

would be as easy to manipulate. Niagara Falls up stream as to manipulate the money market, for any considerable time, counter to the true business situation of the country. All the professional operators conjoined with all the newspapers and stump speakers could not, more than momentarily, change the true set of the current.

With the single exception of the woollen industry, all trades are now fairly and increasingly prosperous, and we hear less of labor troubles than usual. The cereal crops, although not wholly out of danger, are highly promising, and the foreign demand for them is more encouraging than it has been in recent years. The small towns in the interior, and especially in the West, are full of business enterprise. The slackening of railway construction which was noticed at midsummer has been followed by a new season of activity, and as a necessary consequence the demand for iron has revived. These are some of the facts, probably the chief ones, that have changed the balance of manipulation in Wall Street from the bear to the bull side. They are all taken into the account, as they should be; but no manipulator or other business man imagines that the Mills bill will interfere in the least degree with the prosperous current that appears to have set in. Whatever politicians may say, nobody will bet a dollar on the theory that a small reduction of duties on imports and an enlargement of the list of free raw materials will check or interrupt the revival of industry. On the other hand, we ought to reckon on the probable reduction of the Treasury surplus, however that may come about, as one of the most important factors contributing to the present improved situation.

There is always danger, in times like these, that speculation will be overdone, but if we have not yet passed the stage of manipulation, if the upward movement is all the doing of the professionals, if the public are not yet in the swim, that danger is not imminent.

THE COPYRIGHT BILL IN THE HOUSE.

ALTHOUGH it is now more than two years and a half since the Chace bill was introduced into the Senate, it has only been before the House of Representatives officially a little more than four months. On March 19 the Senate Committee on Patents made its second report upon this bill, and on the same day, by prearrangement, Col. Breckinridge of Kentucky presented to the House (without remarks) a duplicate of the bill as formulated by the Senate Committee, after the public hearing held in March. This text included the so-called "typographical amendment"—stipulating that only such books should be copyrighted as were "printed from type set within the limits of the United States," and the slightly modified prohibition of importation. The bill was read twice, ordered to be printed (as H. R. No. 8715), and referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. After a public hearing of arguments in favor of the bill before this Committee, it was placed in the hands of a sub-

committee, who drew up a favorable report, and on April 21 it was reported back to the House by Mr. Collins of Massachusetts, whereupon it was referred to the House calendar, and was again ordered to be printed with some slight verbal alterations.

The report was also printed as House Report No. 1875, a document of two pages. It begins by pointing out the insular position occupied by the United States in excluding aliens from laws protecting literary and artistic property, and says:

"This bill proposes that the creators of this class of property, whether citizens or foreigners, shall be protected in the enjoyment of it within the limits of the United States. It is now the only species of property which stands unprotected by our laws. Its recognition and protection seem to rest upon the foundation of common honesty. The persistent confiscation of it has been a reproach to our people, a serious discouragement to our authors, a marked injury to our publishing trade, while working demoralization and debasement of our literature."

The passage of the bill will, the Committee are satisfied, "encourage and stimulate American authorship, designing, engraving, and all the arts that enter into the making of good books. By it our authors obtain a wider market—that of the whole world—while they are saved from the competition of the unpaid work of the foreign authors. It will unquestionably raise the standard of literary taste, also, by banishing the 'trashy' and the 'gas-light' literature from the field." The unanimity of "authors, publishers, type-setters, electrotypers, binders, booksellers, and all others engaged in making and distributing books" in their advocacy of the bill is dwelt upon, as also the care taken to insure that the books copyrighted shall be entirely manufactured in the United States. Finally, the Committee revert to the question: Will the price of books be increased under international copyright? and answer it in the negative, believing it certain that "the best books written by men and women all over the world will be sold in the United States for less than they are sold now"; and that "the general consensus of opinion, the argument pushed almost to a demonstration, is that all other books will be sold for as low a price as they are now," the experience of European countries before and after international copyright being considered by the Committee as conclusive on this point.

On Wednesday, May 9, the Senate passed the Chace bill, and on Friday, the 11th, the Speaker laid the Senate Act before the House of Representatives, whereupon it was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. On May 24 Mr. Collins from that Committee presented a second report (No. 2311), noticeable for its brevity. It reads as follows: "This bill differs but slightly from the House bill of the same title already reported. The Committee report the Senate bill favorably and recommend its passage." Both report and bill were ordered printed, the latter being marked with the Senate number (S. 554), and entitled: "An act to amend title sixty, chapter three, of the Revised Statutes of the United States," such having been the title of the Chace bill from its first presentation in Congress. The

Senate "act" was referred to the House calendar, taking the place of the prior House bill, under date of April 21. All bills entered before that date would, in ordinary course, take precedence of it. The edition of the House calendar prepared for Monday morning, July 30, indicated that on that day there were 147 bills in the Committee of the Whole House, 88 bills on the House calendar, and 402 on the private calendar, or 637 bills in all, waiting to be considered before it became the turn of the Copyright Bill. This condition of affairs precluded any hope of the latter being reached during this term in its regular turn. The alternative was to secure the setting aside of a future day for its discussion. This could only be brought about by obtaining unanimous consent to introduce a resolution to that effect, and on Monday week Mr. Collins presented a resolution setting apart Thursday, December 6, for the debate of the bill, and asked unanimous consent to have it considered. To this Mr. Rogers of Arkansas objected, and the resolution was lost. As a single objection to any similar resolution would defeat it, it is clearly not probable that a discussion can be secured this session, and the whole matter must therefore go over until next winter, when, Mr. Rogers said, he expected the bill to pass.

PHILIP H. SHERIDAN.

THE death of General Sheridan closes the active service of the military officers for whom special rank was created by act of Congress. It is thus a reminder, serious and forcible, of the rapidity with which the generation is passing away that took an active part in the great civil war. Gen. Sherman remains, with the earnest good wishes of the nation that he may long enjoy a green old age; but he is upon the retired list, while Sheridan, a much younger man, falls in the midst of the active duties of commandant of the army at the comparatively early age of fifty-seven.

Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan are placed, by the popular verdict from which there is no appeal, as a trio of great men standing apart from all the other military chieftains on the national side in the great struggle with secession. It does not matter that Sheridan's active service was chiefly in lineal rank below that of Meade and Thomas, and that his appointment to the grade of Lieutenant-General over them was after the war had closed. The popular mind has taken the ultimate rank as the index of the war service, and, by an *ex post facto* decree, assigned its importance to a grade corresponding to the final recognition in rank which he received. It will be the historian's duty to recall all the incidents of his brilliant career, and to weigh all the circumstances which test his claim to highest military honors. To the people he will always be what Blücher was to the Prussians, the "Marshal Vorwärts," who was to them the embodiment of patriotic devotion and boiling, aggressive energy.

Sheridan was never tested by the supreme responsibility of the command of a great army in an important campaign, as Meade was at Gettysburg and Thomas at Nashville. Even his justly famous campaign in the Shenandoah was so connected with that of Grant against Lee as to be subordinate to it, and to be free from that accountability for decisive events which is by far the heaviest burden a general has to bear. It cannot be too often repeated

that the difference between the intellectual tests applied to the commander of an independent great army and to his most important subordinate are different in kind, and that the most glorious success in the latter is no proof of ability to sustain the former. Military history is full of examples of brilliant marshals who were unequal to supreme command.

It was Sheridan's great merit that he proved equal to all the increased responsibilities that were put upon him, and that his powers were manifestly and rapidly growing when peace put an end to his career in war on a great scale. He had been much slower in reaching prominence than numbers of his great rivals. It is doubtful if he himself had much confidence in his own military capacity till much experience in brigade and division commands had educated him to trust his own judgment, and to follow the inspiration of his moments of battle enthusiasm.

Born in March, 1831, he was just thirty years of age and a captain in the Thirteenth Infantry when the war began. His career at West Point had not been specially promising; indeed, he had for some reason been obliged to spend an extra year in completing the course. Seven or eight years had been spent in garrison life on the frontier and in the petty conflicts with the Indians of the Pacific Slope. The first organization of our great army of volunteers made it necessary to use many officers of the regular line in staff duty, and Sheridan probably regarded it as a lucky thing that he was assigned to duty as a quartermaster. A full year was spent in routine administrative duties, but in the spring of 1862 he was serving in this capacity on Halleck's staff after the battle of Shiloh. In the stir of an actual campaign the hot blood of his Irish ancestry showed itself in flashes of energy and originality even in his duties as quartermaster, and the opinion both Halleck and Grant then formed of him bore fruit later in the war. His transfer to a regimental command came, however, from the appreciation of him then formed by the officers and men of a volunteer regiment, and on their request he was made Colonel of the Second Michigan Cavalry. To be a captain of regulars and colonel of volunteers was then but a step from brigadier, and though a brilliant affair at Booneville was the occasion of the promotion, it was, in the rapid increase of the army, almost a matter of course. His new commission dated from July 1, 1862.

In the rearrangement of departments after the Corinth campaign, Sheridan was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland and shared its fortunes till the spring of 1864. He commanded a division under Buell in the battle of Perryville, and under Rosecrans in the battles of Stone's River and Chickamauga. His military reputation grew solidly, but his division had formed part of the right wing of Rosecrans's army, and was involved in the disasters which were the opening scenes in both the great engagements last named. His personal conduct was always heroic in battle; but it cannot be said that he had yet shown the power to grasp and control large bodies of men in a decisive moment. At Stone's River he had rallied his broken brigades and stubbornly defended the new line which was formed, and against which Bragg's assaults finally failed. At Chickamauga the break in the line occurred beyond his left, but his division was carried away in the disorderly retreat towards Chattanooga, and did not again come actively into the fight.

At Missionary Ridge he had part in the enthusiastic assault in which the men of the line,

without orders, instinctively continued the rush after Bragg's retreating skirmishers up the hill, and carried the crest by that extraordinary and spontaneous inspiration which, as we now know, was as unexpected to their commanders as it was to the enemy whom it crushed. It is no reproach to the reputation of Grant or of Sheridan to recognize the fact that here, if ever, the goddess Fortune asserted her old-time control over the events of war. They were worthy of her favors, and knew how to use them. The glory of the result illumined all the actors in it, and begot a popular confidence which went far to sustain them in the desperate struggles of the next year.

Sheridan had been made a Major-General of volunteers after Stone's River, and his reputation was that of a good division commander, faithful to his superior officers, and with personal characteristics of impetuous courage and hot, enthusiastic nature which belong to brilliant personal leadership. His associates did not think of him as of one likely to show the broader intellectual comprehension of the problems of war or the strong grasp of a great leader. Army reputation among regular officers was so much a matter of class standing in the Military Academy, that it may be doubted if Sheridan himself, at this time, did not yield to the habitual assumption that the men who had stood higher than he at West Point were much more competent to command. He was afterwards accustomed to speak of these phases of his experience as "tests" through which he had passed, and by which he himself as well as others had learned what higher work he was capable of.

His transfer to the command of the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac was probably determined by Grant's feeling that he especially needed a leader then who could show an example of personal energy and enthusiasm which would beget a like spirit in his subordinates. The Confederate General Stuart had, rightly or wrongly as he thought, overtopped the cavalry leaders of the Potomac army in the matter of enterprise and personal prestige, and it is probable that Grant looked more to this quality in Sheridan than to his strictly intellectual endowments.

A few weeks' service, however, proved to Grant that his subordinate had qualities which surpassed his expectation, and his confidence in Sheridan grew rapidly and steadily to the very end of the war. The Shenandoah campaign satisfied him that he had no one so fit to be trusted with a detached command with powers of independent action; and whatever criticisms have been made upon the severity towards the inhabitants which marked the mode of carrying out his orders, there is no doubt that that favorite route for diversions against the advance of the Army of the Potomac was thenceforth closed. Here, as at Missionary Ridge, Fortune favored Sheridan, and his ride to Winchester, which in fact little resembled the popular account embalmed in story and in stirring verse, gave a romantic interest to his career, more effective with the public than the sterner and solder events of the campaign. He took the tide at the flood, and popular confidence stimulated him to double effort and greater trust in himself.

Under his handling, the cavalry of the Potomac army became practically a mounted infantry, using its horses for rapid locomotion, but fighting dismounted with fire-arms of sufficient range and with a sufficient steadiness of line formation to put them upon nearly equal terms with the ordinary line of battle. Its self-confidence and prestige rapidly grew, and the fruits of hard discipline and experience through

the preceding campaigns were reaped under the new leader in an almost unbroken series of victories in combats great and small, from the Wilderness and Todd's Tavern to Five Forks and Sailor's Creek and Appomattox. The death of Stuart emphasized the change that came in the relative power of the cavalry arm in the opposing forces, and the Confederate Army, horse as well as foot, was kept pretty steadily on the defensive till the final surrender. In the closing campaign Sheridan was often intrusted with a mixed command which answered more nearly to the control of a wing of the army than to any other, and Grant lost no opportunity of showing his complete trust in the judgment as well as the dash of his favorite subordinate.

Sheridan's relations to other officers were usually cordial, but the ardor of his temperament led, at times, to collisions in which he was not always right. At Missionary Ridge he had charged Wood's division with appropriating cannon gathered, as he said, in the line of march of his own victorious brigades. Both in substance and in form the assertion was unjustifiable, as investigation has shown. It left wounds which never quite healed. A similar hastiness of temper was no doubt the cause of his unfortunate act in relieving Gen. Warren of command in the very moment of victory at Five Forks. The power to do so had been left in his discretion, but its exercise was in total misapprehension of Warren's spirit, and in ignorance of the wise and gallant conduct by which Warren was in the very act of achieving success. It crushed an officer who had few equals in the service. There is justice in the argument that the burning zeal and energy which brooks no delay in quick surmounting of obstacles, must almost necessarily ride over some whose misfortune it is to seem to be in the way; but as one and the other pass away from earth, we owe it to truth to point out the injustice or the error. The country owes a generous sympathy, if not a remorseful vindication, to one who suffered in her cause for faults mistakenly attributed to him, as well as an admiring tribute to the successful hero.

In the Franco-Prussian war Gen. Sheridan represented our army at the headquarters of the Prussian King. It has been much regretted that he published no memoir of his observations in the campaign of Sedan. In private conversation he indicated the opinion that our civil war had had great effect in modifying the tactics as well as the weapons of European armies, and that the military leaders of Germany and France had learned more from our experience than could be taught us by theirs. This meant that the European war had been the occasion for testing changes and improvements originating here, and for putting them into general practice, rather than for originating new methods. He had formed clear ideas as to the relative merits of the continental systems, and of the armies affected by them; but whether from disinclination for the theoretic presentation of such questions, or from an unwillingness to criticise either Frenchmen or Germans, he maintained a reserve in all public references to the subject.

His personal attachment to Gen. Grant was always warm and devoted, and the points of his public performance of duty since the war which have been most criticised were those in which, as in Louisiana and Texas, he was attempting to enforce what he believed to be the policy of his chief. Political life he was sincerely averse to, and limited his activity as far as possible to the strict performance of military duty. His devotion to the country