

Has a new era begun for the cavalry of Virginia? The really brilliant and useful service which it has done within the last four weeks at least kindles the hope that organization and discipline have at last been felt in its ranks.— The want of these things—not of valour, not of good arms, not of good horses—was the cause of ^{of its} ~~the~~ eclipse. If the same strictness of ^{to every} law had always been enforced in the cavalry of Virginia, its efficiency would never have been less than that of our ever glorious infantry. There are, indeed, reasons why our cavalry *ought* to have been superior to our infantry. Certainly, the disparity of the Yankee horse to that of the Confederacy ought to have been greater than the inequality of the infantrys of the two countries:

The details, such as we have, of the splendid victory on the Southside will be found in other columns. But it is not alone in Virginia that the Confederate cavalry is coming out. What has happened in Northern Georgia is learned from the Yankee papers. The cavalry of JOHNSTON'S army has succeeded in completely severing SHERMAN'S communications and in cutting his only sources of supply. This accounts for the attack which he lately ventured to make on JOHNSTON in a chosen and fortified position.

We have no farther news from that important field. The despatch of JOHNSTON is the last authentic news. Some surprise is expressed that it indicated no change of position in the Confederate army. Why, it is asked, did it not fall on the beaten adversary and destroy him? The truth may be probably discerned.— JOHNSTON knows that his enemy is in a trap. Retreat is ruin; he *must* attack. It is clearly our interest that he should be the attacking party now in every conflict; for then his men are shot from the breastworks, without loss to us. When he commences his retreat, it will be an ascertained fact that he will attack no more; and then only will the Confederate army move upon him. Unless SHERMAN can now rout JOHNSTON, he is a doomed man. The *Tribune's* correspondent truly described his situation. He has, indeed, fallen into a "trap"—into an abyss, from which *il ne sortira jamais!*