

Wednesday, May 18, 1864.

(Continued from First Page.)

withdraw from our front at the Wilderness, he dispatched a brigade across the Rapidan, and planted artillery so as to command Germania ford, supposing of course that we were to pursue our usual course of fighting and then falling back.

The brigade remained there one day and two nights without any chance of attacking our retreating columns, and only had the effect of turning back our wounded. The pertinacity with which Grant hangs to him is so unusual and so unexpected, that Lee is perfectly bewildered.

Gen. Talbot was captured last night, and his horses taken from him between Aquia Creek and Fredericksburg on his way to the army.

Gen. Crittenden went to the front this morning. Up to Monday night the reserve artillery had not been brought into fire. It was supposed to have been hotly at work yesterday beyond Spottsylvania Court House.

HON. E. B. WASHBURN'S ACCOUNT OF TUESDAY'S FIGHT. From the Washington Republican.

We are indebted to Hon. E. B. Washburn, Member of Congress from Illinois, who has witnessed all the battles in the recent campaign in Virginia, for the following detailed statement of the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, on Tuesday morning and evening. It is not only reliable, but deeply interesting.

On Tuesday morning our forces commenced heavy skirmishing with the enemy all along the line, at a point two or three miles this side of Spottsylvania Court House. Gen. Hancock's Corps the previous evening had crossed the Potomac, to obtain what was then supposed to be an important position.

It afterwards turned out, after crossing the river, not so advantageous as General Hancock thought it to be. General Hancock was over the river on Tuesday morning; the rebels finding him in that position, according to their usual tactics undertook to punish him for skirmishing in the afternoon, and prepared to attack him.

To get a better position, General Hancock forced his entire force to this side of the river, where he took up his line of battle. This was the signal for the most desperate and furious assault of the enemy upon Gen. Hancock, in which Longstreet's and Ewell's corps of the rebel army participated.

This assault was not only repulsed by our troops, but was followed by a gallant charge by Gen. Hancock, which is believed to be the most brilliant one of the war, and which, according to the statements of rebel prisoners and the observation of skillful military men, nearly annihilated Gen. Heth's rebel division of Longstreet's corps.

It had been decided upon by Gen. Grant to make a general assault along the enemy's whole line on Tuesday afternoon, but this attack upon Hancock interfered to some extent with that arrangement, as part of our force had to be taken from another part of the line to assist Gen. Hancock, consequently the assault was delayed, and instead of commencing at 5 o'clock it did not actually commence on the centre and left until quarter before six o'clock in the afternoon.

Before this time the enemy's line had been gradually pushing up on our extreme left with his white troops. By those who have seen the most of war, this general assault upon the enemy is regarded without parallel. Our troops went into battle with a yell, and carried the first line of the enemy's works all along the line.

Gen. Wright's (6th Corps, late Gen. Sedgwick's) carried a portion of the main works, and in the assault they captured Gen. Dole's brigade of Rhode's division, Ewell's corps, and three guns. In the confusion of the melee many of the prisoners got away. Gen. Wright was unable to bring off the guns, but brought off one thousand prisoners, twenty-seven rebel officers and many stands of regimental colors.

This assault did not last over half an hour, in the meantime Burnside was pushing on the enemy on the extreme left until ten o'clock at night, when he had forced the enemy's right wing around to within a quarter of a mile of Spottsylvania Court House, the enemy retreating before him. When he finally stopped his advance, he could distinctly hear the confusion consequent upon the punishment he had administered to them, also the rumbling of wagons and the falling of trees, to repel our movements upon him.

The result of the fight of the day was regarded as very decidedly in our favor, and the morale was all with us. Our army, although fatigued by marching and fighting for six consecutive days and nights, maintained the most determined and defiant spirit. Our loss in Tuesday's attack was about 3,500 in killed and wounded.

During all the battles thus far our army has captured four thousand of the enemy. Our army has lost but few prisoners except such as have been taken while straggling from their regiments.

It is believed that the enemy's loss on Tuesday far exceeds that of our army, as it is known that the casualties in Gen. Heth's (rebel) brigade were enormous. A prisoner stated that nothing had ever been seen like it; the rebel dead were piled up in heaps on the ground.

Mr. Washburn left the battle ground at ten o'clock yesterday; at that time it was stated that the enemy were moving for another attack upon Gen. Grant. An hour after he left for this city, he heard heavy artillery firing, apparently on the left of our army. It continued audibly for three-quarters of an hour.

Mr. Washburn left Fredericksburg at 12 1/2 yesterday afternoon; that that time within the period above mentioned no firing was heard, which indicates that there was no battle, unless it took place late in the afternoon.

Gen. Grant, during the several contests, was on the field, sometimes under fire; at one time he remained in a place after our pickets had been driven in. He exhibits under all circumstances the utmost coolness and self-possession, and has no doubt of his ultimate success.

The fight on Tuesday was in a dense thicket and woods. The fighting was principally with musketry, but artillery was used to some extent in shelling the enemy.

The Action Renewed on Wednesday—Lee Asks Time to Bury his Dead—Gen. Grant Has Not Time to Bury his Own—He Proposes to Advance on the Enemy's Works—The Rebels Leave the Field.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 12, 1864. Yesterday morning the fighting was again renewed, and was continued with various success until about 11 o'clock, when our lines were somewhat advanced.

At that hour a flag of truce is reported to have been sent by Lee, who asked for a cessation of hostilities for 48 hours that he might bury his dead.

Gen. Grant replied that he had not time to bury his own dead, and would advance immediately, and some parts of our line were, therefore, pushed forward.

It is stated that the woods were shelled, but no response was elicited from where the enemy's center had been a few hours before.

just been captured by Hancock's Corps, and brought within our lines.

Brig. Gen. Stuart, commanding a brigade in Johnson's Division, has also been captured. Hancock has also succeeded in capturing from fifteen to twenty of the enemy's guns, which he turned upon them the moment of their capture.

During the night, Gen. Hancock left his lines on the left, and cutting a road to the extreme left through the woods, made his appearance on the enemy's right flank and rear at daylight, capturing the officers and guns already named, together with some two thousand prisoners.

Gen. Johnson was brought to headquarters, on the horse of an orderly. When brought into the presence of Gen. Meade, the latter, extending his hand to Johnson, said:—"How are you, Johnson?"

"How do you do, Gen. Meade?" was Johnson's reply. They then both shook hands and took seats. Gen. Grant then approached the party, when Gen. Meade said, "Gen. Johnson, this is Gen. Grant." Salutations were exchanged and the party were again seated.

Gen. Seth Williams, was next introduced to Gen. Johnson. The meeting between these latter named officers was very cordial. During the time Johnson remained at headquarters he constantly eyed Gen. Grant, surveying the little giant from head to foot.

TWELVE M.—The guns captured are arriving at headquarters. Most of them are Napoleons, marked U. S. The others are 10-pounder Parrotts. The following is the despatch received by General Meade, at early morn, from General Hancock:—"I have finished up from thirty to forty guns; I have finished up Johnson, and am now going into Early."

Burnside is working away on the enemy's rear, and reports that he is taking large numbers of prisoners. Sheridan with the cavalry has captured three railroad trains, two laden with forage and rations and one with Union prisoners. The enemy got the range of Meade's headquarters at nine A. M., and three or four shells fell a few paces from the gallant Pennsylvanian and his co-patriot Grant.

Brig. Gen. Wright is slightly wounded, but still in command of the 6th Corps. When Gen. Stuart was captured he declined to take the proffered hand of Hancock, saying it was against his principles.

He also refused, in a very ungentlemanly manner, to partake of refreshments offered to him by Union officers. Johnson commanded the celebrated "Stonewall" Brigade. The greatest enthusiasm prevails in the army on account of our success to-day, despite the drenching rain now prevailing.

Hancock and his Pennsylvania soldiers have again covered themselves with glory, and their deeds of valor should be remembered by all Pennsylvanians.

Heavy artillery is still continuing along the line of Burnside's Corps. General Grant and Meade have been along the line the entire night and day, and have been seen at all points by the soldiers.

Yesterday there was nothing but slight skirmishing along the line. We are undoubtedly following up the enemy, who are fighting as they retreat.

NEAR SPOTTSVILIA COURT HOUSE, } May 12, 12 o'clock A. M. The day opened this morning with the following cheering news, sent in the form of a despatch from Gen. Hancock to Gen. Grant:—"GENERAL—I have captured from thirty to forty guns! I have finished up Johnson and am now going into Early."

As I write the whole line is engaged, but the heaviest firing is being done by Hancock's Corps. Major-General E. Johnson is captured. He commanded the "Stonewall" Division in Ewell's Corps, composed mainly of Virginia troops. No doubt of his capture exists, for he is sitting on a log near a fire before me, at the present moment, in conversation with some of our generals.

He is stout, rugged-looking man, with sandy hair, mustaches, and apparently about forty years of age. The attack was commenced this morning at daylight by Hancock, who moved forward his whole line, and is now driven the enemy.

The morning is damp and foggy, but success so far makes our spirits light and cheerful.—Brigadier-General Stuart of the Rebel army has also been captured, and is safe within our lines.

The artillery firing in the direction of Hancock is increasing in extent and rapidity. A considerable portion of the 5th Corps is actively engaged and doing well.

The number of prisoners taken this morning is variously estimated. The lowest figure places them at 300, but I have just heard from good authority that 5000 are in our hands.

11 A. M.—The battle continues with great fury, but we are steadily gaining ground on the Rebels. The 6th Corps have gone to the relief of the 2d, and are now actively engaged at the present moment.

The musketry firing is tremendous, accompanied with heavy salvos of artillery. Every inch of ground is being sharply contested, and nothing can exceed the ferocity of the contest.

Heavy fighting is progressing very near Gen. Grant's headquarters. Several shells struck near his headquarters.

The captured artillery are being brought to the rear, and the roads leading to the different corps hospitals are filled with soldiers, who have been wounded at the front, and are seeking after medical treatment.

A drenching rain set in about nine o'clock; but it seems to have no effect in abating the fighting in the front.

The roads are knee-deep with mud, and very unfavorable for military operations. A Rebel battle flag has just been brought in to headquarters. It belonged to the 42d Virginia, Colonel Withers, Johnston's Division, and contains the names of the different battles in which the regiment took part.

The flag is a red square one with a blue cross containing stars. The flag was captured by the 93d New York, Colonel Crocker. Thirteen of the captured guns have been brought to General Grant's headquarters. The others are placed in different positions in the rear. They are excellent pieces, in good condition, and very similar in appearance to our own.

Barlow's division of the 2d Corps performed a brilliant feat this morning, at day light. They advanced during the night, and before the break of day made their appearance directly in front of the Rebel intrenchments. They charged and before the enemy had time to fire a gun, they were surrounded, and surrendered at once.

Our men had to climb over their breastworks, and used the butt ends of their muskets to bring the Rebels to subjection. I learn that Captain Fritz, Jr., of Philadelphia, is wounded. General Wright is slightly wounded, but is still in command of the 6th Corps.

vania, yesterday morning, at 6.30 states that during the preceding night (Friday) a movement was made by the fifth and sixth corps to our left, and an attack was to have been made at daylight, but no sound of battle had been heard from that quarter.

This manoeuvre, it is said, if successful, would place our forces in Lee's rear, and compel him to retreat towards Lynchburg.

No cannon nor any sound of battle was heard yesterday at Belle Plain or Fredericksburg, which affords ground for the inference that Lee had retreated during Friday night, and before the advance of the fifth and sixth corps.

Nothing later than 6.30 A. M., of yesterday, has been received from the army by this Department. All our wounded that had reached Belle Plain yesterday afternoon have arrived here.

The surgical report from the headquarters of the army states that the condition of the supplies is satisfactory and the wounded are doing well.

The Medical Director at Belle Plain reports that everything at that point is satisfactory. The surgical arrangements have never been so complete as now.

Gen. Sheridan's command had reached the left bank of Turkey Island at 8 o'clock yesterday, and have formed a junction with the forces of Gen. Butler.

E. M. STANTON, Sec'y of War. Dispatches from Gen. Grant. WASHINGTON, May 11—11.30 P. M. Dispatches from General Grant, dated at 8 o'clock this morning, have just reached this department. He says:—"We have now ended the sixth day of very heavy fighting. The result to this time is much in our favor. Our losses have been heavy; as well as those of the enemy. I think the loss of the enemy must be greater. We have taken over 5,000 prisoners in battle, while he has taken from us but few except stragglers. I propose to fight it out on this line, if it takes all summer."

The Government is sparing no pains to support him. E. M. STANTON, Sec'y of War. WASHINGTON, May 13—2.30. To Maj. Gen. Dix.—A despatch from Gen. Grant has been received, dated near Spottsylvania Court House, May 12, 9.30 P. M., which is as follows:—"The eighth day of battle closes, leaving between three and four thousand prisoners in our hands for the day's work, including two General officers and thirty pieces of artillery. The enemy are obstinate, and seem to have found one last ditch. We have lost no organization, not even a company, whilst we have destroyed and captured one division (Johnson's), one brigade (Dobbs'), and one regiment entire of the enemy. (Signed) E. M. STANTON, Sec'y of War."

From Gen. Sheridan—His Advance on Richmond—The Rebels Defeated in Two Engagements—The Virginia Central R. R. Cut at All Points—Death of Gen. J. E. B. STONEMAN, May 14—Midnight. Maj. Gen. Cadwalader, Philadelphia.—An official dispatch from Gen. Sheridan, dated at Bottom Bridge, via Fortress Monroe, May 13, states that on the 9th he marched around the enemy's right flank, and on the evening of that day reached the North Anna river, without serious opposition.

During the night he destroyed the enemy's depot at Beaver Dam, three large trains of cars, two fine locomotives, two hundred thousand pounds of bacon and other stores, amounting in all to a million and a half of rations.

Also the telegraph and railroad track for about ten miles, embracing several cutovers, and recaptured 375 of our men, including two Colonels, one Major and several other officers.

On the morning of the 10th he resumed operations, crossing the South Anna at Grand Squirrel bridge, and went into camp about daylight. The 11th he captured Ashland Station; at that point he destroyed a locomotive, a train of cars, an engine house and two or three Government buildings, containing a large amount of stores.

He also destroyed six miles of railroad, embracing six cutovers, two trestle bridges, and the telegraph wires.

At about 7 o'clock a. m. of the 11th he renewed the advance on Richmond. He found the rebel Stuart with his cavalry concentrated at Yellow Tavern, and immediately attacked him.

After an obstinate contest he gained possession of the Brockle turnpike, capturing two pieces of artillery, and driving the enemy's forces back towards Ashland and across the north fork of the Chickahominy, a distance of four miles.

At the same time a party charged down the Brock Road, and captured the first line of the enemy's works around Richmond.

During the night he marched the whole of his command between the first and second lines of the enemy's works on the bluffs overlooking the line of the Virginia Central railroad, and then on Mechanicsville turnpike, after demonstrating against the works and finding them very strong, he gave up the intention of assaulting, and determined to recross the Chickahominy at Meadow Bridge.

It had been partially destroyed by the enemy but was repaired in about three hours, under a heavy artillery fire from a rebel battery.

Gen. Merritt made the crossing, attacked the enemy and drove him off handsomely, the pursuit continuing as far as Gaines' Mills.

The enemy observing the re-crossing of the Chickahominy, came out from his second line of works.

A brigade of infantry and a large number of dismounted cavalry attacked the division of Generals Gregg and Wilson, but after a severe contest were repulsed and driven behind their works.

Gregg and Wilson's divisions, after collecting the wounded, recrossed the Chickahominy on the afternoon of the 12th. The corps encamped at Walnut Grove and Gaines' Mills.

At 9 o'clock, a. m., of the 13th, the march was resumed, and our forces encamped at Bottom Bridge.

The command is in fine spirits. The loss of horses will not exceed one hundred. All the wounded were brought off except about thirty cases of mortally wounded, and those were well cared for in the farm houses of the country.—The wounded will not exceed 250, and the total losses not over 350.

The Virginia Central Railroad bridges over the Chickahominy, and other trestle bridges, one sixty feet in length, one thirty, some twenty feet, and the railroad bridges for a long distance south of the Chickahominy were destroyed.

Great praise is given to the division commanders Gen. Gregg, Wilson and Merritt and Gens. Custer and Davis, Col. Gregg, Divine, Chapman, McIntosh and Gibbs, brigade commanders. All the officers and men behaved splendidly.

12.30 P. M.—In a dispatch this moment received from Admiral Lee, he reports to the Secretary of the Navy that the Richmond papers of yesterday mention the death of Gen. J. E. B. Stuart—shot in battle. This no doubt happened in the battle with Gen. Sheridan.

Our captured guns number 44. 20,000 stand of small-arms have been taken. The roads beyond Aquia Creek are in a terrible condition from the recent rains.

Seven thousand prisoners had reached Belle Plain up to last night.

Rebel prisoners report that A. P. Hill and Gen. E. Lee are both wounded, and that Gen. Longstreet had died from his wounds.

No battle took place yesterday. Lee's army is no doubt trying to get a good position behind the North Anna.

Our losses so far will not reach over twenty-five thousand.

The Wounded of Pennsylvania—Governor Curtin Looking for Them—Rebel Prisoners Under Black Escort. Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune. WASHINGTON, May 15, 1864. Gov. Curtin and staff arrived to-day from Fredericksburg and Belle Plain, having spent several days among the wounded. He speaks in the highest terms of the arrangements made by the Medical Department, everything possible being done under the orders of Acting Surgeon-General Barnes to care for the wounded and to bring them on here. Fifteen hundred arrived to-day.

A batch of Rebel prisoners guarded by negro soldiers were sent to-day to Point Lookout.

Gen. Meade's Address. WASHINGTON, May 14—10 P. M. Dispatches dated headquarters Army of the Potomac, May 13, 12 M., have been received. The Associated Press messenger brings the following:—"HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, } May 13, 1864. SOLDIERS—The moment has arrived when your commanding general feels authorized to address you in terms of congratulation. For eight days and nights almost without intermission, in rain and sunshine, you have been gallantly fighting a desperate foe in positions naturally strong and rendered doubly so by entrenchments. You have compelled him to abandon his fortifications on the Rapidan, retire, and attempt to stop your onward progress, and now he has abandoned his last entrenched position so tenaciously held, suffering a loss, in all, of eighteen guns, twenty-two colors, and eight thousand prisoners, including two general officers. Your heroic deeds and endurance of fatigue and privation will ever be memorable. Let us return thanks to God for the mercy thus shown, and ask earnestly for its continuance. Soldiers! Your work is not yet over. The enemy must be pursued, and, if possible, overcomen. The courage and fortitude you have displayed renders your commanding general confident that your efforts will be crowned with success. While we mourn the loss of many gallant comrades, let us remember the enemy must have suffered equal, if not greater, losses. We shall soon receive reinforcements which he cannot expect. Let us determine, then, to continue vigorously the work so well begun; Under God's blessing, in a short time, the object of our labor will be accomplished. (Signed) GEO. G. MEADE, Maj. Gen. Commanding. S. WILLIAMS, A. A. G."

Gen. Grant During the Battle. Gen. Grant's headquarters were located in a field between the plank road and a small road leading to a little hamlet known as Parker's store. During the fight, however, he was principally with Gen. Meade, whose headquarters were on a pine knoll in the rear of Warren's Corps. I had seen Grant at Vicksburg and in Tennessee, and his appearance was familiar; but as I strolled through the group of officers, reclining under the trees at headquarters I looked for him some time in vain, such was his insignificant, unpretending aspect and conduct while the battle was raging in all its fury. A stranger to the insignia of military rank would have little dreamed that the plain, quiet man who sat with his back against a tree, apparently heedless and unmoved, was the one upon whom the fortunes of the day, if not of the age and country, were hanging. It was only when some aid orderly rode up in hot haste with a communication from some portion of the battle field that his eyes upturned to seek in those of the messenger the purport of the message.—The consultation with Gen. Meade or the direct suggestion of command—all took place with that same regard for the probability of concealment for which he has always been remarkable. No movement of the enemy seemed to puzzle or disconcert him. Fertile in resources, the petition for reinforcement was speedily answered. And while all this transpired he stood calmly in the group, at times smoking his favorite cigar—a more vigorous or a more frequent puffing only indicating the inward work of his mind. If something transpired which he deemed needed his personal attention, away he darted on horseback to the immediate scene, the one or two of his aids and an orderly exerting their utmost to keep up with him. Arrived on the spot, he calmly considered the matter requiring his attention, with ready judgment communicated the necessary orders, and then galloped away to another part of the field, or to his tent beneath the pine tree, there to enter on the order book some record of the battle's progress. It was amusing again at times to see when the Commander-in-Chief—whittling away with his knife upon the bark of a tree, pausing now and then to throw in a word or sentence in the conversation of those grouped about, and then going to work again with renewed vigor upon the incision of the pine. The contemplation of this by those who were with him at Vicksburg will recall an incident of a similar character in that memorable siege. When the columbiads were mounted in front of Logan's line Gen. Grant was desirous of superintending the operations. During the preliminary work of cutting the embrasures he mounted the emplacement, and, while the rebel bullets struck all around him, deliberately whittled a rail until the guns were placed in position.

From Gen. Butler. WASHINGTON, May 15—10 P. M. Maj. Gen. Dix.—The following telegrams have just reached this Department from Gen. Butler. No other official reports have been received since my dispatch of this afternoon:—"E. M. STANTON, Sec'y of War. HALFWAY HOUSE, May 14—3 A. M.—Hon. E. M. Stanton, Sec'y of War:—We are still before the base of the enemy's works at Drury's Bluff, Fort Darling. The enemy are still here in force. Gen. Gilmore, by a flank movement, with a portion of his corps and a brigade of the Eighteenth corps, assaulted and took the enemy's works on their right at dusk last evening. It was gallantly done. BENJ. F. BUTLER. HEADQUARTERS, HALFWAY HOUSE, May 14—10 A. M.—To Hon. E. M. Stanton, Sec'y of War:—Gen. Smith carried the enemy's first line on the right, this morning, moving at 8 o'clock. The loss was small. The enemy have retired into three square redoubts, upon which we are now bringing our artillery to bear with effect. BENJ. F. BUTLER. Maj. Gen. Commanding. BERMUDA HUNDRED, Va., May 13, P. M., via FORTRESS MONROE, May 14.—Rebel prisoners captured last night say Lee admits a loss of 30,000 men in killed and wounded."

From Georgia. WASHINGTON, May 14. Gen. Schofield has achieved a victory, and pursued the enemy into North Carolina. Gen. Thomas has gobbled up five thousand rebels and captured 12 guns. [Gen. Schofield is operating under Sherman, in the army of the Cumberland.]

isolated from re-inforcements, supplies, munitions and its capital, with scarcely half its numbers left to brave its gloomy future, and it cannot long refuse to yield Virginia to the Union of our fathers.

Patriots will rejoice that our imperiled cause is thus rescued from murderous traitors, while life is too short for the faithless among us to atone for their cowardly treachery to the best government of the Earth. But let the faithless be left to the just scorn of the living, and the keen retribution of a Nation's sacred bereavement for our gallant dead; and let the true and tried of our Country's supporters give fervent thanks to Him who ruleth over all, for our redeemed Republic—our nobler Nationality!

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All Ordinary and Marriage notices exceeding five lines, and all communications, resolutions and other notices of limited or individual interest, are charged ten cents per line. Advertisements or subscriptions may be sent directly to the Publishers, or through any responsible City Agency. M'CLURE & STONER, Proprietors.

REMEMBER THE WOUNDED. Not less than twenty thousand of our brave fathers, sons and brothers are now writhing under ghastly wounds in our hospitals. They have periled their lives that we might have enduring peace and the priceless blessings of free government; and have fallen in the terrible conflicts of the last two weeks.

The government does much for its heroic defenders—all it can do perhaps; but not one-half that can be done to solace them in their sore afflictions and minister to their countless wants.

This cause appeals to every lover of our country; and from our teeming plenty on every hand—from our bountiful stores and garner, and our growing wealth, let the hand of liberality be extended to aid the suffering.

Many, very many, of these brave men cannot be ministered to by their loved ones; and it is the highest and the noblest civil duty of every one to give bountifully of what he or she possesses, to lessen the pain and privations of our thousands of sick and wounded.

It is not necessary to wait for the Chambersburg or the Philadelphia Fairs. They will serve a good purpose, and merit the cordial efforts of all; but the wants of the wounded are immediate and pressing, and the most grateful and effectual aid will be that rendered just now.

We believe the Christian and Sanitary Commissions to be the very best channels through which to contribute to the necessities of our wounded. Money for the Christian Commission may be sent directly to Jos. Patterson, Esq., Western Bank Philadelphia, and stores for either Commission may be sent to Oaks & Linn, Chambersburg, to be forwarded. Money for the Sanitary Commission may be sent to Caleb Cope, Esq., Philadelphia, or contributions for either will be cheerfully forwarded from this office, or from the Bank of Chambersburg.

—We appeal to the patriotic and benevolent to come forward and act generously in this matter at once. Those of us who are spared the terrible ordeal of battle should not hesitate to give prompt and ample succor to those who have periled their lives in our stead. Let us unite in this humane and holy work, and the God who has given victory to our armies, will not let the gifts of the generous be without their reward!

GEN. S. WILEY CRAWFORD, the gallant young commander of the Pennsylvania Reserves, has been reported killed or captured; but we have seen a letter from him dated Thursday last, which removes all doubts as to his safety. His brave command, sadly thinned by its many heroic conflicts with the enemy, has again been terribly decimated. The total loss of the Reserves is 110 officers and 2,294 men killed, wounded and missing—including 870 captured in the early part of the great struggle. This must be nearly if not quite fifty per cent of its strength, and it shows how desperate and deadly have been its struggles.

The Perry County Fire Insurance Company has made an assessment of four per cent. of its premium notes, to cover recent losses. This is the tenth assessment made by that company.

The Bank of Gettysburg has declared a dividend of eight per cent., and the First National Bank of Gettysburg has declared a dividend of six per cent. Prosperous institutions.

WE are compelled to omit the favors of all our correspondents this week, to give our readers the full details of the glorious news from our gallant armies.

PERSONAL. —The Hon. Titian J. Coffey, having resigned the office of Assistant Attorney General of the United States, the Attorney General has appointed J. Hubley Ashton, Esq., of Philadelphia, to that office, and he has entered on his duties. Mr. Coffey will hereafter assist the Attorney General in the preparation and argument of cases in the Supreme Court of the United States, in which the Government is a party, those cases now numbering more than one-third of the calendar of the Court.

ABOUT a week before the present military operations commenced, a gentleman from Baltimore, who had a conversation with the President, reported him as expressing the utmost confidence in Gen. Grant, adding:—"When I listen to him explaining his plans and purposes in the approaching campaign I am appalled at their magnitude, and astounded at the confidence he seems to feel in his ability to accomplish them."

THE gross cash receipts of the REPOSITORY office during this day (Wednesday) will be given to the Christian Commission, in aid of our wounded heroes now suffering in the hospitals and on the field; and we trust that our patrons will make the contribution a liberal one. We hope thus to lessen in some humble degree, the sad exactions of a causeless war, conceived and waged by Slavery and Treason—the kindred, crowning crimes of our National history.

Let the Nation bow in profoundest gratitude to the God of Justice! In the fulness of His time, He has smitten the foes of Humanity and of Free Government, and the fair Western World, by terrible baptism in its noblest blood, is again dedicated to the Freedom in which it was created.

After three long, long years of mingled discomfiture and triumph—of fiercest and deadliest warfare—of wide-spread, relentless desolation—of keenest bereavements and saddest sacrifices, the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Virginia, directed by the most trusted and successful commanders, and strengthened by exhausting efforts on both sides, confronted each other to decide to fate of the Republic.

It was confessedly the last, the crowning effort of Treason for positive success, and true hearts quailed as they contemplated the possibility of disaster to the Old Flag. The Nation might still have found life in fresh offerings to our holy cause; but beyond the decisive defeat of Lee's hosts of crime, Treason has no hereafter save in the violent throes of death and its crimsoned history.

The decisive battle has been fought! With a desperation known only to crime, the battalions of Treason struggled in vain for victory. Nine days of sweeping carnage record the undaunted valor of our brave defenders, and the thousands wounded and slain tell how bravely they struggled—how nobly died. As willing martyrs to a Nation's cause, they will be enshrined in a Nation's grateful memory.

Never before in the history of war has such a conflict been witnessed. Fully a quarter of a million of men, reared under the same beneficent laws, brethren by the ties of language, of government, of blood and of common sacrifices in rearing our glittering monuments of genius and patriotism, struggled with sublimest heroism for the best and basest of causes. Each day's sun went down on mingled currents of fraternal blood, and ere the moping dawn proclaimed another day, the work of death began again.

Slowly but surely the Union army advanced its lines over hecatombs of slain. The sacrifice was priceless, save when measured by the fruits of the achievement—the perpetuity of Free Government. Stubbornly but steadily Treason receded from the conflict, and the heroic Army of the Potomac, inspired by its just cause and the masterly genius and invincible purpose of its great commanders, crowned itself and the Nation with decisive victory on Thursday last. Sullenly and hopelessly the shattered columns of Treason retired from the sanguinary field, with nearly if not quite half of their warriors killed, disabled or captured.

There may be other struggles—there may still be temporary discomfitures in the future for us; but the GREAT BATTLE HAD BEEN FOUGHT, and the utter overthrow of this causeless, wicked rebellion—but a question of months—not years. The military power of Treason is broken. Its life, its hope was in the army of Lee, and that army is now crushed in spirit,

isolated from re-inforcements, supplies, munitions and its capital, with scarcely half its numbers left to brave its gloomy future, and it cannot long refuse to yield Virginia to the Union of our fathers.

Patriots will rejoice that our imperiled cause is thus rescued from murderous traitors, while life is too short for the faithless among us to atone for their cowardly treachery to the best government of the Earth. But let the faithless be left to the just scorn of the living, and the keen retribution of a Nation's sacred bereavement for our gallant dead; and let the true and tried of our Country's supporters give fervent thanks to Him who ruleth over all, for our redeemed Republic—our nobler Nationality!

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