



OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

PITTSBURGH MONDAY MORNING JULY 20.

THE THIRTEENTH.

On Sunday afternoon the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Regiment, Col. Rowley, arrived in the city.

They were warmly welcomed home by their friends.

THE RETURNED VOLUNTEERS.

We regret most deeply the peculiar position of Pennsylvania on this war.

The hearts of our people were aroused at its commencement, and our brave and patriotic young men turned out in legions for the defence of their country.

No State in the Union appropriated money more liberally for the equipment of troops or furnished better, braver nor more willing men to encounter the enemy.

Cities, counties, towns and individuals contributed with the utmost liberality to take care of the families of the volunteers while they were gone.

All was right in disposition both on the part of the citizens of the State and her soldiers. But a continual combination of adverse circumstances has attended the entire career of the Pennsylvania troops which has prevented them from obtaining that conspicuous and honorable position in the grand army of the republic, to which the position and liberality of the State, undoubtedly gave her soldiers a just claim.

More unfortunate than all is the fact that the term of the three months' volunteers has expired just at the time when a tremendous disaster has overtaken our arms, and just when their services are most needed by the government.

These facts could not be prevented, and they have furnished the text for most unjust and malignant remarks regarding our troops.

When a Pennsylvania regiment turns its back upon the field of battle within the very sound of the rebel guns, and other Pennsylvania regiments return home to be discharged from service while the Capitol of the nation is in imminent peril, we cannot prevent malicious criticism. But it is within the power of the volunteers to demonstrate that these unfortunate circumstances are not due to any lack of bravery or patriotism on their part.

The honor of the State is in their hands. If these regiments have refused to remain on account of the incompetency of their officers, they can be reorganized, and better men selected to take command. It is of the utmost importance that the valuable experience acquired during three months' service should not be lost to the country in the hour of her sorest need.

From what we can learn many of these trained soldiers are willing and anxious to reenter the service after they have visited their homes. Probably three-fourths of them will do this, and rush forward to reclaim the honor of their State. The returned soldiers complain very bitterly of the conduct of some of their officers. Many of these complaints we do not hesitate to say have no military cause. They are mere ebullitions of personal feeling. There may have been and doubtless were many instances of incapacity on the part of officers. What else could soldiers expect when an army was organized in a few weeks, whose officers they selected themselves, not so much with an eye to their military qualifications as to their personal popularity.

Bravery, patriotism and perseverance are characteristics of American soldiers. Their country still needs the services of these trained men. In the hour of national calamity all men should be patriots. Let the military honor of Pennsylvania be redeemed. New regiments will be formed at once, and in the selection of officers let men who are competent to command be placed in charge of them. Such men will soon be in our midst recruiting for their regiments. This will give the soldier an opportunity of selecting under whom he will serve. Let the past be forgotten. Complaints do not become brave soldiers. Let them show their State and their country what they can do under different and more favorable auspices.

In conclusion we may say that the law relating to three months' volunteers which our troops have experienced than anything else. We agree with the Harrisburg Times, which says that this law is "confessing a great blunder." It has been practically tested, at an expense of several millions of dollars to the Government, and has been found to be totally wanting in the elements of efficiency. The sooner it is repealed or modified so as to enable the President to call out volunteers to serve until a rebellion is totally crushed, or an invasion completely repulsed, the less likely the Government will be to lose by the operation.

The calling out of new and undisciplined militia for three months is simply ridiculous, viewed in the light that men can scarcely become efficient soldiers or officers to camp life in that time. But there are other objections. The next approach of the expiration of the term of three months' men retards the operations of the army. There is no question but what this had the effect of checking the movements of Gen. Patterson. It is said that, fully aware of the approaching crisis, he implored the men of the different regiments to remain only ten days longer, but was unsuccessful. This is easily accounted for. Some were tired of the service, others homesick, and not a few dissatisfied with their officers.

The three-months' law might be effectual in some few cases, where three months' men might be of some service to the Government, but experience teaches us that in a majority of cases it involves carried out only retard the operations of the army, at an enormous expense to the Government. It calls for modification, thorough and decided.

Gen. J. R. Moore and J. M. Kirkpatrick, Esq., of this city, were at Fort Monroe on Sunday the 21st, when the battle was fought. They were not witnesses of the fight, as has been currently rumored.

The Third, Sixth, Seventh, and Tenth Pennsylvania Regiments have arrived in Washington City. No finer and abler-bodied looking soldiers have reached the city.

A New Way of Fighting—Mississippians Retain the Advantage.

Washington, July 25, gives the following account of the way Mississippians fought with their bowie knives at Manassas:

One of the New York Fire Zouaves, who was wounded at the battle of Manassas on Sunday last, a stalwart, hardy fellow of considerable intelligence, passed through this city yesterday, on route homeward, remaining in a severe hour waiting for the cars. He, of course, has the privilege, like all others, of telling his own tale, without apprehending, for the present at least, successful contradiction. From him I obtained a thrilling narrative of a reconnoitering party and a regiment of Mississippians.

After the battle had been raging for some hours, according to the account of the Zouave hero, he saw an immense force of Mississippians rushing forward, some (believed to be) Baltimoreans, rushing forward on the Confederate ranks. The Zouaves, and the conspicuous uniform of the Zouaves, and the fact that the Mississippians, after approaching near enough, sent a terrible volley from their rifles into the Zouaves' ranks. This done, they threw their guns aside and charged on foot with their bayoneted rifles. These were the hands of the Zouaves, and the Zouaves' hands were a less, some eight to ten feet in length, and one end would round the wrist.

My informant says when these terrible weapons were used, with such results, that he was not waiting to come in beyond range, they threw forward their bayoneted rifles at the Zouaves after the fashion of a dagger. The Mississippians, with their first victims, plunged in, and penetrated a soldier's body, and in some instances, they were seen to pierce the chest, and in some instances, they were seen to pierce the chest, and in some instances, they were seen to pierce the chest.

While in the Capitol today I met several Philadelphia, among them was Gov. W. A. Drexler, who is on his way to the distribution of the hospital nurses, or the army. God bless him, he is the right man in the right place, for we seriously need them, and he is filling our ranks as he is capable. Our days are "tomorrow" hot, and our nights about as hot, and our hearts are full of the thought that we are doing our duty, and we are doing our duty, and we are doing our duty.

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LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

HOSPITAL DEPARTMENT. WASHINGTON CITY, July 27, 1861.

DEAR POST:—You have been very kind to change our post since my last. We left Staten Island via steamer to Elizabethport where we took the cars for Harrisburg direct. Our journey was the scene of continued ovations, and it seemed as though the populace turned out en masse, to bless us on our departure; many were the "God speed you" and "va' happy return" etc., that met our ears in fact, we were the lions of the day. At Cockeysville we were "Pittsburgh" boys gave us a hearty reception—and I tell you it was a caution; the shaking of hands, at Baltimore we had a similar, but peaceful march through the city, once in a while we were recipients of not the best wishes. Superstition and dislike, we wended our way to the seat of war, and on Wednesday morning we arrived here at 7 o'clock. After a general deal of military "red tape" we were marched out to camp (about 2 1/2 miles out of the city) by the route we occupy the tents formerly used by the New York 26th regiment, they having gone on a scouting mission. There are about 100 tents, and we will soon see our "last reputation" as a regiment, for we are marching out to march. Today I was in conversation with several of the Fire Zouaves, and they were very kind to tell me what I can learn, and from what I can learn, they seem to be very satisfied with the officers commanding. I am undoubtedly the bloodiest battle (for the longest time) we have fought in this country. Yesterday the 93rd left for home minus some 300 or 350 men, their wounds are very serious, and the hospital by the rebels. It is very difficult to see the maimed and wounded passing through the streets in their company's way, and it is very difficult to see the maimed and wounded passing through the streets in their company's way, and it is very difficult to see the maimed and wounded passing through the streets in their company's way.

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