

Amelia — There would be stores found at Amelia Court House. That had been arranged for. . . . But when on the fourth Longstreet reached Amelia, and after him Gordon and Ewell there were no stores found. Some one had blundered, something had miscarried. There were no stores.

On the fifth of April, Lee left Amelia Court House and struck westward, with a hope, perhaps, of Lynchburg and then Danville. Behind him was Grant in strength, Sheridan and Grant. . . . And still the bottomless roads, and still no rations for his soldiers. The Army of Northern Virginia was weak from hunger. The wounded were many, the sick and exhausted were more. There was now a great, helpless throng in and about the wagons, men stretched upon the boards, wounded and ill, stifling their groans, men limping and swaying alongside, trying to keep up. . . . And then, again and again, great cavalry dashes, a haggard resistance, a scattering, overturning, hewing-down and burning. . . . And still the Army of Northern Virginia drew its wounded length westward.

Sleep seemed to have fled the earth. Day was lighter and something warmer than night, and night was darker and more cold than day, and there seemed no other especial difference. The monotony of attack, monotonously to be repelled, held whether it were light or dark, day or night. Marching held. Hunger held. There held a ghastly, a monstrous fatigue. And always there were present the fallen by the road, the gestures of farewell and despair, the covered eyes, the outstretched forms upon the earth. And always the dwindling held, and the cry, *Close up! Close up! Close up, men!*

"Mighty cold April!" said the men. "Even the pear trees and the peach trees and the cherry trees look cold and misty and wavering — No, there is n't any wind, but they look wavering, wavering . . ." — "Dreamed a while back — sleeping on my feet. Dreamed the trees were all filled with red cherries, and the corn was up, and we had a heap of roasting ears . . ." — "Don't talk that-a-way! Don't tell about dreams! 'Tis n't lucky! Roasting ears and cherries — O God! O God!" — "Talking about corn? I heard tell about a lady in the country. All the horses were taken and the plantation could n't be ploughed, and she wanted it ploughed. And so a battle happened along right there, and when it was over and everybody that could had marched away, she sent out and gathered two of the horses that