

THE SITUATION

FROM THE POTOMAC.

The Departments here are unadvised, to-day, of any movements on the part of either army. Notwithstanding the reports that Lee had succeeded in crossing the Potomac, good soldiers doubt whether he had the means of doing so. Had the river been fordable, Lee would be in Dixie by this time, but the fact that he has no means of crossing in the shape of pontoons, and the fact also that the Potomac has been in a condition to render it exceedingly dangerous to launch a pontoon, admitting that Lee is supplied with material, combines to explode all rumors relating to an escape of the rebel army into Virginia. We rather incline to the opinion that Lee has found a natural position of great strength; not only one, but a number, from each of which he can fall back should he be too hotly pursued, and in the meantime inflict severe injury to any attacking force. But all this, as with the reports of Lee's escape over the Potomac, is mere surmise. One thing is certain, and that is, that both armies have been marching and working hard ever since the battle of Gettysburg; sufficient almost to make each as anxious for rest as either could possibly be for battle.

At the latest accounts the rebels had been kept in total ignorance of the fall of Vicksburg, and were repeating in their newspapers the same stories of abundance of provisions, and of Grant being in fear of Johnston, that had deceived the people of the cotton States so long. Several negroes, no doubt sent out by Grant for the purpose, had arrived within the rebel lines, and reported that Grant was to make a grand assault on the 6th. Before that time arrived, Osterhaus had terminated his long watch at the Big Black bridge, and had crossed first his cavalry, whom the enemy attacked, thinking it was only a reconnaissance, and then his artillery and infantry force, which rather opened the eyes of seers.

The rebels gathered up all their scattered detachments to make a stand, but immediately Grant pushed forward Sherman's whole corps, and at the last accounts was engaged in hunting up that marvellous army of Johnston of which the copperheads have had so much to say. This is important, as indicating Grant's line of operations after the fall of Vicksburg. Of course he sent to offer aid to Banks, but his army had a large surplus force which would be sufficient to take care of the whole campaign in the southwest.

How the Copperheads Operate.

We print a communication to-day, written by a respectable gentleman in York county, in which an account is given of the manner the copperheads prepared their friends for the invasion of the State. It appears that the copperheads were aware that an invasion of the State of Pennsylvania was in contemplation long before it was attempted. In order to prepare their friends for the emergency and afford them the means of escape from spoliation, the different Lodges of the Knights of the Golden Circle in York county issued certificates to their respective members, to be shown to the invader, and on that evidence of fealty to the rebel cause, the holders of all such certificates were to be exempted from contribution or saved from plunder. Every man receiving one of those certificates contributed one dollar to the treasury of the Golden Circle. By this means a great fraud was perpetrated, as well as a large sum of money received; but the sequel proved, according to the testimony quoted in the communication referred to, that those possessing these credentials of membership with the Knights of the Golden Circle, were treated equally as rough and robbed fully as wickedly as were loyal men.

—There is more in the statement of the communication giving an account of this fraud, than most people will at first discern. The copperhead leaders are at work. They have possession of the ignorance of the land, and as they wield the passions and prejudices of these, they hope to achieve political power. The idea of covenanting to exempt the people who take the oath of allegiance to the order of the Knights of the Golden Circle, from the ravages of the rebel foe, is in keeping with the practice of sympathizing with that foe, and affording him aid and comfort wherever he shows his front. Both are the work of the copperhead leaders. Both will bring their own rewards.

The Conscription to be Enforced.

The conscription is to be enforced at once, and it is understood that 300,000 will be the number called for, an extra draft of 50 per cent. being added to cover exemptions, &c. That is right, so far as it goes; but why not call out 600,000? That would be men enough to do up the work in a short time. We presume these soldiers will be joined to the old regiments to fill up their depleted ranks; and probably most of them will be sent to Meade and Rosecrans, as Grant has more men than he wants at this time.

Since the recent victories, copperheads are not half so eager to resist the draft. Disasters bring out the noble qualities of the brave; but produce trepidation and fear in cowards.

THE LATE GEN. A. SYDNEY JOHNSON.—The family of this the ablest General in the rebel service, is left in destitute circumstances, and an appeal to the charity of the people of the South is made for them.

Need the War be Prolonged?

We sometimes incline to the notion that, had there been no money in the war, had the man who led now on the side of the Government been as incorruptible as those who led on the same side during the revolution of 1776, the war would have ended in a single campaign. The lust of gain, the greed of power and the temptation of position, which now prevail among a very large class in the free States, has had much to do with the prolongation of the war. And this is an influence for which no party can be justly held accountable, which no administration can control. It is the fault of the people themselves. Seven out of every ten officers now in the service deem it to their interest to prolong the war, simply because with the end of the war will come a suspension of position and salary, such as these men never received before, and never can receive in any civil position for which their talents fit them. These men fight to prolong the war. Added to these are a large class in the mercantile and financial world, men of immense influence, who are amassing colossal fortunes solely by the prolongation of the war. The moment that the Federal forces achieve a victory, the price of gold and the cost of goods of all kinds, fall. This is reversed when we are defeated, and hence it is the interest and the business of a large and powerful class of men, who profess to be loyal, to keep the country in a constant state of suspense between victory and defeat. How this is accomplished need not now be explained. Sufficient for the reader to know that such has been the condition of affairs when the country should be enjoying the security of peace after having taught the few thousand miserable traitors engaged in this rebellion, the folly of fighting a Government so vastly superior to its opponents in material resources. But we can safely write that the wealth amassed in thus prolonging the war by speculations in the money market, commerce, manufactures and contracts, will be a curse to the children's children of those who amassed it—a curse equal in withering, blighting influence to that which will taint the latest generation of those who engaged in the fell work of treason.

—In the condition of affairs, now, there need be no prolongation of the war. Depend upon it, whenever you hear an officer profoundly discussing the impossibility of capturing a whole rebel army, he is arguing his own chances of retaining a well paying position instead of the chances of victory to the army in which he commands. Armies have been captured here before, and there is no reason why they should not now also be captured. During the revolutionary war, the colonial forces captured two splendid British armies, one commanded by Burgoyne and the other by Cornwallis. Napoleon captured one of the best armies engaged to oppose his conquests. Certainly, then, what has been done can again be accomplished. It can be accomplished as soon as we make the war in reality a struggle for the government—for the nation—for freedom, instead of a fight among scrambling speculators or an idle show of military power to serve the ambition and fill the stomachs of every aspiring or hungry politician in the land. What has made the rebellion thus far successful, has been the vigor, valor and disinterested devotion of the rebels. There is unity among the traitors. They are willing to make any sacrifice for success. Those at home devote themselves to seconding the efforts of those in the field. Their officers fight for victory, not for mere position and pay. They are animated by one power, and that is the power represented in the Confederacy. This is the spirit which we need, not only in our armies, but in our communities. We want personal sacrifices as well to be made by those at home as those in the army. We want men to forget their own interests just a few months, and devote themselves exclusively to the good of the country. We want every consideration of business—every hope of personal gain, made to subservient considerations of national success and permanent peace. We want the infernal and eternal greed of money making stopped only while our fighting men are periling life and limb in a struggle for the nation—so that every man can lend a hand to the speedy ending of the war. The war in its present shape can be ended in a very few months, if the country devotes itself entirely to the purpose. It needs but the sacrifice of slight personal interests to gain this end. It needs but the display of energy and promptitude, surely, for a people so really superior as are the masses of the north in comparison with those engaged in rebellion, to put an end to the war. God grant that the end is close at hand!

God save the nation; or otherwise, between the traitors of the south and the traitors of the north, it is lost!—Tory Organ.

Conscience is at length producing its effects. Never before was a confession, issuing from a guilty heart, more truthful than that contained in the above three lines, quoted from this morning's Tory Organ. God knows that the traitors of the south and the traitors of the north, combined, have about accomplished the ruin of the country. God knows that if it had not been for the traitors of the north, the traitors of the south never could have gathered the means with which to assail the Government. Had James Buchanan never been invested with power, Jeff. Davis never would have been president of a bogus government. Had there been no organization of the Democratic party north, the rebels in arms would have been without sympathy or support. Hence, truly, the Tory Organ cries out in pain, beseeching God to save the nation from the traitors north and south. We respond, amen! God save us from the northern traitors of the Tory Organ! God save us from the northern traitors of the Hughes-Wittie-Woodward order! Let the whole nation respond to this prayer, which seems to have been wrung from the guilty soul of the Tory Organ, by the fright it experienced in the defeat of Lee, or the certainty of the doom which awaits it when our victorious armies have finished the work of suppressing treason in the south, and then turn their attention to the traitors of the north. We repeat the prayer, God save us from the traitors of the north and the south!

NINE months ago, in his speech, to the Mississippi Legislature, Jeff. Davis declared that "the Confederacy must stand or fall by the defence of the river." It has not been able to defend the river—therefore, it falls.

A Card from Brig. Gen. Knipe.

HEADQUARTERS, NEAR WAYNESBORO, July 9, 1863.

Editors of Pennsylvania Telegraph: The first duty of a soldier is to be true to his country and his fellows. An editorial paragraph in your paper of the 2d inst. does great injustice to my superior officer, Brig. Gen. W. F. Smith, to the community and myself. If my command saved Gen. Smith's at Carlisle I had first to learn it from the issue referred to. So far from acting in disregard of orders, I was acting strictly in accordance with orders received from Maj. Gen. D. N. Couch. Gen. Smith is a soldier, a gentleman and my superior officer, and if the enemy failed in destroying Carlisle, we owe it to his soldierly conduct and that of his command. It seems to me your article ignores entirely Gen. Smith, and I wish it distinctly understood that it is not my desire to make a reputation for myself at the expense of my superior officer.

I am, v. r., respectfully, yours, JOS. F. KNIPE, Brig. Gen. of Vols.

Remarks. Gen. Knipe is most like himself when he acts generously towards those above and those beneath him in command. Hence the unselfish view he takes of his action in the battle before Carlisle, and the soldierly liberality with which he credits those above him for conduct which the whole community agreed belonged to himself. On the authority of a dozen gentlemen in Carlisle, we wrote the paragraph to which General Knipe objects. But as he declines all credit, he must of course thus have the benefit of his disclaimer.

The Knights of the Golden Circle.

Written for the Telegraph.

The Copperheads Embrogging their Deluded Followers.—The Signs and Certificates no Guarantees against the Ravages of their "Southern Brethren"—Light in Codorus.—An Army of the Golden Circle. Notwithstanding the denial of the copperhead papers, it seems there actually exist a secret organization as that called "The Knights of the Golden Circle." Though we believe the main object of this new order is to bind men to their own political party for office, and to raise money for electioneering purposes; yet there is no longer any doubt that the victims of this organization were made to believe that, by speaking against the Government, and expressing sympathy with the southern rebels—especially by making certain signs, in case of an invasion into the loyal States, they would be spared, in person and property, by these southern "gentlemen," who were after the abolitionists only. How sadly these deluded beings have been humbugged by the unprincipled office seekers may now be readily learned by a tour through the sections of our beloved Commonwealth, which have been visited by Lee's dirty, lousy, robbing horde, and by listening to the whining complaints of those who would, to save themselves from being plundered, fain have aided these rebellious villains in their ungodly purpose to destroy the "best government on earth."

In proof of what we have written, we will merely add one anecdote—fully reliable—of a certain victim of the ring in Codorus township, York county, which, though a little ludicrous amid the poor fellow's distress, fully confirms the points above stated, in regard to the "Knights." (This township, by the way, though exceedingly copperheaded, seems to have been most terribly visited by Stuart's marauding band.) That the pseudo of the story may not be marred, we will give it in the same Pennsylvania German tongue, in which it was related, but in Roman characters. One of our good Knights of Codorus, having been called upon by his "Southern brethren" for the use of all his horses for Jeff's service, besides sundry other accommodations, thus bitterly complained to a friend of the Union, in a half-whining tone: "Oh! sie hen mit all my Gail g'numme, un em—saine all, un em—saine, un em—saine, un—Oh! sie ist zu arig wie sie g'haust hen in Codorus!" "Ah," replied the Union man, "het ihr thne dann net g'sagt dass ihr Democrite seydt?" "Oh, yo, besure hen mer; un mer hen ihne ab g'sagt dass mer zum 'Gold' n' Ring' g' here; un hen all nook unser babere g'wise, un's hot wachheit me gebett. Un noh hen sie noch g'sagt mer solle unser babere nemme un solle unser 'Dankle' wider holle!"

All the comments we deem necessary on such manifestations of knowledge, if light has broken in upon the minds of these Codorus victims by this instructive raid, happy are the people thereof, in consequence of the courted visit (by many copperheads at least) of their "Southern brethren."

"Oh, they've taken all my horses, and all of —'s, and all of —'s, and O! it's too bad how they have carried on in Codorus!" "Indeed," replied the Union man, "and didn't you tell them, then, that you were Democrite?" "Why, to be sure we did; and we told them, too, that we belonged to the 'Golden Ring,' and besides that we showed them our papers, and if we all positively no use! and they told us should take our papers back and get our dollar again!"

Latest by Telegraph.

THE RAID IN INDIANA.

A REPULSE TO THE ENEMY.

CINCINNATI, July 12.—Morgan's raid to-night reached this seven miles of the Ohio line. Some bridges on the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, between Cochran and Mount Vernon, were destroyed to-day. The rebels also approached the Indianapolis and Cincinnati Railroad near Sumners, where they were met by a regiment of militia and driven back. This, perhaps, was only a small body. The main force appears to be making for Aurora and Lawrenceburg.

LANSING, Ind., July 12.—Morgan's forces moved from Vienna yesterday morning eastward, arriving at Vernon on the Madison and Indianapolis Railroad at 6 P. M., and demanded the surrender of the town. It was refused by Col. Buekham, the commander of the Federal forces. Half an hour was given for the removal of the women and children. At the expiration of that time, Col. Buekham moved out to meet the enemy, but found they had retreated. Scouts sent in pursuit captured nineteen, with no loss on our side.

After leaving Vernon they moved southward, tore up the railroad track, cut the telegraph, and destroyed a portion of the Ohio and Mississippi railroad west of Vernon. They then moved eastward, arriving at Versailles at 1 o'clock to-day. A squad of sixty men moved on Osgood and fired the bridge on the Ohio and Mississippi railroad, and took a telegraph operator prisoner.

and Cincinnati railroad, met a portion of Morgan's forces two and a half miles from that place. A skirmish ensued. We lost one man killed. At one to-day, Gen. Hobson's forces were only a short distance in the rear of Morgan. A sufficient force has been sent from here in the last twenty-four hours to drive the invaders from Indiana or capture them.

From the Army of the Potomac.

The Rebels Retreating toward Hancock.

CONCENTRATION OF OUR FORCES.

DESPERATE CONDITION OF LEE'S ARMY.

A Battle near Sharpsburg on Friday.

IMPORTANT MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

Our Advantages Gained to be Used With Energy.

ADVANCE OF THE ARMY.

HAGERSTOWN OCCUPIED.

The Rebels Entrenching Two Miles Beyond.

THE ENEMY MUST GIVE BATTLE.

Reported Return of Hill and Ewell to Hagerstown.

BALTIMORE, July 12.

A special dispatch to the American, dated Headquarters, Saturday night, says: The position of the two armies is essentially unchanged. There has been no fighting to-day. The enemy changed their picket line this morning, giving rise to a report that they had abandoned Funkstown, which was magnified to a full retreat and an escape across the river. They were, however, still in the same position, and in full force. Our pickets are now close to Funkstown, and all along the line in immediate proximity to the rebels. Gen. Meade has his force all in position, and everything seems ready either to receive or deliver battle. The conflict will probably not take place till Monday. Our army is in first-rate spirits, and moved into position with cheers. The Maryland brigade is at the front, eager to show their pluck. Our cavalry operations continue very active. The rebels are circumscribed to a small extent of country for food and forage. Boonsboro, July 12.—All is quiet, this morning. It is reported that the rebels are retreating toward Hancock. All looks well. Vice President Hamlin and Senator Wilson are on a visit to the army.

New York, July 12.—A dispatch from Washington to the Herald, states that the important military movements are in progress, which indicate the policy of the Government to follow up our success vigorously, and drive the rebellion to the wall. Our Government has notified the rebels that the execution of the two officers recently selected at Richmond, will be retaliated most severely.

New York, July 12.—A dispatch from Hagerstown, dated yesterday to the Herald, says: A fight commenced near Sharpsburg yesterday (Friday) at daybreak, and continued till 6 o'clock in the evening, when Longstreet's division was thrown into confusion, and our army drove them back, pursuing them for several miles. The engagement was brought on by Kilpatrick, who, finding the rebels on Thursday too strong, waited for reinforcements of infantry. The battle was fought by only a portion of our army. The rebels fought steadily at first, but wildly at last, as if their ammunition had expended. Our cavalry and artillery destroyed the pontoon bridge, to the consternation of the rebels, as they were about crossing. The rebel soldiers expressed little hope of crossing the Potomac, and were anxious about their supplies, not having seen their trains for four or five days. They were much disheartened. A special dispatch from Harrisburg states that the Antietam river is much swollen. This has probably caused the delay of Gen. Meade's army in attacking the rebels.

Our army is more concentrated than when it was at Gettysburg. A dispatch from the headquarters of the army dated the 10th, to the Herald, says our army was then within a few miles of the enemy. ANTIETAM BRIDGE, WILLIAMSBURG ROAD, July 11.—Yesterday the army began to take positions, driving back the enemy's cavalry to near Funkstown. Lee is strongly entrenched, and has a strong natural position. Major General Humphrey has received the appointment of Chief of Staff to Major General Meade, General Warren having declined the position, preferring more active duties in the field. Fifty additional surgeons and many volunteer nurses have arrived at the front. HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, July 12.—The rebel corps of Ewell and A. P. Hill returned to Boonsboro and Hagerstown pike, and finally entered and occupied Hagerstown, which was held to-night. The enemy's force, which consisted principally of cavalry and two regiments of infantry, made no determined resistance. The enemy fell back towards Williamsport, and reconnaissance report that they are throwing up entrenchments within two miles of Hagerstown. The great strategic strength of the position has been quiet. Elsewhere all has been quiet.

WASHINGTON, July 12.—A dispatch from headquarters, dated at 2 o'clock this evening, says all is quiet, though some skirmishing has taken place during the day. There does not seem to be any fear that the enemy has crossed the river, nor that he can or will cross without giving battle. There has been a heavy rain for three hours. GREEN CASTLE, via Chambersburg, July 12.—The rebel corps of Ewell and A. P. Hill returned and occupied Hagerstown, about two o'clock yesterday afternoon. They have strong picket guards four miles this side of the town. Hill's corps passed through the town, taking the Lettensburg turnpike. A negro teamster in the rebel army, who left Williamsport at five o'clock last evening, arrived here to-day. He states that they are building flat-boats at that point, and will have seven finished by to-day, in which they can cross two wagons at a time. When he left not one-third of their transportation had succeeded in getting over.

Captain Boyd, yesterday afternoon, with a company of cavalry, got within a mile and a half of Hagerstown on the National road, when he discovered a large body of rebel infantry moving into the town by the Williamsburg road. He endeavored to make a circuit north of the town, but his infantry force was too strong. Firing has been heard to-day in the neighborhood of Clear Spring, also near Lettensburg, probably caused by our troops driving in the enemy's outposts. There is no reason known for Lee's army evacuating Hagerstown, and then re-occupying it within a few hours with the same troops, unless he was disappointed in his facilities for crossing the river. If Lee holds his present position a battle cannot be postponed more than forty-eight hours longer.

A heavy rain set in this morning, with the prospect of continuing all day. ANTIETAM BRIDGE, July 12, 5 A. M.—Our whole line is ordered to advance to-day, and unless the enemy retires, there will be more or less fighting before night. There was slight skirmishing yesterday. The enemy held his picket line very tenaciously, as though concealing some strong position behind it. There are well grounded fears that the river may become fordable in a day or two. It has fallen considerably at Shepherdstown yesterday, and is still slowly receding. A scout from Winchester yesterday reports the enemy moving another pontoon train and a train of ammunition to Williamsport. There is a prospect of more rain to-day, however.

There are well grounded fears that the river may become fordable in a day or two. It has fallen considerably at Shepherdstown yesterday, and is still slowly receding. A scout from Winchester yesterday reports the enemy moving another pontoon train and a train of ammunition to Williamsport. There is a prospect of more rain to-day, however.

PHILADELPHIA, July 13.—A gentleman who left Waynesboro yesterday at noon, furnishes the following interesting intelligence. It is understood that the rebels, in falling to the line of Conococheague river from Antietam, encountered the forces of Gen. Mullan, and after several skirmishes in the vicinity of Clear Spring, retired to the eastward. This accounts no doubt for the occupation of Hagerstown by General Ewell. The position of the rebel army is now reduced to a space of six miles by nine, in which to manoeuvre they have no naturally strong positions left to them, and it is believed by persons in official position that they cannot possibly escape capture or annihilation. The report that a large number of rebels had crossed the Potomac with a wagon train, is believed to be entirely false, as there is nothing to cross the river with excepting the rope ferry. Two hundred Union privates, who refused to take a parole from the rebels, were crossed on this ferry on Thursday evening. Capt. Norris, who succeeded in making his escape, brought information that so far as he observed, there was no considerable rebel force on the south bank of the Potomac. The Grey Reserves and Blue Reserves of Philadelphia, went on a reconnaissance on Saturday towards Hagerstown, and succeeded in opening communication with the army of the Potomac, capturing several prisoners. They were complimented by the Corps Commander for their excellent behavior. The Reserves sustained no loss. The store trains of the regiments arrived and the sufferings of the men are at an end. A gentleman who has just arrived from the Antietam valley, reports that heavy thunderstorms visited the region on Saturday and Sunday evening. The rain fell in torrents for hours, and the mountain streams were again much swollen.

FURTHER PARTICULARS. WASHINGTON, July 13. A letter from Antietam Creek, dated yesterday, says: Vice President Hamlin was in camp. The number of prisoners who have been forwarded by the General Provost Marshal to

Baltimore is between 5,000 and 6,000. This is independent of those sent forward by Gen. Couch, and hundreds of deserters in Pennsylvania. It is estimated that nearly 1,000 deserters have left Lee's army, a large portion of whom have crossed the Potomac at various points above Williamsport, and made their way thence to their homes in the south. From the best sources it is believed that Lee has yet in his command not less than 50,000 men. Taking the natural strategic position, possession of the enemy, and the additional advantage of his being entrenched, Gen. Meade has no trivial task before him. He is preparing for the conflict with all possible speed, coupled with great discretion. His engineers are industriously employed in surveying the ground, and selecting the best positions, while our cavalry are employed in feeling the enemy's lines. There was considerable skirmishing along the lines on Saturday night and yesterday morning. The enemy's infantry and artillery were in plain view on the Hagerstown road.

2D EDITION.

Terrible Riot in New York.

INTERFERENCE WITH THE CONSCRIPTION.

The Conscription Office Burned.

Fifteen Police Officers Killed and a Number Wounded.

The 54th Street Arsenal Seized by the Rioters.

A TRAIN OF CARS FROM BOSTON NEARLY DEMOLISHED.

THE PASSENGERS DRIVEN OUT AND PREVENTED FROM LEAVING.

A Squad of Soldiers Disarmed and Terribly Beaten.

The Regulars from Governor's Island Sent to the Scene of Action.

New York, July 13.

A large mob collected at the conscription office in the Third avenue, to prevent the draft from being carried out. At this hour, 11 A. M., they have driven away the conscription officials, set the building on fire, and the whole is now in flames. The mob will not allow the fire bells to be rung nor the firemen to assist. They have destroyed all the telegraph wires in the vicinity, and are bent on mischief. The regulars from Governor's island have been sent to the scene.

LATER. Two o'clock.—The riot is said to have assumed vast proportions. It is stated that the arsenal on Fifty-fourth street has been taken by the mob, who armed some four hundred of their number. The police have been handled terribly severe. It is reported that police superintendent Kennedy and some fifteen of the police were killed, and many wounded. A squad of some thirty soldiers were ordered to fire on the mob, but they had their guns taken away and were shockingly beaten and dispersed. The moon train from Boston was nearly demolished, and the passengers driven out and prevented from leaving. The telegraph lines are cut in many places, destroying connection with the East.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC. Capture of Rebel General Stuart. The Rebels Falling back to the Line of the Conococheague River. Hagerstown Occupied by the Union Army. The Rebel Army Reduced to a Space of Six Miles by Nine in which to Manoeuvre. NO REBELS CROSSED THE POTOMAC. THE POTOMAC VERY HIGH.

New York, July 13. A special dispatch from Washington reports that the rebel General Stuart was captured on Friday night by our cavalry. POSITION OF THE REBEL ARMY. PHILADELPHIA, July 13.—A gentleman who left Waynesboro yesterday at noon, furnishes the following interesting intelligence. It is understood that the rebels, in falling to the line of Conococheague river from Antietam, encountered the forces of Gen. Mullan, and after several skirmishes in the vicinity of Clear Spring, retired to the eastward. This accounts no doubt for the occupation of Hagerstown by General Ewell. The position of the rebel army is now reduced to a space of six miles by nine, in which to manoeuvre they have no naturally strong positions left to them, and it is believed by persons in official position that they cannot possibly escape capture or annihilation. The report that a large number of rebels had crossed the Potomac with a wagon train, is believed to be entirely false, as there is nothing to cross the river with excepting the rope ferry. Two hundred Union privates, who refused to take a parole from the rebels, were crossed on this ferry on Thursday evening. Capt. Norris, who succeeded in making his escape, brought information that so far as he observed, there was no considerable rebel force on the south bank of the Potomac. The Grey Reserves and Blue Reserves of Philadelphia, went on a reconnaissance on Saturday towards Hagerstown, and succeeded in opening communication with the army of the Potomac, capturing several prisoners. They were complimented by the Corps Commander for their excellent behavior. The Reserves sustained no loss. The store trains of the regiments arrived and the sufferings of the men are at an end. A gentleman who has just arrived from the Antietam valley, reports that heavy thunderstorms visited the region on Saturday and Sunday evening. The rain fell in torrents for hours, and the mountain streams were again much swollen.

FURTHER PARTICULARS. WASHINGTON, July 13. A letter from Antietam Creek, dated yesterday, says: Vice President Hamlin was in camp. The number of prisoners who have been forwarded by the General Provost Marshal to

Baltimore is between 5,000 and 6,000. This is independent of those sent forward by Gen. Couch, and hundreds of deserters in Pennsylvania. It is estimated that nearly 1,000 deserters have left Lee's army, a large portion of whom have crossed the Potomac at various points above Williamsport, and made their way thence to their homes in the south. From the best sources it is believed that Lee has yet in his command not less than 50,000 men. Taking the natural strategic position, possession of the enemy, and the additional advantage of his being entrenched, Gen. Meade has no trivial task before him. He is preparing for the conflict with all possible speed, coupled with great discretion. His engineers are industriously employed in surveying the ground, and selecting the best positions, while our cavalry are employed in feeling the enemy's lines. There was considerable skirmishing along the lines on Saturday night and yesterday morning. The enemy's infantry and artillery were in plain view on the Hagerstown road.

From the best sources it is believed that Lee has yet in his command not less than 50,000 men. Taking the natural strategic position, possession of the enemy, and the additional advantage of his being entrenched, Gen. Meade has no trivial task before him. He is preparing for the conflict with all possible speed, coupled with great discretion. His engineers are industriously employed in surveying the ground, and selecting the best positions, while our cavalry are employed in feeling the enemy's lines. There was considerable skirmishing along the lines on Saturday night and yesterday morning. The enemy's infantry and artillery were in plain view on the Hagerstown road.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Important Order Relative to the Draft.

The following circular was issued from the War Department to-day:

WAR DEPARTMENT, PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE, July 12th, 1863.

To answer inquiries made by this office it is announced: First, Any drafted person paying three hundred dollars under section 13 of the enrollment act, is thereby exempt from further liability under that draft, but not from any subsequent draft. Second, Any drafted person furnishing an acceptable substitute is exempt from military service, for the period for which said substitute is mustered into the service. Third, A substitute once mustered into the service cannot be drafted while in the service. Fourth, A drafted man cannot pay commutation money or present a substitute after he has reported himself to the Board of Enrollment for examination. Fifth, Men who on the 3d of March, 1863, were in the military service of the United States as substitutes under the draft of 1862, and whose term of service has since expired, are not liable to the present draft, but the persons for whom they were substituted are liable to draft the same as though they had not been drafted or furnished substitutes under the draft of last year. Sixth, In serving the notices as required by circular No. 42 from this office, a reasonable time to report shall in each case be granted by the board of enrollment to men in the State service, who have been or may be drafted. (Signed) JAMES B. FRY, Provost Marshal General.

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR HOLDING THE UNION STATE CONVENTION. PHILADELPHIA, June 24, 1863. At a meeting of the Union State Central Committee, held in this city to-day, it was resolved to extend the time for holding the Union State Convention at Pittsburg, from July 1st to August 5th. The following is the resolution adopted, providing for this extension: Resolved, That in the present emergency, while many delegates to the Union State Convention are engaged in the military service, and cannot be present at the meeting appointed to be held at Pittsburg on the 1st of July next, it is deemed expedient to postpone the Convention until Wednesday, the 5th day of August next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and it is hereby postponed until that time. Editors of the different Union newspapers throughout the Commonwealth, will please give this notice an insertion in their columns. P. FRASER SMITH, Chairman pro tem. GEO. W. HAMMERSLEY, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA, June 24, 1863. At a meeting of the Union State Central Committee, held in this city to-day, it was resolved to extend the time for holding the Union State Convention at Pittsburg, from July 1st to August 5th. The following is the resolution adopted, providing for this extension: Resolved, That in the present emergency, while many delegates to the Union State Convention are engaged in the military service, and cannot be present at the meeting appointed to be held at Pittsburg on the 1st of July next, it is deemed expedient to postpone the Convention until Wednesday, the 5th day of August next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and it is hereby postponed until that time. Editors of the different Union newspapers throughout the Commonwealth, will please give this notice an insertion in their columns. P. FRASER SMITH, Chairman pro tem. GEO. W. HAMMERSLEY, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA, June 24, 1863. At a meeting of the Union State Central Committee, held in this city to-day, it was resolved to extend the time for holding the Union State Convention at Pittsburg, from July 1st to August 5th. The following is the resolution adopted, providing for this extension: Resolved, That in the present emergency, while many delegates to the Union State Convention are engaged in the military service, and cannot be present at the meeting appointed to be held at Pittsburg on the 1st of July next, it is deemed expedient to postpone the Convention until Wednesday, the 5th day of August next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and it is hereby postponed until that time. Editors of the different Union newspapers throughout the Commonwealth, will please give this notice an insertion in their columns. P. FRASER SMITH, Chairman pro tem. GEO. W. HAMMERSLEY, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA, June 24, 1863. At a meeting of the Union State Central Committee, held in this city to-day, it was resolved to extend the time for holding the Union State Convention at Pittsburg, from July 1st to August 5th. The following is the resolution adopted, providing for this extension: Resolved, That in the present emergency, while many delegates to the Union State Convention are engaged in the military service, and cannot be present at the meeting appointed to be held at Pittsburg on the 1st of July next, it is deemed expedient to postpone the Convention until Wednesday, the 5th day of August next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and it is hereby postponed until that time. Editors of the different Union newspapers throughout the Commonwealth, will please give this notice an insertion in their columns. P. FRASER SMITH, Chairman pro tem. GEO. W. HAMMERSLEY, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA, June 24, 1863. At a meeting of the Union State Central Committee, held in this city to-day, it was resolved to extend the time for holding the Union State Convention at Pittsburg, from July 1st to August 5th. The following is the resolution adopted, providing for this extension: Resolved, That in the present emergency, while many delegates to the Union State Convention are engaged in the military service, and cannot be present at the meeting appointed to be held at Pittsburg on the 1st of July next, it is deemed expedient to postpone the Convention until Wednesday, the 5th day of August next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and it is hereby postponed until that time. Editors of the different Union newspapers throughout the Commonwealth, will please give this notice an insertion in their columns. P. FRASER SMITH, Chairman pro tem. GEO. W. HAMMERSLEY, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA, June 24, 1863. At a meeting of the Union State Central Committee, held in this city to-day, it was resolved to extend the time for holding the Union State Convention at Pittsburg, from July 1st to August 5th. The following is the resolution adopted, providing for this extension: Resolved, That in the present emergency, while many delegates to the Union State Convention are engaged in the military service, and cannot be present at the meeting appointed to be held at Pittsburg on the 1st of July next, it is deemed expedient to postpone the Convention until Wednesday, the 5th day of August next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and it is hereby postponed until that time. Editors of the different Union newspapers throughout the Commonwealth, will please give this notice an insertion in their columns. P. FRASER SMITH, Chairman pro tem. GEO. W. HAMMERSLEY, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA, June 24, 1863. At a meeting of the Union State Central Committee, held in this city to-day, it was resolved to extend the time for holding the Union State Convention at Pittsburg, from July 1st to August 5th. The following is the resolution adopted, providing for this extension: Resolved, That in the present emergency, while many delegates to the Union State Convention are engaged in the military service, and cannot be present at the meeting appointed to be held at Pittsburg on the 1st of July next, it is deemed expedient to postpone the Convention until Wednesday, the 5th day of August next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., and it is hereby postponed until that time. Editors of the different Union newspapers throughout the Commonwealth, will please give this notice an insertion in their columns. P. FRASER SMITH, Chairman pro tem. GEO. W. HAMMERSLEY, Secretary.