

appointed to the command of the Department of the West, the bronze of the field had hardly yet ousted the pallor of illness. He rode very firmly, sitting straight and soldierly, a slight, indomitable figure, instinct with intellectual strength. He lifted his hat to the cheering lines and smiled — a very sweet, affectionate smile. It gave winsomeness to his quiet face. He was mingled Scotch and English, — somewhat stubborn, very able.

Beside him rode General Pemberton, commanding the forces at Vicksburg and Grenada. The two were speaking; Edward caught Johnston's quick, virile voice. "I believed that, apart from any right of secession, the revolution begun was justified by the maxims so often repeated by Americans, that free government is founded on the consent of the governed, and that every community strong enough to establish and maintain its independence has a right to assert it. My father fought Great Britain in defence of that principle. Patrick Henry was my mother's uncle. Having been educated in such opinions, I naturally returned to the State of which I was a native, joined my kith and kin, the people among whom I was born, and fought — and fight — in their defence."

He reached the broad steps and dismounted. As he did so, the door of the house opened and the President, a number of men behind him, came out upon the portico. Tall and lean as an Indian, clear-cut, distinguished, theorist and idealist, patriot undoubtedly, able undoubtedly, Jefferson Davis breathed the morning air. Mississippi was his State; Beauvoir, his home, was down the country. He looked like an eagle from his eyrie.

Johnston having mounted the steps, the two met. "Ah, General, I wish that *I* were in the field with this good town to defend!"

"Your Excellency slept well, I trust — after the people would let you sleep?"

"I slept. General Pemberton, good morning — What are your arrangements?"

"In a very few moments, if your Excellency pleases, we will start. The line of works is extensive."

"Haynes Bluff to Warrenton," said Johnston. "About fifteen miles."

"It is not expected," said Pemberton, "that his Excellency shall visit the more distant works."