kinsmen.

The subsequent proceedings are unknown, or as yet undiscovered. No bond is found for Hall; possibly he, guided by a feeling of kindness toward the orphan boy, declined to accept the office. Another story is that Cummins Jackson had acted as "family banker" for some of the members, and that they decided to make arrangements for two constables. However that may be, the fact remains that Thomas Jackson was elected a constable on June 8, 1841, at the same term of court. The records indicate that for "District 2—West Fork," "Henry Steinbeck, John Helmick, Robert Ervin, Thomas Jackson and George T. Duvall" were appointed constables. Three days later, "Minter Bailey, Mathew Holt, John Lorentz, and Alexander S. Withers, Gent. Justices met, agreeable to adjournment of yesterday," and the following order was entered:²

Friday, June 11th, 1841.

Thomas Jackson who was appointed a constable in the 2nd district in this county at this term this day appeared in open court and entered into bond with security in the penalty of \$2,000 which bond is ordered to be recorded,

and took the several oaths prescribed by law, the court being of opinion that he is a man of honesty, probity and good demeanor.

Cummins E. Jackson and Minter Bailey appeared and jointly with "Thomas" Jackson executed a bond "unto John Rutherford, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia * * * in the sum of two thousand dollars." At seventeen years of age, Thomas Jackson found himself a full-fledged constable. Of his service in this office, little is of record; it covered the short space of one year. Sylvanus White, a cousin, in later years wrote to Thomas J. Arnold, concerning this period:

I went with him on one occasion to show him the near way through the forest, over the hills some three or four miles to a man's house by the name of Dennis, whom he wished to serve with a legal process. He left the horse at father's, and we went on foot. He served the papers and we returned home. I remember to have seen him and William Stringer have a very hot political discussion one day in Weston. Stringer was an ardent Whig; he was perhaps 45 years of age. Thomas would not stand to have his word disputed, but went and brought papers and proved his point. Father was a security for him in his official capacity. Thomas never superintended his uncle's farm, or the mill work; some of the uncles were always at home. He was a great favorite of mine, one of the most sincere, upright, polite persons I ever knew. The biographies written of him as to his early life are in many respects erroneous.

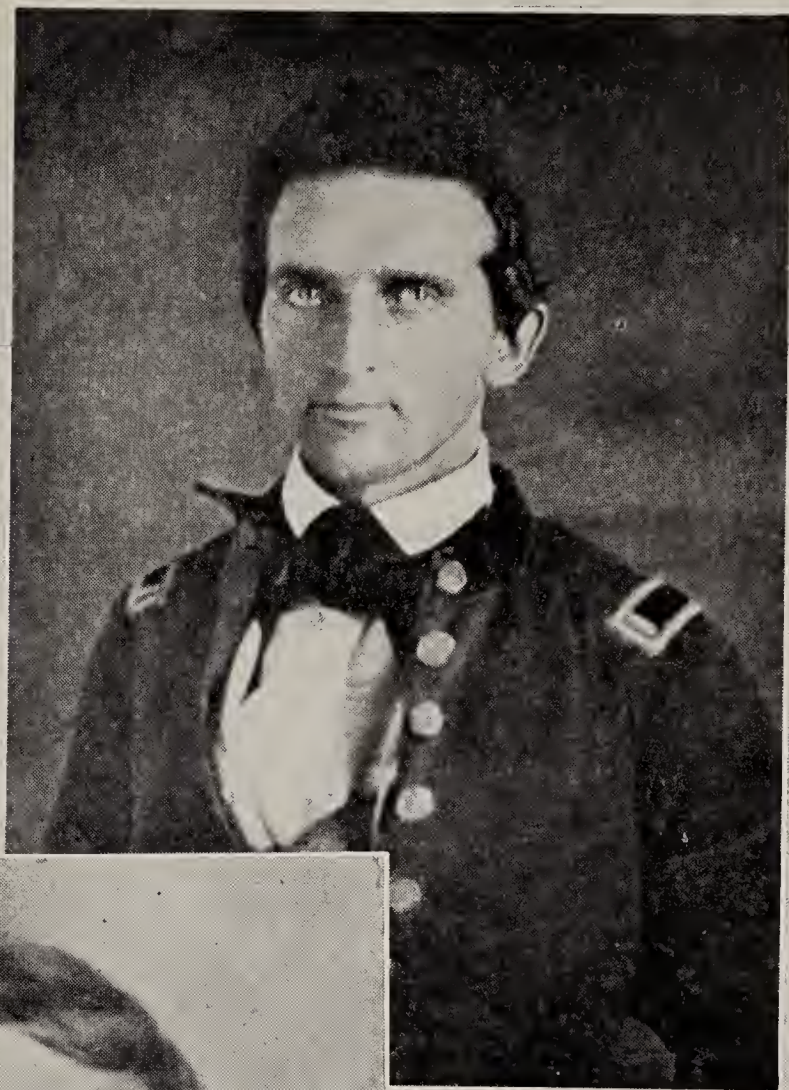
Receipts and notations thereon indicate something of his trials while acting in the capacity of constable. Oftentimes circumstances arose that required the skill and acumen of a man, but he unfailingly made good in all he undertook. One incident, well authenticated, proves this statement.

A widow who resided along the river below Weston sold some goods to a local resident, long noted for his

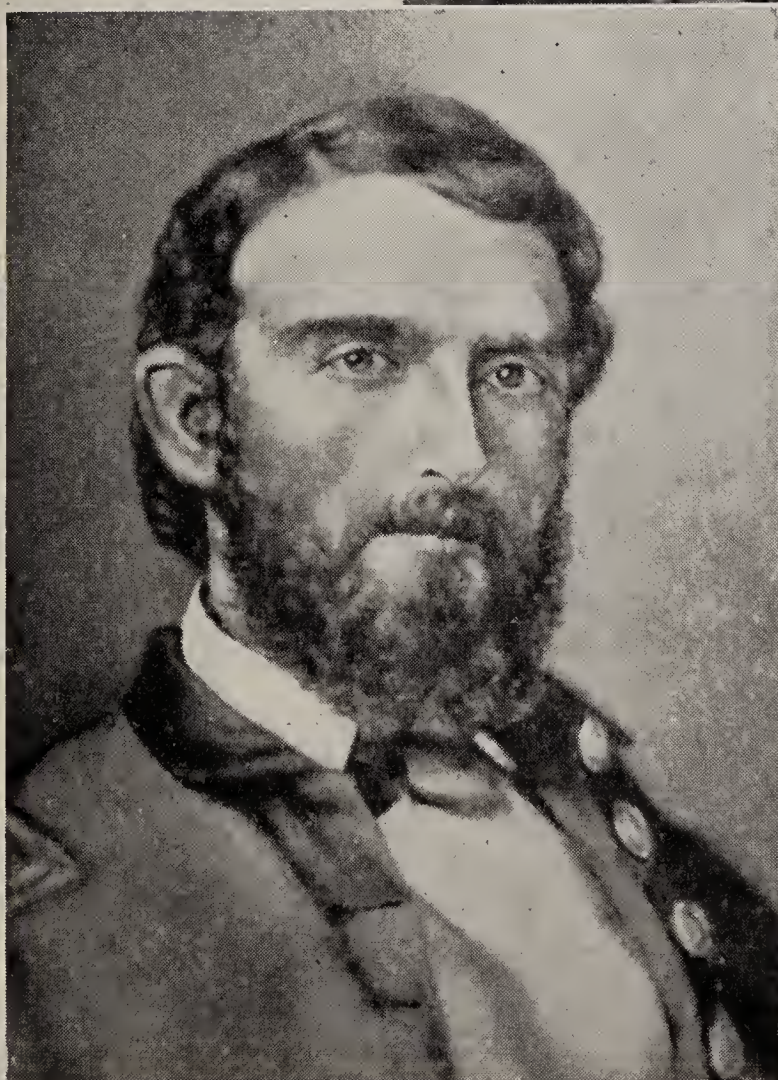
penuriousness, who did not pay as promised. Jackson visited him time and again about the debt, but he kept putting off the settlement. One day Jackson was standing in the door of a livery stable at Weston when he saw the man approaching on horseback. The constable stepped back out of sight. The debtor rode up, dismounted, and was tying his horse to the hitching rail in front of "Benny" Pritchard's blacksmith shop, when Jackson stepped out. Seeing Jackson, he hurriedly unhitched his horse and swung into the saddle just as the former grasped the bridle reins, intending to levy on the horse to meet the debt. The man knew that the horse could not be levied upon with its owner in the saddle. Jackson knew that also, but he started to lead the horse through the open door into the shop. The rider ordered him to release the animal and, when he failed to do so, lashed him over the head and shoulders with his riding whip. Young Jackson bent his head to escape the cuts and doggedly led the horse on through the doorway. The rider was forced to jump to the ground in order to avoid injury, and Jackson levied on the animal. There was nothing left for the man to do but to pay the debt or lose his horse, so he paid.

The position of constable in that day carried with it more dignity and authority than at the present time. Counties in Virginia were then governed by justices of the peace, who, besides acting as members of the county court which they held jointly, were authorized to decide singly in their own neighborhood upon controversies over property or money involving sums not exceeding twenty dollars. Of this little court, the constable was the chief officer—as it were, a minor sheriff.

The remarkable thing is that this seventeen-year-old boy handled such matters as well as he did. On June 22, 1841, receipts show that he had been busy at his work. One of his first "clients" appears to have been John H. Hays, a relative by marriage already mentioned, who appears here and there all through the "constable's"



JACKSON IN
MEXICO CITY,
AUGUST, 1847



JACKSON AT NEW ORLEANS, 1848



MAJOR JACKSON, 1851. (SEE NOTES.)

work. The name of John Flesher, a member of the family which founded Weston, George Bent, Jacob Hawkins, Stephen Coburn, and others indicated work in his field. Receipts given Robert Ervin, reproduced herein, show other duties he performed.

In the closing days of December, he is found rendering a bill against Hays for \$8.44 for having served twenty-nine warrants. This would indicate a rather active post. His work continued on into April, 1842. On April 12, just when things were beginning to break leading to a great career, he filed a receipt which reads:

I received of John H. Hays note on Isaac Forinash
of ten dollars and fortynine cents, due Oct. 27, 1841.

Also account on James West due Mariah Norman
balance of seven dollars.

April 12, 1842.

T. Jackson. Const.

In a little over a month he was on his way to West Point. Events and fate moved fast for the constable. The great opportunity came and he, lacking experience in the ways of men and time, laid aside all the duties of the office and his papers were placed in the hands of others.

The confused situation led to local difficulties. Hays now appeared, contending that he had given Jackson over \$300 in notes, etc., to collect and no accounting had been made. In May, 1843, Hays, through Lewis Maxwell, distinguished local attorney, entered suit against Jackson and his sureties. John Lorentz was named to make a report concerning the matter at the fall term of court in 1844. It developed that Hays himself had receipted for a number of the claims, that others had been turned into the clerk's office, and a few collected. On the back of one Jackson wrote, "I could not make the money owing to the defendant's death, T. Jackson, const."

The net result was that Hays had been overpaid \$4.67. At the spring term of 1845, the whole case was dismissed.

Another action was brought by G. D. Camden and J. M. Bennett for and on behalf of George Hill. The proceedings were dated March 18, 1843, and summons issued for "1st day of Spring Term," 1843. Executions were served on Minter Bailey and Cummins Jackson, but the officer noted that the boy "Thos Jackson, not inhabitant of the county." The litigation was, according to the records, "abated as to Thomas Jackson" but a "judgement confessed" and settled for \$255.33 in 1844.

CHAPTER VII

Diary of a Journey to Parkersburg

Jackson, the constable, laid aside the heavy mantle of office for a few days in August, 1841, to undertake a journey to Parkersburg, combining business as well as pleasure to be derived from a visit to his kinsmen, the Neales and Jacksons. At Clarksburg he was joined by another youth of an industrious and inquiring mind who at the time, or later, set down a resumé of the tour to the Ohio.

This somewhat curious but highly interesting document lay unnoticed for years, coming to light in the course of time among the papers of the Haymond family at Clarksburg. It is here reproduced with the belief that it is worthy of preservation, and because of the many truthful allusions therein to facts and people of the period depicted. A number of the parties named, it will be noticed, have received previous mention in this volume.

The origin is, of course, quite obscure. The identity of the author, "myself," who was Jackson's companion, is even more so. It has by some been attributed to Thaddeus Moore, who died at Clarksburg in 1859. That the journey was made as recorded, there is no reason to doubt. And that the statements therein are correct, as to persons and happenings, can easily be substantiated.

In August, 1918, the late Granville Davisson Hall,¹ a native of Harrison County, but then of Glencoe, Illinois, in a letter to the author pointed out that the late Colonel Luther Haymond, of Clarksburg, had often related and possibly written some notes pertaining to Jackson. Among them was supposed to be an anecdote relative to a visit of "little Tommy Jackson" to a local store in which one

of the Haymond family was associated. A letter of inquiry, directed to Major Henry Haymond in 1923, brought forth the reply that no such papers could be located and that, as a matter of fact, Jackson "had no life in Clarksburg, save to be born here and leaving when a child." Yet it will be noticed in the following journal that a reference is made to such a visit to a Clarksburg mercantile establishment.

First appearing in the *Clarksburg Telegram*, January 20, 1924, the journal attracted wide attention and was reprinted in several other West Virginia papers. It is here transcribed from the original manuscript through the courtesy of the late Samuel R. Harrison,² of Clarksburg. Where possible, the meaning of words has been amplified in the text. Other items of interest bearing on the subject will be found appended in the form of notes.

Sunday the first day of August, A. D. 1841.

Diary of a journey to Parkersburg on the Ohio, by Thomas Jackson and myself.

Sunday Thom came down from the [Jackson's] mill and put up at his Aunt Katy's.³ He brought two horses, one for himself and one for me, to ride to Parkersburg to meet a ship from Pittsburg and bring back a small piece to repair the mill machinery for his Uncle Cummins [Jackson]. I went over to his Aunt's to meet him and we went to hear Mr. Quillin preach. After meeting we went to Mistress William's and had dinner and spent the afternoon with them. Thom went back home with me for tea, and at early candle light we went again to hear Mr. Quillin. He said he only hears the Presbyterian doctrine when he comes down to his home, and prefers it to the Baptist at Broad Run meeting house.

Early Monday morning. August second, took my saddle and started for Thom, but meeting him on the road put my saddle on, but the girth broke, and we stopped at Mr. Davis's⁴ shop and got a new strap. While Mr. Davis made the strap Thom went to look at his old home place. I felt genuine sorrow for the boy. Mr. Davis spoke kindly to us. He knew Thom since his birth and asked him if the correct date had been fixed. Thom answered him that Dr. McCally⁵ said it was shortly before midnight of January

20th, and not the 21st. Mr. Davis said Mr. McCally was right. He said he saw us at church and he hoped we would suffer no more inconvenience on our trip, told us goodbye, and as I was with Thom that I should pay him nothing.

I picked up my saddlepockets at [Daniel] Wilson's and we were off. Passed Mr. [Luther] Haymond's, he was standing in his office door and we rode up to his fence and talked with him for a short time. He seemed glad to see Thom and asked him many questions. Hurrying on our ride, Thom told me that Mr. Haymond, had been kind to him and Warren Jackson when they were small boys, when he was standing in a store kept by Mr. Johnson Webster and who with his family, save his wife and baby, were massacred in Texas by the Indians. We whipped up went on in haste, Thom saying we must reach the Ohio by the next day.

Stopping at New Salem [Salem, W. Va.], Mr. Fitz Randolph's tan yard and put dubbin on our shoes to soften the leather. He did not want us. I told him who we were but he had little to say. I dare say that he was offended because I had dipped my boots into the dubbin box just as we did at Mr. Stealey's. Most of his remarks was addressed to Thom. He told us to look at the old apple tree and see how full it was, and said it was planted about 1780, making it over sixty years old, and that it was the oldest apple tree in this part of Virginia or any of the western states. Thom did not tell him, but after we saw the tree as we passed by he told me that his Great Uncle George [Jackson] living in Zanesville, Muskingum County, Ohio, had given an account of an apple tree at Fort Defiance, Williams county, Ohio, that had been planted by the Jesuits more than a hundred years ago and before homes had been made there by the whites, and that it is now flourishing and bearing large crops. [See History of Maumee Valley.]

We stopped at Mr. Neely's⁶ for dinner where Thom had been before and found it choice in every respect. The daughter Mary was a handsome, modest and intelligent young lady with most beautiful black sparkling eyes. She is the same age as Thom, and meeting many travelers has acquired much information and has refined manners and a gentle smiling disposition. She made the hour so pleasant that I was loath to start on our journey, but Thom said the beasts had rested enough and I knew that meant to go, so we said goodbye and I asked

Mr. Neely to stop on our return. He says boys of course, we will always be glad to see you, I know your people well.

Thom did not say a word about stopping until we had ridden a mile or more, and then he said that he and Warren [Jackson] had been there before and were treated just as well as we had been. He knew their people, who lived not far from his Uncle Cummins, down on Kincheloe Creek. I hope we can stop on our return and have some more good fried chicken, sweet butter and biscuits. Thom knew how to make a horse walk, he kept tapping the whip with almost every step and my horse had to sometimes trot to keep up. With this steady gate we reached Martin's⁷ before dark. There we met President Houston⁸ who was going to Clarksburg to see Mr. Wilson on business. He asked about Mr. Joseph Johnson, with whom he had served in the Congress 1822-27. [Governor of Virginia 1852-56.]

Thom informed him that Mr. Samuel Hays, who was a friend of his Uncle and who lived about thirty miles from his home, had succeeded Mr. Johnson, and that he had taken him to Clarksburg last spring to catch the coach for Washington, and that here he met Mr. Clay⁹ and some other western congressmen who invited him to join their party and go on to Washington with a good Whig, and that Mr. Hays did. He asked Thom his relationship to Mr. John Jackson¹⁰ at Parkersburg. He told us that many years ago when Mr. Jackson was a young lieutenant in the United States Army that he passed through this town on a government mission to Florida, and that being a Virginian he gave him good passports through the Cherokee tribes, and that on reaching his destination he immediately wrote him a letter thanking him and expressing his gratitude for his advice, which he found of great help to him with the Indians. When Mr. Houston passed through Parkersburg he inquired for Mr. Jackson, but he was away from his home and he did not see him. He was going to Rockbridge [County] and would not return by this route. He asked Thom to give him his regards, as he suspected he would see him.

And he the President of the Republic of Texas. He was a severe looking man, but was of a kindly disposition. We hardly appreciated him until after the meeting.

We got an early start and Thom said he must see his cousin and deliver General Houston's message. He said he must be at the Ohio before dark and he pushed right

along, keeping our horses to a brisk walk and taking little time to talk. He said that several years earlier, when he was a small boy, that he and Warren were going over this road and they met a small boy but a few years older than himself carrying a little chap before him on his horse, sitting on a pillow. They hailed him and found that he was a [Benjamin F.] Shuttleworth boy carrying his nephew [Oscar H. Tate?] home from the Ohio river, a child four or five years younger than himself. He said they had been bear hunting and if they would keep their eyes open they might see one. This was all that they could get out of him. I told Thom all the circumstances and he was much interested.¹¹ When the sun was over our heads we rested for an hour and disposed of a jolly good snack that Mistress Martin had packed for us and fed our horses sheaf oats that I got from a field near by, and then Thom sent me up to the cabin to pay for them. There I found a woman with a baby, but she refused the pay, so I gave her baby a cent with a hole in it to hang around its neck to cut teeth on.

Thom seems to have a strong streak of honesty in him and I dare say he was right in urging me to compensate the people for a small bunch of provender for our beasts. Anyway, he said that we need not be ashamed when we pass the house on our return. We reached the Ohio on good time and received a warm welcome. The Neales are good people and I like them. They are kind to Thom and he is grateful for their kindness. He does not forget at night to say his prayers. This good habit he gets from the Neales. Tomorrow we will see John Jackson and deliver General Houston's message.

Wednesday, August fourth, we called to see Mr. Jackson but he had not returned. Monroe Jackson¹² carried us down to see Aunt Polly¹³ Foley, and oh, she was glad to see Thom. It was a long walk for a long day, but we were glad we went. Mr. Bradford's negro Bush ferried us over the Little Kanawha. Bush had a remarkable memory, especially for births. Mun asked him "Whose birthday is this, Uncle Bush"? He immediately, replied, "Your brother's, Mr. John's"¹⁴ and Mun said he was right. We went to Mistress Glimes, [Glime's Hotel] and had some sweet beer and sugar cakes. She kept the beer in a jug hanging in the well, and it was refreshing. She told Thom to see her before he returned, she wanted to send some love apples to his Aunt Katy.

We then went to see Mr. Beverly Smith's bank. He showed us some beautiful Spanish milled dollars and American double eagles nearly the same size as the dollar and worth twenty times as much. Then to the Little Kanawha river we went to swim to wash off the sweat before supper. Monroe Jackson is certainly a fine fellow.

Thursday, August fifth of the month. We were up early this morning to see Mun's father and found him at home. He is erect and straight as an arrow, he has light hair and sideburn whiskers. Thom delivered Mr. Houston's message and Mr. Jackson seemed much disappointed that he had missed seeing him. He jested once by telling Thom that the Neales were Scotch-Irish from the north of Ireland, formerly O'Neale, and that the pioneer John Jackson was from Ireland, thus making Thom a [illegible]

* * *

* * * cornfield along the road and being early in the morning we saw several squirrels running along the fence. I wished for my gun, but Thom said if you had it we would not have time to stop. We passed the house where we got oats but saw no one and it was not time to eat or feed.

Thom said we must reach the stone house for supper, so we hurried on. At midday we came to a farm house, where we had a drink of water and bought corn for our horses, for which we paid the levy [Va. 9 pence—12½c] which was enough for twenty-three ears. We stopped to feed and open the snack that Mistress Glimes gave us. She certainly told the truth, for it was even better than she said. Better than you could get at the Rest [Tavern]. Arriving at Martin's on good time and they were as glad to see us as if we were members of their own family. We had not been long before a shower came up lasting a half hour. It cooled the air and my, how we slept.

We had an early start, the morning was cool and our horses seemed to know they were going home. Long before noon we reached Mr. Neely's and found Miss Mary reading the English Reader, or Elegant Selections in Prose and Poetry by Lindley Murray. [Ed. 1822.] This gave me a home feeling, as it was the same reader I was using.

An old gentleman whom Thom said was Uncle Watty Smith, living near the Clemen's [West Fork] mill, came riding up just in time for dinner and was very much dressed, a black stock and his coat buttoned up behind.¹⁵

Thom said just as he always dressed when coming to a meeting at Broad Run, which he never missed. I had never seen him before. But he knew my father. He was a fine old gentleman and talked well. He asked about Mr. Benjamin Lightburn and to what political party he belonged. Thom informed him that he did not know, as he had only lived on McCann's run a little over a year, but supposed he was an Old Hickory Democrat as his son was named Joseph Andrew Jackson. This pleased Mr. Smith very much and he said he hoped it was so. Thom said he had never been to Mr. Smith's house, but that he was highly respected and often was at his Uncle's but that he never could persuade his Uncle Cummins to go to meeting.

Thom said his Uncle Cummins does not go to church, but that he always had been good to him, and that he would stick to him through thick and thin, and though he did not like his horse racing he would ride any horse for him that he would bring out. He promised to let me know the next time they had a race and am to go up. He said his Uncle never objected to him taking a critter and going to meeting, but saw that nothing should interfere and for a year or longer he and Joe Lightburn had never missed a meeting. From what Thom says I judge that Joe is pretty good youngster.

After another good dinner and a refusal to stay over night we saddled our horses, that had been resting for two hours and started home. We came to New Salem and I proposed we stop and tell Mr. Fitz Randolph about the apple tree at Fort Defiance. "Yes, and dip your boots in dubbin again and grease his floor," said Thom. We did not see him but we saw Mr. Davis and asked him to tell him that we had returned and thank him for having us to see the tree, and to tell him it was probably from Johnny Appleseed's¹⁶ collection at Marietta.

When we passed Mr. Adam's [Adamston, W. Va.] farm he was out there burying one of his negroes. They carried the coffin across the road from the cabin and buried him in the field. It was a nice black coffin and the grave was deep. I asked him why he did not bury him where Mr. [David] Howe's negroes were buried, and he said Mr. [Loyd] Lowndes, did not want any more graves there, and that Mr. Lowndes was such an excellent man that his wishes would be respected. Thom seemed to be sorry for the race and thought they should be free and have a

chance, and said that Joe Lightburn said they should be taught to read so they could read the Bible, and he thought so too. I told him it would be better not make known such views and if they were carried out we would have to black our own boots. He said with him that would only be on Sunday and not even in the winter.

Nothing more was said until we got nearly home, when he talked about the graves of his father and sister Julia at Miles End, and that he would try and have his uncle to mark them with suitable stones, and if he failed he would do it himself some future day.

At last, after a very interesting journey we were again home, but I have not been able to get Thom to stay over a day with me, he is on business and I think he is right. He promised to stay with me several days at some other time and I am to go to the next race. He is a first rate boy and I am just getting to know him.

CHAPTER VIII

The Appointment to West Point

There are few youths of the upper Monongahela Valley who have not, perhaps many times, visited the historic Jackson homestead below Weston, now sadly defaced by the hand of time and the ravages of fire, and who have not heard from the lips of their elders the traditional accounts of "Stonewall's" going to West Point. Nor is tradition confined to this region alone. After Jackson's fame became the property of the nation, writers all over the land, in their often excellent books, covered this episode in his life with the romantic mantle of the "Village Blacksmith" and like characters of fiction. They took refuge, as it would seem, in the theory of one writer who said, "Surround a reasonable basis of facts with fiction and the reader will do the rest." The fact of the erroneousness of popular accounts does not, however, detract from the interest of the event. It should be said, in all fairness, that there is no strange romance back of Jackson's appointment, and still there is an interesting true story.

When Joseph Johnson, after a long term of service in Congress, decided not to seek another term, the Jackson family, then the most powerful political faction in western Virginia, brought out as a candidate Samuel L. Hays, already prominent in state politics. He had resided near the mouth of Freeman's Creek, below Weston, and was successful in the election in the fall of 1840, taking his seat on March 4, 1841. He was in Washington continuously from December 6, 1841, until August 31, 1842.

Samuel L. Hays was born near Clarksburg in 1795 and resided in early boyhood on the waters of Elk Creek. In 1817 he married Roanna Arnold of the Fauquier

County family and removed to Lewis County, locating on a tract of land near Jackson's Mill conveyed by John G. Jackson; in later years he removed to Stewart's Creek (Glenville) in present Gilmer, but then Lewis County. To this union were born: Elizabeth, who married John Webb; Peregrine (1820-1903), who married Louisa Sexton; Othella, who removed to California during the "gold rush of '49"; John E., who married a Miss Lewis of Wood County; Samuel L., Jr., who married Elizabeth Cather; Norvell; Mary, who married Shelton Furr; Drusilla, who married Levi Johnson; Warren; Edmund, and Calhoun.

Samuel L. Hays served as a member of the Virginia Assembly, 1831-36, 1844-45, and 1850-51; he was appointed a justice of the county court of Lewis, June 4, 1833; member of the board of trustees of Northwestern Virginia Academy, and member of the board of visitors, Virginia Military Institute, July 1, 1852, until June 30, 1854. His first wife died about 1848 and in the late fifties he married (2) Nancy Covert. In 1856 President Buchanan appointed him receiver of the land office of Minnesota, situated at Sauk Rapids. Here he married (3) Mrs. Emma Hand Fletcher, and here he died in 1871. He is described as an orator of unusual ability.

Another prominent actor in the event was George W. Jackson (1791-1876), son of Colonel George Jackson of Clarksburg and Zanesville, Ohio, who located permanently in Weston in 1843. He had been appointed a lieutenant in the 19th Regiment of Infantry, July 6, 1812, by President Madison; advanced to captain August 15, 1813; transferred to the 17th Regiment and resigned, July 9, 1814. He married Hester Taylor, and to this union were born: Margaret E., who, April 7, 1846, married Jonathan M. Bennett (1816-87); Captain James T., who married Phoebe Wilson of a prominent Harrison County family; Eliza, who married Cornelius Hurley; Katherine, who, October 24, 1848, married Gibson J. Butcher, the first appointee to West Point in the case; and Alfred H., who married Mary Paxton and who later, as Lieutenant

Colonel in the Confederate army, before his untimely death, gave promise of a military genius second only to that of his illustrious cousin. Here was, as will be seen, a web of interlaced interests that existed for years.

In the spring of 1842 an appointment to West Point was assigned the Congressional district represented by Hays, who at once took steps to fill it. The fact soon became known throughout the community. The appointment especially appealed to Captain George Jackson, who from his connection with the army and his association with graduates of West Point, knew something of the value of such an education. In addition, the reader may possibly discern a trace of a romance in the first appointment. More than one applicant desired the coveted appointment. Johnson N. Camden was one. It developed that Camden was two years too young, but he had formidable political backing. Joseph A. J. Lightburn, a young man of eighteen, who had arrived from Pennsylvania some two years before, was another candidate. The other two were Gibson J. Butcher and Thomas Jackson.

While there is no direct evidence extant concerning the manner of the appointment, there seems good reason to believe that, in order to settle the matter, some kind of a preliminary examination was held under the direction of Captain George Jackson. This was held in the "Old Bailey House," at the southwest corner of Second Street and Main Avenue in Weston. The result of the test was that Gibson J. Butcher was selected from among the applicants. He is described by various writers as an "orphan youth of good character and ambitious." His family was in many ways closely connected socially and otherwise with the Jacksons. In later years, George Warren Hays, a grandson of the Congressman, wrote:

Grandfather often related that the appointment had first been given to Butcher. He passed some sort of a local examination and was more proficient in mathematics than any of the others who had made application.

The records of the War Department show that Gibson J. Butcher "was conditionally appointed a cadet to West Point on April 19, 1842, by Hon. John C. Spencer, in the name of the President upon the recommendation of Hon. Samuel L. Hays, Representative in Congress from Virginia." The condition was that Butcher would appear at West Point and pass the necessary examinations. In the latter part of May, Butcher left for West Point. Of his experience there, Sarah Nicholas Randolph writes:

He had a quick mind; but, on seeing how hard the young men had to study at West Point and under what strict rules they were obliged to live, he determined he could not stand such a life, returned home, resigned his appointment and left the place to be filled by one whose name the world can never forget.

Butcher, returning from West Point, stopped at the Jackson home on the way up the river from Clarksburg to Weston and informed the family of what he had done. Jackson again took hope and at once proceeded to interview Jonathan M. Bennett, Capt. George Jackson, and Matthew Edmiston, who had kindly given him advice and loaned him books prior to the preliminary examination. The greatest danger of failure for Jackson lay in his lack of education. It was well known that the attitude of Hays would be favorable to his candidacy. No letters of introduction to this man were needed. As a neighbor he had been daily in the view of the Jackson family, with whom there were the closest relations. What those above Hays would do was a different matter. It was decided to make out several petitions to be presented to the Secretary of War and reinforce these with personal letters.

Jonathan M. Bennett (who, as the reader will note, had much to do with Jackson's career) later related to John Esten Cooke that he talked the matter over with Thomas, laying stress on his lack of education. Young Jackson replied, "I am very ignorant but I can make it

up in study. I know I have the energy and I think I have the intellect." This pleased the men interested, petitions were signed, and George Jackson wrote to John C. Spencer in his behalf.

Jackson, in his eagerness to lose no time should he secure the appointment, at once set out for Washington. Dressed in a full suit of homespun, his wardrobe packed in a pair of saddle pockets, he mounted a horse from the farm. Accompanied by a colored boy, likewise mounted, to bring the horse back, he set out for Clarksburg to catch the stage. The stage line at the time was operated by the Kuykendalls and, as the "Pioneer Stage Line," allowed one to travel 210 miles for \$10. Arriving at Clarksburg and finding the stage gone, Jackson overtook it near present Grafton, and the servant returned with the horses. Jackson's route from this point to Washington is obscure, but it may be said that he did not "walk 300 miles," "arrive covered with mud," or "sell his horse," etc., as variously has been stated. Instead, it seems that he left the stage at Green Valley depot, sixteen miles east of Cumberland, and from there took his first ride on a train, the Baltimore and Ohio, which to a boy from the interior was no doubt interesting and exciting.

Arriving in Washington on June 17, he at once made his way to the office of Mr. Hays, presented him with the papers in his possession, explained his mission and awaited results. He also delivered to him the following letter from Butcher, which is in itself explanatory and clears up a point much discussed in the intervening years:

Weston, June 14, 1842.

Mr. S. L. Hays,
Dear Sir:

It is with deep regret that I have now to send you my resignation as "Cadet" in the West Point Military Academy. I left here the last of May and arrived in West Point on the 3rd of June, and after seeing the movements and learning the duties which I had to perform I came to the conclusion that I never could consent

to live the life. I did not know as much about the institution when I applied for the appointment as I know now and it was altogether through the instrumentality and persuasions of my friends that induced me to make application for the appointment. My friends here think it would have been a decided advantage for me to have remained at West Point, and I am of the same opinion, if I could have remained there contented but this I could not do, it being an institution for the education of young men destined for the army and for no other purpose and I have only to regret the disappointment which I have made, and especially having disappointed you, after using your agency in procuring the appointment for me, and be the consequences what they may I must humbly ask you to make every degree of allowance for me in your power and have another cadet appointed. You will please communicate my resignation to the Secretary of War and if consistent with your views still remain my friend.

Mr. Jackson will deliver this letter to you, who is an applicant for the appointment.

I did not resign when I was at West Point but left without reporting myself to the Superintendent.

Will you be good enough to write me on the receipt of this?

Very respectfully,

Hon. Sam'l L. Hays, M. C.
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.
For'w by Mr. Jackson.

Your Ob't. Serv't.
G. J. Butcher.¹

Jackson also delivered to Congressman Hays the following petitions and letters:

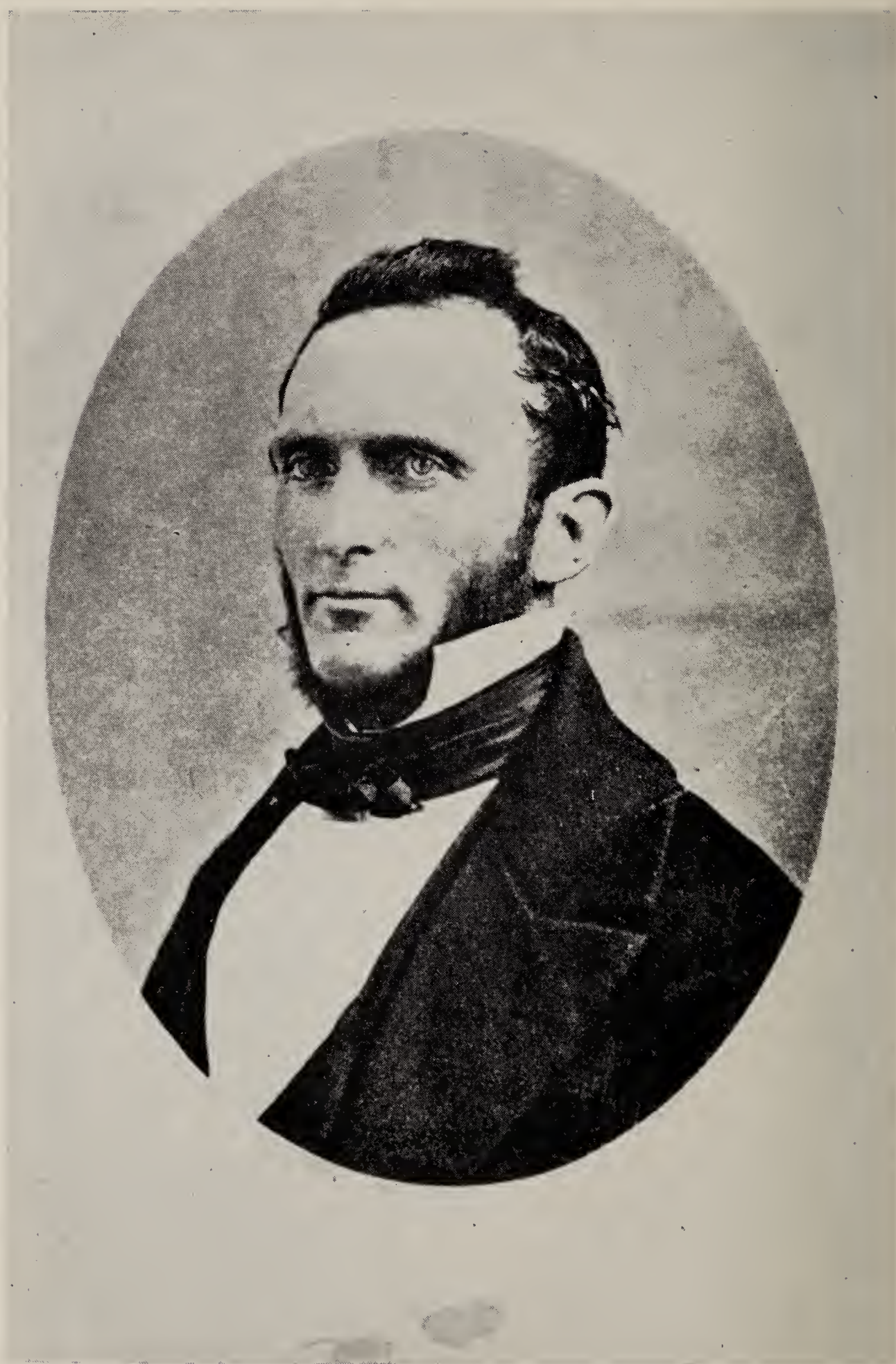
June 14, 1842

Lewis County Virginia

Having been informed by Mr. Thomas Jackson that there is a vacancy at the military institution at West Point in consequence of the young Gentlemen returning home, who had received an appointment from this congressional district and that he would be glad to fill the vacancy having been well acquainted with Mr. Jackson from his childhood to the present time, and knowing him to be a meritorious young man and in my opinion as much deserveing the appointment as any other of my



MAJOR JACKSON, 1851



THOMAS J. JACKSON, 1855

acquaintance. Mr. Jackson taught school in my neighborhood and I sent my children to him he is in my opinion well skilled in arithmetic and is quite a smart youth in every respect for his age and opportunity.

Yours in high consideration,

Smith Gibson

Hon. S. L. Hays.

Home June 14, 1842

Dear Sir

After my verrey best respects to you I would say that Gipson Peterson [Butcher] the youth that you recommended to the Secretary of War as a suitable person to enter our military school as a Cadet at West Point has been on to that station but has returned home again and says that he could not get his consent to remain there.

That selection was a good one and generally met the approbation of your constituents in this part of the district and no doubt would have done much credit to you and all of his friends, whose influence secured him that appointment. And now, Sir, as the station is vacant Mr. Thomas Jackson is an applicant and I would most heartily recommend him to you and to the honorable Secretary of War he is a youth with whom you have some acquaintance therefore it will hardly be necessary for me to go into particulars touching his many noble faculties of soul and great moral worth for I will venture to say taking everything into consideration that a better selection could not well be made, west of the mountains therefore if you concur with me and many others with whom I have conferred with on that subject I hope that you will give him a suitable recommendation to the War Department You will please pardon me for not extending this scroll by way of giving you an account of all of the domestic occurrences in this quarter. So I remain ever yours

Evan Carmack

Ho S.L. Hays.

To the Hon. the Secretary of War.

Your petitioners Humbly representing shew unto Your Honor that Thomas J. Jackson a young man of good demeanor and upright Deportment residing in the County of Lewis and State of Virginia about 19 years of age, is

desirous of becoming a student of the Military Academy at West Point and from the conduct and stable firmness of Mr. Jackson in all his undertakings we have the utmost confidence in recommending him to your Honor. Mr. Jacksons ancestry are mostly Dead (yet from the conspicuous part which they bore in our Indian troubles they hold an exalted rank in our memory) and he a destitute orphan.

Evan Carmack
Henry F. Westfall
Jacob J. Jackson
John White
Thos. Bland
Peregrine Hays
Rich'd W. Riddel, M.D.
William J. Bailey
John Lorentz
Alex S. Withers
W. E. Arnold
G. J. Arnold
Presley McIntire.

Addressed to "Hon. J. C. Spencer,
Secretary of War."

The undersigned beg leave to recommend to his excellency the Secretary of War, Thomas J. Jackson as a fit and proper person to receive the appointment of Cadet in the Military Academy at West Point. Mr. Jackson is a young man of industry and perseverance. An orphan in early life he has inspired by his conduct confidence in his rectitude; and won the esteem of the community. Descended from a family which has deserved much of the country, and with nothing but his individual exertions to advance him in life, we consider him as having a claim upon the country as just as that of any other young man, at least so far as we ask it at your hands.

June 14, 1842.

Lewis Maxwell
Mat. Edmiston
G. D. Camden
John McWhorter

Wm. Camp
Alex S. Withers
B. Despard
J. M. Bennett
A. Simpson
Cabell Tavenner
Aug J. Smith
Weeden Hoffman
J. Talbott
Ro. Ervin
William Morrison
R. P. Camden
Minter Bailey
C. E. Jackson

Congressman Hays then “forwarded” the various letters and petitions to the Secretary of War together with the following letter:

Washington, June 19, 1842

Hon. J. C. Spencer,
Secretary of War.

Dear Sir

It is with no small degree chagrin that I communicate the resignation of Gibson J. Butcher as Cadet to the W.P. Academy had he consulted me I am warrented in saying it would have been otherwise.

But I have now the pleasure of writing with many of my constituents in recommending Thos. J. Jackson of Lewis Co., Va. as a proper person to supply the vacancy. — I am personally and intimately acquainted with young Jackson He is about 19 years of age — fine athletic form and of manly appearance. He was left an orphan at an early age — deprived of both father and mother and destitute of means — he had to rely entirely on his own exertions sustaining as he does a good moral character — and an improvable mind.

I hope it will be the pleasure of the Dept. to bestow on him the apt.

I am respectfully

Your obt Sert.
Saml. L. Hays.²

The result was that a conditional appointment in place of Butcher was issued, which is actually dated the day

before the letter from Hays. Just what took place here is not clear. It developed that a guardian must be appointed, so the appointment papers were sent to Weston. On July 12, 1842, an order was entered by the County Court of Lewis, that "Thomas Jackson, orphan of Jonathan Jackson, deceased, with the approbation of the court made choice of Edward Jackson for his guardian, who together with Alexander Scott Withers, his surety, entered into and acknowledged in the penalty of \$100.00 with conditions according to law."³ Edward Jackson was a "favorite uncle" of the young applicant, and again the helpful inclinations of Colonel Withers appear in the story.

The printed form, as then executed, read:

June 18th, 1842

Hon.

John C. Spencer, Secretary of War.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 18th June, 1842, informing me that the President has conferred upon me a conditional appointment as Cadet in the service of the United States and to inform you of my acceptance of the same.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Thos. J. Jackson

I hereby assent to the above acceptance by my ward of his conditional appointment as Cadet and he has my full permission to sign articles by which he will bind himself to serve the United States eight years unless sooner discharged.

E. Jackson⁴

The papers again went to Hays, who on July 21, 1842, wrote to Hon. John C. Spencer, Secretary of War, "I enclose you the acceptance of T. J. Jackson and the assent of his guardian E. Jackson to his appointment as Cadet in the M. Academy." The original is endorsed "H-237-Rcd. July 22/42/ Eng. office."

John Tyler, Jr., son of President Tyler, also gives some testimony concerning the appointment of Jackson to West Point. Writing from West Point, Virginia, on April 6, 1880, to Belmo Power, Woodbury, N. J., he says, in part:

I was the private secretary of my father as President, and * * * it may not be uninteresting for your purpose for me to state that as private secretary I inducted Texas into the Union on the first day of March 1845; and moreover brought from the War Department the warrent, or cadets appointment papers, for Stonewall Jackson as a poor young man, for President Tyler to sign as one of his appointments at large. It also fell to my lot at Montgomery, Alabama, to write the nomination of Robert E. Lee,—not a very distant relative,—to the Confederate States Army.⁵

Thus did a slender thread control the destinies of this young man who before his death was to rise from obscurity to fame, but whom fate might easily have left to follow an ordinary career in the upper Monongahela Valley. Stories of a personal interview between Hays, Jackson, and Spencer have been rampant, but, judging by the use of the word “forwarded” in the records, no such interview seems to have taken place. The Congressman, who often spoke of incidents in this connection, did not relate the conversation if one took place. The papers in the case likewise set at rest the statement that Jackson added the word “Jonathan” to his name while at West Point.

After the securing of the appointment for Jackson, Hays wrote a personal letter to the Superintendent at West Point, laying stress on the circumstances of the appointment and the need and deserving qualities of the appointee. The utility of this may be apparent when it is noted that, from 1838 to 1917, 4,966 boys were rejected by the academic board, 2,890 failing to pass in grammar.

Hays invited Jackson to stay with his family a few days and see the sights of the city, but impatience to get to school and work led him to decline this request. He did climb to the dome of the then unfinished Capitol and viewed Washington and the surrounding country. As he had stood in silent meditation beside the old West Fork, he looked long and silently on the scene before him. Over the Potomac, on a height in the hills of his own Virginia, might be seen the home of the modest young officer, Robert E. Lee; the new cadet could almost see Manassas, where later in the din and smoke of battle, he was to win undying glory and utter the following prayer:

Oh, God, let this horrible war quickly come to an end
that we may all return home and engage in the only work
that is worth while and that is the salvation of men.

The subsequent history of the unsuccessful candidates—Camden, Lightburn, and Butcher—is of more than passing interest. Camden succeeded Jackson at West Point, being admitted in July, 1846. He resigned at the end of the second year to take up the study of law, became a builder of railroads, a vice-president of the Standard Oil Company, and United States Senator from West Virginia. Lightburn, not to be thwarted in his desire for a military career, became a private, corporal, and sergeant in the general service, December 5, 1846, to December, 1851; colonel 4th (W) Virginia Infantry, August 14, 1861; brigadier-general of volunteers, March 14, 1863; resigned, June 22, 1865. Butcher was for a number of years a director of the branch of the Exchange Bank of Virginia and the National Exchange Bank at Weston; he served a term as clerk of the West Virginia Legislature and clerk of the Circuit Court of Lewis County, 1856-60.

CHAPTER IX

West Point

Just when Jackson appeared at West Point for the purpose of standing the preliminary examinations is not known. It is certain that it was between June 20 and 30, 1842. A traditionary account indicates (and subsequent letters seem to support) that Congressman Hays loaned him a small amount of money, and that he spent a day in New York City while on the way. The records in the Adjutant's office at the Academy are very meager. A "Descriptive List of New Cadets" carries some entries which show that his name is given as Thomas J. Jackson, and this is followed by his own signature, which is reproduced elsewhere. The date of reporting is set down as "June 20" (1842). The next entry is under the heading of "Age the 1st. July Yrs. Mos." The age is entered as "19" years¹ "5" months. The address is given as "Weston P. O. Lewis county, Virginia." In another volume recorded as "Adjutants Letters Sent Book," under the date of June 30, 1842, appears a copy of a letter, which in part reads:

Sir.*****

*****, also your letter of the 18th instant announcing the appointment of Thomas J. Jackson of Va. vice Butcher declined as of your letter of the 21st inst.*****

Col. J. G. Totten.

By order of Lt. Col. DeRussey
(s) Lieut. McDowell.

Jackson was formally admitted, July 1, 1842. An insight into the ideals of the young man at this period of his life may be gleaned from the following extracts from a private notebook, dated 1842: "Sacrifice your life rather than your word"; "Resolve to perform what

you ought; perform without fail what you resolve"; and further, "You may be whatever you resolve to be." This last is the most characteristic and famous expression of "Stonewall" Jackson.

The following four years were passed uneventfully. His studious habits never left him, and in the later years he came to the front rank in the study of logic. Shy and retiring though he was, he nevertheless made friends among many whose names became illustrious in the great Civil War to come.

During his attendance at the Military Academy, the regulations of 1839 were in effect which provided that the Superintendent might grant a leave of absence to a cadet, at the request of his guardian, for all or a part of the encampment period. With this regulation in mind, Jackson wrote home to Cummins Jackson in regard to securing a vacation period. Likewise he addressed a letter to his sister, Laura, of Beverly, (W.) Virginia, on January 28, 1844, in which he said in part:

Tell Uncle Cummins if you should see him shortly that I want him to write to me, giving me permission to come home; for without his consent the superintendent will not give me a furlough; though if you should not have an opportunity of doing so, you need not mention it to him, for I will write to him if I do not hear from him soon. Give my respects to Seely [Celia, a slave of Cummins Jackson who looked after household affairs] if you should see her and tell her that there is not a day that passes without my thinking of her, and that I expect to see her in less than five months.

It seems that Cummins Jackson complied with his request shortly thereafter. Jackson was released on furlough and returned to Weston and the old home place in the summer of 1844. An interesting story is handed down concerning this visit.

Dressed in a new uniform and mounted on one of the crack horses from the Jackson barns, in company with

Miss Caroline Norris and others, he set out to attend church on Broad Run. In crossing the West Fork at Wither's Ford near McCann's Run, his horse slipped on a stone, fell, and precipitated the future general into the river. In the face of objections on the part of his companions, he gallantly remounted, though thoroughly wet, and continued on his way—with a stoicism that marked so many of his acts and no doubt with a feeling that he was simply keeping faith with the doctrines of the Broad Run Baptist Church.

On his return to West Point in August, it would seem that the task of again taking up his studies weighed heavily upon his mind and that his thoughts reverted to earlier days on the West Fork of the Monongahela.

On September 8, 1844, he wrote to his sister, Laura:

Times are different from what they were when I was at my adopted home. None to give their mandates, none for me to obey but as I chose, surrounded by my playmates and relatives, all apparently eager to promote my happiness.

The same feeling continued to prevail on his part, as his school days at West Point drew toward a close. By this time, however, he looked forward with sorrow to the ending of West Point days. Writing to his sister, Laura, he made many such observations, as follows:

U.S.M.A. Jany 1st 1846.

Dear Sister:

Amid the scenes of mirth & joy by which I am now surrounded I grasp my pen to announce to you the reception of your heart cheering letter. With it came feelings of joy which are more easily felt by the heart than expressed by the tongue or pen.

Among the items of your letter I observed an improvement of your health & an accession to your family both of which are as agreeable to me as to yourself. I look with joyful anticipation to that day when I will have the pleasure of verbal instead of epistolary conversation with you as well as with all my friends.

The misfortune of uncle Cummins brought to my heart feelings of regret & sympathy which time will never be able to erase. But I sincerely trust that he may ride clear from all harm, which should be the case if as I have been informed, there was false evidence against him. I have not written home since my return from furlough neither have I received one from there.

My standing at present is undecided but the examination continues tomorrow. The prospects are more favourable for me than they have ever been heretofore.

It grieves me to think that in a short time I must be separated from amiable & meritorious friends whom an acquaintance of years has endeared to me by many ties.

Last night we had very fine music by the band. Among the tunes was Hail Columbia & Star Spangled Banner. We have concerts every week by the traps band.

I could continue to write until every line should be filled but being well satisfied that the foregoing will be as much as you could desire to read considering the hand in which it is written, I draw my communication to a close leaving you to infer that my health is tolerable good as well as that I expect many letters from you, leaving me to pay the postage.

T.J.J.

At the time of his arrival at West Point, Jackson was five feet ten inches in height, but constant drilling developed his frame until he reached almost six feet.

While records are missing from the middle of 1844 until 1846 at the library of the Academy, some scattered records show a few lines of interest of the young cadet in the field of books. It is not surprising to find that on February 25, 1843, he took out Scott's *Napoleon*. Many time it has been affirmed that he was never without Napoleon's "Maxims," in some form or other. By "special permission of the Superintendent," on January 21, 1846, he drew out Duane's *Military Dictionary*, and four days later, on January 26, had turned his attention to Turner's *Chemistry*.

In June, 1846, came days of final examinations. We cannot doubt that they were anxious days for young Jackson, in spite of his previous expressions to his sister

as to his achievements. By Special Order No. 44, issued by R. Jones, Adjutant General, of the War Department, a board of physicians was directed to meet and ascertain if all candidates met the physical qualifications. The original report carries in three rows the names of all who "qualified for service of the United States." At the head of the list appear the names of C. S. Stewart, G. B. McClellan, and J. L. Reno. In the second row appears the name of T. J. Jackson. McClellan became the famous general of the Civil War of later days. Jesse Lee Reno, youthful friend of Jackson, was from Wheeling, (W.) Virginia, and rose to high distinction in the same war on the Federal side.

In the official record at the Military Academy is a "General Merit Roll of the Graduating Class of 1846." This document shows the class, the various cadets who had been recommended for promotion by the "Academic Board," and the choice of the graduates. The roll is dated June 29, 1846, and on it appears the name of Thomas J. Jackson of "Weston PO Lewis Co., Va." assigned the "3rd. Artillery Light Co."

On June 30, 1846, Jackson received the brevet rank of second lieutenant of artillery, and he was graduated on July 1. He stood seventeenth in a class of sixty members. This was an extraordinary accomplishment. His grades were Engineering, 12; Ethics, 5; Artillery, 11; Infantry Tactics, 21; Mineralogy and Geology, 11.

He left West Point for home in company with Dabney H. Maury, Cadmac Wilcox, Archie Botts, "Dominie" Wilson, and perhaps others. The young graduates arrived in Washington, and stopped at the Brown Hotel. Here the classmates parted, little knowing what the years to follow held in store. Jackson at once returned to visit his sister at Beverly and the old home at Weston. Concerning this visit, Sylvanus White wrote to Thomas Jackson Arnold:

While he was here our County Militia was called out with a view of getting up a company of volunteers for the Mexican War. Our Colonel McKinley asked him to take command of a company in the day's muster. He [Thomas] said, "No, I would probably not understand your orders." But the Colonel insisted. When we got on the parade ground the Colonel did not give the proper command and Tom's company was headed uptown, so he went on, explaining afterwards that he was obeying orders. "I volunteered in the company for the Mexican War", he said to me; "I expect orders any minute to go. I want to see you at the taking of the City of Mexico. We are going to take it." Our company was never called out.

This visit was very short. It appears that he arrived at Weston on Monday, July 20. On Wednesday he received orders to report to Captain Francis Taylor, at Fort Columbus, Governor's Island, New York, and he left on Thursday, July 23, for this point.

CHAPTER X

The War With Mexico—
The United States Army

On August 12, 1846, Jackson appeared before Charles Lott, a justice of the peace, at New Utrecht, New York, where he executed the standard form of allegiance to the United States. In this he affirmed that his name was Thomas J. Jackson, that he was born in Clarksburg, Virginia, and had received a commission as Brevet Second Lieutenant in the Army. The document was returned to the War Department at Washington, where it was endorsed "report by letter to Lt. Col. B. K. Pierce, Pensacola, Florida."¹

A week later, on August 19, Jackson, in company with Captain Francis Taylor, left Fort Hamilton in New York harbor with some thirty men and forty horses to join the United States forces in Mexico. After traveling to Pittsburgh, the command embarked for New Orleans by boat, by way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. During the journey they passed the island which had been the scene of the adventures of Thomas and Warren Jackson in 1836-37, when they set out to seek their fortunes in the west.

Leaving New Orleans in the latter part of September, the company was soon attached to the army of General Zachary Taylor. It remained more or less inactive the balance of the year. From Saltillo, Mexico, on December 26, Jackson wrote to Brig. Gen. George Gibson, Commanding General of Subsistence, Washington, D. C., as follows:

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose you a return with the necessary abstracts of provisions received and issued by

me on march from Fort Hamilton, New York, to Monterey, in Mexico and have also to state that I have received from Captain Taylor, an order to perform the duties of Acting Asst. Commissary, which duty I performed from the 13th. of August to include the 27th., of November 1846, and request that I may be allowed the usual compensation in like cases.²

The report was received in Washington on January 26, 1847.

The opening of operations in 1847 found Jackson's company transferred to the troops under command of Gen. Winfield Scott, the commander in chief of the army of occupation. On March 3, 1847, he was advanced to the full rank of second lieutenant. Reporting to Adj. Gen. R. Jones in Washington from Jalapa on April 26, he wrote: "I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of my commission as second lieutenant in the U. S. Army." The report reached Washington on May 19.³

In the last days of March, he wrote his uncle, Isaac Brake of Buckhannon, (W.) Virginia, as follows:

Camp near Vera Cruz, Mexico,
March 31, 1847.

Dear Uncle:

I remember with no small degree of pleasure the happy days which I have spent under your hospitable roof, and in the agreeable society of yourself and family.

Since those happy days I have seen many vicissitudes of fortune, but in the all changing scenes the hand of an all-wise God can be seen. He has prolonged my life up to the present moment though my health has been bad at various times, and I have been for months in a sickly climate.

Since leaving home I have been in many of the large cities of our own country and in some of those of the enemies. Among the latter may be enumerated Matamoras, Monterey, Saltillo, and Vera Cruz, the latter city in connection with the castle of San Juan Ulloa surrendered to us after a long siege. We landed on the ninth of this month near the city, and on the same night the enemy commenced their fire on us which was kept up with

occasional intermissions until we had so bombarded and cannonaded them as to induce them to surrender, which they did day before yesterday giving up their arms, and all public property, themselves retiring into the interior with the understanding that they should not again take up arms against us during the present war.

Troops at present occupy both town and castle. The town is of immense strength being surrounded on one side by a wall about ten feet high and forts extending around to the Gulf of Mexico, and on the gulf side is defended by the castle itself which is a large fortress of the strongest character and the works are so arranged that it is impossible for a man to approach the town on either side without being exposed to the fire of cannon. I hope that before many days I shall be on the march towards the City of Mexico. Vera Cruz continues healthy. Our loss is small, not exceeding in my opinion 20 men killed, but the loss on either side is not accurately known. We had two captains killed, one of the artillery and the other of the infantry.

General Taylor has obtained a great victory over General Santa Anna, but sustained a loss in killed and wounded of about 700 men. The Mexican army appears to be in a very distracted state according to rumor. I hope I shall again be allowed the privilege of meeting with yourself and family before the lapse of many years, but I cannot think of it until the close of the present war.

I wish you to answer this as soon as convenient giving me a general history of things in your vicinity. My health is about as when I last saw you. Give my respects to each member of your family including of course Rachel and James, and remember me to all inquiring friends. Tell Uncle Jacob if he is still living that I intend writing to him before long and remain assured of my highest regards.

T. J. Jackson.

P. S. You will be particular not to allow any part of this or any other letter from me to be published. T.J.J.

Isaac Brake,
Buckhannon, Va.

Jackson was advanced to the rank of brevet first lieutenant on August 20, for "gallant and meritorious conduct at the siege of Vera Cruz" and on the same

date was further advanced to the rank of brevet captain "for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battles of Contreras and Churubusco." In the events which followed in rapid succession, Captain Magruder, in his official reports, wrote: "I beg leave to call the attention of the Major-General commanding the division to the conduct of (then) Lt. Jackson of the First Artillery. If devotion, industry, talent and gallantry are the highest qualities of a soldier, then he is entitled to the distinction which their possession confers." On September 13, 1847, he was commissioned a brevet major (register U. S. Army) for "gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Chapultepec, September 13, 1847," having in less than a year risen to this rank from brevet second lieutenant.

On July 15, 1847, Jackson was assigned to duty in the Quartermasters Department and something of his duties may be gleaned from the records in this field. The supplies for the month of September are covered in a long form, headed "Return of Provisions Received and issued at Mexico and the city of Mexico during the month of September 1847."⁴ He affirmed therein that he had received from "Lt. R. C. Caldwell, A.C.S.," "288 pounds of fresh beef" and various amounts of pork, beef, bacon, soap, salt, candles, etc. It is interesting to note that a column headed "whisky-gallons-gills" is left completely blank, which may or may not have represented something of the feeling of the young lieutenant. This service led to the forwarding of the following letter to "George Gibson, Com. Gen. Sub.":

City of Mexico
Oct. 6, 1847

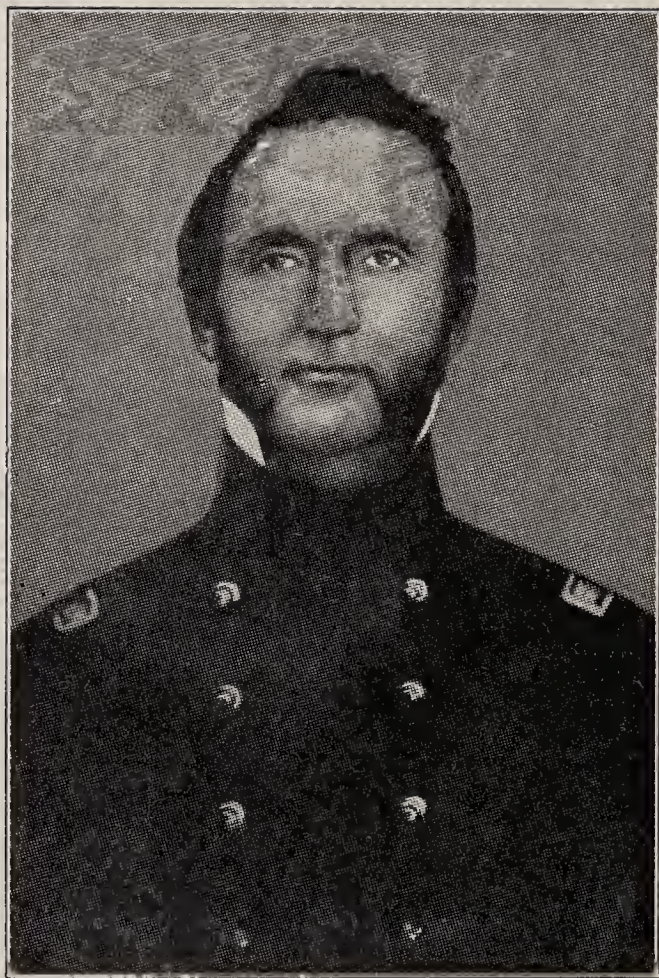
Sir:

I have the honor to request that I may receive the appointment of assistant commissary. And if practicable to date from the 16, of July 1847 that being the time at which I was assigned to duty in the commissary and quartermasters Department with light company I 1st.

were God's pleasure I feel that
I would gladly exchange with him
the apparent period of dissolution
I look upon death as being
that moment which of
all other earthly ones
is most to be desired by a
child of God. Give much love
to Uncle and to each
member of the Family,
and to Hordine and when
~~assure~~ hermits please let
me hear from you

Your much attached nephew
P. J. Jackson

PORTION OF A LETTER TO MRS. ALFRED NEALE OF PARKERSBURG, (W.)
VIRGINIA. (SEE TEXT)



JACKSON, 1857, VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

Arty by written orders from Captain Magruder its commanding officer.

I am sir,

Most respectfully,
Your obdt Sevt

T. J. Jackson
2nd Lt. 1st Arty

To George Gibson
Com. Gen. Sub.

I recommend strongly that the above application be granted.

J. Bankhead Magruder
Cap. V.Ar.

Dec. 3/47

Com. Light Company I 1st Arty⁵

In Washington, however, action was delayed until the spring of 1848, and it was not until April that the following was forwarded:

Office of Commissary General of Subsistence
Washington, April 15, 1848

Sir: I have the honor to request that 2nd. Lt. Thomas J. Jackson of the 1st. Artillery may be appointed an assistant Commissary of Subsistence in Mexico.

Most Respt.

Yr obt. Sevt

(Genl) George Gibson.

To Hon. W. L. March, Sec. of War.

The result was that Jackson was "Aptd" and commission "sent April 20, 1848."⁶

In November (on a day which he was destined to celebrate for a decade and which would become famous in military annals seventy-one years later) he wrote the following interesting letter to Captain H. L. Scott about army matters. Scott forwarded it to General Pillow, who in turn seems to have had his own ideas about the operation:

Sir,

I have the honor to state that there are for duty at present but 31 Artillery men (privates) of Light Compy. J 1st Arty. of which one is hospital nurse at General Hospital and another at the company hospital two cooks and three additional privates are required for guard leaving for drill but twenty five Artillery men of which 24 are required as drivers, and for more than a month back the number has not exceeded thirty six and has within this time been even reduced to twenty eight.

There are eleven men of the new Regiment (Genl. Pillows Division) attached and for duty, making a total for duty of forty two men. Eight of the last named have been instructed in the duties of Artillery soldiers and some of them are very excellent drivers, exceedingly important in the battery. I have the honor to request that the following eight be transferred permanently to this battery, to wit. Privts. Alexander Finley, E. Brinton, Lewis H. & Daniel Miles "A" of the Voltigeurs, Peter Daniels B. 14 Infy. Cornelieus Acker B. & Hudson A. Church E. 15 Infy. Abraham Sears F. 9th Infy. & Mathew Goslin F. 11th Infy. and that the rest of the men who have been more recently attached to be ordered to join their respective companies as I am informed that application to that effect has been made by some of their commanders.

When recruits arrive a number equal to that now asked for can be attached to the new Regiments.

Those proposed to be transferred now not being well drilled as Infantry but efficient as Artillery soldiers, it will be therefore beneficial to keep them with the Battery turning over eight recruits in their stead.

I have also to request that thirty men be detached from the Artillery Regiments & temporarily attached to this Battery until the arrival & preparation of recruits, which latter can be done sufficiently well to relieve this department in ten days after the recruits are assigned to the battery.

This number is necessary to make the Battery as efficient as it should be. Even the drill cannot be executed with the present number for it is necessary to take the cannoniers as drivers in the maneuvers of the Battery.

I beg leave to remark that this system of detailing men from the Artillery Regiments for this purpose has

been applied to some of the light batterys heretofore.

This note has been submitted to Capt. Magruder and has received his approval.

I am Sir

Mexico

Your Most Obt. Servt.

Nov. 11, 1847

T. J. Jackson

To Capt. H. L. Scott

2 Lt 1st Arty

Actg. Asst. Adj. Genl.

Comdg Compy^r

U. S. A.

L.s., two pages, with endorsement on reverse by Gen. Pillow:

I do not approve of so much of the application as contemplates the *Permanent* transfer of the 8 named Privates — I think it would be better to supply the wants of the Battery (Field) with recruits expected soon to arrive in this city.

Gid. J. Pillow

Majr. Genl. U.S.A.

The *Harrison Republican*, published at Clarksburg, stated, December 10, 1847, that a letter had been received from Lieut. Thomas Jackson, a West Point graduate from Lewis County, in which it was related that he had been favorably noted in reports for his conduct in engagements near the capital of Mexico. His residence in Mexico was not of great duration, but during this time he managed to learn something of the Spanish language⁸ and investigated the prevailing religion of that country.

Jackson's experiences in Mexico were, of course, of intense interest to all the people "at home" and to his numerous kinsmen. Sylvanus White, a cousin, writing the late Thomas J. Arnold concerning a visit made by the young soldier in 1852 to Jackson's Mill, says:

We stayed overnight at the old mill place. There were no other whites that night, only the Negroes [slaves]. He and I slept in the same bed. In talking of

Mexico he was telling me of the heroism of the other officers. I said, "I want you to tell me something of your own." He replied, "Oh, if I have to blow my own horn, it will be a long time before it is blown."

Speaking further of the action of Chapultepec, Jackson remarked that it "would have been no disgrace to have died there but to have failed to gain my point it would."

Another relative, Jacob B. Jackson (1829-93), then Governor of West Virginia, wrote in 1882:

I recollect asking Stonewall, who was my cousin if he had ever been frightened in war. He said yes once he had been considerably under a sense of fear. It was in the city of Mexico. A chest containing a large sum of money had been put in Lieutenant Jackson's charge and to be perfectly secure of it he ordered it carried to his headquarters, an old abbey or convent, and laid down there alone in the room with it to sleep, a sentinel walking the corridor outside. He had been there in bed only a few minutes, and was getting drowsy when he distinctly heard something under the bed, which lifted up as if a man was secreted there. Jackson said he leaped out of bed and drew his sword and examined the bed and the room in vain. Jackson then supposed he had been dreaming and resumed his bed. Just as he was thinking it all a mistake his bed lifted again, plainly and with some force. He started forth a second time, sword in hand, and behold, nothing was there. This time said he, I was scared indeed, till my attention was called to a shouting outside in the street and then I found that it was an earthquake passing under the City of Mexico that had lifted my bed up and given me such apprehension.⁹

On March 5, 1848, an armistice was signed and, in June, Major Jackson's command returned to Fort Hamilton, New York, arriving in August. In December of the same year he secured a furlough and for a short time visited his sister, Laura, at Beverly, and relatives in Clarksburg. He spent the Christmas season at Jackson's

Mill. There he found the family circle broken; his Uncle Edward, with whom he was a great favorite, had died in October of the same year, and his Aunt Elizabeth (Carpenter), who was then ill, died a short time after he left the community.

From Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, December 27, 1848, he wrote General R. Jones, Adj. Genl. U. S. Army, at Washington: "I have the honor to inform you of the receipt of my commission as 1st. Lieutenant in the first regiment of U. S. Artillery and of Brevet Captain in the U. S. Army and to inform you of my acceptance of the appointment."¹⁰

Letters extant show Jackson's great interest and feeling in religious matters. He also set himself to the task of further education and had in view the possibility of being advanced from the rank of major to that of lieutenant colonel. The following letter to his benefactor, Samuel L. Hays of Weston, is of great interest in this connection:

Fort Hamilton, Long Island, N.Y.
Feby. 2nd 1849.

Dear Sir:

Having to a great extent recovered my strength, and, I hope, my health, I take pleasure in returning you my most sincere thanks for your repeated kindness towards me; hoping at the same time, that some opportunity may present itself, of discharging my debt of gratitude in some other way; though at present, I must admit, that I cannot see very clearly in what way I can ever be serviceable to you; though should that opportunity never present itself, I well know from the interest which you have taken in my welfare that you will consider yourself compensated, if I but turn to the best advantage the opportunities which your exertions in my behalf, have, and may hereafter give me.

I regret that I could not have had an occasion of conversing a moment with you at our last meeting; you might have given me some information, which I could not otherwise acquire.

I believe that the list of brevets is now being made

out, and from what you intimated to me, and from information received since, and the strong grounds on which I have been presented, I have but little or no doubt but that I shall be advanced; provided my claims should be presented to the Secretary of War; but I am afraid that the case may from forgetfulness, not be brought to his consideration at this time; as the list is being filled up.

I would be glad to converse with you; as I know that my conversation would be directed to *my best friend*; but that pleasure I must forego for the present. My sense of gratitude for the interest which you have taken in my welfare, is easier to be appreciated by the heart, than to be expressed by words.

I propose with the blessings of *Providence* to be a hard student, and to make myself not only acquainted with Military art and science; but with politics, and of course, must be well versed in history. My historical studies I have arranged in the following order: first a general history, ancient and modern, and then, special histories of important events, countries, etc.

I have commenced with Rollins Ancient History, and have read about one-fourth of it; reading about forty or fifty pages per day.

You will please answer this, and remember me to your family, those absent as well as at home.

The gold fever is running quite high here; I have conversed with Mr. Loester, an officer of the Army, from the gold mines, and who brought a quantity of the precious metal with him; the dust consists of scales, of which he brought a vial full, holding the value of a hundred dollars; and its appearance is that of scales, instead of sand, as I had formerly imagined it to be; and he also brought a solid piece weighing probably more than an ounce.

This officer stated to me that the average gathering there was about 90 dollars per day, but that everything was extremely high. The climate, he says, is charming, the thermometer ranging from 60 to 70 degrees.

This post is about ten miles below N. Y. city, and on the east bank of the Hudson or North River, and is a delightful station.

Your sincere friend,

T. J. Jackson

Col. Samuel L. Hays.

The religious fervor manifested itself more than ever. Across the street from Fort Hamilton, Kings County, stood the little St. Johns Episcopal Church, so frequently called the Church of the Generals, which had been founded by one Rev. James Dixon Carder, September 28, 1834. The Reverend Carder married Dr. Houghton and Mrs. Shew, who figures in the family circle of Dr. Barney, later mentioned. At the time Jackson was stationed there, the minister was M. Schofield.

An entry in the church register, signed "M Schofield, Rector," reads: "On Sunday 29th. day of April 1849, I Baptised Thomas Jefferson Jackson Major in the U. S. Army. Sponsors Cols. Dimick and Taylor, also of the Army." With this we find a formal entry into the church, although later he espoused the faith of many of his forebears, the Presbyterian.

In a collection of the author is a copy of Dr. Dabney's work which is autographed "Francis Hopkins, Fort Hamilton 1866." Inserted is a notation that Mrs. Jackson, in 1868, visited the church and pronounced the recorded middle name "Jefferson incorrect," explaining that it was Jonathan and so named for his father, which is of course correct. On October 14, 1934, the Jackson font in the church was restored.¹¹

The opening of the year 1850 found Jackson still at Fort Hamilton. In January, he wrote his sister Laura:

Fort Hamilton.
Jan. 7, [1849?]

My dear sister:

Again I am permitted by an indulgent Providence to say that I am still among the living, and continue able to correspond with an endeared and beloved sister.

My health I believe is still improving; my strength certainly is. I cannot take as much exercise as desirable owing to a sore foot.

I can sympathise with you in such bereavements as you speak of.

Uncle Cummins is in California. I received from Cousin Mary Hays a letter a few days since, in which she

states that Uncle had written to her from near Sacramento City.

When I return home I shall want to take much exercise, and expect that combining it with the mountain air, to receive much benefit.

The winter here has been quite mild; it is snowing slightly today.

I should like very much to spend this winter with you; certainly be much more congenial to my feelings.

Do you ever see Judge Lee, S. L. Hays, J. C. Carlile, Doct. McCally, or Jos. Johnson. If so please give them my regards.

Does the stage run from Staunton to Beverly? How can I get to Beverly from Baltimore? Remember me very kindly to Mr. Arnold, to the balance of the family, and to my other friends and relatives.

Let me hear from you soon.

Your brother,

Mrs. L. Arnold.

T. J. Jackson.

Endorsed "Fort Hamilton, N.Y. Jan. 8. — Mrs. L. A. Arnold, Beverly¹² Randolph County, Virginia."

On March 17, 1850, Jackson's cousin, Mary J. Hays, wrote him a very interesting letter from Jane Lew, (W.) Virginia, as follows:

My dear cousin:

I have received your interesting letter dated February 7th. You will no doubt be interested in hearing that we received a letter from brother Edward the last of February. It was six weeks from the time it was written until it reached us from California. He mentioned to us that Uncle Cummins died the 4th of December (1849) with typhoid fever, after an illness of 27 or 28 days. John Gibson died the 12th of September and Jonathan Ireland the 16th of November. Othello Hays died in November, of cholera. Shelton Furr also in November of cholera. Truly a category showing that time is but a fleeting messenger and life a vapor.

Edward mentioned to us that the Indians had robbed him of better than \$3000 worth of property, and though discomfited here his endeavors since have been crowned

with success, and everything is prospering with him. He has sent Nancy between 8 and 9 hundred dollars worth of gold dust. If you have a desire to write to Edward, direct your letter to Sacramento City. Uncle Cummins landed property is said to be worth 25 to 30 thousand dollars. He died without a will and it has caused great excitement among his relatives.

Your sister is well and wishes to know why you do not write to her. She is anxious to hear from you. You wish to know if Aunt Caroline Norris received the money. Yes, it was handed to her by your sister.

You mention "Easter is near", Oh, how the heart yearns for its former childish reminiscences. It struck me in reading it that you would expect me to hide for you ten or twelve dozen eggs. These I will promise to keep for you if you will drop in on our family circle at that favored season. Mother says that if the carriage would not be an objection she could furnish you a bushel of eggs and any fowls you might wish. These we have in abundance for you well know she will not be without the luxuries that can be procured in this country.

You mention in your letter that the weather with you was like the Virginia month of May. You will perhaps be astounded when I tell you that a part of January and February was quite as warm with us, we have kept the windows and doors open the two months nearly through, and the trees are budding and all nature putting on green to welcome the vernal season.

Mother, Nancy, and myself have unusually good health. I often think of our humble abode, as many would call it, and with the luxuries of western Virginia I would not envy kings. Mother and Nancy join with me in the warmest compliments to you and wishing you Heaven's blessings in every particular, and in the language of the poet, "I must bid you farewell, a word that must be". Believe me,

Your sincere cousin,

Mary J. Hays.¹³

Mr. T. J. Jackson

Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor

In the fall of 1850 Jackson again secured a furlough and returned to western Virginia, spending some time at Beverly, Weston, and Jackson's Mill. Rejoining his command, he was next at Fort Meade in Florida.

No student of the life of Stonewall Jackson has failed to note the constant interest he manifested in the matter of his personal health. Victim of an obscure form of intestinal dyspepsia from which he was seldom free, he left no opportunity closed to avail himself of treatment at the hands of medical practitioners in whom he had confidence. This inclination led to a brief connection with western New York State, passed over by earlier biographers, and given only casual mention by the writer heretofore.

In 1851, through an acquaintance with Dr. Lowry Barney, of Henderson, Jefferson County, New York, Major Jackson spent six weeks in what was then a typical rural village, which, however, numbered among its residents many people of culture and many who had achieved national prominence. Dr. Barney was a physician and investigator of more than local note. His use of buttermilk in such cases as that of Major Jackson antedates the investigations of such distinguished scientists as Metchnikoff and others. There need be no doubt that Jackson spent some time in Henderson, as copies of letters, from originals owned by the writer, follow. In September, 1851, Jackson wrote his uncle, Alfred Neale, of Parkersburg, (W.) Virginia: "I recruited rapidly at Lake Ontario, where I passed part of July and August." And on August 4, the War Department at Washington received a notice he had written July 31, 1851, concerning his "leave of absence."

But out of this visit has grown a maze of contradictory stories and legends. It perhaps has some influence on an episode in the Second Battle of Manassas, and without doubt gave rise to a local belief that Jackson as a boy lived in Jefferson County, New York, and attended the noted local Academy in the village of Belleville. The story has grown to such an extent that in June, 1925, Jackson's connection was depicted in a pageant portraying the history of this school.

The *Watertown Times*, of Watertown, New York, on June 18, 1925, under the caption of "Did Jackson go to the Academy?" related that "once as a boy, once as a young man, and last as a general," he crossed the pages of the records of that community. It is further related that as a boy he lived with an uncle in the community, and attended the school at Belleville—that statement being based, it seems, on the alleged statement of Professor Richard Ellis, of the "Academy," a teacher therein from the fall of 1834 until 1851. The statement comes second-handed that a speaker at a Baptist Convention, held in Belleville in 1885, is reported by a local paper as having said: "Professor Ellis, one of the early teachers at the Academy, told me that Robert Ingersoll and Stonewall Jackson were once students at the Academy." A similar statement appears in a local paper in 1890.

Concerning his visit to Henderson, Miss Elva Barney (1849-1937) wrote the author, September 10, 1925:

I am in receipt of your communication relative to an article appearing in the *Watertown Times*, on June 18th, under the caption "Did Jackson go to the Academy," and in which you also inquire as to my family, its connections with Jackson, and my recollection of the facts in this matter.

In view of the fact that I am the only surviving member of the immediate family of Dr. Lowry Barney, it seemed but right that I should correct the statement that Jackson had ever spent any time in this community, except as a patient, and to receive medical treatment at our home. The suggestion that he had spent part of his childhood here, and was a student at Belleville Academy, had no basis of fact whatever, as you no doubt realize.

My father, Dr. Lowry Barney, was born in 1792, and died in 1884. He was a son of Dr. Daniel Barney, the second physician to locate in this community, and a brother of Hiram Barney, a son-in-law of Lewis Tappan, long a prominent member of the New York Bar, a close friend of Abraham Lincoln, and Salmon P. Chase, of Lincoln's cabinet, and who served as collector of the Port

of New York under Lincoln. He married (1) Almira Spencer; (2) Pamela Farrel. My father was considered a well educated physician, a deep student, graduate of two medical colleges, and took some part in public affairs, having represented his district in the legislature in 1836. My brothers all knew Jackson quite well and three of them left for the front carrying letters to my father, which they believed might have some influence, if captured. They were Daniel D., Co. E, N. Y. Heavy Artillery, who died in service in 1864; George, M. D., who served in the same company, died in 1879; and Fromundas, of Co. H, 18th N. Y. Cavalry, who died in 1887. My sister, Mary Louise, married (1) Dr. Joel Shew. She befriended, in many ways, the sick wife of Edgar Allan Poe, who then lived at Fordham, New York; and the poems to "M. L. S." and "Marie Louise" were dedicated to her. About 1850 she married (2) Dr. Roland S. Houghton, who was born in St. Albans, Vermont, about 1824. They took up residence at 47 Bond Street, New York City, and here Poe wrote his celebrated "The Bells," and here also my father met Major Thomas Jackson, possibly in 1851.

As you know, Jackson spent much time in search of health. He talked to my father concerning his condition, and became impressed with the idea that he could cure dyspepsia. The fact that he had been appointed a teacher at V. M. I., which would call for his services in September, gave him little time, and he requested that he be permitted to accompany my father home. Upon being informed that our home was small, and accommodation in the region not of the best, Jackson stated that his health was of more importance than all else.

Jackson and my father left New York soon after on a morning boat for Albany. They arrived at Bishop Street in due time, about three miles from Henderson, there being at that time a railroad from Pierrepont Manor to Sackett's Harbor, noted for a battle in the War of 1812. My father at once started Jackson on a careful diet, prepared by Mother; and much stress was laid on the use of fresh buttermilk and freshly made corn bread. He spent six weeks in our home, was accustomed to take daily walks to Henderson Harbor, about a mile from our home. He often visited other points around our region, and in spite of his quiet nature, made several friends. On his walks he often carried an umbrella, and, curiously,

kept a cup at the shore so that he could drink of the waters of Lake Ontario. He also ate a great deal of fruit, and we still have a silver paring knife he used. Being but a very small child, I do not recall him distinctly, except that he was tall, slender, and very courtly, and often talked of his Mexican war campaigns, in which my father and the oldest members of the family were much interested. To me he had a cheery "howdy."

His subsequent correspondence shows his appreciation for the treatment given by my father, and certainly he must have derived much benefit. After returning to the Virginia Military Institute his suggestions sent another professor by the name of Lt. Daniel Trueheart to my father for treatment. Until after 1884 we had some letters from this man showing equal promising results, and my father kept both of them on a treatment for some time, advising the procedure by mail.

The slightest examination of the evidence extant clearly indicates that Jackson was never in that region as a boy. No uncle ever resided in western New York. His youth prior to the time he laid aside the duties of a county constable in Lewis County, (W.) Virginia, to enter West Point is so closely connected with the region around the town of Weston, (W.) Virginia, that this may be dismissed from consideration. But as to alleged visits to this section of New York prior to 1851, and claims that he spent the years 1847 to 1850 in New York City, where he saw much of Hiram Barney and his father-in-law, Lewis Tappan, alleged John Brown supporter, let us examine the evidence.

Brevet Captain Jackson, on August 26, 1848, from Governor's Island, wrote: "I have arrived at this station which is in sight of the city of New York"; from Mexico, "but as yet I do not know where I will be stationed." On September 5, he participated in a general court-martial at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania; and the following month, under a leave of absence, visited various points in (W.) Virginia.

The opening of the year, 1849, found Jackson stationed at Fort Hamilton, New York, on duty as acting com-

missary of subsistence and acting quartermaster, from January 1 to October 1. From February 8 to March 10, in August, and on September 13, he was in command of a Company K, 1st U. S. Artillery. On October 1, he was transferred to Company E of the same regiment.

On May 10, 1850, Jackson was in upper New York at Plattsburg on court-martial duty, and by July 6 he was back at Fort Hamilton. On August 10, his report showed him at Oswego, New York, in search of some remedy for his physical troubles, "staying at a water cure establishment." On September 3, he was at West Point on the Hudson. Leaving Fort Hamilton on October 27, he sailed with his company for New Orleans. From this point he moved with his company to Tampa, Florida, arriving on November 6; was at Fort Casey from November 10 to 13; left Tampa December 16; arrived at Fort Meade on the eighteenth; and later was on detached service at Indians, he was absent on a scouting expedition into the Fort Hamer.

Participating in the hostilities against the Seminole interior from January 26 to February, 1851, and he also served as acting quartermaster. While at Fort Meade he engaged in correspondence, which will be referred to later, which resulted in his leaving the army and accepting a professorship at the Virginia Military Institute, located at Lexington, Virginia. In March he was reported sick and was granted a leave of absence for nine months in War Department Special Orders No. 41, of April 2, 1851. He departed on this leave May 21.

Before leaving Fort Meade, however, he wrote the following interesting letter:

Fort Meade Fla.

April 21st 1851

Sir

I respectfully request that if Captain and Bt. Maj. Wm. H. French 1st Artillery, has communicated anything to the Head Quarters of the 5th Military Department which may in the least affect my character as an officer

or gentleman, or as both, that a Court of inquiry may be ordered with ample powers to investigate my conduct, in order that I may vindicate my character from any such imputation, or imputations, and that the said court, be directed to express its opinion on the merits of the case.

I am Sir,
Very respectfully,
Your obdt. servt.

T. J. Jackson
1st H. & Bt. Maj. 1st Arty.

To

Br. Capt. J. M. Brannan 1st Arty.
A. A. A. Genl. Hd. Qrs.
5th Mil Dept. New Orleans¹⁴

Returning from Florida, Jackson visited his boyhood home at Jackson's Mill, in Lewis County, (W.) Virginia; then returned to New York City by way of Lexington, where he stopped to inspect his new field of endeavor. Part of July and August was spent at Henderson, New York. From this point he addressed the following letter to Bt. Maj. Genrl. R. Jones, Adjutant General, U. S. Army:

Henderson, Jefferson County, N. Y.
July 31, 1851

General:

I have in compliance with the wish of the Superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute postponed my visit to Europe. As he informed me that the Department had authorized him to say to me, that I could use my leave of absence as I might prefer.

I shall be in Washington by the 10th. of next month.

I am general,
Very respectfully,
Your obdt. Sevt

T. J. Jackson,
1st. Lt & Bvt Maj. 1st. F. Atty¹⁵

Therefore, it is quite obvious that in these active years Jackson had little chance to make many journeys to other points, as at times has been related in local

traditions. Jackson did, however, continue to keep in touch with Dr. Barney and he wrote to him on the back of a program of a V. M. I. military ball, held on July 4, 1853:

My Dear Doctor:

My health has been very much improved, and at present I may be said to be the very picture of health.

Your kind remembrance came safely.

This summer I hope to be at the World's Fair [New York City], where I design calling on Doctor Houghton, and not to forget that there is something due you more than gratitude.

Remember me very kindly to Mrs. Lowry [Barney] and to all the family & to inquiring friends.

T. J. Jackson.¹⁶

Following his marriage to Miss Elinor Junkin, of Lexington, Virginia, Jackson wrote to Dr. Barney:

Revere House, Boston,
August 18th, 1853

My dear Doctor:

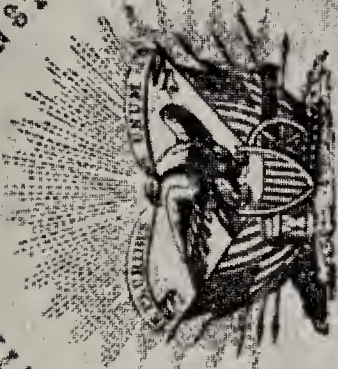
Your kind letter came safely to hand, and for which accept the gratitude of a devoted friend. An early answer should have been given, had it not been almost the close of my bachelor career. I was married on the 4th instant to an intellectual, pure, and lovely lady—the daughter of Dr. Junkin, President of Washington College, in Virginia. So you observe that I continue to carry out your advice.

My health has continued to improve. This city has been included on my bridal trip. I thought of you when passing through Rome on my way to Niagara, Montreal, Quebec, etc. For your friendly invitation to visit you this summer, please accept my thanks. It would have given me such pleasure could it have been possible, but I am under the necessity of being at home about the first of next month, and my arrangements require me to be in New York City on Saturday next—where I am to remain until Tuesday evening following, and would be rejoiced to meet you there.

I have derived so much benefit from your wholesome and wise instructions that gratitude to you will accompany me to the grave.

My dear doctor My health
 has very much improved.
 And at present I may
 be said to be the very
 picture of health.
 Your kind remembrance
 came so freely
 off at summer I hope
 to be at the Worlds Fair
 when I design calling on
 doctor Hays, and not
 to forget that there is something
 but you more than prob-
 itude
 Remember me very kindly to Mrs
 Lowry and to all the family & to
 every friends Y^r Obedient Son

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE



CADETS' ANNIVERSARY
WREATH BALL

The pleasure of your Company is solicited at

WREATH BALL,

TO BE GIVEN AT THE

Corps of Cadets of the Virginia Military Institute,

ON THE

EVENING OF THE FOURTH OF JULY, 1853.

BOARD OF MANAGERS:

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| J. L. WHITE, | J. P. HAMMETT, |
| G. STRAY, | F. K. LUTY, |
| J. A. TURNER, | A. C. WARD, |
| T. G. SMITH, | A. B. WILKINSON, |
| D. HANDELMAN, | J. L. RICHARD, |
| J. W. HILL, | K. C. ALLEN, |
| M. J. S. HILL, | H. S. FLETCHER, |
| | W. B. HILL, |
| | G. W. HILL, |
| | W. H. HILL, |
| | G. H. HILL, |



STONEWALL JACKSON. DRAWN IN 1861, NEAR BALLS BLUFF, VIRGINIA, BY
DR. A. VOLCK, OF BALTIMORE. (SEE NOTES.)

Frequently you are the subject of my thoughts and conversation. To your kind wife and endearing family remember me most kindly—for the friendly interest of the citizens of Henderson I am truly grateful, and should any inquire after me give them my warm remembrances.

Do not forget to remember me to Dr. and Mrs. Houghton.

Let me hear from you at your earliest convenience; and should any of the family ever come near me, be certain not to pass by without giving me an opportunity of seeing them.

Your much attached and grateful,
T. J. Jackson.¹⁷

Dr. Barney replied to this communication on January 4, 1854. He thought Major Jackson hardly needed his physician to meet him in New York inasmuch as the bride would “with an eagle eye watch over your every interest, and this will include your health—the doctor’s interest.”

Jackson continued his correspondence with Dr. Barney until the opening days of the Civil War. Bradley Winslow, a brevet brigadier general in the Federal Army for gallant conduct before Petersburg, in later years wrote an article for the *Watertown* (N. Y.) *Standard* relative to this subject. He recorded that when the sentiment for secession was rife in the south, Jackson wrote to Dr. Barney, and made use of the following significant statement:

I am much worried over the state of our country;
but if war comes, I must go with my mother state,
Virginia * * * whichever way the state should go.

Out of the Civil War which followed, a local story has been disseminated by the public press of western New York, relative to the connection of General Jackson with the death and disposition of the body of a mysterious Federal officer in the Second Battle of Bull Run or Manassas. From considerable, reasonable evidence, it

appears that this officer was Major Andrew J. Barney, of the 24th New York Infantry, a native of Jefferson County, New York, who was killed in this battle on August 30, 1862. Various conflicting stories relate that Jackson recognized the body of Major Barney, and sent it home with a guard of Federal prisoners; another variation is that he wired the people at Belleville to send for the body. As a matter of fact, it seems that through the efforts of Dr. N. W. Buel the body of this noted soldier was returned to Belleville, where the funeral was held midst a great gathering at the local fair grounds on September 23, 1862.

Turning to some of the existing evidence concerning this subject, it is found that Jackson's headquarters, on August 30, 1862, were on Stony Ridge. The Stonewall Brigade was deployed to the right along an unfinished railroad. Directly east was a brigade, embracing some New York Volunteers under the command of Major General George Webb Morell, who directed an attack against Jackson's right.

In his *Stonewall Jackson* (174), Colonel Henderson says:

In the center of the Federal Line, a mounted officer whose gallant bearing lived long in the memories of the Stonewall Division, rode out in front of the column, and, drawing his sabre, led the advance over the rolling grass land. The Confederate batteries, with a terrible cross-fire, swept the northern ranks from end to end; but the horse and rider lived through it all. The men followed close, charging swiftly up the slope; and then, the leader, putting his horse straight at the embankment, stood for a moment on the top. The daring feat was seen by the whole Confederate line, and a yell went up from the men along the railroad, "Don't kill him, don't kill him"; but while the cry went up, horse and rider fell in one limp mass across the earth-work, and the gallant northerner was dragged under the shelter by his generous foe.

In view of the location of the various combat units under Jackson, it is extremely doubtful if he was so

stationed that he could have seen this. An examination of numerous sources of information shows no mention of any such happening in the sight of Jackson or his staff; and it is peculiar that, if of the nature stated, it was not recorded either by him, Rev. James Power Smith, or others.

Major Joseph F. Harding, of the 31st Virginia Infantry, and a native of Elkins, (W.) Virginia, testified in part as to Jackson's personal movements at this time. In an unpublished manuscript he related that Pope's men advanced time and again over this railway cut "only to be hurled back, decimated and broken. As on the preceding day, General Jackson rode along it several times while the fight was raging, apparently not half so concerned about his personal risk as were we. He had his war look on but smiled as we cheered him." Late that evening, "we saw General Jackson quietly riding along in the rear of the line."

Yet, Ashel E. Dickinson, of Belleville, New York, a sergeant in Company K, 24th New York Infantry, later living in Retsil, Washington, related that General Jackson recognized the wounded Major Barney, among the prisoners, and called him by name. Mr. Dickinson related:

He shook hands, and asked him where he was shot. The Major replied that he did not know. Stonewall then asked the prisoners if they belonged to Major Barney's command. He told them to take care of him until he died and make his grave so that the family might find his remains and for his troops not to molest him.

On the other hand, one George May, for some time a keeper of the National Cemetery at Annapolis, related some years ago that the Stonewall Brigade had to defend a railroad cut in this battle. The ammunition had given out, and they were using rocks. The 52nd New York (not Barney's) Regiment was ordered to charge

with bayonets. The Major of the New York regiment led the charge, but General Stuart arrived with the cavalry and drove them back. The New York major was fatally wounded. Jackson came up, and called out, "Tell the surgeons to take that man to the hospital and do all they can for him; I never saw a braver charge."

J. P. Murdock, surgeon of the 24th New York, gave still another version. Writing from Upton Hill, Virginia, September 6, 1862, to the wife of Major Barney, he gave the details of the charge of the regiment, the passage of the railway cut, and the wounding of Barney. He continued:

When General Jackson afterwards rode through the wounded on the field, although there were thousands of dead and dying there, his eye passed over nearly all of them unnoticed, but rested on the prostrate form of Major Barney * * * "This," said General Jackson, "was a brave man; take care of him." He was conveyed to a place of safety and taken care of. His last words were, "tell my wife I died doing my duty."¹⁸

It is not possible, of course, to wholly disprove the story of Jackson's connection with the death of Major Barney. The fact that an officer, of the fame then acquired by this leader, would have paid such attention in time of battle would hardly have gone unnoticed. It is significant, at least, that Dr. J. Dunbar Houghton, in the funeral service, and Hon. L. J. Bigelow, in his splendid eulogy to the brave Federal officer and his death, delivered at the same time, made no mention of any such happening. They simply stated that in Major Barney's "expiring moments he was attended by Lyman Brown, one of his faithful followers," and the remains had been returned to Belleville, New York, "thanks to the perseverant friends of the heroic dead."

Miss Elva Barney, daughter of Dr. Lowry Barney, and a cousin, further observed, November 30, 1925: "I am sure that at the time of Major Barney's death there was

no mention of the Stonewall Jackson story." There is nothing to indicate the source of Colonel Henderson's information in his definitive study of the military life of General Jackson. After all, the actual facts may never be known. Did General Jackson, gentleman that he was, thus pay homage to a brave officer who wore the Blue; a friend or acquaintance of earlier years?¹⁹

Jackson reported to the War Department as late as January 31, 1852. By February, 1852, his army connection was approaching a close. From "Lexington, Va" on February 22, he wrote "Bvt Maj. Genl R. Jones, Adj. Genl U. S. Army" at Washington as follows:

General:

I forward herewith my resignation as an officer of the United States Army and respectfully request that you file with it the accompanying copy of an application for a court of enquiry. My object in making this request is that in leaving the service I may do so with an unblemished character. I am, General

Very respectfully,
Your obt. Svt

T. J. Jackson,
1st. Lt and Bt. Maj. 1st Artillery.²¹

With this resignation and request, he also filed another, dated "Lexington, Va. Feb. 20, 1852":

I hereby resign my commission as an officer of the U. S. Army, to take effect at the expiration of my leave of absence.

I am, general,
Very respectfully,
Yr. Most Obt. Sevt.

T. J. Jackson,
1st Lt. and Bvt. Maj. 1st Artty

Upon receipt of Jackson's papers at the War Department, the following circular letter was issued to various departments:

Adjutant Generals Office.

Washington, Feb. 24, 1852

Brevet Major Thomas J. Jackson 1st. Lieutenant 1st. Artillery having tendered his resignation you are desired to state as early as possible whether he has any accounts either of money or property unsettled in your office in order that the proper report may be made to the Secretary of War in obedience to the requirements of the regulations paragraph 42.

I am sir, very respectfully
Yr. obt. Servant

R. Jones, A. G.²²

Seven different departments having to do with things from money to uniforms reported that "nothing" was out of order and all reports in proper form. The findings were then returned to the Secretary of War, and the original resignation was endorsed on the back as follows:

Bvt. Maj. Thomas J. Jackson, 1st Lt. of the 1st. regiment of artillery received in May last, a leave of absence for nine months. The leave expired the 21st. inst. There is nothing in the state of Bvt. Maj. Jackson accounts with the treasury to interfere with his leaving the service; and it is respectfully recommended therefore that his tender of resignation be accepted to take effect February 29, 1852.

L. Thomas
Asst. Adj. General

And finally the chapter was closed:

Approved and respectfully recommended to the Secretary of War.

Winfield Scott.
Feb. 25, 1852

CHAPTER XI

Jackson at Virginia Military Institute

In July, 1848, the Board of Visitors of the Virginia Military Institute, at Lexington, decided to increase the faculty, but this did not take form until one year later when the board, in order to allow some relief to Col. Wm. Gilham, decided to divide his work and secure another faculty member who was to be professor of natural and experimental philosophy and instructor in infantry tactics. Certainly an imposing title and a rather hard task for anyone who might be selected. The intention moved slowly and it was not until September 24, 1850, that something was actually done. Acting on a recommendation of Major D. H. Hill, of the faculty of Washington College, to Supt. F. H. Smith, it appeared that Major J. J. Peck would be selected. The board, however, elected Prof. Alexander P. Stewart, of Tennessee, to the new post. Stewart was a graduate of West Point in the class of 1842 and a very able young man.

Now came another one of the peculiar "threads of destiny" in the life of young Jackson, then whiling away his days in a not too happy situation in Florida. The notice to Stewart was delayed in delivery. It became the belief of the officials that he would decline. Major Hill again came into the picture, and perhaps others unknown to us. In any event, Colonel Smith asked Hill to recommend another man. Recourse to an Army Register brought back to Hill recollections of the services of Jackson in Mexico. The result of the second conference was that the following letter was soon in the mail:

V. M. Institute
Feb'y 4, 1851

Bvt. Major Thomas J. Jackson
1st Reg't U. S. Artillery,
Fort Meade, near Tampa Bay, Fla.

Dear sir:

The Board of visitors of this Institution will elect a professor of Natural and Experimental philosophy in June next and your name has been mentioned among others for the appointment. Would such a situation be agreeable to you? You are perhaps aware that the Virginia Military Institute is an institution of the State organized upon the model of the U. S. Military Academy. It has always enjoyed a large share of the favor of the State, and as an evidence of its popularity we are now reconstructing our Barracks at an expense to the State of \$46,000. The salary allowed is \$1200 and quarters. Should you desire such a situation I would be pleased to present your name to the Board.

I have no authority to pledge the Board in support of any candidate and am only authorized to make those inquiries which will enable them to act understandingly.

Very truly yours,

F. A. Smith,
Superintendent.

Jackson replied in a letter dated February 25, and stated in part: "Though strong ties bind me to the army I cannot consent to decline so flattering an offer. Please present my name to the Board." The scene now moved to Richmond. It became desirable to hold a meeting before the annual meeting in June but the Virginia law governing the Board activities stood in the way. A bill was introduced and passed which made it possible to convene in the capital city. By this time John S. Carlile, a member of the Senate in the Virginia Assembly, became a member of the V. M. I. Board, and certainly presaged much help for Jackson.²⁰ Carlile, a man of much influence, lived in Beverly, near Jackson's sister, Mrs. Jonathan Arnold, and practiced law in Clarksburg, where the young soldier was born.

The Board convened in Richmond on March 27, 1851. Carlile nominated Jackson for the new post. He pointed out his service in Mexico and his connections and popularity in western Virginia. The following order was entered, as the result of a unanimous vote:

Major Thomas J. Jackson was appointed professor of Natural Philosophy and Artillery Tactics at the Institute vice A. J. (sic) Stuart (sic) declined.

Jackson accepted the appointment but actually did not resign from the U. S. Army until February 29, 1852. Colonel Smith, writing to Jackson on May 15, 1851, said in part: "I found on reaching Washington that you had been granted a furlough of nine months and was authorized by the Department to say that you might use the period allowed you as you might desire."

Major Jackson reported at the Institute on August 13, 1851, as indicated in the following order:

Headquarters V. M. Institute
August 13, 1851

Order No. 137

Bvt. Major Thomas J. Jackson having been app't by the Bd. of Visitors Professor of Natural & Experimental Philosophy and Instructor in Art. Tactics and having reported to the Supt. is assigned to duty in his Department and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

His first recorded duty at V. M. I. was to command the Corps on a march to the various Virginia Springs, and on August 31, 1851, he wrote General R. Jones, Adjutant General of the Army: "I have the honor to report that during the coming month my address will be Lexington, Virginia, though I expect to be at the Virginia Springs from the 8th. until the 25th." On September 30, he filed a similar notice, that henceforth his address would be "Lexington P.O." So we find Jackson, at the age of twenty-seven, a duly elected professor in an institution

destined to become outstanding, and actually serving out an unexpired "leave" from the United States Army.

Major Jackson reported for duty at Virginia Military Institute on August 13, 1851. Here for ten years he lived the rather monotonous life of an instructor.

Writing to his uncle, Alfred Neale, of Parkersburg, in September, 1851, he said, in part:

I have reported at Lexington and am delighted with my duties, the place and the people. At present I am with the corps of cadets at this place (Warm Springs), where we may remain until the company shall leave, which may be some time hence. I recruited rapidly at Lake Ontario, where I passed part of July and August. It would have given me much pleasure to have visited you during the past summer, but I am anxious to devote myself to study until I shall become master of my profession.

John Esten Cooke, member of J. E. B. Stuart's staff and biographer of Jackson, relates that people in Lexington, especially the students at Virginia Military Institute, regarded Jackson, in his earlier years there, with a mingled feeling of awe, respect for his absolute subservience to military rules, and a belief that he was eccentric. His exploits in walking through a pouring rain to repay a small debt, and his firm belief in preordination, which some believed later led to the loss of his life, only accentuated this feeling. His biographer and close friend further relates that the moment a military drill began, or a salute was fired, or, later, the roll of battle began, Jackson's very being changed and that he was without a doubt the most fearless and decisive man that ever wore the uniform of an American soldier.

His continued interest in the church led to his affiliation with the Presbyterian Church in Lexington, on November 22, 1851. During his entire residence in Lexington, he was an active participant in the church

affairs, and when deacons were first elected at a meeting held December 26, 1857, he was one of those elected at that time. In the meantime, his interest in the business life of the community had led to his election as a director of the Lexington Bank, on January 12, 1854.

In August, 1852, Jackson left Lexington for a short time, and in company with his sister, Laura, visited relatives in Parkersburg. He spent a short time at Mineral Wells, where a number of people from Weston were sojourning, among them Major Minter Bailey, who in 1837 had employed Jackson on the surveying of the construction work of the Parkersburg and Staunton Pike. Jackson then proceeded to Weston for a short stay.

In Weston, Jackson perhaps saw young Harriet Butcher, former pupil in his little school at the Mills. It is probable that he also visited the two sons of Judge William A. and Mary (Maybury) Harrison, of Clarksburg, Matthew and Charles. Matthew had located in Weston that spring as a member of the law firm of Brannon and Harrison. On December 21, 1853, in a double wedding, Harriet Butcher married James Gaylord, and Matthew Harrison married Sara Eliza Hoffman. All lived long and useful lives and left a deep impression on the social and civic life of the region. Young Charles Harrison (1830-1914), attracted to the law, followed Jackson to Lexington, where he entered the Law School of Judge John Brockenbrough. After completing his law work he located in Memphis, Tennessee, for the practice of his profession; entered the service of the C.S.A.; was captured and sent to Johnsons Island, Ohio, as a prisoner of war. After the war he was widely known in West Virginia and died at Sistersville.

In Lexington, both Jackson and Harrison became close friends of the famous John B. Lyle (1808-58), who ran a school of "philosophy and good citizenship" in his Book Store on Main Street. The two young men roomed at the same hotel; soon found themselves in the home of Dr. George Junkin; and it seems clear Harrison was asked to

be best man at Jackson's first marriage. Charles Harrison's charming letters to his mother, a former Maybury from lower Virginia, whom he addressed as "Ma," give much insight into Lexington days at the time Jackson took up his duties. One letter reads as follows:

Lexington, Va.

Monday night, Dec. 13, 1852.

Dear Ma:

I am sorry to be obliged to open a letter in complaint yet I have not heard from home for so long a time I am beginning to think you do not mean to write at all again. The only word I have had from home for more than a month is a line or so accompanying the collars which came to hand a week ago. I cannot account for this long silence, unless perhaps that your letters are lost on the way — This has happened, I must believe, with a letter Mat (brother) says he wrote me about two months ago, for it has not yet reached me; so, too, Cooper's paper has once failed to come to me.¹

It is a great treat to get the newspaper, but a letter from any one of you is a comfort which I trust I know how to appreciate. I go to the Post Office every day, and find nothing but disappointment whenever I go. But I will say nothing more about it, for I have already begged you to write until I am ashamed to ask the favor again. It has been about three weeks since my reply to your last letter — I have said enough.

Since I did write to you we have had grand times in Lexington — a wedding at the home of the late Gov. McDowell — and two glorious parties in consequence. Your son had the honor of attending all, and by this time has entirely recovered from the dissipation of the times, but has some return calls to undertake tomorrow. Although the population of this town far exceeds ours, such a thing as wedding is scarcely ever thought about, I am told, and this will account, perhaps, for the great commotion into which this event has thrown the people. This wedding was one of the old Virginia style — five hundred printed invitations out, and every body in attendance — sumptuous and gorgeous array for the eye and the keener appetite, every body overflowing with jollification and spirit *la ju venile*. There will probably be one or two more parties in the course of the present

week, and then come on the dull Christmas holidays.

We have been favored with all sorts of weather here during the past month, no two consecutive days in anywise alike — consequently the mud is shoe-top deep all over the town — no pavements at all and the muddiest town I have ever visited I think in all my life — surpasses *Glenville* in this respect, but otherwise the town is pretty pleasant. The most serious objection to the place is the *prices* of the merchants, mechanics and others — instance \$3 for a pair of *common Coarse Winter Shoes*. I wore my others clean out before I would buy, and trust I can get through the winter without encouraging them any further. Everything sells in proportion throughout the town.

The collars came to hand just at the niche of time. I had them starched and wear one now. Am very much pleased with them and return my thanks for them — nicely made, and fit exactly — My compliments to Miss Ellen Douglass for her kindly service. And this reminds me to enquire after the Dr.'s family — has cousin Ellen returned? I had a letter from Bob Brooke night before last, saying she had made them a short visit. How do Mr. Castleman and cousin Millie get on with their school, or at least what is their prospect? (I believe they have not yet commenced their term). I was at the Institute a day or two ago — saw William Lee (cousin Molly's brother), Hugh Lee and Dan Lowther, well — and John Gittings in bed with rheumatism (getting better).

Maj. Jackson and I called at Col. Smith's last night. Saw Mrs. Smith's mother, Mrs. Dr. Henderson, and the rest of the family. Mrs. H. — said the Dr. had had a letter from Pa a short time ago, saying he would be away from home about a month (presume he is on the Nicholas trip.) Mrs. Smith claims cousinship with your son and wishes him to make himself at home at her house. The Col. and all very kind and agreeable and attentive to your son, who hopes to conduct himself favorably, etc.

We are progressing to good purpose in our law-school, having finished two books of Stephen's Blackstone, and one of Tucker's Commentaries. Will finish Stephen before New Years Day — then take up Stephens Pleading and open our Moot-Court to which we look with interest.

It is nearly 12 o'clock. I must betake myself to sleep. I am very comfortable in my lodgings at the Lexington

Hotel, having a wood fire (in stove) in my room — a luxury which, I believe I told you, I had been deprived for the three or four winters past. I haven't slept by a fire of any kind through the winter since I left home for Geotown about three years ago. There are about fifty or sixty boarders at this house and but one lady amongst them (Mrs. Major Williamson, who has just come here to live from Norfolk). Maj. is a professor at the Institute. Maj. Jackson also professor, Allen (the Judge's nephew) Stuart, Harris and Catlett, assistant professor at the Institute and Mr. Fishburne, Prof. at College, with all the young lawyers of the town, board here — besides fifteen law students. (We had another addition to our class the other day, Shriver from Wheeling — making in all seventeen).

I must only detain to say I had the honor of two invitations to Tea the same evening one day last week — and took tea at the Judge's a short time ago. I go out visiting one or two evenings each week — attend church as often as I can, and am getting on in the same old way. I should like very much to know how you all are at home, and what you are all doing nowadays — what are Tom and Will about — and how are all the children — Are they at school? Can they not go to Mr. Castleman? I see Mr. Field is also about to take up a school. The paper also informs me that you have some three or four new merchants in our town, etc. It is after midnight! I must close. Much love to every one at home — Respects and compliments to all my friends. I cannot close without making one more request — that you will *write punctually once a week*. Good night.

Your son,

Charles.²

Major Jackson had scarcely become well established at Virginia Military Institute before another opening appeared in the educational world which had an appeal to him. In the fall of 1853, Professor Edward H. Courtney, of the University of Virginia, died. He had been widely known in Virginia and also as well known as a teacher at West Point, of which institution he was a graduate.

Jackson, on January 2, 1854, applied for the vacant "Chair of Mathematics." What prompted his application for the post will probably never be known, but his action certainly appears to have had the endorsement of his superiors, if indeed not more than passing help in this direction. It was quite natural that the young professor should seek help from those who were acquainted with his career. It may not be out of place to record here that the most notable support came from the Superintendent of West Point, none other than the careful, courteous, and cautious Robert E. Lee, who was always most careful in his recommendations of anyone. Of Jackson he wrote:

U. S. Mil. Acad'y
West Point 26, Jan'y 1854.

Understanding that Major Thomas J. Jackson late of the U. S. Army is a candidate for the vacant chair of mathematics in the University of Virginia, I take pleasure in bearing testimony to his character and merit. Entering the Military Acad'y in the year 1842 his career at the Institution evinced his determination of purpose [and] the strength of his intellect. Not having previous advantages, by application and perseverance he steadily rose to the first sections of his class in the various branches of their courses and maintained an honorable position until he graduated in the year 1846. His conduct while at the Acad'y was in every way exemplary. Promoted on graduating into the 1st. Art'y his services in the army were equally distinguished, and he was breveted for gallant & meritorious conduct in the battles of Contreras, Churubusco and Chapultepec in the year 1847.

R. E. Lee, Bt. Col.
Supt Mil Acadm'y³

The Honb'le Board of Visitors,
University of Virginia.

Turning now to an endorsement from Lexington, we find a letter from Dr. Robert Rittenhouse Barton, written to J. C. Cabell, of the University of Virginia Board. Dr. Barton had certain family connections with the Cabells, and was widely known on his own part. He had served

as a surgeon in the United States Navy and was on the "Niagara" during the battle of Lake Erie. Writing of Jackson, he said:

Rockbridge.

April 10, 1854

Dear Sir:

Without the honor of a personal acquaintance I am induced to address you as a member of the Board of Visitors of the University of Va. in behalf of a friend of mine, who is a candidate for the vacant Professorship in that institution.

I allude to Maj'r Jackson, who is now the Professor of Natural Philosophy in V. M. Institute of this place, who was originally a graduate of the Military School at West Point. Leaving his mathematical qualifications to such men as Col. Smith of the Institute, Maj'r Hill, the present Professor of Mathematics in Washington College, and the accomplished Professor Mahan, at West Point, I will confine myself to his character as a man, and a gentleman. And here it gives me pleasure to state, he has few equals and none superior. I have known him several years, and have always esteemed him for his purity of purpose, and high toned sense of honor.

I am with great respect,

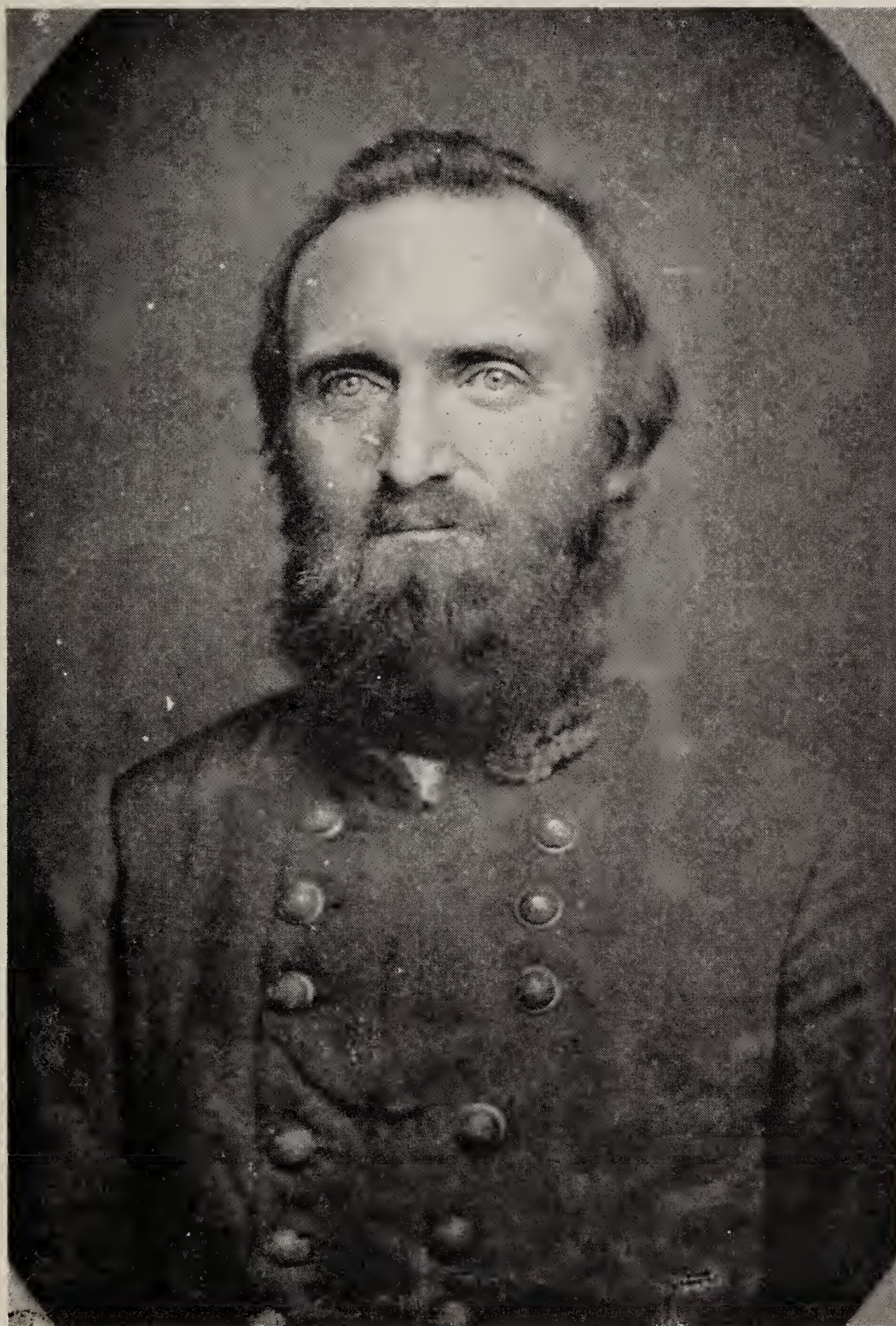
Yr. obt. Sevt

To Joseph C. Cabell, Esq.

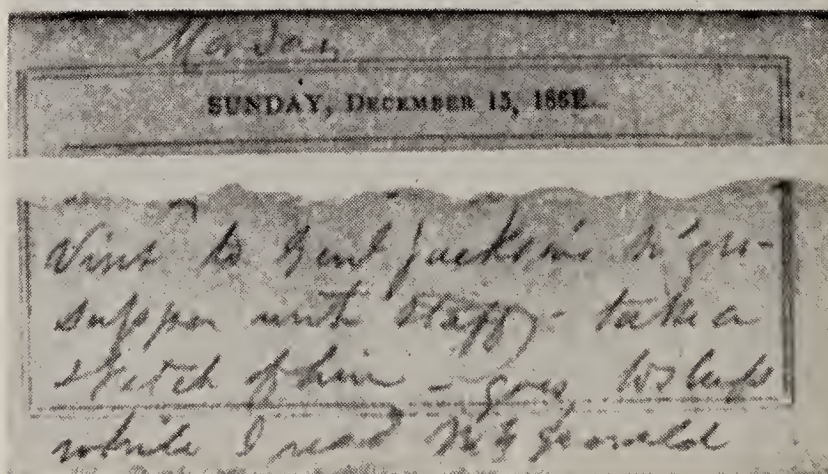
Rob. R. Barton.⁴

A long array of other notable men also wrote endorsements. Not the least was Col. Francis H. Smith, who wrote the Board of Visitors and also to Major Jackson. Professor D. H. Mahan, of West Point, on January 3, 1854, wrote to Hon. W. C. Rives in Jackson's behalf. Major D. H. Hill, on January 3, forwarded his endorsement. George H. Lee, lawyer, from Jackson's birthplace, wrote his views. Thomas H. Williamson, J. W. Massie, William Gilham, H. Coppee of West Point, and Col. Francis Taylor confirmed the statements of the others.

On March 8, 1854, Professor Mahan wrote Col. F. H. Smith, "What are Jackson's prospects at the University?"⁵



THOMAS J. (STONEWALL) JACKSON, 1862.



GENERAL JACKSON, 1862.
SKETCH, A. GALT. (SEE NOTES.)

But it was to be the result that Jackson was to stay with his beloved V. M. I.

During his residence in the Valley, he made every attempt to keep in touch with friends and relatives in western Virginia, corresponding frequently with the family of his sister Laura, the Whites in Lewis and Wood counties, and especially with his uncle and aunt, Alfred and Clementine Neale, residing on Neale's Island, in the Ohio River above Parkersburg. The letters of his boyhood to Mrs. Neale seem to have been lost, and indeed but a small part of the extensive correspondence with this family is extant. The first letter deals with the requirements at the Virginia Military Institute and is as follows:

Virginia Military Institute
Lexington, Rockbridge Co., Va.,
January 28, 1854.

My dear Uncle:

Though I have not heard from you for many months, yet you have not been so long absent from my thoughts. Before leaving you I promised to write and let you know what the inducements are for sending one of my cousins here to be educated. I am not certain that the promise has ever been fulfilled. Certainly if it has not, it ought not to be postponed any longer. Should you at any time wish to have a son educated at the institute the steps necessary to be taken will be to make application to the Superintendent before the annual examination of the cadets, which takes place the latter part of June of every year. The letter for the applicant should state that the applicant is not less than sixteen, nor more than twenty-five years old, that his height is not less than five feet. You should also forward recommendations as to moral character, character of mind, extent of education, etc. His health and physical constitution should also be good. The regulations require that every person who receives the appointment of cadet shall read and write well and that he shall perform with facility the four ground rules of arithmetic,—that is simple and compound proportions, vulgar and decimal fractions and reduction.

I find that the application should be made on or before the 20th of June.

The expenses will be near three hundred dollars per annum.

I am much pleased with my duties here.

It has been rumored that Cousin Harriett Murdock was engaged, if so is she yet married?

We have in this little town been much shocked by the murder of a cadet last month. The call court has sent the murderer on to further trial, which will take place next April.

Please remember me kindly to Aunt and the family and to all inquiring relatives and friends. If you know anything of Wirt I would be glad if you would let me know where he is and what he is doing.

My health is very much improved. During last summer I traveled with my wife through the North, visiting Niagara, Quebec and other places of interest.

I have heard Ohio spoken of as being a desirable place for investing funds and that bank stock and such like declares a dividend of ten per cent. Please let me know if such is the case and if so how I could manage to invest some funds safely there and whether stock is at par or not. Please let me hear from you soon.

Your much attached nephew,

Mr. Alfred Neale,
Parkersburg, W. Va.

T. J. Jackson.

No doubt recalling the helpful consideration of Major D. H. Hill when his own steps led to Lexington, he now attempted, in a small way, to repay his friend who had applied for a position in another college. The result was the following interesting letter to General George Pillow:

Va. Military Institute,
Lexington, Va.
May 11, 1854

General Pillow:

Dear Sir:

Since I had the pleasure of serving under you, I have been elected Prof. of Nat. & Exp. Philosophy in the Va. Military Institute, which post I have been occupying for

near three years. Since coming here, I have been intimately associated with Maj. D. H. Hill, whose acquaintance I made in the Army. And my knowledge of his character is such, as to justify me in saying, that there is no officer of the Army in whose courage I have more confidence than in his. In my opinion your arrest of him might by some unprincipled enemy, be made to reflect unfavorably on his character in the estimation of those who do not know him well and as he is now about leaving this place to fill the Professorship of Mathematics in Davidson College, N. C. I naturally feel the solicitude which one friend must have for another. And I therefore have addressed you this letter, for the purpose of requesting that you will furnish me some statement, which I may have the pleasure of transmitting to him; in order that not only himself but his children, shall be secure from such an interpretation as cowardice on his part. He as you remember belonged to Gen'l Riley's Brigade, and it was in obedience to Gen'l Riley's order that he had withdrawn from the position which you ordered him to occupy. According to his view of duty such an order as yours was illegal as in his opinion he was not under your command. Had your order to him been transmitted through Gen'l Riley it would have been obeyed. After the capture of Chapultepec, I being in command of a section of Magruder's Battery was enabled to move with more rapidity than the foot troops and was thus thrown in advance of the main body of them in the course of a short time and the last position which I came up to, was a detachment under the command of Maj. Hill; So that he was in advance of all the other pursuing troops. He also was a volunteer in the storming of that castle.

Should these facts taken in connection with his education, and his conduct throughout the war, and the request which Gen'l Riley made for his release from arrest, justify you in giving him a favorable statement in his behalf you will confere a favor on me by so doing.

Should you ever come through this section of Va. I will be glad to receive a visit from you.

Please let me hear from you soon.

Your sincere friend,

T. J. Jackson.⁶

Maj. Genl. G.J. Pillow.

During July and August, 1855, Jackson made his last visit to Weston and the scenes of his boyhood.

From this section he went to Parkersburg, spending a short time with the Neales and the Whites. It is evident from his letters that he at this date felt matters were arising between the North and South that would later have to be adjusted in some manner. In a discussion of this on his visit to Mineral Wells, it is related that he said if trouble came "in that event it may be the duty of some of us to stand for some of the things we may not implicitly approve. It is inevitably so in a conflict of that kind." From Parkersburg he journeyed to Point Pleasant, and then through the Kanawha Valley to Fayette County where he visited the place of his mother's burial. He was ever solicitous of the welfare of his half-brother Wirt, who became a substantial businessman. The following letters to the Neales are of interest in this connection, portraying as they do the depth of Jackson's character:

Lexington, Va.,

My dear Aunt:

Sept. 4th, 1855.

Though I have reached home, yet the pleasures enjoyed under your hospitable roof, and in your family circle, have not been dissipated. I stopped to see the Hawk's Nest, and the gentleman with whom I put up was at my mother's burial, and accompanied me to the cemetery for the purpose of pointing out her grave to me; but I am not certain that he found it. There was no stone to mark the spot. Another gentleman, who had the kindness to go with us, stated that a wooden head or foot board with her name on it had been put up, but it was no longer there. A depression in the earth only marked her resting place. When standing by her grave, I experienced feelings to which I was until then a stranger. I was seeking the spot partly for the purpose of erecting something to her precious memory. On Saturday last I lost my portemonnaie, and in it was the date of my mother's birth. Please give me the date in your next letter.

Your affectionate nephew,

Mrs. Alfred Neale,
Parkersburg, Va.

T. J. Jackson.

Lexington, Va., Oct. 22, 1855.

My dear Uncle:

Enclosed is a letter from Wirt. While he has departed from our understanding yet if he will thus be enabled to do well I am desirous that the money should be furnished him, but in doing so I must adhere to the conditions that Cousin Wm. Neale shall before paying for the land approve the purchase and receive the deed made out in my name. You will observe that the land is represented as of very good quality and yet the price is below the average price. This would lead to the inference of a defective title or something wrong. I will be obliged to you if you will forward a check on N. York for the money which you get from the bank to Cousin Wm. Neale to be used by him upon the conditions which I have already mentioned and if the owner or person from whom Wirt purchased cannot satisfy cousin Wm. in the several particulars that he then retain the money until the conditions shall be fulfilled. I shall forward to cousin Wm. in about two weeks a check for three hundred and fifty dollars unless you shall deem it improper for me to do so. I could not get the check here and have sent by a friend to Richmond for it and he will not, it is thought, return until about next Saturday week, and if you can let me hear from you by that time if it is but a line, I will be much obliged to you.

I hope that Aunt's health has been restored to at least its usual state. Remember me very affectionately to Aunt and to each member of the family, and very kindly to all inquiring friends and relatives.

Your affectionate nephew,

T. J. Jackson.

Uncle please return Wirt's letter to me.

Mr. Alfred Neale,

Parkersburg, Va.

Lexington, Va., Nov. 12, 1855.

My dear Aunt:

I am obliged for your letter of the 31st. ult.

Tell Uncle that I am much obliged to him for his kindness in regard to endorsing for me and all the kindness which he has shown me. I would say that though he, [Wirt] purchased land at a higher rate per acre than he was authorized to do, yet I desired to confirm

the purchase, but I never communicated such intention to him, but since receiving your letter I have concluded not to do so. But on the contrary to keep within the offer and terms which I made to him. If he does not desire terms or finds himself unable to accept of such terms, then as I told him in Uncle Alfred's presence, and also in my last letter to him, I do not wish him to do so, but barely to remember that I made the proposition because he was my brother and that I was as favorable to him as I felt and still feel I ought to do. He says that he has been offered two hundred dollars for his bargain; if he can sell on such terms he will have done well by the purchase and sale.

Ask Uncle to let the money lay in the bank until he shall know whether the note is protested and if it should not be protested to then forward me a check either on Philadelphia or N. York.

I regret to learn that cousin Hardin's health is so delicate, and yet if it were God's pleasure I feel that I would gladly exchange with him the apparent period of dissolution. I look upon death as being that moment which of all other earthly ones is most to be desired by a child of God.

Give much love to Uncle and to each member of the family and to Hardin and when leisure permits please let me hear from you.

Your much attached nephew,
T. J. Jackson.

Mrs. Alfred Neale,
Parkersburg, Va.

Lexington, Va., Dec. 24, 1855.

My dear Aunt:

Your welcome letter came safely on Saturday last and you must excuse a brief reply, looking upon it as a business letter rather than one which would be most congenial to my feelings and which I hope soon to write. I am very thankful to yourself and Uncle for your kindness and tell Uncle that if the three hundred dollars will be of service to him to retain it and have it ready for me by the 1st of July next and to forward the remaining portion to me in the form of a check on New York City as soon as it will be convenient for him to do so as I am anxious to get funds deposited there as soon as practicable, as they will thus not only increase, in conse-

quence of interest which will accrue, but also I hope to be able to purchase land warrants when they shall fall to their lowest prices. Tell Uncle that in the event that he is not wanting the three hundred dollars then to forward a check for the whole on New York City. But say to him that if it will be any accommodation to him that he must not hesitate a moment to retain that sum until July and I can do without it very well, and it would be a pleasure to me thus to be enabled in a small degree to requite his kindness to me.

I have no word from Wirt since I last wrote to you and should you hear from him or Cousin Wm. Neale, by the time this reaches you and the latter should satisfy Uncle that it would be proper to send the check to Cousin Wm. on the conditions of which you both already know to be used by Cousin William, then I wish Uncle would please have the check made payable to the order of Cousin William and forward it to him. But don't wait for any such letter as ample time has already elapsed and I might thus "lay" out of the use of the funds any length of time to no purpose. Much love to Uncle and all the family, and kindest regards to all inquiring relatives and friends. Please let me hear from you soon.

Your affectionate nephew,

Thomas.

Mrs. Alfred Neale,
Parkersburg, Va.

In the fall of 1855 he became much interested in the application of one of his "boys," John R. Waddy, who desired to be appointed to the U. S. Army. In this connection he wrote to the President of the United States:

Lexington, Va. Nov. 11, 1855

To his Excellency,
President Pierce

Sir: Having learned that Mr. John R. Waddy, a graduate of the "Virginia Military Institute" is desirous of being appointed a Lieutenant in the United States Army, it gives me much pleasure to recommend him for such appointment.

In giving this recommendation, I speak from personal knowledge having been his instructor in Artillery and

several other branches of Science. His military education, combined with his gentlemanly deport and conscientious discharge of duty well qualify him for an efficient officer in the national service.

I am sir, respectfully yr obedient servant,

T. J. Jackson,
Prof. in the Va. Mil Institute

The result was that Waddy, a V. M. I. graduate, class of 1853, served in the 4th U. S. Artillery for several years and later was a Colonel of Artillery in the Confederate States Army. He died at Norfolk in 1903.

During the summer and fall of 1856, Major Jackson spent some four months in travel abroad. Something of the methodical manner in which he visited Europe may be gleaned from the following letter to Mrs. Neale, written upon his return:

Lexington, Va., Oct. 27th, 1856.

My dear Aunt:

It is with much pleasure that God again permits me to write to you from my adopted home. Your kindness and that of Uncle has not been forgotten; but when you hear where I have been during my short absence, you will not be surprised at not having heard from me, as my time was too short to see well all that came within the range of my journey. After leaving Liverpool I passed to Chester and Eaton Hall, and from there, returning, I visited Glasgow, Lochs Lomond and Katrine, Stirling Castle, Edinburgh, York, London, Antwerp, Brussels, Waterloo, Aix-la-Chapelle, Cologne, Bonn, Frankfurt on the Main, Heidelberg, Baden-Baden, Strasburg, Basle, Lakes Lucerne, Brience and Thun; Berne, Freiburg, Geneva, the Mer de Glace, over the Alps, by the Simplon Pass; Milan, Venice, Florence, Naples, Rome, Marseilles, Paris, London and Liverpool again, and then home. * * * It appeared to me that Providence had opened the way for my long-contemplated visit, and I am much gratified at having gone.

Your affectionate nephew,

T. J. Jackson

Lexington, Va., February 16, 1857.

My dear Aunt:

Your letter of February 7th reached me on Saturday arriving too late to answer it. In regard to Wirt I am unwilling to do anything which will favor his going to California. It does appear to me that if he goes to California that the gospel may but seldom if ever reach him and that the influences thrown around him there will be worse than where he is. I cannot consent to do anything which I have reason to believe will be detrimental to his morals. If I had the money by me the foregoing reasons would influence me, but I have not the money at this time, even if I felt disposed to let him have it. I have been more pressed for money in the last month or so, than I remember having been for years. But I expect to have some by the last of March, if not by the middle or 20th of March. It has happened though that the quarterly pay has not been ready at the expiration of the quarter, which in this case ends with March. Then I could by inconveniencing myself let Wirt have a hundred dollars, and require neither principal nor interest.

I do not approve of assisting a person unless the assistance will prove a blessing. To assist him in going to California would in my opinion be cursing rather than blessing him. Give my warmest congratulations to Leroy and tell him that I hope that he and his wife and my cousin may have many happy returns of the day which commemorates their union.

Much love to Uncle and all the family. Let me hear from you soon.

Your affectionate nephew,

Thomas.

Mrs. Alfred Neale,
Parkersburg, Virginia

In politics Jackson was always a Democrat, as were most of his relatives. In this connection a great deal of interest was aroused in the furtherance of the ambitions of William L. Jackson, Jr., whose career has already been noted under another head. On January 22, 1857, he addressed the following letter to John E., son of ex-congressman Samuel L. Hays, then residing at present Glenville, Gilmer County, West Virginia:

My dear Friend:

Though I have not seen you for years, yet I remember with pleasure the companion of my more youthful days, and, trusting that I am still remembered by you with interest, I have concluded to write you this letter for the purpose of saying that I feel deep interest in the election of Wm. L. Jackson to the judgeship of your district, and of stating that any assistance which you may give him I will regard as a personal favor.

Wm. has ever shown a deep interest in my success in life, and this, combined with family feeling and my personal regard for him, induces me to do all in my power to further his success. I have, as it were, my hands tied in consequence of my position in the Institute so that I cannot mingle with the electors, and my only way of assisting him is by letters to my friends. I am indebted to your father more than to any other man for the deep interest he has taken in my success, and for the promptness with which he has ever responded to my calls for assistance. Next to him I am under the strongest obligations to Wm.

Please regard this letter as private.

When you write to your father, I wish you would remember me to him very kindly.

Should you ever pass through this place, you must make my house your home. When a leisure moment will permit, I hope you will let me hear from you.

Very truly your friend

T. J. Jackson.

The efforts to elect William L. Jackson judge of the nineteenth circuit court failed at this time. He was defeated by Matthew Edmiston, then occupying that office, and who did so continuously from 1852 until the fall of 1860. In the latter year Judge Jackson again became a candidate for this position. Major Jackson, shortly before the election, wrote Hon. Jonathan M. Bennett of Weston, as follows:

Lexington, Va., April 17, 1860.

My dear Friend:

I am anxious to see us possess that influence in our section of the state that will enable us to secure any

office there by merely nominating a suitable person, and concentrating our strength upon him, and now in my opinion is the time to test our strength by electing Wm. L. Jackson to the judgeship. Of course Edmiston's influence will be vigorously exerted to defeat him but it appears to me that the united influence of the Jacksons with their relations, connections and friends, ought to prevail over Edmiston's influence even in Lewis and Braxton, where I suppose it is strongest. I have been told by a member of the old Whig party that W. L. J. is one of the shrewdest political managers of his party in the state, and I am in hopes that with his influence united to that of his friends we may be able to set up for ourselves. All of us who may be looking forward to advancement may expect to have prospects brightened by Jackson's election and diminished by his defeat. Being a professor my hands are tied so that I cannot appear in the canvass—all I can do is write to my friends. I would like to take an active part in the canvass if it were practicable. You have a strong arm, and I think with it you may carry Lewis and Braxton. I have written with that freedom which I always desire from you to me. Please say nothing about the contents of this, but if you think as I do upon the subject, I hope that you will if possible give Lewis and Braxton to Wm. If I can be of any service let me know how it can be rendered. I will always be glad to hear from you.

Very truly yours,

T. J. Jackson.

In May, 1860, W. L. Jackson was elevated to the bench, but his term of office was very short, being closed by his enlistment in the Confederate service. He held the first term in Lewis County, October 8, 1860, and his last orders were entered on May 9, 1861.

On July 16, 1857, Stonewall Jackson married (2) Mary Anna Morrison. The home life of the Jacksons in Lexington is reflected in the following letter from Mrs. Jackson to his sister, Laura Arnold:

Lexington, Virginia.

September 27, 1857

My dear sister:

No apology is necessary for writing to you, as I feel

that my husbands only sister ought to be very near and dear to me.

I regretted exceedingly our inability to visit you during the summer but sincerely hope that it will not be a great while before I have the pleasure of seeing yourself, your husband and children.

It was quite a disappointment to both Mr. Jackson and myself that we could not carry out our intention of visiting you and we have felt very sorry to learn from your letters that you feel so hurt at being disappointed by us. We certainly intended visiting you until we reached Richmond, when Mr. J- became so concerned about my throat, that he determined to go immediately to Philadelphia to get the best medical advice; and there we were advised to go to the Alum Springs. I was very reluctant to forgo the pleasure of visiting you, (for I was really anxious to see you dear sister) but my husband thought it was his duty to follow the physicians advice and you know he always makes every pleasure give way to duty.

I hope that I shall be housekeeping by next summer, and that if Providence prevents our visiting you then that you will come and pay us a visit. We shall always be delighted to see you and your family. We are very pleasantly situated at the hotel here and have not decided yet when we shall leave it to assume the cares and responsibilities of housekeeping. I am anxious, however to have a house so that friends can visit us.

Mr. Jackson has improved very much in health this summer and is now looking better than I have ever seen him. He has been very busy since his return and is rather more studious than I would like him to be as I see nothing of him in his study hours.

I would send you my likeness with pleasure if I could get a good one here, but mine seems to be a very hard face to take. I have never succeeded in getting a good likeness and think it useless to try anymore.

Miss Maggie Junkin was married early in August and seems very happy indeed. I think she makes a model step-mother and the children are becoming much attached to her. What a lovely person she is. Mr. J— thinks there are no more copies of "Silverwood" to be had in town but if he succeeds in getting one he will send it to you.

Please give my regards to Mr. Arnold and kiss each one of your little ones for "Aunt Anna". I hope Mr. A.

has entirely recovered ere this. Mr. Jackson sends much love. I shall always be glad to hear from you.

Your affectionate sister,

Anna M. Jackson.⁸

Mrs. Laura Arnold

By the fall of 1858, Major Jackson took steps to acquire a home in Lexington, thus carrying out the suggestion in the foregoing letter from his wife to his sister. On November 4, 1858, he bought from Archibald and Martha A. Graham, "a certain house and lot in the town of Lexington, in the State of Virginia, lying on the north side of Washington Street, adjoining the lots of Samuel M. Dold and Andrew Withrow and others, it being the same house and lot on which the said Graham now resides." The grantor was a practicing physician in Lexington. Major Jackson and his family moved into this property, and it was the family residence until after his death. It was purchased under an agreement dated June 4, 1904, from Jackson heirs by Mary Custis Lee Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, remodeled and enlarged and became the Jackson Memorial Hospital.

A number of General Jackson's private notebooks are in existence. One outlines a trip to Europe, the best places—even to eat; notes on gardens go side by side with notes on artillery. A Civil War notebook originally containing some eighty pages, of which some twenty are missing, discloses numerous entries of money sent home and notations of other activities. A bank book, showing accounts with the Bank of Rockbridge County, from April 7, 1857, to June 8, 1861, shows the inclinations of a careful, frugal man attempting to live by the usual college standards and yet indulge in the inclinations, perhaps inborn, to save and invest as he could.

We find that in 1859, he bought a small farm east of the town of Lexington, on the town side of North River. Enshrouded in some mystery as to location for many years, the details have been carefully worked out.⁹ It embraced

a little over eighteen acres, and was located adjoining the old Buena Vista Road and the McCorkle Road. It had been bought by one Robert White in 1852, who sold it to Jacob Fuller, who sold it in 1859 to Jackson for \$500. It was resold by Col. J. T. L. Preston, brother-in-law and agent of Jackson, on January 31, 1863, for \$620. Here we can follow the story as related by Mrs. Jackson. She wrote:

His early training upon his uncles farm had instilled in him a love for rural pursuits and it was not long before he gratified his desire to possess a little farm of his own, which embraced twenty acres near town. Here with the aid of his negroes, he raised wheat, corn and other products and every year his crops and land improved under his diligent care. The farm he sold during the war and invested the proceeds in Confederate bonds to assist the government.

In 1860 he turned his attention to another business venture. On November 2, acting with Col. J. T. L. Preston, William Gilham, and Jacob Fuller, they bought from William A. and Susannah Rhodes, for \$1,050, "a certain lot of land situated in the town of Lexington on Randolph Street, adjoining the lots of Reuben Howard, Jacob Fuller, and R. H. Figgat, and extending back along Randolph Street, one hundred feet and running back one hundred and thirty one feet to Jacob Fullers lot."

This property was developed and used as a tannery known as the "Lexington Tannery." It was managed largely under supervision of Jacob Fuller, a private schoolmaster of Lexington, who lived nearby. The tannery business failed in the years after the war and was sold in foreclosure proceedings about 1869, but no deficiencies were assessed against the estate of General Jackson. It will be noticed that, aside from Fuller, the other three partners were professors at Virginia Military Institute.

It appears that in some connection with the operation of the "tannery" another real estate venture was made. On January 16, 1863, the same group purchased from Wm. M. Major, for \$1,280 "a certain tract or parcel of land, supposed to contain 320 acres lying in the Blue Ridge mountains and adjoining the lands of Elisha Paxton, James Camden and others." The grantor, among other provisions, extended permission to deposit tanbark, not to exceed twenty cords at a time, on his other lands near the banks of the Lexington branch of the James River and Kanawha Canal. This land lies near the present city of Buena Vista, established about 1890, and was sold at the same time as the tannery in Lexington.

The affairs of an "L. Building F. Association" also received some attention at his hands. The situation during the war led to troubled days. On January 9, 1863, Jackson gave a power of attorney to Robert J. White, a close friend, in order to help wind up the affairs of this company. On January 27, White wrote from Lexington: "The Association, in view of the impossibility of continuance and encouraged with the prospect of closing with quite a handsome profit thus far have determined to wind up the institution." Jackson received the sum of \$1,644 from this source, of course in Confederate specie. "A. Alexander," White continues, "requests you to rent your home to him," indicating something of the situation of the family at the time.¹⁰

On March 31, 1859, Jackson received a request from Jaquelin Smith, a graduate of the Institute, class of 1857, for information concerning a tour of Europe. His own mind reverting to personal experiences, he set out to outline his own thoughts in this direction:

Lexington Va.

April 11th, 1859.

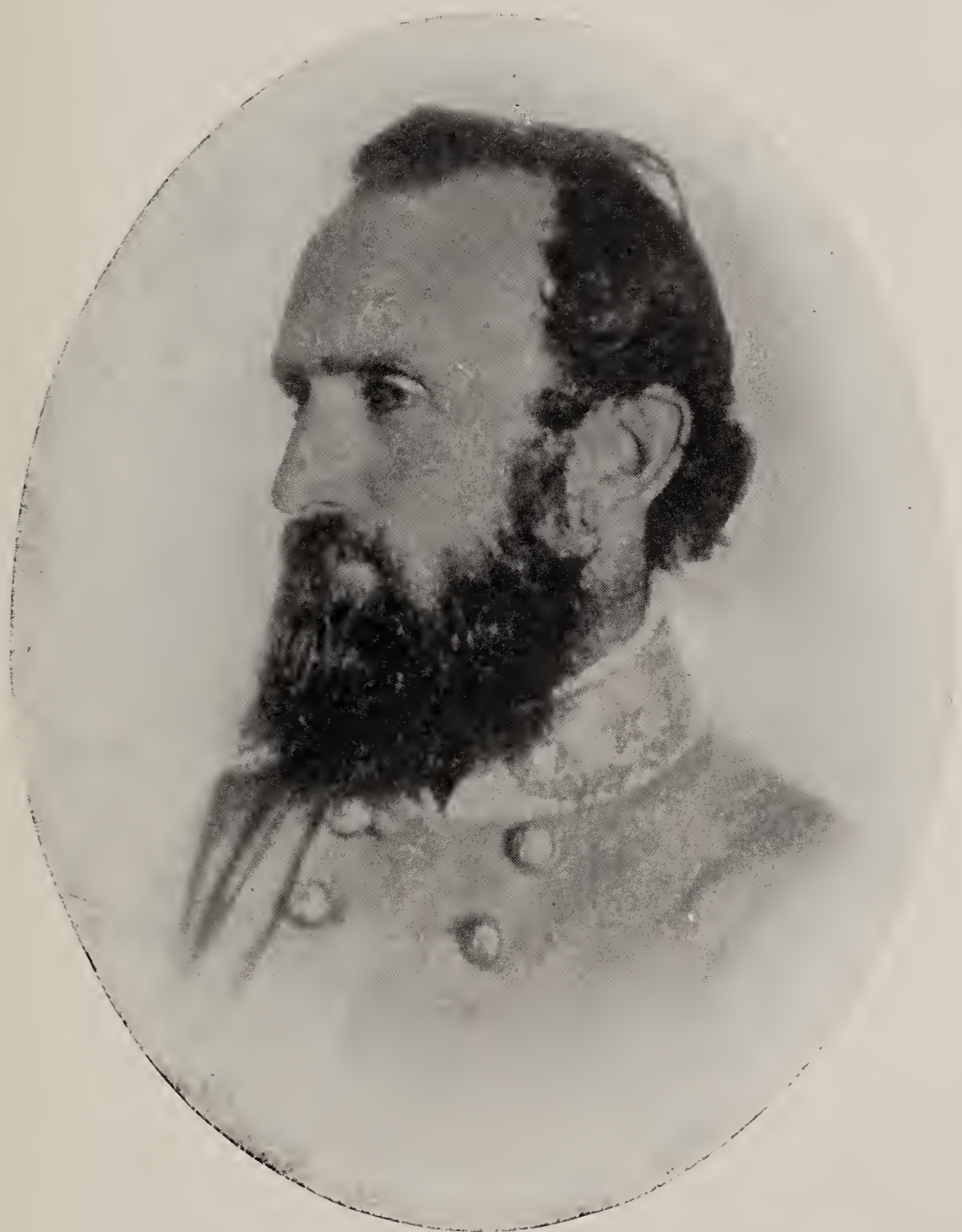
Dear Sir

From your letter of the 31 ult. I am gratified to learn that you contemplate making a European tour. You request me to send you a copy of my notes of travel. Should

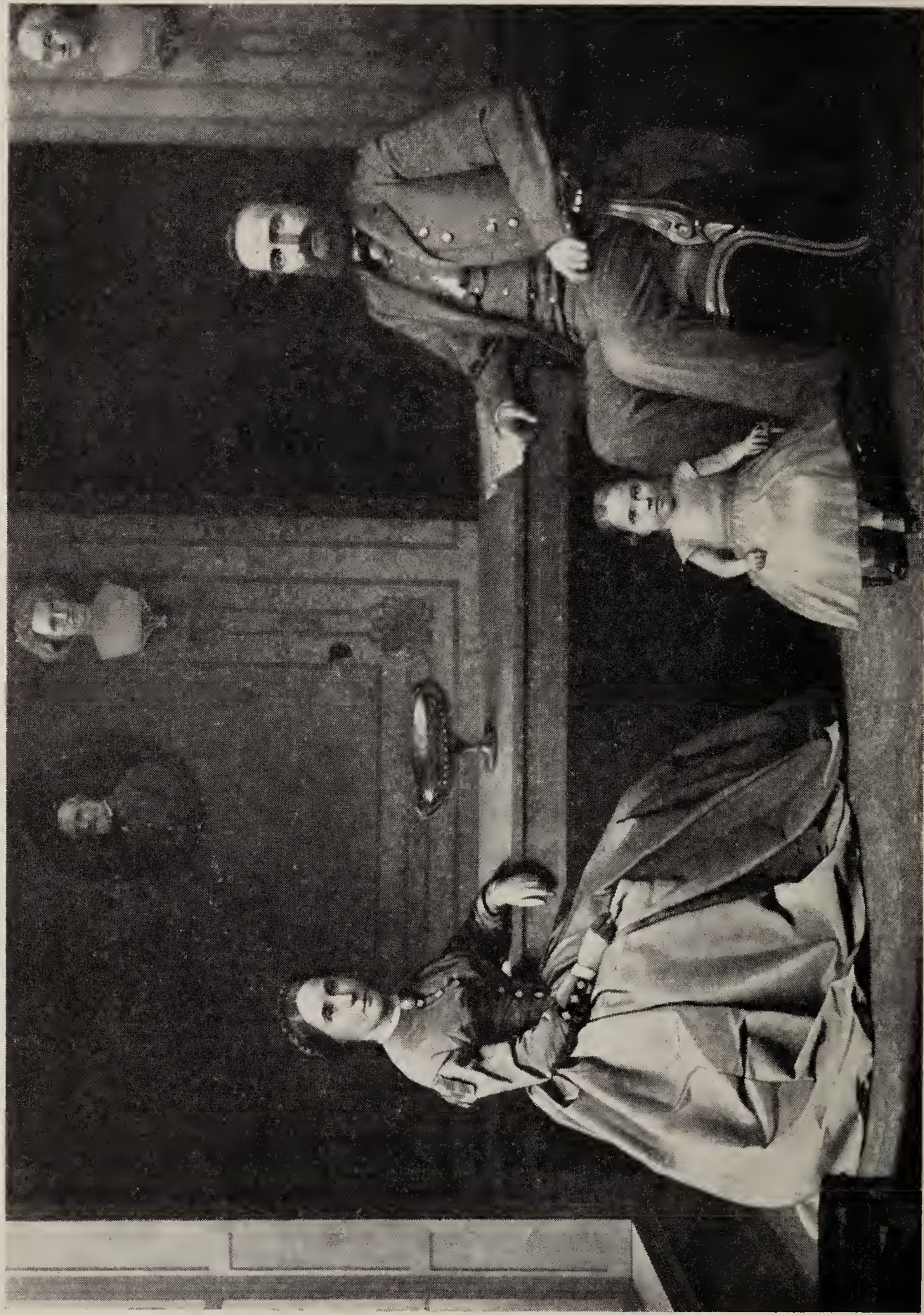
I do so, I fear that they would be of but little service to you, as they are not sufficiently full to give you much information. Even with my recollection of places &c. to aid me, I am not always able to make out the sense. And instead of giving you incoherent suggestions, I have thought best to glance over my notes, and send you such information as I think will be valuable, and in doing so, I would recommend you to purchase a note book before sailing, and if time will permit, keep a satisfactory journal, beginning with the first day and closing with the returning one of your tour.

As soon as you reach Liverpool purchase guide books of such countries as you design visiting. If you have time to see things leisurely don't employ guides. Leaving L. visit Chester, and drive out to Eaton Hall which is a fine specimen of an English nobleman's estate; it belongs to the Marquis of Westminster said by some to be the wealthiest man in England. If you have time, after returning to C. take the cars & visit the great Tubular bridge, and pass over to Ireland for a few days. Should you go to I. be sure if you should pass near Parsonstown, to see the great Ross telescope, and whilst there, ask for its magnifying power, and please to inform me of it. Returning to Liverpool visit the following places Glasgow, Dunbarton Castle, Loch Lomond, Lock Catrine, Stirling Castle, Edinburgh, York, Cambridge, London, Antwerp, Waterloo, pass through Brussels, on your way to and also on your return from Waterloo. Leaving B. visit Aix-La-Chapelle, Cologne, Bonn, Frankfort on the Main, Heidelberg, Baden Baden, Strasburg, Basle, Lakes Lucerne, Brience (Brienz?) & Thun. Stop for at least one day at Interlaken which is between lakes B. & T. Visit Berne, Freiburg, Lake Geneva, Geneva, Mer de Glace. From Martigny, cross the Alps by the Simplon pass into Italy, visit Lakes Como & Majora, visit Milan, Verona, Venice, Florence, Pisa, Leghorn, Rome, Naples, Genoa, Turin, Paris. I have given you the tour I should take above all others, if I did not have time for a more extensive one. It differs a little from the one taken by me. I did not see the Tubular Bridge nor visit Ireland, and instead of visiting Turin I hastened on to Paris by the steamer from Genoa. Knowing the stopping points, you can post yourself up on your guide Book in advance.

In York observe the organ especially, in Antwerp note Reubens paintings, in Heid observe the castle, in Strasburg



GENERAL THOMAS J. (STONEWALL) JACKSON, 1863



LIEUT.-GEN. THOMAS J. JACKSON AND HIS FAMILY.

Engraving by William Sartain, 1866. (See Notes.)

is the wonderful clock, in Freiburg is one of the best organs in the world. At Verona is the most perfect amphitheatre in the world. You may find it more pleasant to visit Naples before Rome, you will find Genoa probably the most beautiful of all the cities, in consequence of its elevation being such as to present its different parts distinctly to the eye when viewed from the harbor. I omitted calling your attention to the museum in Antwerp. In Venice nearly every thing of interest except its canals are on St. Marks Square. In Florence give your self plenty of time & visit frequently the statuary in the room called the Tribuna. Study the original works of art with which you may meet in Antwerp, Florence, Rome &c and, when you reach Paris you will see a miniature of all serving to refresh your memory but not calling for examinations, as you have already seen the originals. In P. you should give attention to the externals, visit the neighbouring Royal residences &c.

Of course you will pass some time in London and visit the Parks, Westminster abbey a number of times. I hope that you may be able to make the tour and that you may realize more than you even anticipate. I would be glad to hear from you during your absence or after your return. Things are here in much the same routine as when you left.

Yours truly

T. J. Jackson

To J. Jaquelin Smith, Esq.

The summer vacation period moved on to August. Jackson's physical ailments still continued and in an effort to secure relief he journeyed to the famed White Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County, (W.) Virginia. Here from the "old White," where met all the great and near great, he wrote to his sister Laura, on August 13, 1859:

My dear Sister—

The inflammation or irritation of my throat passed down so low, as to make me afraid to let Dr. Green treat me and consequently I gave up the idea of going to him so long as it remained so low; it appears to be about the collar bone. But whilst I was unwilling to let the Dr. treat me, I concluded that I would visit this place, and try to get my liver right; as I was disposed to think that the

state of the throat depended on that of the liver. After you left, my liver apparently became much deranged. I reached this place on Thursday last, & feel improved. It appears to me that smoking mullen has been of great benefit to me. I am fearful that I will not be able to visit you this summer, & I feel it greatly.

I left Anna at the Rockbridge Baths; her health has not been so good since you left and as the Baths are celebrated for such afflictions as hers, I trust that she will be improved by their use.

This evening I received a letter from her stating that after bathing she had internal heat, & that she was fearful that the bathing was not good for her, & that if she found it not to be so, that she would return home in a few days.

There are about 1000 persons here at present.

I hope that I may be able to visit you, notwithstanding the present aspect of things, but don't expect me unless you hear of my coming, by another letter.

I trust that your health has improved.

Give my love to all.

Your affectionate
brother
Thomas¹¹

It appears that almost every vacation period back to 1851 had been devoted in part to a visit to some "springs," all the way from Mineral Wells, just outside of Parkersburg, (W.) Virginia, to Vermont. In that day, even the best of medical men were firm in the view that the "water treatment" was the last word in every obscure complaint. During the summer of 1860, Jackson, accompanied by Mrs. Jackson, left for Brattleboro, Vermont, where at the time was located a noted "hydrotherapeutic cure." Not receiving the benefit he expected in two weeks, by July 21 they moved down to the Round Hill Water Cure, at Northampton, Massachusetts. He left Mrs. Jackson at that place and returned to Lexington by September 3. It seems that about the only benefit he secured was a wide interest in a new gun being developed by Robert P.

Parrott, which became the famous "Parrott Gun" of Civil War days.

Indeed it may be said that aside from the rest and vacation, no medical results came from these frequent journeys. One cannot wonder that on September 8, 1858, R. H. Cattlett wrote to Colonel Smith, then in Europe, that Jackson had returned to the "institution not improved in health but worse for [the] new system of treatment."

Several important events, however, marked the ten years of Jackson's life at Lexington. His first marriage and the loss of his wife; his affiliation with the Presbyterian Church; the second marriage; and his march with the cadets to Charles Town, where John Brown was executed on December 2, 1859. Otherwise there was little to interrupt the daily duties as an instructor.

A year after his return from Charles Town, he wrote to Mrs. Neale:

Lexington, Va., Jan. 21st. 1861.

My dear Aunt:

I am living in my own house, I am thankful to say, as, after trying both public and private boarding, I have learned from experience that true comfort is only to be found in a house under your own control. I wish you could pay me a visit during some of your leisure intervals, if you ever have such. This is a beautiful country, just on the confines of the Virginia Springs, and we are about fourteen miles from the Natural Bridge. . . . Viewing things at Washington from human appearances, I think we have great reason for alarm, but my trust is in God; and I cannot think that He will permit the madness of men to interfere so materially with the Christian labors of this country at home and abroad.

Your affectionate nephew,

T. J. Jackson.

And the following letter, written to his sister, Laura Arnold, gives further proof of his views of the opening days of 1861:

My dear Sister: Lexington, Va. Feb. 2nd, 1861.

I am glad to learn from your last that you are all well. I have had a very severe cold and for the last two or three weeks have been suffering from neuralgia about the temples and forehead, but am much better at present. Anna's health is tolerable good.

I send a catalogue of the Institute by same mail with this letter. I am much gratified to see a strong Union feeling in my portion of the state, but it may go a little further than I think it ought, though I hope not. For my own part I intend to vote for the Union candidates for the convention and I desire to see every honorable means used for peace, and I believe that Providence will bless such means with the fruits of peace. I hope that a majority of the votes will be in favor of referring the action of the Convention to the people for their final decision of the question involved, as this will not only be an additional safeguard to our own liberties but will give time for an amicable adjustment of our difficulties. But if after we have done all that we can do for an honorable preservation of the Union, there shall be a determination on the part of the Free States to deprive us of our right which the fair interpretation of the Constitution, as already decided by the Federal Court, guarantees to us, I am in favor of secession. Tell Thomas [Thomas J. Arnold] that Jimmie Graham died a few weeks since in Harrisonburg from intemperance. Dr. Ned and Dr. Archy appear to be well. Dr. Ned has bought Mr. Bear's house and is living in it. His mother is living with him. Miss Nancy and Miss Lizzie are having a house built on their old lot this side of the Episcopal Church and expect to move there before long. Mr. McFarland has gone South and it is rumored that he is to be married. I unintentionally omitted to answer the part of his letter respecting his friend.

You ask whether Col. Smith has offered his services to South Carolina. I have not heard the subject mentioned here but I am well satisfied that he has not. Though he is in my opinion throwing his influence in favor of secession. I hope that you will send me [John S.] Carlile's address in full, if you should meet with it.

Anna joins me in love to you all — give my kindest regards to all my friends.

Your affectionate brother,

Thomas.

CHAPTER XII

Opening of the Civil War

In the spring of 1861 the long struggle between the two great sections of the United States came to an issue of arms. For some years profound observers of events in both North and South had felt that such a result was inevitable. With the election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency, the southern states felt that it was time to dissolve the Union and form a separate government. Some of the border states held back for a time, and Virginia especially refrained from formal acceptance of the Confederacy until April, 1861. On April 17, Governor John Letcher refused to obey Lincoln's call for troops, and on the same day the Virginia Convention repealed the ordinance by which it had adopted the Constitution of the United States and seceded from the Union.

The Virginia authorities at once set about to organize such a military force as might be possible. A camp of instruction was established at Richmond and it was determined to use the senior cadets from Virginia Military Institute as "student teachers" in the drilling of volunteers. Accordingly, the cadets set out from Lexington at one o'clock on Sunday, April 21, under command of Major Jackson, who laid aside his duties as teacher and left his home for the last time.

Like many of the citizens of Virginia, Jackson deplored the existence of slavery in the state as an economic and social evil, and, like others, he seemed to feel that the only method of handling the problem was through the legislative halls. Yet the institution to him did not appear morally wrong and he is said to have supported some arguments to this effect by statements taken from the Bible. When it became evident that war between the

southern states and those of the north could not be averted, it was to him the cause of great alarm.

A comprehensive survey of his attitude and belief at the time discloses the fact that he deplored the possibility of war, setting forth more than once that the public did not understand what war meant. Naturally his experiences in the Mexican War had given him an insight into it not possible for laymen. But once the course of events seemed to be set directly toward a conflict, his own course was soon decided on and his actions circumscribed thereby.

Mary Anna Jackson, his wife, wrote:

He never was a Secessionist, and maintained that it was better for the South to fight for her place in the Union than out of it. * * * At this time (March 16, 1861) he was strongly for the Union. At the same time he was a firm States rights man.

With the beginning of preparations for hostilities, Governor John Letcher began the selection of officers for the provisional army of Virginia. In this connection Major Jackson received his first commission in the organizing army as a major in the engineering corps. Jonathan M. Bennett, of Weston, later related that during April, 1861, he was in one of the hotels at Richmond; after eating, he sat down in the lobby to look over one of the city papers and, in glancing over the names of the officers commissioned, he noticed that Thomas J. Jackson had been appointed a major in the engineering corps. He immediately went to the capitol building, where, in a conference with Governor John Letcher, he informed the latter of the notice in the public press, and further that he was well aware of Jackson's ability and that he felt it to be a great mistake to place such a man in the engineering corps. The governor was duly impressed with his statement and immediately directed the secretary of the executive war

council to transfer Jackson to regular line duty, and that a commission as colonel be issued him.

“Who is this Major Jackson, that we are asked to commit to him such a responsible post?” asked a member of the war council when informed of Mr. Bennett’s interview with Governor Letcher. “He is one,” replied S. Moore, of Rockbridge County, “who, if you order him to hold a post, will never leave it alive to be occupied by the enemy.”

Jackson was commissioned colonel of volunteers on April 27, 1861, and ordered to Harper’s Ferry. Here he spent his energies in shaping the raw volunteers into the highly respectable army of the Shenandoah which he turned over to General J. E. Johnston on May 23. Placed in command of the Virginia brigade that became so renowned, he met the advance of General Patterson at Falling Waters on July 2, checking the advance and capturing a number of prisoners.

Jonathan M. Bennett, of Weston, was then serving as Auditor of Virginia and lived in Richmond. As early as April 25, Mr. Bennett wrote to W. P. Cooper, of Clarksburg, in which letter he stated:

Rapid arrangements are being made for actual operations. Gen’l Lee is a great acquisition. He won’t fight until he is ready and is sure to whip when he fights. Tom Jackson and Col. Magruder both of whom so distinguished themselves in command of the Flying Artillery are here in command.

Mr. Bennett later directed a letter to Jackson proposing that he should be made a brigadier general, to which a reply was made from Martinsburg on June 5:

Headquarters, Va. Forces.
Harpers Ferry, June 5, 1861

My dear Colonel:

Your very kind letter, proposing, if I so desire, to make me a brigadier-general and send me to the Northwest in command of all troops of that region, has been received, and meets my grateful approbation.

The sooner it is done the better. Have me ordered at once. That country is now bleeding at every pore. I feel a deep interest in it and have never appealed to its people in vain, and trust it may not be so now. I agree with you fully respecting the advantages named in your letter. Remember me kindly to Judge Allen and thank him for his kindness. Believe me with lasting gratitude, ever yours,

T. J. Jackson.

Harpers Ferry, June 5, 1861.

My dear Colonel:

Lest the letter mailed this morning in which I thankfully accepted the opportunity of being made a Brigadier General and put in command of all the North Western Troops should fail to reach you, I send this by private hands. Please have me ordered forthwith.

Very gratefully yours,

T. J. Jackson.

Again addressing Mr. Bennett relative to the commission, Jackson wrote on June 24:

Headquarters 1st Brigade,

Camp Stevens [Stephens?], June 24, 1861.

My dear Colonel:

At present I am in command of the Virginia Volunteers organized into the First Brigade of the Army of the Shenandoah, and have my Headquarters on the road from Martinsburg to Williamsport, and about four miles distant from the former place. On Saturday last the enemy commenced crossing at Williamsport into Virginia and I immediately advanced with one regiment of infantry and a battery of artillery, but it amounted to nothing, as the enemy recrossed the river into Maryland. They are evidently afraid to advance.

In your last you stated: "I presume all commissions will issue from the Confederate Government; if so, I have no pledge for any commisssion, but I shall never cease until I get it. You will hear from me soon again." Knowing your success in carrying your measures, the energy with which you press them, and not having heard from you, the thought struck me that there might be some obstacle in the way, which, if made known to me, I might be able

to remove. I am in command of a promising brigade, and I would be greatly gratified if you could secure me a brigadier-generalcy, and if I cannot be ordered to Northwestern Virginia, of course I would be continued in my present command, and as I am so far west, an opportunity might soon offer of having me with my command ordered into that region. Providence has greatly blessed me in securing good staff officers in the quartermaster, commissary and ordnance departments, which are so essential to the efficiency of the troops. All are anxious for active service. I feel deeply for my own section of the state, and would, as a brigadier-general, willingly serve under General Garnett in its defence. I know him well. There are three Brigades under General Johnson, and a few days since Brigadier-General Bee was assigned to the command of one of them, and at any time, so far as I know, another may be assigned to the command of mine, unless you can induce President Davis to make the appointment soon by my promotion.

Please let me hear from you when convenient and ever believe me your grateful friend,

T. J. Jackson.

P. S.—Please direct your answer to Martinsburg, Berkeley County.

In the meantime, however, a commission was issued as a brigadier general on June 17, which after some delay was forwarded early in July, together with the following characteristic letter from General Lee:

Richmond 3rd July 1861

My dear General:

I have the pleasure of sending you a commission as Brigadier General in the Provisional Army; and to feel that you merit it. May your advancement increase your usefulness to the state.

Very truly,

R. E. Lee.

In the battle of Bull Run, on July 21, 1861, in which the First Brigade—composed of the 2nd, 4th, 5th, 27th, and 33rd regiments of Virginia volunteers—first attracted attention, General G. E. Bee, in rallying his men,

exclaimed: "See, there stands Jackson like a stone wall!" He thus applied the name better known around the world than the Christian name given at birth.

Jackson wrote from Headquarters First Brigade, Camp near Manassas, July 28, 1861, to J. M. Bennett:

Headquarters First Brigade, Camp Near Manassas,)
July 28, 1861.)

My Dear Colonel: About four o'clock A.M., on the 21st, by request of General Longstreet, I sent him a reenforcement of two regiments. Subsequently I received an order from General Beauregard to reenforce General Bonham. Afterward I received an order from the same officer to reenforce General Cocke. Finally, I was instructed by him to take such a position as would enable me to reenforce either General Bonham or General Cocke. These instructions were executed in the order in which they were given. About an hour after I had taken such a position as would enable me to throw reenforcements toward either of the two generals, so as to give timely assistance, I received a message from General Cocke, who requested me to guard the Stone Bridge. I promptly moved in that direction, and halted at a place indicated by the guide. While in that position, I had reason to believe that General Bee was hard pressed by the enemy, and I accordingly moved in the direction of the firing, and at the same time sent a message to the general that I was reenforcing him; hoping that such an announcement would so inspirit his troops as to keep back the enemy till my arrival. But I had not advanced far before I met his command falling back. I passed on, with the understanding that he would try to rally his troops in my rear. So soon as I had nearly reached the summit of the next hill, I placed two pieces of Captain Stanard's battery in position, firing on the enemy. I also placed two regiments of infantry (Colonel Preston's and Colonel Echol's) in the rear of the battery, concealed from the enemy's view. One regiment (Colonel Harper's) was placed on the right of the battery, and principally in the woods. One regiment (Colonel Allan's) was placed on the left of the battery, and the remaining one (Colonel Cummings's) on the left of this. All the regiments had instructions to charge the enemy with the bayonet so soon as he should appear over the crest, and within

about fifty yards. Apprehensive lest my flank should be turned, I sent orders to the colonels of cavalry to secure them. The enemy continued to advance, but, not being able to force our centre, its batteries inclined to the right, evidently for the purpose of securing an oblique fire upon my front; but in so doing one of them approached so near my left regiment, that the colonel by charging with the bayonet captured the guns. But in consequence of the severe small-arm fire of the enemy he was forced to abandon them; but the battery was of no further service during the action, in consequence of the cannoneers having been driven off and the horses killed. Finally, the onward movement of the enemy brought them so near my battery and central regiments as to call for the free use of the bayonet, and I accordingly ordered the charge to be made, which cut the enemy's centre, and thus separated his wings. A few moments more, and the field was essentially in the possession of the brigade, and of other troops; though both my flanks were turned by Federal forces. But by reposting the artillery in rear, and giving a few shots, taken in connection with the small-arm fire of other troops on my left, the victory was made complete. In the enemy's first battery there were two rifled guns and one twelve-pounder howitzer. The credit of taking these, so far as to prevent their being used by the enemy, belongs exclusively to Colonel Cummings's regiment. There were six other rifled guns which fell into the hands of the brigade, and a few other troops, in the final charge.

Through the blessing of Providence, my brigade passed our retreating forces, met the thus far victorious enemy, held him in check until reenforcements arrived, and finally pierced his centre, and thus gave a fatal blow.

I am more than satisfied with the part performed by my brigade during the action.

You must excuse my "not having written this letter in reply to yours" earlier, but a slight wound (a broken finger) requires me to keep watching the flies all the time. I received the wound during the last charge. * * *

In reading about the recent battle, you must observe that the term "left of our line" is used in two senses—one meaning the left of our fortified line, and the other the left of our line of battle. The battle was fought principally to the left of the fortified line—that is, the armies in open battle met and fought there. * * *

You will find, when my report shall be published, that the First Brigade was to our army what the Imperial Guard was to the First Napoleon—that, through the blessing of God, it met the thus far victorious enemy and turned the fortunes of the day.

Please let me hear from you soon.

Your much attached friend,

T. J. JACKSON.

Early in August Jackson again addressed Mr. Bennett as follows:

My hopes for our section of the State have greatly brightened since General Lee has gone there. Something brilliant may be expected in that region. Should you ever have occasion to ask for a brigade from this army for the northwest, I hope mine will be selected. This of course is confidential, as it is my duty to serve wherever I may be placed, and I desire to be always where most needed. But it is natural for one's affections to turn to the home of his boyhood and family.

In the meantime part of a company of the 159th regiment of Virginia militia had left Weston and the scenes of Jackson's boyhood, under the command of Alfred H. Jackson, of Weston. He, as has been noted, was a son of Captain George Jackson, was born in 1836, and had graduated with honors from Washington College at Lexington. This command became a part of the 31st Virginia Regiment. Following its activities in the battle of Greenbrier under Brigadier General R. R. Jackson, the following letter was directed to Alfred Jackson:

Headquarters 1st Brigade 2nd Corps.
Centerville, Oct. 11, 1861.

My dear Alfred:

If agreeable to you please join us at once as a member of my staff. Give my kindest regards to Wm. L. Jackson.

Sincerely yours,

T. J. Jackson.

P. S. Should you decline, please answer immediately.

Alfred Jackson was then appointed by J. P. Benjamin, acting Secretary of War, as assistant Adjutant General and ordered to report to General T. J. Jackson. Judge John W. Brockenbrough later said of him:

He filled the duties of this office with entire satisfaction for several months. It is a singular proof of the disinterested patriotism of young Jackson that he preferred the active and more laborious duties of the camp to the rare and envied position of officer on the staff of the commander in chief. He accordingly resigned this appointment and rejoined his old company as a private in the ranks.

Within a short time he was advanced by successive ranks to lieutenant colonel. A commission as brigadier general had been made out and he seemed on the verge of a distinguished military career when he was wounded at Cedar Mountain, on August 9, 1862, which resulted in his death in Lexington on August 1, 1863.

The Board of Visitors of V. M. I. met in Richmond, on November 23, 1861, and one of the orders adopted was a leave of absence to Jackson from the institution "for the continuance of the war." This order was based on an application filed by Jackson dated October 22.

In the meantime in connection with the operations in West Virginia, a regiment had been organized which became the 31st Virginia Infantry, commanded by Colonel William Lowther Jackson. He, as has been noted, was judge of the Nineteenth Circuit, which embraced General Jackson's home region, and had served one term as lieutenant governor of Virginia. After the disastrous close of the West Virginia campaign, Colonel Jackson became a volunteer aide of his cousin and is so noted in official reports. In November, he wrote to General Jackson:

Richmond, Virginia
Novr. 23rd, 1861.

My dear General:

As you have doubtless been informed I have no longer any connection with the army. You are also acquainted

with reasons inducing my resignation. Accustomed to think and act for myself, I was compelled to preserve my own self respect, to pursue the course I have taken, and in doing so I believe I have the concurrence of my friends.

I have been gratified to learn that you have expressed a desire to have me with you. I am proud of the great and deserved fame which you have acquired, and feel complimented that you desire my services.

Upon my arrival here I found difficulties. One was removed yesterday by the Convention. Our friends from the North-west are opposed to my acceptance of any position creating a vacancy in the office of Judge of my Circuit. They deem it important to them and our cause when we obtain possession of that country that I should retain the office. That difficulty has been removed by the ordinance referred to. There yet remains the other. You have already appointed A. H. Jackson to a position in your staff. There does not exist a more deserving man, and you will find him very efficient. He is brave, intelligent, honorable and faithful. To appoint another of your relatives will occasion dissatisfaction. I do not desire to embarrass you. Upon the salary of the office of Judge I can subsist. If therefore when you are prepared to make an advance upon the Northwest, you think I can be of service to you, I will attach myself to you and go forward with you, without the embarrassment of a Military position under you. You are not now prepared to make any such advance, and I am not disposed to be connected with any position of our army except that advancing to the Northwest. If the Confederate States abandon that section, I abandon the Confederate States and go not to the North but some other foreign clime. I beg you not to make an advance until you are fully prepared. Floyd is not now in front of Rosencrantz [Rosecrans]. A small force of the enemy can protect Cheat Top. Kelly will therefore soon be largely reinforced. You cannot make a successful advance this season.

I have thus hastily given you my views. I am at your disposal. Sarah and children are well, and she desired to be kindly remembered to you. Write when convenient.

Yours truly,

W. L. Jackson.¹

To Genl. T. J. Jackson.

With the resignation of Alfred Jackson as assistant chief of staff, General Jackson at once telegraphed Mr. Bennett, at Richmond, urging him to take the place. The message was followed by this letter:

Winchester, Va., Feby. 28th, 1862.

My dear Colonel:

I telegraphed to you last week that Major Jackson had resigned from my staff, and requested you to say whether you would be willing to take his place with the rank of Major, but have not heard from you. You must not understand from my request that I desire you to give up your present position for the sake of coming into the field. But Captain Jackson told me that he would not be surprised should you decline a re-election. And should you do so, the thought struck me that you might desire active service with this army. The position of Adjutant General is one of great labor and requires much study and an entire ignoring of personal ease. As it is the chief staff position, its head should be an example of military adherence to regulations. Please let me hear from you soon and either accept or decline. The letter written to you about Alfred please destroy. As you had been instrumental in getting him the position, it was proper that you should know the objection to him, apart from the request made by me of you in the letter. Alfred expects to bring his old company back into service, and I hope that he will secure distinction in the line.

Your most attached friend,

T. J. Jackson²

The offer was declined by Mr. Bennett because of his age and in the belief that more good for both Jackson and the Confederacy could be accomplished by his continuing in the executive department.

It is interesting to observe Jackson's inflexible attitude toward duty at all times. Especially was this true of his requirements of the members of his staff, but at no time did he ask them to do more than he would do himself. It is related that following the resignation of Alfred Jackson he had a forced march in mind, lost his patience with the

tardiness of the staff in rising, and ordered the cook to throw away such a rare luxury as coffee. Before leaving he threatened to arrest the whole staff if they did not arise immediately. Suffice to say, they did.

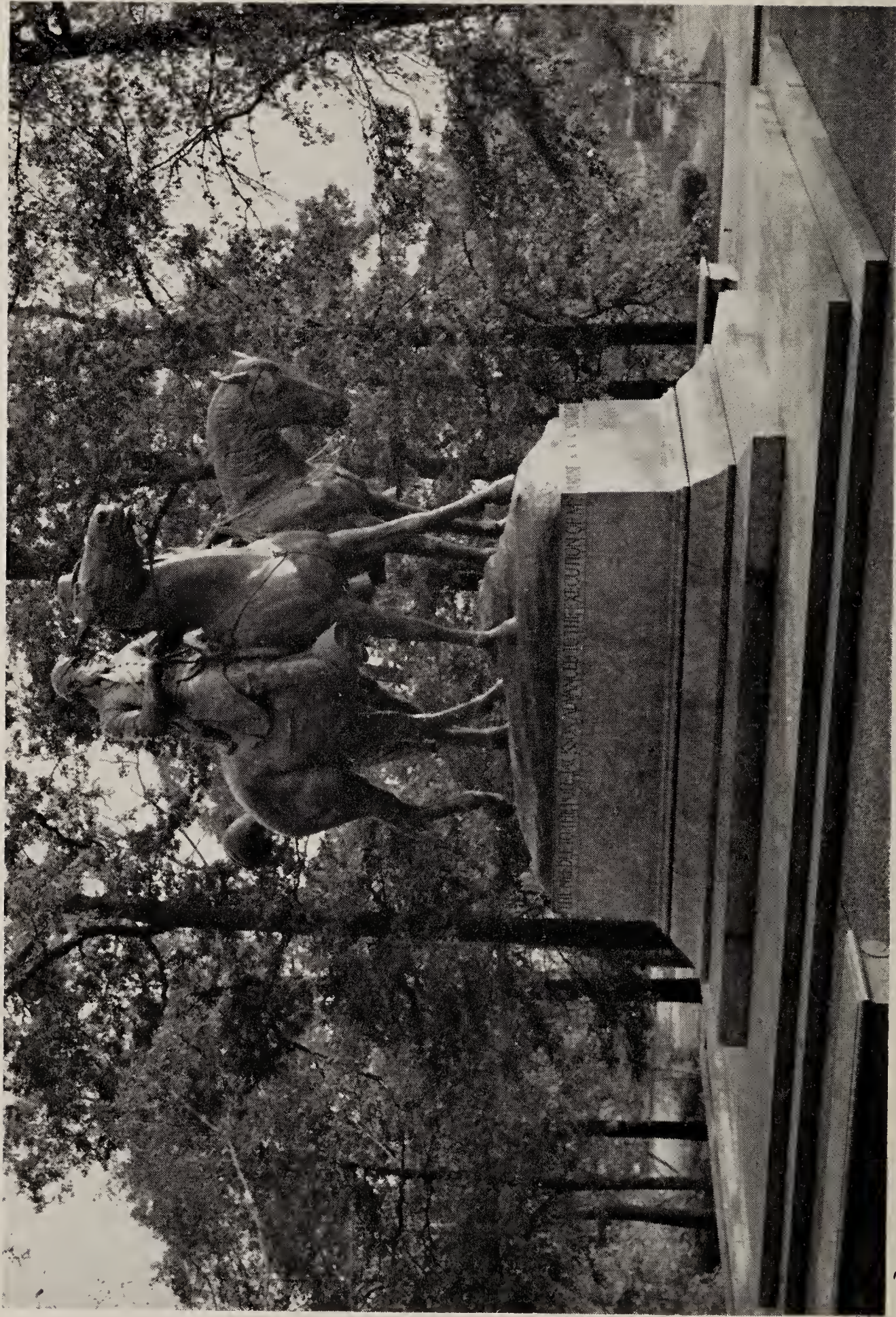
In July, 1862, Jackson wrote his wife concerning her brother, Joseph G. Morrison, then a captain in the services. "If you will vouch for Joseph's being an early riser," he wrote, "I will give him an aideship. I do not want to make an appointment on my staff except such as are early risers." The appointment was made, however, and on October 25, 1866, the recipient wrote from Charlotte, N. C., to Mrs. Annie C. Neale of Parkersburg, in part:

I had the honor to serve as aid de camp to the general during his campaigns in the Valley of Virginia and around Fredericksburg. During all my life I do not think I have ever known a more pious and conscientious man.

On October 7, 1861, Jackson was advanced to the rank of major general and on November 4 was assigned to the command of the Valley District. In January, 1862, he marched into western Virginia, striking Bath and Romney. In March he fell back before Banks with his army of 35,000 men, who reported him "in full retreat from the Valley," and started a column across the mountains to attack Johnston as he was falling back from Manassas, when Jackson suddenly turned, marched eighteen miles in one morning, with 2,700 men, fought the battle of Kernstown, on March 23, meeting 8,000 Federals. The result, scarcely a victory for either side, caused the recall of the column moving on Johnston. Jackson then left the community without delay and moved secretly into present Highland County, leaving Ewell's division in the Valley to watch Banks. Suddenly the Confederacy and the North were thrilled by the following dispatch:



STATUE, STONEWALL JACKSON, BY MOSES EZEKIEL, CAPITOL GROUNDS,
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA



DOUBLE EQUESTRIAN STATUE, STONEWALL JACKSON AND ROBERT E. LEE, by
MRS. LAURA G. FRASER, WYMAN PARK, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Valley District, May 9, 1862.

Gen. S. Cooper: God blessed our arms with victory at McDowell yesterday.

T. J. Jackson,
Major General.

Strong pressure against Jackson's right brought to his defense the 25th and 31st Virginia regiments, the former of which included the "Upshur Greys" and the latter companies made up of Lewis, Harrison, and Randolph County men. The Third (W.) Virginia regiment of the Federals was posted within three hundred feet of the Confederates. Former companions and neighbors recognized one another and exchanged salutations. Such was the "reunion of fate" of men from the scenes of Jackson's boyhood.

The advance of Fremont under Milroy had been defeated and driven back. In rapid sequence followed the uniting of Jackson's division with that under Ewell at Luray, the retirement of Banks' flank at Front Royal, the cutting of his retreating column at Middletown, and, on May 25, the rout of Banks at Winchester and his retreat across the Potomac.

Jackson was about to follow Banks when he learned that Fremont from the west and Shields from the east were marching to form a junction at Strasburg in his rear. With one of his rapid marches he reached the point of danger in time to defeat the project and protect his troops and supplies as they passed up the Valley, having in the meantime taken precautions to prevent the junction of the Federals. His rear was protected by cavalry under the brilliant Ashby, who lost his life near Harrisonburg on June 6.

During the ensuing operation Jackson wrote Mr. Bennett, as follows:

Near Mt. Meridian, June 14th, 1862.

My dear Colonel:

Your letter respecting your joining me in the event of the fall of Richmond came safely to hand; I hope and

trust that no hostile foot will in the Providence of God ever be permitted to enter our honored capital, but should that calamity befall us, I will be very glad to have you with us in the field. Colonel Jackson is with me, and I hope he will so continue during the remainder of the war, as his services are very valuable.

T. J. Jackson.

It is not our design to give in detail the account of Jackson's notable achievements in the Civil War. They have been narrated by many pens.

On June 7, at Cross Keys, Ewell, acting under directions of Jackson, met and defeated Fremont, and the next day Jackson defeated Shields at Port Republic on the opposite side of the river. The Federals then retreated down the Valley. In thirty-two days Jackson and his "foot cavalry" had marched about four hundred miles, scarcely a day without some sort of a skirmish. In so doing they had fought five battles, defeated three armies, captured twenty pieces of artillery, taken 4,000 prisoners and large amounts of stores of all kinds. This in turn had cost Jackson some 900 men killed, wounded, or missing; at no time did he have over 15,000 men with which to meet over 60,000 Federals.

Banks soon began fortifying Strasburg against an attack by Jackson, who suddenly appeared on McClellan's flank near Richmond. Following this, he participated in the Seven Days' campaign around Richmond, the second Manassas and the Maryland campaign, the capture of Harpers Ferry with 11,000 prisoners in September, and the battle of Sharpsburg.

On October 11, 1862, Jackson was advanced to the rank of lieutenant general and given command of the Second Corps, consisting of his old division under W. B. Taliaferro, Early's division, A. P. and D. H. Hill's divisions, Brown's Artillery, and numerous light batteries. At Fredericksburg, in December, 1862, holding the extreme right of Lee's army, Jackson defeated Franklin with a great loss to the Federals. After a winter spent in training, the troops

moved forward to Chancellorsville in April, 1863. General Hooker had forced Sedgwick across the river below Fredericksburg and taken position himself with the bulk of his army at Chancellorsville, where he was strongly fortified. Lee, leaving Early to watch Sedgwick, moved up to Hooker's front, having in the meantime sent Jackson with 22,000 men to attack Hooker's flank and rear. The plan was brilliantly executed, resulting in the rout of that flank of Hooker's army. Jackson was then preparing to cut off his line of retreat and compel Hooker to attack him when, in returning from a reconnaissance, his party was taken for the enemy and fired on. Jackson was severely wounded. His left arm was amputated and other wounds dressed, but pneumonia set in and he died near Guinea Station on May 10, 1863.

Thus came to a close the earthly career of one of the most distinguished sons of the upper Monongahela Valley. His faith in the Omnipotent, which was so blended with his convictions that his cause was just and directed by divine power, was transmitted to his men in actions that will live as long as time endures. Lee announced Jackson's death to the army in General Order 61, as follows:

Headquarters—Army of Northern Virginia,
May 11, 1863.

Gen. Order 61.

With deep grief the Commanding General announces to the army the death of Lieutenant General T. Jackson, who expired on the 10th instant at quarter past three p.m. The daring skill of this great soldier by the decree of an all wise Providence are now lost to us. But while we mourn his death, we feel that his spirit still lives and will inspire the whole army with his indomitable courage and unshaken confidence in God as our hope and strength. Let his name be a watchword to his corps, who have followed him to victory on so many fields. Let his

officers and soldiers emulate his invincible determination to do everything in the defense of our loved country.

R. E. Lee.

Thus did the beloved commander of the Confederate army speak of the passing of the man whom he figuratively designated as his "right arm" in the struggle of the Lost Cause. On Friday, May 15, all that was mortal of "Stonewall" Jackson was laid to rest in the little cemetery at Lexington, Virginia.³

When the news of Jackson's death reached western Virginia, it came into a region where his youth and young manhood stood in high relief in the minds of all people. Among them were kinsmen who had espoused the cause of the Union and those who favored the Confederacy. The star of this young soldier of western Virginia had burst upon the world in a meteoric career, only to be cut short by the hand of death. All alike paid him the respect due a gallant and worthy American. The *Wheeling Intelligencer*, the leading journal of this region at that time, on May 16, 1863, recorded:

The incidents which are told of this able and daring leader would fill volumes. They all hinge upon the sincerity of his zeal, his personal bravery, his dash and courage in military operations and the remarkable influence over his men.

And turning to the nation's capital, *The Daily Chronicle*, on May 13, 1863, edited by the noted John Forney, under the caption of "The Death of Stonewall Jackson," recorded:

Stonewall Jackson is dead. While we are only too glad to be rid, in any way, of so terrible a foe, our sense of relief is not unmingled with emotions of sorrow and sympathy at the death of so brave a man.

Every man who possesses the least particle of magnanimity must admire the qualities for which Stonewall Jackson was celebrated—his heroism, his bravery, his

sublime devotion, his purity of character! From the beginning of the world we have seen such men—men of narrow minds but strong passions but tremendous will.

Religious enthusiasts of all religions and creeds have often devoted themselves with conscientious and determined energy to a wicked cause, or have by their excesses degraded good causes to the level of a bad one.

Mahomet, Cyril, Philip of Spain, Loyola, Xavier, Bloody Mary, several of the Popes of Rome, Robespierre, George IV, and Jo Smith are familiar instances of enthusiasm, fanaticism, and obstinacy, combined with that curious obliquity of reasoning powers which is one of the most puzzling characteristics of the human mind. Jackson belonged to this class of men.

He had one great and overmastering trait of character—a fanatical enthusiasm which overleaped all obstacles and sharpened prematurely the other qualities of his mind. He was a genuine fanatic. But for all that, we do not less admire the great and wonderful powers he possessed.

When England learned that the sudden death of the Emperor Napoleon had removed the great obstacle in their success in the Crimean war, the people were delirious with joy. Bonfires blazed throughout the land; churches and societies sang paeans of joy; newspapers teemed with the most violent abuse of the dead man. Punch's cartoon was a disgusting hallelujah over the event—though the picture was drawn with such power (as if the whole nation had thrown its soul into it) as to extort from the critical Ruskin the highest praise; and for one week the whole people indulged in the most immoderate expressions of joy.

We hope and believe that no such brutal and unseemly exhibitions will disgrace the American people. They are unworthy of a magnanimous nation and a stain upon humanity.

Let us rather devoutly acknowledge the Providence of God, who, while He smites the accursed land with famine and the people with madness, takes from their accursed cause its bravest, noblest, and purest defender.

Stonewall Jackson was a great general, a brave soldier, a noble Christian, and a pure man. May God throw these great virtues against the sins of the secessionist, the advocate of a great national crime.

The editorial had hardly appeared on the streets of the city of Washington, until it came to the attention of the President of the United States. With a deep appreciation of the passing of a great American and brave soldier, who had worn both Blue and Grey, he sent the following note to Editor Forney:

Executive Mansion
Washington, May 13, 1863

Col. Forney.

My dear sir:

I wish to lose no time in thanking you for the excellent and manly article in the Chronicle on "Stonewall Jackson."

Yours truly,
A. Lincoln.⁴

Much has been written about Jackson's last hours. Dozens of soldiers have given their versions of his dying moments, last words, and other circumstances thereto. Mrs. Jackson in her "Memoirs" has made some contributions and several physicians have published articles dealing with his death from a medical point of view. That by Dr. Hunter McGuire is the best known and certainly the most reliable. However, there does exist a letter written by Mrs. Jackson to Jackson's sister, Mrs. Laura Arnold, of Beverly, West Virginia, giving an account of his last few days and a picture of conditions during the war, that seems worthy of publication as a great human document.

Cottage Home, N. C. Sept. 12, 1864.

My dear Sister:

I have just finished reading over your last letter to me, at least the last I have received from you—its date is Nov. 28, 1862. I answered it after it reached me, but do not know whether you ever received my letter, as I have not heard one word from you since. I would have written to you after the translation of our most precious one to Heaven, but could not bear the thought of the sacred contents of such a letter, viz., telling of his dying

words and death bed, being read by the enemy, & now I am going to try to get this letter thro' the blockade, & hope you will receive it. But oh! my dear Sister, how shall I begin to tell you all. I know no other heart in this world has been wrung, next to my own, as your own has been by this overwhelming affliction. Oh! how often I have thought of you, and longed to see you, that we might weep together, and that I might tell you all that you would so love to hear. But let me begin. I had not seen my precious Husband for thirteen months until April 1862. This you may know was a great trial to me, but I was so situated that I could not visit him, and he was so conscientious that he would not leave the army to come and see me. My little daughter was born on the 23rd of Nov. 1862 & I wanted to take her on to see her father as soon as I was able to travel, but he was so afraid of the babe and myself, being injured by traveling in the winter, that he would not consent to our coming until Spring.

We went on in April & he was then in Spotsylvania Co. I never saw him *look so well*, he seemed to be in excellent health, and looked *handsomer* than I had ever seen him, & then he was so full of happiness at having us with him, & seeing and caressing his sweet babe, that I thought we had never been so blest & so happy in our lives. We had our child baptized, *Julia Laura* (for his dear Mother & only Sister), a few days before the battle. When the terrible conflict came on, he sent me to Richmond, where I remained until the dreadful news of his being wounded came, when I went to him as soon as I could get there. The way was so blockaded by raiders, that I did not reach him until the fourth day, after he was wounded. I never had such a shock as when I saw him. I was prepared to see him suffering and Prostrated from his wounds, but he was frightfully ill with pneumonia, & he looked like a dying man. Still, I could not permit myself to believe he would be taken from me, and I never gave up hope till he was really gone. He was in a stupor when I went in, but as I kissed him, he opened his eyes, & smiled so sweetly, & said "I am very glad to see you looking so bright." I was trying to smile, tho' my heart was bursting, as I wanted to cheer him. He said very little all that day. (Thursday). I never left him except to go to my baby, & in the evening he opened his eyes again and looked at me with smiles & said "You are

one of the most precious little wives in the world." The next day he seemed easier, & was more rational, (his mind had been wandering from the time I reached him), but he talked very little.

Once I attempted to draw him into conversation but he asked me not to do it, as the Dr. said he musn't talk, & then added, "My darling, you are very much loved." He told me twice not to *put on a long face*—he always loved to see me look bright. Saturday evening he asked me to sing to him—I sang several hymns, but he seemed very restless. Sunday morning, the Drs. told me there was *no hope*, he was fast sinking. Oh! the agony of that announcement! But God supported me, & I was able to go back to him & stay with him to the last. I told him the Dr. said he would soon see the Savior, face to face—he replied, "I will be an infinite gainer to be transplanted". He was wandering a good deal, & seemed to suffer much, & not disposed to talk to me, but I tried to make him tell me what his wishes were, & to leave some dying messages—he said when I asked him where he wanted me and the baby to go. "Back to your Father, you have a kind, good Father, but our Heavenly Father is better than all." I asked him if he had any messages for sister Laura—he said, "I am too much exhausted," and then said, "I have a great deal to say to you, but there is no occasion for it now." He sank rapidly, & before 4 o'clock, his blessed spirit was with the Savior he so loved while on earth. He looked *noble* in death, so *natural*, and so *beautiful*, I could have gazed on his face forever. I have some of his beautiful hair for you, but fear this letter may not reach you, & will not venture to send it in it. The world has never seemed the same to me since the grave closed over him, but I try to follow his footsteps, as he followed Jesus, & I know if I am only accepted of God, that I shall soon be reunited to him in glory.

My child has been a great comfort and blessing—she is very much like her precious Father—has his eyes exactly, & all his features. She is very sprightly, has been walking since she was 11 months old, & now begins to talk. I wish you could see her. My dear Mother followed my darling husband last April, so I am *Motherless* as well as *widowed*. She was greatly afflicted, & did not walk for 9 months before her death. She died very peacefully at last, & perfectly resigned.

My sisters are all living, & doing well. My brothers are all in the army except the youngest who isn't 15 yet. I am living with my Father, & have one unmarried sister, (Laura) here yet, which makes it very pleasant. Joseph has been wounded twice this summer, but is doing well now. I do long for *Peace*, if it will not bring back to my desolate heart the joys & happiness of former days. My house in Lexington, is rented, & the boys hired there.

Hetty is Julia's nurse, & perfectly devoted to her. Aunt Amy has been dead two years. As soon as the way is open & peace is established, I intend to take my child, if we are spared, & visit you, & all my darling Husband's relations. I hope to visit Lexington next summer, & sincerely trust the way may be open for me to visit you then also. I am very anxious to hear from you, & your dear children. How I wish they could know my little Julia. They would love her very much for she is a sweet child.

Do write soon. I send this letter to a gentleman in N. Y. I will get a friend of mine to put in a slip with directions for you to send a letter to me in the same way. So I do hope to hear from you ere long.

My love to the children, & Julia sends a sweet kiss to dear Aunt & her cousins.

Your much attached sister,

M. A. Jackson⁵

My address is Cottage Home
Lincoln County, N. C.

Eighty-five years have now elapsed since the death of Jackson and in the intervening time a study of his life and characteristics have but accentuated its appeal to the American people. We have long ago passed from beneath the passions engendered by the war and can set in a just light the men produced on both sides.

Jackson died before he was forty, but in that brief time he sprang from an almost unknown but unusual boy of the hills of western Virginia to a national and international figure. His record of fighting under the Stars and Stripes in Mexico and his conscientious course under the Stars and Bars cannot be effaced. No stain of insin-

cerity, no vaingloriousness smirched a character combining gentleman, soldier, and Christian.

Silence! ground arms!—kneel all!—caps off!

Old Blue-light's going to pray;

Strangle the fool that dares to scoff!

Attention! 'tis his way.

Appealing from his native sod

In forma pauperis to God;

Lay bare Thine arm—stretch forth Thy rod—

Amen!—That's Stonewall's way.

NOTES

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NOTES ON ILLUSTRATIONS

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NOTES ON STATUES

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SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

NOTES

CHAPTER II

¹Bolton, Charles K., *Scotch Irish Pioneers in Ulster and America*, Boston, 1910.

²Burgess, L. A., *Virginia Soldiers of 1776*, III, 1228. "John Jackson, Private, was born in England, 1715, died in Clarksburg, West Va. 1801. His son George Jackson also rendered service in the Rev. War." The statement that he was born in England is an error. See also, note 4.

³*History Cecil County, Maryland*, 292-293.

⁴Jackson, Mary Anna, *Life and Letters of Thomas J. Jackson*, New York, 1892.

⁵It seems well to point out here that it is almost impossible to ascertain exact dates pertaining to the life of John and Elizabeth Cummins Jackson. George Jackson's dates cannot be accepted, always, as correct. He and his sister Katherine should have had full knowledge of all such matters, but nowhere has any data been located of the nature of actual Bible entries or public documents. He states that his grandmother died at 101, which may be correct. But the stone which stood for years at her grave, stated "Elizabeth Cummins Jackson, born in London, Eng., died in 1828, aged 105 years." The text has been definitely established. Who erected this stone or was responsible for it, no one knows. If it was the original stone, it must have been placed there long after her grandson, the widely known John G. Jackson, died on March 28, 1825, since marble was rarely used in this section of the country at that early day, although most of the stones in the Jackson lot are marble. Jackson, with his aunt, Katherine J. Williams, in 1855, made some attempt to better mark the graves. The Jackson Cemetery is on E. Pike Street, Clarksburg, set aside prior to 1808. In the Jackson family plot are the graves of John Jackson (not located) and his wife, Elizabeth Cummins Jackson, great-grandparents

of General Jackson; Mrs. Mary Payne Jackson and Mrs. Mary Coles Payne, sister and mother of Dorothy (Dolly) Madison; Jonathan Jackson and Elizabeth Jackson, father and sister of General Jackson; and others of the family. John Jackson died September 25, 1801. To quote from an old letter from John G. Jackson to his sister-in-law, Mrs. James Madison: "Death on the 25th. of September, put a period to the existence of my aged grandfather, John Jackson, in the eighty-sixth year of his age * * * I saw him breathe his last in the arms of my aged grandmother. * * * and can truly add, that to live and die as he did would be the excess of happiness * * *"

⁶In the collection of the author is a photostat of a long letter of similar content written by Captain George Jackson to his niece, Maria Gloria Jackson, wife of the widely known John C. Underwood.

⁷"Will of John Jackson.

"I, John Jackson, of Harrison county and State of Virginia, do hereby make my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say, I desire that a deed shall be made to my daughter, Sophia, for two hundred acres of land lying in Randolph county, on Brushy Run, joining Joseph Hall's land on the west side, including Frank's lick. Secondly, I give to my granddaughter, Elizabeth Reager, two hundred acres of land lying in Randolph county, on the west side of Buckhannon River, and on the south side of a line running between the waters of Turkey Run, and two small runs, one known by the name of Long Bridge Run, and the other by the Rich Knob Lick Run, including the mouths of both. It is also my desire that the above described tract of land shall remain in the hands of her father until she becomes of age or marries. It is to be understood that in case she should die previous to either these events, the land to fall to her father. Thirdly, I give to my wife, Elizabeth, all the residue of my estate, real and personal, of whatsoever nature it may be, to be disposed of as she may think proper. And lastly, I do hereby constitute my son, George, executor of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, affixed my seal, this twenty-second day of September in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and one. "John Jackson" ()

"Signed, sealed, published and declared as and for the last will and testament of the above named John Jackson in presence of

"John G. Jackson

"William Williams."

Recorded in Will Book No. 1, page 133. On December 22, 1801, "John G. Jackson and Dr. William Williams came into court and proved by their oaths that they were witnesses to the last will and testament of John Jackson, deceased," (County Court Order Book, 1799-1801, p. 36).

⁸Headstone in family cemetery lot, says "age 5 years."

⁹Edward Jackson was appointed administrator of the estate of Jonathan Jackson April 19, 1826. (From records of County Court, Harrison County.) This proves that Jonathan Jackson died in 1826 instead of 1827 as usually given.

¹⁰Blake B. Woodson died about May, 1833, in Fayette County. He had married (1) in Cumberland County, Virginia, Sally Taylor and had issue: Moncure, Marshall, Elizabeth, Sarah, George, Martha, Blake Baker, Jr., a physician, who located in Alabama, and William Cowan. It is also stated that a daughter of the first marriage, married John Buster of Kanawha Falls. The son, William Cowan, in correspondence with his stepsister, Mrs. Laura Jackson Arnold, stated he went to Clarksburg with his father, and frequented the Jackson home. Later, William married Virginia Kincaid in Greenbrier County, and served as a deputy county clerk of that county under Mark L. Spotts. (See also *Woodsons and Their Connections*, Memphis, Tenn., 1915.)

¹¹Laura J. Arnold, Shephards, Ohio, April 4, 1897, to George L. Dixon, Evansville, Indiana.

¹²Captain James Neal settled at the mouth of the Little Kanawha River in 1783, erecting Fort Neal, now a suburb of Parkersburg. The marriage of his son James to Harriet Neale, established a connection between the two families.

CHAPTER III

¹*The Statutes at Large of Virginia*, (Shepherd) Vol. II, Chap. 57, p. 243.

²The tablet was a gift of Jere E. Wheelwright of Baltimore and Fairmont. Dedicated September 18, 1919, in charge of Robert E. Lee Chapter, U. D. C. Address by Miss Lucy Robinson of Clarksburg, and "The Life and Character of Stonewall Jackson," by Judge William S. Haymond.

CHAPTER IV

¹The house in which Jackson was born has been well described, and most sketches are correct. In 1885, when business was making inroads on the old homes, an excellent drawing was made by Bruce Haymond. At the time, it was almost hidden by business blocks on both sides. A lithograph of this sketch was published by George H. Lee, of Clarksburg, and copyrighted in 1885.

²Mrs. Laura Jackson Arnold to George L. Dixon, Evansville, Indiana, April 4, 1897. Hermon Lodge, A. F. & A. M. was chartered in 1814. Dr. James McCally, family physician; Jackson's father, Jonathan Jackson; his distinguished cousin, Edward Brake Jackson; and other relatives were officers in this lodge.

³Letter, Thomas Neale to Lewis Maxwell. Collection of W. G. Tetrick, Clarksburg.

CHAPTER V

¹In 1836 the Jackson family received the *Richmond Enquirer*, published by Ritchie and Cook, of Richmond.

²J. N. Camden, Parkersburg, W. Va., to Southern Schoolbook Association, Charlottesville, Virginia, June 27, 1898.

³I. A. Barnes, in the *Fairmont Index*, recorded that Jackson also went to school to one John Lowther. And among the fellow students was Isaac Arnold Welch (1825-1902), later a delegate from Kanawha County in the Virginia Assembly; served in the Confederate Army; and for whom the city of Welch, W. Va., was named. Some of this comment reprinted in *Wheeling Intelligencer*, July 24, 1883.

⁴This was the first "official" courthouse building for Lewis County. It was a two-story, red brick structure, erected in 1820-21 and stood until 1855 when it was replaced by a more conventional Virginia structure with huge columns in front. A small building nearby housed the clerk's office.

⁵Warren Jackson is buried in the old "Post Cemetery" on the road from Buckhannon to Clarksburg. The stone is badly broken but reads:

"Warren J./ son of/ Jonathan and Julia B. Jackson/ died/
in his ----- year/ this tablet to a brother is reared by
kindred left/ bliss is now above/ by friends on earth bereft."

The stone was made by "Harris," presumably of Clarksburg, and erected by Major Jackson and his sister, Laura Jackson Arnold.

CHAPTER VI

¹Record Book, 1837; 606, Lewis County, Weston, W. Va.

²Record Book, 1837; 650, Lewis County.

CHAPTER VII

¹Granville Davisson Hall (1837-1934); author of *Daughter of the Elm*, *Rending of Virginia*, etc.; editor, *Wheeling Intelligencer*, and Secretary of State, West Virginia, 1864-1866.

²Samuel R. Harrison, for many years clerk of U. S. District Court, Clarksburg.

³Katherine, daughter of Col. George and Elizabeth (Brake) Jackson, who married Dr. William Williams.

⁴John Davis, grandfather of Hon. John W. Davis, late Ambassador to England and Democratic nominee for President, 1924.

⁵Dr. James McCally (1786-1872), the attending physician at the birth of General Jackson. If this statement is correct, Jackson's birth

was on the 20th, instead of the 21st, as given. In 1816 Dr. McCally married Penelope Williams, daughter of Dr. William and Katherine (Jackson) Williams.

⁶Matthew Neely. "Mary" (1825-1893) married Ira Hart of Clarksburg.

⁷The old "Stone House," still standing, Pennsboro, West Virginia.

⁸Samuel Houston, born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, President of Texas Republic, 1836-38, 1841-44, and United States Senator 1846-1859. He was well known by many local people, one of whom served as his secretary for a time. Eusa, his personal bodyguard, was a former slave belonging to Daniel Wilson, and it is alleged he later was colonel in the Mexican Army.

⁹Henry Clay and other members of Congress were in Clarksburg, May 24, 1841. A public reception was tendered the party.

¹⁰General John Jay Jackson (1800-1877). He was a graduate of West Point, 1818; served in the Seminole War, 1820-21, and for a time was attached to the staff of General Andrew Jackson. In 1823 he resigned from the Army, took up practice of law, achieving much prominence. Was commissioned a brigadier general in 1842, and assigned to the command of the 23rd Virginia. He once rode horseback from Parkersburg, (W.) Virginia, by way of Tennessee to Florida.

¹¹This, writes Frank Shuttleworth, of Clarksburg (1924), related to the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Shuttleworth Tate, during the cholera epidemic in Cincinnati, Ohio, in or about 1832. The child, not being exposed, was released from quarantine, sent by boat to St. Marys, (W.) Virginia, where relatives were awaiting.

¹²James Monroe (1825-1901), son of General John J. Jackson (Sr.), graduate of Princeton; Judge Circuit Court and member of Congress.

¹³Mary, daughter of Captain James and Hannah (Hardin) Neal, who married Scarlet Foley. A brother, James Hardin Neal, married Harriet Neale, a sister of General Jackson's mother. Captain James Neal, or O'Neal, was a Revolutionary soldier; a surveyor in the local community as early as 1783; founder of Neal's Station and a local family not connected with the Jackson-Neale line. The Foleys resided on a 200-acre farm near what is now "two mile hill" in South Parkersburg, about two miles from the "Col. Bradford Ferry" near the mouth of the Little Kanawha.

¹⁴John J. Jackson, Jr., born August 4, 1824, long a Judge of the United States District Court.

¹⁵It was then the custom to attach buttons to the back of a coat to which the coat tails were buttoned to prevent soiling when riding.

¹⁶John Chapman, born in New England, 1775, died 1847 at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

CHAPTER VIII

¹Original, National Archives.

²Original, National Archives.

³Order Book "H," p. 184, Circuit Clerk's Office, Lewis County.

⁴Original, National Archives.

⁵Original, author's collection.

CHAPTER IX

¹The entry "19" years of age appears to be an error. It will be noted, however, that a variation of one year appears in a local court record at Weston, in a school certificate filed in 1837. Both would make Jackson actually one year older than the usual records.

CHAPTER X

¹Original, National Archives.

²Original, author's collection.

³Original, National Archives. Jackson dated the notice "1846," but endorsements prove 1847.

⁴Photostat of original, author's collection.

⁵Original, author's collection.

⁶Original, National Archives.

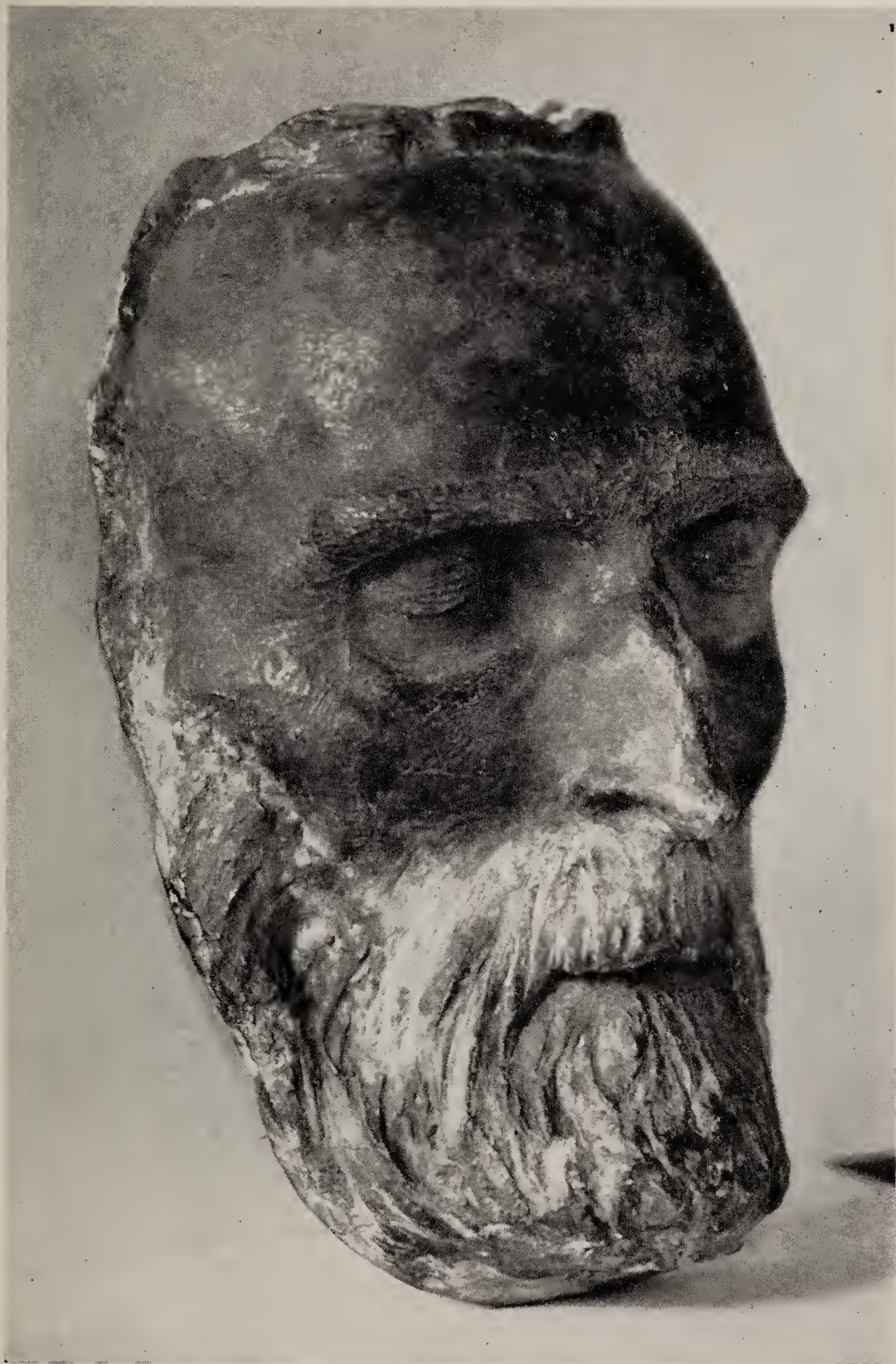
⁷Original, author's collection.

⁸An interesting aside on the influence of the Mexican War is reflected in an item in the author's collection. A small, leather-bound book, 4½ x 7, which suggests a cadet expense book of V. M. I., carries in it some 19 unnumbered pages in Jackson's handwriting. It is made up of a mixture of Spanish, pseudo-Spanish, French, and other languages. In the vain hope that something new pertaining to the War with Mexico had been found, Colonel T. A. E. Moseley, of V. M. I., at considerable trouble, translated all the contents. It developed that it contained a long outline, resume of a study of artillery and artillery practice, ballistics, theory, etc., and seems to be arranged in headings Chapter V to XX, mostly in Spanish with some comments as to results. In the back, on one page, the scene shifts from Mexico to a laundry list, dated September 28, 1857, at which time the writer was in Lexington.

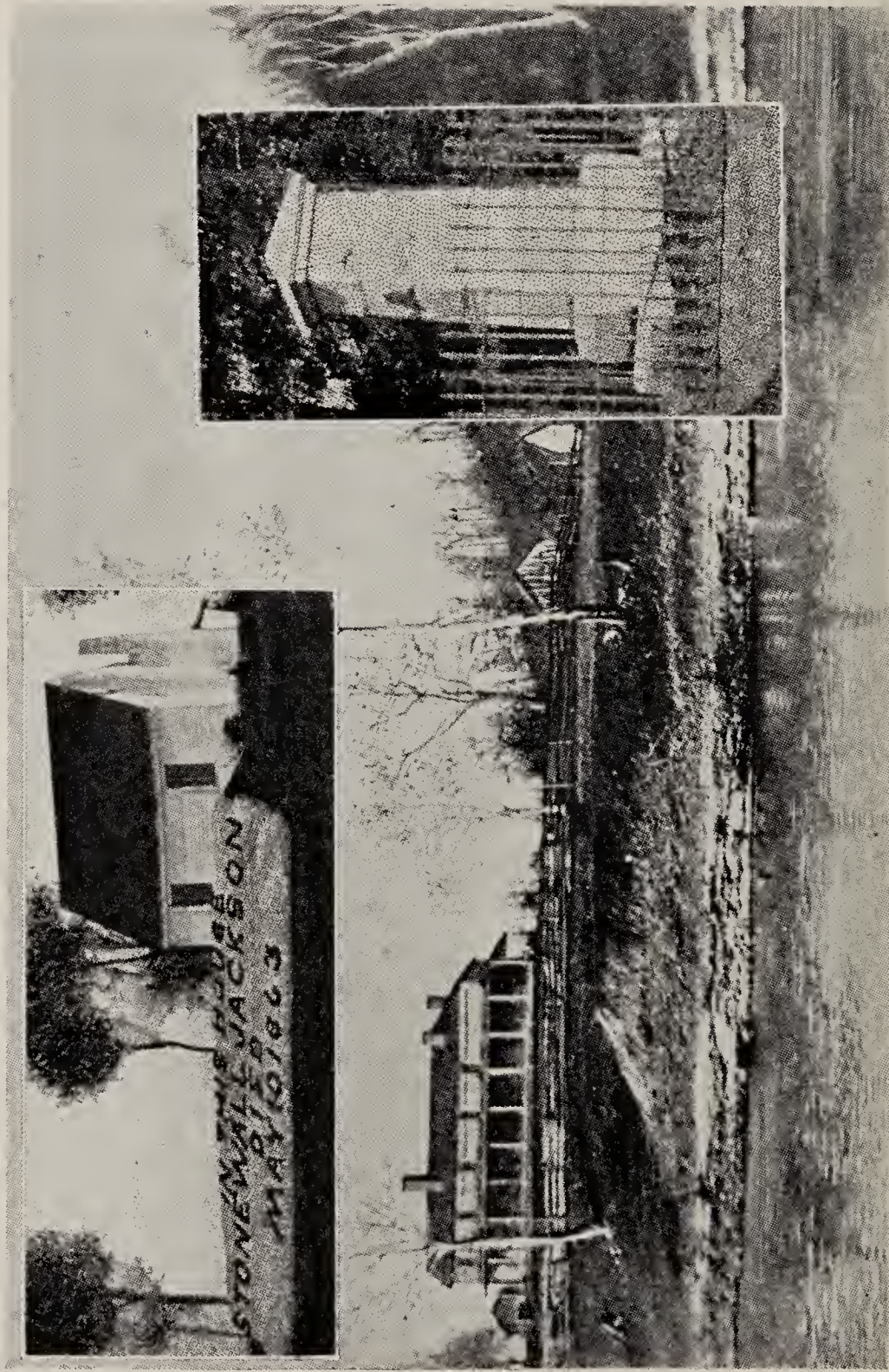
⁹*Southern Historical Society Papers*, X, 190.

¹⁰Original, author's collection.

¹¹It appears that the original records were burned, Jan. 24, 1893, in a fire at the Grand Park Hotel, where the clerk lived. Jackson's Episcopal Prayer Book, used at Fort Hamilton, is now owned by Mrs. Beatrice Arnold Giffin, Buckhannon, W. Va.



DEATH MASK OF STONEWALL JACKSON. MADE IN RICHMOND, MAY, 1863
BY A. F. VOLCK. (SEE NOTES.)



THE CUMMINS JACKSON HOME AS IT APPEARED IN 1900—JACKSON'S MILL. INSERTS: HOUSE
IN WHICH JACKSON DIED NEAR GUINEA STATION AND MONUMENT MARKING THE SPOT
WHERE HE FELL

¹²Original, author's collection.

¹³Original, Mrs. Ruth Hays White, Weston, W. Va.

¹⁴Original, Judge Robert S. Wilkins, Boston, Mass.

¹⁵Original, author's collection.

¹⁶Original, author's collection.

¹⁷Original, author's collection.

¹⁸*Jefferson County* (N.Y.) *News*, Sept. 18, 1862.

¹⁹See also, "Stonewall Jackson's Doctor Friends," E. Pendleton Tompkins, M.D., *Physicians' Times Magazine*, reprinted *Lexington* (Va.) *Gazette*, Oct. 7, 1930.

²⁰Jonathan M. Bennett, William E. Arnold, relatives, and John Stringer, of Weston, (W.) Va., also urged the appointment. Ex-congressman S. L. Hays, later a member of the V. M. I. Board, did likewise.

²¹Original, National Archives.

²²Original, National Archives.

CHAPTER XI

¹*Clarksburg*, (W.) Va., *Register*, published by W. P. Cooper, later major 31st Virginia Infantry, C.S.A.

²Original, Mrs. Gladys Harrison Scroggins, Parkersburg, W. Va. In connection with place of residence, Jackson lived for a time in East Tower, room 302, with Major Gilham. The next year he lived with Lt. Thomas A. Harris, in room 401. Lt. Harris (born Sept. 22, 1830; died Feb. 29, 1920) later became a widely known physician of Parkersburg, W. Va.

³From photostat of original, Dr. Charles W. Dabney. Some question about words "determination of purpose" and "not having previous" in next line.

⁴From original, author's collection. Endorsed "Rcd April 18, 1854, Ansd Apr. 25."

⁵*One Hundred Years at V. M. I.*, I, 282.

⁶From original, collection of Alfred Whital Stern, Chicago, courtesy of Monroe F. Cockrell, Chicago. *Elements of Algebra*, p. 495, by Major D. H. Hill, Prof. Mathematics, Davidson College, (J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1857), carried a testimonial by Jackson.

⁷Julia Neale (Jackson) Woodson was buried in a cemetery then located on the farm of George Hunter, who in 1834 sold the property to William Tyree; seven acres were laid off for cemetery purposes. Later sold to James Westlake, the cemetery and stream nearby bears this name. Jackson, in 1855, attempted to locate his mother's grave. In 1869 his cousin, Wirt R. Neale, was interested in the project. In 1872 the *Lexington Gazette* published a story which led to some correspondence between Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Alfred Neale and also

a letter from William Woodson of Lewisburg. In 1877 Mrs. Jackson was still attempting to locate some records, believing that Jackson had written something about the subject. Mrs. Neale wrote: "Thomas used such poor ink that his letters were almost illegible when I last looked at them." In the meantime, Capt. George Imboden, late of the C.S.A., had located at Ansted, and Capt. Thomas D. Ranson, late of the C.S.A., became interested and visited present Ansted. Here in 1878, he found Mrs. Thomas Brown Hamilton, who died in 1893, age 84, and Mrs. Job Martin. Both were at the burial, and pointed out the grave to Ranson and others. Mrs. Hamilton was with Mrs. Woodson when she died. The stone now standing, with an inaccurate date thereon, is the result. In 1916 Alfred J. Taylor, editor, at that time, of the *Fayette Democrat* at Fayetteville, headed a group which caused to be erected the attractive iron fence which encloses the lot. In 1933, under direction of the Commission on Historic Markers for West Virginia, the highway marker nearby on U. S. 60 was erected. See also *Richmond Times Dispatch*, July, 1905, and *Huntington (W. Va.) Advertiser*, June 13, 1916.

⁸From original, author's collection.

⁹For map and details, see *The Virginia Military Institute, An Address by Col. William Couper*, p. 14. Lexington, Jan. 28, 1943, Rock-bridge Historical Society.

¹⁰General Jackson left no will and Mrs. Anna Jackson qualified as Administratrix of the estate, on June 1, 1863, giving bond of \$80,000. Sureties on the bond were Joseph G. Steele, Elisha Paxton, and Matthew White. Elisha Paxton, named in one of the deeds mentioned, is the father of General E. Frank Paxton who fell while leading the Stonewall Brigade at Chancellorsville on the day following the wounding of Jackson.

The estate was appraised by William White, A. L. Nelson, Hugh Barclay, and a report filed on June 5, 1863. Four slaves—Hetty, Emma, Cyrus, and George—were valued at \$5,700. Household furniture, tools, etc., \$1,398. One "bay mare," \$500 and one "sorrel horse" "not present, \$500.00" and one "piano" \$500. Bonds and stocks were listed at \$8,500 and an interest in tannery not listed, and no debts shown. A total of \$17,048. The inventory naturally does not show the basis of valuation and was doubtless in depreciated Confederate money. This situation should be kept in mind in any comparisons with the usual standards.

The reference to "horse not present" has to do with Jackson's famous war horse, called variously, "Fancy," "Little Sorrel," and "Old Sorrel." As late as May 25, 1880, at which time the horse was at Cansler's Store in Gaston County, N. C., known as "Old Fancy," but died at Soldiers' Home, Richmond, April 10, 1888, as "Old Sorrel." He was placed in the hands of Frederick S. Webster, later the noted curator of the Carnegie Museum at Pittsburgh. The horse was mounted

and still remains "at attention" in Richmond. On Sept. 28, 1903, the articulated skeleton and the cast of the head and neck were presented to the Carnegie Museum at Pittsburgh, where they may still be seen.

¹¹Original, Mrs. Beatrice Arnold Giffin, Buckhannon, W. Va.

CHAPTER XII

¹William L. Jackson, Jr. (1825-90), son of William L. Jackson, Sr., of Clarksburg; lawyer, jurist, second auditor of Virginia and lieutenant governor. Assisted in organizing Thirty-first Virginia Infantry and in 1863 organized the Nineteenth Virginia Cavalry, and was elected colonel.

²Photographs, original Bennett letters, author's collection. See also *The Life of Jonathan M. Bennett*, H. M. Rice, 1943.

³The body of General Jackson arrived at Lexington, late afternoon of May 14, 1863, and lay in state at V. M. I., interred in the small family lot in Lexington Cemetery, by side of infant daughter Mary Graham Jackson. The remains of Jackson and his daughters, Mary Graham Jackson and Julia Jackson Christian, were removed on June 25, 1891, to the vault under the present monument, which was dedicated July 21, 1891.

⁴Original, Oliver H. Barrett, Chicago, Ill.

⁵Original, Mrs. Beatrice Arnold Giffin, Buckhannon, W. Va.

ILLUSTRATIONS

General Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson, by E. F. Andrews, Washington, D. C. From original painting, Jackson's Mill (Weston), W. Va.

This is a life size portrait and bears the signature, "E. F. Andrews, 1899." It was originally painted by this distinguished artist for the Courthouse at Louisville, Ky., along with a series of paintings for several public buildings. In 1923, it was acquired by the late Col. Jackson Arnold (1875-1933), of Weston, a distant relative of General Jackson and a soldier of the Spanish-American War, World War I, and founder of the W. Va. State Department of Public Safety. It was later presented to the Jackson's Mill collection. Some critics have made observations concerning the color of Jackson's coat, as depicted by the artist. It must be recalled that until May, 1862, Jackson wore a blue coat. At that date he acquired a regulation Confederate Army uniform.

Eliphalet F. Andrews, the artist, was born at Steubenville, Ohio, in 1835 and died in 1915. He studied in Paris under Bonnat, and was for twenty years director of the Corcoran School of Art, at Washington, D. C.

It seems well to note here that there are no known painted portraits for which Jackson posed during his life. An extensive search has disclosed only two that seem to have been made during the days of the Civil War. One canvas bears on the back, "L. P. Unger, 1862"—"Presented to Dr. James R. Graham." Dr. Graham, as heretofore noted, was a friend of Jackson and was the Presbyterian minister in Winchester, Va. This painting is now owned by S. F. Horn, editor of the *Southern Lumberman*, Nashville, Tenn. A small painted portrait, 6 x 8, endorsed on the back, "Edward C. Bruce, Pinxit Dec. 25, 1862 Richmond," is owned by Mrs. Churchill G. Chamberlayne of Brook Hill, Va. It may be said, in general, that all paintings of Jackson in any public institution or in private hands are based on one or the other of the two "war year" photographs.

* * * *

Lieut-Gen. Thomas J. Jackson and His Family is from an engraving by William Sartain. In addition to the title it bears the caption, "Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1866 by William Sartain in the Clerks office of the District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Bradley and Co., Publishers, 66 North Fourth Street, Philadelphia. Proof." This very finely executed engraving is, of course, entirely fictitious and idealistic. Jackson's portrait is from the photograph made in Winchester in 1862. The portrait of his daughter, Julia, and the portrait of Mrs. Jackson are from photographs made about the close of the war. William Sartain (1843-1924), distinguished engraver and artist, of Philadelphia, was a son of John Sartain and member of a family well known in the field of arts. He was well on the road to fame as an engraver, especially of portraits and mezzotints, when this engraving was made. At the age of twenty-four he turned to painting and his work received wide acclaim at home and abroad.

* * * *

Stonewall Jackson and His Boyhood Home, situated on the West Fork River, Lewis Co., W. Va. is from a composite lithograph, copyrighted in 1889 by Samuel L. Barrett, of Weston, W. Va. For many years this scene was very popular in the region of Jackson's old home, and was widely circulated. It bears the following:

"In the spring of 1863 while Stonewall Jackson was in camp at Moss Neck, below Fredericksburg, Va. his life long friend, Jonathan M. Bennett of Weston with the consent of Stonewall sent a photographer for the purpose of taking his photograph. This is the last one,—if not the only one—taken of him during the war and is accurately reproduced above.

"Attest W. G. Harrison, Clerk Circuit Court, Lewis county. J. A. J. Lightburn, late Brigadier General U. S. Volunteers. Hon. Henry Brannon, Judge Supreme Court of

Appeals of West Va. W. J. Bland, M. D. C. S. A. Weston, W. Va."

The "caption" is inaccurate in some particulars, but the old Cummins Jackson home and the mill illustrations are correct. The late Stokely Jackson, a cousin of General Jackson, is one of the men on horseback in front of the mill, which in itself shows a date of 1837. The Jackson portrait is not the one with which Mr. Bennett had some connection but is a copy of a print made from the Winchester portrait, with a painted background. It is well known to any student of Jackson. W. G. Harrison was a brother of Charles Harrison, mentioned elsewhere; the story of Lightburn, a boyhood friend of Jackson, has been recounted herein; Brannon was for years a distinguished member of the bar; and Dr. Bland was a former surgeon of the 31st Virginia Infantry, C.S.A.

* * * *

Death Mask of Stonewall Jackson, made in Richmond, May, 1863. This illustration is from a photograph of the original in the Valentine Museum in Richmond and is reproduced by permission. It was made by Andrew Frederic Volck, sculptor (brother of Adelbert J. Volck.) In a personal statement, he affirmed that "it was taken after the body was brought from the battlefield in 1863 to the Governor's Mansion at Richmond." He made a small bust of Jackson and also made plans for a statue based, in part, on this work, but the statue was never completed in bronze. (See note on statues.) In 1876 ownership of the mask passed from Volck to Edward Valentine, of Richmond, the distinguished sculptor who made the Lee recumbent statue at Lexington.

* * * *

Stonewall Jackson, drawn from life in 1861, near Balls Bluff, Va., by Dr. Adelbert Volck, of Baltimore. There exists what seem to be several originals of this sketch, and as early as 1885, in *Century Magazine*, it is captioned as "drawn from life." Dr. Volck, a member of a family of artists, was a dentist, as well as an artist. Under the name of "V. Blada" he issued a set of about thirty etchings that were roundly condemned at the time by many, and the plates were either destroyed or hidden. In the author's collection is a set of these etchings and some duplicates. One is marked "No. 24," "Prayer in Jackson's Camp," and some have felt this was made from "life," but A. W. (Sunshine) Hawks, of the C.S.A., and others, state that no such gathering took place, or could have taken place. Mr. Hawks, in a letter to the author in 1926, makes some interesting observations concerning the participants, and Volck's imagination as to the men presumed to have attended the "prayer meeting." (See *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, Aug., 1890.)

Stonewall Jackson, 1862. Sketch by A. Galt. From original, Virginia Military Institute.

Alexander Galt, sculptor and artist, served in the C.S.A.; he prepared sketches for a bust of General Jackson in winter of 1862-63; he died of smallpox at Camp Winder, near Richmond, Jan. 19, 1863, at the age of thirty-six. A contemporary letter reads:

"The next time I saw the Genl. was at his headquarters near Fredericksburg on Monday evening after the great battle there. Governor Letcher and the lamented M. Galt went up on the train on Monday morning after the fight. I accompanied them and in the evening we went to his headquarters. Found Mr. Boteler there. It was expected that the battle would be renewed the next morning. We remained with the general during the night. M. Galt requested Governor Letcher to ask permission of the General to take his likeness which was gained and shortly after dark Mr. G. commenced, the Genl sitting between Mr. G and myself at a stand or table. While Mr. G. was operating with his pencil a conversation was continued principally between the Genl and myself for some 15 or 20 minutes, when he fell into a profound sleep sitting in his seat and continued to sleep for about 20 minutes before waking up. The likeness was pronounced very good by Mr. Boteler and others but I did not think so. By the way I have never seen a good likeness of him done. None that I have seen does him justice."

Gideon D. Camden, Brownsburg, Nov. 25, 1863, to Dr. R. L. Dabney. (Photostat, author's collection.) Judge Camden, an uncle of Johnson N. Camden, was from Weston and Clarksburg, W. Va.

* * * *

Jackson's Mill, about 1843. This illustration is from an etching made by the late E. E. Myers, for many years head of the Department of Art, Marshall College, Huntington, W. Va. It is based on actual study on the ground, old engineering maps and prints.

* * * *

Jackson at Mexico City, August, 1847. The earliest known portrait of Jackson was made in Mexico City, in August, 1847, a daguerreotype, presumably made by someone connected with the U. S. Army. While this system of making portraits had been in use abroad and in the eastern United States, it is doubtful if it had yet reached Mexico. The present copy was made from the original, owned by the family of Jackson's sister, Laura J. Arnold. It can be said to depict young Jackson at the time he graduated from West Point.

* * * *

Jackson at New Orleans, 1848. The second portrait was made in 1848, during the return of the U. S. Army from Mexico. It shows Jackson with a beard.

Major Jackson, 1851. The third portrait, according to the best evidence, was made in 1851, possibly in New York. It depicts Jackson with a smooth face, but with side burns—he may have had two daguerreotypes made at the same time. The true portrait, according to the late Thomas J. Arnold and others, showed Jackson with a “captain’s” insignia on the uniform, which is significant in the light of later events. Jackson himself gives us some evidence in this connection. Writing to his sister Laura from Lexington, on April 15, 1853, he said:

“I wish that you would send me by return mail the daguerrotype which I had taken in New York after having shaved. * * * The one with the beard on was taken in New Orleans soon after my return from Mexico. This (last) one I wish you to keep safely as I prize it highly. If you remember I gave you two others, one being taken with a stern countenance and the other with a smile. It is the smiling one I want. * * * I believe you let Cousin Harriet have the glum one.”

Commenting further, Jackson expressed a desire to have a 2 x 3 painted miniature of his father, Jonathan Jackson, copied—this was on ivory and is illustrated herein. It is now owned by Grace Arnold, of Buckhannon, W. Va. The reference to two others, besides the New Orleans portrait, is borne out by existing prints.

The 1851 portrait was destined to have a queer career. It turned up in the North during the Civil War in a “carte de visite” size, and had a wide sale here and in England as early as 1862, but Jackson by this time had acquired a new uniform of unknown parentage. An inspection discloses that the captain of 1851 had become some kind of a “two star” officer. The portraits bore the name of “Brady—New York” and on the back, “Bradys National Photographic Portrait Galleries, Broadway and Tenth St., New York and No. 352 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.” In rapid order this “carte de visite” became the basis for engravings, lithographs, and paintings of one kind or another and it so continued for years. The irony of the situation is that Brady certainly never saw General Jackson during the Civil War and, too, by that time, Jackson had a full beard.

Many authorities have examined this portrait, but none has been able to identify the uniform. It conforms to no regulations ever existing in the U. S. Army, or at the Virginia Military Institute. However, the following surmise may be deduced. Matthew Brady opened a Daguerreotype Gallery at Broadway and Fulton Street, New York City, in 1844. Six years later he opened a branch in Washington. In 1851, at the time the original photograph was made, by someone, Brady and his wife were attending an exhibition of photography at the World’s Fair in London—they were in Europe a year. Brady

opened a new and a larger "gallery," in 1853, at 359 Broadway.

Jackson could have had the portrait made at Brady's, as he said that he had one made in New York City, "after having shaved," but in 1851 Jackson was just another soldier. The negative could have been stored away until ten or eleven years later, when Jackson flashed into the news of the Civil War as a great National figure and soldier. Presumably, someone who was not able to get a portrait of Jackson, as he was on the other side of "the lines," secured the old daguerreotype and, having to depict a "general," he improvised a uniform which was superimposed on the old portrait. Using a new process, this so-called portrait of "General Stonewall Jackson" was produced by the hundreds. All the facts, however, may never be known. Brady was certainly the most ambitious photographer of his time and he made personally, or through his employees, a vast number of portraits of the people of that day, and also covered the events and scenes of the Civil War. The Jackson portrait, in one form or another, appears in various publications depicting Southern leaders; it was published in the North during the war, and even afterwards, when, as a matter of fact, the altered photograph was utterly inaccurate for the period captioned.

* * * *

Thomas J. Jackson, 1855. This excellent portrait was made in Parkersburg, (W.) Virginia, on or about Aug. 10, 1855, when Jackson was visiting his aunt, Mrs. Alfred Neale. It may have been made by H. B. Hull, who about fifteen years later photographed Jackson's daughter, Laura. The illustration used is from an original copy of this portrait, made in 1870 by "Hoag and Quicks Art Palace, 100 4 St., opposite the post office, Cincinnati," Ohio.

* * * *

Jackson, 1857, Virginia Military Institute. This portrait is from a daguerreotype made in 1857 at Lexington, possibly by one Samuel Pettigrew who had opened a studio in Lexington as early as 1840. It is also reproduced in connection with an article, "Memories of my Warrior Husband," by Mrs. Mary Anna Jackson, *Hearst's Magazine*, Aug., 1913.

* * * *

Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson, 1862. The evidence is quite clear that only two photographs of General Jackson were made during the "war years." The most widely known, and the basis for most of the various paintings, engravings, etc., which have followed, was the "Winchester" portrait. This is a full face view, which shows that Jackson had a full beard at that time. The actual date of making this photograph is somewhat obscure and several stories have been written about its origin and the reason it was made.

It seems clear that four "originals" were made. One story is that it was made in the fall of 1861. The Rev. James R. Graham, Presbyterian minister, at whose home Jackson and Mrs. Jackson spent part of the winter of 1861-62, related (*Richmond Times Dispatch*, 1911) that it "was taken late in October or early November 1862," when Jackson was encamped near Bunker Hill, now West Virginia, and just after he received his commission as a lieutenant general. Mrs. Jackson, on the other hand, says it was made in "spring of 1862." Others affirm it was made in February, 1862. The photographer, as indicated on an original card in the author's collection, was "N. ROUTZAHN, Ambrotypist and Daguerreanist, Loudon St. Winchester, Va." The memoirs of Henry Kyd Douglas, *I Rode With Stonewall*, indicate (p. 199) that this photograph was made about Oct. 25, 1862.

* * * *

General Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson, 1863. The second and last "war portrait" was made at Hamilton's Crossing, about five miles from Fredericksburg, about April 26, 1863. The photographer was connected with the Minnis and Cowell "gallery" of Richmond. Mrs. Jackson was present when this was made and tells about it in her "Memoirs" (p. 426): "* * * during these last happy days," she wrote, "he sat for the last picture ever taken of him, the three quarters view of his face and head, the favorite picture with the old soldiers, * * * to my mind not so pleasing as the full face view taken in the spring of 1862 at Winchester." Mrs. Jackson also observed that of the numerous paintings based on these photographs, "the very best is [John A.] Elder's grand portrait, painted for the late W. W. Corcoran of Washington." *The Richmond Daily Dispatch*, May 13, 1863, gives some further evidence in this connection, under the caption of "Life and Portrait of General Jackson":

"A few days before the Battle of Chancellorsville, Messers Ayres and Wade, proprietors of the Illustrated News had an ambrotype of General Jackson taken, the last one taken of the now departed chieftain. A biography of him with the likeness finely engraved we learn is to be published by these gentlemen in book form. It will be a most popular book."

And on Feb. 7, 1866, from Richmond, W. R. Smith wrote to Jonathan M. Bennett, of Weston, W. Va. "I gave Mr. Minnis your letter regarding picture of General Jackson. He gave the inclosed copy of the original to me."

A portrait painted by William Frye is quite similar to the Minnis photograph in the general pool. It has been claimed that it was painted "from life," but when or under what circumstances is not known. Several other portraits making similar claims are offered for sale from time to time, but none have been proven to be authentic.

STATUES

In addition to the statue by Moses Ezekiel, dedicated at Charleston, W. Va., on Sept. 27, 1910, (see illustration) other notable works are:

1. Statue by John Henry Foley (1818-74), of England, erected on Capitol grounds, Richmond. Dedicated Oct. 26, 1875.
2. Jackson statue, Memorial Army of Northern Virginia, erected in Metairie Cemetery, New Orleans, La. Dedicated May 10, 1881.
3. Statue by Edward Valentine (1838-1930), erected at the grave of General Jackson in the cemetery at Lexington, Va. Dedicated July 21, 1891, for the thirtieth anniversary of the Battle of First Manassas. It is of more than passing interest that on the hilt of the sword are the letters "U.S." The date of dedication indicates that the statue depicts Jackson in the early days of the war.
4. Statue by Sir Moses Ezekiel (1844-1917), erected on the grounds of the Virginia Military Institute. Dedicated June 19, 1912. This is a copy of the one on the Capitol grounds at Charleston, W. Va. The statue depicts Jackson at Chancellorsville, and the hilt of the sword does not bear the letters "U.S." as mentioned above but does bear the letters, "C. S."

In connection with the statue erected in Lexington, it is interesting to note that in the collection of an alumnus of V.M.I., Mr. Monroe Cockrell of Chicago, Illinois, will be found two very interesting documents. One is the original contract for the "erection of a colossal equestrian statue of the late General Thomas J. Jackson," executed between James Chestnut, A. C. Myers and John Letcher, on one part, and Andrew Frederic Volck, of Nuremberg in the Kingdom of Bavaria. The contract is dated July 31, 1863, or just a few weeks after Jackson's death; the price was to be \$20,000; the interested American citizens hoped to raise funds to pay for the work from the sale of cotton which in some way had been shipped abroad. The other original document is a letter from Moses Ezekiel, written from Richmond on February 2, 1877, in which he submits designs for a "proposed monumental tombstone to Jackson in the Lexington cemetery." Both undertakings, of course, failed of final execution. Volck, it will be recalled, had made the "death mask" of General Jackson in Richmond.

5. Equestrian statue by Frederick W. Sievers (1872-____), erected on Monument Avenue, Richmond. Dedicated Oct. 12, 1919.
6. Equestrian statue by Charles Keck, at Charlottesville, Va. Dedicated Oct. 19, 1921.
7. Equestrian statue by Joseph Pollia, on the Battlefield of First Manassas (Bull Run). Dedicated Aug. 31, 1940.

8. Equestrian (double) statue of Lee and Jackson by Mrs. Laura Gardin Fraser (Mrs. James Earle Fraser), erected in Wyman Park, Baltimore, Md. Dedicated May 1, 1948. (See illustration.)

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In the preparation of this work the chief dependence has been on primary sources. It has been pointed out that there has been no intention to produce a biography, in the true sense of the word. Material of every kind has been examined, at some time or the other, from old family "grave yards," court records and the like, to the tracing of footsteps on the battlefields. There are various collections, such as that of the writer's, in which may be found books, pamphlets, notebooks from England, bits of records from school days, even a sheet on which in Jackson's own hand has been made preliminary notes for a report on the Second Battle of Manassas. Alongside the factual and true can be found things bordering on the absurd. One hotel, bearing Jackson's name high above its doorway, when opened, had General Andrew Jackson's countenance staring forth from the room keys. And so it has always been.

The printed word carried the story of Jackson's career to the world before he had "crossed the river" to "rest in the shade of the trees." As to how far this reached, may be disclosed by taking three points at random: Richmond, Virginia; Wheeling, West Virginia; and London, England. On May 13, 1863, three days after Jackson's death, the *Richmond Times Dispatch* announced that Ayers and Wade were going to publish a biography. And it was published. It developed that it came from the pen of John Esten Cooke, and the manuscript was dated "July 21, 1863." Back in Jackson's home land, at Wheeling, West Virginia, on June 25, 1863, *The Intelligencer* commented: "We hear that a life of Stonewall Jackson will shortly be published in New York." This, of course, had reference to a volume which set forth that it was printed from "advance sheets" of the Richmond biography and became the rather widely known "*Daniels of Richmond*" edition of Cooke's book.

Turning to London, England, it was announced (and copied in the Wheeling paper) that "in next week's Peep O Day newspaper," published at 7 Bellhouse St., Manchester, "will be published a full length portrait with memoirs of the late General Stonewall Jackson." This was quickly followed by others in England, mentioned hereafter, including the first volume (1864) of the widely known work by Dr. R. L. Dabney, and illustrated with an actual print.

The following bibliography does not include a long series of notable articles, any citation of the numerous prints, or any listing of

the numerous songs and music dedicated to Jackson. It does include most, if not all, the published works which can be classified as true bibliographical material. In addition to all of the works listed, in order of publication and from the author's collection, a long series of files of local newspapers published in Weston, and found in the same collection, have been examined for material. These embrace a scattered file of the *Weston Sentinel* established June 19, 1846, the same year Jackson graduated from West Point and a fairly complete file of the *Weston Herald*, established in September, 1853. Other local newspapers are mentioned elsewhere.

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