The Press.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1862.

THE WAR.

The foe is at our doors! Pennsylvania is now threatened by the Southern traitors! Her soil is desecrated by the tread of armed rebels who come to murder and to pillage. The fate that threatened Louisville and Cincinnati looms darkly over Philadelphia. Only our own brave hearts, only our own stout hands, can help to avert the crisis that so suddenly confronts us. Our people need not seek the newspapers now to learn their danger, nor lean wholly upon the War Department for assistance. To the truly loyal citizen, a sense of danger is but a sense of duty. The bullet that announces the advance of the enemy is the only call to arms he needs; the common peril is his highest inspiration, as it is our bond of common union. When our hearths and homes are threatened, we all are patriots by instinct; self-interest is overlooked in the better claim of self-preservation that overrides all other laws. The duty it imposes upon every Philadelphian to-day is one we must accept—*we must. arrest the danger now—delay will be destruction.* The safety of our city lies in prompt and energetic action. We have ample time for action—ample time to arm ourselves—ample time to interpose such obstacles to the enemy's advance as all his strength cannot remove, nor all his skill outmatch. There is ample time for everything but inactivity and false security. Business can surely be suspended for a day or two without serious results, and the stores and public buildings closed. If we cannot whip the enemy here in Pennsylvania, let us abandon as insane the idea that we ever will be able to defeat him in Virginia. We *can* whip him here—we can crush his strongest hordes, and utterly disperse them—we can so cut off his retreat that all his efforts to return southward will be baffled. If we do this, we do everything that the longest war can hope to accomplish; if we do less than this, whatever we may do, or may have done, will be in vain. In the name of our imperilled liberties, in the name of our beloved country, in the name of God, let us rouse from the fatal lethargy that holds us, and hurl back the invader from our soil! *His opportunity is likewise ours. We must embrace it, for it never may return.*

THE announcement of the death of Paymaster General Larned, U. S. A., printed in our telegraphic columns, will both startle and pain very many of the readers of *The Press*. Mr. Larned has been in the military service of his country for almost half a century, and in all that long period has enjoyed the confidence and esteem not only of his official associates, but of a large circle of friends. He was a native of Massachusetts, and was appointed from that State on the 1st of October, 1813, as an ensign in the 21st infantry. Although not a graduate of West Point, he possessed every soldierly attribute—was prompt, brave, generous, and always faithful to his duties. On the 20th of July, 1854, he was appointed to the responsible position of Paymaster General, with the rank of colonel—a position to which his long and efficient public services had fairly entitled him, and which he continued to fill until his death. The country has lost one of its tried and faithful servants, whose loss will not readily be replaced.

It is Darkest Before Daylight.

The recent successes of the rebels are well calculated to strike the timid and the wavering with awe; but they cannot change the issue or modify the laws by which the moral phenomena of the world are governed. A sudden tempest, a thunder storm, or an earthquake, though seeming, for a moment, to suspend the ordinary laws of nature, does not change the order of the physical world, though it may be accompanied by momentary waste and desolation. The great, beneficent works of nature are not achieved by sudden convulsions, but by the silent operation of immutable laws, in harmony with each other and the general plan of creation.

The phenomena in the moral world correspond to those of the physical one, and are, in fact, its unavoidable offsprings. Though philosophers, for the purpose of speculation, may separate them, they are, practically, one and inseparable.

That, in the struggle for our national existence, sudden disturbing causes should momentarily interrupt and, for a time, retard the unavoidable consequences of a rebellion, provoked by the effort of an inferior civilization to maintain itself against the influence and pressure of a superior one, must be expected; but to suppose that these consequences can thereby be permanently avoided, would be both absurd and pusillanimous. In a war, whether between two foreign nations, or between sections of the same country, nothing can be more natural than for some unforeseen circumstances to favor, at times, one or the other party; or, for a skilful general to obtain signal advantages over equal, or even superior numbers. But these causes do not operate permanently, and even the genius of ALEXANDER, CHARLEMAGNE, and NAPOLEON could not establish empires outliving the period of their lives or their successes.

The rebels have undoubtedly found a man of military genius in "Stonewall" JACKSON, and it would be both wrong and wicked to underrate his terrible energy, the boldness of his designs, and the rapidity of their execution; but, after all, Stonewall JACKSON is only a general, and, as such, as much subject to the chances of war as "CÆSAR and his fortune." Such men may, like a body in motion, acquire a prodigious momentum; but when the force which put them in motion is spent must dwindle down again to their original proportions. The rebels, through such men as LEE, JOHNSTON, and "Stonewall" JACKSON, have acquired a great momentum, and they have now an accidental advantage over us; but there is nothing in their condition to render them permanently equal to the struggle they are now engaged in. If we withstand their shock now, we need have no apprehension that it will be renewed; one Waterloo, in the end, squares the account of a hundred battles.

We are superior to the South in all the productive means of carrying on this war. We have the best material for soldiers, and our generals, if outwitted by the rebels, will, like NAPOLEON'S antagonists, learn the art of warfare by studying the causes of their reverses. We have a young, thriving, [illegible] of all their available resources. We have a young, thriving, active population, with the best public institutions of learning to educate the rising generation to an equality, if not superiority to its predecessor. The South have no such means of educating their children *en masse*, so that, to use one of their own favorite phrases, "if their *gentlemen* perish in the present struggle," they have no means of renewing or replenishing the caste. The future, therefore, is all bright for us; it is dark and gloomy for the rebels, and the thinking men of the South know it. Hence their desperation, and their spasmodic effort to stun us by a sudden blow. Common sense has beaten genius at Waterloo; let us see what an unwavering purpose can effect against "Stonewall" JACKSON!

What we want at the present crisis, after the heavy losses we have sustained, is a *Fabius Cunctator*, whom we have found in MCCLELLAN—the war will yet produce the *Scipio Africanus*, who will put an end to the present unnatural struggle.

Our Danger—A Patriotic Offer.

We understand that Colonel GEORGE H. CROSMAN, Assistant Quartermaster General of the United States, and now in charge of the arsenal of this city, has offered his services to his fellow-citizens of Philadelphia to assist them in the present crisis. After his office-hours, or, in other words, after 5 o'clock P. M., he is willing to be present at any of our armories, and to instruct our people in military discipline. Colonel CROSMAN is an old experienced army officer, who served with credit during the Mexican war. He possesses all the qualities of a soldier and of a disciplinarian, and in his present position has done much good. This very liberal and patriotic offer, considering the constant demand upon Colonel CROSMAN'S time in the performance of other duties, will be properly appreciated by our fellow-citizens.

An Excellent Appointment.

The Hon. JOHN C. KNOX, of this city, has been appointed, by the President, Judge Advocate General of the army corps commanded by Major General WOOL. General WOOL'S military jurisdiction includes Philadelphia and the eastern part of Pennsylvania.

General McClellan.

In this hour of imminent danger, we trust there will be a forbearance on the part of some of our cotemporaries towards Major General MCCLELLAN. Criticism upon his past course is now of no avail. The enemy has crossed the Potomac, and every effort of the commander of the army in the vicinity of Washington, seconded by all the enthusiasm of the country, will be needed to prevent their forcing the war upon loyal soil. The President and General HALLECK have the utmost confidence in General MCCLELLAN, and have called him to the command. He has a large army, and is able, we trust, to attack the flank of the column advancing across Maryland, and, by cutting off the advanced forces, to gain a signal victory. But the task confided to him is almost herculean. Placed in command but five days since, he has had to reorganize an army broken almost to pieces by a week of disaster, and, in addition to this, must take charge of the patriotic but undisciplined soldiers constantly arriving in Washington, and make the best use he can of their loyal, though inexperienced arms. With the united support of the country, he may succeed in the great work before him; but if one-half the press and a large party among the people devote their energies to harsh criticism, our enemies alone will be benefited.

We take but small interest in the personal quarrels of great men. In peace they are to be deprecated, and in war, if possible, to be suppressed; but when a nation is struggling for its existence, with an armed foe within a few hours' march of its capital, and malignant enemies, at home and abroad, endeavoring to procure its downfall, such feuds are worse than criminal. They are so now. Never since the rebellion was commenced was there more need of an enthusiastic union of Northern sentiment. Let the friends and foes of the commander of the Army of Virginia bury their hatchets in the same grave. It will be of immense benefit to the country. It will give support to the Administration and aid to the army; and who knows but that it may, in the end, be the means of a complete suppression of the rebellion?

Not only here in Maryland and Pennsylvania are we threatened, but in Ohio, Indiana, and the far West. Every hour brings us sad intelligence from that quarter. Ohio has already been invaded. Indiana is threatened, and rebel presses hint darkly at an invasion from Arkansas and Southern Missouri upon the blood-stained soil of Kansas. How could Cincinnati be defended, if one half its citizens declared that they had no confidence in Major General WALLACE? Could those men obey his orders with the alacrity and singleness of purpose necessary to repel a blood-thirsty and savage enemy? Could generals anywhere do their whole duty when every word they hear is a word of censure?

We are deeply pained that there should be any difference of opinion in the country as to the ability of General MCCLELLAN. Be the charges against him false or true, this is no time for their discussion. He commands the army upon whose exertions depends the salvation of Washington. If he fails, all may be lost. Therefore, let the whole nation suspend their judgment and unite in a just and conscientious support of him. Let those bad feelings which have hitherto divided the country into angry partisanship be vented upon our common foe. Let there be a union amongst us—a union of opinion and of patriotism. Having the moral support of the nation, the army may be victorious; but if that support is divided or taken away, the saddest consequences may result.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7, 1862.

There is another rumor in circulation, and published as I see in the New York papers, to the effect that Mr. Stanton has resigned his position in the Cabinet, and is succeeded by General Halleck. I think it is about time that this thing should be stopped. I do not know what motive can actuate the gentlemen who circulate these rumors, unless it is a silly love of mischief, or a wish that is father to the thought. I have at all times been ready to criticise Mr. Stanton, although I can see no good result that is to be obtained by such conduct towards a public officer at this time. If Mr. Stanton were an inefficient Cabinet minister, or a disloyal man, or incapable of comprehending his extraordinary duties, or in any way unreliable or lukewarm, his removal would be proper. He has been wanting in none of these capacities, however, and the more I look at his administration of the War Department the more I am disposed to censure the senseless abuse that has been heaped upon him.

Many of those who claim especial credit for being the friends of General McClellan, who use his popularity as political stock in trade, and have sought to ruin him by that sort of friendship which is always ruinous, charge Secretary Stanton with being the cause of his misfortunes in the Peninsula. Let us look at this charge one moment. General McClellan was the commander of our armies. His duty was to conquer the armies of the rebellion. Mr. Stanton was Secretary of War. His duty was to so organize and supply the army that it might conquer the rebellion. When Mr. Stanton took the position of Secretary of War he placed everything at General McClellan's control. His commissariat was organized—his quartermaster's department established on a permanent and effective basis—his artillery made, perhaps, the most formidable array of artillery in the world—the resources of the nation were placed at his disposal. General McClellan himself, in terms of pride, referred to his well-organized army on leaving for the Peninsula. What motive could the Secretary have for hampering the chief military commander of the armies he had created, and whose victory would be the happiness of the nation and his own immortal fame? But, apart from any motive, we have the explicit evidence of the President of the United States, in his speech at the Washington war meeting, that Secretary Stanton had refused General McClellan nothing that it was in his power to send him. It may have been that there was an error of judgment in not calling enough troops into the field. But the call for troops was not made by Secretary Stanton; the basis on which the army was organized was a basis accepted by General McClellan himself. If an error, it was an error in which the whole world shared, and which cannot be justly laid to any one man, or any statesman, even if he holds the portfolio of the Department of War.

Secondly. The most popular charge against [illegible] because the appointment of General McDowell to a new command shows that the best feeling exists between them both. General McClellan would not accept a commission from a Minister whom he believed to have conspired against his military success, and endeavored to bring discomfiture to his armies. Secretary Stanton would not hold the portfolio of War while a general directed the war operations whom he believed to be incompetent and weak. This one fact will show the utter recklessness of those who attempt to excite animosity and bad feeling by causing a quarrel between the friends of a secretary and the friends of a general, when the secretary and general are laboring earnestly and harmoniously to bring triumph to our arms, and peace to our homes. It has been said, too, with much bitterness, that the Secretary has allied himself with what is called the "Abolition faction," and is now endeavoring to bring about the ruin of the country in order that in the ruins of constitutional liberty, slavery may perish. When men use this language they are, in my mind, but a very slight improvement upon the Secessionists in arms against us over in Virginia. Mr. Stanton feels intensely on this great question of slavery—but his sentiments are those of almost every loyal man in the Union. Regarding slavery as the cause of the rebellion, he does not hesitate to declare that it should suffer the consequences of the rebellion. He would save the Union. If slavery lives he is satisfied; if slavery dies he is satisfied. I do not know what the opinions of Gen. McClellan may be; but judging from his latest proceedings on the peninsula, his employment of negro labor in his camps, and his dreadful experience of the perfidy and power of the rebellion, I should regard him as being as much of an abolitionist as the Secretary of War.

But, apart from the confidence I have in Secretary Stanton, and my desire to see General McClellan redeem his fame, and justify the affection which his fellow-citizens bestow upon him, I would impress upon all who value the liberties of their country the necessity for earnest, united, and vigorous action. All feeling should be harmonized; all enmities should be buried away; for in the immediate future we have a task to perform which can only be performed by a union of sentiment as well as a union of strength. If we are divided among ourselves—if we permit any partisan feeling, or the remembrance, even, of any past wrong, to bias our judgment and weaken our efforts for the country, we are traitors. I do not believe that in the masses of the people any such desire exists. They are honest, and if they go astray, it is because their leaders are dishonest. Let me recall an old legend; let me remind the people of this Union that the quarrel is not now between the partisans of Cæsar and the partisans of Antony, but it is a contest for the life of Rome.

OCCASIONAL.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT NEWS.

THE INVASION OF MARYLAND

The Occupation of Poolesville.

GENERAL STUART OCCUPIES IT IN FORCE.

The Rebels Living on the Country.

MARYLAND SECESSIONISTS EXULTANT.

CAPTURE OF FREDERICK CITY.

5,000 REBELS IN POSSESSION.

GEN. HILL IN COMMAND.

Cattle and Horses Bought and Sent to the Potomac,

Government Stores Destroyed.

THE TOWN OCCUPIED BY THE REBELS.

THE POTOMAC CROSSED AT THREE POINTS.

Seizure of the Monocacy Bridge.

LOYALISTS FLEEING INTO PENNSYLVANIA.

Stonewall Jackson to Winter in Philadelphia.

BATTLE TO TAKE PLACE TO-DAY.

OUR FORCES MOVING ON THE ENEMY.

BANKS, HOOKER, AND SIGEL IN THE VAN.

HARPER'S FERRY IN A STATE OF SIEGE.

REBELS TO MARCH TO HARRISBURG, BALTIMORE, AND PHILADELPHIA.

MCCLELLAN'S WHOLE ARMY IN MOTION.

MORE GENERALS TO BE RELIEVED FROM DUTY.

OUR FUTURE MILITARY LEADERS

FEELING IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

FROM FREDERICKSBURG AND THE LOWER POTOMAC

REORGANIZATION OF THE ARMY

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

[Special Despatch to The Press.]

NEAR DARNESTOWN, Md., Sept. 7, 1862.

I have arrived at this point on my way to the front of our lines. I do not think it advisable to go much nearer until I have ascertained definitely the position and projects of our forces. I have learned some facts in relation to the rebel invasion of Maryland, which I send you.

Poolesville, about eleven miles from here, was taken possession of by the rebels under Gen. Stuart, on Friday last, he having crossed at Conrad's Ferry. He met with no opposition, the river being very low.

On last Thursday night the infantry pickets of the rebel army, supported by four pieces of artillery, crossed at the ferry, and next morning the rebel cavalry also crossed in large numbers, and advanced to Poolesville, which is about five mile distant from the river at Edward's Ferry. It is a small faded-out Maryland village, and is about a day's ride from Washington. It is in the neighborhood of Gen. Banks' main column during the last year, and was the headquarters of Gen. Stone, whose tent was in the outskirts of the village, on a prominence which commanded the view of Leesburg in a surrounding of mountains. Around Poolesville it is a very beautiful country.

General Stuart entered the village at the head of his troop a little before noon on Friday, capturing a detachment of the 1st Massachusetts Cavalry. He was received with exultant demonstrations of favor, nearly all the population turning out to welcome him. It is noticed that among those most prominent in the exhibition of their delight were a number of citizens who had heretofore professed strong Union sentiments.

There can be no doubt that the advance of Stuart was anticipated by the traitors who lived in the village. During General Banks' occupation of this region, and, indeed, ever since the war commenced, Poolesville has been little more than a rebel general-delivery post office. It was constantly occupied by rebel spies, and frequently large mails were carried secretly across the river and sent into Virginia.

The farmers hereabout, who have been saving their crops, and whose harvests and farms have been guarded by Union soldiers, floc [illegible] Poolesville with wagons and all manner of vehicles, negro slaves, and workingmen, carrying forage, food, clothing, articles of necessity and luxury for man and beast, and offering them to the rebel soldiers.

General Stuart remained in command until last evening, when he was relieved by General Fitz Hugh Lee. Stuart, with a body of horsemen, pushed on towards Frederick, and joined the main body of the rebel army now there under command of General Hill. General Lee commands the forces around Poolesville and those encamped on the other side of the river, between Leesburg, Edward's Ferry, and Conrad's Ferry.

I am told by an officer of the Massachusetts Cavalry, Capt. Chamberlain, who passed down the road last evening, having been released on his parole by Gen. Stuart, that from an eminence beyond Poolsville, a large portion of the rebel army can be seen encamped on the other side of the river, extending towards Leesburg

My informant can form no idea of their numbers, as the distance was deceptive, and his opportunities of observation necessarily hurried and imperfect.

There was no unusual demonstration on the part of the rebels when they occupied Poolsville. They came quietly along, seeming to regard the invasion of Maryland as a necessary result of their recent campaigns.

They brought no baggage with them, and they seem determined to live on the country in which they are located. As far as I have been able to observe, it is [illegible] away, and terrible. Many of the harvests are gathered [illegible] traitors will be living on milk and honey.

This invasion of Maryland does not partake of the nature of a raid. They have determined either to stay, or risk a battle for their enterprise. Every arm of the service is represented—cavalry and artillery being especially strong. It does not look as if they intended to recross the Potomac unless driven back.

A part of the company of Massachusetts cavalry captured by Stuart when he occupied Poolesville, were released upon parole. They passed along this road yesterday afternoon, on their way to Washington.

I am staying in a farm-house, in the neighborhood of Darnestown, and hope to be able to send you some important news of great events now on the eve of transpiring. There is a good time coming, so wait a little longer.

E. H. B.

[Special Despatch to The Press.]

NEAR FREDERICK JUNCTION, Md., Sept. 7, 1862.

THE THREATS OF THE REBELS BEING CARRIED OUT.

At last the ice is broken, and the long threatened, both by the rebels in arms and their sympathizers north of Washington, invasion of Maryland, has really commenced. What was thought to be merely a threat of those in arms against the authority of the United States, has turned out to be an accomplished fact, and the sooner the friends of the Union in the North are aware of it, the better for them and the cause they are sustaining. It has always been the boast of their leaders that, before this war could be ended they would march into Maryland and liberate it from the ruin of the "Lincoln hirelings," and add it to their "glorious Confederacy." This was one of the favorite ideas both of officers and men; and it is even said that Stonewall Jackson swore that he would never sheathe his sword until "Maryland was liberated." Those Secessionists who lived in the State boasted privately—for they dare not do it openly—that the Confederates would soon be on their soil, and felt confident that they would successfully accomplish all they promised. Through all the adversities that befel the rebel arms, these same sympathizers continually kept a cheerful heart, feeling confident that the rebel leaders would keep their promise.

CROSSING THE POTOMAC.

At last the Potomac has been crossed, and the hopes of the rebels in this State were never in a better position to be realized, but I predict one of the greatest disappointments of modern times.

UNRELIABLE REPORTS ABOUT THE REBEL ARMY.

So many unreliable reports having been circulated in Washington to the effect that Jackson had crossed the Potomac, and was then on his march, in two columns—one to Chambersburg, and the other to Gettysburg, Pa.—your correspondent determined to see for himself, and endeavor to procure some reliable reports for the readers of *The Press*.

SECESSIONISTS CONGRATULATING EACH OTHER.

On arriving at Ellicott's Mills, we met a number of persons of Union sentiments, who had left Frederick that morning, and from them we learned that in consequence of the rebels approaching that place, and fearing that they would be persecuted for their Union sentiments, they left the town. They did not stop long enough to learn the number of the rebels, or who they were commanded by, and, therefore, were unable to give us any definite intelligence.

During the conversation, several of the citizens, upon hearing of the occupation of Frederick, could not help throwing sly winks to each other, and immediately congregated in small groups, where they congratulated each other over again, and no doubt made appointments where they could hold secret conclave, and make ample preparations to receive the rebels in a proper manner, if they made their appearance.

THE TRAIN MOVING ON SLOWLY.

From this point the conductor of the train determined to advance farther, but orders were given to slacken the speed of the locomotive and to run in a cautious manner, keeping a continual lookout to see what was ahead. The train was started, and on we went, stopping at every little station and anxiously inquiring in relation to the truth of the reports which had been so freely circulated. No one could tell us anything except that they had heard that the rebels had crossed the river and had marched upon and taken possession of Frederick.

THE RETREAT OF THE FOURTEENTH NEW JERSEY REGIMENT.

On arriving at Sykesville we met the 14th New Jersey Regiment. They were resting themselves by the roadside. The train did not stop long enough for us to converse with them, but we learned that they had been guarding the bridge over the Monocacy near Frederick Junction, but on learning that the rebels were determined to cross at that point, and seeing they could not stay in that position, when they could not expect to repel a heavy force, the valiant colonel wisely retreated, and brought his men away in good order. They were not pursued by the rebels.

ARRIVAL AT MOUNT AIRY.

The cars proceeded further on to Mount Airy, where orders had been telegraphed to allow the train to proceed no further, but immediately return to Baltimore, and that all the locomotives and cars stationed at Mount Airy be also moved to Baltimore. On board of the train were several ladies and children, and a few gentlemen, who lived in Frederick, who were anxious to return to their homes. At their earnest solicitation the conductor was prevailed on to move as far as Monrovia, 14 miles by rail from Frederick city. On arriving at the latter place the passengers were taken off, the baggage removed, the locomotive turned and the train moved off.

THE REPORTS AT MONROVIA.

At this point the accommodations for gathering news were found to be better than at any point along the railroad, so that we determined to stay and run our chance of being captured in our avidity for obtaining news.

HOW THE REBELS CROSSED THE POTOMAC.

Here we learned from parties who had left Frederick, that the rebels had crossed the Potomac during Friday night and Saturday morning, and that a large portion were encamped at White Oak Springs, within 3 miles of the city. They had sent scouts out all day on Friday, who went roaming about the country picking up straggling soldiers and reconnoitring our lines. They returned in the evening to the rebel lines and reported the coast clear. Immediately orders were given to march, and the rebels crossed the Rubicon of this rebellion. The cavalry were sent over first, next the infantry, and then the artillery. It took them all night to cross, at fords both above and below Point of Rocks, and as soon as daylight appeared strong detachments were sent to Frederick, while another was sent to seize the bridge over the Monocacy. Other strong bodies were sent to Rockville and Darnestown, where they formed in line of battle, and are said to be awaiting the approach of our forces.

THEIR WAGON TRAIN SENT TO NEW MARKET.

As soon as the rebels seized Frederick they sent their wagon train to New Market, eight miles distant, where they would be out of the way in case of an attack by our forces.

THE WAY THE PEOPLE OF FREDERICK RECEIVED THE REBELS.

As soon as the rebel soldiers appeared in Frederick, they met with the most enthusiastic reception from the Secessionists of that place. Every one of these sympathizers with treason came out and invited the rebels into their houses, when they reclothed them so far as it lay in their power, and gave them plenty of food to eat.

Those who were shoeless did not continue so long, and empty stomachs were soon filled with the choicest food. More than this, some of the traitors were very active in pointing out the Unionists to the rebel officers, and these people were soon the recipients of remarks which were not altogether complimentary or soldier-like.

UNION PEOPLE LEAVING FOR PENNSYLVANIA.

When it was noised around that the rebels had crossed the river, and were marching on the city—for the Secessionists were well aware of the rebel intentions, and took particular pains to make them known—the Union people commenced leaving the town. All day yesterday the roads leading to Pennsylvania were crowded by these refugees—men, women, and children—who were wending their way to the Keystone State, where they will stay until the rebels are driven from this part of the country.

HOW THE UNION PEOPLE WERE TREATED.

A great portion of the Union people in Frederick were engaged in business, such as grocery, shoe, and clothing stores, and of course, when the rebels came in these were the first places visited. No money, except in some few cases where the soldiers were honest, was offered, and then it was Confederate scrip. Many a man was robbed of everything he had and not a cent returned. Foraging wagons were also sent out, and everything wanted was immediately seized and appropriated to their own use.

WHAT THE REBELS INTEND TO DO.

My informant stated to me that the rebels openly boasted of being able to march to Baltimore, and thence to Harrisburg and Philadelphia [illegible] all before them. They say they have left enough behind them to look after McClellan and his army. They never again to rest until they reached the Monumental City, and they then think they will be joined by enough sympathizers there to so strengthen their army that it will be invincible.

OUR FORCES AT HARPER'S FERRY.

As the rebels are also in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, it is conjectured by the Secessionists here that our forces there will be surrounded and forced to surrender. But Colonel Miles has ample force at his disposal, and, no doubt, he will make the best possible use of it. It will take many a day to capture that place, and before it will be consummated strange events will have taken place.

THE LATEST—OUR FORCES MOVING ON THE ENEMY.

As I am closing, I have it from reliable authority that our forces are alive to the situation of affairs and are moving rapidly on the enemy. It would not be proper for me to say where our forces are or how large are their numbers, but you may rest assured that they will come out all right in the end.

Our soldiers are now fighting to keep their *own homes* from the desolation visited on Virginia, and they know it, and will be nerved to the conflict accordingly. I am anxiously waiting to hear the sound of Hooker's and Sigel's guns, and when I do, I know all will be well.

J. H. O.

[Special Despatch to The Press.]

Reorganization of the Army.

Gen. MCCLELLAN has signalized his assumption of the command of the army by rearranging the whole in what promises to be an effective and substantial organization. The new corps will be commanded by HEINTZELMAN, BURNSIDE, HOOKER, BANKS, SIGEL, and SUMNER, all of whom have proved themselves equal to great emergencies heretofore, and have the confidence of the people for the future. The downfall of Porterism is to meet with a very feeble opposition, and soon, so far as to blame Gen. HALLECK for placing such implicit confidence in his abilities as a commander and strategist.

The new brigadiers are to be selected from the medley of appointees and placed at the head of the newly organized brigades, which are to consist of five regiments each, with a battery of artillery and a squadron of cavalry. Each brigade is to be made up of three new regiments and two old ones, by which means it is hoped that our entire army will be ready for the fall in a short space of time, and, aided by the experience and indomitable courage of the veterans of the "War Virginia," it is thought the new regiments will fight well.

THE FEELING IN WASHINGTON.

Although there is great excitement caused by the populace, there seems to be little anxiety expressed concerning the safety of the National capital. In official circles we notice the greatest confidence in Gen. McClellan and the army, and it is believed that rebels who have entered Maryland can never evade capture; indeed, an officer of high rank assured me yesterday that if the recent movements authorized be only poor carried out, there was nothing left but disaster for the enemy, unless all military precedents were false.

TRAITORS DOUBTFUL AND DESPONDENT.

The general despondency and reticence of the Secessionists here seems to me to be indicative of good to our cause. If these enemies of their country cannot gather hope and take courage from our recent misfortunes in Virginia, at this time, there certainly cannot be any good in the future for their wicked cause.

ARMY PROMPTLY IN MOTION.

Another most important and encouraging evidence of our strength appears in the promptitude and alacrity with which our generals have moved the various corps and divisions to different and sometimes distant points, and the excellent spirits of the troops they marched along. These men, but a day or two ago, were completely worn out by the battles through which they passed in Virginia within the last two weeks, and yet yesterday were lively, obedient, and determined in spirit.

THE HONORABLE COLTS.

It was enough to make one's heart leap with pride to see the colors of some of the regiments borne gallantly aloft as they marched, completely riddled with bullets, even to shreds; in some instances two of the flag-staffs splintered and full of bullet mark. No one could harbor a fear that such men will flich in the coming storm. They are too brave and too true to our holy cause. Give them leaders, and they will annihilate the enemy wherever he may be met. And can we believe that the new regiments that follow these veterans through the coming fall campaign will prove anything but brave, heroic, and invincible coerts?

THE PLANS COMPLETE—ARRANGEMENT OF DETAILS.

Gen. MCCLELLAN has had a long conference with his field-marshals, has submitted his plans, had them approved, and now he and his entire staff are engaged day and night in arranging the details. The amount of work done is really surprising, and the facilities now are ample; besides, muchhelp is obtained from that powerful auxiliary in time of war—experience, and an experience which has been dearly bought.

MORE OFFICERS TO BE RELIEVED.

The people will not be surprised to learn that it is reported in town to-day, that several more notorious generals in our army, who have held important commands without using them, are to be relieved from duty for the present, and possibly for all time to come. A tremendous effort is now being made to select and place in command only such generals as have proved themselves worthy of their positions.

AFFAIRS OVER THE RIVER.

The rebels have all vanished from our entire left and front in Virginia, and it is believed that they have been massed on our right, probably with a view to throw their entire army across the river as soon as possible. Nothing but scouts and vedettes are seen this side of Manassas or Fredericksburg. The rebels are evidently satisfied that a demonstration upon our front would be useless.

FROM THE LOWER POTOMAC.

By order of the Navy Department, several of our gunboats have assembled off Acquia Creek, and are now at anchor there. Early yesterday morning several boats' crews were landed, and the railroad depot, surrounding buildings, and a number of cars, were set fire to and destroyed. This has been done, probably, to prevent the rebels from creating an observatory at Acquia. Another fleet of gunboats arrived below this morning. Where they came from, or what they are going to do, is not for me to say.

We learn that the Secessionists of Maryland have re-established their old ferries at Smith's creek and other points down the river, and that they are mightily smuggling goods and passengers across to Dixie in small boats. This nefarious practice should certainly be stopped, as it is by these means that the rebels get much valuable information concerning our army movements.

MAJOR FRINK SAFE.

Major FRINK, of the 11th Pennsylvania Volunteers, has arrived in this city, having been paroled by the rebels. He is at the Armory Hospital here, suffering from a severe, but not dangerous, wound in the back of his neck, near the lower portion of the skull. He will proceed to his home in Pennsylvania as soon as the surgeons deem it safe for him to travel. He is able to be up and walk around.

ACTIVITY IN THE ARMY.

In every department of the army there is the greatest activity, both on this and the other side of the river. Divisions and brigades are moving off to the new positions assigned them continually, day and night.

SOMETHING WRONG.

A rebel prisoner, who was captured on the Potomac river road, not far from Dranesville, last night was brought into town this morning and says that he was one of about a hundred men sent out by General LEE yesterday to open communication with the troops under LONGSTREET, now in Maryland. This man was a sorry specimen of a soldier, being all in rags, barefooted, and with home-made equipments on.

SPECIAL.

[Despatch to the Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.

Farmers from the upper part of Montgomery county, Maryland, who arrived here early to-day, report that they heard firing, late yesterday evening, in the direction of Nolan's Ferry. The firing was irregular.

They also confirm the rumor that the enemy yesterday crossed the river on this side of the Point of Rocks. They did not venture any considerable distance from the Potomac.

The force consisted of a battalion of cavalry and four pieces of artillery.

After remaining a short time they recrossed.

There is no doubt of the fact that the enemy is in strong force, and posted at several points on the opposite shore.

Considerable bodies of infantry were plainly visible from this side during the day, and the camp fires at night indicate the presence of a larger force of rebels than was at first supposed.

The *National Republican* of this morning says that Rev. Mr. Kinnard, of this city, left the battle-ground of Saturday a day or two since, and had had free conversations with rebel officers.

The rebels boasted of their victories, and declare that they will march instantly into Maryland.

Senator Lane, of Indiana, Cassius M. Clay, and other influential Western men, had an interview with the President this morning.

Frederick Occupied by the Rebels.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 6, 10 o'clock P. M.—It is reported that the enemy were at Frederick last night, having crossed from the Point of Rocks, and that that city was formally occupid by the rebel troops this morning.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 7.—Frederick, Maryland, was undoubtedly occupied yesterday morning, between the hours of 10 and 11 o'clock, by the rebels. Part of the rebel force turned off at Buckeystown, as if going either toward the Washington road, or the Baltimore pike.

The crossing of the Potomac was effected at three different points.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—It appears from private accounts that the rebels crossed the Potomac river on Friday night and early yesterday morning, and from thence marched to White Oak Springs, within three miles of Frederick. They crossed both above and below the Point of Rocks, and did it in as speedy and quiet a manner as possible.

One of their first acts was to send a force to cut the telegraph wire and seize the bridge over the Monocacy.

The regiment guarding this point evacuated their position on Friday.

Great numbers of persons were leaving Frederick all day yesterday, and proceeding towards Pennsylvania.

Accounts from Hagerstown say that many known refugees from Virginia have arrived there.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—No further information regarding rebel movements in Maryland has transpired up to noon.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 7.—Fugitives who left Frederick last night report that the city was occupied by about 5,000 rebels, under Gen. HILL, consisting of cavalry, artillery, and infantry.

The rebels had issued a proclamation, promising the protection of private property.

A provost guard had been appointed.

Purchases were being made, in U. S. Treasury notes, of cattle and horses, which were being sent back towards the river.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 7.—Further reports from Frederick say that Bradley T. Johnson was made provost marshal. The rebel troops passed through the town and encamped in Wirman's woods, about a mile beyond the city.

FROM HARRISBURG.

Preparations for the Defence of the Pennsylvania Border.

HARRISBURG, September 7.—We understand arrangements are being made to forward to the entrance of Cumberland valley all the troops now here in camp, and other regiments from New York and the East that have arrived are detained here for that purpose. If an attempt should be made to invade Pennsylvania, a warm reception will await them.

The citizens are organizing themselves into companies under the Governor's proclamation, and are not required to clothe or equip themselves. Arms will be furnished on application to Adjutant-General Russell, by the regularly-elected captain and not necessarily through the brigade inspector.

The captains will be required to give bond or some good security for their safe-keeping. Companies can be organized to number from 32 to 98 rank and file. Companies and regiments thus organizing should drill constantly, and hold themselves in readiness to march to the defence of our border on short notice.

The employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad shops at this place, numbering over two hundred, marched in a body yesterday to the Capitol grounds for drill, and were addressed by the Governor.

The superintendent of the Middle division was in the ranks as a private. Companies and squads are drilling to-day in all our streets and public places.

The Governor has messengers extended all along the border of the State, and is in constant communication with them.

He has received intelligence that the rebels crossed the Potomac in force at or near the Point of Rocks, and now occupy Frederick, Maryland. Their pickets extend seven miles towards Hagerstown. They possessed themselves of all the shoes, clothing, &c., in the stores at Frederick, paying for the same in Confederate scrip. The rebels say they are going to Baltimore.

The telegraph operator remains at Hagerstown, but says he cannot hold the office much longer. Nearly all the Union men have left the town.

Our people should awaken to the fact that invasion is imminent, and though Governor Curtin is doing all in his power, his hope for the future is based entirely upon the prompt response of our citizens when called upon to march.

Companies are forming all over the State. Over 1,000 stand of arms were sent to Adams county to-day, and 1,500 to Franklin county, in charge of Major Washaburg yesterday.

GEN. POPE RELIEVED OF HIS COMMAND.

MCCLELLAN'S ARMY IN MOTION.

Generals Pope and McDowell arrive in Baltimore.

[Special Despatch to The Press.]

BALTIMORE, September 6.

Major General Pope arrived in this city this evening, in the 7 P. M. train from Washington. He is *en route* for the West, I have learned, where he will, with accustomed promptitude, take immediate control of the command to which he has been assigned. He was attired wholly in citizen's dress, but, nevertheless, could not escape the recognition of those who accompanied him in the train, and who pressed around him, shook him by the hand, and enjoyed a few minutes' conversation with him. The careworn and anxious expression of his countenance was remarked by several of his friends who greeted him upon the platform. He feels as deeply as one can the serious character of the late reverses, but is fully confident that when the entire history of the campaign is published it will satisfactorily vindicate his generalship before the world. He conversed but little during the trip from Washington. Apparently he is in the enjoyment of good health, although greatly needing relaxation. He proceeds to the West, with all possible promptness. He was accompanied by General McDowell, who was silent upon military matters. To a gentleman who asked his opinion of the rebel incursion into the western part of this State, the answer was a smile. I infer from this that the movement is regarded as less serious than the over-excitable public apprehend.

H.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—Gen. Pope having been, at his own request, relieved from the command of the Army of Virginia, he will probably be immediately assigned to the command of a department in the West.

[From the Washington Star of Saturday evening.]

Major General John Pope has been relieved from the command of the Army of Virginia, and ordered to report to the War Department for other duty. His late army has been consolidated with that of Gen. Burnside, and all placed under Major General McClellan's command. General Burnside continues in command of his own troops as one of the *corps d'armée* of the consolidated army.

We have further to add that a considerable portion of the consolidated army is already in motion, and bids fair to meet the rebels again in battle as soon as they are reached, wherever they may be in force—a point upon which there is great uncertainty here at this time

IMPORTANT FROM FORTRESS MONROE

The New Merrimac Comes Down the James River.

TWO OTHER ARMED VESSELS ACCOMPANY HER.

FORTRESS MONROE, Sept. 5.—There is a report here this evening that the "New Merrimac" has come down the James river from Richmond, and is now in sight of our flot