"THAT COUNTRY IS THE MOST PROSPEROUS WHERE LABOR COMMANDS THE GREATEST REWARD."--- BUCHANAN.

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OFFICIAL REPORT OF GEN.

M'CLELLAN.

INCLUDING HIS MILITARY OPERA-TIONS FROM THE TIME OF THE EVACUATION OF HARRISON'S LAND-ING TO THE CLOSE OF THE BATTLE OF ANTLETAM, WHEN LEE WAS DRIVEN OUT OF MARYLAND.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF POTOMAC, 7 October 15, 1862.

GENERAL : I have the honor to submit a preliminary report of the military operations under my charge since the evacuation of Harrison's Landing. The measure directed by the General-in-

Chief was executed successfully, with entire safety to my command and its material, between the 14th and 19th of August. The line of withdrawal selected was that of the mouth of the Chickahominy, Williamsburg and Yorktown. Upon this line after some skirmisbing, cleared the main train, was moved. Heintzleman's corps crossing the Chickahominy at Jones' bridge, and covering by its march the movement of the main column. The passage of the Lower Chickahominy was effected by means of a batteau bridge two ment and intentions of the enemy, which thousand feet in length. The transfer of the army to Yorktown was completed by the 19th of August. The embarkation of the troops and material at Yorktown and Fortress Monroe was at once commenced, and as rapidly as the means of transportation admitted everything was sent forward to Acquia creck and Alexandria. No mere sketch of an undertaking of such magnitude, and yet of so delicate a military character will suffice to do justice. I must now, however, content myself with a simple notice of it, deferring a full description for my cflicial report of the campaign before Richmond-a labor which I propose to undertake as soon as events will afford me the necessary time. Justice to the achievements of the Army of the Potomac and the brave men who composed it requires that the official record of that campaign should be prepared with more care than circumstances have hitherto permitted me to bestow upon it. The delay will not have been felt as injurious to the public interest, inasmuch as by frequent reports

I reached Acquia creek with my staff on

from time to time I have kept the depart-

Couch's division was thrown for- ion was sent up. nocacy. the 13th the main b dies of the right felt as an irreparable misfortune. Mountain range was reached.

While at Frederick, on the 13th, I obmade it clear that it was necessary to force the passage of the South Mountain range, Rohrersville before any relief could be af-

a verbal message from Col. Miles, commanding at Harper's Ferry, informing me that on the preceding afternoon the Marythe whole force was concentrated at with the order to hold out to the last.

THE LANCASTER INTELLIGENCER to Darnestown on the 6th instant, thence for further operations. Fresh bodies of by Dawsonville and Barnsville on Buckeys-town, covering the road from the mouth of the upper state of the stubborn between 12 and 1 o'clock, P. M. Wil-the Monocacy to Rockville, and being in the Monocacy to Rockville, and being in the stubborn between 12 and 1 o'clock, P. M. Wil-the Monocacy to Rockville, and being in the Monocacy to Rockville, and being the the town the position to connect with and support the cox's division of Reno's corps was sent both in respect to numbers and position, had lost heavily, several general officers centre, should it have been necessary (as forward by Gen. Burnside to support Cox, and awaiting attack. Upon receiving re- having been carried from the field. I was was supposed) to force the line of the Mo- and between 2 and 3 P. M., Sturgis' divis- ports of the disposition of the enemy, I at one time compelled to draw two bri-

Frederick, after a brisk skirmish at the gallant soldier, an able general, endeared On arriving at the front in the after- gained. cutskirts of the city and in its streets. On to his troops and associates, his death is noon, I found but two divisions (Richardson's and Sykes') in position. wing and centre passed through Frederick. About three o'clock P. M. Hooker's were halted in the road, the head of the Cox's Kanawha division, was entrusted In this city the manifestations of Union corps, of Burnside's column, moved up to column some distance in the rear of Rich- with the difficult task of carrying the feelings were abundant and gratifying. the right of the main road by a country ardson. After a rapid examination of the bridge across the Antietam, near Rohr-The troops received the most enthusiastic road, which, bending to the right, then welcome at the hands of the inhabitants. turning up to the left, circuitously wound tack that day, and at once directed loca- right, the order having been communicated On the 13th the advance, consisting of its way beyond the crest of the pass to the tions to be selected for our batteries of to him at 10 o'clock, A. M. Pleasanton's cavalry and horse artillery, Mountain House, on the main road .- position, and indicated the bivouacs for the main body of the army, with all its passage over the Catoctin hills, leaving no vision of Pennsylvania Reserves, to attack on both sides of the Sharpsburg pike. The On the right of the stream the bank is serious obstructions to the movement of the the eminence to the right of this entrance corps were not all in their places until the wooded and commands the approaches both main body until the base of the South to the gap, which was done most hand- next morning, some time after sunrise.

sorvely and successfully. Patrick's brigade, of Hatch's division, tained reliable information of the move- was sent-one portion up around the road, the heights in the rear of the Antietam to turn the hill on the left, while the re- creek, their left and centre bearing upon mainder advanced as skirmishers-up the and in front of the road from Sharpsburg hill, and occupied the crest, supported by to Hagerstown, and protected by woods and gain possession of Boonsboro' and Doubleday's and Phelp's brigades. The and other irregularities of the ground .--

was fully successful. Ricketts' division pressed up the moun- which makes here a great bend to the east, land Heights had been abandoned, after with the left of his command in time to right rested on the hills to the right of the enemy before it, and pushing on nearly repelling an attack by the rebels, and that participate in the closing scene of the en- Sharpsburg, near Snavely's farm, covering to Sharpsburg, while the left, after a hard Harper's Ferry, the Maryland, Loudon and Ricketts remained on the ground, holding proaches to the town from the southeast. retire before it. 'The enemy here, however, Bolivar Heights being all in possession of the battle field during the night. The The ground between their immediate front were speedily reinforced, and with overthe enemy. The messenger stated that mountain sides thus gallantly passed over and the Antietam creek is undulating.— whelming masses. New batteries of their there was no apparent reason for the aban- by Hooker on the right of the gap and Hills intervene whose crests in general artillery, also, were brought up and opendonment of the Maryland Heights, and Reno on the left were steep and difficult in are commanded by the crests of others in ed. It became evident that our force was Italy. Mr. Beale tells the following adthat, though Colonel Miles asked for as- the extreme. We could make but little their rear. On all favorable points their not sufficient to enable the advance to sistance, he said he could hold out certain- use of our artillery, while our troops were artillery was posted. It became evident, reach the town, and the order was given ly two days. I directed him to make his subject to a warm artillery fire, as well as from the force of the enemy and the to retire to the cover of the hill, which way back, if possible, with the information to that of infantry in the woods and under strength of their position, that desperate was taken from the enemy carlier in the that I was rapidly approaching, and would cover. By order of General Burnside, fighting alone could drive them from the afternoon. This movement was effected

other couriers I sent the same message, in the afternoon, advanced upon the centre battle was at hand. of the enemy's position on the main road. In proceeding to a narrativo of the I do not learn that any of these messen- Deploying his brigade, Gibbon actively events of this and the succeeding day, 1 late in the afternoon; but the condition of ment advised of events as they occurred. gers succeeded in reaching Harper's Ferry. engaged a superior force of the enemy, must here repeat what I have observed in things on the right was not such as to en-I should here state that on the 12th I was which, though stubbornly resisting, was reporting upon the other subjects of this able me to afford them.

Richardson's division of Sumner's corps | withstanding the success wrested from the | I should, in all probability, have captured that passing Boonsboro' to Kedysville, found a few miles beyond the town the enemy's forces displayed in line of battle, strong both in respect to numbers and position, and awaiting attack. Upon receiving re-having been carried from the field. I was

directed all the corps, except Franklin's, gades from Porter's corps (the reserve) to ward to Offat's Cross Roads and Pooles- The contest was maintained with perse- upon Sharpsburg, leaving Franklin to ob- strengthen the right. This left for the reville by the river road, thus covering that verance until dark, the enemy having the serve and check the enemy in his front, serve the small division of regulars who approach, watching the fords of the Poto- advantage as to position, and fighting with and avail himself of any chance that might had been engaged in supporting during the mac; and ultimately following and sup- obstinacy; but the ground won was fully offer. I had hoped to come up with the day the batteries in the centre and a single porting the Sixth corps. The objects of maintained. The loss in killed and woun-these movements was to feel the enemy-ded here was considerable on both sides, to beat them back and drive them into the the right to return to the centre, I became to compel him to develop his intentions- and it was here that Major General Reno, river. My instructions were that if the satisfied that the line would be held withat the same time that the troops were in who had gone forward to observe the ope- enemy were not on the march they were out these two brigades, and countermandposition readily to cover Baltimore or rations of his corps and to give such di-Washington, to attack him should he hold the line of the Monocacy, or to follow him with a musket ball. The loss of this brave placed in position for attack; but no at-movement on the enemy's right was to into Pennsylvania if necessary. On the and distinguished officer tempered with tack was to be made until I reached the prevent the further massing of their troops 12th a portion of the right wing entered sadness the exultations of triumph. A front.

Burnside's corps, consisting of Wilcox's Sturgis' and Rodman's divisions, and The rest position I found that it was too late to at- back's farm, and assaulting the enemy's

tacked the victorious enemy in their chosen strong position, and drove them back, with all The valley of the Antietam, at and near General Hooker sent Meade, with the di- the different corps, massing them near and the bridge, is narrow, with high banks. to the bridge and the ford. The steep On the 16th the enemy had slightly slopes of the bank were lined with rifle pits, and breastworks of rails and stones. changed their line and were posted upon These, together with the woods, were filled with the enemy's infantry, while their batteries commanded and enfiladed the bridge and ford and their approaches.

The advance of the troops brought on movement, after a sharp contest on the Their extreme left rested upon a wooden an obstinate and sanguinary contest, and forded to Harper's Ferry. On the morning of the 13th I received between the crest and the adjoining hill, of J. Miller's farm, the distance at this position it was near one o'clock before the near the read and the Potomac. the heights on the right bank were carried. At about 3 o'clock, P. M., the corps again tain about 5 P. M, arriving at the crest being about three-fourths of a mile. Their advanced with success, the right driving

gagement. Relieving Hatch's division, the crossing of the Antietam and the ap- encounter, also compelled the enemy to

undoubtedly relieve the place. By three Gibbon's brigade of Hatch's division, late field, and all felt that a great and terrible without confusion, and the position maintained until the enemy retreated. General Burnside had sent to me for reinforcements

I reached Acquia creek with my staff on *Low and the partial and the gartine and asked for orders.* On the 27th of *at Harper's Forry, but this order reached* after dark, when Gibbon remained in un-August I received, from the General-in-*me after all communication with the gar-then reliaved by a brinde of Sederging for my of the gart areas of the gart and the gart areas of the great service and the great service and add the great service areas and the great service and add the great service areas and the great service and add the great service areas and the great service areas areas* they rendered. On more than one occasion, when our infantry was broken they covered

'What cabhage, Joe? Nothing there as I can see, but my two night caps soaking in a plate of starch !' 'Oh (bic) Jerusalan ! Sall let's go to

bed !' They went to bed, but the joke was too good to keep, and soon leaked out. 18th. I would thus have been in a position to have destroyed the rebel army. He had been nearly an hour trying to eat Under the same circumstances, had the be-sieging force on the Virginia side at Harper's two of his wife's nightcaps, that she had put to soak in a plate of starch before Ferry not been withdrawn, I would have had 35,000 or 40,000 less men to encounter at An going to bed.

NO. 14.

BODILY CARRIAGE .- Instead of giving all sorts of rules about turning out the toes, and straightening up the body, and holding the shoulders back, all of which with ammunition and supplies. The objects and results of this brief camare impracticable to many, because soon forgotten, or productive of a feeling of paign may be summed up as follows: In the awkwardness and discomfort which probeginning of the month of September, the safety of the National Capital was seriously cures a willing omission , all that is necessary to secure the object is to hold up the head and move on, letting the toes and and then directly threatened Washington and shoulders take care of themselves. Walk Baltimore, while they occupied the soil of a with the chin but slightly above a horizonloyal State, and threatened an invasion of tal line, or with your eye directed to things a little higher than your own head. In this The Army of the Union, inferior in numbers, way you walk properly, pleasurably, and wearied by long marches, deficient in various without any feeling of restraint or awksupplies, worn out by numerous battles, the last of which had not been successful, first wardness. If any one wishes to be aided covered by its movements the important cities in securing this habitual carriage of the of Washington and Baltimore, then boldly at body, accustom yourselves to carry your hands behind you, one hand grasping the opposite wrist. Englishmen are admired the world over for their full chests and broad shoulders, and sturdy frames, and sturdy frames, and manly bearing. This poistion of the body is a favorite with them, in the simple promenade in the garalong a crowded street, or in public worship. A single rule well attended to in this connection, would be of incalculable value to multitudes-use chairs with old fashioned straight backs, a little inclining backwards, and sit with the lower portion of the body close against the back of the chair at the seat ; any one who tries it will observe in a moment a grateful support to the whole spine. And we see no reason why children should not be taught from the beginning to write and sow and knit in a position requiring the lower portion of the body and the shoulders to touch the back of the chair at the same time. A very common position in sitting, especially among men, is with a space of several inches between the chair back and the lower

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portion of the spine, giving the body the shape of a hoop; it is the instantaneous, instinctive and almost universal position assumed by any consumptive on sitting down, unless contracted by an effort of the will; hence parents should regard such a position in their children with apprehension, and should rectify it at once.-Hall's Journal of Health.

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their superiority of numbers, into the State of Virginia, thus saving the loyal States from invasion, and rudely dispeling the rebel dreams of carrying the war into our country, and subsisting upon our resources. Thirteen guns and 39 colors, more than 6,000 prisoners, were the trophies which attest the success of our arms. Rendering thanks to Divine Providence for his blessing upon our exertions, I close this brief report. I begonly to add the hope that the army's efforts for the cause in which we are engaged will be deemed worthy to receive the commendation of the government and the commendation of the government and the country. GEO. B. M'CLELLAN, Maj. Gen. United States Army. Brigadier General L. Thomas, Adjutant Gen-

tietam, and must have destroyed or captured

all opposed to me. As it was, I had to engage

an army fresh from a recent and, to them

great victory, and to reap the disadvantage of

their being freshly and plentifully supplied

endangered by the presence of a victorious enemy, who soon after crossed into Maryland,

Pennsylvania.

eral United States Army.

A Monster of the Deep.

In some parts of the ocean there are enormous sea animals, called Sepia, which are a kind of polypi. They have very long legs, and are said sometimes to seize upon the coral divers along the the coast of venture with a creature of this sort :

While upon the Bogin Islands, searching for shells on the rocks which had just been left by the receding tide, I was much astonished at seeing at my feet a most extraordinary looking animal, crawling towards the retreating surf. I had never seen one like it before. It was creeping on its eight legs, which, from their soft and flexible nature, bent considerably under the weight of its body, so that it was

ed as if it would be torn asunder by our

united strength. I gave it a powerful

jerk, wishing to disengage it from the

rocks to which it clung so forcibly by its,

suckers, which it effectually resisted ; but,

the moment after, the apparently enraged

animal lifted its head, with its large eyes

protruding from the middle of its body,

and letting go its hold of the rocks, sud-

denly sprang upon my arm, which I had

purpose of thrusting it into the holes in

the rocks to discover shells, and clung with

ed so firmly to my arm. Its cold, slimy

grasp was extremely sickening, and I im-

me down to the boat, during which time I

was employed in keeping the beak away

stroying my tormentor with the boat knife,

when I disengaged it by portions at a time.

the adaptation of their tentacles and modi-

shore, while their senses, if we judge from

the elaborate mechanism of their organs,

must posess corresponding neatness and

Joe Brown.

rally; but he had his faults, and who has

not? When whisky was in circulation,

Joe Brown was a nice young man gene-

One night he got home just blue enough

to try to open the door with a five cent

piece, and pull off his boots with a tooth-

pick, but still he was hungry, and not so

very drunk after all. He found the table

am, (hic,) any way, to go and get (hic,)

pulled the plate up, and after seasoning it

to suit his taste, began with a knife and

swore again. He took it in his hands and

tried to tear it; but it was in vain. He

began to saw and swear again. He took

it in his hands, and, at last, either out or

swore a piece off. He put it in his mouth

He laid down the 'cabbage' and began to

swear, which soon brought his wife from

' Matter enough, (hio) Sally I can't eat

her dreams, and into the room.

"What's the matter Joe ?'

this cabbage.

He

(hic,) such a nice plate of cabbage.'

perfection.

home late at night.

from my hand, quickly released me by de-

Chief, permission to proceed to Alexandria, where I at once fixed my headquarters. The troops composing the Army of the to reinforce the army under General Pope. So complete was this order carried out that on the 30th of August I had remaining under my command only a camp guard of about one hundred men. Everything else had been sent to reinforce General Pope. In addition, I exhausted all the means at my disposal to forward supplies to that officer, my own headquarters teams even being used for that purpose.

Upon the unfortunate issue of that campaign I received an intimation from the General-in-Chief that my services were desired for the purpose of arranging for the defence of the capital. They were at once cheerfull. given, although, while awaiting definite instructions at Alexandria. I had endeavored, as just seen, to promote a favorable result in the operations then pending, and had thus contributed, though indirectly, yet as far as I could, to the defence of Washington. On the 2d of September the formal order of the War Department placed me in command of the fortifications of Washington 'and of all the troops for the defence of the capital.' On the 1st of September I had been instructed that I had nothing to do with the troops engaged in active operations under General Pope, but that my command was limited to the immediate garrison of Washington. On the next day, however, I was verbally instructed by the President and the General-in-Chief to assume command of Gen. Pope's troops (including my own Army of the Potomac) as soon as they approached the vicinity of Washington, to go out and meet them, and to nost them as I deemed best to repulse the enemy and insure the safety of the city.

At this time the task imposed upon me burg. was limited to the dispositions necessary to resist a direct attack of the enemy upon the capital. Such, indeed, was the danger naturally indicated by the defeat of our forces in front. The various garrisons were at once strengthened and put in order, and the troops were disposed to cover ali the approaches to the city, and so as to be readily thrown upon the threatened points. New defences were thrown up where deemed necessary. A few days only had elapsed before a comparative security was felt with regard to our ability to resist any attack upon the city. The disappearance of the enemy from the front of Washington, and their passage into Maryland, enlarged the sphere of operations, and made an active campaign necessary to cover Baltimore, prevent the invasion of Pennsylvania and drive them out of Maryland. Being honored with the charge of the campaign, I entered at once upon the additional duties imposed upon me with cheerfulness and trust, yet not without feeling the weight of the responsibilities thus assumed, and being deeply impressed with the magnitude of the issues involved.

Having made the necessary arrangements for the defence of the city in the new condition of things, I pushed forward the First and Ninth corps, under Generals Reno and Hooker, forming the right wing, under General Burnside, to Leesburg, on the 5th instant; thence First ccrps, by Brookville, Cookesville and Ridgeville, to Frederick; and the Ninth corps, by Damascus, on New Market and Frederick. The Second and Eleventh corps, under Generals Sumner and Williams, on the 6th were moved from Tenallytown to Rockville; thence by Middleburg and Urbana, on Frederick, the Eleventh corps, moving by a lateral road between Urbana and New Market, thus maintaining the communication between the centre and right wing as well as covering the direct route from Frederick to Washington. The Sixth position on the crest in their front, which and wounding many, taking some two huncorps, under General Franklin, was moved gave us possession of an important point dred and fifty prisoners and two guns.

Maryland Heights, and there hold its own loss was three hundred and twenty-eight tack, with the hope of something more- dered during the operations at Antietam, as to the last. In this position it could have killed, and one thousand four hundred and

gestions, and when the subject was lift to three thousand. Among our wounded, I tre with any reserve I might then have on my discretion it was too late to do anything regret to say, wore Brigadier General J. except to try to relieve the garrison. P. Hatch and other valuable officers. I directed artillery to be frequently fired

The carrying of Crampton's Pass by by our advanced guards as a signal to the Franklin was executed rapidly and decisgarrison that relief was at hand. This ively. Slocum's division was formed upon was done, and I learn that our firing was the right of the road leading through the distinctly heard at Harper's Ferry, and right of the gap, Smith's upon the left .-- for the attack. that they were thus made aware that we A line, formed of Bartlett's and Torbitt's were approaching rapidly. It was confi- brigades, supported by Newton, whose ac- corps, consisting of Rickett's and Double- We had attacked the enemy in position, driven den'ly expected that this place could hold tivity was conspicuous (all of Slocum's diout until we had carried the mountains vision,) advanced steadily upon the enemy and were in a position to make a detach- at a charge on the right. The enemy ment for its relief. The left, therefore, were driven from their position at the base was ordered to move through Jefferson to of the mountain where they were protected the South Mountain, at Crampton's Pass, by a stone wall, and steadily forced back in front of Burkettsville, while the centre up the mountain until they reached the in the evening to support Hooker. Arrived or right moved upon the main or Turner's position of their battery near the road, well Pass, in front of Middletown. During up the mountain. Here they made a stand. sylvania Reserves, which was at the head these movements I had not imposed long They were, however, driven back, retiring of Hooker's corps, became engaged in a marches on the columns. The absolute their artillery in echelon. until, after an necessity of refitting and giving some little action of three hours, the crest was gained, rest to troops worn down by previous long and the enemy hastily fled down the mouncontinued marching and severe fighting, tain on the other side. On the left of the together with the uncertainty as to the road Brooks' and Irvin's brigades, of actual position, strength and intentions of | Smith's division, formed for the protection the enemy, rendered it incumbent upon me | of Slocum's flank, charged up the mounto move slowly and cautiously until the tain in the same steady manner, driving head quarters reached Urbana, where I the enemy before them until the crest was first obtained reliable information that the carried. The loss in Franklin's corps was enemy's object was to move upon Harper's one hundred and fifteen killed, four hun-Ferry and the Cumberland valley, and not dred and sixteen wounded and two missing upon Baltimore, Washington or Gettys- The enemy's loss was about the same .-

One piece of artillery and four colors were In the absence of the full reports of captured, and knapsacks, and even havercorps commanders, a simple outline of the sacks, were abandoned as the enemy were brilliant operations which resulted in the driven up the hill. carrying of the two passes through the On the morning of the 15th I was in-South Mountain is all that can at this time, formed by Union civilians living on the with justice to the troops and commanders, side of the mountains that the enemy were engaged, be furnished. The South Moun- retreating in the greatest haste and in dis-

The practicable passes are not numerous, fact. The hasty retreat of the enemy's and are readily defensible, the gaps forces from the mountain, and the withabounding in fine positions. Turner's drawal of the remaining troops from be-

route of advance of our main army. nish the means of reaching the flank of the demoralization. enemy, and having, as a lateral movement, As soon as it was definitely known that direct relations to the attack on the prin- the enemy had abandoned the mountains, cipal pass, while it at the same time pre- the cavalry and the corps of Sumner, sented the most direct practicable route Hooker and Mansfield were ordered to for the relief of Harper's Ferry. Early in the morning of September 14, Gen. Pleasthe national road, and upon advantageous occupy Rohrersville, and to endeavor to moved up the mountain by the old Sharpsburg road to the left of the main road, disurrender of that post. viding as they advanced into two columns. These columns (Scamon's and Gook's bri-the enemy's cavalry at Boonsboro', which gades) handsomely carried the enemy's it dispersed, after a brief skirmish, killing

raison was cut off. Before I left Wash- then relieved by a brigade of Sedgwick's ment, reserving for my official report, ington, and while it was yet time, I recom- division. Finding themselves outflanked based upon the reports of the corps com-Potomac were meanwhile ordered forward garrison of Harper's Ferry should be with- abandoned their position during the night, which shall place upon record the achieve-

maintained itself for weeks. It was not sixty-three wounded and missing; that of soon as one or both of the flank movements movements of the army, efficient and valuable of all the efforts I could employ, in this decened proper to adopt either of these suit- the enemy is estimated to be in all about were fully successful, to attack their cen- service. Indeed, by its services here, as on way, on wet, slippery rocks. I now laid hand.

The morning of the 16th (during which there was considerable artillery firing) was spent in obtaining information as to the ground, rectifying the position of the later day I propose to bring to the notice of troops, and perfecting the arrangements

On the afternoon of the 16th Hooker's day's divisions, and the Pennsylvania Reserves, under Meade, was sent across the Antietam creek by a ford and bridge to the right of Kedysville, with orders to attack and, if possible, turn the enemy's left. Mansfield, with his corps, was sentin position, Meade's division of the Pennsharp contest with the enemy, which lasted until after dark, when it had succeeded in driving in a portion of the opposing line, were the questions before me. A careful and

between Hooker and the enemy in his front. Hooker's attack was successful for the attack without reinforcing columns. A me down to the boat, during which time I a time, but masses of the enemy, thrown upon his corps, checked it. Mansfield corps so fileed to deter me from pressing them brought up his corps to Hooker's support, into immediate action, and I felt that my duty when the two corps drove the enemy back to the army and the country forbade the risks Mansfield losing his life in the effort .--time, wounded, and compelled to leave the taking advantage of the occasion to collect to

divisions, arrived on the field -Richardson some time after the other two, as he was tain range, near Turner's Pass, averages ordered masses to the river. There was unable to start as soon as them. Sedgperhaps a thousand feet in height, and such a concurrence of testimony on this wick, on the right, penetrated the woods its close. Large reinforcements from Pennforms a strong natural military barrier. - point that there seemed no doubt as to the in front of Hooker's and Mansfield's troops. sylvania, which were expected during the day French and Richardson were placed to did not arrive at all. the left of Sedgwick, thus attacking the During the 18th orders were given for a rethe left of Sedgwick, thus attacking the enemy towards their left centre. Craw-Pass is the more prominent, being that by tween Boonsboro and Hagerstown to a posi-which the national road crosses the moun-tion where they could resist attack and yielded to a destructive fire of masses of part of the day from the Virginia shore to sometimes whisky got the better of him ; tain. It was necessarily indicated as the cover the Shepherdstown ford, and receive the enemy in the woods, and suffering their position behind Sharpsburg, as seen by the reinforcements expected from Harper's greatly, (Generals Sedgwick and Crawford our officers, suddenly formed the design of

lied in the woods. The enemy's advance ined in the woods. The enemy's advance served but little difficulty. It was however, Joe's practice to have a plate of something rapidly followed up. The detachment with nice waiting on the table when he got drew with slight loss. of Hooker's and Mansfield's troops. pursue them, via the turnpike and Boons- the left of Sedgwick, thus attacking the ascertaining the near presence of the enemy boro, as promptly as possible. The corps enemy towards their left centre. Craw- in some force, and in our capturing six guns auton, with a cavalry force, reconnoitered of Burnside and Porter (the latter having ford's and Sedgwick's lines, however,

covered them to occupy the crests of com- ed to move by the Sharpsburg road, and enemy in the woods, and suffering greatly, serving a heavy force of the enemy there. manding bills in the gap on either side of Franklin to advance into Pleasant valley, (Generals Sedgwick and Crawford being among the wounded,) the troops fell back ground in the centre upon and near the relieve Harper's Ferry. Burnside and in disorder. The enemy's advance was, road, with artillery bearing upon the ap- Porter, upon reaching the road from however, entirely checked by the destrucproaches to their position, whether that by Boonsboro to Rohrersville, were to reinthe main road or those by the country force Franklin or to move on Sharpsburg, had been directed the day before to join roads, which led around up to the creat according to circumstances. Franklin mov- the main army with two divisions, arrived upon the right and left. At about 8 ed towards Brownsville, and found there a on the field from Brownsville about an o'clock, A. M., Cox's division of Reno's force largely superior to his own, drawn hour after, and Smith's division replaced corps, a portion of Burnside's column, in up in a strong position to receive him. Sedgwick's and Craw(ord's line. Advanco-operation with the reconnoissance, Here the total cessation of firing in the oing steadily, it swept over the ground which by this time had become an attack, direction of Harper's Ferry indicated but just lost, but now permanently retaken .-too clearly the shameful and premature The divisions of French and Richardson and the hands of the military commanders and tried to chew; but that was no go.-The cavalry advance overtook a body of posed positions which they had so gallantly gained, among the wounded being General Richardson.

The condition of things on the right towards the middle of the afternoon, not-

by assailing the enemy's right, and, as at South Mountain, and during the whole times quickly liberated its member in spite other fields elsewhere, this corps has gallantly hold of one of the tentacles with my hands earned its title to an independent and permaand held it firmly, so that the limbs appearnent organization.

The duties devolving upon my staff during the action were most important, and the per formance of them able and untiriog. At a the department their individual services. With the day closed this memorable battle.

in which, perhaps, nearly two hundred thousand men were for fourteen hours engaged in combat. them from their line on one flank, and secured a footing within it on the other. Under the depression of previous reverses, we had previously bared to the shoulder for the achieved a victory over an adversary invested with the prestige of former successes and inflated with a recent triumph. Our forces slept that night conquerors on a field won by their valor, and covered with the dead and wounded of the enemy. The night, however, presented serious ques-

tions; morning brought with it grave respon-sibilitics. To renew the attack again on the 18th, or defer it, with the chance of the enemy's retirement after a day of suspense, and held the ground. At daylight the contest was renewed mand, and my knowledge of the enemy's force and position, failed to impress me with any view of the shattered state of some of the -the gallant and distinguished veteran involved in a hasty movement, which might result in the loss of what had been gained the General Hooker was, unbappily, about this previous day. Impelled by this consideration, field, where his services had been conspic- gether the dispersed, give rest to the fatigued, uous and important. About an hour after and remove the wounded. Of the reinforcethis time Sumner's corps, consisting of ments, Couch's division, although marching Sedgwick's, Richardson's and French's with commendable rapidity, was not in position until a late hour in the morning; and Humphrey's division of new troops, fatigued with forced marches, were arriving through out the day, but were not available until near

newal of the attack at daylight on the 19th. On the night of the 18th the enemy, after having been passed troops in the latter but to do Joe justice, it did take an awful The carrying of Crampton's Pass, five or Ferry, were for a time interpreted as er-six miles below, was also important to fur-idence of the enemy's disorganization and back in disorder. They nevertheless ral-nish the means of marking distance from the river. the evacuation pre-the reinforcements expected from flarper's greatly, (General's Grugwick and Orawiord and Standoning their line. This morement they abandoning the index of a standoning the sounded,) the troops fell back in disorder. They nevertheless ral-distance from the river. the evacuation predistance from the river, the evacuation pre-

A reconnoiseance was made across the river French and Richardson were placed to on the evening of the 19th, which resulted in A second reconnoissance, the next morning, the position of the enemy, when he dis- but one weak division present) were order- yielded to a destructive fire of marses of the covered them to occupy the crests of com- but one weak division present) were order- yielded to a destructive fire of marses of the tachment from Porter's corps, resulted in ob- and seated himself. What an old brute 1 I submit herewith a list of the killed, drunk, and my wife home here fixing me, wounded and missing in the engagements of the 15th, and of the 16th and 17th. The enemy's loss is believed, from the best sources of oformation, to be nearly thirty thousand. Their dead were mostly let. on the field, and fork to cut the 'cabbage ;' but 'nary gash' a large number of wounded were left behind. could he make. While it gives me pleasure to speak of the gallantry and devotion the officers and men generally displayed through this conflict, I feel it necessary to mention that some of the officers and men skulked from their places until the battle was over. Death on the spot must hereafter be the fate of all such cowards, maintained with considerable loss the ex- must be strengthened with all the power of Government to inflict it summarily. The early and disgraceful surrender of Harper's Ferry deprived my operations of results which would

have formed a brilliant sequel to the substantial and gratifying success already related. Had the garrison held out 24 hours longer,

I was uot much in the humor to endeavor to capture so ugly customer, whose appear-ance excited a feeling of disgust, not un-

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