

ment which he made in order to fall in upon Washington's left probably hastened the forward movement of the latter, who, before Hampton had joined him, attempted a charge, but it was impossible for his cavalry to penetrate the thicket. He then discovered that there was an interval between the British right and the creek, by which he was in hopes to succeed in gaining their rear. With this view he ordered his troop to wheel by sections to the left, and thus brought nearly all his officers next to the enemy, whilst he attempted to pass their front. A deadly and well-directed fire, delivered at that instant, wounded or brought to the ground many of his men and horses, and every officer except two. The field of battle was, at this instant, covered with wounded or dying; on the left Washington's cavalry routed and flying, in the foreground Hampton covering the scattered cavalry, while Kirkwood with his bayonets rushed forward to revenge their fall; beyond these, the whole American line advancing rapidly and in order. Nothing could exceed the consternation spread through the British ground of encampment. Everything was given up for lost, the com-