

BEDFORD INQUIRER.

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BEDFORD, Pa.

Friday Morning, Sept. 20, 1861.

"FEARLESS AND FREE."

D. OYER—Editor and Proprietor.

UNION TICKET.

In favor of encouraging the Government in its efforts to sustain itself, and for putting down the present traitorous rebellion.

Legislature,
GEO. W. HOUSEHOLDER,
OF EAST PROVIDENCE,
EDWARD M. SCHROCK,
OF SOMERSET COUNTY,
Associate Judge,
JOHN METZGAR,
OF JUNIATA,
Treasurer,
MARTIN MILBURN,
OF BEDFORD BOROUGH,
Commissioner,
WILLIAM KEFFER,
OF BEDFORD TOWNSHIP,
Poor Director,
JACOB EVANS,
OF HONDERBERT,
Auditor,
SAMUEL M. OVERAKER,
OF COLERAIN.

WM. P. SCHELL, ESQ.

In our paper, to-day, we publish a card from Wm. P. Schell, Esq., in which he states that the article in our paper of last week contains so many glaring misrepresentations of the remarks made by me, in the late Democratic meeting, that I feel constrained to make the proper correction, and "God forbid that I should be so recent to my duty as a citizen of this glorious Union, or be so callous to the finer instincts of humanity, as to utter a wish for the defeat of our gallant army."

Mr. Schell does not deny that he refused to sign the call for a union meeting. Neither does he deny that, on his motion, the Crittenden Resolution which passed Congress almost unanimously, was amended by adding the words "and the abolitionists of the Northern States," after the words, "That the present civil war has been forced upon us by the Disunionists of the Southern States!"

Many others, besides ourselves, heard Mr. Schell make use of the expression, "He was for a vigorous prosecution of the war. If the war lasted one year he believed it would result in the abolition of Slavery, and sooner than that should occur, he would not say but that it would be better that our army should be defeated." They also heard him say that "he always was an admirer of Southern institutions—that he loved the South more than he did the North." If it be true that he made use of this language, and a hundred of others, besides ourselves heard the remarks, Mr. Schell is not justified in stating that they were "glaring misrepresentations." We hear testimony that Mr. Schell appeared to be "influenced" in many of his remarks, as he says, "by an earnest desire to get the great Democratic party of the country, to give the government a warm, cordial and whole-hearted support in the prosecution of the existing war," but then, in other expressions, like the ones we have quoted, he neutralized all the good he had done. It appeared to us, and probably the same to others, that he wished to sail between the two wings of his party, the loyalists and the sympathizers with secession, without giving offense to either, and in this he came nearly falling "on both sides." His previous course also leads to that supposition.

We are pleased with the patriotic sentiments contained in the card of Mr. Schell, and we hope he will now take a firm, decided stand for the Union, regardless of any chances he may make among the few sympathizers with treason in his own party.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Friday evening last, at the Mills, about two miles West of Bedford, Messrs. Robert Hutchinson, Francis Bixler, and Jacob Wolf, Jr., were shooting at mark, as Messrs. Bixler and Wolf were examining the target, they heard the report of a rifle, on turning round they saw Mr. Hutchinson, reel and fall. When they came to him, about thirty steps off—they found he was dead. On examination it was found that the ball had entered the left side below the rib.—It is supposed that it occurred by the accidental discharge of his gun slipping from a large stone on which he was resting the butt. Mr. Hutchinson was a young man, only married last June. His wife was in Northumberland County, at the time of the sad accident. He came to this County from Altoona, Pa., last winter, and purchased the Mill of John Alsup, Esq. Mr. Hutchinson was a quiet, inoffensive and valuable citizen, and his friends will greatly feel his loss. How careful persons should be in the use of fire-arms, as scarcely a day occurs without an accident of this kind happening.

TAYLOR GUARDS.

From a letter received from Harrisburg, we learn that the Taylor Guards have been attached to the 51st Regiment, under command of Col. Richard White. Capt. John H. Filler has been appointed Major of the Regiment. Joseph Filler has been elected Captain of the company, Edward Redell, 1st Lieutenant and Frank D. Saupp, 2d Lieutenant. William Martin has been appointed Orderly Sergeant. The other non-commissioned officers have not been appointed.

We have been promised a list of the names of the company after it is filled up, which we will publish.

Notwithstanding the few sympathizers with the secessionists in our midst, circulated the report all over Bedford County, that the office of the Bedford Gazette was to be mobbed in Court Week, yet we never saw a more orderly and quiet Court Week. The story had the effect intended of bringing a pretty large crowd to the Democratic meeting on Monday night. The loyal people of Bedford County know that that paper deserves to be suppressed for the injury to the cause of the Union that it has done, but they never were in favor of a mob suppressing it.

Capt. Theo. H. Lyons and Lieut. S. S. Metzgar, are reorganizing the Bedford Riflemen, very fast. In a short time they expect their company to be full. They will both make good officers, and patriotic young men will do well to join this company.

Capt. H. L. Ryce, expects to leave for the seat of war next week. He has one of the finest lots of young men that has yet left the County, and we expect to hear a good report of them.

The places of business will be closed in Bedford, next Thursday, the day appointed by the President for Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer. Services will be held in the different churches.

On Saturday evening last, a horrible accident occurred at the Continental Theatre in Philadelphia. The dress of one of the ballet girls caught fire, which communicated to many others. Fourteen were badly burned of whom six have died.

We learn that Dr. S. D. Statler of St. Clairsville is raising a company for the war.—The Doctor will make a good officer. Success to him and the boys.

Capt. Geo. S. Mullin's company in Napier Tp. and Schellsburg, is fast filling up, and we learn that it is his intention to start for the seat of war next week. The Captain will make a good officer.

ARRESTS.—A great many of the secession members of the Maryland Legislature, have been arrested, and placed in Fort McHenry. The Mayor of Baltimore, and Henry May, M. C., were among the number.

According to request, we publish the proceedings of the Democratic Legislative Conference which met at Mr. John Hefler's Hotel, in this place, on the 3d inst.

Mayor Berrit has been released from Fort Lafayette. He has taken the oath of allegiance, and resigned the office of Mayor of Washington.

Read the able speech of the Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson of New York. Mr. Dickinson is the right kind of a Democrat, and goes in for his country.

A day or two since we visited the garden and green house of our friend Mr. A. B. Cramer. We were surprised as well as delighted at the rich display of tempting fruit that hung around us. Mr. Cramer has set an example which would amply repay all our citizens to follow. In the few hours of recreation which are necessary for all, and which every man can each day spare from business, Mr. C. has gathered around him by the skill of his own hand, that which richly rewards his care and trouble. Besides a rich variety of fruits of all kinds, which flourish and come to perfection in the open air of our climate, he has in his green house, a fine variety of rare foreign exotic grapes, hanging ripe and tempting, in rich profusion. We were surprised at their abundance and large size and perfection, and much more surprised to learn that this beautiful abundance is the result of a few minutes personal care and labor each morning and evening.

We say to our neighbors "go and do likewise."

Mr. Emison.—The article in the Inquirer of the 18th inst., under the caption "Wm. P. Schell, Esq.," contains so many glaring misrepresentations of the few remarks made by me, in the late Democratic meeting, that I feel constrained to make the proper correction.

The sentiments, which the said article attributes to me, have never been entertained, nor expressed by me.

My whole action at that meeting, was influenced by an earnest desire to get the great Democratic party of the country, to give the Government a warm, cordial and whole-hearted support in the prosecution of the existing war.

God forbid, that I should be so recent to my duty as a citizen of this glorious Union, or be so callous to the finer instincts of humanity, as to utter a wish for the defeat of our gallant army!

I am of the opinion that there can be no permanent peace with the Southern rebellion as crushed out. The arrogance and insolence of the Southern people, have made their chastisement, a governmental necessity.

My affection is for the whole country—my hope is for a speedy restoration of peace on honorable terms—and my will is that the Union must and shall be preserved in its integrity.

W. P. SCHELL.

FROM MISSOURI.

MORE UNION VICTORIES.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Sept. 11.—A messenger from Sidalia states that Capt. Jamison's Kansas Jayhawkers had defeated the notorious Dr. Staples at the head of five hundred Rebels, completely routing them and killing their leader. This will restore peace to Pettis and the surrounding counties, as Staples and Magoffin, who was captured some days since, were the principle instigators of Secession in that section.

It is also reported that Col. Marshall's Illinois Cavalry have captured six hundred Rebels under Capt. Shelby with two field pieces.

HENNEVELL, Mo., Sept. 11.—General Pope's command marched for the Rebels under Green on Sunday night, and at daylight on Monday reached their camp, by Green, having received notice of the approach of our troops, had fled, and his troops had scattered in every direction, leaving much of their baggage, provisions and forage, and the public property they had captured at Shelbina.—Green's force numbered about 3,000, and General Pope's troops having made a forced march of twenty three miles, they were unable to pursue him. At the latest accounts it was understood that the bulk of Green's force had crossed the Northern Missouri Railroad, and were making for the woods in Charlton county. General Pope followed in pursuit with the Sixteenth Illinois and Third Iowa regiments, after giving them a few hours' rest, but as Green's forces are mounted, there is but little prospect of overtaking him.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—The following despatch was received to-night at Headquarters of the Army:

St. Louis, Sept. 12.
Col. E. D. Townsend, Assistant Adjutant Gen.

A despatch from General Pope received today from Hennevell (on the North Missouri Railroad) states that he made a night march on the Rebels, under General Green, last Sunday, who however got notice of his approach, but he was successful in causing the dispersion of the 3,000 Rebel force, who left behind them much of their baggage, provisions and forage, as also the public property seized by General Green at Shelbina.

Gen. Pope's infantry were too much fatigued to pursue them. The horsemen, however, followed in pursuit ten or fifteen miles, until the enemy were completely scattered and dispersed.

The Railroad east of Brookfield is now open, and no more Secession camps will be made within twenty miles.

Gen. Grant telegraphs to me that the first gun is in position at Fort Holt, Kentucky.

(Signed) J. C. Fremont,
Major Gen. Commanding.

GEN. McCLELLAN'S COLUMN.

THE SKIRMISH AT LEWISVILLE.

The Washington Star of last evening gives the following account of the skirmish at Lewisville on Wednesday:

THE FIGHT ON WEDNESDAY.

Yesterday morning at 7 A. M., in pursuance of orders, a reconnoitering party of about two thousand men, infantry; between eighty and ninety volunteer cavalry, and Griffin's United States light battery, started, under Colonel Stevens, of the New York Seventy-ninth, from the camps in the vicinity of the Chain Bridge, and proceeded leisurely up the Leesburg turnpike. They advanced as far as Lewisville—seven miles—without seeing anything of the enemy, whose pickets fled before them. On the way, however, they were informed that the enemy's retreating picket guard expected to return with sufficient reinforcements to out them off.

Lieutenant Poe, of the Topographical Engineers, executed his orders to obtain a correct sketch of the country reconnoitred, using a plane table to that end.

On their return they were opened on from the wood and a corn-field to their right and left, with artillery and musketry, though the few engaged kept concealed throughout the skirmish. The two forces were between eighteen hundred and two thousand yards apart during all of the firing. No musketry was fired by the Union troops, Griffin's battery being alone actually engaged on our side. The enemy's battery consisted of two rifled guns, throwing Hotchkiss shell, and two six pounders, the rifled guns being heavier than those of Capt. Griffin's, a 32 pounder was sent after the force, but did not get up with Col. Stevens until after Griffin had completely silenced the enemy's guns; when a single shell thrown by it caused the enemy's cavalry, between seven hundred and a thousand strong, (that made appearance in the rear of our forces, as though disposed to dispute the way with them), to scamper off—scattering in all directions.

It is not known whether any of our cavalry were killed. Nor, indeed, whether any of the enemy were killed, as from first to last none of their infantry or artillery were seen by any of the forces under Colonel Stevens.—The fact that the enemy's battery was silenced, and the engagement given up by him, is however strong circumstantial evidence on which to found the impression that he met with more or less loss.

Persons residing in the vicinity brought to our camps last night reliable information that the force of the enemy engaged consisted of two regiments of infantry and Stuart's regiment of Virginia cavalry, with a single battery—four pieces—of artillery, that was hurried forward to the end of cutting off Col. Stevens' force on its return.

The troops under Stevens consisted of selected portions of the Vermont Third, the New York Seventy-ninth, the Indiana Ninth (Col. Meredith's), with a few other small detachments of infantry from other regiments.

The purpose of sending out this force was not to bring on a general engagement, but to obtain certain information, which was obtained before the force faced about to return, shortly after which the attack began.

It was a noticeable fact that Col. Stevens had great difficulty in preventing his men from advancing upon the hidden enemy, and they left the field, after the enemy's battery was silenced, with evident reluctance. No force ever showed a better spirit for the fight. Indeed, those who were killed and wounded, for the most part, suffered through their over ea-

gerness for the fray that led them to expose themselves against orders.

Gen. McClellan on receiving intelligence that the enemy seemed disposed to dispute Col. Stevens' return to our lines, mounted, and accompanied by his staff, hastened in the direction of the affair. He was enthusiastically cheered by the troops wherever he was seen by them, both going and returning.—When he reached the command of Col. Stevens, that had been engaged, the men rose and all raised a tremendous shout of welcome.—One poor fellow, in the very agonies of death from his wounds, as the General took his hand, suddenly sprang up and thanked him for his kind attention. He probably did not survive for half an hour afterwards. Gen. McClellan's brigade gave him a most remarkable welcome, cheering him as he passed as commander was hardly ever before cheered.

We learn from headquarters that our loss was one actually killed on the field, one died in a short time, five desperately and five slightly wounded.

All our wounded and killed were brought away with the single exception of one man, too badly wounded to be moved, who was left at a farm house to be cared for.

GENERAL McCLELLAN'S ACCOUNT (BY TELEGRAPH) OF THE AFFAIR.

FROM GENERAL SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS, September 11, 1861.

To Simon Cameron, Secretary of War.

General Smith made a reconnaissance with 2,000 men to Lewisville. He remained there several hours, and completed the examination of the ground. When the work was completed, and the command had started back, the enemy opened fire with shell, killing two and wounding three.

Griffin's battery silenced the enemy's battery. Our men then came back in perfect order and excellent spirits. The men behaved most admirably under fire. We shall have no more Bull Run affairs.

GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Major General, &c.

LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE.

Pursuant to previous notice, the Democratic Conference to nominate candidates for members of the Legislature for the district composed of Bedford and Somerset counties, met at the House of Col. John Hefler, in Bedford, on Tuesday the third day of September, when the following persons appeared and presented their credentials as conferees:

Somerset.—D. Weyand, Esq., Col. J. A. Garman, Azariah Duhan.

Bedford.—Hon. Job Mann, B. F. Meyers, W. M. Pearson.

On motion of Mr. Mann, Mr. Weyand was called to the chair, and on motion of Mr. Garman, Mr. Meyers was appointed Secretary.

The following letter, from J. B. Plunk, Esq., declining the nomination, was presented to the Conference and ordered to be incorporated in the proceedings:

Bedford, Sept. 21, 1861.

To the Democratic Conferees, of Bedford and Somerset counties:

GENTLEMEN:—I have understood that some of my friends have mentioned my name in connection with the nomination for assembly. I feel grateful to them for this mark of confidence and esteem, but at the same time I beg leave to say to the Conference, that under no circumstances do I desire the nomination, nor would I be willing to accept it at this time.

Very respectfully yours, &c.,
JOHN B. PLUNK.

The Convention proceeded to ballot for candidates.

Mr. Garman nominated DAVID LAVAN, of Somerset.

Mr. Mann nominated JOHN CESSNA, of Bedford.

Prior to a vote being taken upon the nominations, the following resolutions were presented to, and unanimously adopted by, the Conference:

Resolved, That the nominations made by this Conference, are not intended as an endorsement of the peculiar views or of the past course of either of the candidates.

Resolved, That the following questions be addressed to the several candidates before this conference, and answers to them respectfully solicited:

1. Are you in favor of maintaining the organization of the Democratic party, as against every other political organization?

2. Will you vote with the majority of the Democratic members of the House, on all questions of organization, and on all political issues?

3. Will you allow your name to be placed on any other than the regular ticket of the Democratic party?

In reply to the above interrogatories, Mr. Cessna submitted the following:

I answer the first question thus—I have never in any way been attached to any other political organization than the Democratic Party, nor have I any idea of being so connected for political purposes, if Providence shall spare my country and its Government.—If the Government is not sustained I consider the future of political organizations as promising but little to us as a people.

I answer, on questions of organization and political issues, in never thought of voting, if elected, except as a Democrat, nor will I, unless the higher duty of Country should convince me that my political associates are in error upon some particular question.

I have never offered my name to any other organization, nor has any offer been made to me by any such organization; nor have I any intention so to do.

Sept. 24, '61
JOHN CESSNA.

On motion, Messrs. Lavan and Cessna were then nominated as the candidates of the Democratic party of the district.

On motion, the proceeding of the Conference were ordered to be published in the Somerset Democrat and Bedford Gazette.

The Conference then adjourned.

DANIEL WEYAND,
B. F. MEYERS, Sec'y. President.

On Sunday afternoon 400 Rebels attacked the pickets of Col. Geary at Darostown, Md. The enemy were driven from every house and breast-work they occupied. Eight or ten of them were killed and a number wounded. On our side one was killed. Three companies of the 28th Pennsylvania Regiment and two of the 12th Massachusetts completed our force, all of whom behaved admirably.

ungeons. The parched sands of Virginia and glades of Missouri have drunk the best heart's blood of our land. Others are dwelling in prisons. It will cost a large sum of money; but if it leaves a Government and the old Stars and Stripes, it will not be maintained too dearly. There is to be a taxation.—Undoubtedly it will be severe. Suppose it takes one-half of all we have, but leaves us law and order. [A voice, "Better take it all." Yes, better take it all, for if Government is not maintained; it will be taken by rebel Marauders. The rights of person, and every right we hold most dear are involved in this issue. We can never divide this nation peacefully. You can never find a stopping place, when once you have rewarded treason, by permitting it to succeed. Ours will boot from your dwellings; foxes look out of the windows, of your churches, ruin, darkness, and desolation, will brood over you. Such assemblies as this will be prevented by hostile troops, under the anarchy which will ride rough shod over you. Where are the great spirits—the Clays, the Websters, the Bentons, of the nation? They have been wuffed away like the prophets of old. My father, my father, the orators of Israel and bosoms thereof.—Would to Heaven that he had the voice of a Clay, of a Webster, to cheer us on now. How they would drive the rebels to his hiding place! Henry Clay would make it cover and tremble like a deer at the wolf's howl. And the majestic Webster—what dark clouds would rest upon his portentous brow! And the logical and the statistical Boston, who always stood up for the Union, with his sarcasm and logic, would make them wither, like mown grass. They are gone. They rest from their labors. They saw our country's glory, but not her shame. Hence be to their ashes [A voice, "Fremont! Fremont! Yes; doing his duty like a soldier. [Fremont and long continued cheering.] I once supported him as a politician; but I support him as a General. And God speed him. I have no doubt he will do his full duty; and if he does, I will labor unceasingly to stay up his hands, and cheer him onward in the discharge of duty. I shall inquire no man's politics now who endeavors in good faith to protect the nation's honor. And he who does not, I hold to be no patriot, no Democrat, no honest man. [A voice, "A Tory."] Worse than a Tory; a traitor. No; our Ship of State—happily exemplified here today, upon these grounds (pointing to a ship which had been brought in the procession by the boat builders of Illinois)—although she has been arrested in her successful course, let us all rally around her, not inquiring who is in command, whether it be Lincoln or Jackson, Republican or Democrat, who are the crew, but seeing it is our ship, under our flag, preserve it, whether it be called by the one or the other empty name; let us rally around her, let us go on board, let her be manned, weigh anchor, hoist all sail, out her loose, let her steer into the broad ocean, to cruise on in this great errand of mercy—the freedom of mankind—carrying the Stars and Stripes to every sea under heaven—carrying peace and goodwill to all men. Let her.

"Sail on into the sea, O ship!
Through wind and wave right onward steer."
Oh, my fellow citizens, let us all devote ourselves to the service of our country. [Amen.] Every one can do something in his sphere.—For myself, I am enlisted for this great warfare how it may—terminate what it will.—Give me poverty, stripes and chains, give me shame, give me destitution, give me grief, give me all grief and distress, give me bereavement, let my heart be wrung by every emotion that can agonize and torture man, make me a wanderer in the earth, and give me an ignoble death, rather than permit my country to perish. [Cheers.] Sooner than that should be done, in the language of Emmet, I would raze every house, burn every blade of grass, and the last intransigent of liberty shall be my grave. No, my fellow citizens, let our watchword be, our country, our beloved country! And my fellow citizens, "Oh, my country, may God protect her from evil!" [Immense cheering from the audience of ten thousands, who had become filled with the sentiments of the speech, greeted Mr. Dickinson as he retired.]

FROM WESTERN VIRGINIA.

BATTLE NEAR SUMMERVILLE,
WEST OF GAULEY RIVER.

A FIERCE STRUGGLE.

FLOYD RETREATS IN THE NIGHT.

Confederates Leave all Their Camp Equipment &c. Behind.

CLARKSBURG, Virginia, September 12.—A battle commenced between the Federal troops and the enemy at three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, near Summerville. General Rosecrans, after taking a reconnaissance, found Floyd's Rebel army five thousand strong, with sixteen field pieces, to be entrenched in a powerful position on the top of the mountain at Conflux Ferry, on the west side of Gauley river. The rear and extreme of both flanks were inaccessible. The front was masked by heavy forests and close jungles.

Colonel Lytle's Tenth Ohio Regiment, of Benham's Brigade, was in advance, and drove a strong detachment of the enemy out of their camp this side of the position, the strength of which was unknown. Shortly afterwards his scouts, consisting of four companies, suddenly discovered themselves in the face of a parapet battery and a long line of palisades for riflemen, whom the battle opened fiercely.

The remainder of the Tenth and the Thirtieth Ohio Regiments were then brought into action successively by General Benham, and the Twelfth Ohio Regiment afterward by Captain Hartuff, whose object was an armed reconnaissance.

The enemy played upon our forces terrifically with musketry, cannon and shell.

Col. Lytle led several companies of Irishmen to charge the battery, when he was brought down by a shot in the leg.

Col. Smith's Thirtieth Ohio engaged the enemy on the left, and Col. Lico's Twelfth Ohio directly in front. Col. Lico fell dead at the head of his regiment early in the hottest of the fire, by receiving a ball in the forehead.

Capt. McMullin's Lowitzer battery and Capt. Snyder's two field pieces mounted were sent into the best position possible under the circumstances, and soon silenced two of the Rebels' guns.

The fire slackened at intervals, but grew more furious as night approached.

The German Brigade was led gallantly into action by Colonel McCook, under the direction of Adjutant General Hartuff, but after a furious fight of three hours darkness compelled the recall of the troops, and the men laid on their arms within a short distance of the enemy, ready to resume the contest next morning.

When the morning came, however, our troops reported that Floyd had ingloriously fled during the night, sinking the boats in the river in his rear and destroying the temporary bridge he had made when he first crossed to occupy the position. The turbulence and depth of the river, and the exhaustion of our troops, made it impossible to follow the fugitive Rebel. So busy was his flight that he left behind his camp equipage, wagons, horses, large quantities of ammunition and fifty head of cattle.

Our loss is only fifteen killed and about seventy wounded, generally flesh wounds.

The Rebels' loss is not ascertained, as they carried their dead and wounded across the river during the night, but it was certainly very serious.

Capt. McGroarty, of Cincinnati, Capt. McMullin and Lieut. Snyder, of Ohio, are among the wounded, but not dangerously.

Twenty-five men of Colonel Tyler's regiment, who were taken prisoners by General Floyd at Cross Lanes, were recaptured by our troops.

General Floyd's personal baggage, with that of all his officers, was also taken.

General Beachum's Brigade, which suffered most was commanded by him in person, and Colonel McCook also led his brigade into action.

Major General Rosecrans, General Beachum, Colonels McCook, Lytle and Lowe, and Captains Hartuff, Snyder, McMullin and Busk, and other officers, displayed particular acts of personal gallantry.

The troops engaged were exclusively from Ohio, and all fought with a bravery worthy of veterans.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF GENERAL ROSECRANS.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—The following despatch was received at Headquarters this evening.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF VIRGINIA,
CAMP SCOTT, Sept. 12, P. M.

To Col. E. D. Townsend, Assistant Adjutant General:

We yesterday marched seventeen and a half miles and reached the enemy's entrenched position, in front of Conflux Ferry, driving his advance outposts and pickets before us.—We found him occupying a strongly entrenched position, covered by forests too dense to admit of its being seen at a distance of three hundred yards. His force was five regiments, besides the one driven in. He had probably sixteen pieces of artillery.

At three o'clock we began a strong reconnaissance, which proceeded to such length that we were about to assault the position on the flank and front, when night coming on, and our troops being completely exhausted, I drew them out of the woods and posted them in the order of battle behind ridges immediately in front of the enemy's position, where they rested on their arms until the morning.

Shortly after daylight a runaway "contraband" came in and reported that the enemy had crossed the Gauley river during the night by means of the ferry and a bridge which they had completed. Colonel Ewing was ordered to take possession of the camp, which he did about seven o'clock, capturing a few prisoners, two stand of colors, a considerable quantity of arms, with Quartermaster's stores, mess and camp equipage.

The enemy have destroyed their bridge across the Gauley, which here rushes through a deep gorge, and our troops being still much fatigued and having no material for immediately repairing the bridge, it was thought prudent to encamp the troops and occupy the ferry and the captured camp. We sent a few rifle companies after the retreating enemy to produce a moral effect.

Our loss will probably amount to twenty killed and one hundred wounded. The enemy's loss is not ascertained, but from the report of the prisoners must have been very considerable.

(Signed) W. T. ROSECRANS,
Major-General Commanding.

Later from Rosecrans' Division.

CLARKSBURG, Va., Sept. 13.—The rebels commenced to advance yesterday morning, on both sides, toward Elkwater and Cheat Mountain Summit. They succeeded in surrounding the fort on the summit, and cut the telegraph wire. They continued to advance on Elkwater until within two miles of our troops, when a few shells from Loomis' battery dispersed them.

Skirmishing was kept up all night, and this morning two regiments were sent to cut their way through to the Summit. They succeeded in this expedition, the rebels retreating in all directions.

Two rebel officers who were spying around the camps at Elkwater, this morning, were surprised by our pickets and shot.

The body of one of them was brought into camp, and proved to be that of Col. John A. Washington, of Mount Vernon, the speculator in the bones of "the Father of his Country."

ELKWATER, Va., Sept. 16.—The body of Col. John A. Washington was sent over to the enemy yesterday, under a flag of truce. While on the way it was met by a similar flag coming from the enemy for the purpose of obtaining information as to his condition.

On the 12th instant a detachment of 800 men, from the Fourteenth Indiana and Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Ohio Regiments, dispersed three Tennessee regiments, under Gen. Anderson, on the west side of Cheat Mountain, completely routing them, killing 80 and obtaining most of their equipments. Our loss was 8 killed.

The Legislature of Kentucky, by a large majority, passed an act warning the rebel army from the soil of that State. The Governor vetoed the act, when the Legislature passed it by the constitutional vote of two thirds over the veto. The Governor has published a notice warning them out of the State according to the act.

On the 10th inst., Gov. Curtiss presented to all the Penn's Regiments near Washington splendid flags. He was accompanied by President Lincoln, Secretary Cameron, Gen. McClellan, and other distinguished persons.