

and military notoriety of Turin, at a banquet on Sunday.

[Our Army Correspondence.]

FROM THE 21 VT. REGIMENT.

RESTING PLACE, TWO MILES FROM }  
CENTREVILLE, Friday, July 19, 1861. }

Messrs. Editors of the Free Press :

As we are having a few hours rest to-day, I will give you a short description of our march to this place, and whatever I may have of interest to write.

On Monday last we had orders to have three days' rations cooked, and to be ready for light marching; that is, with rubber and woolen blankets, haversacks, and canteens—all our other camp equipage to be left in camp. Our boys went to bed Monday night, quite happy at the prospect of an advance. The long roll beat, and the regiment was called out, just before daylight next morning, and the first four companies—being companies A, I, D, and G,—were led off a short distance from camp, where they awaited further orders. We had heard that our pickets were attacked and the telegraph wire cut, but after waiting an hour we went back to camp, rather down in the mouth, the alarm proving a false one. We soon received orders to march at twelve o'clock, but did not get started until nearly two. There were two brigades front in and two in the rear of us; and as we came upon an eminence now and then, and saw the long line of glistening bayonets, we could not but feel a sense of security and imagine ourselves a match for the whole rebel army. We came on in a westerly direction, by steady marching, until about sundown, when we had a hard march until about ten o'clock, moving in that time only about two miles. It seems the rebels, upon our advance, had burned the bridge across a stream some forty feet wide, and our whole division were obliged to cross in single file, upon a log, hardly wide enough to cross in the daytime, much less in the night. You may imagine that it took some time for so many thousand men to cross in this way. We marched along a couple of miles, where we found the brigades encamped.

It was one o'clock before our regiment arrived, and I think I never saw men so completely tired out. Many a poor fellow fell out by the roadside, preferring to be left behind in a hostile country than to go forward without rest. We were allowed only three hours' sleep, and started again next morning at eight o'clock. We marched through a country heavily wooded; indeed, we had to travel in the woods almost all the way, with the exception of the last three or four miles. Our journey was very much impeded all day Wednesday by trees which the rebels had felled across the road, and in some places our pioneers were obliged to build new roads for us entirely. On account of these obstructions, our march was rather slow.

About noon we reached a point in the road where we found a regiment drawn up in line of battle. The sight cheered us up, as we were told that an Alabama regiment of riflemen had crossed the road only a few moments before, on the retreat. They succeeded in escaping, however, leaving their camp with provisions enough to supply our whole division for two or three days. The rebels did not suffer from hunger, as they had all kinds of vegetables, with the necessary apparatus for cooking. We stopped for the night about a mile south of their camp, and men were immediately sent for provisions, as our three days' rations had nearly run out. Two or three men from Company B succeeded in taking a prisoner, who had been out as picket guard and had been left. He was armed with a rifle and revolver, but gave himself up willingly. He seems to be quite intelligent, and says he volunteered thinking it his duty to do so. He appears to be confident that we cannot get possession of Manassas Gap, and reports a great concentration of rebel forces at that place. He says that Gen. Beauregard has visited their camp several times within the past week.—We spent the day, yesterday at rest, within hearing of the cannonading, at Bull's Run.

Our men of course were enraged when they heard the news of our repulse at that place, and are longing for a chance to blot out the disgrace of the disaster.

We did not start until five o'clock, when we moved on in a westerly direction towards the scene of the day's conflict. Companies B and G, under Major Joyce, were left behind with the baggage and ammunition wagons as a rearguard. We did not have a very pleasant march, as we were obliged to carry our load of cartridges up a steep hill, the horses being too tired to do so, having come all the distance from Washington without feed. Our pleasure was not at all heightened when we learned that we were two miles in the rear of the main body, with 800 rebels hanging upon our rear. We caught up with the main body at ten o'clock, having marched about six miles. We are about four miles from Bull's Run, and six miles from Manassas Junction. An advance upon these places is expected to-night or to-morrow.

We have several brigades about us, with artillery and cavalry. I have been out a little ways, and come across our old friends the Minnesota and N. Y. Sixteenth regiments. Both regiments are in good spirits and enjoy general good health. Lieut. Pierce of the Sixteenth, Capt. Stetson's Plattsburgh company, is quite sick in their camp, and is not expected to live. Our own regiment is enjoying first-rate health, with the exception of a few who are sick in our camp. We have come through without a single accident; while one of the Maine regiments has had two killed and two seriously wounded—all the results of carelessness. I hear somebody has sent home word that Capt. Drew is sickly. This is not near as bad as some have made it. He was quite unwell while we were at Camp Fairbanks, but only for a short time, and is now as well as ever. He will be found all right when we come upon the battlefield. As for "Father Sharpley," (as he is called through the regiment,) he is as young and boyish as any of us, and is the life of the whole camp. Lieut. Weed has gone back to our camp with a strong guard for our wagons. We are waiting orders to march on to Centreville, but I hear we are to have reinforcements before we go on to Manassas Junction. I have no doubt but that we shall have a warm time there; but I imagine the rebels will find out that "the Yankees" will fight. We were visited to-day by Messrs. Canfield, Shaw, and Page, and a few days ago by L. G. Bigelow, Esq. Of course, we were much pleased to see Vermonters. I hope they will report us all right.

Yours truly,

W.

THE LOSS OF THE SECOND REGIMENT.—In addition to those already given, Corporals Russell H. Benjamin and Elijah L. Keables, of Co. C, Brattleboro, are reported killed in the fight at Bull's Run on Sunday, and Dorr Blood of the same company wounded.

Wm. Jones, of the Burlington company is reported wounded; also James McCartney, Co. H, Fletcher; S. Leizer, Co. D, Waterbury; John McKean, A. S. Howard and John Streeter, of Co. B, Castleton; Moses C. Glines and D. B. Pember, Co. E, Tunbridge; and V. A. Marsh, Co. I, Ludlow.

The name of John Pachin, Co. K, is also given among the wounded, but we do not find the name in the list of the regiment.

Mr. Walton writes from Washington to the *Watchman* that the Montpelier Company was farthest extended, acting as pick-

ets for the extreme left. Capt. Randall of his company asked this position and refused to be relieved. They have therefore been in picket service night and day, and did not leave the woods unless driven out in the battle. Even their food was carried to them.

That the movement on Bull's run was made when the odds were greatly in the rebels' favor, no one now doubts. Too little was known of the condition and number of the rebels forces; and instead of having the combined action of McDowell's, Patterson's and McClellan's divisions brought against them, not half of the force under McDowell alone, was brought to bear upon the enemy. Good may come out of the failure; but the failure is none the less real. The impression is strong that Lieut. General Scott himself let the public clamor, and the pressure from members of Congress and some members of the Administration, warp his judgment, so that he gave the order for the movement, sooner than he had proposed to do. If the conversation reported in the remarks of Mr. Richardson of Ill., in the House, on Wednesday is fairly stated, we have the declarations of General Scott to that effect. Mr. Richardson charged the Republicans with urging on the battle before the General was ready for it.

Mr. Richardson said: I repeat that Gen. Scott had been forced to fight this battle. I will tell you what occurred yesterday morning. My colleagues (Logan and Washburne) and myself were present with the President, the Secretary of War and General Scott. In the course of our conversation General Scott remarked: "I am the biggest coward in the world." I rose from my seat. "Stay," said Gen. Scott, "I will prove it. I have fought the battle against my judgment, and I think the President ought to remove me to-day for doing it. As God is my judge," he added, after an interval of silence, "I did all in power to make the army efficient, and I deserve removal because I did not stand up when I could and did not."

Mr. Washburne—As my colleague has referred to Gen. Scott's remarks he might also allude to what the President said.

Mr. Richardson—I will do so. "Your conversation implies," said the President to Gen. Scott, "that I forced you to battle." To which Gen. Scott replied: "I have never served under a President who has been kinder to me than you have been." But Gen. Scott did not relieve the President from the fact of the latter having forced him to fight the battle. Gen. Scott thus paid a compliment to the President personally. I desire to say of the President that I have known him from boyhood. If you let him alone he is an honest man. [Laughter] But I am afraid he has not firmness to stand up against the politicians around him.

It is no new thing in the history of campaigns that Generals of consummate prudence and skill, sometimes have their judgments biased by an overwhelming pressure of public sentiment; and if this sentiment prevails in legislative bodies, and among officials of high standing, it is so much the more difficult to resist its effects. A great many conditions enter into the question. By constant repetition and enforcement, some of these conditions have a disproportionate weight given to them, and others quite as important, receive less consideration than they deserve. One of the worst defeats of Washington himself came from his yielding to the carping and clamorous spirit of Congress and of the public generally. He had to determine which risk was the greatest to run, that of losing a battle or that of losing the public support if he did not yield to the public demand. He chose the former and lost the battle of Brandywine—a far heavier loss to the Americans than our losses at Bull's Run are to the Americans now.

VERMONT ITEMS.

Last week Monday, M. Kingman, of Vergennes, had his left hand badly cut in a shaving machine. One finger was taken quite off.

Two prisoners broke jail in St. Albans, on the 10th. One of them named Petro, was caught near the Canada Line. The other, Muller, made his escape.

Two men were arrested at Wells River July 16, for breaking open a jewelry store at Barton. Part of the stolen articles were found on them. In course of their examination it came out that they were the ones who fired at the Railroad train on the 4th, and so nearly killed the brakeman. They said it was a random shot, just to clear the gun, and not intended for the brakeman.

Ambrose Taylor's house in Washington, Vt., was struck by lightning last Friday, and set on fire in several places. The floor was badly torn up where Mr. Taylor had been sitting but a moment before. The lightning struck the house of Quincy O. Calef, doing slight damage, also the barn of Barak Smith, injuring it slightly. Several trees were also struck.

Patents were issued July 9th, to Dennis Lane of Plainfield, Vt., for improved method of setting the log in saw mills; to Charles Raymond of Brattleboro, for improvement in sewing machines, and to Charles R. Soule of Fairfield, for improvement in hay rakes.

Middlebury College Commencement occurs Aug. 14th. The new college building is completed externally, and will be ready to receive inmates at the commencement of the next term.

A man named Smith was arrested in Rutland, Tuesday, for picking a lady's pocket as she got out of the train. The lady had her pocket picked in Whitehall, the day before.

W. W. Gilman broke jail in Montpelier, Tuesday night, by sawing off a bar of his window, and letting himself down by his bed clothes. How he got the tools is not known.

We regret to learn that unfavorable reports are brought concerning the behavior of Col. Whiting of the Vt. 21 on the field of battle. A correspondent of the Rutland *Herald* says that numbers of the regiment charge him with palpable cowardice. Though not a Vermonter, Col. Whiting was appointed to the regiment on the strong recommendations of capable judges, including Col. Richardson of the Michigan Volunteers, who himself commanded the fourth brigade in the battle. We trust that further accounts, or an investigation if necessary, may remove all ground for the unfavorable impression concerning him.