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PHILADELPHIA.

The Alarm in Philadelphia—Prompt Organization of the Citizens—The Loyal Sentiment of the City—The Clergy—Rejoicings Over the Union Victories.
Correspondence of the Franklin Repository.

PHILADELPHIA, July 18, 1863.

For several weeks there has been but one question on the lips of every person, old and young, and that the absorbing, the vital subject of the war. An apparently fatal apathy had taken possession of our people, previous to the entering of the rebel army into Pennsylvania, but when it was announced that the Capital of the State was in danger, and when all felt that, if it could not be successfully defended, the rebel hordes would appear on the banks of the Schuylkill, the excitement became intense. Recruiting for the defence of the State was vigorously pushed, and the city soon exceeded the requisition made by the Governor.

But those were anxious days and nights which preceded the battle of Gettysburg. Every person you met was agitated and alarmed, and fear of approaching calamity was depicted in every countenance. If Lee should be successful, what was to prevent him from marching on Philadelphia, or on Baltimore, or indeed enforcing a dishonorable peace, at the cannon's mouth, in the streets of Washington. Never did weightier issues hang on the result of a single battle; and, under Providence, the Army of the Potomac proved itself equal to the emergency. All honor to that army and its gallant leader. They saved a State from destruction and a Nation from disgrace, if they could not—what was perhaps too much to hope for—prevent the shattered columns of the enemy from recrossing the Potomac. The first report of Meade's victory was received here with every demonstration of joy. Never were the tidings of victory borne to more grateful ears. The sense of uneasiness, which had for days hung over the city like a pall, was removed. Men saluted each other in joyful strains, and a feeling of relief was apparent in every face.

This city, although troubled with a few Copperheads, has been thoroughly loyal ever since the opening of the rebellion, and the loyal sentiment never was stronger than at the present time. This fact was clearly manifested, during the dark days preceding the battle of Gettysburg. Many touching instances could be given in illustration, and I think none more worthy of mention than the calling of two hundred clergymen in a body on the Mayor, and tendering him their services in working upon the entrenchments of the city.

The draft is quietly progressing here, and no indication of trouble appears, nor is any apprehended.

The Union League have sent, under their auspices, three regiments for the defence of the State.

The news of the fall of Vicksburg, following so closely on the victory at Gettysburg, caused nearly a surf of gold news. Besides the usual popular manifestations of delight, the State House bell was rung on the occasion, which is only done when great events occur. And now we have the victory of Fort Hudson, which should about finish the rebellion in the Southwest.

TUSCARORA.

BRIEF WAR ITEMS.

A dispatch dated Cairo, July 15, to the Cincinnati Gazette, says: "Parties from Helena represent that Gen. Blunt has captured Little Rock, with a large number of prisoners."

Lee is said to be pushing as rapidly as possible for Culpeper, and will hardly stop until he is beyond the Rappahannock. The necessity of feeding his army, which cannot well be accomplished at any great distance from Richmond, will hurry his movements.

General Sherman has advanced as far east from Vicksburg as Bolton, half way to Jackson. Johnson had his headquarters at that place at the last accounts. Sherman has been unable to find any traces of the main body of Johnston's army, and has been much delayed in the roads by obstructions placed there.

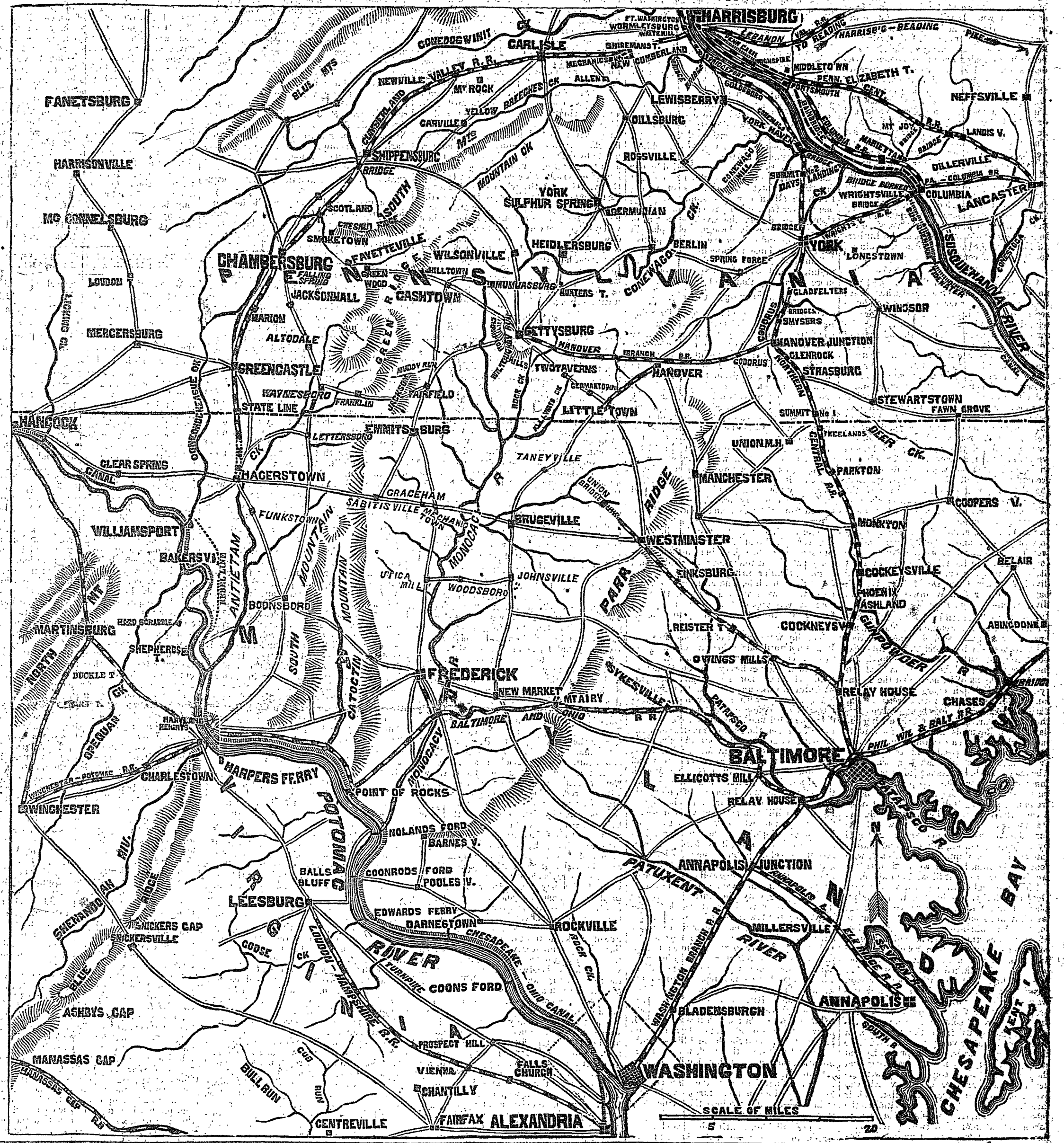
Gen. Sherman's victory over Johnston's rear guard turns out even more brilliant than first reported. Instead of capturing two thousand prisoners, it seems that he took the entire division comprising the rear guard, numbering some six thousand, infantry, cavalry and artillery. Johnston was in full retreat across Pearl river, with Sherman hotly in pursuit.

By a bearer of dispatches we have further details of the capture of Port Hudson, by Gen. Banks. He took possession of the town on the 9th inst. The garrison consisted of 7000 men, and we took also 35 field pieces, 26 siege guns, and 10,000 small arms. Amongst the prisoners were Major General Gardner, Brigadier General Beale, and Colonels Steadman, Mills, and others.

A few days since our black troops at Goodrich's Landing, on the Mississippi river, were attacked by the rebels. Two gunboats were sent up, and succeeded in driving off the attacking party, and shelled them for fifteen miles along the river bank. They also rescued a number of blacks who had been made prisoners. They were also pursued to Delhi, and many of them killed. In the fight they left all the plunder they had seized.

THE SEAT OF WAR IN PENNSYLVANIA AND MARYLAND.

Scene of the Great Battles between the Rebel Army under the Command of Gen. LEE, and the Army of the Potomac under the Command of Gen. MEADE. Showing also the Defensive position assumed by Lee's Army from Williamsport to Sheppardstown.



The following are Gen. Meade's official dispatches announcing the retreat of Lee:

Headquarters Army of the Potomac, July 14, 1863, 8.30 P. M.—To Major General Halleck, Chief of Staff:—My cavalry have captured Falling Waters, having overtaken and captured a brigade of infantry, 1500 strong, with two guns, two caissons, two battle flags and a large number of small arms.

The enemy are all across the Potomac. G. G. MEADE, Maj. Gen.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac, July 14, 1863, 8.30 P. M.—To Major General Halleck:—My cavalry have captured five hundred prisoners in addition to those previously reported.

Gen. Pettigrew, of the Confederate Army, was killed this morning in the attack on the enemy's rear guard.

His body is in our hands. (Signed) G. G. MEADE, Maj. Gen.

General Gilmore's official despatch, dated July 12th, confirms the previously reported brilliant advance of that officer. He is on the right road to Charleston, and proceeding in the most effective way. Having cleared out all the lower batteries of the Rebels, and having captured eleven of their heavy guns, he has pushed forward his infantry within six hundred yards of Fort Wagner, which is situated on the northeast end of Morris Island, opposite to Fort Sumter, at a distance of twelve hundred yards. This brings General Gilmore within eighteen hundred yards of Sumter itself, quite within reach of the guns with which he battered down Fort Pulaski. At last the attack on Charleston gives bright promise of success.

General Heintzelman, desirous of ascertaining whether the rebels occupied the Shenandoah Valley in any force, sent out a reconnaissance of cavalry and artillery, some three days since, which discovered but few of the enemy. The expedition pushed on to Ashby's Gap, and found it held by a force of three or four hundred rebels. Col. Lowell gallantly dashed upon and drove them from the Gap, capturing a rebel adjutant general and a number of other officers.

The Fulton, from Port Royal, brings news to the 15th inst. Gen. Gilmore had made an assault upon Fort Wagner, with a brigade composed of the 7th Connecticut, 9th Maine and the 47th and 48th New York, with the 76th Pennsylvania in reserve. The two first named regiments actually mounted the parapet, but were forced back by the murderous fire of the enemy. Our troops were badly cut up, losing near 300 men in the attack.

After the repulse Gen. Gilmore threw up intrenchments near the fort, and when the Fulton left Port Royal he was besieging it with a prospect of reducing it in a day or two. Six monitors, the New Ironsides and a number of gunboats were engaged in bombarding Fort Sumter, and the effect of their fire was plainly visible. Large breaches were made in the walls and as each shot struck clouds of dust and sand were thrown into the air. Gen. Terry held James Island up to Secessionville. There was much sickness among the troops at Port Royal and the adjacent posts.

RIOT IN NEW YORK! COPPERHEADS RESISTING THE DRAFT!

Conscription Offices Destroyed!

A NUMBER OF CITIZENS KILLED!

Houses and Stores Plundered!

THE RIOT QUELLED!

On the 13th inst. a mob broke out in New York, ostensibly to resist the draft about to be made, and for three days it defied the civil and military authorities.

The several conscription offices were destroyed; the houses of the Mayor, Post Master and many other buildings burned, and a number of citizens killed. Twenty negro found on the street was brutally beaten and many fatally.

Gov. Seymour addressed the mob while rioting, plundering and murdering, were going on in several parts of the city, and assured them that he was their friend, and that they had been his friends. He assured them that he would stop the draft, and begged them in gingerly terms to go home. They did not go however, nor did Seymour get the draft stopped, and after three days of the most shameful parleying with a mob, he was compelled to issue a third proclamation declaring that the peace of the city must be preserved at all hazards.

The military were called out under the command of Gen. Brown, and in several instances had to fire on the mob to disperse them. Col. O'Brien, of the military, was most brutally murdered by the mob.

Thieves of every grade swelled the mob, and it finally became a mere plundering horde. After three days it was completely mastered and order reigns again in Gotham.

The government has given official notice that the draft will be made in New York, and elsewhere without delay.

THE RETREAT OF LEE INTO VIRGINIA.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, July 14.—The first news of the retreat of Lee and his army into Virginia was received at Hagerstown at four o'clock this morning, from a citizen who lived within their lines.

General Kilpatrick, commanding a cavalry division at that point, soon had his men in the road, and reached Williamsport at 7 o'clock, where he found 500 rebel soldiers who had deserted.

At five o'clock when Gen. Buford's division of cavalry was ordered to Falling Waters, where they engaged and captured a brigade of rebels, under General Pettigrew, who was killed.

The position of the rebels was naturally a strong one, but their works were not of much account, consisting principally of hurriedly constructed rifle pits.

After Lee had retreated across the river it was ascertained that he commenced to move his artillery to the rear as early as yesterday morning, which was continued during the whole day, depending almost wholly upon the infantry and cavalry to hold our army in check.

Gen. Meade held a council of war on Saturday and Sunday evenings, consisting of his corps commanders, when the question of attack was freely discussed. All the Generals assembled were in favor of an immediate

attack, except Sedgwick, Slocum, Sykes and French.

Gen. Meade himself was in favor of active operations, but finding his corps commanders equally divided, he hesitated to give the order, and the rebel army was allowed to make its escape.

An order was issued on Monday evening for a movement along the whole line at 6 o'clock this morning.

Yesterday afternoon about 2,000 of the Pennsylvania militia, which arrived in the vicinity of Hagerstown, were taken to the front and put into action. They were immediately ordered to charge the enemy, which was promptly done, but not without severe loss.

FALL OF PORT HUDSON.

The Mississippi Open.

Official Dispatches from Gen. Banks and Grant.

The Town Occupied by Union Troops on the 9th Instant.

WASHINGTON, July 15.—The following dispatch has been received: Vicksburg, Miss., July 11—3 P. M. To Maj. Gen. Halleck, General-in-Chief.

The following dispatch has just been received from Gen. Banks: Beyond Fort Hudson, July 8th, 1863. General:—The Mississippi is now open. I have the honor to inform you that the garrison of Fort Hudson surrendered unconditionally this afternoon.

We shall take formal possession at 6 o'clock in the morning. (Signed) Gen. U. S. GRANT, Major-General.

U. S. GRANT, Major-General.