

The Alleghanian.

A. A. BARKER, Editor and Proprietor.
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I WOULD RATHER BE RIGHT THAN PRESIDENT.—HENRY CLAY.

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Leave Ebensburg on Friday of each week, at 8 A. M.

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Fast Line " 9.07 P. M.
Mail Train " 8.02 P. M.
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Fast Line " 7.30 P. M.
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[The Fast Line West does not stop.]

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Select Poetry.

Liberty.

In the great morning of the world,
The spirit of God with might unfurled
The flag of Freedom over Chaos.
And all its banded anarchy fled,
Like vultures frightened from Imaus,
Before an earthquake's tread—
So from Time's tempestuous dawn
Freedom's splendor burst and shone—
Thermopylae and Marathon
Caught, like mountains beacon-lighted,
The springing fire.—The winged glory
On Philippi half-alighted,
Like an eagle on a promontory.
Its unwearied wings could fan
The quenchless ashes of Milan.
From age to age, from man to man,
It lived; and lit from land to land—
Florence, Albion, Switzerland.
Then night fell; and, as from night,
Re-assuming fiery light,
From the West swift Freedom came,
Against the course of heaven and doom,
A second sun arrayed in flame,
To burn, to kindle, to illumine,
From far Atlantis its young beams
Chased the shadows and the dreams.
France, with all her sanguine steams,
Hid, but quenched it not; again
Thro' clouds its shafts of glory rain,
From utmost Germany to Spain.
As an eagle fed with morning,
Scorns the embattled tempest's warning,
When she seeks her eryie hanging
In the mountain cedar's hair,
And her brood expect the clanging
Of her wings through the wild air,
Sick with famine.—Freedom, so,
To what of Greece remaineth now
Returns; her hoary ruins lost
Like orient mountains low in day;
Beneath the safety of her wings
Her renovated unrelenting play,
And in the naked lightning's
Of truth they purge their dazzled eyes.
Let Freedom leave, wherever she flies,
A Desert, or a Paradise:
Let the beautiful and the brave
Share her glory, or a grave.

THE WAR IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.

A Fight in the Mountains.

The telegraph has given an account of the successful reconnoissance of the rebel entrenchments at Green Briar, by Gen. Reynolds. A correspondent of the Cincinnati Times furnishes that paper with a more detailed account, of which the following is the substance:

At half-past eleven, first one hillside and then another poured forth its columns of armed men. A line was formed on the road, and at midnight precisely the Ninth Indiana, the Fourteenth Indiana and the Twenty-fourth Ohio moved off in the order named. Half an hour later, and the Seventeenth Indiana, Captain Loomis' celebrated Michigan Artillery, the Fourteenth Indiana, Howe's Battery of regular artillery, a detachment of cavalry and one gun of Daum's Virginia battery, rattled down the mountain.

All the regiments had been greatly weakened by sickness and hard service, and the force which marched, counting artillery, cavalry, &c., was less than 6,000. The batteries comprised thirteen pieces. Since the flight of the rebels from Tygart Valley, they have had an advanced camp on the bank of the Greenbrier, at a point where the Staunton turnpike ascends the Allegheny mountains. In the late advance of Lee, a considerable force, detailed from that camp, went back to it in a hurry.—They have not advanced since. Our scouts have, from time to time, reported that the post was being fortified.

The point is about thirteen miles from this camp, and about the same distance from Monterey, where it is understood there is a large rebel force. The scouts suppose that 5000 or 6000 were encamped at Greenbrier. Colonel Ford's orders were to proceed about six miles to the Gum road station, with a force and Daum's gun at the junction, and picket the road, so as to prevent all possibility of a flank movement. The only trouble he had was with the detachment of cavalry, which accompanied him, and cowardly refused to take the advance. He reached the Gum road, and had his men all stationed again daylight.

Colonel Milroy's orders were to deploy skirmishers in the advance from the Gum road and drive in the pickets. He met with no opposition until he reached the first Greenbrier bridge, just after daylight. A full company of rebels were stationed at the bridge, but in consequence of the fog, they were not seen until the enemy were aware of their advance, and fired at them at random. Two of Milroy's men fell, one dead, and the other severely wounded. Without waiting for orders, our men dashed on to the bridge, pouring a volley into the picket guard; three rebels fell, and the rest took to their heels.

Our men took after them, both parties dropping knapsacks, blankets, &c., to accelerate their speed in the chase. An exciting race of about a mile and a half

was had, but the rebels proved, as usual, the fleetest of foot, and escaped without further harm. Milroy's men picked up numerous knapsacks, blankets, arms, &c., as trophies.

I know not how long we halted, but we had not proceeded much further when welcome daylight appeared. We had just made the descent of the Cheat Mountain ridge, and were passing through a small farm and extensive "deadening." We followed the valley until we reached the Gum road, where the Thirty-second Ohio was stationed, where we made another halt. Making a long but easy descent of another mountain, we soon came to the Greenbrier. As we neared the bridge we saw the body of one of Milroy's men lying in the bushes, just where he had fallen when shot by the rebel pickets. "They had a fight on the bridge," was the only remark, and we passed on.

At a farm house near the bridge, we came across the rear of the column ahead of us, with piles of knapsacks in an adjoining field, left there under guard, the infantry thus relieving themselves in expectation of the fight. The General rode on to near the head of the column, where he obtained a distant view of the enemy's camp. Soon the order was given to forward.

The rebel camp is located on a high, steep elevation known as Buffalo Hill. It is located at a sharp turn of the road, and so situated that an attacking force had to come directly under the guns and entrenchments of the right of the camp to obtain a view of the left. It was estimated from the number of tents that ten thousand men held the posts. The sole attack contemplated was directly in front, with artillery, the infantry to be used merely to protect the batteries. It was discovered that the rebels had placed a large infantry force three-fourths of a mile in front, to dispute our approach.—They lay in ambush beside a fence thickened with small trees, to the right of the road, and in the timber on the hillside to the left. On making this discovery, Col. Kimball was ordered to clear the way for the artillery with the rugged Indiana Fourteenth. The boys received the order with a shout, and firing a volley into the ambush, rushed upon it with a wild cheer.

The concealed enemy took to their heels, some rushing across the valley and others up the mountain on our left. The gallant Fourteenth, its ragged breeches flapping in the air, started up the mountains with a cheer, popping over the rebels at every crack. The Ninth Indiana, its colors flaunting beautifully above the green grass, rushed after those across the valley. A cheer went up from the whole line, as the abashed rebels took to flight, the Hoosiers in pursuit.

The Fourteenth made sad work with the rebels on the mountain; eighteen of them were found dead in one pile, and seven in another. They also captured several prisoners, and took care of a few wounded. The Seventh came near the retreating rebels on the opposite side of the valley, and poured a raking fire into them as they sought a laurel cover. How many were killed and wounded there the enemy must tell, for our boys did not search the laurel. In less than ten minutes the rebels were driven into their entrenchments. Loomis immediately moved rapidly forward, unlimbered his pieces and gave them an invitation in the shape of a shell. The enemy immediately responded with pounders, all of which fell short of our battery.

The enemy's camp was in full view.—His terraced battery was belching forth fire and smoke. Shot from our batteries were tearing up the ground all through the encampment, and shells were scattering destruction and insuring death. There was no cessation of the infernal roar of the artillery. Sometimes a half dozen of our pieces would send forth a simultaneous roar, making the earth tremble, and the return fire seemed spiteful, as it whizzed the shot mostly over our heads. For thirty-five minutes every gun on our side was worked without cessation. Now a shell would go ringing through the air, making a beautiful curve, and dropping just on the spot intended, burst and destroy everything for yards around. Of all the infernal inventions of war, it is these shells. They tear men and horses to tatters in an instant, as they fall whizzing among them. And, as they hear their unusual hiss coming toward you, it is as green in military matters as I, you will try to dodge the screeching devil. With the shell flew the round shot into the enemy's camp, and all about their batteries. With a whack they would strike the earth and bore themselves into the ground like moles operated by steam. Such was the distant view of the picture.

The ambulances were not long idle.—First came a man carried on a blanket, writhing with pain. He had received a

shot in his stomach. Next, another who had lost an arm, and was fainting from loss of blood. Then came three or four slightly wounded, leaning on the shoulders of their comrades. Not far from me in a little ravine, lay three rebels, one dead, another dying and a third slightly wounded. The latter was placed in an ambulance, and carried to our hospital. Away up the road, scattered on its sides, some sitting, some lying, were exhausted infantry men, most of whom seemed totally unconcerned as to the strife; and at other points of a viewing distance, groups of unengaged cavalry were viewing the strife with deep interest. For thirty-five minutes our batteries kept up an unceasing fire. First one, and then another rebel gun was dismounted, until only one remained. This was peppered with shell and shot, but we were unable to do more than slacken its fire.

After the enemy had been driven from their lower entrenchments and their battery reduced to one gun, our artillerists slackened their fire, and took it more easily. The infantry brightened up, expecting orders to charge the works. But the General, however, who was more observant, did not give the order. When the fire of our batteries was raging the most fearfully, the rebels sent up two or three rockets, which the General supposed was a signal to hurry up expected reinforcements, from the mountain road, as did others who were of the same opinion.

They did not have long to wait. Down the mountains in the rear of the camp, came a column of men estimated at 5,000, bringing with them several pieces of artillery of a superior character. The reinforcements were received with cheers by their rebel and badly beaten comrades.—The fresh pieces were planted upon the upper works, and sent forth a new tune from the rebel side. They were at first badly served, the shots going far overhead. This they ascertained, and began to take pretty good aim.

Our artillerists, delighted with the new guns, went at it once more with full force, and no more cheers were heard in the rebel camp. They also threw shells into the timber, above where it was supposed the fresh infantry had sheltered themselves, and with the naked eye a great scampering from the bushes could be observed.

In the meantime the Colonels began to grow fidgety. They did not like the idea of the artillery enjoying all the fun, and asked that the infantry be allowed to "go in." A council of war was held. The Colonels proposed to take the new batteries by storm. The General opposed this at once, as even if successful it would involve a great sacrifice of life. They then proposed to outflank the enemy, and take the camp in that way. Their blood was up, and though they knew that if the position was taken it would be a barren victory, they wanted to try their hand. I say a barren victory, but if the enemy had been routed, the position is now of no use to us, and had our infantry worked in on the flank, the road was open for the enemy to scamper off up the mountain.

But, Gen. Reynolds, appreciating the valor of our troops, consented to let the infantry try a flank movement, and, if they could do nothing more, gain information as to the location of the ground. The enemy observed the movements, and paying but little attention to our batteries, prepared to receive the infantry as they marched up through the woods.

All the regiments received the order to advance with cheers, the Fourteenth and Fifteenth throwing off their coats, and preparing for a free use of the bayonet. The Seventh took the lead, and the rest followed bravely. They had proceeded but a short distance, however, before the rebels turned several of their guns to the timber, and sent into it a terrible fire of shell and canister. The Seventh Indiana broke and ran, their officers endeavored in vain to stop them. Their conduct caused some trepidation among the other regiments, but, at the command, they righted, and were about to advance, when orders came from General Reynolds to withdraw. Though the trees seemed to rain shot and shell, but few men were hurt under them.

The artillery had now fired about 1100 shot and shells, and were nearly out of ammunition. Loomis had nothing left but canister, and Howe was nearly as bad off. Daum's piece had been disabled and hauled off. Under these circumstances, the General having gratified the infantry, ordered an end to the engagement.

Loomis gave the Greenbrier Camp a parting blessing in the shape of canister, and the artillery was despatched on its return to this point. The infantry followed, tarrying, however, some time in the valley, hoping the rebels would come out and give them a field fight of three to one.

But the rebels did not show themselves as long as a blue coat remained in sight of Greenbrier.

I have stated our force. At least half of it was not brought into action at all.—The rebels taken prisoners state that their force in camp, before our arrival, was ten thousand, which with the reinforcements received, makes fifteen thousand; yet the rebels had not the courage, at any time, to come out of their entrenchments. It is the experience in Western Virginia that they fight bravely behind fortifications and will not fight otherwise.

Our loss is twenty—ten killed, and ten so badly wounded as to be unfitted for duty. Their loss is terrible. The groans of the wounded could be distinctly heard at our batteries, when the guns were silent. The dead were seen strewn all over their camp, and the lower trench was said to be full of them. Our fifteen hundred shells and explosive shot made fearful havoc. Besides, some forty or fifty were killed by our infantry in the first dash outside of the fortifications. We took thirteen prisoners—they none.

We captured a number of horses, a lot of cattle, and enough of small arms to show how the enemy was supplied. During the whole engagement the enemy threw but three effective shots. One struck one of Howe's artillery men, another took an arm from the gunner of the same corps, and I think, shattered an axle of Daum's gun, rendering it unserviceable. All these came from the same troublesome little piece our gunners could not dismount. Howe had two horses wounded and one killed. Loomis and Daum, for a wonder, did not have either a man or beast injured.

Letter from Kentucky.

A SOUTHERN OBSERVER OF SOUTHERN AFFAIRS.

Correspondence of The Alleghanian.

BARDSTOWN, Ky., Oct. 17, 1861.

We seldom, nowadays, see papers which are published in the Seceded States, tho' occasionally we are favored with a specimen number. How they manage to "pass the lines" is somewhat of a mystery, inasmuch as all mail facilities are completely cut off; but we are not disposed to find fault with the fact that they do, from the reason that they generally bring us important information, and also show what tyranny is practiced upon those who conscientiously oppose the various schemes adopted to keep the Southern States in the vortex of rebellion.

I find the following item in the Richmond Enquirer of the 21st ultimo: "The forty days having expired, as designated in the President's proclamation, in conformity to what we deemed an extra-judicial act of Congress, we are to presume that henceforth no alien enemies will be permitted to go at large within the limits of the Confederate States. Neither should foreigners come amongst us without a declaration of purpose to become citizens. And, above all, no one, not in the employ of the Government, ought to pass out of our country, else the passport system itself is a farce, and we shall be at the mercy of our enemies. It seems to us that aliens should now be required to take the oath of allegiance to our Government, and that the same test of loyalty might very judiciously be applied to those amongst us who are known to have voted, a few brief months ago, against the ratification of the ordinance of secession. Many of our wealthy men opposed secession to the last, (!) and may be still opposed to separation and Southern independence. If this class be not attended to, and if, by one of the vicissitudes incident to war, the enemy should happen, for however brief a season, to approach the capital, we might have the spectacle of at least another nucleus of 'reconstructionists.' They would come out of their holes and offer protection to the fearful, or attempt to intimidate the timid non-combatants. We should provide for every contingency, and all who are not friends are enemies. Not only all the wealth, but all the blood of the South is pledged for the redemption of our country. The man who will not fight, and he who dares to depreciate the credit of the Government, are alike traitors."

When we remember that the Virginia Convention, in its ordinance of secession and league with the Confederate States, reserved in the most express terms the right of withdrawal from the said league at pleasure, and that, after the passage of that ordinance, Mason, the recreant Senator, declared that all who advocated the return of Virginia to her old allegiance under the Constitution of the United States "must leave the State," coupled with the Enquirer's recommendation that all who opposed the ratification of the ordinance of secession at the polls be treated as aliens and compelled to take the oath of allegiance, we may form some idea of the

monstrous wrong that has been and is still being committed to prevent all Union sentiment in that quarter. What mockery it was to reserve the right to withdraw from the Confederacy, and then make it treason to advocate the policy of withdrawal! What bitter insult it was to assert that Virginia seceded from the Union for the sole purpose of reconstructing it upon a more generous basis, and then to denounce in the most unmeasured terms all who are suspected of being in favor of reconstruction!

Those who have invaded this State are preparing the same toils for us. They come, like Mahomet, with the law in one hand and the sword in the other, advising us. I have before me an address signed by Joseph H. Lewis, who says he has authority from the Confederate States to raise a regiment of infantry; and for this purpose, by order of Gen. Buckner, he is now encamped at Cave City, Barren co., Ky. He complains that Kentucky's roads and rivers have been blockaded and her commerce suspended, but does not advert to the fact that these are only the results of Secession engineering and handiwork.

From these, and other indications, it is evident that Kentucky, like Virginia, is to be dragged out of the Union if possible; and the miserable plea of reconstruction is not even advanced in the premises. We are, by the grace of Polk, Buckner, Zollieffer and Jeff Davis, to become a constituent part of a divided Union, and, as a border State, protect the more southern members of the Confederacy.

But who believes that this Republic can ever be permanently divided? The impossibility of fixing a boundary to determine the sections shows the folly of the idea. The traveler passes from the cotton and sugar-growing States to the great agricultural and grain producing States, from thence to the mechanical and manufacturing States, and on to the lumber States, without being able to tell where the one ends or the other begins any more than he could separate the waters of the Allegheny and the Monongahela after they have united and formed the Ohio.

The alternatives which are presented us—a Southern Confederacy in perpetuity or a Southern league for the purpose of reconstructing the Union—are alike unattractive. The authority of the United States must be re-asserted over every acre of its broad dominions; the rebellion must be checked; the erring must return to their allegiance; and the Constitution and the Laws must be preserved inviolate. Union and Liberty—one and inseparable—now and forever.

A. CLINT JONES.

RATHER SLOW.—The Oswego Times tells the following good story at the expense of a railroad conductor: "On the two o'clock slow freight and passenger train from Syracuse, the other day, were a lady and her son, a youth of good dimensions, the latter traveling on a 'half ticket.' After innumerable stoppages and delays, in unloading freight and the like, by which the patience of passengers is usually exhausted long before they reach the city, the conductor made his appearance for tickets. Glancing at the pasteboard received from the boy, he looked first at him, then at his mother, and then at the ticket, and remarked that he was 'a large boy to be riding at half fare.' 'I know,' said the lady, 'I know he is, sir; but then he's grown a good deal since we started!'"

PIN MONEY.—The origin of the term "pin money" was as follows: Toward the close of the fifteenth century, an epoch that marks a transition in the style of the dress of ladies, pins were looked upon with great favor as New Years' gifts.—They displaced the old wooden skewer previously used to fasten ladies' dresses, which no effort of skill, no burnishing nor embellishment could convert into a slightly appendage. Pins, in that simple age of the world, were luxuries of high price, and the gift was frequently compounded for in money, an allowance that became so necessary to the wants of ladies of quality that it resolved itself at last into a regular stipend, very properly denominated "pin money."

WARM BOOTS.—It is said that the best boots to protect the feet from cold or dampness are made of calfskin tanned with the hair on. Of course, when the boots are made, the hair is on the inside, and while it effectually protects the feet, it does not exclude the air, as gum elastic does. To soldiers who may have to march or stand guard in judgment weather this is a secret worth knowing, for when the feet are well protected the whole body is preserved from many ailments.

A bad wound may heal, but a bad name is almost sure to kill.