

The Franklin Repository.

BY MCCLURE & STONER.

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Franklin Repository.

CUMBERLAND VALLEY RAILROAD.

We have before us the twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Cumberland Valley Railroad Company, giving the operations of the road to the 1st of October last. The losses sustained by reason of the rebel invasion are thus given in detail:

Temporary construction of Bridge at Carlisle	\$3,410 85
Estimate for permanent structure of Bridge at Scotland	3,566 00
First temporary construction of Bridge at Scotland	727 85
Second temporary construction of same Bridge and relaying section B, including expense of removing the temporary road laid	83,748 90
Repairs of damages on sections C & D	75 00
Reconstruction of buildings at Chambersburg and putting up and repairing machinery	6,964 68
New T iron, lumber and wood, destroyed by fire and stolen	9,628 00
Loss T rail left on road 224 tons and 1010 lbs at \$35 per ton	\$61,115 49
Of this sum the United States Government claim to have paid	\$53,259 71
DAMAGES TO THE FRANKLIN RAIL ROAD.	
Cost of re-construction and estimate for completion of road, water station, &c.	\$20,084 07
Loss T rail left on road 147 tons and 1490 lbs at \$35	5,167 65
Total loss	\$14,916 42
Of which sum the United States Government claim to have paid	\$1,055 79

The total amount of actual damage to property on the two roads is thus given at \$68,776 13; and the claim of the government to have paid \$23,799 58 on the Cumberland Valley and \$1,055 79 on the Franklin, is earnestly resisted by Judge Watts, the President of the Company. The credit is claimed on the part of the government for work done to meet its own immediate necessities; not, as Judge Watts says, "intended to serve the permanent road way, but the temporary purpose of carrying troops and supplies for the army." He adds that "doubtless the authorities of the government will take a proper view of the subject, and relieve our Company from a claim which has in it so little justice." We presume that the repairs done to the roads by the government will not perceptibly diminish the cost to the Company in making their permanent repairs—hence the protest of the President against being charged with the expenses incurred for temporary repairs in order to meet the pressing wants of the army. He also urges the justice of the government making reparation for damages inflicted upon the Company by the rebels. He says that "private property was in a measure respected by the rebels, but the property of our Company was destroyed because it was in service of the country, and rendering a service, too, so essential to its protection and safety!"

The report announces officially that the business of transportation on the road will henceforth be done by the Company instead of individual forwarders as heretofore. It alleges that Manufacturers justly complain that middle-men have thus been interposed between them and the market, and that they demand to have the responsibility of the Company, and their products carried at their tariff rates. It states that "many instances of detected fraud in manifesting one class for another, and misrepresentations as to quantity, whereby honest competition in the business is defeated" render the change necessary, and, the report adds—"it has been determined to change the whole character of the business and become carriers ourselves." The change will, however, be made gradually, for the following reasons, as stated in the report:

"First, because there is a very large amount of money invested by individuals in rolling stock, ware-houses, and the necessary conveniences of common carriers. This interest should be cared for, and its owners not forced suddenly out of business to great a sacrifice of property as it would necessarily cause. And again, the Company should not be called upon suddenly to incur so large an expenditure as will be required to furnish rolling stock enough of their own for the transaction of all the business of the road. The transition is easy by a gradual change: the owners of rolling stock will have the option of selling to the Company at an agreed price, or to make such other disposition of their cars as will best promote their interest. A resolution of the Board of Managers has committed to the President the authority so to manage this change and so increase the rolling stock of the Company as will best comport with individual interests, and the determined purpose of the Company to do the carrying business upon their own road."

The Cumberland Valley Company leased the Franklin Railroad last spring, upon the terms that they would keep up ordinary repairs and pay over one-third of the gross income. Soon after this arrangement was made the rebels destroyed the Franklin road to the amount of \$15,000, and stopped all business upon it for nearly ninety days, so that the Franklin road furnished nothing like an adequate revenue to meet the interest of its bonds. The Cumberland Valley Company then voluntarily proposed to give their six per cent bonds in exchange for the Franklin seven per cent bonds, and the report adds that most of the holders "have

willingly accepted the proposition and transferred their bonds to us, whilst a few deem the Franklin Railroad bonds, secured by the same mortgage, as adequate security for them, and seven per cent unpaid better than six punctually paid." The report closes with a compliment to "the good conduct and steady habits of those who are employed in the business of the Company."

We subjoin a statement of the financial condition of the Company, which shows the handsome sum of \$97,475 53 on the right side of the balance-sheet:

Statement of the Cumberland Valley Railroad Company, October 1st, 1863.	
Cost of Road and Appurtenances	\$1,131,087 05
Materials on hand	13,171 01
Sinking Fund	165,852 76
Due by Franklin R. R. Co.	10,353 52
Balances of accounts receivable	10,504 27
Cash	68,558 49
	\$1,389,457 10
CR.	
First preferred stock	\$241,000 00
Second preferred stock	243,000 00
Unpreferred stock held by individuals	897,000 00
Unpreferred stock held by the Company	75,000 00
	\$1,456,000 00
First mortgage bonds	161,000 00
Second mortgage bonds	169,500 00
Due for dividends	35,276 00
" " interest on bonds	10,820 00
Unclaimed dividends and interest	2,004 28
Accounts for September	16,481 37
Profit and loss	97,475 53
	\$1,389,457 10

Receipts and Expenditures of the Cumberland Valley Railroad Company for the year ending 8th September, 1863.

Cash and cash items 1st Oct. 1862	\$69,376 82
Revenue—Cumb. Val. R. R. Co.	255,365 56
Franklin R. R. Co.	37,751 64
Rent	372 00
Sundries	184 82
	\$363,050 84
EXPENDITURES.	
Dividends	\$70,294 50
Interest on bonds	21,234 89
Trustees of Sinking Fund	6,454 84
Expenses	158,044 35
Exchange	189 82
Franklin Railroad Company's share of earnings	17,436 22
Cash on hand	68,558 49
Accounts receivable	20,857 79
	\$363,050 84

The Cumberland Valley Railroad is perhaps the most carefully and economically managed road in the State. We believe that since it was laid there has not been a single fatal accident on the road to a passenger, excepting only the collision when the Corn Exchange regiment was being transported, and then the road was in the hands of the military authorities. Had it been under the immediate management of the Superintendent, Col. O. N. Lull, we hazard little in saying that no such accident would have happened. Judge Watts has been the President for many years, and has administered its affairs with great skill and success. The Directors for the year 1864 consist of Hon. F. Watts, President; Josiah Bacon, Edmund Smith, W. M. Henderson, Thomas B. Kennedy, Thomas A. Scott, Thomas A. Biddle, J. Edgar Thomson, H. J. Lombert, D. O. Gebr, Wistar Morris, John Hume, E. C. Knight, Directors; Edward M. Biddle, Secretary and Treasurer; O. N. Lull, Superintendent.

DEATH OF ARCHBISHOP HUGHES.

The demise of so eminent a man as Archbishop Hughes, naturally causes the most profound feeling of sorrow throughout the country, and more especially among the Roman Catholic denomination of which he was a most prominent dignitary. He expired at his residence in New York City on Sunday evening last at 7 1/2 o'clock, aged 67 years. The career of Archbishop Hughes will form an important and conspicuous page in the record of the illustrious and good men of our country; and furnishes an additional illustration of what perseverance, talent and well directed purpose can accomplish. To our own community his life is full of interest. There are few among us who have not heard the simple story of his early manhood; and then his elevation to the highest honors of his church; his matchless oratory; his remarkable controversies, and through all his successes and wonderful influence in municipal, social, and political affairs always evidencing the truest devotion to his adopted country, while oftentimes he was the acknowledged champion of his faith.

He was born in the North of Ireland, in 1798, and emigrated to America in 1817. His first regular residence after his landing was Chambersburg, where his parents, brothers and sisters resided, who had some time previous preceded him. He was brought up to the profession of a gardener, and was employed here by a number of our wealthy and prominent citizens of that period. It is known, however, that he was also engaged with his father and brothers in grading and piking our streets, making excavations, and performing other work of a similar character. From this place he went to Mt. St. Mary's College, near Emmetsburg, Md., to pursue his occupation of gardener. He soon attracted the attention of Rev. Mr. Dubois, President of the College, and afterwards Bishop of New York, who discovered in the humble young gardener unmistakable talent, a most amiable disposition, and most devoted piety. Leisure from his labor was close application

to his books, and when he entered the institution as a student in theology, he was an accomplished and thorough scholar. His subsequent career as Priest, Bishop and Archbishop is well known to the country. Brought prominently forward in his remarkable discussion with the Rev. Dr. Breckinridge, in 1830, he established his abilities as a controversialist of no ordinary power. From his first entrance upon the duties of the priesthood, his splendid oratory and logical reasoning gave him a pre-eminent position. He was consecrated Coadjutor Bishop of New York in 1837, and was elevated to the Archiepiscopate in 1850, going to Rome to receive the emblem of his dignity for the latter position from the hands of the Pope.

In what must necessarily be a comparatively brief article, we cannot even give a full synopsis of the many important events connected with his life or make reference to his voluminous writings. He was an intimate personal friend of most of the distinguished men of his day, and especially of Clay and Webster. Upon the almost unanimous invitation of both Houses of Congress, in 1847, he delivered a sermon in the Senate Chamber of surpassing eloquence, his theme being, "Christianity, the only source of Moral, Political and Social Regeneration." In 1840, we think it was, he made his last visit to this place, the scene of his early physical labors. He was received in the most cordial manner by many of our most eminent citizens of all denominations, and was requested to deliver a lecture on Temperance. He complied with the request, and the lecture was delivered in the Ger. Ref. Church to a crowded auditory. A more effective or more eloquent appeal in behalf of the cause has seldom listened to. It is known, no doubt, to most of our readers, that the Archbishop, at the request of President Lincoln, proceeded to Europe, though at the time in feeble health, as an Ambassador of our difficulties to the various governments. On his return he unofficially gave his views and experiences in a sermon in which he expressed a belief that in the action of most European sovereigns we would find but little sympathy. He advocated drafting as the most humane and feasible measure for a speedy conclusion of the war, and no doubt his statements had something to do with the adoption of this last resort by the powers at Washington.

How ever much he was assailed for his zeal in what he conceived to be the truest and best method for a speedy termination of the Rebellion, he subsequently defended his position with the most powerful logic, and with the most patriotic devotion to the interests of his adopted country. Recently, he had a controversy with Bishop Lynch, of Charleston, on the subject of the Rebellion, and although that divine is regarded as one of the most learned in the church of the South, his arguments were rapidly demolished by the formidable pen of the Archbishop. In his plan of a new cathedral, the corner stone of which he laid a few years ago, he designed the edifice to be the largest and grandest on the continent. His first subscriptions for it were from one hundred and ten gentlemen at one thousand dollars each, and some of them not of his own religion. In truth, in all his undertakings, whether of a mental or physical character he was alarmed at no obstacle and labored with a zeal and energy, making success a certainty.

The remains of the Archbishop's parents are interred in the Roman Catholic burial ground in this place. He has a brother surviving him residing here, and one of his sisters, Mother Angelo, formerly Superior of the Sisters of Charity has charge of the principal Military Hospital at New York. In the death of Archbishop Hughes a long life has been brought to a close—a life full of usefulness and honor, spent laboriously as conscience dictated for the salvation of men, and contributing no little to the best interests of humanity. He reaped earthly rewards in the most dignified of ecclesiastical stations, and in the affection and esteem of his people, and has gone to receive the imperishable crown which is the rich reward of the just and the blessed.

WASHINGTON.

Arrest of Dishonest Contractors—Effects of the Fall Elections on the Copperhead Congressmen—The National Union Conservative Convention—The Draft—Incident in the Examination of Officers for Colored Regiments.

Correspondence of the Franklin Repository. WASHINGTON, Jan 1st, 1864. Great excitement reigns in Quartermaster circles, not only among officials but also among dishonest contractors. Two of these harpies have been juggled and are lying in the old Capitol prison for the present, without benefit of habeas corpus. A contractor also has been incarcerated for furnishing lumber in too limited quantities. His mode was to deliver 700 feet of boards for 1000 feet. It has been a matter of wonder for some time how men could deliver lumber here at \$22 per 1000 feet, when it was selling in Washington to private parties at \$25, but this will account for the milk in the cocoanut. It is unquestionably true that there are many dishonest men in the employ of the Government, but it is some satisfaction to know that when they are caught at their tricks punishment speedy and condign is sure to follow.

The head of the War Department is not to be trifled with. In all the stream of detraction and abuse, there is no copperhead so base as that dishonesty of Mr. Stanton. He stands like Caesar's wife, above suspicion, and of all the other men who could be named for the place, who can say more? He performs his duty fearlessly and generally without flatter, and when the history of this great war comes to be written, the page that records the unselfish and herculean efforts of Edwin M. Stanton will be a proud inheritance for his countrymen. It is astonishing to notice what a salutary effect the fall elections have had upon the copperheads in Congress. You hear none of the treason uttered last winter, and although they must keep right on the record for the sake of the reptiles at home, still occasionally even Fernando Wood will give a vote that can be construed loyal. Poor Vallandigham's name is not even mentioned. How low he has sunk among his worshippers, when he is suffered to "watch and wait over the boiler," without so much as a resolution of condolence being offered. The lesson of last fall has taught some sense to the Pennsylvania delegation of copperheads, except perhaps Phil. Johnson, who represents the Tenth Legion, and Ancona, the Democratic Gibraltar. They can go ahead without fear of the upbraidings of parties and might even endorse Vallandigham. John Leecompton Dawson sits at heart as real a sympathizer with Jefferson Davis as Judah P. Benjamin himself, but he is a coward and afraid to show it openly. The resolutions of condolence if offered at all, will have to be by Johnson or Ancona. They are bold and fearless, and have constitutions ready to swallow anything but the draft.

The action of the National Union Conservative Convention, held in the Common Council Chamber of the city of Philadelphia last Thursday, and composed of eleven august nobodies, has excited considerable derision here, as much from the composition of the "Convention" as from the candidates named. The fossiliferous remains of a once prominent politician who acted as president is too well known. It was of him that Harry Clay said in a speech a quarter of a century ago, in speaking of the leading characters of the day, "Amos Kilduff—the sun in all his course around the globe, shines not on a meaner man." He helped to raise him and knew all about the man. It is barely possibly that Amos may have improved some in the last twenty-five years, and that they are now a few meaner men, but they could be carried inside of a omnibus. The other distinguished character who figured as a conservative big gun was Gen. J. Banning Norton, of Texas. The writer of this knew Banning in Ohio ten years ago, when he edited a one horse paper, devoted to the interests of the Whig party in general, and Banning in particular. Personal appearance he resembles George M'nday, but without one spark of the originality and genius of the Hatless Prophet. These are the conservatives who are trying to save the country out of the hands of the Lincolnians! We wish little Mac joy over his ickers. They will make a great party who fussed with Gov. Seymour's friends.

Very few volunteers are obtained here in the District of Columbia. The draft will take place here as early, perhaps, as any where, yet the public seem to think it will not commence quite so early as the 5th of January. A great many "almighty negroes" have been enlisted here and transported to the ranks of the 14th Regiment of Heavy Artillery, nearly filled in the State of Rhode Island. Some 15 left for that Regiment last week. I do not require even ordinary intelligence to divine the cause of this migration of colored men from here, for the purpose of entering the army, when the fact is known, that in Washington only \$30 as bounty is paid, while in Rhode Island \$300 is given both to white and black soldiers. Within a few days a new order has been issued which visits with severe punishment the recruiting brokers coming from the States to "spirit away" colored men for the purpose of filling their quotas. It is true that the impending draft compels able-bodied colored men to carefully consider the question and generous stipend of \$30 bounty in connection with the holding back and standing chance of escaping the draft.

At a recent meeting of the board of examiners held in this city for the purpose of examining officers for colored troops, of which Gen. Sil Casey is President and Major C. W. Foster is chief of Bureau, the following incident applies exemplifies the thorough and impartial nature of the examination conducted by these gentlemen. It so happened that a certain Lieut. Col. of a New York Regiment, now in the Army of the Potomac and at the same time an Orderly Sergeant of the same Regiment presented themselves for examination. The Board examined the two with the following result, viz: 1) Lieut. Col. was rejected and his meritorious Orderly Sergeant was passed and commissioned as Lieut. Col. in the service. As certain papers in the State of Pennsylvania the selection of some of their prominent owners for "future elevation" have been writing long letters on Negotium, we would state that President Lincoln told a gentleman a few days ago, that among the hundreds of Offices and situations which he had given out since his inauguration as President, not one has been awarded to a relation of his. Verily, the evils of Negotium can not justly be preferred against Honest Abraham.

BRIEF WAR ITEMS.

Recruiting for the Union armies is actively progressing in North Carolina. The notorious guerilla Morgan passed through Columbia, South Carolina, on the 24th ult.

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Lord Lyons, in a dispatch to Earl Russell, is said to have predicted the termination of the American war in three months.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 25th ult. says that there are three hundred cases of small-pox among the Union prisoners at Danville, Va.

Large numbers of rebel officers and soldiers have come into Newbern, and have taken the oath of allegiance and accepted the pardon offered by the President. Tennessee has furnished 33,360 men to the Federal service, distributed as follows: Cavalry, 13,300; infantry, 11,000; artillery, 1,100; negro infantry and artillery, 7,960.

A correspondent of the Boston Herald, writing from off Charleston, says: If everything works according to the plan laid out, Charleston will be occupied by Union troops within sixty days. From Southern sources it is reported that the rebel army of Tennessee is in winter quarters, and that Longstreet is wondering about among the mountains, with a barefooted and suffering army. A dispatch from Harper's Ferry, of Dec. 25, says that Gen. Sullivan's column has returned safely, bringing in 100 prisoners and 300 horses. Gen. Kelley says that his several columns are all safely back, having taken in all 400 prisoners and a large amount of property. Private advices from the lower counties of Maryland and the counties of Virginia this side of the Rappahannock, state that the Amnesty Proclamation of the President is received with very general satisfaction there. That the time for such proposition had arrived is believed. The Army of the Potomac has finally settled down mud-bound into winter quarters, at Cedar Mountain. The key to the position there is held by our forces. The people all over that section are in a state of starvation, and daily through our camps to procure provisions, which our commissaries are ordered to sell them at government prices. The flag of truce boat which came down the James river yesterday, brought five hundred released Union prisoners, exchanged for those sent to City Point. The rebels refuse to exchange any more prisoners till all the questions in dispute in regard to the equalization of exchange are settled. They also refuse to receive any more flags of truce from Butler, or to communicate with him on any subject, because Jeff. Davis outlawed him last year. This idea did not strike the rebel leaders till after they had consented to receive medicines from the outlaw. Advice from Folly Island, received per the Arago, state that our guns at Cumming's Point opened on Charleston on Christmas morning, lasting from one to three o'clock. Several fires were kindled in the city, which burned a considerable amount of property. The rebel batteries replied, without damage. The U. S. gunboat Marblehead was fired into by a rebel battery in Stono Inlet, and two men killed and five wounded. Assisted by the Pawnee, she compelled the rebels to leave their works. Gen. Gordon, with a detachment of men, landed, later in the day, and took possession of the works. The guns were subsequently brought off by Commander Balch, of the Pawnee. They are two 8-inch sea coast howitzers. The rebels had one killed and five wounded. The steamer Evening Star, from New Orleans, with dates to the 27th ult, and Havana to the 29th ult, has arrived. General Fitz Henry Warren, with a considerable force, had embarked on the steamer Warrior, and crossing Matagorda Bay, occupied Indianola, without opposition. Some important rebel documents were captured, among them Gen. Magruder's address to the people of western Texas. An expedition of three negro regiments and one white regiment, and a battery of artillery, under Gen. Ullman, had gone from New Orleans to the mouth of the Red river. Gen. Herion had been assigned to the command of the district of the Frontier, bordering on the Rio Grande. Gen. Dana's headquarters had been removed to Matagorda. The latter commands all the forces in Texas. Col. Long reports from Colhoun, Tenn., Dec. 23, that the Rebel Gen. Wheeler, with 1,200 or 1,500 cavalry and mounted infantry attacked Col. Siebert and captured a supply train from Chattanooga for Knoxville, about 10 that morning, at Charleston, on the south bank of the Hiwassee. The train escort had reached the encampment at Charleston on the previous night, and Col. Siebert's skirmishers were engaged with the enemy in the morning, before Col. Long was apprised of their approach. He immediately moved the small force for duty in his camp (at the time 50 men), and crossed to General Siebert's support. The rebels shortly after gave way, Col. Long pursuing them closely. Discovering a portion of their force cut off on the right, he charged them with sabres, completely demolishing and scattering them in great confusion and in every direction.

Several of the enemy were killed and wounded; 121 prisoners were captured, including five commissioned officers. The main rebel column fled, and was pursued for five miles on the Dalton Road, and when last seen were fleeing precipitately. Col. Long's loss was one man slightly wounded.

GEN. AVERILL'S RAID.

The Richmond Examiner, of the 28th inst. says: The great Gen. Averill has gone not "up the spot," but back into his den. Cast your eyes upon a map, and I'll tell you how he went and how he came. He came from New Creek, a depot upon the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, in the county of Hardy, along the western base of the Shenandoah mountains, through Covington to Salem, burnt things generally, and returned over nearly the same route. Imboden seized the gap where the Parkersburg turnpike crosses the Shenandoah, and prevented a raid on Staunton. Averill left 500 men to hold Imboden there and pushed on toward Salem. That General could not pursue without uncovering Staunton—the force threatening nearly equaling his own. Gen. Lee was informed of the situation of affairs.

Here commences the reign of Major Generals and military science. Maj. Gen. Jubal A. Early came. Maj. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee came. Brigadier Gen. Walker came. Brig. General Thomas came. Their staffs came. They all took a drink. General Early took two. Brigadier General Wickham came. Col. Chambliss, commanding brigade, came. They smiled also.

When Gen. Averill was opposite Staunton, Fitz Lee was at Ivy Depot, on the Virginia Central Railroad, a day's march from that town. A fortunate occurrence indeed. Everybody thought Averill was "treed" now. He passed through Brown's Gap, and struck the valley Turnpike at Mount Crawford, eight miles above Harrisonburg, a mischievous mistake. One day's march lost. He then marched toward Harrisonburg, then toward Staunton. Another day gone for nothing. He finally reached Staunton, where he ought to have been on the first night. Still there was plenty of time to cut Averill off. Lee and Imboden marched day and night to Lexington, and then toward Covington.

Here was committed the fatal and foolish blunder. While Lee and Imboden were on the road to Covington, in striking distance of that place, word was sent, the Yankees are marching toward Buchanan, instead of Covington. No man ought to have put credence in a statement so utterly absurd as that the enemy were going from Salem to that place. Such a statement presupposes Averill deliberately placing himself past escape, and therefore run raving mad. Such imprudent rumors should never be entertained a moment, much less made the basis of important military movements. The order was obeyed. The troops turned and marched back, and at night were neither at Buchanan or Covington.

The story is told in a few words. The Yankees passed through Covington, and to their great amazement escaped. The rumor about Buchanan was the tale of some frightened fool. The enemy, in terror and demoralization, fled from Salem at full speed—destroying their trains and artillery. Jackson knocked some in the head; the citizens beat the brains out of others; one farmer in Allegheny killed six; some were scattered in the mountains; and are being picked up here and there; the rapid streams drowned many; but the main part have gone whence they came, wondering how they did get away. It is hardly necessary to add the humblest private in the ranks, if he possessed sense enough to eat and drink, not only could, but would have done better. Old Stoneval would have marched on, caught and killed the Yankees. What Lee thought this writer don't know. They who know say Imboden begged to go to Covington. He made it plain to the dullest mind that the Buchanan story was past belief. What's done is done.

No language can tell the sufferings of our men. They were in saddle night and day, save a few hours between midnight and day. They were beat up by their officers with their swords—the only means of arousing them—numb and sleepy. Some froze to death; others were taken from horseless. They forded swollen streams, and their clothes, stiff frozen, rattled as they rode. It rained in torrents, and froze as it fell. In the mountains the ice was cut from the roads, and the men ventured to ride over. One horse slipped over the precipice—the rider was leading him; he never looked over after him. The whole matter is summed up in a couple of sentences. Averill was penned up at McCausland, Echols, and Jackson at one gate, Lee and Imboden at the other. Some suggested he might escape by jumping down the well, and coming out in Japan—i. e., go to Buchanan. Early ordered them to leave a gate open and guard the well. He did not jump in.

Meanwhile, the Yankees coolly came up the Valley, through Edinburg, New-Market, up to Harrisonburg, within 25 miles of Staunton—"these headquarters." This was hearding the lion in his den. Jubal took the field at the head of Company Q and a party of substitute men, farmers and plow-boys, called "home guards." The Yankees got after him, and the "Major General commanding" lost his hat in the race. The last heard of him he was pursuing the enemy with part of his division—footmen after cavalry—with fine prospects of overtaking them somewhere in China, perhaps about the "great wall." The Yankees were retreating toward the "Devil Hole." Early bound for the same place: They did very little damage in the Valley.

Here is the moral. The marshals under Napoleon's eye were invincible—with separate commands, blunders. A general of division, with Gen. Robert E. Lee to plan, and put him in the right place, does well. Moseby would plan and execute a fight of strategic movement better than Longstreet at Suffolk and Knoxville, Jubal Early at Staunton. Jackson's blunt response to some parlor or bar-room strategist in Richmond, "More men, but fewer orders," was wisdom in an axiom—true then, just as true now as when the Hero of the Valley uttered it. It is difficult to direct, especially by couriers, the movement of troops a hundred miles distant, among mountains the "ranking" general never saw, except on an inaccurate map. It is not every commander that can point out roads he never heard of, and by paths he never dreamed of, as the proper ones to cut off an enemy. Bullets, not brains, are needed here.

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The Richmond Enquirer of the 25th ult. says that there are three hundred cases of small-pox among the Union prisoners at Danville, Va.

Large numbers of rebel officers and soldiers have come into Newbern, and have taken the oath of allegiance and accepted the pardon offered by the President. Tennessee has furnished 33,360 men to the Federal service, distributed as follows: Cavalry, 13,300; infantry, 11,000; artillery, 1,100; negro infantry and artillery, 7,960.

A correspondent of the Boston Herald, writing from off Charleston, says: If everything works according to the plan laid out, Charleston will be occupied by Union troops within sixty days. From Southern sources it is reported that the rebel army of Tennessee is in winter quarters, and that Longstreet is wondering about among the mountains, with a barefooted and suffering army. A dispatch from Harper's Ferry, of Dec. 25, says that Gen. Sullivan's column has returned safely, bringing in 100 prisoners and 300 horses. Gen. Kelley says that his several columns are all safely back, having taken in all 400 prisoners and a large amount of property. Private advices from the lower counties of Maryland and the counties of Virginia this side of the Rappahannock, state that the Amnesty Proclamation of the President is received with very general satisfaction there. That the time for such proposition had arrived is believed. The Army of the Potomac has finally settled down mud-bound into winter quarters, at Cedar Mountain. The key to the position there is held by our forces. The people all over that section are in a state of starvation, and daily through our camps to procure provisions, which our commissaries are ordered to sell them at government prices. The flag of truce boat which came down the James river yesterday, brought five hundred released Union prisoners, exchanged for those sent to City Point. The rebels refuse to exchange any more prisoners till all the questions in dispute in regard to the equalization of exchange are settled. They also refuse to receive any more flags of truce from Butler, or to communicate with him on any subject, because Jeff. Davis outlawed him last year. This idea did not strike the rebel leaders till after they had consented to receive medicines from the outlaw. Advice from Folly Island, received per the Arago, state that our guns at Cumming's Point opened on Charleston on Christmas morning, lasting from one to three o'clock. Several fires were kindled in the city, which burned a considerable amount of property. The rebel batteries replied, without damage. The U. S. gunboat Marblehead was fired into by a rebel battery in Stono Inlet, and two men killed and five wounded. Assisted by the Pawnee, she compelled the rebels to leave their works. Gen. Gordon, with a detachment of men, landed, later in the day, and took possession of the works. The guns were subsequently brought off by Commander Balch, of the Pawnee. They are two 8-inch sea coast howitzers. The rebels had one killed and five wounded. The steamer Evening Star, from New Orleans, with dates to the 27th ult, and Havana to the 29th ult, has arrived. General Fitz Henry Warren, with a considerable force, had embarked on the steamer Warrior, and crossing Matagorda Bay, occupied Indianola, without opposition. Some important rebel documents were captured, among them Gen. Magruder's address to the people of western Texas. An expedition of three negro regiments and one white regiment, and a battery of artillery, under Gen. Ullman, had gone from New Orleans to the mouth of the Red river. Gen. Herion had been assigned to the command of the district of the Frontier, bordering on the Rio Grande. Gen. Dana's headquarters had been removed to Matagorda. The latter commands all the forces in Texas. Col. Long reports from Colhoun, Tenn., Dec. 23, that the Rebel Gen. Wheeler, with 1,200 or 1,500 cavalry and mounted infantry attacked Col. Siebert and captured a supply train from Chattanooga for Knoxville, about 10 that morning, at Charleston, on the south bank of the Hiwassee. The train escort had reached the encampment at Charleston on the previous night, and Col. Siebert's skirmishers were engaged with the enemy in the morning, before Col. Long was apprised of their approach. He immediately moved the small force for duty in his camp (at the time 50 men), and crossed to General Siebert's support. The rebels shortly after gave way, Col. Long pursuing them closely. Discovering a portion of their force cut off on the right, he charged them with sabres, completely demolishing and scattering them in great confusion and in every direction.

Several of the enemy were killed and wounded; 121 prisoners were captured, including five commissioned officers. The main rebel column fled, and was pursued for five miles on the Dalton Road, and when last seen were fleeing precipitately. Col. Long's loss was one man slightly wounded.

GEN. AVERILL'S RAID.

The Richmond Examiner, of the 28th inst. says: The great Gen. Averill has gone not "up the spot," but back into his den. Cast your eyes upon a map, and I'll tell you how he went and how he came. He came from New Creek, a depot upon the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, in the county of Hardy, along the western base of the Shenandoah mountains, through Covington to Salem, burnt things generally, and returned over nearly the same route. Imboden seized the gap where the Parkersburg turnpike crosses the Shenandoah, and prevented a raid on Staunton. Averill left 500 men to hold Imboden there and pushed on toward Salem. That General could not pursue without uncovering Staunton—the force threatening nearly equaling his own. Gen. Lee was informed of the situation of affairs.

Here commences the reign of Major Generals and military science. Maj. Gen. Jubal A. Early came. Maj. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee came. Brigadier Gen. Walker came. Brig. General Thomas came. Their staffs came. They all took a drink. General Early took two. Brigadier General Wickham came. Col. Chambliss, commanding brigade, came. They smiled also.

When Gen. Averill was opposite Staunton, Fitz Lee was at Ivy Depot, on the Virginia Central Railroad, a day's march from that town. A fortunate occurrence indeed. Everybody thought Averill was "treed" now. He passed through Brown's Gap, and struck the valley Turnpike at Mount Crawford, eight miles above Harrisonburg, a mischievous mistake. One day's march lost. He then marched toward Harrisonburg, then toward Staunton. Another day gone for nothing. He finally reached Staunton, where he ought to have been on the first night. Still there was plenty of time to cut Averill off. Lee and Imboden marched day and night to Lexington, and then toward Covington. Here was committed the fatal and foolish blunder. While Lee and Imboden were on the road to Covington, in striking distance of that place, word was sent, the Yankees are marching toward Buchanan, instead of Covington. No man ought to have put credence in a statement so utterly absurd as that the enemy were going from Salem to that place. Such a statement presupposes Averill deliberately placing himself past escape, and therefore run raving mad. Such imprudent rumors should never be entertained a moment, much less made the basis of important military movements. The order was obeyed. The troops turned and marched back, and at night were neither at Buchanan or Covington. The story is told in a few words. The Yankees passed through Covington, and to their great amazement escaped. The rumor about Buchanan was the tale of some frightened fool. The enemy, in terror and demoralization, fled from Salem at full speed—destroying their trains and artillery. Jackson knocked some in the head; the citizens beat the brains out of others; one farmer in Allegheny killed six; some were scattered in the mountains; and are being picked up here and there; the rapid streams drowned many; but the main part have gone whence they came, wondering how they did get away. It is hardly necessary to add the humblest private in the ranks, if he possessed sense enough to eat and drink, not only could, but would have done better. Old Stoneval would have marched on, caught and killed the Yankees. What Lee thought this writer don't know. They who know say Imboden begged to go to Covington. He made it plain to the dullest mind that the Buchanan story was past belief. What's done is done. No language can tell the sufferings of our men. They were in saddle night and day, save a few hours between midnight and day. They were beat up by their officers with their swords—the only means of arousing them—numb and sleepy. Some froze to death; others were taken from horseless. They forded swollen streams, and their clothes, stiff frozen, rattled as they rode. It rained in torrents, and froze as it fell. In the mountains the ice was cut from the roads, and the men ventured to ride over. One horse slipped over the precipice—the rider was leading him; he never looked over after him. The whole matter is summed up in a couple of sentences. Averill was penned up at McCausland, Echols, and Jackson at one gate, Lee and Imboden at the other. Some suggested he might escape by jumping down the well, and coming out in Japan—i. e., go to Buchanan. Early ordered them to leave a gate open and guard the well. He did not jump in. Meanwhile, the Yankees coolly came up the Valley, through Edinburg, New-Market, up to Harrisonburg, within 25 miles of Staunton—"these headquarters." This was hearding the lion in his den. Jubal took the field at the head of Company Q and a party of substitute men, farmers and plow-boys, called "home guards." The Yankees got after him, and the "Major General commanding" lost his hat in the race. The last heard of him he was pursuing the enemy with part of his division—footmen after cavalry—with fine prospects of overtaking them somewhere in China, perhaps about the "great wall." The Yankees were retreating toward the "Devil Hole." Early bound for the same place: They did very little damage in the Valley. Here is the moral. The marshals under Napoleon's eye were invincible—with separate commands, blunders. A general of division, with Gen. Robert E. Lee to plan, and put him in the right place, does well. Moseby would plan and execute a fight of strategic movement better than Longstreet at Suffolk and Knoxville, Jubal Early at Staunton. Jackson's blunt response to some parlor or bar-room strategist in Richmond, "More men, but fewer orders," was wisdom in an axiom—true then, just as true now as when the Hero of the Valley uttered it. It is difficult to direct, especially by couriers, the movement of troops a hundred miles distant, among mountains the "ranking" general never saw, except on an inaccurate map. It is