

**LEE'S INVASION OF
NORTHWEST
VIRGINIA IN 1861**

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Lee's Invasion of Northwest Virginia in 1861 by Granville Davisson Hall

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GRANVILLE DAVISSON HALL

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LEE'S INVASION
OF NORTHWEST VIRGINIA
IN 1861

BY
GRANVILLE DAVISSON HALL

FALSTAFF—I will not lend thee a penny.
PISTOL—Why, then the world's mine oyster
which I with sword will open.

MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

SIR ANDREW—Plague on't! an' I thought he
had been valliant and so cunning in fence.
I'd have seen him damned ere I'd have
challenged him.

TWELFTH NIGHT.

Chisago

1911

US 5545.15



*Gift of
The Twentieth Regiment*

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RECONNOISSANT.

Fifty years after the event, there are signs of a re-nascent literature dealing with the southern rebellion, which apologists for that attempt at national homicide prefer to describe as the "War between the States." In this semi-centennial year, the American citizen may well suspend his mad pursuit after the almighty dollar and take a few minutes off to recall the events and portents which a half century ago darkened the western hemisphere. This slender volume is a modest attempt to trace the salient features of a single episode in the great tragic story; the opening chapter in a volume whose "finis" no man could then forecast.

The sole attempt to justify the rebellion in its initial stage was the protest against "coercion." This was simply a demand by the conspirators, who had seized the machinery of all the Southern state governments, that the lawful authority of the nation should not interfere with their plans or pleasure in the trifling matter of upsetting the United States government. Yet when the next stage had been reached, coercion was the first weapon drawn in Virginia against every citizen who resisted the usurpation which had seized the Commonwealth. It was first employed in the State capital to compel a sovereign convention to pass an ordinance of secession against the expressed will of two-thirds of the voters of Virginia.

Lee's invasion of Northwest Virginia was an attempt to apply the same argument to the loyal people