



Among the members of Congress, who were with the army in the taking of Fairfax Court House was Hon John T. Nixon, of this State.

The Bridgeton rail road is to be opened to day, and an excursion train leaves at 11, A. M.

Notwithstanding the reports of the evacuation by our troops of Centerville. We have every reason to believe that they maintained possession of that post.

Fatal Accident.—A private by the name of \_\_\_\_\_ from Norristown, Pa., in the Stratton Guards of this State, was killed on Wednesday night at Arlington, by a sentry, who is supposed to have been asleep, and shot at him on suddenly being awakened by an alarm.

INCIDENTS OF THE WAR.

THE RETURN. Since our return from the battle field, and the passage through Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia we have been amazed at the exaggerated reports of the retreat.

LOSS. The estimated losses on our side, have been greatly exaggerated, this was chiefly owing to the breaking up of the regiments, and the scattering of the troops in the woods and different places.

THE SPIRIT OF THE CORPS.

Owing to the extreme fatigue of traveling and the labor of the contest, together with the discouraging circumstances of their retreat, our troops did not feel the ambition to make a stand on the night of the battle, but we conversed with scores of them, who expressed themselves, though defeated, not disheartened, and willing to renew the contest, as soon as they got rested.

The reports of the great battle in our columns to day, are necessarily very much exaggerated; it will be impossible for several days yet to obtain full particulars of the losses which we have sustained, as hundreds have strayed off from their regiments and are scattered at large over the country, they were arriving in squads, all day at Alexandria and the long bridge on Monday.

The moral effect of the defeat is very depressing on the Country, but when viewed in its proper light, after the excitement has subsided, it will be found that the route has not been of such overwhelming character as at first supposed; the entire inefficiency of our Commanding officers was no apparent not only on the battle field but in all the preliminary operations: the Colonels and Captains with the rank and file behaved themselves most gallantly, and under a more judicious Generalship would beyond all doubt have reversed the fortunes of the day.

A Fatal Shot.—A private in the Fourteenth New York Regiment, who accidentally shot himself through the lungs ten days ago, died Friday evening at the St. Charles Hotel.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, July 22.

We arrived at Centerville in company with Mr. Sharp of the Salem Standard on Friday and learning the prospect of an early battle determined to remain to witness it, which desire was fully gratified not only in observation, but in a participation to some extent in the occurrences of the day.

At 2 o'clock yesterday morning a Division of the army under General McDowell commenced its advance upon Berryville, the troops in the best of humor at the prospect of meeting the enemy, the Ellsworth Zouaves marched through the town singing "Dixies Land." The troops occupied five hours in passing; the rear was brought up by baggage wagon's ambulances and carriages; the former and latter had better had been dispensed with, as they only blocked up the road against any retrograde movement, that might become necessary.

The battle was opened about 8 o'clock by shots from the 32 pound rifled cannon which were sent in advance to expunge any masked batteries that might be concealed, having no response from the enemy, the division continued to advance and crossed the river above Winchester, the bridge was supposed to be mined and was avoided on that account.

The troops advanced until they came upon a battery on the edge of a thicket facing a large open field, which exposed them to the fire from the battery. Sherman's battery opened fire and continued it for nearly two hours. Several New York regiments with the Ellsworth Zouaves charged upon the battery, took possession of it and spiked the guns. The rebels were virtually beaten, and but for the immense reinforcements which were constantly arriving from Manassas Junction and beyond would have held their ground.

Gen. Richardson brigade occupied the Warrenton road in the vicinity of the engagement on Thursday, in full sight of the rebel reinforcements as they were advancing on the railroad, which was screened by the woods and thickets, an open space of two or three hundred feet had to be passed by them, where as we supposed they left one train, and passed the space on a run to re-enter other trains in waiting on the right: great destruction was no doubt effected by our batteries upon the troops of the enemy in their passage over that point, shells were thrown among them and rifled cannon balls which appeared to be committing great havoc. The enemy held their fire from the batteries on that point, and answered only with discharges from their rifles: a Lieutenant of one of the batteries was killed with a rifle ball between his eyes which passed clean through his head.

Finding it impossible to dislodge the enemy, Gen. Richardson ordered an advance and sent forward four companies as skirmishers, which soon brought them out in large numbers; two regiments then advanced and the contest became very exciting; a movement on the part of the enemy to outflank the left of our line, being made, the brigade was withdrawn and an attempt made to cut them off, this was unsuccessful as they diverged further to the left for the purpose of surrounding us at Centerville. Gen. Richardson's brigade then took position about a quarter of a mile below Centerville and the reserve of 20,000 men was placed in lines of battle, with batteries posted on the hills, in anticipation of their appearance.

The following from the Phil. Press, so far exceeds our ability to describe the events of the day, that we give it in place of our own imperfect description: P. S.—I attach to this letter a copy of a letter addressed by an officer of the regular army to a friend, who has kindly consented that I may use it. It is graphically written, and will tell you many things which only an officer can tell.

The march from our bivouac, near Centerville, was taken up at 2 30 A. M. on Sunday. As our officers and men were well rested, it prevailed that the action would occur at Bull's Run, the scene of General Tyler's repulse a day or two previously. In this they were disappointed. Tyler's brigade posted themselves at the bridge over Bull's Run, where they were ordered to feign an attack as soon as Col. Hunter's division were known to be in position. This order was partially obeyed. Hunter's division, composed of Barnum's brigade and Porter's brigade, advanced a mile beyond Centerville, made a detour to the right, and proceeded over a wood road, well covered from observation, to the left flank of the enemy, at Manassas, a distance of about eight miles. At six o'clock firing was heard on the heights at Bull's Run, from a battery in Tyler's brigade, which was promptly answered by the enemy's batteries. Their position thus revealed, the advance division (Hunter's) moved on to the left, quickly, and immediately the Rhode Island battery and Griffin's West Post battery were in brisk action. The former was supported by the first regiment Rhode Island Volunteers, who maintained their ground nobly for half an hour.

SENATOR TEN EYK'S REMARKS IN REPLY TO SENATOR POWELL OF KENTUCKY.

We clip from the Congressional Globe the following remarks of Senator Ten Eyk, of this State, in reply to Senator Powell of Kentucky, in the debate on the admission of the Virginia Senator.

Mr. Ten Eyk. A word, sir, and but a word; for I would not stand for a minute in the way of the restoration of Virginia, to her rights and dignity.

I rejoice that the Senator from Kentucky has made a noble reply to me; but for a different reason from that which influences him. He believes that the action we are about to take will be an infraction of the Constitution, and he wishes to stand upon the record as imposing it. I believe it to be an act which will sustain the Constitution and the Union; and I desire that my vote upon it shall stand upon the records of this Senate forever and for aye.

The Senator from Kentucky stands forth as the champion of the Constitution. In a speech which he made two days ago, the whole burden of his song was "the infraction of the Constitution;" the President had done no act, save one to which he called attention, since the 4th day of March last, which was not a violation of the Constitution. Sir, it appeared strange to me that at the time he held the Constitution in his hand and addressed that noble apostrophe to the Federal Union, he should have forgotten that the regulars sounded the march in retreat.

As I said, Major Sykes, with his Third, Second, and Eighth infantry, in all but eight companies, and they designated, conducted the retreat. Three of his officers had been killed, and he himself was wounded. Several of them were detached, endeavoring to rally the volunteers in front, and have them march off in some sort of order, so as to protect themselves against the enemy's cavalry, known to be in rapid pursuit. On this duty, I recognized his special aid, Lieutenant McCool, of our State, I believe, and another infantry officer, who was also mounted. The road by which the retreat was conducted, the same as that by which we advanced, had, been, I think discovered by the rebel cavalry, and they were in a position to give it to us. He yields no answer. It is because of another heresy which exists, that neutrality is lawful? Does he believe that neutrality is in support of the Constitution, the Government and the laws? I may say I fear it is in this respect with our country as with our God—those who are not for it are against it.

THE RETREAT TO WASHINGTON. Washington, July 22.—The retreat of the U. S. troops to Centerville was successfully accomplished by 8 o'clock last evening, the regiments regaining the positions vacated in the morning, minus a large number that had scattered in the woods in various directions. Those that succeeded in reaching Centerville had the opportunity of three or four hours sleep, the reserve force under Colonel Miles being posted beyond Centerville.

At 1 o'clock this morning the retreat from that point commenced, and was maintained in good order to Arlington Heights and Alexandria. The army in their retreat were compelled to leave behind a large amount of provisions and ammunition. About forty wagons fell into the hands of the rebels. As fast as the Federal forces retired their positions were immediately occupied by the rebels until after Fairfax Court House was reached, after which the pursuit was not continued. In many cases the teamsters unhitched their horses and abandoned their wagons when their was not the slightest necessity.

THE GREAT BATTLE AT MANASSAS JUNCTION.

Washington, July 21.—[Received P. M.] The following bulletin was received in official quarters at 6 o'clock during the progress of the battle, from the telegraph station about four miles from Bull's Run:

10 40.—Firing very heavy, and apparently on our left wing.

11 50.—There is evidently a battle towards our left, in the direction of Bull's Run, and a little north. The firing is very rapid and heavy.

12 45.—Firing a little further off, and apparently in the direction of the Junction. Less heavy guns and more light artillery, as near as I can judge.

3 55.—The firing ceased ten minutes since, and can only be heard with difficulty. I shall telegraph no more unless there should be a renewal of the battle, which has been so gloriously fought for the state and stripes: From all indications here our troops have lost: leave to their own fate.

Centerville, 4 P. M.—Gen. McDowell has ordered the reserve now here under Col. Miles to advance to the bridge over Bull's Run, on the Waterman road, having driven the enemy before him. Col. Miles is now about three or four miles from here, directing the operations near Blackburn's Ford.

5 40 P. M.—The firing has ceased. We shall send another courier there in a few minutes. The Colonel went at 4 o'clock, and will be back soon.

Despatch From Washington. Washington, Midnight, July 21.—The most intense excitement is everywhere existing to hear news from the field of battle. Every returning spectator is immediately surrounded and the demand for intelligence is insatiable. Many unauthorized rumors prevail which serve to confuse the truth.

FROM WASHINGTON. Washington, July 21st, 1861. We have nothing positive from the seat of war in our vicinity since last night.

THE NEW ORLEANS DELTA SUBSTANTIALLY GIVES UP ALL EXPECTATION THAT ENGLAND OR FRANCE WILL RECOGNIZE THE CONFEDERACY, AND ADVISES ITS PEOPLE, THEREFORE, TO REPLY TO THEIR RIGHT AS BEFORE, TO ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

ARREST OF SUPPOSED MAIL ROBBERS.

Robberies of the Western mails have been so frequent of late that Postmaster Wallborn has sent diligently to work to aid the Department in ferreting out the robbers, and to put a stop to the depredations.

It appears that the robbery of the parties are specially charged with was committed on the 13th inst. at or near morning of the 2d of July, somewhere between Pittsburg and Harrisburg, on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

FROM MISSOURI. St. Louis, July 19.—The following proclamation has been issued by Brigadier Gen. Pope:

ST. CHARLES, Mo. July 19. To the People of North Missouri:—By virtue of the proper authority, I have assumed command in North Missouri. I appear among you with a force strong enough to maintain the authority of the Government, and too strong to be resisted by any means in your possession usual in warfare.

GENERAL McCLELLAN'S ADDRESS TO HIS SOLDIERS. Head-Quarters Army of Occupation, Western Virginia Beverly Va. July 19, 1861.

Soldiers of the Army of the West:—I am more than satisfied with you. You have annihilated two armies commanded by educated and experienced soldiers, entrenched in mountain fastnesses, and fortified at their leisure.

Another Vessel Recaptured from the Pirates.—New York, July 21.—Arrived, the schooner J. Waring, captured by the privateer Jeff Davis, on the night of the 16th.

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