

1 May 1861 Alexandria Gazette

Public Sale of Valuable Real Estate called Red Hill

Under authority of a decree of the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, Va., rendered at the June term, 1860, in the suit of Carter, against Look and others, the undersigned, Commissioners therein named, will, on Tuesday, the 7th day of May, 1861, at 3 o'clock, P. M., at the front door of the court house, in Alexandria, offer at public auction, that portion of the valuable TRACT OF LAND called "RED HILL," containing by recent survey 960 ACRES. This land lies partly in the county of Fairfax and partly in the county of Prince William. The portions situated in the respective counties will be sold separately. The independent line of the Manassas Gap Railroad passes by or through the land, and it is near a contemplated depot. The land is considered the very best and most productive in that region of the country, and is of the red clay soil, there held in such high estimation, and is well adapted to the production of all kinds of grain and grasses. There is an abundance of wood on the land, and it is proverbially healthy. The BUILDINGS are comfortable.

Terms of Sale: Ten per cent of the purchase money to be paid in cash, on the day of sale as a deposit to be forfeited on the failure of the purchaser, to complete his purchase, the residue of the purchase money to be paid in three equal installments, in 6, 12, and 18 months from the day of sale, with interest from the day of sale, to be secured by the bonds of the purchaser, and the title to be retained until the purchase money is fully paid, the land to be resold at the risk of the purchaser, upon his default at any time to pay the cash deposit or the deferred installments. Possession at once given.

Francis L. Smith
Matthew Harrison
Commissioners of Sale

2 May 1861 Alexandria Gazette

Public Sale of Real Estate near Manassas Junction

By virtue of a deed of trust, executed by Joseph W. Roseberry and wife, on the 16th day of August, 1851, and of record in the Clerk's Office of Prince William County Court, in Liber No. 21, page 348, the undersigned therein named as Trustee, and for the purposes of said trust, will, ON THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF MAY, 1861, (that being the first day of the Circuit Court of Prince William,) at the front door of the Court House of said county, proceed to sell at public auction, for cash, to the highest bidder, TWO TRACTS OF LAND. The first containing THREE HUNDRED and FIFTY-ONE ACRES, TWO RODS, and TWO POLES

9 May 1861 Alexandria Gazette

Two Prince William Farms For Sale

The subscriber has TWO SMALL FARMS in the county of Prince William, which he will sell on accommodating terms; one adjoining the lands of A. Howison, six miles from Bristoe's Station, and the other, one and a half miles above said station, the road running through it, and both with a great sufficiency of WOOD, TIMBER and WATER. BUILDINGS good and comfortable, and well fenced. The first named farm has 800 ACRES, the other 400. Not more than one third of the purchase money will be demanded, and the balance in one, two and three years, or longer if required. Persons wishing to leave the District of Columbia, as well as others, would do well to give me a call, at Effingham, Prince William County, Va.

Charles G. Howison
Prince William County, Va.

10 May 1861 Alexandria Gazette

Thoroughfare Station Horses For Sale

Three young mares suitable for farming purposes. They are of fine size, work well and are gentle for further particulars, address R. C. G. Thoroughfare Station, Manassas Gap Railroad

**8 June 1861 – New York Times
News of the Day**

The relative position of the belligerent force across the Potomac has not changed materially within the last twenty-four hours, though the impression prevails everywhere that a serious collision cannot much longer be delayed. The Federal entrenchments beyond Arlington House, opposite Georgetown, are being rapidly strengthened – thirty six cannon having already been mounted on the embankment. Our troops there look for an attack from the direction of Manassas Junction at any moment. The Federal and Rebel pickets are also gradually approaching each other on the Fairfax road.

**9 June 1861 – New York Times
Probability of a Battle at Manassas Junction
No Movement to be Made on Manassas Junction**

There are indications, this afternoon of a movement of troops. Several camps have moved to the other side. The First Rhode Island Regiment are under marching orders, probably destined to Chambersburgh. They will be replaced by the Second Regiment from Rhode Island, which is ready to come, and which is sworn in for three years.

I differ with your cotemporaries about the probabilities of a fight on the Alexandria line, at or near Manassas Junction. This line is strong enough to keep the rebels in check at the Junction, while Gen. Patterson, from Pennsylvania, and the column from Ohio, are pushing in and through the rebels at Harper's Ferry. In this way they are to be cut in pieces in detachments, and so annihilated. If they retreat from Harper's Ferry back upon Manassas Junction, they will not there have force enough to attack our entrenched camps in front of Washington, and they cannot wait at the Junction without being threatened by the Ohio and Pennsylvania columns, following up the retreating forces from Harper's Ferry. For the reasons above stated, I do not think the rebels will be attacked from this direction. Look at the map, and see if this is not likely to be the end. Bear in mind that all statements representing seventeen thousand rebels at Manassas and fifteen thousand at the Ferry are sheer fabrications.

**9 June 1861 – New York Times
News of the Day**

Although troops are moving almost daily across the river from Washington into Virginia – several camps having been changed to the other side yesterday – it is believed that the probabilities of an engagement at Manassas Gap Junction are diminishing, although the rebel forces there evidently expect to be attacked by the Federal troops, and are continually strengthening their position. That they will attack our line of entrenchments is now regarded as extremely improbable, as they cannot hope to bring against it any force which would insure success. This line, therefore, is sufficient to hold them in check while Gen. Patterson's command from Chambersburgh and the column of troops from Ohio are driving the rebels from Harper's Ferry. Even should the latter retreat upon Manassas Junction the combined forces of the rebels could hardly venture an attack upon our entrenchments, as they would in that event be threatened by the Pennsylvania and Ohio troops following in pursuit.

**10 June 1861 – New York Times
June 1861 – New Orleans True Delta
The Rebels in Virginia**

A letter from Richmond Virginia to the New Orleans True Delta says: "You have doubtless noted how the present aspect of the seat of war on the Virginia border has been produced. I am persuaded that within the six weeks past the strategy of the Confederate Government has undergone a change – or at least that it has been caused to take on the appearance of change. I am satisfied that it was originally designed to make a dash upon Washington. Lincoln and Gen. Scott thought so. The Secessionists of unhappy Maryland hoped so. But this policy, for several reasons, which it were better perhaps at present not to dwell on, was abandoned, or appeared to be abandoned.

The Confederate Government would leave to the enemy the choice of initiating by invasion the actual conflict in the field. It would respect his territory if he would respect ours. In the language of President Davis, it asked for nothing but to be let alone. Laissez aller, laissez faire – this was the appeal it made to word and in act to the North before an audience of the civilized world. The appeal was spurned. Our forbearance was construed as construed into fear. The enemy determined that since we hesitated to strike, he would not. You have seen at Sewall's Point, at Hampton, at Newport News, at Alexandria, at

Arlington Heights, how he has exercised the option that was given to him. He has attacked and invaded our territory at every exposed position. At Newport News; by that means hopes to command Suffolk; and commanding Suffolk, could intercept direct railroad communication between Richmond and Norfolk, and, if possessed of a considerable force, would threaten in no light degree both the last named cities.

But all eyes are turned at present towards Manassas Junction. The enemy, as the telegraph informed you last night, has massed some 20,000 or 25,000 troops at and about Alexandria, and their numbers at last accounts were increasing by constant arrivals by land and river. It is apprehended that they mean to attack us at Manassas Junction, where we had yesterday about 10,000 increased perhaps to 15,000 men under Gen. Bonham, which were being rapidly reinforced from this, city. Civil and military men here differ, however, as to the designs of the enemy in that direction. Some regard the demonstration at Alexandria as a feint to make important movements elsewhere – perhaps upon Norfolk, or Yorktown, or Aquia Creek, or Harper’s Ferry, or some other point.

But Gen. Lee, who is by no means a man to jump hastily to conclusions, appears to put a literal construction upon it. He proceeded in person to Manassas Junction to-day, pretty fully convinced that “by the act” of Lincoln’s troops – as our Congresses word their war declarations – it was soon to be the scene of a sharp and bloody contest. But there is no telling. Before this reaches you, the telegraph may tell you that the enemy continues to pursue a policy of gradual and almost imperceptible invasion, accompanied by a succession of small losses and irritations inflicted upon the Confederate army, until, to save its prestige at home and abroad, and to save itself from utter disaster, it will be compelled somehow and somewhere, to force a trial of conclusions in a great and decisive pitched battle. The massing of Southern troops at various important positions still goes on vigorously. Richmond is the general rendezvous for incoming volunteers, whence, as soon as inspected and properly outfitted for active duty, they are distributed where they seem most needed. According to a rough estimate, I should think that there were at this moment in active service in Virginia, about fifty thousand Confederate troops – namely: about eight thousand at or near Manassas Junction; about five thousand at Fredericksburg and Aquia Creek; about twelve thousand at Norfolk and its neighborhood; about five thousand at Yorktown and Williamsburg; about fourteen thousand at Harper’s Ferry; a fluctuating number of several thousand ready for marching orders at Richmond, and several thousand at Grafton. Of this aggregate nearly all, exclusive of the force at Harper’s Ferry, are so posted that they could be concentrated by railroad at any point between Norfolk and Alexandria within twenty-hours after.

18 July 1861 – Philadelphia Evening News

Rebel War News

Tremendous Accounts of Federal Losses

From the Baltimore Exchange – A Secession Paper

We are in possession of an extra issued yesterday, by the Leesburg Democratic Mirror, which we reprint.

FIGHT AT BULL RUN – SLAUGHTER OF THE ENEMY – LOUDOUN GUARD REGIMENT COVERS ITSELF WITH GLORY.

We have just learned that a sanguinary battle took place at Bull Run, near Manassas Junction, on yesterday, July 18th, in which the enemy met with terrible loss. The following letter from a perfectly reliable gentleman, was sent to us at 7 o’clock this morning, July 19th. We will endeavor to give to our friends, from time to time, the latest information from the scene of action.

Two passengers who also left the Junction yesterday evening, confirm the statements of our correspondent, and say that the victory was overwhelming.

NEAR MIDDLEBURG, July 19, 1861 – I left Manassas Junction last evening at sundown. Our troops had very severe fighting on Bull Run, about three miles distant from the Junction. Nearly all say yesterday the artillery was in full play, from 9 A. M., until between 4 and 5 P.M., with two or three intervals of about one hour each. The enemy’s loss is thought to be very heavy. Ours comparatively light; Marye of the Alexandria Riflemen, and Sanger, of the same company, killed, a good many of same regiment, wounded, among them, Capt. Dulaney, severely. I could not learn that any of the guard were killed or wounded, though I did all in my power to ascertain.

The regiment to which they are attached covered itself with glory, but were unfortunately fired into by a Mississippi Regiment by mistake. The enemy were repulsed three different times with heavy loss. To use the expression of one of their men taken prisoner, they were slaughtered like a sheep – among them several field officers.

F. L. F.

**19 July 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin
The Southern Rebellion
A Battle at Bull Run, VA.**

General McDowell's Dispatches

Washington, July 18th – 12 midnight – About two P. M., the advance of General Tyler's Division, consisting of the Wisconsin, Connecticut, and Thirteenth New York Regiments, were going through the woods, four miles from Manassas, on Bull Run, when a masked battery opened upon them with fearful destruction. The men took behind the trees, and kept up the fire for more than an hour. The rebel troops consisted of seven Regiments of South Carolina and Alabama troops.

Reinforcements were sent for, and the remainder of the division came up with the artillery, but owing to the intervention of trees it could not be used with much effect. The 14,000 men fought until four o'clock, when we captured their battery, and then fell back for help. The loss is very heavy on both sides. A Chaplain is reported as killed, and a number of officers.

Both sides fought with a fierceness, determination and coolness, never before surpassed. We have not been able to secure any names of our killed and wounded. Before night Tyler was no doubt reinforced, and we are now waiting for further particulars.

Later – The report at the War Department says that the rebel battery was not taken, and that the fight is over for to-night, the South Carolina troops having retreated. Our men will not follow them until morning. Four of our men were killed and three wounded. During the fight our artillery was brought to bear on a barn up the river bank, and at the first shot fired, out run a company of rebels with a battery.

They fired into our ranks, and at each fire they would cheer. Their loss is heavy from our shells. Gen. Tyler thinks it was the rear of their retreating army with whom we had the engagement. Want of baggage wagons compels them to move slow, and if we only had a few regiments of cavalry we could put off their retreat.

Bull Run forms the boundary between Fairfax and Prince William counties, until it enters the Occoquan River, fourteen miles from its mouth.

**21 July 1861 – Baltimore Exchange
Bull Run Rout**

Washington, July 20 – No accounts can be expected from the battle. The truth is not a quarter told. The defeat was terrible – the slaughter terrific. On the approach of the Hessians to Fairfax the Confederates made a rapid retreat, leaving things rather in confusion. At Centreville they also gave way, leaving behind in disorder even munitions of war. The stand was made at Bull Run. The Run at this point winds in the form of a serpent. Several batteries were erected upon it at different points. Fire was not opened until the Hessians had advanced well, when three batteries opened upon them, raking them in every direction. They retreated in confusion, but rallying again made an attack, when they were again repulsed with a heavy loss. Some of the guns worked by old navy officers were most admirably served.

“The Hessians now retreated three miles, to Centreville. They were immediately pursued by Beauregard, who commanded in person. At Centreville a stand was made, and General Tyler gave battle. The fight, which was an open one between the two forces, lasted until 4 o'clock P. M., when it was terminated by a storm, and the Confederates lay all night on their arms, intending to renew the battle in the morning. But General Tyler was not on hand. One of the killed appeared to have been an officer of high rank. He was mounted on a magnificent horse and was seen riding about during the day in every direction. Nearly \$1000 in gold was found on his person as well as a fine gold watch in his pocket. The horse, which was also severely wounded, was exceedingly admired by the Southern gentlemen.

**22 July 1861 - New York Times
Rebel Accounts of the Battle.**

Fronting Bull's Run is the main battery of rebels, flanked on each side by slanting batteries, which protect the entire crossing of the creek. The right battery can be flanked, but the left cannot.

Our troops moved onward last night at 8 o'clock numbering about forty-five thousand. Gen. Patterson's column is reported moving down the Winchester Road with about fifteen thousand men, and is expected to join to-day. Eleven thousand troops left Alexandria this morning, so that by night we shall have a superior force there, although this morning we stood forty-five thousand against sixty thousand rebels.

What was done last night we do not know positively, but I am just in receipt of a report that a battle was commenced last night, and has continued all day.

The frequent discharge of heavy guns can be heard distinctly at Long Bridge, and this has continued since 6 this morning.

22 July 1861 – New York Times
Washington, Sunday, July 21- 5 P.M.

This morning a general engagement took place along the entire line. After a terrific fight, with great slaughter on both sides, each and every battery was taken.

The fight progressed most fiercely, and the firing only ceased when the rebels were forced within their Manassas lines.

The principal fight took place three and a half miles this side of Manassas. Couriers have been dispatched for further intelligence, and may be expected in very soon.

This news is corroborated by dispatches now before President Lincoln, Gen. Scott and Gen. Mansfield. Gen. Mansfield says the enemy's guns and equipments are in the hands of our force.

Now, on to Richmond!

22 July 1861 – New York Times
19 July 1861 – Washington Star
The Battle of Bull's Run
Correspondence of the Washington Star
Fairfax Court House, Friday, July 18 – 6 P.M.

According to your instructions, at 10 A. M., I started after the main body of the Army, via Germantown, where I found three of the nine buildings of which the village has been comprised, burned to the ground. The only citizens visible were females, looking intensely woebegone, as though crushed to earth by the previous oppression of the Secessionists, and the recent vandal acts of arson committed by our then uncontrolled troops. They said that all the able bodied men of the village had been pressed into the traitor service on the day before, at the point of the bayonet, before which they were driven in the direction of Manassas.

Leaving there for Centreville, I found my troops strewn along on each side of the road, resting at their noon halt. The whole road was lined with them thus: A portion of Col. Heintzelman's Division was in the rear, in and around Germantown. Those seen on the road to Centreville were principally of Gen. Tyler's column – the Maine, Connecticut and other regiments. Two and a half miles east of Centreville I heard firing in the advance, and on reaching there learned that an engagement was evidently in progress before the enemy's entrenchment at Bull's Run, half way from that village to Manassas Junction.

I learned that the enemy had evacuated his slight Centreville works as early as 1 A. M. this morning. They were situated on the crest of the ridge immediately east of the village, consisting of 30 or 40 poor and straggling houses, stretching down the west slope of the ridge on either side of the Warrenton turnpike.

No male citizens were visible, and the few white females there wore brighter countenances than their sisters of Germantown. When the enemy evacuated the place,(its males having been impressed the day before,) the women fled to the woods with their children and movables, leaving only one there. They had been told that it was the purpose of the d---d Yankees to burn the town and kill all the male white children. The women left, on realizing that no harm whatever was being done to person or property by our advance on entering the village, and brought those who had fled by a negro messenger.

I found no detachment of our troops in the abandoned works or the village, though National stragglers were lounging about both. Gen. Tyler had ordered all the front doors to be left open , to prevent assassin shots from the houses, and the men were freely passing in and out of them, for water, &c. Not a disrespectful word even had been uttered in Centreville, by a single National soldier, nor had any one there been robbed to the value of a penny by them. The effect of their capital behavior there has been most happy indeed, making up for it at Fairfax and Germantown.

I proceeded as soon as possible on towards the direction of the firing, and two and a half miles out of Centreville saw on the crest of a ridge scattered soldiers and civilians evidently watching the battle in progress at or near its west base. On rising the hill it was in full view. The rest is not legible.

22 July 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin
The Southern Rebellion
A Great Battle Near Manassas – Heavy Loss on Both Sides
Last Nights Dispatches

Centreville, July 21, A. M. – [By telegraph from Fairfax Court House] – At half past two this morning the various regiments about Centreville were formed for the march, and at three they were in motion in the direction of Perryville, leaving Bull Run to the left. At six o'clock the first shot was fired by one of the 32 pound rifled cannons, which was sent ahead to batter any masked batteries that might be encountered on the road. There was no reply from the enemy, and the advance guard moved on. Gen. McDowell's headquarters were three miles beyond the town of Centreville.

The greater part of the army moved to the right to avoid a bridge some distance beyond, said to have been undermined. They will pass over the stream on pontoons prepared by Captain Alexander, of the Engineers, who has previously reconnoitered the country minutely, and to whom in a great measure, the plan of the campaign is due.

The Eighty-Ninth New York was assigned the post of honor in the advance movement. The members of this regiment have unanimously agreed to remain in the service, although their time has expired. All the New York regiments will follow their example.

For five hours one steady column of troops has been passing through Centreville. The morale of the soldiers is excellent. All are anxious for a battle and when informed of the purpose to advance, the enthusiasm was beyond description.

The Battle

Washington, Midnight, July 21 – A most severe battle was fought to day at Bull Run Bridge. The conflict was desperate, lasting over nine hours. The programme, as stated in the first dispatch was carried out until the troops met with a succession of masked batteries, which were attacked with vigor and success. Our troops advanced as follows: Col. Richardson proceeded on the left with four regiments of the Fourth Brigade, to hold the Battery hill, on the Warrenton road, in the vicinity of the ground where the last battle was fought. The flank movements have been previously described. Schenck's and Sherman's brigades of Tyler's Divisions advanced by the Warrenton road, while Heinzelman and Hunter's divisions took the fork of the Warrenton road to move between Bull Run and Manassas Junction. Col. Key's brigade remained at Centreville.

Information was received by Gen. Tyler's command of the existence of the enemy's battery commanding the road. Our troops were then formed in battle array. The Second New York and Second Ohio on the left, the – Ohio and Second Wisconsin, and Thirteenth and Sixty-ninth New York on the right. Col. Miles's division followed in the rear.

The first range gun was fired by Sherman's battery at ten minutes of 7 o'clock. The rebels did not return his shot until an hour and a half afterwards. When Col. Hunter's division came up the battle became general. The latter's movement, to gain the enemy's rear, was almost a success.

The enemy's position was opened on by several of Captain Carlisle's howitzers, followed by slight skirmishing from Manassas Junction after the attack was opened. The battle consisted in a succession of fires from masked batteries, which opened in every direction – when one was silenced its place was supplied by two – and in the daring charges of our infantry in unmasking them.

The Second Ohio and Second New York Militia were marched by flank through the woods by a new made road within a mile of the main road, when they came on a battery of eight guns, with four regiments flanked in the rear.

Our men were immediately ordered to lie down on either side of the road in order to allow two pieces of artillery to pass through to attack the (one line illegible), and killed, New York Second, and Wm. Maxwell, a drummer, Also seriously wounding several others. Our troops were kept for 15 or 20 minutes under a galling fire, not being able to exchange shots with the enemy, although within a stone's throw of their batteries. They succeeded in retiring in regular order and with their battery.

The most gallant charge of the day was made by the New York Sixty-ninth, Seventy-ninth and Thirteenth, who rushed up on one of the batteries, firing as they proceeded with perfect éclat. And attacking it at the bayonet's point. The yell of triumph seemed to carry all before it. They found that the rebels had abandoned the battery, taking only one gun; but this success was acquired only after severe loss of life, in which the Sixty-ninth were the greatest sufferers, and it was reported that the Lieutenant Colonel was among the first killed. The Zouaves also distinguished themselves by their spirited assaults on the batteries at the point of the bayonet, but it is feared that their loss is immense.

Up to 3 o'clock P. M. it was generally understood that we had hemmed in the enemy entirely, and that they were gradually retiring; that Hunter had driven them back in the rear, that Heintzelman's command was meeting with every success, and that it required but the reserve of Tyler's division to push on to Manassas Junction.

A Mississippi soldier was taken prisoner by Hasbrouck, of the Wisconsin Second. He turned out to be Brigade Quartermaster Pryor, a cousin to Roger A. Pryor. He was captured with his horse, he by accident riding into our lines. He discovered himself by remarking to Hasbrouck, "We are getting badly cut to pieces." "What regiment do you belong to?" asked Hasbrouck. "The Nineteenth Mississippi," was the answer. "Then you are my prisoner," said Hasbrouck.

From the statement of this prisoner it appears that our artillery has created great havoc among the rebels, of whom there are from 30,000 to 40,000 in the field under command of Beauregard, while they have a reserve of 75,000 at the junction. He described an officer most prominent in the fight, distinguished from the rest by his white horse, as Jeff. Davis. He confirms the previous report of a negro regiment in the rebel ranks, but says it is difficult to get them into proper discipline in battle array.

The position of the enemy extended in three lines in the form of a triangle, the apex fronting the entire of our column. The area seems to have been filled with masked batteries. At seven o'clock this evening, guns were still heard firing at short intervals.

Still Later

A report, not official but from an apparently reliable source, says that the column under Colonel Heintzelman has followed the rebels to Manassas Junction, and has opened a fire on their entrenched camp, and was then shelling them. The cannonading can occasionally be heard in Washington and on Georgetown Heights.

The headquarters of the army are inaccessible to-night, the President and Cabinet being privately with General Scott and other distinguished gentlemen.

Another Washington Dispatch

Washington, July 21 – night – The most intense excitement is everywhere existing to hear news from the field of battle. Every returning spectator is immediately surrounded, and the demand for intelligence is insatiable. Many unauthorized rumors prevail, which serve to confuse the truth.

The smoke of the battle could be seen from the eminences in Washington. Numbers of members of Congress, and even ladies went to the neighborhood of Bull Run to witness the battle. One of them reports that Col. Hunter of the Third Cavalry, but acting as Major General, was seriously if not mortally wounded. It is stated with confidence in all quarters that Col. Cameron, of the Seventy-Sixth New York, and brother to the Secretary of War, and Colonel Slocum, of the Second Rhode Island, were killed.

Other Dispatches

2 P. M. – The musketry very heavy and drawing much nearer. There is evidently a movement nearer to our left.

2.45 P. M. – Firing a little farther off and apparently in the direction of the Junction. Less heavy guns and more light artillery, as near as I can judge.

3 P. M. – The firing ceased ten minutes since.

3.55 P. M. – The firing has almost entirely ceased and can only be heard with difficulty. I shall telegraph no more unless there should be a renewal of the battle which has been so gloriously fought for the old Stars and Stripes. From all indications here, our troops have at least stood their ground.

Fairfax C. H. – 3.50 P. M. – Our courier has not returned. Quartermaster Barton, of the Second Michigan, has just passed, and says that the officers, men and citizens of Centreville say that a general engagement of the whole line has taken place three and a half miles this side of the Junction, and that our troops have driven and forced the Secession lines back to the Junction. We expect the courier now every movement.

Centreville, 4 P. M. – Gen. McDowell has ordered the reserves now here, under Col. Miles, to advance to the bridge over Bull Run, on the Warrenton road, having driven the enemy before him. Col. Miles is now about three or four miles from here, directing the operations near Blackburn's ford.

Fairfax, 4.45 P. M. – Two of our couriers have returned, but were unable to communicate in person with Gen. McDowell. One of the couriers was on the field of battle. He says our troops have taken three masked batteries and forced the rebels to fall back and retire. He says the battle was general on Bull Run for some distance. One of the batteries taken was in a wheat field, and the other some distance from it. The third battery, was still further on.

5.20 P. M. – Another dispatch says that the Federals have now the day. The loss on both sides is very heavy, but the rout of the rebels is complete. The batteries at Bull Run are silenced, and two or three others taken.

5.40 P. M. – The firing has ceased. We shall send another courier there in a few minutes. The Colonel went at 4 o'clock, and will be back soon.

22 July 1861 - New York Times

Tremendous Battle at Bull's Run

Bull's Run Bridge, Sunday, July 21 – 3 P. M.

The great battle occurred to-day, and the result is not certain at the moment I write. Both sides have fought with a terrible tenacity. The battle has been hot and steady for three hours, and the loss must be very heavy – certainly not under one thousand on each side.

The Union Army advanced from Centreville in three columns at 3 o'clock this morning. Col. Richardson commanded the column by the road to Bull's Run, where the action of Thursday took place, and Col. Miles lay on the road and at Centreville to support him.

Geo. Tyler commanded the centre division, which took the Warrenton Road – Gens. Schemck and Col. Sherman being in advance. He had the three Connecticut Regiments, two from Michigan, two from Wisconsin, and the Sixty-ninth and Seventy-ninth, from New York. Gen. McDowell, with Col. Hunter and a very powerful division, went out on this road, which leads directly forward to Manassas, crossing Bull's Run by a stone bridge, which had been mined.

The attack by these two points was intended mainly as a feint. The real attack was by Hunter, who took a narrow road two miles out leading to the right, having Hunt's and the Rhode Island Batteries, and leaving Co. Keyes on the centre at the crossing of the roads as a reserve. His orders were to proceed high up the stream, cut himself a path through the woods, cross over, and turn the position of the rebels on the north.

I went out with the centre column. At ten minutes before six we halted about a mile this side of the position of the rebels. The Sixty-ninth and Seventy-ninth Regiments of New York were thrown to the right. In the woods, and the First and Second Ohio and Second New York to the left in advance.

The thirty-pound Parrott gun was planted in the middle of the road, and at ten minutes past six it threw two shells into the battery of the enemy, but without eliciting any response. Ten minutes after, we heard firing on our left from Richardson's column, which was continued at intervals for two hours, but without eliciting any reply.

Our column remained silent, firing now and then a gun, and at twenty minutes to eight, Ayers' Battery, formerly Sherman's fired five or six rounds into the enemy, but without response. At a quarter before nine shots were rapidly exchanged between the opposing skirmishers, and Gardner's, of Lacrosse, belonging to the Rhode Island Regiment, was reported killed.

At about ten o'clock heavy clouds of dust showed that reinforcements were coming up to the rebels from Manassas, and was continued through the next three or four hours.

At 11 o'clock Ayres' Battery went to the front; the Sixty-ninth, New York, was ordered to deploy into the field in front, and firing was heard from Hunter's Division, on the extreme right, far in advance.

The Ohio regiments were pushed forward with the Second New York, and ran upon a masked battery of four guns, which killed and wounded a number of both. Of the latter, Michael McCarty, Sergeant of Company H, was wounded, and afterwards was reported dead. Lieut. Demsey received a slight wound. Some twenty or thirty of the Ohio Regiment broke and ran, but the rest stood firm as did the Second New York.

Carlisle's Battery was brought to the front on the right, and soon drove the rebels out of the masked battery.

It was now 11 ½ o'clock, when Hunter's column appeared across the Run, advancing on the flank of the rebels, and the engagement soon became very active in his position. He kept steadily advancing, pouring in a steady fire of artillery and musketry.

The whole Brigade under Tyler was ordered forward to his support. The Sixty-ninth and Seventy-ninth New York, the First, Second and Third Connecticut, and the Second Wisconsin were sent in. A constant roll of musketry marked Hunter's advance, and the artillery from our column played incessantly on the flank of the rebels. So far as I could see, the latter were pushed backwards a considerable distance to the road directly in front of where I stood, across which they charged twice with bayonet upon our troops,

but were repulsed each time. Our men crossed the road and poured in upon them a terrible fire of artillery and musketry.

I write this at 2 ½ o'clock, and am compelled to close in order to avail myself of a special messenger to Washington. The fight is still going on with great energy. The rebel batteries have again commenced firing upon us, and their balls and shells fall thick upon the road and in the field which I had selected as my observatory.

Gen. Schenek and two batteries are ordered up to repulse an attempt of cavalry to outflank us. I shall try to send the results in a latter dispatch.

H. J. R.

**23 July 1861 - Leesburg (Va.) Democratic Mirror
Reported for the Richmond Enquirer
Latest From Manassas**

Manassas, July 19, 12 P.M. – The enemy has been busy today burying their dead. They are however, gathering in force, throwing up defences and planting batteries at Bull's Run, as if to renew their attack. Our troops await the ones with great confidence.

General Patterson has left Martinsburg, and is said to have crossed the Potomac River at Harper's Ferry.

The enemy's loss is estimated at from four to five hundred killed and wounded in the battle of yesterday. We have lost from ten to fifteen killed and from thirty to fifty wounded.

Beauregard issued an order this afternoon that all civilians, women and children should leave Manassas Junction in anticipation of giving battle here.

George H. Moss, private in the Washington Artillery of New Orleans, died today. Major Harrison, of the 11th Virginia Regiment died this morning.

We took 500 stand of arms and two cannon yesterday. Thomas Sangster of the Alexandria Riflemen was killed, and not William. Fifty prisoners arrived from Winchester today.

**23 July 1861 - Leesburg (Va.) Democratic Mirror
Another Report**

Gentlemen who have arrived in this town the past week from Washington and Alexandria, relate many amusing incidents connected with the rush into those cities of the whipped spaniels at Manassas. They poured in pell-mell, many of them without hats, shoes, or coats, and none with guns. They threw away everything that could possible retard their locomotion and are represented as the worst frightened, the most ragged and dirtiest set of recruits ever congregated since the days of Falstaff. The burden of their song was "the black horse" or as they stilled them, "the black devils." They said it was impossible for them turn round without being confronted by a black horseman. On being asked if they had encountered the Louisiana tigers they said they did not know, but if there was any worse tigers on the field than they had seen, they pitted the men who came in contact with them. They said the Mississippians and Alabamians made their charge with a pistol in one hand, a bowie-knife in the other, and their mouths open.

Beauregard was confidently looked for in Alexandria, and had he approached, so great was the consternation, it is said he could have taken Arlington Heights without a blow. In Washington the panic was fearful, many of the soldiers passed on through, never halting until they reached Baltimore.

Beauregard's headquarters is now at Fairfax C. H. The Confederate troops have advanced as far as Falls Church, seven miles from Alexandria, while the federal pickets have been withdrawn to within two miles of the city. On last Sunday as a body of our troops approached Falls Church, a Rhode Island regiment numbering about 800 strong marched out and surrendered themselves as prisoners. They said they had enlisted for three months, their time of service had expired and they were not permitted to go home: they would rather be prisoners of war than put up with such treatment. Good for Little Rhode.

**23 July 1861 - Leesburg (Va.) Democratic Mirror
Another Grand Battle
Great Loss of the Enemy
Yankees Repulsed and Driven from the Field**

The demon of Civil War has at length shown itself in our land, and the fair fields of Virginia been stained with fraternal blood. The past week has been one mingled with gloom and glory – gloom for the noble and brave sons of the South who fell fighting manfully for their rights and their homes, and glory for

the terrible slaughter attending the invasion of our foes. We give in another column the story of the fight at Bull Run, on Thursday – taken from the Baltimore Sun, which is of course colored to suit the latitude in which it circulated. It will suffice, however, to give some idea of the extent of the battle, while our own information derived from reliable sources, is to the effect that our army was triumphantly victorious. The enemy was repelled three different times, with great slaughter, - their loss, as near as we can ascertain, in killed and wounded exceeding 900 while our own loss does not exceed 50 or 60, only eight of whom were killed.

The Loudoun Guard and the Alexandria Riflemen led the charge, and were in the thickest of the fight, and bore themselves most nobly. Many instances of their gallantry and heroism have been related to us which we will hereafter endeavor to give to our readers – suffice it now to say, that Capt. Head of the Guard with that noble daring worthy of a true soldier, seized his musket and calling his boys to follow him charged upon the enemy with deadly effect. The only members of the Guard injured in the conflict was Mr. Chas G. Edwards, son of Dr. R. H. Edwards of this town, who received a musket ball through the thigh, inflicting a very serious, though not necessarily fatal wound. He had killed his man and was in the act of bayoneting the second, when he received his disabling wound. He was taken to Culpeper C. H., where we learn he is doing well; John W. Sexton and ___ ___ Donnelly were also wounded.

The fight lasted for several hours, and only ceased as the setting sun closed the day. On Friday morning the enemy sent in a flag of truce, asking time to bury their dead, which was of course granted. Thus ended the victory of Thursday, but Sunday, the 20th of July, 1861, will long be remembered as a day memorable in the annals of the present struggle. Of this fight we have no detailed information, though we were within a mile or two of the scene of carnage during the day, and traversed a portion of the field a few hours after the fighting ceased, and beheld with our own eyes the and, terrible, desolating effects of the Sabbath day's work.

“On that morning we left home for the purpose of visiting Manassas Junction. When we were within about two miles and a half of Sudley Mills, in Prince William County, we heard the firing of cannon, and were met in the road by a party of gentlemen, who informed us that further progress was impossible, as a large body of National troops was then passing between us and the Mills. We afterwards, however, proceeded to within half a mile of Sudley, and about 200 yards of the enemy's army which was then drawn up in battle array in an open field to the left of road. Not being familiar with the country, nor knowing the location of the troops stationed ahead of us, we returned to our encampment about two miles back where we remained until late in the evening. From one o'clock A.M., until 5 P.M., there was a roaring of cannon and musket – apparently along Bull Run in the direction of Manassas, which told of the awful work being accomplished.

The body of troops that we saw approaching Sudley had been marched by a circuitous route from Centreville, with the evident design of flanking Beauregard at Manassas. Col. Stewart. However, with about 800 cavalry, was apprised of their approach by a couple of gentleman who proceeded them in their march. The colonel was reinforced by a body of infantry, and the fight became general almost along the entire road from Sudley to within a few miles of the Junction, a distance of five or six miles. Between 5 and 6 o'clock in the evening the enemy's rank gave way, and they retreated in the utmost confusion, the cavalry leading in the chase, and our cavalry pursuing them for some distance.

We entered Sudley about 7 ½ o'clock on Monday morning. The church at that place, and the grove surrounding it had been used on Sunday as a hospital by the enemy, for storing away their killed and wounded, numbers of whom, in their precipitate retreat, they left behind. On Monday our troops took possession of the ground, and when we left had a number of our wounded and some few of our dead also there. Quite a number of the enemy who had been taken prisoners were held by our troops; and on our return we passed fifteen Nationals, who were being marched back to Co. Stewart, prisoners.

The scene around that little church was a sad one. In piles of three and four lay the dead bodies of National soldiers who had left their Northern homes to carry misery and death to the land they invaded – while there mangled bodies and shattered limbs covered the earth around. The involuntary prompting of humanity made us almost shudder at the sight; but when we remembered that on that same field had fallen – not so many – but braver, nobler, worthier defenders of our rights, our liberties, our homes – we sorrowed that every green leaf that then shaded their fevered brow had not been a legion of soldiers, ten pines seemed to breathe death and destruction upon their heads.

The prisoners with whom we conversed told the same lame story about having been forced, against their wills to invade the soil of Virginia, and invoked loud and deep curses upon the heads of their

officers who they said threatened them with death if they refused to come. Others can believe as much of this as they please.

We learned that on Sunday, during the progress of the fight, several of the Northern Soldiers marched into the yard surrounding Sudley House, and threw down their arms, saying that they had been deceived, and would fight no longer; that "fourteen millions of men could never subdue a people who fought as the Southerners had fought that day." These are the men, probably, that Abraham thinks capable of forming a Cabinet. We would advise him to take them to his bosom.

P. S. From gentlemen just from the Junction, we learn the fight, as we expected, was most sanguinary and fatal in its consequences. They report that from Sudley, on out as far as the fight extended, the ground was literally covered with dead and wounded. The Fourth South Carolina Regiment, and the Eighth Virginia regiment, under Col. Hunton – both recently stationed at this place – were in the hottest of the fight, a little beyond Stone Bridge, and we regret to say that the former suffered severely. Hunton's Regiment fought manfully. Messrs. Charles Brown and Enoch Cantwel, members of Capt. Heaton's company, who were wounded in the engagement, were brought to Leesburgh Monday evening. Brown has a flesh wound in the thigh, and Cantwell a shot through the shoulder, - Hope, same company, was wounded, and died on Sunday night.

Rogers' Artillery held a prominent place in the fight, and one of the wounded men noticed above thinks they must have done great execution. All the companies of the Eighth Regiment participated in the fight, and each man demeaned himself, as we all knew they would, most gallantly.

It is with feelings of no ordinary sadness, that we record the death of Charles Robert Norris, son of Mr. John Norris, of this town. He was a student of the V. M. I. at Lexington, and at the time of the fight was a lieutenant of a company. He fell ten feet in advance of his men, while leading them to a charge, the ball taking an oblique course across the breast, and killing him, it is supposed, instantly, through his body was not found until next morning. He was a manly noble youth, but 17 years of age, and died the death of a hero in a just cause.

Latest. – Gentleman just returned from Manassas, who left there on Monday evening, inform us that our loss is estimated at from 1500 to 2000 killed, wounded, and missing, while the National loss is variously estimated at from 5000 to 8000. We completely routed the enemy, and captured 5000 blankets, 53 cannon, among them Sherman's celebrated battery; 7000 muskets, 200 horses, 150 wagons and a thousand prisoners, including 70 officers. Mead's cavalry charged on Sherman's battery twice, and the second time bore it off, without injury to a single man. Sherman with every man under him, is reported to have been killed.

The five large rifled cannon recently presented to Lincoln was on the ground, drawn by sixteen horses, and is now in the possession of our troops at Manassas; it will probably be knocking at Abraham's door before long. The greatest quantities of provisions was likewise taken by our men. The defeat is said to have been overwhelming.

The Rev. C. H. Nourse who left the Junction Monday evening gives us the following additional particulars, as to the killed, wounded &c.

Captain Welby Carter's Company – Killed – Frank Dowell, Enoch McCarty, G. Francis, John Plaster, Stephen Cornell, Peyton Wilson, and Jim Hicks of Md. – Wounded – Sergeant Daber and William Jacobs.

Captain Heaton's Company – Killed – Hope, Wounded – Town. Heaton, Enoch Cantwell, James Russell, Charles Brown, Joseph Janney, James McDaniel, ____ Orsbaum, ____ Bronner.

Rogers Artillery – Killed – none, Wounded – John Howser

Wampler's Company – Killed – none, wounded – T. Myers, J. W. Nichols, G. T. Loveless.

Gary Harding was wounded.

These are all reported from Col. Hunton's regiment of Loudoun Guards as being in any wise injured. I mingled freely with them all and found them ready for another conflict. – At headquarters I learned that we had lost Gen. Bee, Gen. Bartow, Gen. Smith and Col. Jackson, all from the South. Charles Powell, of Winchester, is said to have lost his son Lloyd. Holmes Conrad of Martinsburgh, lost two sons.

The impression was that we had lost, in killed and wounded and missing from 1000 to 1500, while the loss of the enemy was probably much greater. Large numbers of prisoners, perhaps 900, were sent to Richmond. A Member of Congress, Col. Coscoran, of New York, and other distinguished characters, were among the prisoners. The battle raged fearfully; every house in the neighborhood was riddled. In one of these, a lady, aged and blind, was shot dead in her bed, with three balls.

23 July 1861 - Leesburg (Va.) Democratic Mirror
The Battle of Bull Run
Spirited Conduct of the Confederates

Washington, July 19th – From the Hons. William A. Richardson and John A. McClernand, of Illinois, together with John W. Noel, of Missouri, (all members of the house) who were eye-witnesses of the battle, and added in several instances, in bearing from the field members of the New York Twelfth who were wounded within their sight. I gather the following account of the conflict:

The action commenced under the direction of Gen. Tyler, of Conn. At half past 1 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, at Bull's Run, three miles from Centreville, between several companies of skirmishers attached to the Massachusetts First, and a masked battery, situated on a slight eminence – the skirmishers retreated rapidly and were succeeded in the engagement by Sherman's Battery and two companies of regular cavalry, which after continuing the contest for some time, were supported by the New York Twelfth, (volunteers for 3 years.) and a Wisconsin Regiment, when the battle was waged with great earnestness, continuing until 5 o'clock, when the Federal troops were driven back in great confusion beyond the range of the Confederate batteries, where they bivouacked for this night.

During the conflict the Michigan, Maine and Wisconsin regiments held their ground with a fortitude, in view of the exceeding galling fire to which they were exposed, was most remarkable, but the New York Twelfth and the Massachusetts regiments retired in great disorder from the field, throwing away knapsacks and even their arms in their flight. A number of the members of the former regiment openly asserted that their confused retreat was the fault of their officers, who evinced a total lack of courage, and were the first to flee.

After the retreat had been commenced Corcoran's New York Sixty-ninth (Irish) and Cameron's New York Seventy-ninth (Scotch) regiments were ordered up to the support, but arrived too late to take part in the action.

These were three batteries in all, the first to open fire, and the smallest was situated on the top of an eminence, and the second and most destructive in a ravine. The latter is totally concealed from view by brushwood, &c. and it was in attempting to take the first assault that the Federal troops stumbled upon it. The battle occurred at a point in the declivity of the road, when it makes a turn forming an obtuse angle, and the third battery was so placed as to enfilade with its fire the approaches toward the Junction.

Much jealousy, it is stated by the same authority, existed between the regular officers and those of the volunteer corps, each appearing desirous of shifting to the other the responsibility of any movement not advised by themselves and this jealousy, it is feared, will seriously effect the efficiency of the "grand army." Thus Gen. McDowell expressly states that the battle was not his own, but that of Gen. Tyler. The former officer said he would not advance further until he had thoroughly and carefully reconnoitered the position of the batteries their capabilities, &c., and the inference derived by my informant from his remarks is that he deems his present force entirely insufficient to carry the opposition before him.

One of the gentlemen mentioned at the commencement of this account gives it as his opinion that Manassas Junction cannot be carried by 50,000 men in two months, and all agreed in saying that the force under Beauregard has been entirely underrated numerically, and that their fighting abilities are superior. The cheers with which they rushed to the fight frequently rang above the din of the battle. Their numbers were not ascertained, but is estimated at upwards of 5,000 South Carolinians, under command of Gen. Bonham, of S.C. Their artillery was of the best kind; a shot from one of the batteries severed a bough from a tree quite two miles distant, and but a few feet from where the vehicle of the Congressmen was standing. One ball fell directly in the midst of a group of Congress, among whom was Owen Lovelo, but injured no one, the members scampering in different directions, sheltering behind trees &c.

There were a number of rifle pits also in front of the batteries, from which much execution was done by expert riflemen.

The Congressmen were greatly impressed with the extent and magnitude of the earthworks, entrenchments, &c. erected by the Confederates from Alexandria to Centreville, and beyond; these were all of the most formidable and extensive character. It is thought by them that Manassas Junction is encircled by a chain of batteries, which can only be penetrated by severe fighting. All the entrenchments evidence consummate skill in their construction. The entire column under Gen. McDowell fell back at 8 o'clock Thursday evening, a short distance from Centreville where they were camped; they were joined during the evening by Heintzelman's command, and on the succeeding morning by that of Col. Burnside, all of which troops are now encamped there.

Early in the evening Gen. Schenek's brigade of Ohio troops were sent forward by the Hainesville road to flank the bat--- but no tidings had been heard of them up to 8 o'clock yesterday (Friday) morning when the Congressmen left Gen. McDowell's headquarters bringing with them his dispatches to the War Department.

These dispatches put the loss in killed at 5, but Mr. McClernand states that he himself saw more than that, number killed. All of these gentlemen concur in the opinion that the loss in killed will reach one hundred. They account for the disparity between their statements and the official re--- by the act that the latter --- made up altogether from the surgeon's ----- and many are killed who are seldom reported to the surgeons.

One remarkable fact, which commanded the especial attention of the Congressmen was the absence from that part of Virginia which they traversed, of all the male population capable of bearing arms. They saw a few inhabitants other than old women, very aged men and children. The women seemed to regard them with abhorrence to quote the language of one of the Congressmen. "Their eyes fairly flashed fire at the sight of the soldier's."

Gen. McDowell expressed no fears of any attack upon him by the Confederates but seemed apprehensive that his volunteers might by stumbling upon some masked batteries "precipitate" a general battle.

The excesses of the Federal volunteers are exciting general indignation among the officers. A member of Congress who rode through the smoking ruins this morning states that the village of Germantown has been burnt to the ground, with the exception of one house, in which lay a sick man, who had been robbed, he was told by an army surgeon of everything he possessed down to a jack knife.

Gen. McDowell has issued orders for every man caught in the act of plundering to be shot. By his command a guard is to be stationed in front of the principal dwellings of every town the Federal Army may enter.

P. S. – The latest account from Gen. McDowell were received at 12 o'clock, and were those brought by Mr. McClernand, who asserts with positive ness that there had been no further action at Bull's Run, and that there is no probability of any action occurring within several days at least, unless Schenck's column shall stumble upon another masked battery.

23 July 1861 – New York Times

Disaster of the Battle

Washington, Monday, July 22.

The Rhode Island Battery was taken by the rebels at the bridge across Bull's Run, where their retreat was cut off. Their horses were all killed. It is reported that the Black Horse Cavalry made an attack on the rear of the retreating Army, when the latter turned and fired, killing all but six of the assaulting party.

The following regiments were engaged in the fight:

The Seventy-first New York, lost about half their men.

The First, Second and Third Connecticut Regiments.

The First Regiment of Regulars, composed of the second, third, and eighth companies.

Two hundred and fifty Marines.

The Eighth and Fourteenth New York militia.

The First and Second Rhode Island.

The Seventy-first New York.

The second New Hampshire.

The Fifth Massachusetts.

The First Minnesota.

The First Michigan.

The Eleventh and Thirty-eighth New York.

The Second, Fourth and Fifth Maine, and Second Vermont Regiments, besides the several batteries.

23 July 1861 – New York Times
Washington, Monday Morning, July 22, 1861
Disaster to the National Army
Retreat of General McDowell's Command from Manassas
Full Details of the Engagement
90,000 Rebels in the Field
The Retreat of our Forces on the Eve of Victory
Exaggerated Statements of Our Losses
Measures of the Government to Retrieve the Disaster
Offensive Operations to be Resumed Immediately

I came from Centreville last evening for the express purpose of sending you the latest intelligence of the great battle of yesterday. I left Centreville at half-past 5 and reached here at midnight. I sent a dispatch to the office, but as it is to be subjected to the censorship of the Government, which gives no hint of what it refuses permission to pass. I have no means of knowing whether its contents reaches you or not. I must therefore repeat its contents.

The battle yesterday was one of the most severe and sanguinary ever fought on this Continent, and it ended in the failure of the Union troops to hold all the positions which they sought to carry, and which they actually did carry, and in their retreat to Centreville, where they have made a stand and where Gen. McDowell believes that they are able to maintain themselves.

As I telegraphed you yesterday, the attack was made in three columns, two of which, however, were mainly feints, intended to amuse and occupy the enemy, while the substantial work was done by the third. It has been known for a long time that the range of hills which border the small, swampy stream known as Bull's Run, had been very thoroughly and extensively fortified by the rebels, - that batteries had been planted at every available point, usually concealed in the woods and bushes which abound in that vicinity, and covering every way of approach to the region beyond. These are the advanced defenses of Manassas Junction, which is some three miles further off. Until these were carried, no approach could be made to that place; and after they would be carried others of a similar character would have to be overcome at every point where they could be erected. The utmost that military skill and ingenuity could accomplish for the defence of this point was done. Gen. McDowell was unwilling to make an attack directly in the face of these batteries, as they would be of doubtful issue and must inevitably result in a very serious loss of life. After an attack had been resolved upon, therefore, he endeavored to find some way of turning the position. His first intention was to do this on the Southern side, to throw a strong column into the place from that direction, while a feigned attack should be made in front. On Thursday, when the troops were advanced to Centreville, it was found that the roads on the south side of these positions were almost impracticable, - that they were narrow, crooked and stony, and that it would be almost impossible to bring up enough artillery to be effective in the time required. This original plan was, therefore, abandoned; and Friday was devoted to an examination by the topographical engineers of the Northern side of the position. Maj Barnard and Capt. Whipple reconnoitered the place for miles around, and reported that the position could be entered by a path coming from the north. - though it was somewhat long and circuitous. This was selected, therefore, as the mode and point of attack.

On Saturday the troops were all brought closely up to Centreville, and all needful preparations were made for the attack which was intended for the next day. Yesterday morning, therefore, the Army marched - by two roads - Col. Richardson with his command taking the Southern, which leads to Bull's Run, and Gen. Tyler the Northern - running parallel to it a distance of about a mile and a half. The movement commenced at about 3 o'clock. I got up at a little before 4, and found the long line of troops extended far out on either road. I took the road by which Colonel Hunter with his command, and Gen. McDowell and staff, had gone, and pushed on directly for the front. After going out about two miles Colonel Hunter turned to the right - marching obliquely towards the Run, which he was to cross some four miles higher up and then come down upon the entrenched positions of the enemy on the other side. Col. Miles was left at Centreville and on the road, with reserves which he was to bring up whenever they might be needed, Gen. Tyler went directly forward, to engage the enemy in front, and send reinforcements to Col. Hunter whenever it should be seen that he was engaged. Perhaps the following very rough diagram may render the relative position of these several localities somewhat more intelligible: (a diagram of Centreville, Bull Run Road, Northern Road, Colonel Hunter's, and Range of Defended Heights)

I went out as I have already stated, upon what is marked as the northern road. It is hilly, like all the surface of this section. After going out about three miles, you come to a point down which the road, leading through a forest, descends; - then it proceeds by a succession of rising and falling knolls for a quarter of a mile, - when it crosses a stone bridge and then ascends by a steady slope to the heights beyond. At the top of that slope, the rebels had planted heavy batteries, and the woods below were filled with their troops and with concealed cannon. We proceeded down the road to the first of the small knolls mentioned, when the whole column halted. The 30 pounder Parrott gun, which has a longer range than any other in the army, was planted directly in the road. Capt Ayres' battery was stationed in the woods a little to the right. The First Ohio and Second New York Regiments were thrown in to the woods in advance on the left. The Sixty ninth New York, the First, Second and Third Connecticut regiments were ranged behind them, and the Second Wisconsin was thrown into the woods on the right. About half past six o'clock the 30 pounder threw two shells directly into the battery at the summit of the slope, on the opposite height, one of which, as I learned afterwards, struck and exploded directly in the midst of the battery, and occasioned the utmost havoc and confusion. After about half an hour Capt. Ayres threw ten or fifteen shot and shell from his battery into the same place. But both failed to elicit any reply. Men could be seen moving about the opposite slope, but the batteries were silent. An hour or so afterwards we heard three or four heavy guns from Col. Richardson's column at Bull's Run, and these were continued at intervals for two or three hours, but they were not answered, even by a single gun. It was very clear that the enemy intended to take his own time for paying his respects to us, and that he meant, moreover, to do it in his own way. Meantime we could hear in the distance the sound of Col. Hunter's axmen, clearing his way, and awaited with some impatience the sound of his cannon on the opposite heights. Time wore along with occasional shots from our guns, as well as those of Col. Richardson's column, but without, in a single instance, receiving any reply.

At a little before 11 o'clock, the First Ohio and Second New York, which were lying in the wood on the left, were ordered to advance. They did so, - passing out of the road and climbing a fence into a wood opposite, which they had barely approached, however, when they were met by a tremendous discharge of a four gun battery, planted at the left in the woods, mainly for the purpose of sweeping the road perpendicularly and the open field on its right by which alone troops could pass forward to the opposite bank. They were staggered for a moment, and received orders to retire. Capt. Ayres' Battery (formerly Sherman's) was advanced a little, so as to command this Battery, and by twenty minutes of vigorous play upon it, silenced it completely.

At half past 11 we heard Hunter's guns on the opposite height, ever a mile to the right. He was answered by batteries there, and then followed the sharp, rattling volleys of musketry, as their infantry became engaged. The firing was now incessant. Hunter had come upon them suddenly, and formed his line of battle in an open field, at the right of the road. The enemy drew up to oppose him, but he speedily drove them to retreat and followed them up with the greatest vigor and rapidity. Meantime, for some three hours previous, we had seen long lines of dense dust rising from the roads leading from Manassas, and, with the glass, we could very clearly perceive that they were raised by the constant and steady stream of reinforcements, which continued to pour in nearly the whole day. The Sixty-Ninth, Seventy-ninth, Second and Eighth, New York - the First, Second and Third Connecticut, and the Second Wisconsin, were brought forward in advance of the wood and marched across the field to the right, to go to Col. Hunter's support. They crossed the intervening stream and drew up in a small open field, separated from Col. Hunter's column by a dense wood, which was filled with batteries and infantry. Our guns continued to play upon the woods which thus concealed the enemy, and aided materially in clearing them for the advance. Going down to the extreme front of the column, I could watch the progress of Col. Hunter, marked by the constant roar of artillery and the roll of musketry, as he pushed the rebels back from point to point. At 1 o'clock he had driven them out of the woods and across the road which was the prolongation of that on which we stood. Here, by the side of their batteries, the rebels made a stand. They planted their flag directly in the road, and twice charged across it upon our men, but without moving them an inch. They were met by a destructive fire, and were compelled to fall still further back. Gradually the point of fire passed further away, until the dense clouds of smoke which marked the progress of the combat were at least half a mile to the left of what had been the central position of the rebels.

It was now 2 ½ o'clock. I was at the advanced point of the front of our column, some hundred rods beyond the woods, in which the few troops then there were drawn up, when I decided to drive back to the town, for the purpose of sending you my dispatch. As I passed up the road the balls and shell from the enemy began to fall with more than usual rapidity. I did not see the point from which they came; but

meeting Capt. Ayres, he said he was about to bring up his battery, supported by the Ohio Brigade, under Gen. Schenck, to repel a rumored attempt of cavalry to outflank this column. As I went forward he passed down. Gen Schenck's Brigade was at once drawn up across the road, and Capt. Ayres' guns were planted in a knoll at the left, when a powerful body of rebels, with heavy battery, came down from the direction of Bull's Run and engaged this force with tremendous effect. I went to Centreville, sent off my dispatch, and started with all speed to return, - intending to go with our troops upon what had been the hotly contested field, never doubting for a moment that it would remain in their hands. I had gone but a quarter of a mile when we met a great number of fugitives, and our carriage soon became entangled in a mass of baggage wagons, the officer in charge of which told me it was useless to go in that direction, as our troops were retreating. Not crediting the story, which was utterly inconsistent with what I had seen but a little while before, I continued to push on. I soon met Quartermaster Stetson, of the Fire Zouaves, who told me, bursting into tears, that his Regiment had been utterly cut to pieces, that the Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel were both killed, and that our troops had actually been repulsed. I still tried to proceed, but the advancing columns rendered it impossible, and I turned about. Leaving my carriage, I went to a high point of ground and saw, by the dense cloud of dust which rose over each of the three roads by which the three columns of the Army had advanced, that they were all on the retreat. Sharp discharges of cannon in their rear indicated that they were being pursued. I waited half an hour or so, to observe the troops and batteries as they arrived, and then started for Washington, to send my dispatch and write this letter. As I came past the hill on which the secessionists had their entrenchments less than a week ago, I saw our forces taking up positions for a defence if they should be assailed.

Such is a very rapid and general history of yesterday's engagement. I am unable to be precise or profuse in matters of detail and must leave these to a future letter.

I hear nothing on every side, but the warmest and heartiest commendation of our troops. They fought like veterans. The rebels did not in a single instance, stand before them in a charge, and were shaken by every volley of their musketry. I do not mean to praise any one at the expense of another. The Sixty-ninth fought with splendid and tenacious courage. They charged batteries two or three times, and would have taken and held them but for the reinforcements which were constantly and steadily poured in. Indeed it was this fact alone that the comparative success of the rebels is due. We had not over 20,000 men in action, the rest being held behind as reserves at Centreville; while the enemy must have numbered at least 60,000.

Fire Zouaves before they had fairly got into action, were terribly cut up by a battery and by musketry, which opened on their flank. They lost a great many of their officers and men.

Col. Hunter, who led the main column of attack, received a severe wound in his throat; he was brought to this city, but I understand that he cannot recover, if indeed he is not already dead. I have heard the names of many others reported killed or wounded, but deem it best not to mention them now, as the rumors may prove to be unfounded.

About a mile this side of Centreville a stampede took place among the teamsters and others, which threw everything into the utmost confusion, and inflicted some very serious injuries. Mr. Eaton, of Michigan, in trying to arrest the flight of some of these men, was shot by one of them, - the ball taking effect in his hand. Quite a number of Senators and members of the House were present at the battle.

I shall be able to ascertain to-morrow the cause of the retreat of Col. Hunter's column after the splendid success it achieved. I would gladly thought in the face of evidence unable, believe what is rumored here, that this column did indeed hold its ground, and that the retreat was confined to the other columns. I fear this will not prove to be the fact.

H. J. R.

**23 July 1861 – New York Times
Special Dispatches to the N.Y. Times
Washington, Monday, July 22.**

Stragglers from the Army create great but needless excitement, by stories that the rebels are coming to Washington. There is not the slightest cause for any such apprehension. The Army is falling back upon Arlington, and the new regiments are constantly arriving from the North.

It is not easy to account for the panic which occasioned the first movement of retreat, but the most probable account is, that it was caused by a charge of cavalry, which was repulsed by the regiment upon which it was made, but which threw another, upon which in turn, it fell into confusion.

The Army, in its retreat from Centreville, was protected in rear by Col. Miles' Reserve. Some fifty or one hundred of the Zouaves have just arrived here. The rumor is circulated that this is all that is left of the regiment, but this is not so. These are only those who have come on singly in advance.

Exaggerated statements about the losses of individual regiments increase the excitement and cause heedless grief. The official list will be published as speedily as possible. All access to the Army across the Potomac is impossible.

Dispatch to the Associated Press – Washington, Monday, July 22.

After the latest information was received from Centreville at 7 ½ o'clock last night, a series of events took place in the in tensest degree disastrous.

Many confused statements are prevalent, but enough is known to warrant the statement that we have suffered in a degree which has cast a gloom over the remnants of the Army, and excited the deepest melancholy throughout Washington.

The carnage is tremendously heavy on both side, and on ours it is represented as frightful. We were advancing and taking the masked batteries gradually but surely, and driving the enemy towards Manassas Junction, when the enemy seemed to have been reinforced by Gen. Johnston, who, it is understood, took command, and immediately commenced driving us back, when a panic among our troops suddenly occurred, and a regular stampede took place.

It is thought that Gen. McDowell undertook to make a stand at or about Centreville, but the panic was so fearful that the whole Army became demoralized, and it was impossible to check them either at Centreville or Fairfax Court-house.

23 July 1861 – Philadelphia Ledger Disaster to our Arms

Never has the continent exhibited the sight it did on Sunday last. Never were assembled on this side of the globe two such hostile forces, and never has the Republic met with a reverse to its arms so dispiriting in its effect. Not that the rebel commander, if he had been enterprising and bold enough to pursue his advantage, might have made it such more disastrous and demoralizing of our forces, but the disappointment which follows from the repulse of an army which had gone forth so confidently to victory, has most depressing and stunning effect upon the public mind. It seems scarcely to be realized that an army so carefully prepared, so numerous, so well appointed and so spirited, could march on to anything but victory. And victory seemed almost secured – already within grasp, when a movement – an accident it may be – wrested it from our troops, and turned the well earned laurels of our troops into worthless weeds, and compelled them to leave the field to their most beaten foe.

It is said that the panic which seized the troops was communicated by a sudden flight of teamsters and civilian members of congress, and others, out as spectators of the fight. This may have helped the panic, but the real cause is probably deeper than that. Our army has been hastily formed, and men are in high positions as officers who have never seen service of any kind, raw as their troops and almost as inexperienced. Such officers have not the confidence of their men, and have not qualities in themselves to secure it. The men lacking confidence in the ability of for their officers, fight under disadvantage, they know not the trap they may be running into. While exhibiting the highest daring and courage, a trifle may strike them with panic and panic is demoralization of the whole army for the time being, and certain defeat.

Now is not the time to criticize the military operations – the strategy and the maneuvers of the Commander-in-Chief. These may have been skillful or otherwise; future facts will show their true character. But one great mistake on our part has been in underrating the power of resistance of the rebels, their resources and their courage. They have been preparing for many months for this contest. They have an abundance of small arms, immense amount of cannon; their troops at Manassas amounting to 90,000 men with the railroad trains in their rear continually at work pouring in fresh troops during the whole progress of the fight – They, therefore, outnumbered nearly two to one (!!) the federal force, chose their own ground, and had every foot of it, that our army was expected to pass over, strongly fortified. As to their courage it must be remembered that they are of our own race, not physically perhaps as strong, but equally intelligent, and what is of greater importance, longer under training to give firmness to their courage and assurance to their skill, besides being offered with some of the best military talent the army and navy. With such a foe as this, it is not advisable to rush on with out adequate preparation and without a force equal to any emergency required, ignorant presumption may cry out impatiently, "On to Richmond!" but there must be means at hand greater than the resistance, or the pathway to Richmond will be lined with the graves of our soldiers.

Congress had authorized a force of half a million of men. Let that number of troops be raised, properly officered, and this disgrace to our arms will be wiped out and the integrity of the Union be accrued.

**24 July 1861 – New York Times
Incidents of the March and Battle
From Our Own Correspondent.**

Washington, Monday, July 22. – It will be a consolation to thousands of friends to know how rapid and easy the care of the wounded was made in the late battle. No wounded man in sight had to wait five minutes before he was taken up by the ambulances and driven back to the rear. The worst thing seemed to be that the ambulance machinery got out of order, and sometimes was broken, so that the head of the stretcher could not be elevated. These were the two-wheeled carts, and they moved quite easily and softly. Experience must yet show where our present ambulances are defective.

The wounded in the action of Bull's Run were taken mostly to the old stone Church at Centreville. Two high-backed seats were united, front to front, and straw put in, making, with a pillow of bags, a place as comfortable as could be expected under the circumstances. One ambulance litter was kept there for a bed. The sick were all speedily attended to, and by the next morning seemed very well. It struck me unpleasantly that one of the men, whose legs had been mashed by a cannon-shot, was left there the next morning, dead in his bloody sheet, his boots and clothes being still upon him. The worst feature was that tea and conveniences for cooking were not at hand. Men from the hospital were hunting through the village the next day for kettles, and other things for the sick, and at six some of them had not yet drunk or eaten anything. They were mostly wounded in the arms, I think not severely. They were very vigorous looking men and bore up with great courage.

It occurred to me then, what a blessed comfort a Nurse's Department would be, following the Army. For some kind gentlewoman to come in there to bind up wounds, cheer sufferers, and especially to "fix up," would be invaluable. Then, if she had authority to draw for tea and little niceties on the Quartermaster, and could carry them in her own wagon – say an ambulance – making her bed in this at night, and having all her little stores ready, so that in the confusion after a battle, she could at once bring forth tea and comforts for the sick, the field hospital would have a very different aspect and comfort to the poor fellows. I was sorry to hear that the Massachusetts Regiments had not half enough ambulances.

The greatest want of an American Army are the sutlers. In this march over Fairfax County, and after the battle, nothing could be obtained for love or money. We should have been starved if we had not carried our provisions with us. The country people, after the march of two armies are utterly cleaned out – no bread, sugar, tea, or meat can be found. The men steal right and left, but the country is soon worsted. Now, if some sutler would follow with his cart, and sell anything – gingerbread, sausages, apples, lemonade, coffee, anything to quench thirst healthfully, or supply a sudden lunch – he not only could get ten times what the things are worth, but supply a great want to the Army. The inordinate thirst of soldiers after a battle is something tormenting. Lager-bier by the thousand barrels would have disappeared quickly on Wednesday last. I observe that all complaints of diet are passing away. Pork and hard biscuit, now that real work has commenced, are found not bad fare. Cattle were driven after the Army, and we noticed that the Fire Zouaves had plenty of steaks cooking at their camp fires as they lay in bivouac on Thursday. The health of the men is excellent – I believe generally better than when they left home. Diarrhea is the only trouble now in the Virginia Army, and that not to any extent. Their great physical sin is the drinking excessively of water when they are heated, and this right against the advice of their noble General McDowell, who talks to his officers continually on this. He, himself, is a model of temperance, never drinking anything but water, and little of that.

On this march knapsacks were left behind and I think the men are gradually losing their blankets; but they don't mind, and can sleep now soundly uncovered, on the hard ground. The Havcloaks are too loose, and become close about the necks, but otherwise are doing good service on the march. Only one case of sunstroke occurred on Wednesday's battle and rapid march under a tremendous heat. The men speak of the heat, generally, useless than in New York. The worst feature about the march is the plundering. This would have been by no means so bad, if the inhabitants had not foolishly utterly deserted the houses and farms. The consequence is, that the soldiers coming, hungry and thirsty, to an abandoned farm, pronounce it "a _____ Secessionist's, and proceed to strip, break and plunder.

Fairfax Court-house seemed a deserted village, Centreville was like a town of the dead. Negro women, and a few very hideous old white women, who could furnish no temptation to the propensities of

our volunteers, were the only persons left. These were evidently devoutly grateful at not being burnt at the market place at once.

We found a letter in Fairfax, in which the writer, a South Carolinian, says, that he has just heard of the hellish Yankees burning Alexandria and ravishing the females." A Virginia farmer near Centreville said we were not at Fairfax an hour, when the news was flying over the country that we had burned the Court-house and two hotels! There were some droll performances in the loot way in Fairfax. As we sat in the hotel, we were aroused by the Bowery cry of "Hi! Hi!" and looking out saw two very stout women with huge hoops walking up the street, esquired by attentive soldiers. Their boots below alone betrayed them. Soon after, a couple of men under an aged parasol: each one wearing black crape mitts and a black collar, promenaded seriously up the street.

Gen. McDowell is a thorough gentleman and humane soldier, and is excessively indignant at this pilfering and plundering. He will soon make some terrible examples, if it is not stopped. There is, beside, in some of our men a low-bred brutal quality, which utterly surprises me. On Thursday, a picket of the enemy had been captured, and the prisoners were in camp. The General told us, almost with tears of indignation in his eyes, how certain scoundrels in our ranks gathered around these men before the guard could prevent, and insulted and cuffed them. He said it was like kicking a woman, and if he had followed his inclination he would have charged on the rascals with a troop of cavalry. The secession sergeant – a powerful, brawny fellow from Alabama – said, if he had known he was to be so treated, he would have preferred death to surrender.

24 July 1861 – New York Times

The Great Rebellion – The Victory of Sunday, and How it was Lost

The National Army Routed – A Body of Troops Still at Centreville.

The Rebel Loss Estimated at Three Thousand – Their Troops in No Condition to Pursue

Shocking Barbarities Perpetrated by the Rebels

They Make Targets of the Wounded Soldiers, Mutilate Them with Knives & Fire at Hospital.

Washington, Tuesday, July 23 – The feeling is much better here to-day. The enormous exaggerations of the runaway soldiers have ceased to have effect which attended them yesterday. Our loss in killed and wounded will not much exceed six hundred, though the missing may be three times that number.

It is understood that the Government has already taken the necessary steps to bring one hundred thousand men into the field here, and this renews the confidence and determination of the people.

Col. Ramsay's regiment has been accepted, and ordered to report at Washington within twenty days, and muster in by hundreds.

The losses of the New-York and other regiments have been greatly overstated. The Seventh-first has not lost over thirty in killed and wounded. The Fire Zouaves suffered more severely, as did the Sixty-ninth. Capt. T. F. Meagher had a horse shot underneath him, but is untouched. All our losses were in advancing – none in falling back. There was no panic in front. This was confined mainly to the wagon drivers straggling soldiers and fugitive officers, at the rear of the columns.

Our greatest deficiency was in cool and competent officers. The men fought nobly, and were ready for anything which experienced commanders would order them to do.

Gen. McDowell behaved admirably. He was active, cool, and attended to everything in person, so far as possible; but he had not a sufficient staff, and was not properly supported by his subordinates. Major Wadsworth, of New York, one of his aids, showed the utmost gallantry and devotion. He exerted himself to rally the forces when they first fell back, and towards the close, after having his horse shot under him, seized the colors of the wavering New York Fourteenth and called on the boys to rally once more to the glorious old flag. Private Tyler took hold of the colors with him, and the regiment rallied to another charge, but without success. Major Wadsworth, as the Army retreated, remained at Fairfax Court House, and devoted himself to purchasing everything needful for the wounded, of whom about a hundred and fifth were at that place.

Gov. Sprague behaved with conspicuous gallantry, and insisted on making a stand for another fight at Centreville, but the men were too much demoralized by the panic which sprung up in the rear.

Col. Burnside displayed great activity and courage at every stage of the fight, and is eager to renew it. Cols. Hunter and Heintzelman have sent word that, in spite of their wounds, they will take the field again in two days, if desired. When the Fourteenth New York entered the field, they passed a wounded major of the rebel army, who begged for water. A private gave it to him, and he offered his gold

watch in return. The private declined to take it, but the Major insisted, as he said someone else would get it if he did not. The testimony is universal to the barbarity and ferocity with which our wounded were treated by the rebels. Gen. Scott is in good spirits, and hard at work. Russell got a report of the fight off in time for the Boston steamer.

From another correspondent I gathered the following lists of killed and wounded in the Fire Zouaves: John Gleason, Company I, wounded; James Hurley, Company I, killed by a pistol shot in his own hands; Michael Kane, Company F. wounded; Barber, Company C. killed; Murray, Company C. killed; David Small, Company I, killed; James McNamee, Company I, wounded and left; James Norton, Company I, wounded; Thomas Goodwin, Sergeant-Major, Company I, wounded in the foot; Patrick Cook, Company I, wounded and left; Charles Lynch, Company I, wounded in the hand; Jas. McQuire, Company I, killed; Robert Brown, Sergeant, Company B., killed; Gorman, Company B. killed; James Williams, Company H, wounded; Bragdon, Company H. wounded; Coon, Company I, killed; Heap, Wm. Company H, wounded; Terrance Ryan, Company A, wounded; Wm. Waters, Company K. wounded; Hasler, Company K. killed; Carroll, Company K, wounded; David Fleming, Company K, wounded; John Drout, Company K, wounded; John Finn, Company K, wounded; Capt. Coulter and Capt. Bryant of the Seventy-ninth, are killed; The following are wounded in the Seventy-first: Capt Dunham, Company G, Capt. Hart Company E, Capt. Ellis Company F, John Morrissey, Company H., John Cobb Company H, H. W. Linderbeck Company H, Lieut. Embrey Company H.

The Seventy-first are gathered at the Navy-yard in their former encampment. They estimated their loss in killed, wounded and missing, at eighty to one hundred. The survivors are in the best condition and in good spirits.

The surgeon who was in charge of the one hospital at Centreville, states that when he left there yesterday morning at 9 o'clock, the rebel pickets were within one hundred rods of the village. There were in the hospital 120 when he retired. Of course, they fell into the hands of the rebels. He estimated our wounded at not exceeding 400 to 500. Col. Corcoran is still missing at 9 o'clock this morning but hopes are entertained that he is safe.

24 July 1861 – New York Times Latest Dispatches from Washington

Washington, Tuesday, July 23 – 10 P. M. – The following letter was received this morning from Capt. Tyler which seems to indicate that some of the troops must have stood ground at Centreville, and the rebels have not advanced immediately, if at all.

Headquarters, near Centreville
Monday, July 22

To Captain Tyler, Assistant Commissary General, Alexandria.

For God sake send me some forage. I have 325 horses and nothing to them to eat

(signed) Capt. Gibson of the Franklin Brigade

The state of affairs at Alexandria does not seem to indicate that we hold a position more advanced than that before the march commenced. No persons are allowed to pass beyond the lines, which seem to be within four or five miles. So stringent is this regulation that a lady in the perils of childbirth was refused a pass this afternoon, to go to her home in Fairfax County, where she had left her children.

The utmost excitement continues to prevail in Alexandria. The citizens generally seem to anticipate the advance of the rebels within 48 hours. It is known, however, that the Manassas Railroad is not obstructed as far as Springfield, and the Loudoun road as far as Camp Upton.

24 July 1861 – New York Times Incidents of the Battle - Correction of Exaggerations Treatment of the Wounded by the Rebels

Washington, Monday Evening – Public feeling grows somewhat more settled and resolute in regard to the defeat of Sunday.. The first reports brought by the stragglers and fugitives from the Army, and marked by all the exaggerations of men in a panic, created a feeling of consternation and intense alarm. Men were looking for the instant appearance of the rebel army against Washington, - for an immediate uprising of the Secessionists of Baltimore, and for the immediate overthrow of the Government. Reflection and more accurate intelligence has modified this feeling very essentially; - and the Washington public begin to realize that the American Government is not so near its end as they were inclined at first to

suppose, and perhaps to hope. The earliest reports represented the defeat as an entire and disgraceful rout, which had completely broken up the Union Army.

It was asserted that the entire baggage train of the force, with all their horses, wagons and equipage of every kind collected at such an enormous cost, had fallen into the hands of the enemy, and that the rear of the Army was left without protection of any kind. It now appears that our Army retreated in very good order as far as Centreville, where it was protected from pursuit by the reserves, under Col. Miles; that no attempt was made to capture the baggage wagons which had nearly all been left between Centreville and Fairfax, and went back with the Army to the latter place, and that the only material which fell into the hands of the rebels was such as had been hastily, and not very creditably, abandoned on the road between Bull's Run and Centreville.

It is pretty evident that the enemy was in no condition for pursuit. A powerful force of cavalry might have done great execution upon the rear of our retreating columns; and they did make an attempt of this sort upon the Warrenton Road, but a volley from Col. Blenker's regiment, which was sent out from Centreville to cover the retreat, soon put them to flight. The pursuit extended but a short distance, and was attended by no important results.

It will delight the heart of my excellent old friend of the Herald, to learn that I became involved in another stampede, not quite so extensive or disastrous as that of Solferino, but one sufficiently disgraced to answer his purpose. As soon as it was understood in the crowd of teamsters, fugitive soldiers and miscellaneous hangers-on of the army at Centreville, that our columns were retreating, they became very considerably excited, - and this feeling rose to panic when they heard the sound of cannon in the rear, as they supposed it to indicate that the enemy was pursuing in force. After I had driven something over a mile from the village on my way to Washington, the crowd in the rear became absolutely frenzied with fear, and an immense mass of wagons, horses, men on foot, and flying soldiers, came dashing down the hill at a rate which threatened destruction, instant and complete, to everything in their way. The panic spread as they proceeded, and gathering strength by its progress, the movement became absolutely terrific. The horses caught the frenzy of the moment, and became as wild as their masters. My driver attempting to check the speed of our carriage, found it suddenly crushed under the weight of an enormous Pennsylvania Army wagon which crushed it like an egg-shell. The opportune arrival of another carriage containing a couple of Congressmen, relieved me from the dilemma, and took me to Washington. Previous to my mishap I was overtaken and passed by a solitary horseman, who proved to be Mr. Russell, of the London Times, who was profoundly disgusted with this movement, and was making all possible haste to get out of it.

The most discreditable feature of this stampede was the very large number of soldiers who had straggled away from their regiments during the battle, and who now threw away their muskets, blankets and knapsacks, and ran as if their lives depend on their speed. For a long time no attempt was made to stop them. But near Fairfax, a New Jersey regiment had drawn up across the road, and compelled every soldier upon whom they could lay hands to go back to his regiment. They were dragged out of carriages and from the backs of horses, and turned backwards with the greatest rigor. Many of them managed, however, to pass the guard, and the road all the way to Washington was crowded with these timid and fugacious warriors. How they were suffered to pass Long Bridge, having neither pass nor countersign, is among the mysteries which I have no thought of fathoming. But they made their appearance on the street corners and in the barrooms of the city with the early dawn, - and each speedily became the central point of a steadily swelling crowd, who learned the bloody history of this awful battle from the lips of these heroes, every one of whom had staid in the very thickest of the fight until his regiment was all cut to pieces, and he was left the sole survivor. It was these men who gave to the masses in Washington their knowledge of the terrible defeat the Union forces had sustained. Why Gen. Mansfield has suffered them thus to roam the streets all day, filling the public ear with their prodigious lies, and creating an intense and dangerous fever of the public mind, I cannot imagine. They ought either to be forced into the strict discipline of military --- continued on 28 July 1861 New York Times - page eight.

25 July 1861 Philadelphia Evening Bulletin Account of the Battle

A reliable gentleman of this city furnishes us with an interesting statement received from the lips of a wealthy Virginian, residing a few miles from Manassas junction. He is a man of Northern birth and Union leanings, though he was forced to go with the Southern current, as his property and family are in that region. He witnessed the battle Sunday at Manassas, and describes the conduct of the National troops as daring and brave in every respect. They fought as tenaciously as bull-dogs. During Sunday night after the

excitement of the battle was subsiding, he escaped from his residence near Manassas, got through the rebel lines, and entered Washington City in company with some stragglers. He had business at the North, and took this chance to escape. He states that the rebel loss is at between 3,000 and 4,000. The Black Horse Cavalry, the crack regiment of Virginians, was most terribly cut up – only two hundred out of the regiment being seen after the battle. Our informant says that it was a most fortunate thing for the Union troops that they did not drive the rebels beyond Manassas while the battle lasted, for within two miles of the rear of the Junction, the ground for many acres is mined in the most artistic manner, and tons of gunpowder placed there. It was the intention of Beauregard, if driven back, to wait until the National Army had moved forward upon these mines, when they would have been fired and the Union troops blown to atoms.

Our informant thinks that the Government is not at all aware of the extent of these rebel preparations to destroy our troops. Upwards of twelve thousand negroes were employed to work on the entrenchments at Manassas, and about the same number were employed to work on the entrenchments at Richmond.

Our informant is the owner of a large number of slaves, and was required to furnish a certain number of them to work for the rebels every day.

General Lee was not at Manassas when the battle occurred, but is now at Richmond commanding an active force there, which our informant estimates at ten thousand.

The City of Richmond is surrounded with mines like those at Manassas. If the rebels find that the Union Men are going to take it the city will be blown up.

Had the National forces got beyond Manassas last Sunday in safety, Beauregard admits that the rebel cause would have been lost forever. The rebel troops have good arms, but in other respects are badly equipped.

Not over a thousand rebel civilians were allowed to witness the great battle of Sunday, all others being kept back by the picket guards. Those who did see the fight were the personal friends of the more prominent rebel officers.

An impression prevails at the South that the North has no money, and cannot get any. The rebels are under the delusion that the heavy sums owed to the North by the South will be the means of making us bankrupt, and that in less than a year the North will cave in.

There are two regiments of well-drilled negroes at Richmond. Our informant heard of no rumors of slave insurrection, except in North Carolina and Alabama. The bitterness of feeling at the South against the North is described as of the most terrible description. Our informant thought the National prisoners would suffer bad treatment at the hands of the rebels.

25 July 1861 – Richmond Examiner

News from Manassas

The trains which reached this city yesterday evening from Manassas bring rumors of strange and tremendous import. Gentlemen direct from the late battle field assure us that it is reported and believed, in the neighborhood of Manassas, that on Tuesday the Federal troops, who had retreated to Alexandria after their defeat, fell to fighting among themselves, and that after great numbers had been slain, the remainder took up their line of march for Washington.

A special train was started from Manassas Junction yesterday morning freighted with over two hundred of our wounded troops, who had been struck in the late battle. They were distributed at the various stepping places along the line of the railroad, in the neighborhood of their homes, and a number were transferred to the train going westward towards Staunton. Between thirty and forty were brought on to this city and properly cared for and disposed of by the Relief Committee. Among the number of our wounded we were delighted to recognize private Massenburg, of the Thomas Artillery, whom some of our papers had so ruthlessly slain. Mr. Massenburg, though painfully wounded in the back of the neck by a fragment of a shell which knocked him flat on his face, was in fine spirits.

The remains of Lieut. Edgar Mason, of the same company, were brought down to Orange Court House, and there delivered to his friends to be interred in the family burring ground. Lieut. Mason was a native of Orange and a grand nephew of President Madison.

Two cars in this train were appropriated to the transportation of wounded Yankees, twenty-three in number, the majority of whom belonged to Ellsworth's Fire Zouaves. There were among them, however, a great variety of uniforms. One fellow, with bright red pants and blue jacket, told us he belonged to the Fourteenth regiment of New York Militia. They were all wounded in the most horrible manner, and as their wounds had received no attention, they were in a truly pitiable condition.

Their friends having run off and deserted them, they had lain on the field just where their injuries were received until picked up by our troops, our own wounded, their cases were, of necessity, postponed till after arrival in the city. The most of them had been shot in the lower extremities. One fellow had both of his legs crushed, and several had one leg broken. One of the Zouaves present a most dreadful spectacle. A rifle ball entered just below his right eye. His whole face and head were so swelled and distorted by inflammation that it is no great stretch of language to say that "his own mother would not have known him."

25 July 1861 – Richmond Examiner Further Particulars of the Manassas Battle

We have some very interesting and authentic accounts of the battle at Manassas, from an officer who was in the thickest of the action, and who testifies to the extremely courageous and devoted action of the Hampton Legion that held one of the most important position in the fight, in front of the deadly fire of Sherman's battery.

The Infantry companies of the Legion joined the lines of battle about 9 o'clock in the morning, having marched seven miles, after a hastily snatched breakfast, to take their part in the general action. In a few moments after the line was formed, Col. Johnston fell by a shot from the battering away the upper portion of his head. Col. Hampton himself, assisted by Surgeon Darby and Adjutant Barker, bore the body from the fire.

At this instant, the men missing for a moment the presence of their commander, cried out, "We have no commander." Captain Garey, who was commanding the left wing, suddenly called out, "Follow me, Hampton Guards, follow to victory!" The effect of the tones of the command was instant. The noble and gallant Edgefield company made a rushing charge towards the enemy, in advance of the rest of the Legion nearly three hundred yards, and so far on the left flank that for a moment they were under the fire of the Washington Artillery. The Guards advanced to within 100 or 120 paces of the enemy. Unable to maintain their position, they retired, falling back upon the column of the Legion. It was then that Col. Hampton, after a few thrilling words at the head of the Legion, ordered its fire to be opened upon the deadly battery that was mowing down his ranks.

Nobly and gallantly did his men respond. Firing by file and maintaining their position, they stood steadily until 3 o'clock in the evening, under the deadly fire of one of the most destructive batteries of the Federal Army.

At this time of the day, the Legion fell back about 200 yards, when General Evans, of South Carolina, rode up to the line, and making himself known to the men, added his noble and patriotic encouragement to those of their gallant commander. A shout rises as Beauregard himself rides to the line, and in stirring words appeals to the Legion to hold its devoted position but a few moments longer and victory would be won.

The men were suffering horribly from the most raging thirst, when a number of officers and privates volunteered on the desperate mission of bringing water from a ravine near by through the fire of the enemy. But three returned from the gallant errand: Lieuts. Bates and Tompkins, of the Watson Guards, and private N. N. Cartledge, and they just in time to join Col. Hampton's last and desperate charge upon the battery.

The Legion had advanced about thirty paces when the charge was joined by the Forty-ninth Virginia Regiment, under command of General Smith, who led the charge on foot – his horse having been just shot from under him. Colonel Hampton offered his own horse. At that time when in about 150 yards of the battery, Colonel Hampton received his wound. As he was raised, the cool and self-possessed gallantry of the brave man was exhibited. In calm and affecting words he exhorted Gen. Smith to stand by the Legion and help support its flag. The words added a new spirit to the combined charge. The Legion advanced to it with its right wing under the command of Col. Conner, and the left under that of Col. Conner, and the left under that of Captain Carey – the command of the intrepid Watson Guards, who had so distinguished themselves in the opening of the action, being devolved upon Lieut. W. D. Jennings, until joined by Lieuts. Bates and Tompkins, who had undertaken the brave mission of bringing water to the suffering men through the thickest of the fight.

The slaughter of the enemy at the battery, as the combined charge of the Virginia Regiment and Hampton Legion swept over it, is said to have been terrific. The fugitives were pursued by the companies of the Legion to near Centreville. For four or five miles the pursuit is described to have been over dead bodies, which strewed the retreat of the enemy.

The Legion reports about thirty killed and mortally hurt, the immense number of nearly three hundred wounded – truly a gallant record. Neither its cavalry companies nor artillery arrived in time for the action; had they done so, quicker work would have been made by the Legion. As it is, with the gallant record it has made and the compliments of Beauregard given it the day after the victory, it may boast, indeed, to have had a distinguished part in the glorious day.

The names of Captain Conner Garey, Adjutant Barker, and Surgeons Darby and Taylor are mentioned among those who distinguished themselves heroically in the fight.

The escapes of many of the men through the storm of fire are described as almost miraculous. The South Carolinians were better shots than the enemy. At three fires from one of the Corporals, J. W. Tompkins, two Yankees were seen to bite the dust; and at one time of the action, Lieutenant Jennings, with a revolver, fired into the enemy a number of shots, nearly each one of which struck its man. Many of the Legion had their clothes torn through with bullets.

25 July 1861 – New York Times

News of the unfortunate termination of the expedition against Manassas reached Fortress Monroe on Tuesday, and is understood to have caused the postponement of an important military movement from that point, the nature of which is not indicated. LaMountain, the aeronaut, is expected to make a balloon ascension to-day, to reconnoiter the position of the enemy.

The various rumors which flew about the city yesterday, to the effect that Col. Corcoran had died of wounds he received in battle, prove to have been untrue. A dispatch received by Capt. James B. Riker, of the sixty-ninth, announces that he is a prisoner at Manassas Junction, and not dangerously wounded.

26 July 1861 - New York Times Special Dispatch from Washington The Flag of Truce

The rebels this morning returned an answer to the flag of truce sent up to Major Wadsworth. The letter borne by Major Wadsworth was addressed to “The Commander of the forces at Manassas Junction.” This letter is returned unopened, with an endorsement signed by Gen. Johnston, stating that as the communication was not addressed properly, it was returned unopened. This was brought to our lines by three rebel officers under a flag of truce.

The Rebel Force

It is well settled that the rebels had a very large force at Manassas. Col. Gorman, in passing through the woods, encountered a wounded rebel who asked him for some water. The Colonel gave him some water, and after the wounded man had drunk, he begged Col. Gorman to leave the ground as soon as he could that the rebel forces numbered one hundred thousand men.

26 July 1861 – New York Times 19 July 1861 New Orleans Picayune writer Rebel Accounts of the Battle

Manassas, Friday, July 19

The great fight yesterday lasted five hours. The enemy was repulsed three times, and finally retreated, fearfully discomfited, with an estimated loss of 500 men.

We took a large quantity of arms. Our whole Army behaved brilliantly, and encamped on the battle field.

The Washington Artillery had one man (George Muse, steamboat agent) killed, and three wounded.

Manassas, July 19 – I have just returned from the battle-field, which is strewn with the dead, muskets, soldiers’ caps and baggage. Five hundred loaded muskets were taken and two pieces of cannon. The enemy were engaged all day to-day burying their dead. Many still are lying on the ground. Enemy’s loss now estimated at one thousand. The carnage was fearful. The enemy twice asked permission to-day to take their dead on the field.

The list of our infantry engaged were Col. Hay’s Seventh Louisiana Regiment, two Regiments of Virginians, two of Mississippians, and two of Alabamians. All behaved most gallantly. The enemy are not visible to-night. The Confederate army is in possession of, and encamped on the battlefield.

26 July 1861 – New York Times
23 July 1861 Louisville Courier writer
Rebel Accounts of the Fight
Louisville, Ky., Thursday, July 23

A special dispatch to the Courier, dated the 23rd inst. Says that the rebels captured 63 cannon, 25,000 stand of arms, 1200 horses, and all the stores and provisions of the National force, valued at a million of dollars.

The dispatch also states that a buggy and opened letters, marked General Scott were also captured. The Fourth Alabama Regiment suffered severely, as did Wade's Hampton Legion.

Another dispatch says that the loss of the Confederates at 3,000, that the loss of the National forces is 13,000 killed, and that the numbered of wounded and prisoners taken is not known. Two members of Congress are among the prisoners.

26 July 1861 – New York Times
July 1861 Louisville Courier
Rebel Accounts of the Battles

The Louisville (Ky.) Courier, as bitter and unscrupulous a secession sheet as can be found, has the following series of dispatches regarding the engagement at Bull's Run. The following relates to the first fight.

A dispatch was received in New Orleans, Saturday, by Mrs. Beauregard, from her husband, to the following effect:

Manassas, July 18th 1861 – The enemy has been repulsed. I am well.
G. T. Beauregard

A friend has just handed us the following private dispatch, which he received direct from Richmond:

Richmond, Saturday Night, July 20

Our loss at Bull Run was 143 killed, wounded and missing. The Federals lost 1,000. Private dispatches report the Federal loss as at least 1,200 to 1,500.

26 July 1861 – New York Times
Rebel Accounts of the Battle
Nashville, Monday, July 22 – 2 P.M.

We have received the following dispatches from Knoxville

Richmond, Sunday, July 21 – A great fight has been raging all day at Manassas, eighty thousand being engaged on each side. The famous Sherman battery has been taken. Great loss on both sides. The enemy were driven to Alexandria at 9 o'clock P. M. The battle is raging fiercely.

A dispatch received by Gen. N. K. Stevenson, Quartermaster-General, states the battle raged fiercely until 12 o'clock on Sunday, at which time President Jefferson Davis arrived on the field, when the tide of battle turned in favor of the Southerners, and the Hessians were driven back to Alexandria. The capture of Sherman's battery is also confirmed.

26 July 1861 – New York Times
Rebel Accounts of the Battle

Nashville, Monday, July 22 – A battle has been fought at Manassas, commencing at daylight on Sunday. At noon President Jefferson Davis arrived and took command of the Confederate Army. Scott commanded the Nationals in person. The slaughter of the National troops was terrific. The enemy were driven back to Alexandria. The Confederates are in pursuit

Nashville, Monday, July 22- The Confederates loss in the battle at Manassas is less than 2,000. The enemy lost 10,000 killed and wounded. Davis took command of the Confederates at noon. The only command he gave was "Forward, my brave columns' Forward!" The effect was electric. The fortune of the day was decided. The brave fellows swept everything before them.

Moore

Hilt

26 July 1861 – New York Times
July 1861 - New Orleans Picayune
Rebel Accounts of the Battle
The Rebel Force at Manassas

The correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune, writing from the camp at Manassas, after stating that the force at Washington numbered 60,000, says:

“All along our lines I find the best possible spirits, and the men generally in excellent health. The niceties have well high run their course throughout all the camps, and other diseases are now passing away. The last four days we have been favored with refreshing showers each evening, which have very much ameliorated the extreme heats. The dust has also been low, the fields more fresh, till now all nature was never more charming. If our men were only out on a picnic party, they could not enjoy themselves more. They only complain of inactivity, but as they justly believe their time will come sooner or later to do battle in the justness of all causes, they are patriotically patient.

In the meantime, our encampment, throughout its whole extent, is as quiet as a farmhouse on a Sabbath Summer day. Troops are moving daily in all directions, and works are constantly going on, but all with so much system and order that you would scarcely behave the largest army ever collected in America was encamped here in front of an inevitable battle-field. It is, perhaps, the silence before the battle, for no one knows how soon it may begin. This we only know, that we are ready. All our baggage, not strictly necessary for camp life, has been sent back South, and when the battle does begin, it will not stop till the enemy are driven beyond the Potomac. The impetuosity of our troops can now scarcely be restrained. Scott knows that well, and he knows the character of our men, and he is doubtless waiting till reinforced by overwhelming numbers, but he will find his numbers, ever in the way. His men will tramp each other under foot.”

26 July 1861 – New York Times
July 1861 - New Orleans Picayune
Rebel Accounts of the Battle
Just What They Wanted

The New Orleans Picayune, commenting on the results of the first encounter at Bull’s Run, says: “Now, from what we have learned from the very minute description given us of these localities, by a gentleman who visited them only a few days ago, and who is now in our city, this same Bull’s Run is the very spot that was most desired by our side for the fight that it was anticipated would shortly take place thereabout. Beauregard had it very finely defended and was just as ready to try the fortunes of a meeting there as at any other point that could possibly have been selected by the enemy. The battle appears, from the brief and desultory accounts that have been telegraphed us, to have been a well contested one, the enemy having suffered two repulses before retreating in confusion and with loss.

26 July 1861 – New York Times
Gen. Scott and the Civilians

Mr. Tracy, of the Rochester Express, was one of the spectators of the disaster at Bull’s Run. The Albany Evening Journal says that, before Mr. Tracy left Washington, he, with others, called on Gen. Scott to see whether something could not be done to reach and rescue the missing men, The General replied angrily, that they had no business on the field, and they must take their chances with others.

26 July 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin
The Rebellion – Local Military Movements
Troops Going and Coming

In addition to the marching of large bodies of troops southward, we have now the return homeward of the three months volunteers to keep the town in a high state of military excitement. So numerous are the soldiers going and coming that our reporters are bewildered to “keep the run of them,” and pay proper attention to all.

It was reported yesterday, by telegraph, that the Sixty-ninth New York, with either regiments who participated in the fight at Manassas last Sunday, would arrive yesterday, and the rumor brought thousands of people to the Baltimore Depot in the evening, besides lining Washington Avenue from the Wharf out to the Arsenal with anxious spectators wishing to get a glimpse at the returning heroes. One of our reporters went to Wilmington to intercept the train, in order that he might get some statements from the soldiers of

interest to our readers. Owing to the cumbrous train, which consisted of seventy-seven cars, their progress homeward was necessarily slow, and the first installment did not reach Philadelphia till five o'clock this morning, being on the route from Washington since Wednesday evening. The train at five, this morning brought the Fourth New Jersey, the Eighth New York, and some few of the Seventh-first New York. Although the citizens had been out late last night, to see them pass, still, at this early hour, the street soon filled as the immense train went down to the wharf.

They were brought on in the fright cars, the inside was jammed and the tops of the cars crowded with soldiers, presenting, as the first rays of the rising sun broke upon the immense mass of moving brings a very picturesque sight, one never seen until the 26th of July, 1861.

All the soldiers had their scenes and incidents of camp life to tell, and "moving accidents by flood and field." They have changed the name of Bull Run to "Army Run," and Manassas Gap to "Molasses Gulp." The Jersey boys are pretty well browned, yet they all appear in good health. A large number will re-enlist. Many familiar faces turned up among this Regiment. Camden and Burlington were fully represented.

The Eighth New York Regiment were in the battle of "Molasses Gulp," at they phrased it jocularly, and all confirm, with great satisfaction, their cutting up a Georgia Regiment. It appears the Sixty-ninth drove this Regiment back at the point of the bayonet when they were taken charge of by the Eighth, who accomplished the shooting and bayoneting in a style that gave them as much, if not more satisfaction than any event in their experience as soldiers. Very few of the Georgia regiment escaped. The Eighth lost a number of their own men by being fired into by mistake, and the Fourteenth Brooklyn were about to repeat the dose, but the Stars and Stripes being quickly displayed, saved them from further injury. Many confirm the statement of the wounded being killed by the rebels. An instance is mentioned of a wounded Alabamian, who asked that he might die and not be killed by the Eighth. He said he had but a short time to live, being wounded in the thigh, and asked if there were any Masons in the Federals. One of the Order being called, he gave the wounded Alabamian a drink of water. In return he received a small silver cup for his kindness. Many incidents occurred that would take a winter's night to record, and then leave them but half told. These stories were crowded into the ears of our reporter. The men appeared more than gratified to think, as they expressed, of being in a true Union city once more. They have seen so much bogus Unionism South, that it was refreshing to be in a land where no doubt of loyalty exists.

On the arrival of the train at the wharf, the men disembarked, fell into line, counted off numbers for full company, and then stacked arms preparatory to breakfast and the arranging of their toilette, which was done in true soldier style. The institution of the Refreshment Committee was not in existence on the departure of these regiments, and more than one asked the question, "how much the breakfast and wash would be?" When told all was free, feelings of gratitude fairly beamed from their sun-browned visages.

26 July 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin **Union Men Captured** **Confederate Loss at Manassas**

Washington, July 26 – The rebels have evidently found out about the Manassas panic and are growing more bold. Their scouting parties came within three miles of the city during last night and captured two farmers who are well known as Union men.

Hon. A. Ely, of New York, is a prisoner at Manassas. At least so says a letter from that point to Leesburg, Va., which has been sent to Baltimore.

It is stated, on undoubtedly reliable authority, that the Confederate loss, as computed by them, was over two thousand in the great battle. Their South Carolina troops were cut to pieces, Colonel Wade Hampton being killed, and his "legion" suffering dreadfully.

The Leesburg letter referred to states that the rebels are taking care of our wounded and have buried the dead.

26 July 1861 – Richmond Enquirer **3 August 1861 – New York Times** **After the Battle**

We have conversed with a very intelligent gentleman, who, on Monday last, rode over a considerable portion of the battlefield of the previous day. The location of the scene of the fiercest strife is somewhat different from the general idea.

On the turnpike road, which, coming through Centreville, crosses Bull Run at the Stone Bridge, and at a point about a mile and a half west of said bridge on the opposite side from Centreville a two story

stone building stands on the northern margin of the road. The turnpike is also crossed here by a road which runs northwest to Bull Run, about two miles distant, and southwest to Manassas Junction.

The enemy, in their flanking movement, marched up Bull Run, several miles above the Stone Bridge, before crossing, and then advancing, met our troops in the vicinity of the stone building above noted. It was in this locality the battle raged for ten hours. On the one part the Northern legions and their numerous batteries, Sherman's among them, thundered against our columns; and on the other, the heroic Johnston and his gallant bands performed prodigies of valor.

On the hills and behind the hills in the rear of the stone house, and in the vales and on the hills in front, on both sides of the turnpike, and on both sides of the cross-road, the battle raged and roared, receded and advanced with furious pertinacity. Two o'clock came, and happily brought reinforcements to our greatly outnumbered but undaunted soldiers. Against a great disparity of numbers they had held the battle in even scale. Now, though still outnumbered, they drove their enemy over the hills and across the Run, and took their batteries and chased them down the road to Centreville, and to Fairfax, and beyond Fairfax. Night closed down upon the fugitives and pursuers and stopped the slaughter.

The stone house above noted was, it will be seen, not far from the centre of the scene of the shifting battle, though the ground lay mainly on the east side towards the Stone Bridge. The visit of our friend on Monday morning revealed much that was horrifying. The stone building had been appropriated as a hospital for the enemy's wounded. The enemy's Generals had been invited by Gen. Beauregard to send Surgeons and attendants to administer to their relief. In this building were thirty-two wounded many of them dreadfully mangled by cannon shot. There was but a single Surgeon, and he was young and apparently inefficient. Men lay on the floor with their clotted wounds still undressed. Some had died and not been removed. On the roadside, a few hundred yards from the hospital, two severely wounded Northern men who lay there, begged our informant to report their cases to their Surgeon, and asked to be taken to the hospital. He did so. The Surgeon said his officers had sent him no help. He was there alone. The wounded then in the hospital had all been brought in, he said, by the Confederate men.

Over the hill, behind this hospital, lay a few of our dead, who had not yet been gathered up. The slain of the enemy lay in heaps on all sides. By the highway and in the fields, heaped here and scattered there, he saw them at every turn.

Our own hospital was on the road from the Stone House to Manassas. The supply of surgeons there was excellent and they were busily engaged in their humane services. A number of wounded enemies, who had been gathered here, were not neglected. Indeed, the only murmur our informant heard was from some of our own sufferers, who conceived that the care of the enemy interfered too much with attention to themselves.

Between Stone Bridge and Centreville the scene presented is indescribable. Within a distance of three miles your correspondent saw scattered every article that could possibly enter into the composition of a well equipped Army – blankets, shoes, haversacks, cartridge boxes, caps, knapsacks, equipment, muskets, canteens by the thousands, axes, medicine chests, grape shot, percussion caps, powder boxes, and even several hundred handcuffs, which were intended to be used upon their prisoners, when they got them. One of the most valuable captures was a batch of papers, specification and drawings, evidently the property of a General officer, relating to the movements of the Federal Army. Among other facts, it was stated that the attacking force would consist of fifty-three thousand, and the list of regiment engaged was enumerated.

Scott expected to march upon our left wing, turn it with ease, get to the rear of our little army, and, with his overpowering forces, surround and cut us to pieces. Several letters, found upon the field and among the line of retreat, state this fact in plain words. Others, which I have read, request of distant communications after Sunday next, to mail future correspondents to Manassas or Richmond, as the case may be.

The same gentleman from whom I have gathered the above details, states that the time of several thousand of the volunteers expired on Saturday, but they were informed that they couldn't be paid off until the following Monday, and would not then be discharged unless they participated in the forward movement of Sunday. Thus forced into battle and defeated. It is no wonder that when they retreated, they went straight to Washington and demanded their wages, that they might return to their homes.

Our men have not yet completed the burial of the enemy's dead, and they yet remain by scores upon the field where they fell back, mangled putrefying masses of what was once humanity, filling the atmosphere with stench.

It is worthy of note, in this connection that many of the bodies had lying near them a pile of crackers and a cup of water, which had been left by our volunteers as sustenance until they could be removed from the field.

We have several surgeons who are prisoners, but they refuse to do anything whatever for their wounded comrades. They have thus imposed upon us the duty not only of administering relief to the living, but of performing the offices of humanity for the dead.

The prisoners appear to be perfectly satisfied with their treatment, and frankly acknowledge that we have thus far had the advantage of our enemy in success as well as magnanimity. Among other captured was a color guard of six Yankees, including a lieutenant. The fellow had fought bravely, and was finally obliged to yield to his antagonist, yet such was the courtesy with which he was treated, that with tears in his eyes he acknowledged his gratitude and his foolishness in taking up arms against those who had been his brothers. He said he deserved shooting, and would rather die than live in the presence of men who were acting to him the part of brothers, while he was playing the part of a fratricide.

26 July 1861 – Richmond Examiner

More on Manassas

Two trains arrived in this city yesterday evening from Manassas, bringing together one hundred sick and wounded soldiers, among whom were ten or a dozen Yankees. The only thing particularly noticeable among our wounded is the frequency of wounds in the lower extremities, the feet and legs.

Many of the committee who were sent up to see after the wounded returned in the last train yesterday evening. They represent the country for miles beyond Bull Run as thickly strewn with the unburied dead of the enemy.

Yesterday, for the first time since the last battle, the Yankees sent up a flag of truce and the very inadequate force of twenty – five men to bury their slain, and these declined attempting the office, alleging that the State of putrefaction in which the corpses were found to be rendered it impossible. And there these many hundred uncared for corpses must lie festering under the sun and poisoning the breeze, until our Generals can find the time to have them sunk beneath the soil they came to conquer.

The portion of the battle-field, perhaps, more thickly strewn than any other with the Yankee dead, is said to be the locality occupied by the Rhode Island battery. This battery, whose guns were even finer than the famous Sherman's battery, was planted on the top of a considerable eminence, up which our troops had to toil in their attack. Heaps of dead men and horses now encumber the ground where on Sunday morning last, all was life and animation and hopeful confidence.

To the right of this locality, and on the same eminence stands a small wooden house, torn and riddled on every side by the bullets of both parties. At the time of the battle it was occupied by a very old and bed-ridden woman and her daughter, who was also no longer young. When the fight began in their vicinity the daughter fled, leaving her mother, unable to move from her bed in the second story, where some time during the day she was shot and killed.

27 July 1861 – New York Times

19 July 1861 Nashville Union writer

More Rebel Accounts

The Nashville Union publishes the following dispatch:

Manassas Junction, Friday, July 19, 1861 – Everything is quiet here to-day. A flag of truce was sent in by the enemy asking permission to bury their dead, which was granted, and they have been busily engaged at the work.

The enemy's loss is probably 500 killed and wounded. Our loss is less than 20 killed.

General Beauregard issued an order this afternoon to have the women and children removed from Manassas Junction. An attack is hourly expected.

George W. Meese, a private in the Washington Artillery of New Orleans, died to-day; also, Major Harrison, of the Eleventh Virginia Regiment.

Two cannon and five hundred stand of arms were taken from the enemy. Fifty prisoners, principally Pennsylvanians, arrived here to-day from Winchester. It was Thomas and not William Sangster, of the Alexandria Riflemen, who was killed.

Richmond, Friday, July 19

A great battle was fought near Manassas, sixty miles from here, yesterday. Gen. Beauregard repulsed the enemy three times, with great slaughter to the enemy. No danger of the enemy getting here.

Billy

27 July 1861 – New York Times
July 1861 Louisville Union writer
More Rebel Accounts

The Louisville Courier says: “There is no longer a doubt that the Kentucky boys were in the grand fight at Manassas, although we have no particulars from them. The following dispatch from Col. Duncan was received by his wife yesterday:
Manassas, July 22

27 July 1861 – New York Times
July 1861 True Delta writer
More Rebel Accounts

The True Delta of the same date speculates as follows: The news from Manassas is encouraging if not decisive. The National forces sent forward to try the weak places in the prudent and sagacious Beauregard’s lines, retired with fleas in their ears, and the result of their reconnaissance has added little to their knowledge if it has not increased their respect for the valor of our gallant soldiers. The accounts are in exact accordance with our expectations; we regard the position taken by Gen. Beauregard as impregnable to any direct assailant; the judgment, skill and perfect knowledge of his profession which characterized the great Creole soldier, satisfied asks that the lines he would fortify would be a Torres Vedras to any National assailing force, however numerous or well appointed, there might be thrown upon them; and the advance of McDowell seems to us to have been more with the intention of feeling their strength than of any well indulged hope of being able to dislodge him. The direct attack failing or seeming to be impracticable, the movement of McClellan, intended to turn Beauregard’s position, will probably follow, when a great battle may ensue.

We regard the state of affairs thus: The enemy has the advantage in number of men, arms and ammunition; we in position, country, familiarity with arms, and a substantial cause which enlists all our hearts, souls and determination. Every hill, stream and clump of trees will be fortresses to our soldiers; every fresh advance will bring weakness and loss to the enemy. We fight upon our own soil, and in defence of everything dear to men; they, for an idea they dimly comprehend, and under the leadership of politicians the greater number of them heartily despise. Between such men as Scott and McClellan and the Patterson’s and Butlers of the National chiefs, it is, also, no more possible there can be good feeling and agreement, us to the work upon which they are engaged, than there could be between the architect of the magnificent temple and a hod-carrier who might fancy that he should divide the honors accruing from the elegance of the superstructure, with its author. . The first two are great soldiers; the others are of the political rubbish of a rank soil which curses every portion of the land. Butler was the tool of the men against whom he is in arms at the head of an abolition rabble, twelve months ago; so was Sickles, Cochran’s, Patterson and the rest of them, and were doubtless, then as now, equally sincere; and in any battle in which our gallant soldiers are opposed to such fellows, the result need give no one here concern.

The war in Virginia, all things considered, will, we think, be conducted very signally to our advantage and against the invader; and so far it is gratifying to know that every corps from Louisiana which has encountered the enemy has nobly acquitted itself. There appears to be no difference in their performances, and we hope that neither the telegraph nor correspondence will be invoked to elevate one regiment or corps over another or to forestall the good opinion of this city for one regiments or brigade rather than another, where all do well and are equally deserving. Dinners, and wines, and documents have a wonderful influence over mercenary pens which follow in the wake or hang about the head or regimental quarters of an army, but we trust no such appliances will be in requisition nor any other reports given than such as are strictly just and impartial to every true soldier in the war.

Under the head of “Why they were defeated,” the Courier remarks: “The Nationals are accounting for their defeat at Manassas by alleging that the Confederates had an overwhelmingly superior force.

Gen. Scott had an army of 250,000 men in the field from which to draw the attacking force; he took his own time to make preparations for the advance; he began the battle at the time selected by himself.

These facts will satisfy every reflecting mind that the Federals did not fight at a disadvantage – certainly not at what they thought was a disadvantage; but that, having as many men as they wanted, and moving at the hour selected by themselves, and beginning the attack only when they were ready, they were confident of success, and felt assured of the result, and were defeated, not by overwhelming numbers, but by the good generalship of the Confederate commanders and the obstinate and unconquerable valor of soldiers fighting for homes and liberty.

The Nationals boasted of having full information of the strength of the Confederate forces, and of all the country round about Manassas. They had balloons hovering over the Southern camps, from which maps were prepared and laid on the table of the Commander in Chief. They had the ablest Generals in their service at their head. They had the resources of the county at their back.

They were defeated, cut up terribly, driven back with tremendous slaughter – that is the simple truth; not because of superior numbers, for they could have ordered from Western Virginia, Baltimore, Washington City, Martinsburgh, &c., more soldiers if they had believed they were needed, but because men fighting, not for gain, or conquest, or subjugation, but for liberty, cannot be whipped.

That is the truth. It had as well be recognized at once. It must sooner or later be confessed. The grand army of more than sixty thousand men, with long trains, and siege guns, and magnificent batteries, and all the equipment known to the best appointed army, was driven back from the land they had invaded – driven back from the homes they would have desecrated – driven back by those they would have enslaved. That is the secret of the success of the Southern Army.

Invaders cannot fight with the same spirit and determination as if they were fighting in defence of their property, their homes, their household goods.

28 July 1861 – New York Times
A Graphic Picture of the Late Disaster
Personal Experiences of a Staff Officer

Washington, Tuesday, July 23, 1861

I have just arrived, feeling right sorrowful. We're whipped in our first big fight. Men are brave, but our commanders have certainly blundered. I understand McClellan takes the place of McDowell, and that Miles is under arrest for being drunk on the field of battle.

We left our camp on Sunday morning at 2 o'clock, and marched in silence. The Army took position on the heights overlooking Bull's Run, the Sixteenth New-York State Volunteers on the extreme left. The fight commenced on the right with artillery; we were about four or five miles off; I stood it till noon; all we did was to support a battery, which was shelling the enemy, who was passing in the Manassas road some three miles from us. At noon I heard from an Aid that the Seventy-first were in the fight, and badly cut up. I jumped on my horse and rode down for four miles to save Willie in the fight. Such a scene as met my gaze I never shall forget; shot and shell flying; wounded horses plunging and screaming; men wounded and dying, cursing, groaning and praying; soldiers and cavalry charging over the wounded and dying. I fought over the field looking for Willie; a boy cried out to me: said he knew me, and was of the Seventy-first; said his leg; was so badly crushed that he couldn't walk, and begged me to save him. I cut a team horse loose (whose mate was dead, and who had been abandoned,) put the boy on and told him to ride; he succeeded in getting off the field; I afterwards brought him to our camp.

Soon a retreat was ordered, which changed to a rout – a terrible, disgraceful rout. The men seemed panic stricken, and as the artillery thundered shot and shell, they threw down their muskets and fled. I left the field among the last. As I rode up, I met a gray-haired General, (who afterwards proved to be Gen. Tyler who had command.) He was calling for his aids. I offered my services to help him, and asked what he wished me to do. He told me that the Southern Cavalry were about charging on the flank, and wished me to rally the men, who were flying, and get them to fire. I looked on the field, and there I saw a large body of horsemen charging down on our flank. I yelled to the boys to turn and fire. As I did so, a man dressed in citizen's clothes hollered to them not to fire, as they were United States troops. I rode up, and put my pistol to his head and told him if he uttered another word I'd shoot him, and then wheeled and fired at the advancing troops; the men seeing me fire, fired also. As I rode in front of the men, two horsemen darted towards me, one with a saber – one with a pistol. The saber man I shot at a distance of two horse lengths; the pistol man rode on to me, reigned up short, and clapped his pistol to my head. I pressed my muzzle against his ribs, and we both fired. His bullet went through my cap, the top grazed my head; mine blew his heart out. I have as trophies, the bridle of one, and the horse of the other. I also had his pocket book, his spurs, saddle, and a piece of his bloody shirt, to show how it cut him, but a few moments after we were pressed so hard, that I had to ride for life, and threw the saddle away with the holsters into which I had put the shirt and money. As we were flying up the hill – men throwing away their muskets, and everything else – the road strewn with upset wagons, teams struggling in the tangled harness, dead and dying men, muskets, broken cannon, carriages and caissons. Gen Tyler asked me to gather a few men and ride to the rear, where the Southern infantry and cavalry were chasing our men and shooting them down like sheep; for a long time I tried in vain. I told the men one volley would make them fall back – they only looked in

my face, panic stricken, and pressed on – at last I got eight or ten men of the Maine Second Regiment to stand – they waited till their column passed, and then poured in a volley= the enemy paused and then fell back a little. Gen Tyler then pointed out a hill, and said if we could get a few men to stand there and show themselves it would check the enemy and give our men time to breathe. I took the same men and stood them on the brow of the hill, and then rode in the road, and appealed to the Maine men to go back, and help their comrades – about sixty followed me on the field, and said they must have their Colonel, and I rode out in the road and found him some distance up, told him he must come back and hold his men in position. He came instantly and marched by his men till the end of that horrible march. As we stood on the hill, Ayres' Battery came up on the run. Gen. Tyler took two guns and placed them on the hill. He then ordered me to order the inside men No. 1 to march by the right flank, which took them further in the field, and he himself ordered No. 2 to march by the left flank, which took them out of the field. No. 1 thought No. 2 were deserting them, and started to run and leave the cannon, and it was with the greatest difficulty that they were restrained by me. I told them I would see the General, ask his reason and come back. One of them touched his rifle, said, "He's now in my range; if I see you going with him instead of coming back, two bullets would follow us." I told him to stand fast and keep the boys there by the guns, and he'd see whether I intended to desert them. I rode to the General. He told me he marched out his part of the men to place them before the cannon, and he ask me to bring up the cannon and march the balance of the men as a rear guard, and hold them behind the cannon till we got to Centreville, which order I carried out; but it was the toughest job I ever undertook. The moment I took to gallop forward to tell the General, when I got back, the men were running in front of the guns and leaving them to the enemy, who were following in a full run close behind. Capt Ayers 9Captain of the battery, and as brave a fellow as ever commanded a battery, yelled to me to keep the guard in the rear of the cannon, or they would saber the cannonries on the guns. I rode up, and partly by threats and entreaties and appeals to their courage, got them to turn and hold the enemy at bay. Thus we went for three long miles, the infantry firing on us and the cavalry charging. At last, when near Centreville, we met Col. Blenker's regiment advancing to cover us. "Thank God," said Gen. Tyler, "here some of the reserve." They checked the enemy. I then rode up to Gen. McDowell with Gen. Tyler. Gen Tyler spoke to him of my behavior. Gen. McDowell ordered me to find the men that I had rallied to the support of the guns, and station them near the guns, which were placed in position during the night. The Colonel of the Maine Second, who I introduced to Gen. McDowell, said it was a wonder to him how I got any men to stop in that wild race for life.

Hardly had the poor tired soldiers thrown themselves on the ground to sleep, when down came an order for a forced march to Fairfax, seven miles – it seemed twenty, for two nights I had been in the saddle without sleep, and here was a third. At Capt. Akers' request, I rode by his battery to steady the volunteers near him, in case the enemy (who was reported chasing us) should attack us, twice during the night he caught me fast asleep, and nearly falling off my horse. I did the same for him the next morning, when he was overcome with fatigue. We reached Fairfax in the night, and had all prepared to bivouac, when McDowell rode along the line, and ordered us with all speed to Washington. I pitied the poor soldiers as they turned out; some wounded and bleeding, some with blisters and bleeding feet, many not having eaten since the night before – over twenty-four hours. And on we toiled. All along the road were the marks of hurried flight; abandoned teams, dead horses, muskets, coats, blankets, provisions, and even men dying from loss of blood or fatigue. The men got so desperate that they cut the horses from the wagons, and three or four got on and rode. We reached our camp at 12 next day. I laid down on a blanket on the ground and sleep till daylight this morning. I never in all my life suffered so much for sleep.

Such is the tale of our defeat, and Oh, you can not realize how deeply we feel the disgrace of our repulse. God help the Virginians and others when next we get at them with general officers fit to command. The men are willing to die, but they want at least to kill before they do. If you could have seen the compressed lip, suppressed breath and flashing eye, as I taunted them on the march with the direction in which they were going, "from, and not to Dixie." You could realize how deep is the feeling of revenge.

29 July 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin An Arrival from Manassas

Alexandria, July 27. – Mrs. Hinsdale, of Detroit, the wife of a private in the Second Michigan Regiment, has just returned from Manassas Junction, with quite an interesting narrative. She had followed her husband to the war, and was taken at Centreville by the enemy on Monday last, and carried to Manassas. While there she was assigned the task of tending to the hospital as nurse. Among the prisoners she reports First Lieutenant A. M. Underhill, Company C Eleventh New York Volunteers (Fire Zouaves);

Henry L. Barring, of the same regiment, hospital steward; Lieut. J. Bagley, of the Sixty-ninth New York; C. G. Murphy, of the Thirty eighth New York, Quartermaster; a son of John Wiggins, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; D. C. Sprague, of the New Haven Greys; Dr. Edward T. Taylor, of First New Jersey Volunteers; Dr. Buxtone, of the Fifth; the Surgeons of the First Minnesota, Thirty eight New York, and the Third United States Infantry; Dr. Swift, of Geneva N. Y., and Mr. Voodenburg, of the Fourteenth New York Volunteers, Hospital Steward. These prisoners were captured while in attendance upon the wounded in the hospital near the battle ground. They are now prisoners in a barn at Manassas Junction. Some of them are slightly wounded.

Mrs. Hinsdale remained at the Junction from Monday until Thursday. Generals Beauregard and Johnston were both there. The wounded and prisoners were well treated. Any of them can obtain their release by taking the oath of allegiance to the Confederate States, and swearing not to take up arms against them. This all of the prisoners, except one Captain of a Maine Regiment and two or three men, had declined.

There is a large force at Manassas Junction, over a hundred thousand rebels. They are constantly drilling, and making extensive preparations, not only for defence, but for a movement in this direction. The rebels promise to breakfast in Washington on Sunday. It is the impression of our people who are prisoners that they contemplate an attack at once, and they urged Mrs. Hinsdale to get away and give the information to the authorities here. By assiduous attention to the wounded of both sides alike, and pretending to be a simple sort of body, she obtained a pass, signed by an aid of General Beauregard, passing her "through the lines of the troops of the Confederate States, with permission to enter the United States." She came on foot from the Junction. In passing the battlefield she saw about fifty dead bodies yet unburied. Among them she recognized the scarlet breeches of the Fourteenth New York Regiment.

The rebels have a large force at Fairfax Court House, several thousand, and are strengthening their defences. They have a great many cannon and a large number of heavy pieces..

Mrs. Hinsdale has had a long interview since her arrival with Gen. Mansfield, to whom she detailed her observations.

Mrs. Hinsdale reports that the rebels estimated their loss at 1,200 killed and 1,500 wounded at Bull Run, and that Beauregard was as busy as a man who had all his treasure in the garret of a house on fire.

She brought with her a list of the New York and Michigan men who are prisoners at the Junction, which one of them had written on a piece of a letter. The only officer imprisoned was Lieutenant Underhill, of the Fire Zouaves.

She says they have a large number of prisoners and treat them well. They are kept in houses and pens, several of which are full.

Upon the trip to Washington she saw a large number of troops between Manassas and the Capital, and within a few miles of the latter.

29 July 1861 – Charleston S.C. Mercury

Notes of the Rebellion

The Battle of Bull Run

The South Carolina Reports of the Fight

Army of the Potomac, Camp Pickens, Monday, July 22, 1861 – I gave you yesterday, as well as the circumstances would permit, my first impressions of the great battle at the Stone Bridge, and after a day of constant inquiry, and as much reflection as was possible. I will attempt to give a more perfect outline of that most brilliant military achievement.

As I stated, the battle was expected. All things pointed to the impending crisis. The moral atmosphere was heavy with its awful report, and without being able to say what it was precisely that induced conviction, yet conviction if the contest had become a faith with all, and men rose in the morning to day pregnant of death to men, and of the fortunes and the fate of the Republic.

Nor did the realization of this conception depend upon the action of the enemy. They took this initiative, and came to meet us; but if they had not, we would have gone to them. It is now probably certain that matters here were so matured that the military authorities were ready and determined to advance, and it was with a feeling of relief perhaps, that the first booming of the cannon at McLean's Ford removed from us the responsibilities of that movement. We were not entirely prepared – as well prepared, at least, as we might have hoped to be. The forces of Gen. Holmes, from Fredericksburg, and Gen. Evans, from Leesburgh, were in the battle; and so, also, were the most of those from Gen. Johnston. But two brigades of Gen. Johnston's force – Gen. Smith's and Col. Elsey's – had not arrived. Hampton's Legion and Wynder's

Sixth Regiment of North Carolina had not arrived the night before. Many that had arrived from the sources mentioned above were without the provisions of a military life, and were too wearied for the most efficient military service, but still our forces had been greatly strengthened. At least 15,000 men had been added to our too small force. The enemy, is not renewing the attack, or offering to bury their dead, would seem to have been demoralized; and under the circumstances, therefore, it would seem that our Generals had resolved to strike and drive the invader back, or challenge this upon the open field of battle.

To this end it would seem to have been their purpose to lead an attacking force directly on the road to Centreville, by Mitchell's Ford, where Gen. Bonham, with his Brigade, had been posted, and a flanking force by Stone Bridge, and along the line which the enemy, himself, selected for a flanking force on us. This action of the enemy induced a necessary change in our plans. From attacking, we were forced to a defence, and it may be a question whether the result was better than it could have been. Our whole available force would then have been in action. As it was only those were in that could be thrown upon the plain of battle at Stone Bridge. The rest, in reserve at the several crossings for five miles down, were inactive, suspended, on contingencies for movement, until too late for a direct movement on the enemy's position.

The action, as I have stated, was commenced by a feint on the hills above Mitchell's Ford, upon the top of which the enemy industriously exhibited large masses of his forces. And the demonstration was followed up, as I have stated, by a movement round by Stone Bridge to our left flank. This movement was anticipated by a like movement of ours to take him upon his right flank, and thus the two flanking forces meeting, monopolized the interest, and became the leading actors in the splendid military drama. Our force, however, was a detachment; theirs was their main body. They had determined to force a crossing at that point – to conquer fate to that object – and to that end they had sent forward, it would seem, their entire force, beyond that necessary for the demonstration; and as the letter which was found on a prisoner, and a copy of which I send you, states their force at 130,000 – too much, perhaps. It is certain it was large, and that not less than 80,000 was dispatched upon this mission. To meet this, we had only the brigade of Gen. Evans, consisting of the Fourth South Carolina, and Wheat's Louisiana Battalion, and two guns of the Washington Artillery, sustained by Col. Cocke's Brigade, consisting of Colonel Cocke's Nineteenth Virginia Regiment, Wither's Seventeenth Virginia, and Preston's Twenty-eighth Virginia. The disadvantage, therefore, was in the fact that the great disproportion of our column left it exposed to an accumulated and concentrated fire which occasioned a mortality disproportioned to what might have been anticipated from a more equal number. In addition to this, the enemy had posted his column with all the available regulars in the service. The Second and Third Infantry, at least and Doubleday's Battalion, late of Patterson's column, it is believed, were in the action, as also some three thousand collected at Washington for service. Not one of these men were in the action. – Ed. Times.] Staking the fate of his army on this attack, it was truly severe. Never did men fight as our men did. The Fourth Regiments and Wheat's Battalion stood until almost cut to pieces under a concentrated fire from flanks and front, and they did in fact, as I thought they did, force the enemy to recoil; but the utmost they could expect was to induce but a temporary check to such a moving mass. It still rolled on, and, as brigade after brigade was subsequently thrown in, it but sustained the check; and, they were excessively cut up by the more abundant ordinance of the enemy, they still left to him the advantage of his numbers.

To exhibit the circumstances under which reinforcements were effected, I would state a little more explicitly the position of our forces. Gen Evans was on the extreme left and above the Stone Bridge; Col. Cocke was next; Col. Jackson, with his brigade from Gen. Johnston's forces, I think was next; Bartow was next; Gen. Ewell and Col. Easley, with their respective brigades, completed the display to the right at the Union Mills. These forces covered Bull Run from above the Stone Bridge to the point of crossing by the railroad, a distance of about six miles.

Bull Run, as I have had occasion to remark in former letters, is one of the branches of the Occoquan. They hold the Manassas Junction in the fork, and about three miles from either. From Centreville, as one may see from looking at the map, all the roads cross the run. That by Mitchell's Ford being the most direct, is seven miles, and all the other longer. The fight occurring on the extreme right, all the reinforcements were necessarily thrown from along this line; and time was necessary; and as a considerable time elapsed after the engagement at the stone Bridge, before the precise character of the enemy's movement appeared, it was late and long before all the movements could be made to meet it.

When it was ascertained what was the full meaning of the enemy to the left. I have reason to believe it was at once determined to throw a column from Mitchell's Ford upon the batteries above, and taking them, to fall upon the enemy's rear. Why it was not done I am not able to state, but it was not. And

standing near Generals Beauregard, Johnston and Bonham, on the hill of which I spoke yesterday, in the beginning of my report. I heard Gen. Beauregard remark, pointing to the fight to the west, "There is the battle-ground." Soon after orders were dispatched, and the Generals, with side and attendants, dashed on to enter on the scene of conflict.

The apparent retreat of the enemy was, in fact, his extension to the right, to gain our flank, and sorely was that point contested. The fight began nearly in front of a house owned by a man named Lewis. Against the hill on which that house is situated, the enemy had planted his battery, and it was against that that many of our brave men fell. There the Fourth South Carolina and Wheat's Battalion were slaughtered; there the gallant Bartow fell; and that for many of the bloody hours of the contest was the corner stone of the structure. From this it extended on by successive efforts to our flank for two miles to the west. Brigade after brigade, as they successive efforts to out flank for two miles to the west. Brigade after brigade, as they successively fell in, took new ground. The Washington Louisiana Artillery, or the other section of it came, took ground still to the left, and Shield's and Pendleton's each took its hill for special thunder, and each contributed its contingent to the mass of slaughter.

When I entered on the field, at 2 o'clock, the fortunes of the day were dark. The remnants of the regiments, so badly injured, or wounded and worn, they staggered out, gave gloomy pictures of the scene, and, as up to this time, after four hours of almost unprecedented valor and exertion, no point had been given, as each addition but seemed to stem the current of the enemy, but could not turn it back, as our forces were not exhaustless, as the distances to be traversed were continually greater, and as the enemy stood in possession of almost unlimited military power, and even the event was doubtful. We could not be routed, perhaps, but it is doubtful whether we were destined to a victory. But at this point the fortunes of the day were changed. The God of Battles seemed to stoop to our relief.

By an order of Gen. Beauregard, Gen. Bonham sent Col. Kershaw's Regiment, with Kemper's Battery of four guns annexed, and Col. Cash's regiment, to the rescue. On they came from four miles below, at a rapid march, driving great masses of the enemy before them, and making fearful execution in their ranks. Hill after hill was passed with the same result, until they reached the Stone Bridge. Here Gen. Beauregard halted them, reinforced them with a Virginia regiment, Hampton's Legion, what of it was in condition for service, some Marylanders and Louisianans, and started them again after the retreating foe, who fought and broke until the retreat became a rout. Cavalry came in now to finish. They were pursued by our forces to Centreville, some seven miles, leaving the road filed with plunder. The cavalry followed, cut down and captured, until late in the night.

While this was transpiring at one point, other events took place further on in another part of Johnston's forces were behind, having been delayed by a collision on the Manassas Railroad. The brigade of Gen. Smith, consisted of 1,800 men, arrived at Manassas after the fight began and hurried to the field. And at the instant when the fragments of the Fourth Carolina, Fourth Georgia, Fourth Alabama, Hampton's Legion and others were straggling back for a moment's relief, and to fire again, they rushed with defining shouts to the field of action. Col. Elsey, another portion of Gen. Johnston's force detained upon the railroad, was coming down. As he neared Manassas he heard the firing; he saw from the direction, he could reach the scene of action sooner, and stopping the cars he ordered out the men, pushed directly on a distance of but a few miles, for the enemy's object, doubtless, was to reach the Manassas Railroad in our rear. His line of travel brought him directly to the point where there was the effort to outflank again. The enemy, again and again defeated, and met by superior numbers, seemed at once to lose the spur of the contest when driven back. They did not face again over the rising grounds – beyond lines of dirt arose. What was their purpose did not appear. The sinking sun threw his sunlight over the magnificent landscape. The dead and dying lay about. The masses of horse lay under cover of the hills for the occasion that should invoke their action. Men stood to their arms along that bloody line, and looked a strange interest on the enemy. Was he to return and continue a fight of eight hours duration? Was he to change the point of his attack, and force them wearied and broken as they were, to another field? or, were they, broken and outdone about to retire from a field in which they had become assured by experience there was no harvest of power or glory to be won, but where they were, indeed, welcomed by bloody hands to hospitable graves? That this was their purpose, at length appeared. A shout arose upon the conviction, from 10,000 throbbing and exultant hearts. The cavalry poured down upon them. The dust, as from the crater of a volcano, marked the point of contact. With a singular propriety of occurrence, the honored Chief Magistrate of the Confederacy arrived upon the ground almost as the shouts of victory died upon the distance.

They rose again for him, and again and again for the gallant military chieftains under whose able leadership the action had been won. And there was not one who looked upon that field, strewn with the

fragments of war, and glittering in the beams of sunset, and upon those long lines of begrimed and bloody men, and upon the dark columns of the insolent invader, as crushed and cowed, he crawled from the field, who did not feel that he stood upon another historic point in human history. We stood upon one some six months since when we proclaimed the truths of our political faith; we stood upon another when we witnessed the solemnities of their vindication. There was no unbecoming demonstrations – no heartless exultation. The common feeling was of sadness, rather, that right and liberty, in the inscrutable ways of an overruling Providence, should only be purchased at so dear a price. But there was gratitude and trust, and an honest confidence of a future, which we had not scrupled to purchase at the sacrifices the God above us had seen proper to exact.

The movement on the right wing of our Army upon the batteries in front, which seemed to have been resolved on early in the action, was at length made. About the time of our final charge upon the enemy's right, which drove them from the field. Gen. Jones, with the Fifth South Carolina Regiment, Col. Jenkins, and the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Mississippi Regiments, Cols Featherston and Burt, move round to gain the rear of the batteries over the hill, above Mitchell's Ford. Gen. Bonham, with the Third and Seventh South Carolina Regiments, Cols. Williams and Bacon, moved up the hill in front. The enemy, through in considerable force, at once recoiled from the encounter, and, unlimbering their artillery, they made their way with the utmost rapidity the direction of Centreville. It was too late for pursuit – too late to intercept the retreating columns from the west, already under rapid headway; and with no serious loss, and after but a short and spirited engagement on the enemy's left, in which the Fifth Carolina Regiment suffered to some extent, they returned to their positions.

Of the many personal incidents of the battle, I have not time to speak to-night. My estimable friend, R. McKay, of Greenville, separated from his company, Capt. Hokes, came upon four of the enemy in charge of three of our prisoners whom they had taken, and was uncomfortably conscious he was about to add to their number; to be certain of the fact, however, he examined interrogatively, "Prisoners, boys?" A Zouave answered, "We don't know exactly who are prisoners here." "Oh, you, of course," said our ready friend; whereupon demanding their arms, they laid them down, and were marched off to the rear.

Six horsemen, detached from their company, dashed forward and came upon a company of the enemy all armed, forty-five in number, demanding a surrender as the best means of avoiding their own capture. The enemy complied, and the six men with sabers only marched them in.

Army of the Potomac, Near Manassas,

Tuesday, July 23

I have visited again to-day the scene of conflict, and am able to add still other particulars of that most memorable action. Your readers will remember that the battle was begun by a feint at Mitchell's Ford, on the road from Centreville to Warrenton. This, however, was only true in part. To that point the mass of the enemy's immense columns was indeed directed, but that also was another feint. Planting batteries against the forces guarding that bridge, he exhibited a purpose to force a crossing; but while seeking to induce that impression, he in fact made a detour of more than a mile above, and further to the west; and when our attention was directed to the bridge they sought to come upon our rear. To Gen. Evans, as I have said, the task of defending the bridge had been committed. He soon detected the enemy's purposes, and advanced to counteract them. Under him, as I have said, were the Fourth South Carolina Regiment, Col. Sloan, Wheat's Battalion, two guns of Layman's Battery, (not the Washington Artillery, as I was at first informed,) and two companies of Radford's Cavalry. These he advanced to Sudley Ford, but had hardly placed them in position before he saw the enemy in overwhelming masses on his flank, having already crossed. To resist them successfully was beyond a reasonable hope. A portion of his small force had already been detached to defend the bridge, and with the rest, not more than 1,100, he could not hope to stand against the accumulated thousands on his left; but he knew that vicinity or death was the determination for the ___ he could at least arrest them, and order ___ round his two pieces of artillery, and rap--- throwing forward his forces to the left, ____, face of the enemy's battery, already in ___and of their _____ ranks near twenty _____his own in number, he advanced to the charge; for a time he was covered by a clump of trees, but passing three he came directly in front of the enemy within ___ distance ___ made his charge upon them. The result of ___ could not be questioned. "For one ball of his there were twenty of the enemy, and there could be no expectation but to be ultimately cut to pieces, but he could sell his forces for their utmost value, and he did. The enemy, in fact, recoiled from the intense severity of his onset, but recovering they begun to bear him back. Gen Bee, with his brigade then came to his support. That again checked the current for an instant. Col Bartow then came. That again impeded its resistless progress; but the disparity was still too great. Their forces were driven down to the Warrenton Turnpike, then across it,

and back to the woods, one hundred yards below. When Hampton's Legion came with this a charge was made, which drove the enemy back to the road. From this they were able to recover, and drove our forces back in turn; again they rallied and drove the enemy, but extending to the left, they forced us back again. Jackson and Cocke had also come to maintain the unequal strife, and in the midst of fearful carnage strove to hold their own against overwhelming numbers.

Then it was, whilst the victory wavered in the balance, and hope seemed almost gone, that the gallant Second, with Kemper's Battery, and the Eighth, of Bonham's Brigade, under a previous and well timed order of Gen. Beauregard, came sweeping before them, the foe flying from their deadly fire and fierce charges.

On the other flank Smith, too, marched with four regiments, fresh from the railroad, to the vicinity of the enemy, put them to fight and commenced the pursuit.

Each in turn had met the successive enfilading columns of the enemy, until at length he had no other enfilading columns to advance. The pluck of our men began to tell against even overwhelming numbers. Their batteries which they had advanced to the eminences east of the Warrenton Road, and near a mile within the line of battle which we took at first, became the objects of attack. The assault was fearful, but the defence was stern and bloody. From Rickett's Battery every horse was killed, and even to-day there lie around the place where it stood the bodies of one hundred of the enemy. It was taken twice, but retaken again; and it was only when the regiments of Cols. Cash and Kernshaw had cleared the land to the left that the effort to retake it was abandoned. The guns were turned at once upon the enemy, and helped to drive them from the field. Not far to the right the same tragedy was enacted to the same result. The line of the enemy cut in two at this point was never formed again. One portion retreated by the Warrenton Turnpike, in the direction of Centreville; the others made again the detour round by Sudley Ford; both made for Centreville; and as they went along the turnpike back, the play of Kemper's Battery was as admirable as is often seen. The road is broad and straight for at least three miles. He planted his battery upon it. He was animated to his utmost skill and power by his sense of wrongs. The enemy for months has held and abused his home in Alexandria; and, as he plowed the road along which they were forced to travel, I fear he did not ask for mercy on the souls of those he sent to their account/

The regiments of Kernshaw and Cash, with Kemper's Battery, followed to within a mile of Centreville. The road was strewn with plunder, and at the Hanging Bridge, on Cobb's Creek, they took twenty-one guns, which had become jammed, and which, together with the horses, which they were all too hurried to unhitch, were taken and sent back.

I spoke, last night, of the movement of Generals Jones and Bonham upon the batteries in front of them, but I did not state the full effect of their exertions. They followed on to within sight of Centreville. The enemy had preceded them, and had encamped. Alarmed at their approach, he struck his camp again, worn as he was, and did not stop until far beyond Fairfax. Whether he stopped this side of Alexandria or Washington, does not appear. In his route, he left equipage and baggage, and four of his guns at Centreville, which he had not the spirit, even, to attempt to save. The number of guns now taken is reported to be fifty-one, and as a conclusive indication of what is the true import and effect of our action, it may be stated that, yesterday, the Confederate flag was run up at Fairfax. That night the town was in possession of a detachment of our cavalry, and to-night it will be occupied by a force sufficient to hold it.

In further evidence of the demoralization of the enemy it was stated this morning by a gentleman of official position and character in Alexandria, that he left that town unchallenged last night, that he came to our own pickets unquestioned, and that the rumor was the volunteers whose term of service had expired, have resolved to leave; that it is determined to prevent them and that the regular soldiers are now called out to keep them in subjection. This is probable in a house to-day where some forty of the wounded enemy had crept, and where they have since been lying without food or attendance. I met a lad who said the coming of many of the troops was entirely involuntary; that their term of service having expired, they demanded their discharge, but were told they must fight the battle, and that then they would be paid. It not willing to fight, they must do it anyhow.

I mentioned yesterday that much depended on the opportune arrival of Col. Elsey with his Brigade. In reference to the time I was mistaken; his was a portion of the command of Gen. Smith, whose coming, however, was most opportune; and when Gen. Smith was shot Col. Elsey took command, and did at least his share to secure the victory.

When I entered on the field at 2 o'clock of the day of battle, the scene, as I have mentioned, was gloomy, for the battle was undecided, and the chances seemed against us, but I did not mention all that made it painful. In peaceful life we are not familiar with the scenes of war, and it has happened to me, at

least, to have seen but little suffering from the casualties or combats of life. I had not, therefore, the advantage of familiarity, and just at once the scene was one to task the nerve of any man. At the first trench I came to which was just beyond the range of bullets, lay one hundred, at least in every stage of suffering and endurance. One had his leg shot off with a cannon ball, another had his arm broken, another had his jaw shot away. Col. Hampton met us with the appearance of having had a ball in his temple, and he said he had been insensible from the effects, but hoped soon to be upon the field again. A few steps further on I saw a Palmetto boy with his under jaw shot off at the instant I met Col. Shingler riding before an ambulance, which, he said, contained the late lamented Gen. Bee. The General lay prostrate, and almost expiring, from the wound in his abdomen, which of necessity must prove mortal. A few steps further still, and there lay the helpless form of my late friend Col. Johnston. Others there were – aged men, whose grey hairs proclaimed them sixty and more; boys whose young hearts yearned, I know, for softer hands and sweeter faces than were around them there. To this spot all had been impelled by the wounded soldiers' constant want of water. The stream by the constant crossing, was so muddy it was scarcely fluid, but they drank it; and, with the night approaching, through which they must either be under the cold sky or bear the jolting of a journey to Manassas, and without attendance or the certainty of medical attendance, they yet were cheerful or, it not, enduring. No one added to the sufferings of others by exhibitions of his, and during the time I felt at liberty to stay – for the order came for all able to bear a gun to enter in the ranks for a final stand – I heard no solitary groan from any one.

But of all imaginable scenes of horror the battle-field to-day excels. Upon the hills from which the enemy was last driven, still lay the dead they had not time to remove. Some had been buried by our own men, but the task was too repulsive, and the most of them were left upon the bare ground without a leaf to shade them, bloated, blackened and rotting in the sun, for birds and insects to devour. And it was scarcely possible not to commiserate the fate of men who had offered up their lives for a country that would not show to them the cold charity of even a grave to be in. Nor was it better with the poor starved ____ who had crawled into the store-house upon the field of battle. Sick, famished, friendless and without a home or country they could love or honor, it were scarcely better to be alive than dead. I spoke of the fact to Gen. Evans, in whose military department they are at present, and he promised to keep them from starving at least; but in the meantime the country people were coming in with offers of assistance, and one was taking one poor fellow off to his house at Brentsville.

Battles make singular developments. My friend, Dr. Shepherdson, visiting the prisoners yesterday, found a college-mate among them. One of our soldiers found among them his own brother. Gen. Evans found among them Major Tillinghast, long known in Charleston, who had been his classmate – at the instant of recognition, Major T. was at the point of death, and _____ after; and also in ____ that _____ at Fairfax, the charger--- ____ which he _____ the service of the United States. And Col. Rollins, in a customer that was skulking on the road to Centreville upon the evening of the battle, and whom he made his prisoner, Hon. Mr. Ely of New York.

There is a feeling of regret for all the gallant men who fell in this engagement, but for none more than the gallant Bartow. He had gone into this war with such uncalculating zeal and fidelity to the great cause, and bore himself so nobly in the fight, that if there were the wish to, it were hard to withhold our admiration. When his horse was shot, he led the Eighth Georgia Regiment, on foot, to storm a battery. This was cut to pieces, and retiring to put himself at the head of the Seventh, he asked of Gen. Beauregard what he would have him do. The general said: "There is the battery." He started for it again. The color-bearer was shot down, when he seized the colors, and bearing them on, he received a shot in his left breast.

Nor less lamented is the death of General Bee. He has been regarded as one among the best military appointments, and has won opinion in every act of his military life. He was first in the field to sustain our leading column at every succeeding crisis of the contest. He was present at the passage of the Turnpike; at the gallant charge of the Hampton Legion; at the storming of the batteries; and at last fell near the fatal spot where also had fallen the gallant Bartow. Of his side were Gen. Gist, Col. Shingler and Major Stevens, who was slightly wounded, shared his pains, and remained to share the further fortune of the contest.

Nor is less sympathy experienced for the sufferings of Gen. Smith. He came to stem the current of our backward fortunes and leading his Brigade to the very head of the flanking column, fell almost at the first fire pierced through the breast with a grape shot. Hopes, however, are entertained for his recovery. On his staff were our townsmen. Col. Buist and Capt. Tupper, who were with him when he fell.

Of Col. Johnston, the career was short and brilliant. The Legion arrived in the night, and in a few hours after, almost unfit for service, it was thrown into the very thickest of the fight, and Co. Johnston fell,

with Col. Hampton, on the spot upon which their columns had been planted. I sent the casualties of Col. Kershaw's Regiment by telegraph to-day, but of the other regiments, so scattered as they are, and in weather so exceedingly unsuitable to traveling as it has been. I have not yet been able to obtain.

President Davis left the Army this morning in the cars for Richmond. Though the Chief Magistrate of a great republic at this most salient period of its greatness, were arrogated no special privilege, he took his seat, with others, in an overcrowded car; and in that, and in every other instance of his intercourse with his fellow citizens here, he exhibited but the appearance and bearing of a well-bred gentleman, as he unquestionably is.

Army of the Potomac, Camp Pickens
Wednesday, July 24

The great battle at Stone Bridge has been the theme for days, but still is not exhausted. It stirred our hearts so deeply that they cannot take the current of another thought. Nor is it necessary. The military event of this age, and the event upon which hung suspended the private feeling and the public interests of the South, it is scarcely to be thought of that I should offer, or you should ask, the reason why I dwell upon it.

In writing yesterday I endeavored to present that at one time the fortunes of the day were doubtful – hung suspended on a thread – and that by Beauregard's order, the victorious advance of the Second and Eighth Carolina Regiments, with Kemper's Battery from the centre at 2 o'clock, after several fierce struggles, determined fortune in our favor. At 3 o'clock, too, Gen. Smith, leaving the railroad cars, formed his four regiments and marched against the enemy on the extreme left wing, driving them before him. I hesitated to dwell, however, upon certain incidents which, however apparently established, were yet contested, or seemed to be so, and I was unwilling to commit myself to statements until I had made every reasonable effort to obtain the truth. The first of these was the taking of a battery by Hampton's Legion. Your readers will now have had some faint conception of the battle ground. It occurred, they will remember, on the Turnpike Road from Centreville to Warrenton, just after it crosses Bull Run on the Stone Bridge. The road at this point pursues its path between two ridges or ascending slopes, the summits of which are near a mile apart. The woodland for near a mile has been all cleared away, and it was upon this splendid theatre, and all in full view, were made those constant movements to outflank each other, upon which fate depended. The enemy having made the detour by Sudley's Ford to get upon our flank, of which I spoke first, broke the cover of the trees which crowned the eminence on which we rested, by planting a battery of rifled cannon. Gen. Evans met it the best he could by planting his two guns, the one to the right and the other to the left of his position, and advanced under such cover as they gave to meet the enemy. He could not permanently check them, however; they drove him back across the road, and with him his pieces of artillery. One was disabled; but the other, under Lieut. Davidson, of Latham's Battery, took position in the road, and with almost unexampled intrepidity continued to play upon the enemy advancing up the road, into which they had entered lower down, until they were already rising the eminence upon which he stood. Before that, however, Capt. Imboden, with his battery, from Staunton, had been placed within one hundred yards of the road, and had opened a most galling fire. Gens. Bee and Bartow, and Hampton's Legion, rallied to sustain him. The fight was bloody, but nearer to the road, in position to rake their entire line; the enemy had planted another battery. Fresh columns were thrown for the eminence beyond, across the field upon the road. Our gallant men were forced back by the pressure of these overwhelming numbers. They crossed the road and planted two batteries, the one Rickett's and the other a section of Sherman's, it is supposed, upon our side, but about two hundred yards off from Imboden's to rake the hill with grape and canister. From these, even Imboden's was compelled to fall back, which he did, and carried off his guns, when it seems impossible that any human power could save him. To take these batteries, so established upon our side, or to quit the field, was then the only option left us.

Of these the one, Rickett's of four guns, was beyond a little house owned and occupied by a man named Henry, and the other to the right of it and lower down the hill. Against the first of these it was Bee and Bartow fought and at length, at fearful sacrifice of life, the men and horses were shot down, and the guns were silenced, but the other still kept on. No single movement could be made below the brow of the hill against the turning columns of the enemy until this was taken, and against that the Legion, as a forlorn hope, was led. In their first charge they had advanced to the Henry's house, and were passed through the garden, when Col. Hampton was shot down. Without his further orders they were confused. Thus, Lieut. Col. Johnston had fallen, and Capt. Conner, of the Washington Light Infantry, senior Captain, led them back to form them; retiring under cover of the hill, they found the Seventeenth Virginia Regiment. Col. Withers, and through Adjutant Barker, proposed that he should join them, which he did. They formed their

line of battle; Capt. Conner led the Legion. They tore down upon the enemy through a storm of balls. They reserved their fire until within a certain distance of the enemy. With a single volley they swept the guns of men and horses. The infantry sustaining them gave way before the charge of bayonets, and raising their colors over one, and not knowing in exactly what form to assert a priority of claim to the other, Capt. Gary got astride of it, and thus for the first time the line of battle of the enemy was broken. The fighting was not ended. It raged with unabated fury on either side, and great destruction of life. The guard that undertook to defend Rickett's Battery were at last driven off by the regiments of Kershaw and Cash; and thus in the hands of these Carolinians the possession of this battery permanently rested; and then, turned upon the flying enemy, it contributed, in no slight degree to swell the current of mortality that flowed upon them.

At the crisis of this contest, it happened also to Gen. Bee to have contributed, in a special way, to the result, which it were but just to his memory to mention. He it was who had the office of assigning positions to the batteries which were first in position after those sustaining Gen. Evans, and upon a field so swept by musketry and ordnance he had little leisure for selection. Dashing over the field with Imboden, he gave him in an instant a position, which was the very best that could have been selected. The slight elevation just before and on either side of him gave many of the advantages of an embrasure, while his position commanded the entire field operations of the enemy. When forced to retire, the same advantage facilitated escape. The next position on the ___ to the rear, upon which other batteries had been placed, and to which Imboden was also ordered, was equally as fortunate. Without these positions it might have been impossible to have kept the enemy in check, while our shattered regiments were reforming and the conquering reinforcements arrived; without these advantages it would have been impossible to hold them. The least mistake might have been fatal; and the promptness of his action, under such particularly trying circumstances, was more like the inspiration of genius than the ordinary exercise of skill and judgment.

I spoke of the efficiency of Capt. Kemper's action on the flying enemy, but I did not mention that the Captain was himself taken prisoner. Early in the day, when the fight was fiercest, and matters were so mixed that it was difficult to distinguish enemies from friends. Capt. Kemper was surrounded by about twenty Zouaves, and his sword was demanded. He asked for an officer, declaring that he would only surrender to an officer. They told him to follow, and they would take him to one; he saw a column moving near them, whom he recognized as friends, pointing to these, he said there is one of your regiments, take me to it. They started, and approaching a few steps nearer, he told them they were mistaken, and it was for them to surrender, which seeing themselves under the guns of an enemy, they promptly did. It improves our feelings toward them to fight them, so it is said, at least and so it seemed to be in this case. At the crisis of the fight, when it was doubtful if we would not be whipped, and when men, sinking from their wounds, were coming from a fight in which their friends and relations had been cut to pieces, some three or four prisoners brought in were rather in the way of being roughly treated. The proposition was made, and was responded to, to shoot them. I passed them on the way when the fight was going on, and greatly feared that something might be done to shame us, but a few words brought the sufferers to their senses, and the prisoners were soared. In every other instance, however, after the act of battle was over, the feeling was kinder than it could have been before the fight began. I saw the soldiers share their water with them, which they could hardly spare themselves. Many of them were taken and cared for by the very men who shot them, and a friend, passing through the field when the fight was over, passed two wounded men, the one from Georgia, the other from New York. The New York man asked for water, and the wounded Georgian begged my friend for God's sake to give it to him; for that he himself had called upon a soldier from New York for water when his column was in retreat, and though it was at the risk of his life, he ran to the trench and brought it.

It was in search of water that Adjutant S. M. Wilkes, of the Fourth Regiment lost his life. He had escaped the perils of the fight, and rode to the camp for a drink of water; when starting back, he met a party of the flying enemy, who shot him. Col. Johnston fell the instant he entered into battle. They marched down to take position in the Warrenton Turnpike, and before the Legion had fired a gun, he was struck by a ball in the forehead, and fell without a word.

When the fire so raged around the house of Henry in the effort to take the batteries, the family were in it; they were utterly unconscious it was to be the theatre of battle, and made no effort to escape until it was too late to do so. Among them was an aged mother, whom the son and daughter carried to a gully, and for the first charge kept her out of the way of balls; but when the fight pressed on they could not move her again. She lay in bed, therefore, until the batteries were taken. The house was literally riddled with balls, and when the old lady was looked for she had been sent to her long account. Many balls passed through her, and she was perfectly at rest.

Of individual experience, there were scarcely room to speak. One lad, Oakley, from Alabama, taken prisoner, was tied; but when the enemy was fighting, he cut the cords, found a musket, plunged it in a Zouaves, endeavoring to detain him, and started to his friends on the way. On an officer's prospecting, he went up towards him, and when near enough, he ordered him to surrender; the officer did so, and young Oakley bore him in triumph in to headquarters. He proved to be Col. Corcoran. One of the most obvious features of the battle-field is a group of horses, and the men beside them. The caisson had exploded. Men and horses were all killed, apparently near the close of the engagement, and now lie altogether bloated the sun. The immortality among horses was large; as many as one hundred, at least, may be seen upon the field, and it is of regret for their loss that they were particularly fine ones.

In the percussion shells, with which the enemy so liberally bespattered the country, the enemy have left their sting behind them. Few explode in falling. Of twenty fired into the hill on which we first stood, not one exploded, but they do explode easily when struck upon the right point; and these handled by the soldiers, and dropped carelessly, are liable to do great injury. Two in this way have been exploded, and one killed one man in Col. Preston's regiment and badly wounded two others. L. W. S.

29 July 1861 – Richmond Daily Enquirer The Battle of Manassas

Capt. John D. Imboden of the Staunton Artillery, now at Manassas Junction makes the following report under date of July 23 – Brigadier General W. H. Whiting commanding the Third Brigade of the Army of the Shenandoah:

I submit the following summary report of the part taken in the engagement of yesterday, by the Battery of the Brigade – the Staunton Artillery – under my command. The battery arrived at Camp Walker, below the Junction, at half past eleven o'clock the night before the battle, with men and horses greatly fatigued, by a forced march of (looks like 32 ?) miles, commenced at day break, over an extremely rough and steep, hilly road. Having had but four hours sleep, and that on the ground without shelter, on a rainy night, since the preceding Wednesday night at Winchester, and no food on Saturday, except breakfast which was kindly furnished us by some ladies at Salem, in Fauquier, my men were so tired on getting into camp that they threw themselves upon the ground to snatch a few hours rest.

A little after sunrise on Sunday morning, the lamentable Gen. Bee sent for me to his quarters, and informed me of the approach of the enemy, and that he was ordered to "the Stone Bridge" with his brigade and a battery not so much exhausted as mine, and asked me "if we could stand that ?" I replied, "not if we can help it." He then ordered me to put the battery in motion immediately, and let my wagons remain, and bring our rations and forage after us to the field. In about twenty minutes we were in motion, very much stimulated by a cannonade which had been opened so near Camp Walker that one of the balls came whizzing over us just as we started. After a rapid march of about five miles we met the infantry of the brigade, who had gone by a nearer route. Gen. Bee in person then joined the battery, and rode with us about a mile and selected the ground we were to occupy, and remained till after the firing commenced on both sides. To his consummate judgment in choosing our ground, we are indebted for our almost miraculous escape from utter destruction. We were placed on the slope of a hill, facing to the West, with a slight depression or ravine, running almost parallel with the base of the hill. We came "into battery" and unlimbered in this depression, being thus sheltered by a swell in the ground to our front five or six feet high. Our position commanded a beautiful open farm which rose gently from the valley in front of us, back to the woods about 1,500 yards distant. In the edge of these woods a heavy column of the enemy was marching to the southward, while we were descending the hill to our position. At the moment we wheeled into line, I observed one of their batteries of six guns do the same thing, and they unlimbered simultaneously with us. – We immediately loaded with spherical case shot, with the fuse cut for 1,500 yards. Gen Bee ordered me not to fire till they opened on me, as he had sent the Fourth Alabama Regiment, Colonel Jones across the valley to our right to occupy a piece of woods about 500 yards nearer the enemy, and he wished this Regiment, together with one six pounder they had along with them, to get fairly in position before we fired. He had hardly uttered the order, however, when the enemy's battery – six long rifle 10 pounder Parrott guns, afterwards captured by our troops – within 150 yards of our position, opened on us with elongated cylindrical shells. They passed a few feet over our heads, and very near the General and his staff in our rear, and exploded near the top of the hill. We instantly returned the compliment. Gen Bee then directed me to hold my position till further orders, and observed the enemy's movements towards our left, and report to him anything I might discover of importance. This was the last time my gallant, heroic General ever spoke to me. Seeing us fairly engaged he rode off to take charge of his regiments. –

The firing of both batteries now became very rapid – they at first over shot us and burst their shells in our rear, but at every round improved their aim and shortened their fuse. In about fifteen minutes we received our first injury. A shell passed between two of our guns and exploded amongst the caissons, mangling the arm of private J. J. Points with a fragment in a most shocking manner. I ordered him to be carried off the hill to the surgeon at once. He was scarcely gone when another shell exploded at the same place and killed a horse. About this time the enemy began to fire below, striking the knoll in our front, from ten to twenty steps, from which the ricochet was sufficient to carry the projectiles over us; they discovered this, and again began to fire over us. After we had been engaged for perhaps a half hour, the enemy brought another battery of four guns into position about 400 yards south of the first, and a little nearer to us, and commenced a very brisk fire upon us. A shell from this last battery soon plunged into our midst, instantly killing a horse and nearly cutting off the leg of private W. S. Suders, just below the knee. He was immediately taken to the surgeon. A few minutes afterwards another shell did its work by wounding 2nd Lieut. A. W. Garber so severely in the wrist that I ordered him off the field for surgical aid. We now had ten guns at work upon us, with no artillery to aid us for more than an hour, except, I believe, three rounds fired by the gun with the Alabama Regiment. It ceased its fire, I have heard, because the horses ran off with the limber and left the gun without ammunition. During this time the enemy's infantry was assembling behind, between and to the right (our left) of their batteries in immense numbers, but beyond our reach, as we could only see their bayonets over the top of the hill. Two or three times they ventured in sight, when the Alabamians turned them back on their left by a well directed fire, and we gave them a few shot and shells on their right with the same result, as they invariably dropped back over the hill when we fired at them, as almost every shot made a gap in their ranks.

After we had been engaged for I suppose nearly two hours, a detachment of some other battery, (the New Orleans Washington Battalion, I believe) of two guns, formed upon our right and commenced a well directed fire, much to our aid and relief. My men by this time were so overcome with the intense heat and excessive labor, that half of them fell upon the ground completely exhausted. The guns were so hot that it was dangerous to load them – one was temporarily spiked by the priming wire hanging in at the vent having become foul. My teams were cut to pieces, five of the horses were killed out of one single piece, and other teams partially destroyed, so that alone, we could not much longer have replied to the enemy's batteries as briskly as was necessary.

We were now serving the guns with diminished numbers – Lieuts. Harman and Imboden working at them as private to relieve the privates; the latter had the handspike in his hand directing his piece, when one of its rings was shot off of the trail by a piece of a shell. After our friends on the right commenced firing, the enemy advanced a third battery of four pieces down the hill, directly in front of and about six hundred yards distant from us, upon which we opened fire immediately, and crippled one of their guns by cutting off its trail, compelling them to dismount and send the piece away without its carriage. While this last battery was forming in our front, a vast column of thousands of infantry marched down in close order, about two hundred yards to its right. I did not then know where the several regiments of our brigade were posted, We heard firing upon our right and left, but too far off to protect us from a sudden charge as we were in the middle of an open field, and not a single company of infantry visible to us on the right, left or rear. At the moment the enemy's main column came down the hill, we observed the head of another column advancing down the valley from our left, and therefore concealed by a hill, and not over 350 or 400 yards distant. At first I took them for friends, and ordered the men not to fire on them. To ascertain certainly who they were, I sprang upon my horse and galloped to the top of the hill to our left, when I had a nearer and better view. There were two regiments of them. They halted about three hundred yards in front of their own battery on the hill side, wheeled into line with their backs toward us, and fired a volley, apparently at their battery. This deceived me, and I shouted to my men to fire upon the battery that these were friends who would charge and take it in a moment – Fortunately, my order was not heard, or not obeyed by all the gunners, for some of them commenced firing into this line, which brought them to the right about, and they commenced advancing towards us, when their uniform disclosed fully their character. I instantly ordered the second section of my battery to limber up and come on the hill where I was, intending to open on them with canister. Anticipating this movement, and intending to make the hill to the left too hot for us, or seeing me out there alone, where I could observe their movements and report them, their nearest battery directed and fired all its guns at me at once, but without hitting me or my horse. I galloped back to my guns, and found that the two guns on our right had left the field, and we were alone again. My order to limber up the second section was understood as applying to the whole battery, so that the drivers had equalized the teams sufficiently to move all the guns and caissons, and the pieces were all

limbered. On riding back a short distance, where I could see over the hill again, I discovered the enemy approaching rapidly, and so near that I doubted our ability to save the battery, but, by a very rapid movement up the ravine, we avoided the shells of the three batteries that were now directed at us, sufficient to escape with three guns and all the caissons. The fourth gun, I think, was struck under the axle by an exploding shell, as it broke right in the middle, and dropped the gun in the field. We saved the team. Their advance fired a volley of musketry at us, without effect, when we got over the hill out of their reach, and a few moments afterwards heard the infantry engage them from the woods, some distance to the South of us. Seeing no troops where we first crossed the hill amongst whom we could fall in with, and prepare for battle again, and having had no communication with or from any human being for, I suppose, three hours, and not knowing where to find our brigade or any part of it. I determined to retire to the next hill, some four hundred yards distant and there form the remnant of my battery and await the opportunity for further service.

Just as we were ascending this second hill we met Gen. T. J. Jackson with the First Virginia Brigade, hastening on the field of battle. I reported to him my condition and perplexity. He directed me to fall in between two of his regiments and return to the first hill again and fight with him. I did so with a remnant of my men and guns. The caissons except one, were empty, and many of the men were ready to faint from sheer exhaustion. We got into position 300 or 400 yards north of the ground we at first occupied, within full view of the enemy's heavy column of divisions advancing towards us. We opened fire at once, but slowly, as we had not over four or five men left able to work the guns, respectively, and ammunition had to be brought from a caisson, left two hundred yards in the rear because we were unable to get it up with the guns. Every shot here told with terrible effect, as we could see a lane opened through the enemy after almost every fire. Our first gun was worked, during this part of the action, by the Captain, the First Lieutenant, and two privates. In the course of three quarters of an hour our supply of shot and shells was exhausted – the men could no longer work – we had nothing but some canister left, which was useless at so great a distance. A fresh battery came upon the field, and Gen. Jackson ordered me to retire with my men and guns, to a place of safety, which I did, and had no further part in the fight.

We were the first battery of the left wing of the army engaged. We were in the fight till near its close, having been engaged altogether upwards of four hours. We fired about 460 rounds of ball and case shot, our whole supply during the action. The only serious damage to my men I have mentioned above. Privates Points and Sidors will doubtless get well, but will lose their wounded limbs. Lieutenant Garber may save his hand.

Several others were slightly touched with fragments of shells without injury. I had 71 horses on Sunday morning, before the battle commenced; 10 of those are sick and missing, and 21 more variously injured, and at present wholly unserviceable, leaving me but 40 horses fit for work. My harness is half destroyed and lost. One piece is dismounted, but will be as good as ever when remounted on a new carriage. All my officers behaved throughout with heroic coolness and bravery, and the conduct of the men was that of veterans.

No company in the army was more exposed and none, I believe, so long a time, and yet no man quailed. There were instances of individual heroism worthy of special notice; but where all did so well it would seem almost invidious to single out individuals

J. D. Imboden,
Capt. Battery, 8th Brig. C.S.A.

29 July 1861 – Richmond Daily Enquirer

Letter to the Editor

Richmond, July 25th 1861

Messrs. Editors. – In your yesterday's account of the great battle of Manassas on Sunday you commemorate the States whose soldiers took part in that glorious conflict. I regret that you omitted the State of Louisiana, and think it very surprising, as it is very notorious, that Louisianan's were there, and that Wheat's Battalion was located on the extreme left, where the battle raged the fiercest, and that over one half of the whole were killed, and the leader and several other officers were severely wounded. Now if you can show that any other body of soldiers were more energetic or more efficient in the contest, or if any did harder fighting, or lost more men in proportion to their number, or who suffered as much as Wheat's Battalion of Louisianans, there still could be no excuse for the omission complained of.

You did mention Washington Artillery, and inserted Louisiana Artillery. Even that little band of gallant men would have entitled the State that had contributed to the glory of the victory.

I safely state that the Louisiana Artillery and Wheat's Louisiana Battalion performed their part in a manner not to be surpassed, and deserve the highest commendations of the government and the public.

Yours, A LOUISIANIAN

30 July 1861 - Leesburg (Va.) Democratic Mirror

The 8th Virginia Regiment

This regiment, as we stated last week, was in the hottest of Sunday's fight, and bore itself with the utmost gallantry, winning the highest encomiums of the commanding General, Beauregard, who at one time headed the column and led them to a charge. The men composing the 8th regiment were mostly from Loudoun, some from Prince William and Fauquier, with one company of Cavalry from Madison, Capt. Thomas, and another from Franklin, Capt. Hale, the whole forming as bold and daring a set of soldiers as ever drew a trigger on a Yankee.

The 8th, with some exceptions, were little better than raw militia, having been in camp, but a short time – two of the companies, Wampler's and Simpson's, only a few days, and were consequently stationed on the field as a reserve to be called for in the last extremity should the fortunes of the day make it necessary. They were placed in the rear of a South Carolina regiment, but about 3 o'clock the enemy bore down so heavily on the latter that they fell back in great disorder. Then it was that Beauregard appeared in person, and shouting to the men of the 8th that they had it in their power to determine the result of the day – to hold the enemy in check a little while until the looked for reinforcements arrived and victory would be ours. He led them to the charge, and most sternly was it made. The fierceness of the struggle and the desperation of the engagement may be judged from the annexed list of killed and wounded. But they did their work – the expected reinforcements came, the enemy was repulsed, and from that hour victory was made sure. It is said that Beauregard observed that he never witnessed a charge more gallantly or more awkwardly made. After the battle he complimented Col. Hunton on the courage of his men and thanked him for the services they had that day rendered.

The soldiers say that throughout the engagement the form of Col. H. was to be seen where the bullets flew thickest, manifesting the greatest self-possession, coolness and courage. Of the subordinate officer we might be invidious were we to speak, especially where all behaved so well.

Killed and Wounded of Border Guard

Townsend Hope shot through the stomach, died twelve o'clock at night, buried at six in the evening.

Lieut. John R. White contusion of the hip, Charles W. Brown of Waterford shot in the right thigh, Harrison Browner shot through the shoulder blades severely, James Alder two wounds, one through the shoulder and the other in the thigh, Enoch Cantwell shot through the shoulder badly, James W. Russell slight flesh wound, R. Graham shot through the right arm, Thomas Leman shot through the shoulder badly, Tazwell McAtee shot through the elbow shattered, James McDaniel shot through cheek bone slightly, William Galloway through the thigh flesh wound, William Mull shot through the head mortally, C. W. Griffin of Maryland shot in the arm, Jarred Atwell very slightly on the lip, Thos. Leslie slight contusion of the thigh, John Bowlin slightly on the lip, Joseph Janney left thigh amputated, Robert White knocked down by grape shot striking cartridge box and stunned by ball through the hat, Albert Heaton Minnie ball in the thigh seriously, Richard Grubb three balls in hat and several others with musket balls through their clothes.

The wound of Mr. James McDonald is more severe than was at first supposed. Dr. Taylor of Hillsborough found and extracted an ounce Minnie ball, flattened, which McDonald supposed first struck his gun, as he was in the act of firing, knocking it from his hands. – The ball entered just at the point of the cheek bone, penetrating some two inches. Had the ball gone half an inch farther, death must have ensued.

Evergreen Guards

Capt. E. Berkely's Company – Killed – Jas. A. Kinney, Joseph B. Lunsford, William E. Ball, William Hewett. – Wounded seriously – Corporal Benjamin Hurst, and private Bernard King; slightly – John Shannon, and Capt. Bazell of Md.

Capt. W. Carter's Cavalry – Killed – Frank Dowell, Enoch McCarty, G. Francis, John Plaster, Stephen Cornell, Peyton Wilson and a Mr. Hicks of Md.

Capt. Rogers' Artillery – Killed – none. – Wounded – John Howser. – since dead.

Wampler's Company – Killed – none. – Wounded - T. Myers, J. W. Nichols, G. T. Loveless

30 July 1861 - Leesburg (Va.) Democratic Mirror
The Victory of the 21st

The story of the battle at Manassas on the 21st, has gone on the wings of the morning to the uttermost parts of the earth, and wherever it has been, or hereafter may be related, it will inspire a respect for Southern arms and Southern prowess that the most sanguine devotee of Southern Rights could hardly have anticipated a so short a time. The history of the world scarce afford a parallel for the magnificent achievements of that day. – and the most fabulous chronicler of deeds of fixation never imagined a conflict so sanguinary in its character – so fatal in its work – so glorious in its final result.

Our northern foes – cheered on, as we have good reason to believe, by the presence of that gouty old renegade Virginia.

Scott – marched against our forces, in confident expectation of utterly annihilating them. They had made their boasts to that effect and many of the poor deluded devil who that day passed from time into eternity, had been led to believe that it was merely a holiday excursion in which “no body would be hurt” – that the rebel forces would be dispersed like leaves before an autumn blast, while members of Congress, with their wives and children, followed in the train of the advancing, and as they supposed, invincible army.

But alas! For human hopes, in their hour of exultant joy, consternation seized their panic stricken troops, and after losing thousand of men and millions of property, they fled in the utmost confusion – completely demoralizing themselves and the government for which they battled. The defeat at Manassas, is a death blow to the powers at Washington. They had staked everything upon the result of that day’s work. The flower of their army and the best military talent in their services was engaged in the conflict. Had they succeeded, it would have been a dark day for the Confederacy, and caused many a brave hearts that now beats high with patriotic hopes for the future, to despond and grow sad, and shrouded with gloom our entire people. But the prowess of our men and the overruling Providence of a just God has brought us off more than conquerors.

We would not underrate the remaining strength of our northern foes, nor the almost superhuman efforts that they will put forth to atone for the disaster and the disgrace which attended their attack upon Manassas – as President Davis remarked in his speech on his return to Richmond, “much hard fighting is yet before us,” but on the 21st July –

“Umpy-dumpy got a fall, and a million men, and a million more Can’t put Umpy-dumpy where he was before”

The loss of those splendid batteries – the slaughter – according to northern estimates – of from five to six thousand men, many of them regular soldiers – the capture of two or three millions of dollars worth of property of various kinds, and the exhaustion consequent on a twenty miles run into Washington, cannot be restored in a day or a week, nor a year – and we shall not be surprised to see our army promptly following up its work of Sunday, by transferring the field of strife, and shortly pitching their tents nearer to the gates of the Hessians.

30 July 1861 - Leesburg (Va.) Democratic Mirror
The Killed and Wounded at Manassas
The Lynchburg Virginian says:

An intelligent physician of this city has just returned from the battle ground at Manassas, where he had been assisting, and reports that there are not more than 300 of our men killed and 600 or 700 wounded. This agrees pretty nearly with a statement we had from an army surgeon though we had feared that the loss was much greater.

The entirely corresponds with our own advices from the bloody field. It seems hardly possible that a conflict so deadly should have lasted so long and so few, comparatively, of our brave men have fallen, but it is nevertheless a fact, and should cause grateful emotions to well up the breast of every patriot at so signal an interposition of Providence in our behalf.

30 July 1861 – Leesburg (Va.) Democratic Mirror

The Bull Run Fight

A Northerner's Account who was on the Field

A correspondent of the New York Tribune, who was on the grounds, writes as follows concerning the great battle of the 21st. He evidently trying to make the best story possible, but is compelled to acknowledge a total rout.

From Bull Run, the aspect of the field was truly appalling. The enemy's dead lay strewn so thickly that they rested upon one another the ground refusing space to many that had fallen. Few of our men had suffered here, although it seemed that further on they lay in greater numbers. But the attention of those who grazed was quickly turned from these awful results if the battle to the imminent hazard of its renewal. Down towards our left, which had so long been exposed, a new line of troops moved with an alacrity that indicated entire freshness. As they swept around to the very woods upon which the Second Brigade rested, the artillery from the last entrenchments they held upon this field – that which should have been overrun betimes by our idle troops – opened with new vigor. Grape and round shot, most accurately aimed, struck the ground before, behind and each side of Gen. Schenck and the group of officers under him. The Ohio regiments were somewhat sheltered by a cleft in the road, but the New York Second was more exposed. Gen. Schenck was in great danger, to which, I am glad to say, he seemed perfectly insensible riding as if nothing more serious than a shower of paper pellets threatened him. But more than this Gen. Schenck cannot claim.

Nevertheless our work progressed. Capt. Alexander, with the engineers, had completed a bridge across the Run, over which our ambulances were to pass for the wounded, and by which our artillery could be planted in new positions. Even then although that stealthy column was winding, awkwardly for us, about our left, no person dreamed that the day was lost. The men of the brigade, at least, were firm, although they began to suffer severely. – Horrible gaps and chasms appeared once or twice in the ranks of the New York Second. Four men were torn in pieces by a single round of grape shot, and their blood was flung in great splashes over all who stood near. The carnage around seemed more terrific than it really was so hideous was the nature of the wounds.

A few minutes later, and the great peril of our division that which should have been foreseen and provided against, was upon us. The enemy appeared upon the left flank, between us and our way of retreat. Why they failed, having once secured it, to pursue this enormous advantage, it is impossible to conjecture. I am inclined to believe that the coolness and precision of Col. McCook, of the 1st Ohio regiment; saved us from this disaster. It is certain Col. McCook displayed a firm resistance to the charge which menaced him, and that the enemy wavered, and then withdrew. But at this time, the first proofs of the panic which had stricken the army were disclosed. From the distant hills, our troops, disorganized, scattered, pallid with a terror which had no just cause, came pouring in among us, tramping down some and spreading the contagion of their fear among all. It was even then a whirlwind which nothing could resist. The most reluctant of the officers were forced from the valley up the hill, in spite of themselves. Whoever had stood would have been trodden under foot by his own men.

Near the top of the hill a like commotion was visible, but from a different cause. The rebel cavalry having completely circumvented our left, had charged in among a crowd of wounded and stragglers, who surrounded a small building which had been used for our hospital. – nothing but the unexpected courage of unorganized men, many of them civilians, who seized the readiest weapons and repelled the enemy, saved that point from being occupied.

Whether Gen. McDowell did or did not give the order to retreat I cannot say of my own knowledge. I am assured by one who was with him that he did, and by others that he also failed to preserve his self-control. If this be so, we shall know of it in time, but all we can now be sure of is the afflicting fact of our utter and absolute rout. How nearly one great object of the day had been accomplished may be understood when it is known that Gen. Tyler and Gen. McDowell had actually met.

Many who came into battle with Col. Heintzelman and Col. Hunter fled by the road over which Gen. Tyler had advanced. In the race from a fancied danger, all divisions and all regiments are mingled. These were not even an attempt to cover the retreat of Tyler's division. With Heintzelman's it was better, Lieut. Drummond's cavalry troops keeping firm line, and protecting the artillery until its abandonment was imperatively ordered. The extent of the disorder was unlimited. Regulars and volunteers shared it alike. A mere fraction of our artillery was saved. Whole batteries were left upon the field, and the cutting off of others was ordered when the guns had already been brought two miles or more from the battle ground, and were as safe as they would be in New York at this moment. A perfect frenzy was upon almost every man.

Some cried piteously to be lifted behind those who rode on horses, and others sought to clamor into wagons, the occupants resisting them with bayonets. All sense of mankind seemed to be forgotten.

Drivers of heavy wagons dashed down the steep road, reckless of the lives they endangered on the way. Even the sentiment of shame had gone. Some of the better men tried to withstand the rush, and cried out against the flying troops, calling them “cowards, poltroons, brutes,” and reviling them for so degrading themselves, especially when no enemy was near. Insensible to the epithets, the runaways only looked relieved, and sought renewed assurance that their imagined pursuers were not upon them. Every impediment to fight was cast aside. All was lost to that American army, even its honor.

The agony of this overwhelming disgrace can never be expressed in words, or understood by those who only bear the tale repeated. I believe there were men upon that field who turned their faces to the enemy, and marched to certain death, last they should share the infamy which their fellows had invited and embraced. The suffering of a hundred deaths would have been as nothing compared with the torture under which the few brave soldiers writhed who were swept along by that maniac hurricane of terror.

Apart from the panic, we lost the battle in a perfectly legitimate way. In numbers and in a tactics the enemy proved themselves our superiors.

30 July 1861 – New York Times

Regimental Drills – Protection Against Stampedes

In reviewing the causes of the recent disaster at Bull Run, it may be set down that we suffered most from two extremes of action – the great cowardice and the great courage of regimental officers. All information concurs in the general statement that the field was full of brave men, but that they lost their officers, or lost sight of them, and became utterly disorganized, and so fled, as any great body of men will do in the presence of danger, when they lose the confidence of mutual support. The primary cause of confusion was the break of a regiment or two before a charge of cavalry. If these regiments had been well officered and thoroughly drilled, they, or the remnants of them, might have been re-formed on the field of battle. But there was no rallying point and no recuperative power in these regiments, and when once broken they scattered wildly and spread the contagion in every direction. First one, then another was involved in the tumult, till an entire division of the Army became a flying mob. In the mixed and miscellaneous herd, so many broken regiments and companies conspiring to swell the retreating column, no officer was generally enough known to effect a rally, and so the flight continued. Nevertheless, It is sufficiently in proof that Individuals, not by virtue of their command as officers at all, did here and there induce small bodies of men to make a stand and pour steady and effective volleys into the pursuing enemy. These few exceptions were men evidently formed by nature for leaders, and their achievements show that we had true men enough in the fight, but that they were literally driven from the field from the lack of good leadership, and courageous and skillful handling.

The regiments in the critical shock of battle lost their commanding officers. The cowards ran away, and the brave ones rushed too recklessly into the fight, and fell. And thus the men were deprived of their known leaders, and were thenceforward as sheep without a shepherd, and ravening wolves, about as liable to run into danger as out of it. The battle became a riot – an organized band on one side and a disorganized mob on the other; and as usual in such cases, the mob fled, the cry being “the devil take the hindmost.”

Now, it seems to us, that through and skillful drilling of the regiments would have saved them from the utter decapitation of their commands which they experienced in battle. A regiment should be put through its exercises, not only by its Colonel but by its Lieut. Colonel and Major, and by all of the Captains of companies in turn, until the entire regiment is perfectly familiar with each. And no Captain should be permitted to remain at the head of a company unless he is fit to fill the place of the regimental officers in emergency. By giving to each regiment a familiarity with successive commands from its own ranks, there would be diminished possibility of its coming to confusion by the flight or death of its Colonel, or other chief officer. But under decimation of its ranks, or any disastrous reverse, there would always be a known and practiced officer to continue at its head. It is painful to read as we do, of brave soldiers retiring reluctantly from the battlefield at Bull Run, some cloudy and wrathful some biting their lips and cursing, and others absolutely shedding floods of tears, because of their having no officers of courage and competency to lead their broken but still brave ranks back against the enemy.

31 July 1861 – Richmond Daily Enquirer The Battle Field

The writer of this on Monday last, passed over the scene of the battle of the 31st near Bull Run. It was gratifying to find, contrary to rumors which have gained some circulation, that the dead, not only of our own army, but also of the enemy, have all been decently buried. In the whole area of that terrible onset, no human corpse, and not even a mangled limb was to be seen. The earth had received them all and so far as the human combatants were concerned, nothing remained to tell of those who had fallen victims of the shock of battle, save the mounds of fresh earth which showed where they had been laid away in their last sleep.

Many of these mounds gave evidence of the pious care of surviving comrades. Enclosures were built around the graves, and branches of evergreens cover the spot. Sometimes boards marked the head and foot on which were carved or painted the name and fellowship of the deceased. Sometimes boards nailed to a neighboring tree told that the ground adjacent contained the fallen of a certain regiment or company.

Numerous dead horses scattered over the area, show where the batteries of flying artillery were captured or disabled, or where some officers was dismounted. The prostrate fences, too, served to mark the track of the battle. Where the infantry crossed, they were broken down so that a man might step over; and wide gaps showed where the artillery carriages had thundered along.

The ground, too, tramped by the feet of rushing men and horses, evidenced where the struggle had been fiercest.

Of relics of the battle, already but few remain. The field has been searched and gleaned by daily crowds of visitors, seeking for mementoes. A few bullets that had run their errand, some fragments of exploded bombs, a haversack, and a few other things were all that an extensive ramble brought under our view. Canes cut from the battle-field are also considerably in demand.

The enemy's column of advance, as shown by the battle ground, presented a front of about one mile. Their onward march from the point where they encountered our advance bodies to the limit where they met our full line, and the full battle was joined and the fate of the day decided, was about a mile and a half. A parallelogram of about a mile by a mile and a half, therefore covers the scene of the great conflict.

In this area are included five dwelling houses, all of these which we visited bore evidences of the storm which raged around them. Many were killed in the yard of the house of Mr. J. D. Dogan. A bullet hole in a chamber door remains a memento of the battle. His family escaped just as the battle joined.

But it was on the hill south of the turnpike road, where the enemy's farthest advance was checked, and where the final issue was fought, that the __ wrapped dwellings showed most plainly the fury of the fight.

A house here, late the abode of a widow lady, Mrs. Judith Henry, was riddled with cannon and musket shot. Hissing projectiles from the cannon of our enemies had passed through walls and roof, until the dwelling was a wreck. It is a sad story that we tell. This estimable lady, who had spent here a long life, illustrated by the graces that adorn the meek Christian, was new bed ridden. There she lay amid the horrid din, and no less than three of the missiles of death that scoured through her chamber inflicted their wounds upon her. It seems a strange dispensation of Providence, that one whose life had been so gentle and secluded, should have found her and amid such a storm of the human passions, and that the humble abode which had witnessed her quiet pilgrimage, should have been shattered over her dying bed! Yet, even amid such terrors Heaven vindicated its laws. When combatants had retired, the aged sufferer was still alive, and she lived long enough to say that her mind was tranquil and that she died in peace – a peace that the roar of battle and the presence of death panoplies in all his terrors has not disturbed. Noble matron! The daughters of the South will emulate your virtues, and the sons of the South will avenge your sufferings. The heaps on heaps of the enemy that were piled around your doors when you died, are but the earnest. A hundred yards to the right of the bones of Mrs. Henry, lay five horses in a heap, and near by, another heap of as many more. Here a portion of Sherman's battery made its last advance, just as it reached the top of the hill, our riflemen approaching in the other direction reached it too. At once they poured in a fire which cut down horses and men and made the pieces unmanageable. The gallant boys followed the fire with a bayonet charge, and the guns were taken. It was here that Lieut. Ward fell. The cannon were taken and retaken several times in the furious fight but the horses had been killed, and they could not be removed now used.

On the left of Mrs. Henry's distant about a fourth of a mile, is a neat house belonging to a colored man named Robinson. A cannon ball drove through this also. Between these two is an orchard of small trees where Hampton's legion fought, and suffered so severely. Their graves are here. One of them which

covers the remains of a near relative of Hon. J. L. Orr, is marked by a broken musket planted as a headstone.

Away on the extreme northern verge of the battle-ground is the pine grove in which the Georgia regiment met the enemy's advance. The gallant band there withstood the enemy's columns until nearly surrounded. They then retreated, not from those in the front, but from those who were closing around them. In this pine grove there seemed scarce a tree that was not struck by the enemy's balks. A number of Georgians fell here, and their graves are close by. In the grove was pointed out the spot where Lamar fell. In the rear was the dead charger of the lamented Gen. Bartow, killed under him, himself to fall soon after. But the Georgians suffered not their heroes to fall unrevenged, for they piled the ground before them with the slain of the enemy.

31 July 1861 – New York Times

An Escaped Negro Prisoner

The Washington Republican has this Story

A likely young colored man, named Ignatius Smallwood, who was a servant in the New York Seventy-first, and was taken prisoner on Sunday last, escaped from his captors, on Tuesday last, and returned to this city the latter part of the week. He is a young man, apparently not more than twenty-five years of age, and withal, is very intelligent.

He says that after the troops had commenced to retreat, that he among some seventy-four others – members of Maine, Massachusetts and New York regiments – was headed off by the rebel cavalry, and carried back to the batteries. A Major of the Eighth Louisiana Regiment took possession of him and carried him to Beauregard, who, after hearing the statement of his capture, and asking him the particulars as to who were on the field on our side, &c., told the Major to take him, and remarked that he had made a good day's work, as the d---d Yankee nigger, was worth \$1500. The Major then took him to his tent, and ordered his man (a slave) to give him something to eat and to take care of him.

On Monday morning, the Major called him and told him that he would keep him as his body servant, and as long as he conducted himself right, he would be treated well, but that he need not think of getting free again, as he was his slave for life. On Monday, the Major kept him near his quarters all day, and his servant was made to instruct him in his new duties.

Early on Tuesday morning Beauregard sent for him, and he went to the head-quarters. He was told that it was first thought that he could stay with his captor, but that they had fought that he must be sent with the others as prisoners of war to Jeff Davis, at Richmond. In the cars, which were then getting ready to take them down. He told the officers that he would like to send to his family in Washington, and let them know what had become of him. The officer replied: "Boy, we are going to Fairfax today, and tomorrow (Wednesday) we will take Washington, and hang old Abe Lincoln," coupling the remark with an oath. They then questioned him as to how many men were in the field, and whether old Scott was not there. They thought that the Government had a hundred thousand troops in the neighborhood. He told them that Scott was not there, and they said he was; at the same time they pointed to a pair of damaged epaulettes, which they said were shot from his shoulders. They had an old sword which they said the old General dropped in his retreat. The officers in Beauregard's quarters conversed about their loss, and some of them stated that in killed and wounded they had lost from five to six thousand.

The rebels then commenced to advance toward Fairfax, and he concluded that he would try to escape, and started after them. Three regiments were started out as an advance guard, the first of which was the regiment of the Major who captured him. When he reached the sentries they stopped him, but let him pass on his saying that he belonged to a Louisiana regiment. When they came within about two miles of the Court house they halted, and sent pickets out before them. He then took to the thicket, and after a severe walk, he reached our lines, and was soon after with his family.

31 July 1861 – New York Times

Special Dispatch from Washington, Tuesday, July, 30

I am afraid the good people of New York are doing quite as much to demoralize our troops, as did the battle of Bull Run. Idolizing runaways, and making heroes of cowards, is not the way to grow true patriots and real heroes. The ovation to some of the returning troops looks at this distance like a mockery of valor. For instance, I read in Saturday's Times the following, relating to the reception of the Eighth Regiment, New York State Militia, on their arrival at New York:

“Capt. Varian, with his troops of bronzed and hardy-looking artillerist, were also on the pier, with their two guide colors, torn almost to shreds by the enemy’s balls during the late engagement.” And, again, I read of “Capt. Varian’s corps, which was in the fight.”

Now look at the facts. On the Saturday preceding the battle of Bull Run, Capt. Varian and his artillerists demanded their discharge – their time having expired. Gen. McDowell said all that a commander on the eve of a battle could say, to induce them to remain, but without producing any effect. That day Secretary Cameron visited the camp and the subject being referred to him, partly by coaxing, and partly by truly representing the inglorious action which they contemplated, the artillerists, were infused to notify Gen. McDowell that “with the exception of seventeen, the company would stay with the division, until the time of the regiment expired, on the 25th.” After Secretary Cameron returned to Washington, however, the company took a sober second thought, and late Saturday evening again demanded their discharge from McDowell. Of course, it had to be granted; and in addition to his other duties, the commander had to provide for mustering them out of the service and sending them to the rear. They wanted to take their battery with them, but this Gen. McDowell refused – fearing the effect to be produced upon the moving columns, at seeing a park of artillery withdrawing to the rear as the infantry marched to the front. This artillery lay idle all day at Centreville, and was brought off by the rear guard on Monday morning – brought off by stronger hands from another State, and without even having fired one projectile. If the two guide-colors are “torn almost to shreds,” their artillerists must have halted on their march to the war and made their own colors a target, popping them with the pistols they had never yet fired at a foe. This statement of facts comes from an authentic source and is literally true.

Of the action of the Eighth Regiment and the Seventy-first Regiment on the field of battle, I have no censure. It is conceded, indeed, that the latter did its entire duty. But it is a fact that will not probably be disputed, that a Lieutenant commanded the Seventy-first on the field of battle, and that neither Col. Martin nor the Major of that regiment, nor Col. Lyon, of the Eighth, could satisfy the majority of their regiments of their personal valor, nor obtain from their commander a certificate that they did not skulk from danger on the field of battle.

I saw, some days ago, a statement that a Captain or Lieutenant Alexander displayed cowardice on the field. I have seen since a statement from his friends that “Captain or Lieutenant Alexander was incapable of cowardice.” I did not see Alexander run, and he may be incapable of cowardice, but if he will go to the head-quarters of the Army of the United States he will hear persons who held equal or higher rank than himself, very bitterly lamenting that an Army officer, and a graduate of West Point, should have so entirely failed to do his duty on the field, and should have set an example of running which a raw recruit would be ashamed to follow.

There have been other acts of cowardice on the field of Bull Run – at least there are well defined rumors of gross dereliction of duty. I cannot, however, yet get them so well authenticated as to justify my giving them publicity. It is not among the volunteers alone that such instances occur. The regulars themselves produce their full quota of instances; and men educated at West Point were as prominent in cowardice as men fresh from the workshop. It is not a pleasant thing to make these statements. It is much easier to commend for bravery than to brand for cowardice; but if the cowards are not branded, how shall the brave be honored? It is duty to condemn, where condemnation is merited as much as it is duty to bestow praise, where praise is due. Heroes in New York should have been heroes on the wooded hill-sides of Bull Run. The men who feared to face the hidden dangers of those thickets, should equally fear to receive the praise of Executives, the smiles of women, and the plaudits of their fellow men.

31 July 1861 – New Orleans Picayune Trophies

“At the City Telegraph-office, in the City Hall, are now on exhibition several trophies taken by the gallant Lieut. Delisle, of the Crescent Blues. They consist of a mahogany medicine chest, marked “Hospital Department U.S.A.,” a military overcoat, belonging to some New York Regiment, and a red blanket, well stained with powder. No doubt that thousands of the trophies of the great Battle of Manassas will be spread all through the Confederate States and kept thereafter as relics of the great battle of our glorious independence.”

1 August 1861 – New York Times The Other Side of the Story

You have been listening so long to our own wailings over the disaster at Bull Run, that it may be consoling to listen to what the other side have to say about it. It is natural that the vanquished should mourn, - but let us see in what style, and with how much heart, the victors exult. We are beginning to receive the comments of Southern Press upon it, - not their first exultations on the very eve of the victory, but their more careful and considerate rejoicings, after they had have time to measure the precise extent of their achievement.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 27th – six days after the battle says that their loss was “four hundred killed and twelve hundred wounded, a total of sixteen hundred.” The official figures will bear us out in saying that this is very nearly twice our loss. Our killed will certainly not exceed two hundred. This is a most remarkable fact, one which bears unequivocal testimony to the skill and valor with which our men fought. The enemy had all the benefit of entrenchments. They had been fortifying and preparing the ground for months, - it was their selected spot for a battle, - and our men had not the shelter of a single spade full of earth, nor the benefit of the slightest knowledge of the localities. They had never seen the field before that morning. Yet they killed twice as many of the enemy as they lost of their own men. Very few parallels can be found to this in the history of war.

The Enquirer thus speaks of the forces engaged: “The main battle was fought near the stone bridge over Bull Creek. Our army, like that of the enemy, was seriously engaged only on the left. The forces of the centre and right skirmished heavily, but did not close. The enemy made their attack on the left. Gen Johnston commanded there only fifteen thousand men; the enemy brought thirty-five thousand men upon him. It is obvious that their plan was to force the left, and then attack the centre and the right from the flank. Their troops elsewhere awaited this event, which never transpired. Thus, only one-third of our own army was engaged in the battle, and under desperate odds. Well did they meet them.. Neither artillery, nor the bayonet, nor the charge on charge, was of any avail against the steady valor of that army which has maneuvered so long between Winchester and the Potomac. At the close of the day the assailant was exhausted and disordered; an advance of our lines converted their vacillation to a precipitate flight.”

Gen. Johnston’s 15,000 constituted only one third of the rebel Army actually on the field, to say nothing of the reserves within easy reach. That Army, according to the Enquirer, then, numbered 45,000. Gen McDowell’s force engaged on the other hand, was nothing like the 85,000 alleged. His whole Army only numbered 83,000. Of these 8,000 were left as a reserve at Centreville; - 2,000 had been left to guard the camps: - 5,000 were with Richardson at Blackburn’s Ford, two miles off, and had nothing whatsoever to do with the fight. The left only 18,000 in the action – and we believe the numbers actually engaged were less rather than more. These 18,000 drove back Gen. Johnston’s entire wing, forcing them out of one battery after another, and actually beating them on their own chosen field. It was only when exhausted themselves, and without reinforcements, they were overwhelmed by fresh regiments from the reserve, that they gave way. The Enquirer says our plan was to “force the left, and then attack the centre and right from the flank.” This is a mistake. We had no forces left for such a flank attack. All had been exhausted in reinforcing the column by which the left was forced. If we had had reserves at the Stone Bridge, the fight would have been prolonged, though the superiority of the enemy in numbers and position would probably have insured the same result. But our flank attack was the whole attack. The others were merely feints.

The Enquirer makes the following comments: “The battle of Sunday was a huge duel of the North and South. On that field the former nation had at last the occasion to make good that menace so often repeated, that eighteen millions would always whip eight millions. Thirty-five thousand of their best troops were then routed by fifteen thousand tired Southern soldiers; and the question of relative manhood is forever set at rest. But the battle of Sunday does not decide the war. It presages a dire struggle soon to come. The telegraph by New Orleans will tell Scott that Jefferson Davis commanded the Southern battle. Against him he is inflamed with a well known personal hatred. He will be stung by the murmurs of the North and the gloom of Washington. Of the Army just engaged he has still two-thirds, or 60,000, unhurt. The telegraph will soon bring up his reserves from Cincinnati and other places. He can control an Army of 100,000, and with it a few days he will make a great effort to retrieve his disgrace. His genius is unquestionable, his resources formidable, and every nerve should now be strained to send on all our available reinforcements to the scene of action.”

The Enquirer’s apprehensions have a better foundation than its boasts. It is quite right in saying that “the battle of Sunday does not decide the war.” – nor does it decide the question of “relative manhood” in any such sense as the Enquirer insolently assumes. It did prove conclusively that our Northern troops are

more than a match for Southern, in equal numbers and on equal ground. In not a single instance did the rebels stand a charge from Northern men. In not a single instance did they make a charge successfully upon them. Not once did even their cavalry break our lines. And in every instance where our line met the other in the open field, the Southern Men were the first to break. It was only when their batteries opened upon our unprotected men, and when fresh troops came to fill the places of their broken and shattered regiments, that they had the advantage.

The Enquirer may rest perfectly assured that a “great effort will be made,” not only to “retrieve this disgrace,” but to plant the banner of the Union on the heights from which for the moment it has been repelled. The reverse of Sunday has chilled no man’s hopes, and discourages no man’s heart. The pulse of the country beats higher than ever for the honor of that glorious flag, and where tens of thousands were ready before, hundreds of thousands are ready now, to face the foes who would drag it in the dust. Let the Enquirer rally its rebel hosts. It will need them all for the prosecution of the ignoble work on which it has entered.

1 August 1861 – New York Times
July 1861 - Philadelphia Enquirer
“Bad for Reporters”

“All information in regard to the movement of the Army is to be hereafter kept most strictly private. Any reporter hereafter found in the lines no matter how he is disguised, is to be most summarily dealt with. Civilians who are anxious to witness the next battle should also bear in mind that it will be necessary for them, in order to gratify their curiosity, to join one of the forward regiments, and shoulder a musket”

Up to the present time, so far as we are aware, the Government has never intimated a wish that newspapers should not publish “information in regard to the movements of the Army.” If it had, so far as we are concerned, and we presume we may speak for others also, its wishes would have been obeyed. On the contrary, the military authorities have always afforded the utmost facilities to reporters, and have aided them in spreading before the public the information in question.

A few days before the recent advance into Virginia, an order was issued, it is true, against telegraphing to New York any facts concerning the arrival or departure of regiments. But as the Washington papers were permitted to publish everything of the kind without the slightest restriction, the practical object of the order was not apparent.

It is the business of newspapers to collect and publish the news. It is this alone which renders them of the slightest value to the public; and they will certainly continue to do it, so long as they have no reason to believe that they thereby injure the Government or interfere with the prosecution of its plans. The moment they receive any such information, they will be quite as ready as members of any other profession to sacrifice their own welfare for the public good. But thus far, we repeat, they have had no intimation of the sort from the Government, nor any hint, except from discontented snarlers of their own ranks, that they were injuring the cause they all profess to serve.

As to civilians on the field of battle, it is sufficient to say that no one was there except by special, express permission from Gen. Scott. Many were doubtless there from curiosity, - but others were present in the discharge of professional duties. It may at first sight seem desirable that reporters should not be present: - but when people reflect how little the world would have known of the Battle of Bull Run but for the reporters who braved its dangers for the sake of writing its history, they will probably change their opinion on this point. We may add, moreover, speaking from our own observation and referring solely to others, that in point of courage and coolness, the representatives of the Press present at the engagement both of Thursday and Sunday, will lose nothing by comparison with those who were not “Civilians.”

1 August 1861 – New York Times
Accounts from the Confederates
Correspondence of the Richmond Enquirer
Manassas Junction, Sunday, July 21, 1861

The severest battle that was ever fought in this country between the Confederates and National forces. As stated to you a few days ago, the armies had faced each other until it was evident that a collision must ensue. About 8 o’clock this morning, a part of the National forces, about 15,000 strong, commenced an attack on the Confederate troops at Stone Bridge, on the turnpike, six miles above here, numbering only 600, being the Fourth Alabama Regiment, under Col. Sloane. Such was the suddenness of the charge, that

the regiment suffered greatly, but like the immortal Spartans, they held their ground until reinforcements came up. The enemy succeeded in crossing the Run, but were forced back in the evening, and made to retreat in the utmost disorder. The Confederates had on the field about 30,000. Two intelligent prisoners, who were taken, stated that the enemy had from 70,000 to 90,000 picked troops on the ground, and yet they were forced to retreat, and leave the field to the victorious Southerners. Thank God for the bravery of our glorious Southern Soldiers!

It will be impossible to give details at present. It must be confessed that the victory was the result of the most desperate, daring and dashing courage of our troops. The Fourth Alabama, Fifth Virginia and Seventh and Eighth Georgia regiments are said to have suffered most in the engagement. Among these, it is with regret we record the loss of Gen. Bartow, of the Eighth Georgia, Gen. Bee of South Carolina, and Maj. Wheat, of Louisiana, all mortally wounded. The loss in killed is not very large, while quite a number are wounded. The loss of the enemy, as exhibited on the field is immense.

Sherman's battery of sixteen pieces, and a portion of the Rhode Island battery are in our possession, and a beautiful battery it is. Cummings' Virginia regiment charged first upon it, and were repulsed, when another regiment came up shooting down every man and capturing the pieces. The Washington Louisiana Artillery took two of the pieces and immediately turned them with deadly fire upon the enemy.

It would be unjust to discriminate among the various regiments, for all did their work well. Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky, and perhaps little Florida, have united their destinies this day in eternal bonds of friendship sealed in blood. May it ever continue, and strengthen as time shall pass.

It must not be omitted that Capt. Delaware Kemper's Alexandria Battery joined the conflict in the evening and did noble work, as on Thursday last (---owing) lanes in the enemy's ranks without the loss of any of their number.

Ex- Gov. Smith was active in the engagement with the portion of the regiment assigned to him, and elicited the warmest expressions of admiration from Gen. Beauregard.

It is sad to think that the folly of our invaders has caused much grief to the firesides of Southerners, but when it is remembered that the loss is done in the glorious cause of Southern independence, it will be a lasting honor to the families of those who fall in its prosecution.

By the way, Gen. Beauregard must be a man of great and active mind. He was upon the field the whole day, and planned the movements with precision. His horse was shot from under him by a cannon ball, which shows he was not far from the scene of battle. He was all the while perfectly calm and collected, and seems to regard the occurrence as a mere incident of war.

Capt. Murray and Lieut. H. Clay Ward, of the Fauquier Guards, lately gotten up, had an important position.

In concluding, I would state that if proper to do so, you will be furnished with the details tomorrow.

It may be added, however, as a matter of interest to your readers in this section, that the Alexandria Regiment, containing the Alexandria companies, Fairfax Riflemen, Warren Riflemen, Warrenton Riflemen, Emmett Guards, and some others, were engaged in skirmishing with a body of the enemy with a battery on the hill beyond Bull Run. Several of the Old Dominion Rifles were wounded, and young McDermott killed. It is said the Warren Rifles had one young man wounded, besides which this regiment escaped with little injury to-day.

Gen. Beauregard is delighted with the cool, determined bravery of our Virginia forces, and glories in the Union which is formed with his native gallant South. Several hundred prisoners of the enemy have been captured and brought to this station to-night.

P. S. – A gentleman who has just arrived from the field of the battle states that Lieut. Caleb Smith was badly wounded in the hip, and H. Clay Ward is probably killed. He received a deadly shot, and seems to be conscious of his condition. He bears it with fortitude and resignation.

Among the prisoners is Gen. Wilcox, late of the Alexandria National command, who was wounded and captured. Lieut. Ramsey, of the National artillery is killed. The whole field is covered with the dead and dying of the enemy. Blankets, hats, knapsacks, guns, pistols &c lay in the thousands over the field. After the defeat of the enemy, the cavalry about two thousand strong, pursued them for about six miles, cutting down and capturing all the detached parties they could find. The cavalry suffered but little loss. The prisoners all confirm the fact that the very best troops, artillery and other appurtenances of the National Government were used in the action of to-day, which were defeated and driven from the field.

Gen Beauregard commanded the Federate troops in person, was in the thickest of the fight, and rallied his men with an enthusiasm almost unbounded, telling them he was ready to die with them or gain the victory.

Dr. C. E. Chancellor was the medical director of the day, and has been doing his utmost to relieve the sufferings of the wounded.

Many trophies have been brought here, and are being sent to all parts of the country. Whole packages of envelopes, with every description of device, and flanked by J. Harland, and other cheats, were found in the enemy's knapsacks.

Correspondence of the Louisville Courier

Richmond, Tuesday, July 23, 1861: First, of the battle-ground. This was upon both sides of Bull Run, - a creek perhaps twenty feet wide, and less than as many inches deep, - and upon both sides of the road leading to Centreville. Here the enemy appeared after having paid their respects to Fairfax, and the other positions from which our forces, by previous arrangement, had fallen back; and here they encountered a Virginia Brigade, under the command of Gen. Longstreet, consisting of the First, Eleventh and Seventeenth Virginia Regiments, two or three companies of the Seventh Louisiana Regiments. Col. Hays, and the Washington Artillery of New Orleans. The South Carolinians and other regiments which form the Advance Division, under Gen. Bonham, were located within a short distance of the scene, ready, if necessary, at a moment's warning, to cooperate with the Confederate troops engaged.

The object of the enemy was undoubtedly to break our lines and fight the flanks. To this end, Sherman's Battery was brought forward, and at a distance of a mile and a half opened a heavy but ineffectual fire, expecting doubtless to make a breach in our ranks through which their infantry might enter and open a general battle. They were gallantly encountered, however, by the Washington Artillery, with six pieces, and in the course of the action, notwithstanding the enemy had thirteen guns, served by United States regulars, the far famed Sherman's Battery was completely silenced and compelled to return. It is said, however, that we had the advantage of firing up hill, where nearly every shot took effect, whereas the shells and balls of the enemy passed entirely over the heads of our own artillerists, and buried themselves in a mound beyond. Under the cover of this fire, McDowell threw forward his skirmishers, who were soon after followed by the entire attacking column. These took up their position on the banks of Bull Run and in the adjoining fields.

Our own force were stationed immediately opposite, the First Virginia Regiment, Col. Moore, which, a portion of the day, sustained the brunt of the attack, lying flat upon their faces, and firing from the ground. It is said that at one time they were so close that the smoke from their muskets enveloped each other almost from sight, yet, strange to say, the wounds caused resulted mostly from the fallen fragments of shells, and not from musket balls. The fight did not become general until about 11 o'clock, and did not cease till nearly 5 P.M., when the enemy finally gave way before the commence ----, and fell back in (---- der), leaving the ground strewn with dead and wounded. They were then repulsed twice during the fight, but each time (-----) to the work and fought with a bravery at which many of our soldiers were surprised.

Once a small party endeavored to cross the stream but these were completely repelled, with the exception of one individual, who was wounded and taken prisoner. From him it has been learned that a Pennsylvania regiment was almost completely annihilated, the artillery mowing great lines ----- their ranks at every shot, w----- infantry ----- them with their small arms by ----- at ----- ---- charge.

The number of the enemy killed is variously estimated from five hundred to a thousand. One gentleman informs me that he counted more than two hundred bodies within the space of two acres. Certainty is that the enemy, under a flag of truce, were engaged the greater part of yesterday in digging pits and burying them ten and twenty in a bunch. A small cart load of caps and felt hats were picked up on the field since the battle, some of them riddled with balls and saturated with blood. Such was the stench of the decaying bodies; twenty-four hours after the battle that our men in the neighborhood were obliged to go out and cover them with earth.

**2 Aug 1861 – Richmond Daily Enquirer
From Fort Pickens
Fort Pickens, Fla., July 24, 1861**

Things in the neighborhood of Pickens have been unusually quiet for the last week. None of the war ships are in sight except two. Sometimes there are as many as ten lying around the fort. We fired a salute from the Barrancas of eleven guns to-day, for the glorious victory at Manassas, and I thought it would bring more ships up; but it seems they are not within hearing. We hope the quiet here now is only

the calm which proceeds the storm. We are anxious to take the fort and go to Virginia. Lying here doing nothing, when there are such important operations in Virginia, is unbearable.

2 August 1861 – New York Times

Tuesday, July 23. Richmond, Va. Louisville Courier Correspondent - How the News was Received in Richmond

Enough has already transpired to cause every Southern heart to pulsate with exultations, and every Southern hamlet to ring with shouts of rejoicing. The excitement here on the day of the battle was most intense. Large throngs crowded around the bulletin boards of the various newspaper offices, eager to catch each word of the glad tidings as some strong-lunged man read them aloud. The feeling increased during the day, and did not culminate until past midnight, when the crowds at the newspaper offices gradually dispersed to collect again in groups on the corner of the streets to exchange congratulations greetings on the success of our arms, and to praise the gallant men who had laid down their lives in defence of Southern soil. I passed by the telegraph office in the small hours of the morning, and a crowd still lingered there talking about the glorious event. Several ladies were there with their friends, waiting to hear more. They had husbands, or fathers, or brothers – perhaps lovers – on the field. The click, click of the instrument might that moment be recording the death of a loved one. Few eyes closed in quiet rest that night.

The reception of the news of the victory afforded a fine opportunity of observing the “stuff” of the people. Had the same cause been furnished the Yankees for rejoicing, they would immediately let off squibs, lit up Chinese lanterns, had a tar and turpentine procession, and got their dishwasher politicians to blow and spout. The cheerful faces that greeted you at every step, and the active preparations being made for the reception of the wounded, not only from our own but from the enemy’s ranks, alone indicated the grand event. This is gratifying, intimating, as it does a substratum of earnestness in the people which no reverses can effect and no misfortunes destroy.

But few details have yet been received of the fight at Manassas. It is known that Johnston’s Division sustained the brunt of the action, and that his men behaved with a gallantry that will sustain their names in honor. After all their long marches and countermarches, advances and failing back, they at length had an opportunity of facing the foe, and joyfully they availed themselves of it. From the execution the command did, it is presumable the Kentucky boys had a hand in the matter. It is reported the New York fire Zouaves was a portion of the force attacking Johnston’s Division, and that they fought desperately, climbing upon the heaps of their slain in the very faces of our men. A proof of their valor is furnished in the fact that out of nine hundred of them that entered the battle, only two hundred and fifty were left to retreat. The retiring movement,” as the Yankees call it, was accomplished in “triple quick” time. The attempt to rally them at Centreville and Leesburg, the latter place twenty miles from the scene of action, was ineffectual, and thousands of them crossed the Long Bridge over the Potomac into Washington, running over the sentinels with alarming precipitancy. Of course no one will impute their “retiring movement” to cowardice on their part. They only, like Gen. Pierce at Bethel, lost their “presence of mind.”

2 August 1861 – New York Times

Our Wounded at Manassas

Philadelphia, Thursday, Aug. 1

A letter has been received here from a young Philadelphian, Harry Rockafellow, of the New York Seventy-first, who was wounded and captured in the late battle, which seems to give assurance that Sudley Hospital was not burnt, and that he is treated kindly.

2 August 1861 – Richmond Daily Enquirer

What the London Times Thanks of the Fight

A special dispatch to the Baltimore “Exchange,” from Washington says that Mr. Russell, of the London “Times,” who was present at the battle, states that the loss in killed and wounded of the Federals must amount to 12,000 – that the loss of the Confederates will probably reach 4,000. He states that history records no such defeat for the past century – no rout so utter and complete as that of the Federal forces. The fighting of the Southern men, he says, was magnificent. They fired with the precision of veterans. They would fail to permit their artillery to fire, and then rising, discharge their muskets and charge bayonets in splendid order. Some of the evolutions were superb, and performed with perfect rapidity, coolness and discipline.

**2 August 1861 – New York Times
Latest News of the Rebellion
Washington, Thursday, August 1st**

The official dispatches to Gen. Patterson will show that the entire blame for the defeat of our forces at Bull Run is due entirely to his neglect of positive orders. He was directed – first, to engage and defeat Johnston; second, if unable to engage Johnston, to get between him and Manassas, and prevent a junction of his forces with Beauregard's; third, if unable to fulfill either of these orders, he was to harass Johnston in front, and keep him before Winchester; fourth, if he could do neither of these things, then he was to make all haste to Washington, and join McDowell as soon as Johnston could join Beauregard. It will be seen that Gen. Patterson disregarded each of these orders, and that had he obeyed either he would have prevented the disaster at Bull Run, and at once have utterly destroyed the rebellion, or removed the seat of war beyond the confines of Virginia.

A Returned Prisoner

Mr. Charles Byng, who was taken prisoner by the rebels at Bull Run, returned to Washington this evening via Richmond, Frederick and Baltimore. He represents that he was let off easily, being furnished by Beauregard with passes through the rebel lines, and directed by him to return by Richmond to avoid the danger of being caught in skirmishes between pickets. Mr. Byng tells the remarkable story that he saw no troops at or near Richmond, and no signs of fortifications or attempts at works of defence. He does not explain very clearly why he was permitted to escape, while others were retained, nor how he has passed the last twelve days. He says he was only twenty-four hours at Manassas, and but three or four hours at Richmond. When he was here before he was supposed to be in complicity with the rebels, and it is now believed that during his absence he has been giving and receiving information. Mr. Byng says that Col. Corcoran is in Richmond, and not wounded, though suffering from indisposition.

**2 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening News
Louisville Courier Correspondent - Monday, July 22. Manassas, Va.
The Battle at Bull Run
Rebel Accounts of their Victory**

Sunday, July 21, will ever be a memorable day in the annals of America. Next to the sacred Sabbath of our Independence, it will be the eventful era in the history of Republican Governments. The military despotism of the North, proud, arrogant and confident, has been met in the open field, and the true chivalry of the South, relying only upon the justness of their cause, though comparatively weak in numbers, have gained a victory that in completeness has never been paralleled in history since the American Continent first dawned from its ocean-girl womb upon the eyes of the longing discoverer. But the victory has been dearly won – purchased, indeed, with the heart's blood of thousands of the bravest and truest men of the Confederate States. But this blood will not only cry aloud to the heavens for vengeance, but so fructify the soil of the South that here more than elsewhere will ever bloom and blossom the glorious tree of liberty.

It was not the good fortune of your correspondent to be in the engagement, that portion of Gen. Johnston's Army to which the Kentucky battalion is attached having been detained at Piedmont by a railroad accident. We reached the field of battle just as the victory had been gained, and only had the mingled satisfaction and sorrow of joining in the huzzas and uniting in the sad lamentations.

The battle opened on Sunday morning, about 5 o'clock, near Bull Run, some four miles from Manassas Junction, the Nationals advancing with an immense column, 54,000 strong; under McDowell. The engagement was not general, the artillery only playing at intervals, until 7 o'clock, when the firing of cannon and musketry became very hot and the action was fairly opened. Here an unfortunate mistake for a time threw our line into confusion. The Yankees, infamous in their tricks of war as well as trade, advanced a large column headed by the Confederate flag, and when within fifty yards opened a deadly fire upon the Fourth Alabama Regiment. This caused a retreat, which the South Carolinas observing, they opened upon the Alabamians, thinking them enemies, and nearly disseminating their ranks.

About the same time, Gen. Beauregard heard heavy firing several miles to the right and immediately went with our main body to the scene of supposed conflict. But this was another decoy. The Yankees had sent a large quantity of ordnance with only men sufficient to man the guns, so as to distract the attention of our forces from the main point of attack. Quickly discovering the ruse, Beauregard double-quickened his troops to the former battlefield from which we had been driven back some two miles. Now came the tug of war.

The fortunes of the day were evidently against us. Some of our best officers had been slain and the flower of our army lay strewn upon the field, ghastly in death or gaping with wounds. At noon the cannonading is described as terrific. It was an incessant roar for more than two hours, the havoc and devastation at this time being fearful. McDowell, with the aid of Patterson's division of twenty thousand men, had nearly outflanked us, and were just in the act of possessing themselves of the railway to Richmond. Then all would have been lost. But most opportunely, I may say Providentially, at this juncture, Gen. Johnston, with the remnant of his division – our Army, as we fondly call it. For we have been friends and brothers in camp and field for three months – reappeared and made one other desperate struggle to obtain the vantage ground. Elsey's Brigade of Marylanders and Virginians, led the charge, and right manfully did they execute the work. Gen. Johnston himself led the advance, and wild with delirium, his ten thousand advanced in hot haste upon three times their number. Twice was Sherman's Battery, that all day long had proven so destructive, charged and taken, and our men driven back. The third time, Virginians, Carolinians, Mississippians and Louisianans, captured the great guns, and maintained their position.

About the places the dead and wounded lay five deep, so protracted and deadly had been the struggle. Now hope again dawned upon us, and just as the tide seemed turning in our favor, another good omen illuminated the fortunes of the day that at times seemed so ill-----. Riding in a half column along our lines was a single horseman with hat in hand, waving to the men, and speaking brief words of encouragement. By intuition all knew it was President Davis, and such a shout as made the welkin ring arose – a shout of joy and defiance. The President had just arrived by special train from Richmond and Providence seemed to be with us again. The contest was no longer doubtful. As I heard one of the officers say, our men could have whipped legions of devils. The word "Onward!" was given, Davis bareheaded in the van. No more lingering or dallying. It was a grand and sublime onset of a few determined sons of liberty against the legions of despotism. The lines of the enemy were broken, their columns put to flight, and until after dark the pursuit was continued. The rout was complete. Off scampered the Yankees throwing away guns, knapsacks, clothing, and everything that could retard their progress. Thus was the day won, and the long bright Sabbath closed, a lovely full moon looking down calmly and peacefully upon the bloodiest field that the Continent of America ever witnessed.

Our loss is fully two thousand killed and wounded. Among the killed are Gen. Bee, of South Carolina; Gen. E. K. Smith, Gen. Bartow, of Georgia; Col. Moore, and all the Alabama field officers; Col. Fisher and the North Carolina field officers; Adjutant Branch, of Georgia, and a host of other leading men. Thomas G. Duncan of Nelson County, Ky. Was in the fight, and shot through the left shoulder. His wound is not dangerous.

Col. Barbour, of Louisville; Capt. Menifee and Shelby Coffee, of Kentucky, were in the hottest of the fight. We took thirteen hundred prisoners, sixty pieces of artillery, ten thousand stand of arms, and an immense amount of baggage.

This is a sad day. The rain is pouring in torrents. The killed and wounded are being brought in by hundreds, and a gloom pervades all hearts, that even the sense of our great victory cannot relieve.

SE DE KAY

2 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

3 August 1861 – New York Times

Correspondence of the Atlanta (Ga.) Confederacy

The Battle near Manassas

Spirited Account from a Rebel Paper

Army of the Potomac

Manassas, July 22, 1861

Yesterday, the 21st day of July, 1861, a great battle was fought, and a great victory won by the Confederate troops. Heaven smiled on our arms, and the God of Battles crowned our banners with laurels of glory. Let every patriotic heart give thanks to the Lord of Hosts for the victory, He has given His people on His own holy day, the blessed Sabbath.

Gen. Johnston had arrived the preceding day with about half the force he had detailed from Winchester, and was the senior officer in command. He magnanimously insisted, however, that Gen. Beauregard's previous plan should be carried out, and he was guided entirely by the judgment and superior local knowledge of the latter. While, therefore, Gen. Johnston was nominally in command, Beauregard was really the officer and hero of the day. You will be glad to learn that he was this day advanced from a Brigadier to the rank of a full General.

At half-past six in the morning, the enemy opened fire from a battery planted on a hill beyond Bull Run, and nearly opposite the centre of our lines. The battery was intended merely to "beat the bush," and to occupy our attention while he moved a heavy column towards the Stone Bridge, over the same creek upon our left. At 10 o'clock another battery was pushed forward, and opened fire a short distance to the left of the other, and near the road leading North to Centreville. This was a battery of rifled guns, and the object of its fire was the same as that of the other. They fired promiscuously into the woods and gorges on this, the Southern side of Bull Run, seeking to create the impression thereby, that our centre would be attacked, and thus prevent us from sending reinforcements to our left, where the real attack was to be made. Beauregard was not deceived by the maneuver.

It might not be amiss to say, that Bull Run or creek, is north of this place, and runs nearly due east, slightly curving around the Junction, the nearest part of which is about three and a half miles. The Stone Bridge is some seven miles distant, in a north-westerly direction, upon which our left wing rested. Mitchell's Ford is directly north, and distant four miles, by the road leading to Centreville, which is seven miles from the Junction. On our right is Union Mills, on the same stream, where the Alexandria and Manassas railroad crosses the Run, and distant four miles. Proceeding from Fairfax Court House, by Centreville, to Stone Bridge, the enemy passed in front of our entire line, but a distance ranging from five to two miles.

At nine o'clock, I reached an eminence nearly opposite the two batteries mentioned above, and which commanded a full view of the country for miles around, except on the right. From this point I could trace the movements of the approaching hosts by the clouds of dust that rose high above the surrounding hills. Our left, under Brigadier General Evans, Jackson and Cocke, and Col. Bartow, with the Georgia Brigade, composed of the seventh and eighth regiments, had been put in motion, and was advancing upon the enemy with a force of about 15,000, while the enemy himself was advancing upon our left with a compact column of at least 50,000 men. His entire force on this side of the Potomac is estimated at 75,000. These approaching columns encountered each other at 11 o'clock.

Meanwhile the two batteries in front kept up their fire upon the wooded hill, where they supposed our centre lay. They sent occasional balls from their rifled cannon to the eminence where your correspondent stood. Generals Beauregard, Johnston and Bonham reached this point at twelve, and one of these balls passed directly over and very near them, and plunged into the ground a few paces from where I stood.

At a quarter past twelve, Johnston and Beauregard galloped rapidly forward in the direction of Stone Bridge, where the ball had now fully opened.

The artillery were the first to open fire, precisely at eleven o'clock. By half-past eleven the infantry had engaged, and there it was that the battle began to rage. The dusky columns which had thus far marked the approach of the two armies, now mingled with great clouds of smoke, as it rose from flashing guns below, and the two shot up together like a huge pyramid of red and blue. The shock was as tremendous as were the odds between the two forces. With what anxious hearts did we watch that pyramid of smoke and dust! When it moved to the right, we knew the enemy were giving way; and when it moved to the left, we knew that our friends were receding. Twice the pyramid moved to the right, and as often returned. At last, about two o'clock, it began to move slowly to the left, and thus it continued to move for two mortal hours. The enemy was seeking to turn our left flank, and to reach the railroad leading hence in the direction of Winchester. To do this, he extended his lines, which he was enabled to do by reason of his great numbers. This was unfortunate for us, as it required a corresponding extension of our lines to prevent his extreme right from outflanking us – a movement on our part which weakened the force of our resistance along the whole line of battle, which finally extended over a space of two miles. It also rendered it the more difficult to bring up reinforcements, as the further the enemy extended his high the greater the distance our reserved forces had to travel to counteract the movement.

This effort to turn our flank was pressed with great determination for five long, weary hours, during which the tide of battle ebbed and flowed along the entire line with alternate fortunes. The enemy's column continued to stretch away to the left, like a huge anaconda, seeking to envelope us within its mighty folds and crush us to death; and at one time it really looked as if he would succeed.

The moment he discovered the enemy's order of battle, General Beauregard, it is said, dispatched orders to Gen. Ewell, on our extreme right, to move forward and turn his left or rear. At the same time he ordered Generals Jones, Longstreet, and Bonham, occupying the centre of our lines, to co-operate in this movement, but not to move until Gen. Ewell had made the attack. The order to General Ewell unfortunately miscarried. The others were delivered, but as the movements of the centre were to be regulated entirely by

those on the right, nothing was done at all. Had the orders to General Ewell been received and carried out, and our entire force brought upon the field, we would have destroyed the enemy's army most literally. Attacked in front, on the flank, and in rear, he could not possibly have escaped, except at the loss of thousands of prisoners and all his batteries, while the field would have been strewn with his dead.

Finding that his orders had in some way failed to be executed, Gen. Beauregard at last ordered up a portion of the forces which were intended to co-operate with Gen. Ewell. It was late, however, before these reinforcements came up. Only one brigade reached the field before the battle was won. This was led by Gen. E. K. Smith, of Florida, formerly of the United States Army, and was a part of Gen. Johnston's column from Winchester. They should have reached here the day before, but were prevented by an accident on the railroad. They dashed on the charge with loud shouts and in the most gallant style. About the same time Major Elsey coming down the railroad from Winchester with the last of Johnston's brigade, and hearing the firing, immediately quit the train and struck across the country, and encountered the extreme right of the enemy as he was feeling his way around our flank, and with his brigade struck him like a thunderbolt, full in the face. Finding he was about to be outflanked himself, the enemy gave way after the second fire. Meanwhile Beauregard rallied the centre and dashed into the very thickest of the fight, and after him rushed our own brave boys, with a shout that seemed to shake the very earth. The result of this movement from three distinct points, was to force back the enemy, who began to retreat, first in good order, and finally in much confusion. At this point the cavalry were ordered upon the pursuit. The retreat now became a perfect rout, and it is reported that the flying Legions rushed past Centreville in the direction of Fairfax, as if the earth had been opening behind them. It was when Gen. Beauregard led the final charge, that his horse was killed by a shell.

We captured thirty-four guns, including Sherman's famous battery, a large number of small arms, thirty wagons loaded with provisions, &c. and about seven hundred prisoners. Among the latter were Gen. Burnside, of the Rhode Island brigade, Col. Corcoran, of the New York Irish Zouaves, Hon. Mr. Ely, member of Congress, from New York, Mr. Carrington, of this State a nephew of the late William C. Preston, who had gone over to the enemy, and thirty-two Captains, Lieutenants, &c. We came near bagging the Hon. Mr. Foster, Senator from Connecticut.

The official reports of the casualties of the day have not yet come in, and consequently it is impossible to say what our loss is. I can only venture an opinion, and that is that we lost in killed, wounded and missing, about 1,500 – of which about 400 were killed. The enemy's loss was terrible, being at the lowest calculation 3,000.

Thus far I have said but little of the part taken by particular officers and regiments; for the reason that I desire first to obtain all the facts. Nor have I said anything of the gallant Seventh and Eighth regiments from Georgia. This part of my duty is most melancholy. It may be enough to say, that they were the only Georgia regiment here at the time, that they were among the earliest in the field, and in the thickest of the fight, and that their praise is upon the lips of the whole army, from General Beauregard down. Colonel Gartrell led the Seventh regiment, and Lieutenant Colonel Gardner the Eighth, the whole under the command of Colonel Bartow, who led them with a gallantry that was never excelled. It was when the brigade was ordered to take one of the enemy's strongest batteries, that it suffered most. It was a most desperate undertaking, and followed by the bloodiest results. The battery occupied the top of a hill, on the opposite side of Bull Run, with a small piece of woods on the left. Descending the valley along the Run, he proceeded under cover of the hill to gain the woods alluded to, and from which he proposed to make a dash at the battery and capture it. On reaching the woods, he discovered that the battery was supported by a heavy infantry force, estimated at 4,000 men. The whole force, together with the battery, was turned upon the Eighth Regiment, which was the van, with terrific effect. Indeed he was exposed on the flank and in front to a fire that the eldest veterans could not have stood. The balls and shells from the battery and the bullets from the small arms literally riddled the woods. Trees six inches in diameter, and great limbs were cut off and the ground strewn with the wreck. It became necessary to retire the Eighth regiment, in order to reform it. Meanwhile, Col. Bartow's horse had been shot from under him. It was observed that the forces with which his movement was to be supported had not come up. But it was enough that he had been ordered to storm the battery; so, placing himself at the head of the Seventh regiment he again led the charge, this time on foot and gallantly encouraging his men as they rushed on. The first discharge from the enemy's guns killed the regimental color-bearer. Bartow immediately seized the flag, and again putting himself in the front, dashed on, flag in hand, his voice ringing clear over the battlefield, and saying, "On my boys, we will die rather than yield or retreat." And on the brave boys did go, and faster flew the

enemy's bullets. The fire was awful. Not less than 4,000 muskets were pouring their fatal confronts upon them, while the battery itself was dealing death on every side.

The gallant Eighth Regiment, which had already passed through the distressing ordeal, again rallied, determined to stand by their chivalric Colonel to the last. The more furious the fire, the quicker became the advancing step of the two regiments. At last, and just when they were nearing the goal of their hopes, and noble Bartow was shot down, the ball striking him in the left breast, just below the heart. Col. Bartow died seen after he was borne from the field. His last words, as repeated to me, were: "They have killed me, my brave boys, but never give up the ship- we'll whip them yet." And so we did!

The regiment that suffered most and were in the thickest of the fight, were the Seventh and Eighth Georgia, the Fourth Alabama, Fourth South Carolina Hampton's Legion, and Fourth Virginia. The New Orleans Washington Artillery did great execution.

2 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin "I Shall Go Forward"

The following was related to us by a gentleman who accompanied the brave Lieut. Brisbin, who stopped the retreat at Bull Run, on his march from Fairfax Station to Centreville, on the day of the great battle at Bull Run. The distance was eleven miles.

The men being unused to marching some become foot sore. None suffered more than the Lieutenant himself, and his feet were tender and soon blistered – still he pushed on concealing his suffering, and urging his men forward. More than two thirds of the distance had now been traversed, and the men were ready to sink from fatigue. A halt of half an hour was ordered, and the wearied men laved down to rest. We could now distinctly hear the rear of the cannon, and see the smoke of the battle. Brisbin was burning with impatience to get forward. At length being unable to stand it any longer as a louder peal of the cannon broke the air, he sprang to his feet, and turning to his men, said "men you can rest I shall go forward." That was enough, the men, as if ashamed rose to their feet, and in five minutes the column was in motion. I heard no more complaints from that to Centreville, though we marched more rapidly than over any other part of the journey.

2 August 1861 – New York Times From The New Orleans Delta The Battle of the 21st.

We copy from the New Orleans Delta a very interesting letter from Richmond on the Battle of Bull Run. It adds not much to our knowledge of the actual facts of that engagement, but some of the views which it presents are forcible and striking.

The letter, in the first place, confirms to the fullest extent all that we have hitherto said about the superior strength of the enemy in numbers and in position. The writer does not believe that Johnston's presence, with his division of 20,000 men, was necessary to a victory. On the contrary, he speaks of that number as only a small part of their whole force, and of the defences of the position as sufficient to have resisted an attack of 70,000 which he supposes to have been the strength of the assailing force. "But a small portion of our forces at and near Manassas Junction," he says, "were actually engaged. He does not believe that Gen. Scott ordered the attack upon that point, in the deliberate exercise of his judgment, for it was a fatal departure from a wise military policy. The writer's remarks on this point are worthy of careful attention.

In regard to the future movements of the Confederate Army, this writer reveals the fact that the counsels of their leaders are divided. A part of them insist upon the necessity of an offensive policy, including an immediate advance upon Washington, while others oppose this, and advocate a purely defensive policy, as most likely to produce a mollifying effect upon the Northern mind. We agree with the writer in regarding all such expectations as utterly vain. Unquestionably the capture of Washington would exasperate public sentiment throughout the North to a much higher degree of intensity than it has yet reached. But it is hot enough already for all practical purposes. The North has as this writer says, "explicitly, in word and act, challenged to a fight to the death." The people of this country do not intend that this Union shall be destroyed, this Government which our fathers framed be overthrown, until it has been proved by actual experiment that they are not able to prevent it. They regard it as the most solemn of duties to put forth every possible effort – to strain every nerve, - to do whatever men can do to protect their country and the world from so great a disaster. They will perform this duty to the utmost of their ability. If

they succeed, they will find their reward in the accomplished. If they fall, they will be held guiltless by the world and by their posterity.

We do not understand on what grounds the Secessionists can have hoped for a reaction in their favor in the Northern States. They can scarcely be so stolid as to give a moment's heed to the gabble of the News and Day Book, or even to the more weighty assurances of the Journal of Commerce on this subject. They have the clear, explicit, unmistakable annunciations of President Lincoln's Message on this subject. They have seen with what unexampled and marvelous unanimity the utmost of his demands were surpassed by Congress. And if they have paid the slightest attention to the Northern Press, they must have seen that this prompt alacrity, in placing the whole wealth and strength of the nation at the President's command, for the suppression of this rebellion, has lagged behind the impulse and resolution of the great mass of the people. They may rest assured that this high tide of patriotic fervor will know no "retiring ebb" until the utmost power of the nation has been brought to bear upon this gigantic rebellion. The President will receive the hearty support of the nation in whatever measures he may employ for its suppression, and until our ability to suppress it has been thoroughly and effectively tested and found to fail, the leaders of secession may dismiss all hope of changing the sentiment of the people of the North and West.

3 Aug 1861 – Richmond Enquirer The Killed and Wounded

We regret to see that many of our acquaintances in the counties of Frederick, Jefferson and Berkeley, were either killed or wounded in the Battle of Bull Run. Our gallant friend, Alexander R. Boteler, than whom a more chivalric son of the South does not live, served as a private in the company of his friend and neighbor, Dr. Y. M. Butler, and was wounded in the action. Mr. Boteler was one of the first to shoulder his musket when Harper's Ferry was threatened, both in the Brown invasion and at the commencement of the present struggle.

The Captain Avis who is killed, was the jailor at Charlestown during John Brown's imprisonment there; and Capt. G. W. Chambers of Harpers Ferry, was the man who shot Aaron D. Stephens. Braver men than both of these never drew a sword and they each rendered service in Mexico.

Lynch. Virginia

4 August 1861 – New York Times The Battle of Bull Run Official Report of Col. J. H. H. Ward

Headquarters Second Brigade
Third Division, Camp near Shooters Hill
Monday, July 29, 1861

Colonel W. P. Franklin, Commanding Third Division

Sir: The temporary command of this brigade having devolved upon me in consequence of the mishap to Col. Wilcox, I have the honor to transmit herewith the following report, also the regimental reports of a portion of the brigade, viz.: From the First Michigan Regiment, the Scott Life Guard, Thirty-eighth Regiment New York State Volunteers, containing detailed accounts of their action during the engagement near Bull Run, on Sunday, 21st inst.: the remaining regiments of the brigade, viz.: the Fire Zouaves (Eleventh Regiment New York Volunteers) and Arnold's Battery having already rendered their reports to Division Headquarters.

The brigade commenced the action under command of Col. Wilcox, of Michigan, who was wounded while gallantly leading his command, and whose bravery could not have been excelled, and who is now a prisoner in the hands of the enemy. While I deeply deplore the circumstances by which it became my duty to forward this report, yet it affords me much gratification to speaking terms of the highest commendation to speak in terms of the highest commendation of the brave and officer-like conduct of the gentlemen composing his staff, viz: Lieuts. Woodruff, Parker, and Edie, in their efforts to bring order out of chaos, under a most galling and deadly fire from the enemy.

Having myself been in command of the Thirty-eight Regiment (Scot Life Guard, New York State Volunteers,) during the action, I am unable to speak as particularly as could be desired of other regiments of the brigade from personal observation, and respectfully refer you to their respective reports. The reports of killed and wounded furnish sufficient evidence of their fidelity and courage.

But of the Field Officers of the Fire Zouaves I can speak in terms of unqualified praise. Col. Farnham, Lieut. Col. Cregier and Major Loeser were incessant in their exertion in rallying and encouraging their men.

The officers and men of the First Michigan nobly discharged their duty to their country, and well may their State feel proud of her defenders.

The officers and men of the Third-eighth being under my own supervision, I can only corroborate the report rendered by Lieut. Col. Farnsworth.

Where all acted so well, it would appear invidious to make comparisons; but in the case of Lieut. Col. Farnsworth, Thirty-eighth Regiment, I cannot find words to express my admiration of his conduct. He was confined to a sick bed for several days previous to the engagement, and arrived on the scene of action in an ambulance; and the fact of his rising from a sick bed and entering the field with his regiment, and his courage and coolness during the day, entitle him to the highest commendation.

In conclusion, I most respectfully submit that the duty of making this report, devolving upon me at so late a day – intelligence of the absence of Col. Wilcox not having reached me until the day after the battle – renders it impossible to give a more detailed statement.

My duty as Commander of the Brigade being ended with this report. I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

J. H. Hobart Ward
Colonel Thirty-eighth Regiment
Second Brigade, Third Division

5 August 1861 – New York Times

August 1861 - Baltimore Exchange Washington Correspondent

Notes of the Rebellion

Story of Escaped Prisoners from Sudley Church

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Exchange gives the following as the story of private Doherty, of the New York Seventy-first, who escaped from Sudley Church in company with Capt. Allen, of the Massachusetts Eleventh, and private Waldorf, of the Wisconsin Second:

“About 4 o'clock on Sunday afternoon just as the chances of the field were beginning to turn against the National troops, and the Seventy-first had their hands full, a shell took off the foot of a comrade of Mr. Doherty, his rear man, in Company A. Mr. D. immediately proceeded to carry the poor fellow to the hospital, and had hardly done so when the bugle sounded the retreat, and his regiment, with the rest of the troops, were retiring rapidly, leaving him far behind. He at once made a dash for his own freedom, and gained almost alone an open field, where a party of Confederate troops under Capt. Barker, took him prisoner, and conducted him to the hospital at Sudley Church. Here he found Dr. Pignet amputating the arm of a private of the Seventy-first and assisted him to the best of his ability in the performance of various surgical operations the whole afternoon. Twelve surgeons were prisoners in the church, and these remained there for the relief of the wounded – nearly all of whom were Nationals – all night. There were 286 wounded at this place, 70 being exposed in the open air for lack of accommodations, the rest in the blacksmith's shop, carpenter's shop, and church.

On Monday morning most of the prisoners surgeons were removed to Manassas, all being required to give their parole; but all declined except Drs. Pignet, Swift, Winston, Buckstone and DeGrath. These latter returned and resumed their duties in the hospital. During the absence of the surgeons, twelve of the wounded died. Thirty-two had died up to the time of Mr. Doherty's escape.

On Friday night about five minutes before 10 o'clock, by a preconcerted arrangement, Capt. Allen and Messrs. Doherty and Waldorf – who had from the first been allowed a reasonable freedom of movement – approached the guard at the blacksmith's shop. I must not forget to mention that Mr. Waldorf was wounded in the arm, and that Capt. Allen had contrived to exchange his officer's uniform for that of a private, and that he successfully affected to be wounded also. By an arrangement with a Rhode Island soldier, they were to be informed by a signal when the guard should reach a certain point on his beat.

Thus prepared, they approached the sentry, and assuming the character and tone of Confederate officers, called out to him “half past 10 there!” – they having previously ascertained that the guard was to be relieved at 10 o'clock. The man, suspecting nothing, immediately walked to the end of his beat to look for the relief; at once the signal was given by the Rhode Islander, and the three prisoners leaping a fence, noiselessly crossed a little brook, and were quickly concealed in the woods. Mr. Doherty believes that they were not missed till the roll-call the next morning.

They pushed forward with all speed that night and all of the next morning, steering by the moon, until, at 2 ½ o'clock on Saturday afternoon, they reached the house of a Mr. Macon. Here they resolved, at all risks, to stop and make inquiries. By Mrs. Macon, who was alone at home, they were so closely catechized as to render their situation peculiarly uncomfortable. They passes for men of the Fourth Alabama Regiment, and she showed that she was familiar with that corps, by inquiring as to the fate of two officers named Grey. Doherty told her that one of them had been killed. This she promptly denied, from the strength of other information which had reached her, but her suspicions were removed by the explanation that "the Grey we mean was a private." The fugitives, however, seeing that Mrs. Macon was by no means a person of easy credulity, lost no time in relieving her Southern hospitality of their presence.

Near Leesburgh, still passing for Alabamians, they met a man who was satisfied with their story that they were picking blackberries, and had got separated from their regiment. He kindly informed them that they would find their comrades at Ball's Mill waiting for artillery. Near Milford they met a little boy and girl who directed them for information, to the house of a Mr. Edwards, where they arrived at 5 P. M., on Saturday.

Here also they perceived they were suspected for a horseman rode up and, after conferring with Edwards, departed hastily – when they slipped away. As they were pressing with all speed towards the Potomac, a party of about ten horsemen came suddenly upon them and ordered them to halt; but as they had a high fence on their right inclosing a cover of trees, they took no further notice of the challenge save to leap the fence, the horsemen discharging their pistols at them, and take refuge among the trees. Some farmers of the neighborhood, hearing the firing, were promptly on the spot with their guns and joining the horsemen, took down a part of the fence, and began a search. Meantime the fugitives had cut down branches from the trees, and with these and some light brushwood, concealed themselves effectually. Mr. Doherty assures us that as the troopers beat the woods, the horse of one of the them actually trod lightly on his leg, as he lay in his hiding place.

After perhaps an hour and a half of ineffectual search, they abandoned the woods, and took to the road, concluding that the prisoners had given them the slip, and got off in that way. Before going, however, they left a man on guard, who very soon lay down on a log but a few feet from his hidden foes. Doherty, almost exhausted, had availed himself of the occasion and this cozy concealment, to take a nap, and when he was roused by the captain, who whispered that they must be moving, he had just dreamed that he was a prisoner again, and could not easily shake off the impression.

Their guard was still sleeping, and they might easily have killed him with a six shooter, their only arms, but forbore from fear of bringing the people down upon them. At 1 ½ o'clock Sunday morning they reached the Potomac. Here they found a solitary horseman, who made a sudden rush, no doubt to give the alarm, whereupon they plunged at once into the river, and partly by swimming, partly by wading, reached Long Island, 17 miles from Washington

Mr. Doherty assures me – and Capt. Allen will, I believe, cordially indorse his statement – that nothing could exceed the magnanimity of the Confederate officers towards their prisoners wounded or unwounded. Not a harsh word fell from them to mortify or insult the men who had just struggled with them, sword to sword, and bayonet to bayonet; but, on the contrary, they displayed a lively solicitude for their comfort. This kindness was especially conspicuous in the artillery and cavalry officers.

Capt. Ball, who, whilst a prisoner at Washington, had been guarded by a detachment of the Seventy-first, was assiduous in his hospitable attentions. He and his men (who were not in the fight as has been reported) sent milk, eggs, and brandy. A farmer in the neighborhood, named Ricketts, was very kind. He and his wife sent the National wounded, soup, gruel and a young lamb. They feel especially grateful to Capt. White and Patrick and Col. Barker. The latter said to them, "Take good care of yourselves, boys, and see that your wounded have what they require."

Gen. Beauregard rode up to the hospital, and gave particular orders that the enemy's wounded should be well attended. I am happy to record the manly evidence of these gentlemen. No dying man's throat was cut, they say – no dead man robbed.

Fair Play

**5 August 1861 – New York Times
Special Dispatch from Washington
Stragglers Returned**

Numbers of our troops who stayed from the main body at the time of the retreat from Bull Run are daily reaching the city, or the lines of our camps, in some instances after experiencing great privations. Many reached our camp at the Relay House, whence they have been forwarded here.

**6 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin
The Rebel War News**

The Eighth Georgia Regiment in the Battle at Stone Bridge

The following graphic description of scenes on the battle-field, and the gallant conduct of the Eighth Georgia Regiment, was written for the Richmond Dispatch by a gentleman who participated in the fierce conflict of the 21st of July:

On Thursday, the 18th instant, about 2 P. M., this Regiment left Winchester for Manassas, under command of Lieut. Colonel Montgomery Gardner. Colonel Bartow had been for some weeks acting Brigadier General of a Brigade, consisting of the Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Eleventh Georgia Regiments, and a Battalion of Kentuckians.

The Eighth marched 27 miles over the mountains, fording the Shenandoah to Piedmont on the Manassas Gap Railroad, arriving there about 12M., Friday. The march was fatiguing in the extreme. After a delay of a few hours they left for Manassas on the cars, and a slow, tedious ride brought them to this point late Saturday morning. They marched three and a half miles to camp in the woods, without tents, and without food. Early next morning they were ordered to the fight, where they arrived after a circuitous, wearisome, and at times double quick tramp of between ten and twelve miles.

Breathless, tired, faint and footsore, the gallant fellows were eager for the affray. They were first ordered to support Pendleton's Virginia Battery, which they did amid a furious storm of grape from the enemy. Inactive as they were, compelled to be under this fire, they stood cool and unflurried. They were finally ordered to charge Sherman's Battery. To do this it was necessary to cross an intervening hollow, covered by the enemy's fire, and establish themselves in a thicket flanking the enemy's battery. They charged in a manner that elicited the praise of Gen. Johnston.

Gaining the thicket, they opened upon the enemy. The history of warfare probably affords no instance of more desperate fighting than took place now. From three sides a fierce, concentrated, murderous, unceasing volley poured in upon this devoted and heroic "six hundred" Georgians. The enemy appeared upon the hill by the thousands. Between six and ten regiments were visible. It was a hell of bullet-rain in that fatal grove. The ranks were cut down as grain by a scythe. Whole platoons melted away as if by magic. Cool, unflinching and stubborn each was fought with gallantry, and a stern determination to win or die. Not one faltered. Col Bartow's horse was shot under him. Adjutant Branch fell, mortally wounded. Lieut. Col. Gardner dropped with a shattered leg. The officers moved from rank to rank, from man to man, cheering and encouraging the brave fellows. Some of them took the muskets of the dead and began coolly firing at the enemy.

It was an appalling hour. The shot whistled and tore through trees and bones. The ground became literally paved with the fallen. Yet the remnant stood composed and unequaling, carefully loading, steadily aiming, unerringly firing, and then quietly looking to see the effect of their shots. Mere boys fought like veterans – unexcited, save with the stern "white heat," flameless exhilaration, that battle gives to brave spirits.

After eight or ten rounds the regiment appeared annihilated. The order was reluctantly given to cease firing and retire. The stubborn fellows gave no heed. It was repeated. Still no obedience. The battle spirit was up. Again it was given. Three volleys had been fired after the first command. At length they returned, walking and fighting. Owing to the density of the growth, a part of the regiment were separated from the colors. The other part formed in an open field behind the thicket. The retreat continued over ground alternately wood and field. At every open spot they would reform, pour a volley into the pursuing enemy and again retire.

From the account of the enemy who stopped to give water to the wounded and rifle the dead, it seems that the Eighth cut to pieces the Sixth Massachusetts, half demolished the Rhode Islanders and made deadly havoc among the regulars. But a horrible mistake occurred at this point. Their own friends taking them for the enemy, poured a fatal fire upon their mutilated ranks. At length they withdrew from the fight. Their final rally was with some sixty men, of the six hundred they took in. Balaklava tells no more heroic

tale than this: "Into the valley of death marched the six hundred." As they retired they passed General Beauregard. He drew aside, fronted, raised his hat and said: I salute the Eighth Georgia with hat off."

Of all the companies of the regiment, the Oglethorpe Light Infantry suffered most. They were on the extreme right nearest the enemy and thus were more exposed. Composed of the first young gentlemen of Savannah, their terrible loss will throw a gloom over their whole city. An organization of five or six years' standing, they were the favorite corps of Savannah. Col. Bartow had long been their captain, and was idolized by them, while he had a band of sons in them. It is supposed that his deep grief at the mutilation of his boys caused him to expose his life more recklessly than was necessary. He wished to die with them, if he could not take them back home. They fought with heroic desperation. All young, all unmarried, all gentlemen, there was not one of the killed who was not an ornament to the community and freighted with brilliant promise. In sending them to Virginia Savannah sent her best to represent her, and their loss proves how well they stood up, how well that city was represented in a battle where all were brave.

This company was the first one to offer its services to President Davis under the Confederate act authorizing him to receive independent companies, and had the honor of being the first received. They left home in disobedience to the order of their Governor, and brought away their arms in defiance of his authority, so eager were they to go where our country needed her best soldiers. They were one of the two companies that took Fort Pulaski. When there was a riot expected in Savannah, early in the year, they were called out to quell it, with another corps. Their whole history is one of heroism. First to seek peril, they have proved in their sad fate how nobly they can endure it. They will inevitably make their mark during the continuance of this holy war. They have enlisted for the whole war, and not one will turn back who can go forward, until it is ended, or they are completely annihilated.

After the gallant Eighth had retired with but a fragment, Col. Bartow, by General Beauregard's order, brought up the Seventh Georgia, exclaiming in reply to Col. Gartrell, of the Seventh, who asked him where they should go – "Give me your flag, and I will tell you." Leading them to their stand amid a terrible fire he posted the regiment fronting the enemy, and exclaimed in those eloquent tones so full of high feeling that his friends ever expected from him – "Gen. Beauregard says you must hold this position, and, Georgians, I appeal to you to hold it."

Regardless of life, gallantly riding amid the hottest fire, observing the men, inspiring them with his fervent courage, he was shot in the heart and fell from his horse. They picked him up. With both hands clasped over his breast, he raised his head and with a God like effort, his eye glittering in its last gleam with a blazing light, he said, with a last heroic flash of his lofty spirit, "They have killed me, but, boys never give up the field" – emphasizing the "never" in his ----uliar and stirring manner, that all who know him will so feelingly recall.

Thus perished as noble a soul as ever breathed. He will long live in remembrance. He met the fate he most wished – the martyred patriot's grave. He was a pure patriot, an able statesman, a brilliant lawyer, a chivalric soldier, a spotless gentleman. His imperious scorn of littleness was one of his leading characteristics. His lofty patriotism will consign his name to an immortal page in his country's history.

6 August 1861 – New York Times
The Battle of Manassas
Letter from Dr. J. C. Nott of South Carolina
From the Charleston News

Richmond, Tuesday, July 23, 1861

Dear Harleston: I have seen the great and glorious battle of Manassas, which brought a nation into existence, and the scene was grand and impressive beyond the power of language. We foresaw the action several days ahead – the enemy were known to be advancing in immense masses from Arlington towards Fairfax, and the master stroke was at once made, to order Johnston down from Winchester, by forced marches, before Patterson could get down on the other side. Johnston's troops marched all night twenty-six miles, then crowded into the railroad, came down in successive trains without sleeping or eating (15,000) and arrived, many of them, while the battle was raging.

I got to Manassas the morning of the day previous to the fight, and knowing well both Gens. Beauregard and Johnston, and their staff officers, I went immediately to headquarters. ZAG DEAS, among the rest, was there in full feather, and I of course felt at home, in his camp, where I spent the night. Gen. Beauregard determined to attack them in several columns at once the next morning, so as to cut them up before Patterson could arrive – but our scouts came early in the morning informing the Generals that the enemy had been in motion since two hours before day, which settled the question as to their intention to

make the attack. Beauregard, who had studied the whole ground around – knew every hill, ravine, and pathway – had made all the necessary arrangements, and planned the battle. Not knowing at what point of a semi-circle of ten miles around Manassas the enemy would attack, his forces had to be scattered in such a way as to guard all points, prevent a flank movement on either side, and guard his intrenchments and supplies in the centre.

We got up in the morning at daylight, took a cup of coffee and remained quietly laughing and talking at head-quarters, while the scouts were passing in and out, bringing news from the enemy. At a quarter past six, in the still, bright morning, we heard the first deep-toned sound of a cannon on the centre of our line, about three miles off. We waited till nine for further information and at nine the Generals ordered to horse, and away we dashed to the hill overlooking the point at which cannon, like minute guns, had continued slowly to fire. The enemy could not see any of our troops, but were firing at the dust kicked up along the road, which they saw above the low trees. We were for some time at the point they were firing at and some twenty or thirty balls of their rifled cannons whizzed through the air above us, and I felt forcibly the remark of Cuddy to his mother Mause, that “a stragglng bullet has nae discretion,” and might take my head off as well as that of anybody else. The firing at this point kept up slowly from 6 ¼ till 11, when we heard a gun fire on the extreme left of the semi-circle, and we were then satisfied that the firing in front was a mere (f---t). In a few minutes the cannon firing came in rapid succession, as if one battery was answering another. The Generals then ordered “to horse” again, and away we rode to the scat of battle, about three miles off. When we arrived on the top of a hill, in an old field, we could get glimpses of the fight through the woods. The cannon were roaring, and the musketry sounded like a large bundle of fire-crackers, and the constant roaring of the big guns, the sharp sound of rifle cannons, Minie rifles and muskets, with the bursting of shells, made one feel that death was doing his work with fearful rapidity.

The enemy had concentrated all his forces on this one point, while ours were scattered around a half circle of ten miles, and the few regiments who received the first onset were most terrible cut up. It was far greater odds than human nature could stand, the regiments were torn to pieces, driven back, and so overwhelmed by numbers that I feared the day was lost. At this stage of the game the enemy was telegraphing to Washington that the battle had been won and secession was about to be crushed. My heart failed me as I saw load after load of our poor wounded and dying soldiers brought and strewed on the ground, along the ravine where I was at work. Dr. Fanthray, who belonged to Gen. Johnston’s staff, and myself were just getting fully at work, when an old surgeon, whom I do not know, came to us and said the enemy were carrying everything before them, and ordered us to fall back to another point with the wounded, as they were turning our flank, and the battle would soon be upon us. Accordingly the wounded were taken up and we fell back, but after following the ambulances for a mile, we found that they were to be taken all the way to Manassas – about four miles – where there were hospitals and surgeons to receive them, and we returned to our position near the battle. At this juncture I saw our reinforcements pouring in with the rapidity and eagerness of a fox chase, and was satisfied that they would drive everything before them. No one can imagine such a grand, glorious picture as these patriots presented, rushing to the field through the masses of wounded bodies which strewed the roadside as they passed along. For half a mile behind me the road passed down a gradual slope, and thought an old field, as I looked back, I could see a regiment of infantry coming in a trot, with their bright muskets glittering in the sun; then would come a battery of artillery, each gun carriage crowded with men, and drawn by four horses in full gallop. Next came troops of cavalry, dashing with the speed of Murat; after these followed with almost equal speed, wagons loaded with ammunition, & c. screaming all the while, “Push ahead, boys,” “Pitch into the d—d Yankees,” Drive them into the Potomac.” This kept up from about midday till dark, and I felt as if the Alps themselves could not withstand such a rush. The cannon and small arms were roaring like a thunder-storm as they rushed to the battle-field. One regiment, which had been driven back by overwhelming numbers, was now supported, and I soon perceived that the firing was getting further off, as I had expected, and I knew that the “pet lambs” now could only be saved by their superior heels. About this time, too the last of Gen. Johnston’s command arrived on the cars, opposite the battle ground, to the number of some three or four thousand, and although they had been two nights without sleep, they jumped from the cars and cut across to the field. By this time we had collected about 15,000 against their 35,000, and, from all accounts, no red fox ever made tracks so fast as did these cowardly wretches. They were all fresh and better accounted in every respect than our men, one half or more of whom had to make forced marches to get at them. They had selected their position coolly and deliberately in the morning, while ours were scattered over ten miles, and had to run through the midday sunshine. If our men had been equally fresh they would

have gone straight into their intrenchments at Arlington. But I will not speculate on the future, and weary you with details which will reach you through print long before this.

The victory was dearly brought, but still blood is the price of freedom, and we can at least, while we drop a tear over the graves of our fallen friends, feel the proud consolation that they have died like heroes and given liberty to unborn generations.

Our troops are pouring in every day from the South, and if Beauregard and Johnston choose to lead them, they can plant the hated Palmetto tree beside the Bunker Hill Monument, which was erected to commemorate the same principles for which we are now fighting, and to which a degenerate race has proved recreant. They have forced this fight upon us, and after exhausting everything but honor for peace, it is their turn to sue for terms.

I never had any idea of military science before. Beauregard and Johnston played it like a game of chess without seeing the board – when a messenger came and told the enemy's move, a move was immediately ordered to put him in check.

6 August 1861 – New York Times

The Battle of Bull Run

The Seventy-First New York Regiment

Interesting Statement of Edward P. Doherty, Company A, Seventy-First Regiment, Who was Captured at Bull Run, Sunday, July 21, and Escaped from the Enemy on Friday Night Following, July 26th.

The Regiment left the Navy –yard Tuesday, July 16, at 10 o'clock, and marched up the Avenue over the Long Bridge, to their camping grounds, within five miles of Fairfax, where, at 9 P. M. they stacked and bivouacked for the night in the open field, together with Co. Burnside's Brigade, consisting of the First and Second Rhode Island Infantry, Second Rhode Island Battery, and Second New Hampshire Volunteers. At 5 A. M., July 17, (Wednesday,) the brigade formed a line of march, and proceeded to Fairfax Court-house, where they arrived at 10 A. M., and found the breastworks of the enemy deserted, as well as the town, of all secession troops. Halted in the town before the Court-house; the flag was hoisted upon the Court –house by the Rhode Island Regiments, the band saluting it with the National airs.

The march was then resumed; the whole Brigade proceeded half a mile beyond Fairfax, and bivouacked on the old camp-ground of the rebels, which they had abandoned that morning between 6 and 9 o'clock. Large quantity of blankets were found burning, having been destroyed by them in this manner in their hasty retreat; also, a store-room of military clothing was found by them, as well as a dozen of there tents which were immediately put to good use, and a bullock just dressed, which furnished rations for the Seventy-first, as far as it went.

In this encampment the Brigade remained till? A. M. Thursday, July 18, the Brigade again marched four miles, and halted by command of Gen. McDowell, were the Brigade remained till 3 P. M., on an old camp-ground of the enemy, when the march was again taken up, under a scorching sun, till within a mile and a half of Centreville, where we bivouacked once more, the men making pleasant huts of the boughs of trees.

During the night the regiment was called to arms, in consequence of the firing of pickets on our left. Friday and Saturday was passed in this place, very pleasantly, the regiments of the brigade having a regimental drill each day, and also being served with good rations of fresh meat and plenty of coffee and sugar.

On Saturday, orders were issued to prepare to march at 1 A. M., Sunday, each man to take two days rations of good salt beef, salt pork and crackers in haversack, with positive instructions to fill his canteen with water, and not to use it on the route, as water was scarce. This was done, and the regiment marched with the brigade Sunday morning at 2 A. M. for the battle-field, passing through Centreville just before sunrise.

After proceeding a mile and a half beyond Centreville we were ordered to halt and cap our pieces. We then crossed a bridge, mounted a hill in the vicinity, and to the right of Gen. McDowell's head quarters, and then turned to the right into a field, at a double quick, which was kept up about a quarter of an hour, passing through a wood and halting in a field, where we remained about twenty minutes. Gen. McDowell and his Staff came into the field. This was between 6 and 7 o'clock. The march was then resumed by a curculios route through the woods, passing several dry brooks, until we reached Bull Run, which we waded in great confusion, every one being anxious to get water. Company lines were immediately formed on the other side, and an advance was made up the road at quick step, firing being heard upon our left.

After a mile's marching at quick step, we were put upon double quick up the hill, wheeling to the left, into an old stubble-field, where we halted, and our arrival was announced by a shot from a rifle cannon whistling over our heads. The halt did not last two minutes, when Col. Burnside led the different regiments into their positions on the field. The Second Rhode Island entered the field first, to the extreme right, then the Rhode Island Battery, six pieces, and the two howitzers of the Seventy-first, and then to the left the Seventy-first, and after it, on its left the First Rhode Island, and then the Second New Hampshire, all formed in line of battle on the top of the hill. This movement was done at double quick. We were immediately ordered to fall back and lie down, as the discharge from the enemy's battery was very severe.

The First and Second Rhode Island Regiments, the Rhode Island Battery, and the two howitzers, opened fire on the enemy. One of the Rhode Island guns was immediately disabled by a shot from the enemy, and was carried off the field. The Seventy-first lay there as ordered, when an Aid from Col. Burnside rode up and asked for the field officers. Col. Martin then ordered us forward.

Prior to this some of the Seventy-first had gone over to the First Rhode Island, and were fighting in their ranks. Burroughs, Commissary of the Seventy-first rode up in front of us, dismounted from his horse and told the boys to go in and fight on their own account, which they did with a will. Just prior to this Capt. Ha__ of Company A, had been wounded and carried from the field; also Capt. Ellis of Company F. Then Lieut. Oakley came on. Going forward to the brow of the hill he received a shot in the leg of his pantaloons from one of his own men.

Some time after this the firing ceased upon both sides. McDowell, with his staff, then rode through our lines, receiving a cheer from the Seventy-first, and passed down the hill to the left, within 600 feet of the enemy's line. After that the brigade fell back into the woods and rested; taking care of the wounded, and removing them to the hospital; some straggling about over the fields without their muskets, looking on at the fight in other parts of the engagement, which they supposed was the end of the battle, thinking the day was ours.

At about 3 o'clock we formed in line again, on the brow of the hill. It was at this time that a shell fell over my left shoulder, and striking the ground behind me, rebounded upon the foot of private Wm. N. Smith, of Brooklyn, tearing it open. He threw his arms around my neck, and I assisted in carrying him to the hospital.

I returned from the hospital towards my regiment, and met other troops retreating, who informed me that my regiment had gone across the fields. I ran back past Sudley Church, then used as the hospital, up the hill, saw a regiment about half a mile ahead, which I supposed was the Seventy-first; took a short cut across the fields, when the cavalry galloped up and arrested me.

They took me back to the hospital, where, during the confusion I managed to conceal myself under a blanket, which was saturated with blood. Col. Barker, of the Virginia Cavalry, then galloped up and ordered all the unwounded prisoners to be driven to the Junction.

I should think there were about 50 prisoners in all at that point. They left me, supposing I was wounded. A guard was left to guard the hospital. I arose to go in quest of Dr. Peugnet, and found him engaged in amputating the arm of Harry Rockafellow, of 6 street, Philadelphia, of Company F. Seventy-first Regiment. Mr. Peugnet requested me to assist him, and he having completed his operation, then amputated the arm at the shoulder-joint of a Sergeant of a Maine or a New Hampshire Regiments, who had a brother, about 17 years of age, who had remained behind to take care of him. This man died under the operation. The next operation was that of my friend Wm. Smith, of Brooklyn, whom I had conveyed to the hospital. His foot was amputated.

During this time D. S. Foster, Swift and Winston, of the Eighth New York; Dr. DeGnat, Dr. Griswald, Dr. Buxton, and the doctor of the Fourth Maine; Dr. Stewart of ____, ____, of Rhode Island, and others whose names I did not learn, one of whom, I believe was _____ of the West Point Battery; were attending the wounded of their respective regiments. Private Tyler, of the West Point Battery; had his thigh wounded and died that night. ____ Col. Martin's servant, who was wounded while assisting the Colonel to dismount also died. Mullen, Second Rhode Island, and two of the Seventy-first, whose names I do not know were found dead next morning.

Gen. Beauregard and Col. Barker came up about 3 ½ with 150 prisoners of different regiments, most of whom were Fire Zouaves. He stopped and inquired how our wounded were getting along, while the prisoners were driven towards the Junction by the cavalry. During the night a number of prisoners were brought in, and on Monday morning 30 were sent on, their hands tied together in front with Manila rope; among them was the lad of 17, from Maine, who pleaded bitterly to be left to see his brother buried, but was refused.

During the fore night an order was issued by Gen. Johnston for every one to be removed from Sudley Church to Richmond, via the Junction. All who were not wounded were taken under a tree and tied, as an attack was anticipated. Our doctors strongly remonstrated against this order, as the greater part of our wounded, 250 in number had not received any attention. Capt. Patrick, of Virginia Cavalry, stated these were his instructions, and he meant to carry them out. We were accordingly all seized, hands bound, except the doctors who were in ambulances. It was then raining in torrents, and some 80 of the wounded were laying in the vicinity of the church and blacksmith shop without any shelter excepting a blanket. The doctors were hurriedly taken away, we being told that our wounded would be cared for by themselves.

Here we waited till 12 o'clock at night in the rain, awaiting orders when I requested Capt. Patrick to allow me to go down to the hospital to see a relative that had been badly wounded, telling him it would be better to shoot our wounded at once than to allow them to die off by inches; they were all calling for water and no one there to give it to them. He then said "Well my man, choose another man with you and go down." I chose Smith, of Company M. Seventy-First Regiment. Capt. Patrick then inquired if there were any more men who had brothers or relatives among the wounded. A general rush took place among the prisoners – they all stepping forward. He then allowed Atwood Crosby, of Maine, to take care of his brother, who was wounded in the back, and five others: Tompkins, Company C., Seventy-First; John Hann(?) of Massachusetts; a young boy of the Second Rhode Island, about 17 years old; Dregan, of the Twenty-seventh, and another, an assistant to a Maine surgeon, and his servant, who cooked for the prisoners, under the direction of Tompkins. The rest were kept out in the rain all night, and the following morning were sent to Richmond.

During Monday night a man from Wisconsin died, calling for his mother. He had a daguerreotype of his wife and two children. He called me to give him some water, which I did very frequently. He called for his "Dear Mother" – these were his last words. He was a man about 5 feet 6 inches, with a light moustache, and was wounded in the groin. A boy about 18 years old, dressed in the uniform of the Eighth Regiment, about 5 feet 10 inches in height, sandy complexion, shot in the head, had \$21 in his pocket-book, and a white silk badge, marked "Parker Guard," died Monday night. Devers, of Ellsworth Zouaves, wounded in the arm. He laid down to rest, and in the morning, when I went to bandage his arm, I found him dead. Also, a man from Rockland, Me., named Fletcher.

On Tuesday, Allen, of Company C, Seventy-first, died. He was wounded in the abdomen. Butler of Company C., Seventy-First, Elizabethtown, N. J., also died; wounded in legs. Doctors were not there to amputate. George Sayne and John P. Morrissey, both of the Seventy-first, also died Wednesday morning, within one hour of each other, lying side by side. Mead, of Massachusetts, a wealthy shoe manufacturer, died while having his thigh amputated. Several others died, whose names I could not learn, numbering in all 32.

On Tuesday evening, six of the Doctors came back on parole – Drs. Peugnet, Swift, Winston, DeGraw, Huxton and Stewart – and immediately commenced attending to the wounded. Their exertions were unremitting; their time day and night was given to the wounded until all the wounds were properly dressed and all cared for.

On Wednesday morning, Dr. Peugnet put me in charge of the hospital, and allowed me to choose 20 from the prisoners and wounded, who were able to take care of the wounded, to assist me.

The same morning a lady of the neighborhood brought us a bottle of wine and two dozen eggs, and we bought at noon twelve dozen of eggs from a sutler. Thursday morning a number of secession doctors made their appearance, bringing with them some luxuries which they gave to our doctors. Some time during the day Noble, of Company F, and Gillette, of the Engineer Corps, both of the Seventy-first, were brought in as prisoners, and were retained as assistants at the hospital. They were not wounded. This day a number of ladies and farmers of the surrounding country visited our hospitals, bringing with them milk, soup, and cakes.

On Friday, they commenced removing the prisoners and wounded, amongst them Capt. Gordon, of the Eleventh. Massachusetts; Lieut. Hamlin, Scott Life Guard, and all the Non-Commissioned Officers, leaving instructions with us to be prepared to follow the ambulances containing the wounded, who had undergone operations, on Saturday. In the meantime, Capt. Allen of the Eleventh Massachusetts, disguised as a private and wounded prisoner, a Wisconsin boy, named Worldorf, and myself, planned an escape which was successfully accomplished between 5 and 10 P. M. Friday night. We ran the guard, and crawled on our hands and feet out of hearing distance of the sentinels; proceeded in a northeast direction until 3 ½ A. M.; met two pickets of the enemy in a small tent on the main road, which we had to cross to accomplish our escape; the pickets cowed at our appearance, and hid behind a tree, and we backed some one hundred

feet with sticks pointed in the direction of the pickets, and then turned and ran about two miles, keeping a little to the north.

At 2 P. M. not knowing where we were, we determined to approach a house and inquire. We met two women at the gate, and told them we belonged to the Fourth Alabama Regiment. They asked for Messrs. Gray of that regiment – if we knew them – and a number of others, all of whom we told them were shot at Bull Run. They asked where we came from, and where were our arms. These questions we evaded, and asked them to show us the way to Centreville, which they did. We took an opposite direction, and at 4 P. M. halted at another house, where an old man came out and asked if we were soldiers. We replied in the affirmative, and added that we belonged to the Fourth Alabama Regiment, and had been picking blackberries and strayed away from our camp. He then said, “Are you the regiment that is waiting for artillery?” I replied, the same. “Then, boys.” Said he, “you are stationed at Ball’s Mill, three miles from here, (jointing in the direction of Leesburgh, half way from here to Leesburgh,” he then said, “Were you in the fight Sunday?” “Yes,” “I am glad, boys, you escaped from the slaughter. These d-d Yankees, I would like to see every man of them strung up. I never could bear them. I will send Edward to show you the way to the main road.” We thanked him and left.

At 5 P. M., came to a railroad. I saw a little boy and girl, and asked them what road it was. They replied they did not know, but if we would go to the house, Jeff. would tell us. After some further inquiries, without getting any information, we crossed the track and took to the woods, and continued our march until 6 P. M., when we saw a house standing alone in the bushes. We determined to go there, and get something to eat. Arriving at the gate, we inquired if they had something to sell us. They said they had, and we lost no time in investing in 50 cents worth of hoe-cake and milk.

While we were devouring these (to us) luxuries, a horseman galloped up to the door, and the lady of the house called the man with whom we were conversing, ‘Cousin George,’ (his name Edwards.) We suspected something wrong, and took a precipitate leave down the hill, and continued our march. Half an hour after leaving this house, we crossed the main road, and crossed the field, in order to reach a wood which we supposed was a forest, but which turned out to be nothing but a small thicket. Soon after crossing the thicket, we spied eight mounted troopers at full speed, passing along the road, some fifteen yards ahead, not supposing they were in search of us, we continued on our way, when, upon looking round, we found they had halted at the foot of the hill, and were looking in all directions; at last they saw us, and commanded us to halt and come back. This we had no desire to do, and knowing the fence along the road to be impassible on horseback, we thought our chances of escape were good. We accordingly ran, and they fired, one or two of them dismounting simultaneously with the discharge of the others guns, to let the rails of the fence down in order that they might pursue us into the woods.

In the meantime we had gained the wood and found another fence surrounding it. This fence was equally as wide as the first one. They galloped off to the edge of the woods where we should have to pass to make our escape, and surround the woods. Here they dismounted, took down the rails and entered the bushes, and commenced their search. In the meantime we had run back to where we entered the bush and hid under two large elm trees. Capt. Allen clipping the branches in order that we might pull them down over us with more facility; It was perhaps five minutes before they reached this portion of the thicket, and these trees being so much exposed, they concluded no person was there, and went away to the other end of the woods, but soon returned, and on passing one of these trees, one of the horses ridden by one of our pursuers grazed my right leg with his hoof, and so close were they upon us that we overheard all their conversation.

During this time some twelve or fifteen of the inhabitants of Milford turned out with their guns and pistols to assist the troopers to find the Yankees; and an order was given, by an old man in citizen’s dress, with orders to the men who had come together to look in all the bushes and to turn over all the old logs, and leave nothing undone which they might suppose would tend to our capture. Here one of them reckoned the Yankee ----- had got away; another said that if they were in those woods, they would give us alright warming, and they commenced discharging their guns in the bushes in every direction, but happily, did not aim in the direction of our tree.

In about an hour the old man returned, and ordered a boy about 18 years of age to remain beside us on a log, with instructions to fire at us the moment he saw us ____ “Even,” said he, “If you do miss them.” It was now 9 P.M., and the long prayed for darkness came to our rescue, and helped to cover our retreat. For nearly another hour the old wretch kept prowling about the woods, and finally went away. At about 11 o’clock we were so exhausted that we fell asleep, and rested until 12, when Allen crawled over to me and said, “They haven’t got us yet.”

I had dreamt, during my short slumber, that I was a captive, and he had some difficulty in persuading me to the contrary. Being reassured, I arose from my retreat, and, as we emerged from beneath the branches which had just saved our lives, we beheld the youth who, two hours before, had been placed to watch for us; he was in a deep slumber, and had his gun grasped between his folded arms in a horizontal position. I drew my knife to dispatch him but Capt. Allen prevented me.

We then retraced our steps for nearly a mile and a half, and struck over for the Potomac, which we reached at 4 ½ o'clock Sunday morning, having kept up a quick and double-quick step all along the road.

Having reached the Potomac, we sat down to rest; but we were hardly seated before we saw a man on horseback approaching us by the road. He walked his horse past us as though he was unaware of our presence, until he reached the corner of a fence surrounding a corn-field, when he put spurs to his horse and went up the hill at full speed. We suspected something in this movement, and looking for shallow water, but finding none, we immediately plunged into the stream and swam the river. When within twenty feet of the opposite shore we heard firing and cries of "Come back," and on arriving ground we saw ten or fifteen men, in their shirt sleeves, ordering us back, and firing several shots at us. Of course we did not obey this command, but started off at a good pace into what we supposed was Maryland. We had not gone far before we came to another stream, which we waded.

We afterwards ascertained that we had crossed Edward's Island about 17 miles from Washington. Before losing sight of our pursuers, Capt. Allen showed his pistol, and shook it in defiance of them.

7 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

Bull Run Incidents

A Zouaves in the Enemy's Camp

When the Fire Zouaves stormed the masked battery at Bull Run, and were forced to fall back by the grapeshot and cavalry charge, one of them was stunned by a blow from a saber, and fell almost under one of the enemy's guns. The Secessionists swarmed around him like bees, but feigning death, in the excitement he was unnoticed, and when a rally was made, managed to crawl back into the thicket inside the Confederate lines. Here he waited some time for an opportunity to escape, but finding none, concluded he would make the best of a bad bargain, and if he was lost would have a little revenge before hand. Hastily stripping the body of a Confederate nearby, he donned his uniform, and seizing his rifle made his way to the entrenchments, where he joined the Secessionists, and watching his opportunities, succeeded in picking off several of their most prominent officers whenever they advanced out upon the troops. Here he remained for some time, until, thinking it best to leave before his disguise should be discovered, he joined a party who were about to charge upon our forces, and was to his gratification, again captured, but this time by his own men. Our fire proved very destructive to the enemy, and cut down their men by hundreds. In the battery where the Zouaves fell, he afterward counted thirty-five dead bodies lying close together, and the bushes were full of the wounded who had crawled off to get out of the way.

A Desperate Hand to Hand Contest

On Saturday night, before the battle, two of the Minnesota boys took it into their heads to forage a little, for amusement as well as eatables. Striking out from their encampment into the forest, they followed a narrow road some distance, until, turning a bend, five Secession pickets appeared not fifty yards distant. The parties discovered each other simultaneously, and at once leveled their rifles and fired. Two of the Confederates fell dead, and one of the Minnesotans, the other also falling, however, but with the design of trapping the other three, who at once came up, as they said, to "examine the d__d Yankees" Drawing his revolver the Minnesotan found he had but two barrels loaded, and with these he shot two of the pickets. Springing to his feet, and snatching his saber bayonet from his rifle, he lunged at the survivor, who proved to be a stalwart lieutenant, armed only with a heavy sword. The superior skill of the Southerner was taxed to the utmost in paring the vigorous thrust and lunges of the brawny lumberman; and for several minutes the contest waged in silence, broken only by the rustle of the long grass by the roadside and clash of their weapons. Feigning fatigue, the Minnesotan fell back a few steps, and as his adversary closed upon him with a cat-like spring, he let his saber come down upon the head of the Secesh, and the game was up. Collecting the arms of the Secessionists returned to the camp, where he obtained assistance, and buried the bodies of his companion and their foes in one grave.

One of the Alabama Fourth

Since the smoke of the great battle has cleared away and the extent of the losses have become pretty accurately known, the incidents connected with the conflict, as told by the engaged soldiers, have

absorbed general attention and interest. Hundreds of these incidents have been written, and read, and wept and laughed over. Our gallant soldiers who have gone home are recapitulating them till now they are widely known. Prisoners who have escaped from the custody of the rebels are at present claiming the greatest attention. The telegraph has informed you of the escape of Capt. Allen, Massachusetts Eleventh; John P. Doherty, Sixty-Ninth, New York, and Orlando Bardorf, Wisconsin Second, who were taken prisoners at Manassas. Their escape possesses a marvellousness of romance and peril of adventure seldom paralleled. To the inventive genius, cunning and daring of Doherty must be credited the escape. An Irish man of the shrewder sort, quick, sagacious, self possessed, bold and rollicking, he was sharp and speedy in devising means of escape. "I had no fear of their keeping me," he said, in telling me the story, "but I was bound not to come away alone." His intelligence and good nature obtained him the place of hospital steward at Sudley Church. He was not long in giving a drink with a narcotic sprinkling in it to the sentinel. The incautiously imbibing guard fell asleep, and Doherty and his comrades leaped from a rear window and pushed to the woods. They lay quiet days and journeyed by night. Several times they were pursued by cavalry, and showers of shot sent after them. At one time they were pursued into a small wood and surrounded. Hiding themselves in a thick tuft of bushes, they lay concealed sixteen hours. A horse of one of the searching troopers stepped on Doherty's leg. He felt like wincing under the superincumbent weight of horse flesh, but did not. The strong necessities of appetite compelled them to stop occasionally at farm houses for something to eat. Happily they only found women at home, whom they wheedled into the belief that they belonged to the "Alabama Fourth" One woman was suspicious, but they forbore waiting long enough to allow her distrust opportunity to reach a culminating point unfavorable to themselves. They all agreed in saying that the Potomac never looked pleasanter to Washington than it did to them. Pursued by cavalry and balls flying after them as they plunged into its cool embrace, they did not have that time to note the majestic beauty of the river and landscape that otherwise would have been gratifying to them.

7 August 1861 – New York Times
Dispatches from Washington
Washington, Sunday, July 28.

Information was received this evening relative to Messrs. Arnold, Harris and McGraw, who, several days ago went in quest of the body of Col. Cameron. The former was sent by the Confederates to Richmond, and the latter to Manassas Junction. They did not accomplish the object of their mission.

Mr. Buch who took them to Bull Run has returned and reports that all the dead are not yet buried, and that the slaughter on the side of the enemy is greater by far than they themselves represented.

It is believed that Gen. McClellan has been assigned to the command of the troops on both sides of the Potomac. He, in company with Secretary Cameron, visited Arlington Saturday afternoon.

Unofficial information has been received here that the Confederates contemplated at an early day the planting of batteries on the Potomac, at points to command the channel, as a part of their general programme

At Aquia Creek they have five guns upon one battery, and three upon another, and while an excursion party from Washington were in that vicinity, on Saturday, a train of cars full of troops, it is said, came up to the station there, and by way of amusement; or experiment, a few ineffectual shots were fired at a distance of three miles from the steamboat captaining the pleasure party, which comprised several members and ex-members of Congress.

7 August 1861 – New York Times
Death of a New York Journalist
From the Scottish- American Journal

Among the gallant spirits of the Seventy-ninth Highlanders who fell at the battle of Bull run, on the 21st ult. We sincerely regret to have to announce the death of Mr. Robert Davidson. Mr. Davidson was sub-editor of this journal, with the exception of an interval from last October to last April, since its commencement until he left with the Seventy-ninth, for Washington, on the 1st of June; and the duties connected with that important department of journalism he ably and efficiently performed. Mr. Davidson was a native of Forfarshire, and served his apprenticeship to the printing business, we believe, in Arbroath, and subsequently became editor of one of the Berwick papers. Upon the issue of the unhappy war now devastating this country, he was enthusiastic, while his faith in the triumph of the National cause was unshaken; and, although of delicate frame and in poor health. It was impossible for us to restrain his desire to march with his corps to the field where he met his death. Mr. Davidson was a thorough Scotsman, and

took the deepest interest in the success of this journal, and communicated with us almost to the day of his death. We here quote his last brief note to us, written on, the inside of an envelope, upon the field of battle.
Bull Run, Near Centreville

J. Siewart, Esq. After a fatiguing march we arrived at Centreville yesterday. We were under fire for about half an hour in the afternoon engagement. Seventy-ninth had only one man wounded. Men behaved well. Will write as soon as I can. The regiment has received orders to fall in now. Hear there are stories of our being cut up. Don't believe them. Have no paper. Everything left behind. R. D.

Our personal relations with Mr. Davidson render this announcement a most painful one; but knowing our friend's ability, his worth, and his guileless character, this brief tribute to his memory is but a faint expression of our deep sympathy with his bereaved relations in Scotland.

7 August 1861 – New York Times
The Returned Ohio Regiment
Correspondence of the New York Times

Cleveland, Ohio, Friday, August 2, 1861 – On Tuesday last, the Brooklyn, Geneva, and four companies of Cleveland Light Artillery, Col. Barnett, returned from Western Virginia, and received such a reception as their services from Phillipps to Carrick's Ford merited. They are exceedingly well officered, and for many years have been thoroughly drilled companies.

On yesterday, Company E, (Cleveland Grays) Capt. Ensworth, First Regiment Ohio Volunteer Militia, who left for Washington on one day's notice, returned from as near Manassas as practicable. This is a favorite company, having been organized over twenty years, also well officered and remarkably proficient in drill. They also received a most hearty and enthusiastic welcome. This is one of the companies "dumped" into the masked battery near Vienna, and was in the rear regiment in falling back from the Bull Run battle of July 21. The Nineteenth Regiment from this section headed by Leland's celebrated band, also returned yesterday. Its leader brings a letter found in the rebel camp at Laurel Hill stating that a good band, belonging to the invaders, had the impudence to play Dixie under their very noses, and they were going to capture it. They did not stay to do it, however. It was the Nineteenth that the Georgians swore were regulars. Mainly of the artillery. Grays and Nineteenth, will reenlist during the rebellion. It is to be hoped that these valuable auxiliaries of war, drill and discipline, will be retained and brought again into service all over the country.
Champlain

8 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror
Special Order No. 176
Headquarters Corps 1st Army of the Potomac
Manassas, July 23rd 1861

The General Commanding has learned with regret, that after the brilliant victory achieved through the gallantry of the Confederate troops on the 21st inst., that arms, supplies, and munitions of war, have been appropriated by the inhabitants of the surrounding country, not attached to the army, whereby the Government suffers material loss in its ability to prosecute the war with such vigor as will drive the invaders from Virginia soil. The General cannot but believe that such acts have been done through ignorance that all such articles are the property of the government. It is therefore ordered:

I That all arms, horses, wagons, harness, munitions of war, and supplies and stores of all descriptions, so appropriated, shall be delivered to the nearest Commanding officer.

II That each commanding officer upon the receipt of such public property shall forthwith, deliver the same to the Quarter Master at Manassas Junction.

III That such persons as fail to comply with this order shall be dealt with in the most prompt and summary manner, according to Military law.

By command of Gen. Beauregard
Thomas Jordan, A. A. Gen'l

8 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror
The Coincidences

The battle of Waterloo was fought on Sunday. The battle of New Orleans was fought on Sunday. The battle of Buena Vista commenced on Sunday. The battle of Monterey was fought partly on Sunday. And last, and most important of all to us the battle of Bull Run, was fought on Sunday.

The battle of San Jacinto, which decided the independence of Texas, was fought on the 21st of April. The battle of Monterey was fought partly on the 21st of September. The battle of Buena Vista was fought partly on the 21st of February and the battle of Manassas was fought on the 21st of July.

8 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror
Scott's Promise Fulfilled

Gen. Scott some months since assured the Yankees that a portion at least of his army should be in Richmond during this month. That promise has been fulfilled. Three or four detachments of the advance guard have arrived, and reinforcements coming in daily. But O I most unfortunate Scott! O! disappointed traitor! They come not in triumph to your old mother State; but, the Lord be thanked, as Prisoners of War—the wounded to receive attention they do not deserve, and the others – well, we don't know what to say to them.

8 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror
Camp Berkeley, July 29, 1861

At a called meeting of the Champ Rifles, Capt. William N. Berkeley, on motion the following committee, to wit:

J. Milton McVeigh, John L. Hutchison, and J. G. Moore, to prepare a preamble and resolutions expressive of our grief at the loss of our brother in arms, S. H. Baker

The deceased, a native of Middleburg, and son of E. M. & Elizabeth Baker, aged twenty years, had by his gallant and courteous demeanor, endeared himself to every member of his company; and inasmuch as it has pleased Almighty God to remove him from our ranks, whilst nobly defending his natal soil in the celebrated battle of Bull Run, July 21st, 1861, Therefore –

Resolved, That we tender to the bereaved and afflicted family and relations, our heartfelt sympathy and condolence.

Resolved, That is the death of our comrade in arms who when mortally wounded, exclaimed “Onward, Champ Rifles,” and who, also, but a few hours prior to his dissolution, in a conversation with the chairman of this committee, manifested an earnest desire to know the result of the battle, and when informed of our victory, with a smile upon his countenance replied, “I am glad of it,” our ranks as well as our country sustained an irreparable loss in this eventful crisis of our history, and our sorrow is only relieved by the reflection, that our departed friend is in the hands of an all wise and merciful God.

Resolved, That the Democratic Mirror and Washingtonian be requested to publish the foregoing in their next issue.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

J. Milton McVeigh,
J. R. Hutchison
J. G. Moore

8 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror
The Great Battle
Reprinted from the Philadelphia Inquirer

The following is the best and most connected narrative of the battle, in brief, that we have met with – it is from the Philadelphia “Inquirer”

I have spent this morning in hearing the accounts of the battle from officers who actually participated in it in all parts of the field and during the whole day, and can, therefore, give you full particulars. The conflicting reports of last night arose from the fact that no less than three separate and distinct engagements took place during the day, in different parts of the field, and that the field of battle covers a space of ten miles in extent. The reconnaissance's that had been made on Friday and Saturday must have been made under such circumstances as to render the results uncertain and unsatisfactory. But whatever were results, Gen. McDowell determined to advance from Centreville and to attack the enemy's batteries on Bull Run, hoping to be able to turn them on the right to silence them, and then by a further advance to strike the Manassas Gap Railroad at a point near Bull Run Mountain, and so cut off Johnston, and prevent his communication with Beauregard. The attempt has been made, and it has resulted in a complete failure.

At two o'clock Sunday morning the troops were aroused from their slumbers, and formed in marching columns. The Second Division, Col. Hunter led the advance. The West Point Battery: a part of

the Fifth Regiment U. S. Artillery; the Second Rhode Island Regiment with their battery; a part of the Second Regiment U. S. Artillery, and Capt. Seymour's siege train of eight 32 pounder rifled cannon, headed the column. The moon was full, the sky without a cloud, and it was nearly as light as day. The First Division, Gen. Tyler, advanced at the same time, in a nearly parallel column; the Third Brigade, Col. Sherman, in advance; the Sixty-ninth New York, Col. Corcoran leading the van. The Seventy-ninth, Col. Cameron, followed, and the Second Brigade, Gen. Schenck, (the Ohio Regiments,) were close behind. By daybreak Bull's Run was reached. The batteries were placed in position, and our guns opened on the enemy's works. The firing was responded to by three batteries, and was kept up on both sides till 11, A. M. The enemy's fire then slackened, and afterwards entirely ceased. It was supposed, therefore, that their guns had been silenced, and a charge was ordered to carry the batteries. The charge was made, at a run, by the above regiments. There was a little though not much, resistance made by the musketry of the foe, and in a few minutes the batteries were ours, the few gunners there bayoneted at their guns, the Confederate flag torn down, and the Stars and Stripes raised. It was then McDowell sent that dispatch to Gen. Scott, announcing a glorious victory and the batteries in our possession. But our triumph was of short duration. The enemy had abandoned these batteries in order to lead us into a snare. In half an hour after we had taken the batteries, and while the men were resting from the fatigue, a terrific fire was opened upon them with musketry and cannon. The riflemen who were firing at us were also unseen.

The fire was so hot that our men found it impossible to stand it, and were compelled instinctively to abandon the batteries. They retired in good order, however, under cover of our artillery, which now again began to open upon the enemy, throwing shells towards their masked batteries, but without effect. At 3 P. M. our loss had been fearful. Colonel Cameron had been killed, General Schenck killed. Col Slocum killed and Col. Hunter wounded. Many other of our officers had been killed and whole regiments decimated. The enemy had not once showed himself up to this time. At three however, having silenced many of our guns, the enemy charged upon us in an overwhelming force. The troops stood gallantly, but the charge was irresistible, and we were compelled to retire. The artillery spiked their guns.

The excitement in the city was intense. A dispatch had been received by Gen. McDowell at the War Department, at 8 P. M., Sunday, requesting immediate reinforcements. All the regiments in the city were immediately ordered over, and by 2 o'clock this morning crossed the Long Bridge. All night long drums beat in the streets, and recruiting parties paraded the avenues, calling for volunteers to defend this capital. The firing of the heavy guns was distinctly heard in Washington during the evening.

This morning, soon after daylight, it became known that the disaster of Sunday had not ended with the light, but that new reverses had been experienced during the night. All this morning up to the time of writing (2 P. M., Monday,) straggling squads of soldiers have been pouring over the Long Bridge, and along Pennsylvania Avenue. They are all unwounded, but in every case covered with a thick coating of dust and sweat, their hair matted, their clothes torn and bloodstained, some armed and some unarmed. There are no less than 10,000 of them here, up to this time and they are still coming. Many of the men throw themselves down on door steps, on curb-stones and on the pavement, and faintly cry for water.

Since 10 o'clock Pennsylvania avenue has been crowded with them, and since that time measures have been taken for their relief. From many of the cross streets, people are running, bringing buckets of refreshments, bread, milk, water, coffee, &c. A soldier has just died. The men state that for three days they have had nothing to eat except crackers, and were all day yesterday without water, The men state that last night, after 10 o'clock the enemy advanced on Centreville in strong force, with mortars for throwing shells. That we were unprepared to resist them, and were compelled to retreat. That our army made a stand at Fairfax, but were driven out of that place, the shells pouring in upon them like hail; and the whole army is now in full retreat upon Washington.

The result of the battle yesterday has been the entire and complete defeat of our whole army. The loss of life in the battle alone will reach fully three thousand, and two thousand more will die of their wounds. The slightly wounded, severely wounded, and those wounded who will recover after amputation, amount so fully five thousand more. We have lost hundreds of prisoners, among them Col. McCook, First Regiment Ohio. Sherman's splendid battery had to be abandoned to the enemy. Previous to this abandonment however, the ----- say they spiked the pieces. The splendid battery of the Second Rhode Island Regiment is said to be dismounted and rendered entirely useless. The enemy captured our two large 32 pounders, and then turned them on our retreating columns. The horses attached to all the foregoing guns were cut loose, and brought off the field safely.

9 August 1861 – New York Times
General McDowell's Report
The Battle of Bull Run

Gen. McDowell's report of the battle at Bull Run adds nothing to what is already known of the general course and incidents of that engagement. But it gives, in admirably clear and becoming terms, a connected narrative of the transaction, and enables the public to judge somewhat more accurately of its character.

Gen. McDowell confirms the universal statement that down to 3 o'clock in the afternoon, our troops had succeeded in driving the enemy from his positions, and that a decisive victory deemed at that moment to be within our grasp. But those of our troops who were in the extreme front, and had borne the shock of three assaults from the enemy, bravely and successfully resisting them all, had become exhausted; and just at that critical period of the engagement, they were assailed in flank and rear by the newly-arrived forces of Gen. Johnston's command. This proved to be too much for them, and they gave way in some confusion. As all our disposable forces, except the reserves, were already engaged, this check was of course fatal, and compelled a retreat.

It seems from this, that the Southern journals are perfectly correct in saying that nothing but the opportune arrival of a portion of Johnston's command saved them from defeat. The Richmond Dispatch, of July 29, contains a letter from a distinguished officer engaged in the battle, which puts this fact in the strongest light. "There is no earthly doubt," he says, "that our Army was overcome several times between 12 and 3 and that the bulletins sent by the enemy are, in the main, correct." And in another part of his letter he gives the following explicit account of the manner in which the tide was turned:

"Already our lines upon the hill-top were giving way, but incited to fresh deeds of heroism by the appearance in their midst of our Generals, apparently bringing up reinforcements, they pitched into the fray with redoubled ardor, and from that time we yielded not an inch of ground. Gen. Beauregard, riding over to the left, took charge of operations there, displaying his reckless bravery by riding everywhere in the face of the enemy's fire, and having his horse killed beneath him, fortunately escaping uninjured himself. The tide of battle thus checked, away went Gen. Johnston's staff to hurry up the reserves and assign them to proper positions. The first were met two miles back, covered with dust, and coming at a double-quick. On they went, plunging into the midst of the fray, and the sunshine of certainty did not gleam from beneath the murky clouds until Gen. Kirby Smith arrived with a portion of his division upon the ground. Coming from Winchester he heard the roar of battle, and without waiting for orders he at once disembarked his men, Col. Elery's Brigade, and marched hurriedly to our assistance. Col. Kershaw and Col. Cash's regiments arrived upon the ground at the same moment, and with these four thousand men Gen. Smith promptly took the extreme left and turned the tide of battle. The enemy had so far turned our flank as to have gotten entirely behind us, and nearly 4,000 were marching up to attack us in the rear,"

Gen. McDowell, therefore says very justly at the close of his report: "Could we have fought a day, or even a few hours sooner, there is everything to show that we should have continued successful even against the odds with which we contended." The delay enabled the enemy to bring up, at the last moment, the very force which turned the tide. That force ought to have been held in check by Gen. Patterson, who has expressly ordered by Gen. Scott to perform that specific service and prevent a junction of the hostile forces. But even his lamentable and most culpable dereliction of duty might have been obviated, if the battle could have been fought on Saturday instead of Sunday: - and although Gen. McDowell says he could not have pushed on any more rapidly than he did, it is greatly to be regretted that the attempt was not made. On Thursday the troops marched only about six miles - from the vicinity of Fairfax Court House to Centreville, arriving before 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and encamping for the night. On Friday morning the whole force was compactly encamped there, well in hand and ready for service. The subsistence came up in the evening: - rations might have been distributed early in the morning, - and the advance could have been made before noon on that day quite as well as on the day after. In point of fact, however, nearly the whole of Saturday was spent in inactivity, Secretary Cameron going through the formality of reviewing several of the regiments, and Gen. McDowell being occupied mainly in endeavoring to persuade some of the regiments whose terms had expired, to remain. Of course, the importance of a few hours delay was not so justly appreciated then as it was afterwards: - if it had been, we are confident it could and would have been prevented.

9 August 1861 – New York Times

The Bull Run Battle

Gen. McDowell's Official Report of the Engagement

Head-Quarters, Department Northwestern Virginia, Arlington, Va. Aug. 4, 1861

Lieut. – Col. E. D. Townsend, Assistant Adjutant General

Head-quarters of the Army, Washington, D.C.

Colonel: I have the honor to submit the following report of the battle of the 21st of July, near Manassas, Va. It has been delayed till this time from the inability of the subordinate commanders to get earlier a true account of the state of their commands.

In my communication to you of the 20th ult., I stated it as my intention to move that afternoon, and drive the enemy from the east side of Bull Run, so as to enable the engineers to make a sufficiently accurate reconnaissance to justify our future movements. Later in the day they had obtained enough information on the passage across the stream to dispense with this reconnaissance and it was decided to move without delay. It had been my intention to move the several columns out on the road a few miles on the evening of the 20th, so that they would have a shorter march in the morning, but I deferred to those who had the greatest distance to go, and who preferred starting early in the morning, and making but one move.

On the evening of the 20th ult. My command was mostly at or near Centreville. The enemy was at or near Manassas, distant from Centreville about seven miles to the southwest. Centreville is a village of a few houses, mostly on the west side of a ridge running nearly north and south. The road from Centreville to Manassas Junction was along this ridge, and crosses Bull Run about three miles from the former place. The Warrenton turnpike which runs nearly east and west, goes over this ridge, through the village, and crosses Bull Run about four miles from it, Bull Run having a course between the crossing from northwest to southwest. The First Division, (Tyler's) was stationed on the north side of the Warrenton turnpike, and on the eastern slope of the Centreville ridge, two brigades on the same road, and a mile and a half in advance, to the west of the ridge, and one brigade on the road from Centreville to Manassas, where it crosses Bull Run, at Blackburn's Ford, where Gen. Tyler had the engagement on the 18th ult. The Second Division (Hunter's) was on the Warrenton Turnpike, one mile east of Centreville. The Third Division (Heintzelman's) was on a road known as the Old Braddock Road, which comes into Centreville from the southeast, about a mile and a half from the village. The Fifth Division (Miles) was on the same road with the Third Division, and between it and Centreville. A map which is herewith, marked A, will show these positions better than I can describe them.

On Friday night a train of subsistence arrived, and on Saturday its contents were ordered to be issued to the command, and the men required to have three days rations in their haversacks. On Saturday orders were issued for the available force to march. As reported to you in my letter of the 19th ult., my personal reconnaissance of the roads to the south had shown that it was not practicable to carry out the original plan of turning the enemy's position on their right. The affair of the 18th at Blackburn's Ford showed he was too strong at that point for us to force a passage there without great loss, and if we did that it would bring us in front of his strong position at Manassas, which was not desired. Our information was that the stone bridge, over which the Warrenton road crosses Bull Run, to the west of Centreville was defended by a battery in position, and the road on his side of the stream impeded by a heavy abattis. The alternative was, therefore, to turn the extreme left of his position. Reliable information was obtained of an undefended ford about three miles above the bridge, there being another ford between it and the bridge, which was defended. It was therefore determined to take the road to the upper ford, and after crossing, to get behind the forces guarding the lower ford and the bridge, and after occupying the Warrenton road east of the bridge, to send out a force to destroy the railroad at or near Gainesville, and thus break up the communication between the enemy's forces at Manassas and those in the valley of Virginia, before Winchester, which had been held in check by Major-Gen. Patterson.

Brig.-Gen. Tyler was directed to move with three of his brigades on the Warrenton road, and commence cannonading the enemy's batteries, while Hunter's Division, moving after him, should, after passing a little stream called Cub Run, turn to the right and north, and move around to the upper ford., and there turn south and get behind the enemy. Col. Heintzelman's Division was to follow Hunter's as far as the turning off place to the lower ford, where he was to cross after the enemy should have been driven out by Hunter's Division, the Fifth Division (Miles') to be in reserve on the Centreville ridge.

I had felt anxious about the road from Manassas by Blackburn's Ford to Centreville, along this ridge, fearing that whilst we should be in force to the front, and endeavoring to turn the enemy's position, we ourselves should be turned by him by this road; for if he should once obtain possession of this ridge,

which overlooks all the country to the west to the foot of the spurs of the Blue Ridge, we should have been irretrievably cut off and destroyed. I had, therefore, directed this point to be held in force, and sent an engineer to extemporize some field works to strengthen the position.

The Fourth Division (Runyon's) had not been brought to the front further than to guard our communications by way of Vienna and the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. His advanced regiment was about seven miles in the rear of Centreville.

The divisions were ordered to march at 2 ½ o'clock A. M., so as to arrive on the ground early in the day, and thus avoid the heat which is to be expected at this season. There was delay in the First Division getting out of its camp on the road, and the other divisions were in consequence between two and three hours behind the time appointed – a great misfortune, as events turned out. The wood road leading from the Warrenton turnpike to the upper ford was much longer than we counted upon, the general direction of the stream being oblique to the road, and we having the obtuse angle on our side.

Gen Tyler commenced with his artillery at 6 ½ A. M., but the enemy did not reply, and after some time it became a question whether he was many force in our front, and if he did not intend himself to make an attack, and make it by Blackburn's Ford. After firing several times, and obtaining no response, I held one of Heintzelman's Brigades in reserve in case we should have to send any troops back to reinforce Miles Division. The other brigades moved forward as directed in the general orders. On reaching the ford at Sudley's Spring, I found part of the leading brigade of Hunter's Division (Burnside's) had crossed, but the men were slow in getting over, stopping to drink. As at this time the clouds of dust from the direction of Manassas indicated the immediate approach of a large force, and fearing it might come down on the head of the column before the division could all get over and sustain it, orders were sent back to the heads of regiments to break from the column and come forward separately as fast as possible. Orders were sent by an officer to the reserve brigade of Heintzelman's Division to come by a nearer road across the fields, and an aid-de-camp was sent to Brig. Gen. Tyler to direct him to press forward his attack, as large bodies of the enemy were passing in front of him to attack the division which had crossed over. The ground between the stream and the road leading from Sudley's Spring south, and over which Burnside's Brigade marched, was for about a mile from the ford thickly wooded, whilst on the right of the road for about the same distance the country was divided between fields and woods. About a mile from the road the country on both sides of the road is open, and for nearly a mile further large rolling fields extend down to the Warrenton turnpike, which crosses what became the field of battle through the valley of a small water-course, a tributary of Bull Run.

Shortly after the leading regiment of the First Brigade reached this open space, and whilst others and the Second Brigade were crossing to the front and right, the enemy opened his fire, beginning with artillery, and following it up with infantry. The leading brigade (Burnside's) had to sustain this shock for a short time without support, and did it well. The battalion of regular infantry was sent to sustain it, and shortly afterwards the other corps of Porter's Brigade, and a regiment detached from Heintzelman's Division to the left, forced the enemy back far enough to allow Sherman's and Keyes' Brigades, of Tyler's Division, to cross from their position on the Warrenton road. These drove the right of the enemy, understood to have been commanded by Beauregard, from the front of the field, and out of the detached woods, and down to the road, and across it up the slopes on the other side. While this was going on, Heintzelman's Division was moving down the field to the stream and up the road beyond. Beyond the Warrenton road, and to the left of the road, down which our troops had marched from Sudley's Spring is a hill with a farm house on it. Behind this hill the enemy had, early in the day, some of his most annoying batteries planted. Across the road from this hill was another hill, or rather elevated ridge, or table of land. The hottest part of the contest was for the possession of this hill, with a house on it. The force engaged here was Heintzelman's Division, Wilcox's and Howard's Brigades on the right, supported by part of Porter's Brigade and the cavalry under Palmer, and Franklin's Brigade of Heintzelman's Division, Sherman's Brigade of Tyler's Division in the centre and up the road, whilst Keyes' Brigade of Tyler's Division was on the left, attacking the batteries near the stone bridge. The Rhode Island Battery of Burnside's Brigade also participated in this attack by the fire from the north of the turnpike. The enemy was understood to have been commanded by J. E. Johnston, Rickett's Battery, which did such effective service, and played so brilliant a part in this contest, was, together with Griffin's Battery, on the side of the hill, and became the object of the special attention of the enemy, who succeeded – our officers mistaking one of his regiments for one of our own, and allowing it to approach without firing upon it – in disabling the battery, and then attempted to take it. Three times was he repulsed by different corps in succession, and driven back, and the guns taken by hand, the horses being killed, and pulled away. The third time it was supposed by all that the

repulse was final, for he was driven entirely from the hill, and so far beyond it as not to be in sight, and all were certain the day was ours. He had before this been driven nearly a mile and a half, and was beyond the Warrenton road, which was entirely in our possession, from the stone bridge westward, and our engineers were just completing the removal of the abattis across the road, to allow our reinforcement (Schenck's Brigade and Ayre's Battery) to join us.

The enemy was evidently disheartened and broken. But we had been fighting since 10 ½ o'clock in the morning, and it was after 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The men had been up since 2 o'clock in the morning, and had made what to those unused to such things, seemed a long march before coming into action, though the longest distance gone over was not more than 9 ½ miles; and though they had three days provisions served out to them the day before, many no doubt either did not eat then, or threw them away on the march or during the battle, and were therefore without food. They had done much severe fighting. Some of the regiments which had been driven from the hill, in the first two attempts of the enemy to keep possession of it, had become shaken, were unsteady, and had many men out of the ranks.

It was at this time that the enemy's reinforcements came to his aid from the railroad train, understood to have just arrived from the valley with the residue of Johnston's army. They threw themselves in the woods on our right, and towards the rear of our right, and opened a fire of musketry on our men, which cause them to break and retire down the hillside. This soon degenerated into disorder, for which there was no remedy. Every effort was made to rally them even beyond the reach of the enemy's fire, but in vain. The battalion of regular infantry alone moved up the hill opposite to the one with the house on it, and there maintained itself until our men could get down to and across the Warrenton turnpike, on the way back to the position we occupied in the morning. The plain was covered with the retreating troops, and they seemed to infect those with whom they came in contact. The retreat soon became a rout, and this soon degenerated still further into a panic.

Finding this state of affairs was beyond the efforts of all those who had assisted so faithfully during the long and hard day's work in gaining almost the object of our wishes, and that nothing remained on the field but to recognize what we could no longer prevent, I gave the necessary orders to protect their withdrawal, begging the men to form in line, and offer the appearance, at least of organization. They returned by the fords to the Warrenton road, protected, by my order, by Col. Porter's force of regulars. Once on the road, and the different corps coming together in small parties, many without officers, they became intermingled, and all organization was lost.

Orders had been sent back to Miles Division for a brigade to move forward and protect this retreat, and Col. Blenker's Brigade was detached for this purpose, and was ordered to go as far forward as the point where the road to the right left the main road.

By referring to the general order it will be seen that, while the operations were to go on in front, an attack was to be made at Blackburn's Ford by the brigade (Richardson's) stationed there. A reference to his report, and to that of Maj. Hunt commanding the artillery will show that this part of the plan was well and effectively carried out. It succeeded in deceiving the enemy for a considerable time, and keeping in check a part of his force. The fire of the artillery at this point is represented as particularly destructive.

At the time of our retreat seeing great activity in this direction, much firing, and columns of dust, I became anxious for this place, fearing if it were turned or forced the whole stream of our retreating mass would be captured or destroyed. After providing for the protection of the retreat by Porter's and Blenker's Brigades, I repaired to Richardson's, and found the whole force ordered to be stationed for the holding of the road from Manassas by Blackburn's Ford to Centreville, on the march, under the orders from the Division Commander, for Centreville. I immediately hated it, and ordered it to take up the best line of defence across the ridge that their position admitted of, and subsequently taking in person the command of this part of the Army. I caused such disposition of the forces which had been added to by the First and Second New Jersey and the De Kalb Regiments, ordered up from Runyon's reserve, before going forward, as would best serve to check the enemy. The ridge being held in this way, the retreating current passed slowly through Centreville to the rear. The enemy followed us from the ford as far as Cub Run, and owing to the road becoming blocked up at the crossing, caused us much damage there, for the artillery could not pass, and several pieces and caissons had to be abandoned. In the panic the horses hauling the caissons and ammunition were cut from their places by persons to escape with, and in this way much confusion was caused, the panic aggravated, and the road encumbered. Not only were pieces of artillery lost, but also many of the ambulances carrying the wounded.

By sundown most of our men had gotten behind Centreville ridge, and it became a question whether we should or not endeavor to make a stand there. The condition of our artillery and its

ammunition, and the want of food for the men, who had generally abandoned or thrown away all that had been issued the day before, and the utter disorganization and consequent demoralization of the mass of the Army, seemed to all who were near enough to be consulted – Division and Brigade Commanders and Staff – to admit of no alternative but to fall back, the more so as the position at Blackburn's Ford was then in the possession of the enemy, and he was already turning our left. On sending the officers of the Staff to the different camps, they found, as they reported to me, that our decision had been anticipated by the troops, most of those who had come in from the front being already on the road to the rear, the panic with which they came in still continuing and hurrying them along.

At ___ o'clock the rear guard (Blenker's Brigade) moved, covering the retreat, which was effected during the night and next morning. The troops at Fairfax Station leaving by the cars took with them the bulk of the supplies which had been sent there. My Aid-de-Camp, Major Wadsworth, stayed at Fairfax Court House till late in the morning, to see that the stragglers and weary and worn-out soldiers were not left behind.

I transmit herewith the reports of the several Division and Brigade commanders, to which I refer for the conduct of particular regiments and corps, and a consolidated return of the killed, wounded and missing. From the latter it will be seen that our killed amounted to nineteen officers and four hundred and sixty-two non-commissioned officers and privates, and our wounded to sixty-four officers and nine hundred and forty-seven non-commissioned officers and privates. Many of the wounded will soon be able to join the ranks and will leave our total of killed and disabled from further service under one thousand. The return of the missing is very inaccurate, the men supposed to be missing having fallen into other regiments and gone to Washington – many of the Zouaves to New York. In one Brigade the number originally reported at six hundred and sixteen, was yesterday reduced to one hundred and seventy-four. These reductions are being made daily. In a few days a more correct return can be made.

Of course nothing accurate is known of the loss of the enemy. An officer of their force coming from them with a flag of truce ____ eighteen hundred killed and wounded and other information shows this to be much under the true number.

The officer commanding the Eleventh New York Zouaves and Col. Heintzelman, say that the returns of that regiment cannot be relied on, as many of those reported among the casualties have absented themselves since, their return, and have gone to New York. Among the missing reported are many of our surgeons, who remained in attendance on our wounded, and were against the rules of modern warfare, made prisoners.

The issue of this hard fought battle, in which certainly our troops lost no credit in their conflict on the field with an enemy ably commanded, superior in numbers, who had but a short distance to march; and who acted on his own ground, on the defensive and always under cover, whilst our men were of necessity on the open fields, should not prevent full credit being given to those officers and corps whose services merited success if they did not attain it.

To avoid repetition, I will only mention here the names of those not embraced in reports of division and brigade commanders. I beg to refer to their reports for the names of those serving under their immediate orders, desiring that on this subject they be considered as part of my own. I claim credit for the officers of my staff and for those acting as such during the day. They did everything in their power, exposing themselves freely when required, and doing all that men could do, communicating orders, guiding the columns, exhorting the troops, rallying them when broken, and providing for them the best the circumstances admitted. They are as follows:

First Lieut. H. W. Kingsbury, Fifth Artillery, Aid-de-Camp.

Major Clarence S. Brown, New York Militia Volunteers, Aid-de-Camp.

Major James S. Wadsworth, New York Militia Volunteers, Aid-de-Camp. The latter, who does me the honor to be on my personal staff, had a horse shot under him in the hottest of the fight.

Capt. James B. Fry, Assistant Adjutant General

Capt. O. H. Tillinghast, Assistant Quartermaster, who discharged alone the important and burdensome duties of his department with the Army, and who was mortally wounded while acting with the artillery to which he formerly belonged, and in which he was deeply interested.

Capt. H. F. Clark, Chief of Subsistence Department.

Major Meyer, Signal Officer, and Major Malcolm McDonald, who acted as Aids.

Surgeon W. S. King and Assistant-Surgeon Magruder, Medical Department.

Major J. G. Barnard, Engineer, and senior of his Department with the Army, gave most important aid.

First Lieutenant Fred S. Prime, Engineer

Capt. A. W. Whipple
 First Lieutenant H. L. Abbott and Second Lieutenant H. S. Putnam, Topographical Engineers.
 Major W. F. Barry, Fifth Artillery, Chief of Artillery.
 Lieut. George C. Strong, Ordnance Officer
 Major W. H. Wood, First Infantry, Acting Inspector General
 Second Lieutenant Guy Henry, who joined me on the field and was of service as an Aid-de-Camp
 The following officers commanded divisions and brigades and in the several places their duty called them
 did most effective service and behaved in the most gallant manner:
 Brig.-Gen. Tyler, Connecticut Volunteers
 Col. David Hunter, Third Cavalry, severely wounded at the head of his division.
 Col. S. P. Heintzelman, Seventeenth Infantry, wounded in the arm while leading division into action on the
 hill
 Brig. Gen. Schenck, Ohio Volunteers, commanding Second Brigade, First Division
 Col. E. D. Keys, Eleventh Infantry, commanding First Brigade, First Division
 Col. W. P. Franklin, Twelfth Infantry, First Brigade, Third Division
 Col. W. T. Sherman, Thirteenth Infantry, commanding Third Brigade, First Division
 Col. Andrew Porter, Sixteenth Infantry, commanding First Brigade, Second Division
 Col. A. E. Burnside, Rhode Island Volunteers, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division
 Col. O. B. Wilcox, Michigan Volunteers, commanding Second Brigade, Third Division, who was wounded
 and taken prisoner while on the hill, in the hottest of the fight.
 Col. O. O. Howard, Maine Volunteers, commanding Third Brigade, Third Division
 Col. J. B. Richardson, Michigan Volunteers, commanding Fourth Brigade, First Division
 Col. Blenker, New York Volunteers, commanding First Brigade, Fifth Division
 Col. Davies, New York Volunteers, commanding Second Brigade, Fifth Division

As my position may warrant, even if it does not call, for some explanation of the causes, as far as
 they can be seen, which led to the results herein stated, I trust it may not be out of place if I refer in a few
 words to the immediate antecedents of the battle. When I submitted to the General-in-Chief, in compliance
 with his verbal instructions, the plan of operations and estimate of force required, the time I was to proceed
 to carry it into effect was fixed for the 8th July, Monday. Every facility possible was given me by the
 General-in-Chief and heads of the administrative department in making the necessary preparations. But the
 regiments owing I was told to want of transportation, came over slowly. Many of them did not come across
 till eight or nine days after the time fixed upon, and went forward without my even seeing them, and
 without having been together before in a brigade. The sending reinforcements to Gen. Patterson, by
 drawing off the wagons, was a further and unavoidable cause of delay. Notwithstanding the Herculean
 efforts of the Quartermaster-General, and his favoring me in every way, the wagons for ammunition,
 subsistence, &c. and the horses for the trains and the artillery, did not all arrive for more than a week after
 the time appointed to move. I was not even prepared as late as the 15th ultimo, and the desire I should not, if
 possible, delay longer than Tuesday, the 16th ultimo. When I did set out, on the 16th, I was still deficient in
 wagons for subsistence. But I went forward, trusting to their being procured in time to follow me. The
 trains thus hurriedly gathered together, with horses, wagons, drivers and wagon masters, all new and
 unused to each other, moved with difficulty and disorder, and was the cause of a day's delay in getting the
 provisions forward, making it necessary to make on Sunday the attack we should have made on Saturday.

I could not, with every exertion, get forward with the troops earlier than we did. I wished to go to
 Centreville and second day, which would have taken us there on the 17th, and enabled us, so far as they
 were concerned, to go into action on the 19th, instead of the 21st; but when I went forward from Fairfax
 Court-house, beyond Germantown, to urge them forward, I was told it was impossible for the men to march
 further. They had only come from Vienna, about six miles, and it was not more than six and a half miles
 further to Centreville – in all a march of twelve and a half miles; but the men were foot weary, not so much,
 I was told, by the distance marched, as the time they had been on foot, caused by the obstructions in the
 road and the slow pace we had to move to avoid ambushes. The men were, moreover, unaccustomed to
 marching, their bodies not in condition for that kind of work, and not used to carrying even the load of light
 marching order.

We crossed Bull Run with about 18,000 men of all arms, the Fifth Division (Miles and
 Richardson's Brigade) on the left, at Blackburn's Ford to Centreville, and Schenck's Brigade, of Tyler's
 division, on the left of the road, near the Stone Bridge, not participating in the main action. The numbers
 opposed to us have been variously estimated, I may safely say, and avoid even the appearance of

exaggeration, that the enemy brought up all he could which were not kept engaged elsewhere. He had notice of our coming on the 17th, and had from that time until the 21st to bring up whatever he had. It is known that in estimating the force to go against Manassas, I engaged not to have to do with the enemy's forces under Johnston then kept in check in the valley by Major-Gen. Patterson, or those kept engaged by Major-Gen. Butler, and I know every effort was made by the General-in-Chief that this should be done, and that even if Johnston joined Beauregard, it would not be because he could be followed by Gen. Patterson, but from causes not necessary for me to refer to, if I knew them all. This was not done, and the enemy was free to assemble from every direction, in numbers only limited by the amount of his railroad rolling stock and his supply of provisions. To the forces, therefore, we drove in from Fairfax Court-house, Fairfax Station, Germantown and Centreville, and those under Beauregard at Manassas, must be added those under Johnston from Winchester, and those brought up by Davis from Richmond authorities which was ordered to assemble at Manassas. What all this amounted to, I cannot say – certainly much more than we attached them with.

I could not, as I have said, more early push on faster, nor could I delay. A large and the best part of my forces were three months volunteers, whose term of service was about to expire, but who were sent forward as having long enough to serve for the purpose of the expedition. On the eve of the battle the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment of volunteers, and the battery of volunteer artillery of the New York Eighth Militia, whose term of service expired, insisted on their discharge. I wrote to the regiment, expressing a request for them to remain a short time, and the Hon. Secretary of War, who was at the time on the ground, tried to induce the battery to remain at least five days. But in vain. They insisted on their discharge that night. It was granted; and the next morning, when the Army moved forward into battle these troops moved to the rear to the sound of the enemy's cannon.

In the next few days, day by day, I should have lost ten thousand of the best armed, drilled, officered and disciplined troops in the Army. In other words, every day which added to the strength of the enemy made us weaker.

In conclusion, I desire to say, in reference to the events of the 21st ult., that the general order for the battle to which I referred was, with slight modifications, literally conformed to; that the corps were brought over Bull Run in the manner proposed, and put into action as before arranged, and that up to late in the afternoon every movement ordered was carrying us successfully to the object we had proposed before starting – that of getting to the railroad leading from Manassas to the valley of Virginia, and going on it far enough to break up and destroy the communication and interviews between the forces under Beauregard and those under Johnston. And could we have fought a day, or a few hours sooner, there is everything to show how we could have continued successful, even against the odds with which we contended.

I have the honor to be very respectfully, your obedient servant;

Irwin McDowell
Brigadier General, Commanding

**10 August 1861 – New York Times
Richmond Correspondent to the Charleston Courier
The Prisoners**

In conversation with one of the wounded prisoners this morning, I remarked to him – Stranger, there is no disposition in this country to exult over a fallen enemy: but, if it is not impertinent, I should like to ask you a question. “what did you expect when you left Washington?” – “Well” replied the soldier “we were told that our scouts could whip all the force you had at Fairfax and Centreville; that we should have a small skirmish at Bull Run, and probably a smart brush at Manassas, from which place we expected to go on to Richmond.”

“Then you had no thought of defeat?” – “Not the slightest. The word wasn't uttered, and nobody believed defeat to be possible. When we got to Fairfax, we found what had been told us true there; when we reached Centreville it was true there, and when we arrived at Bull Run we had what was expected to be a skirmish there; but by --,” continued the saint, “If that is what you call a skirmish, what in hell do you call a battle?”

Among the prisoners is a noble-looking and intelligent Zouave, one of the few decent exceptions of the crew. I saw him on the field, just after he was taken. While passing a group of our men one of the latter called him some hard name. “Sir,” said the Zouaves, turning on his heel and looking the Virginian

full in the eye, "I have heard that yours was a nation of gentlemen, but your insult comes from a coward and a knave. I am your prisoner, but (a few words illegible) your curses upon me (illegible)

I need not add that the Virginian sank away under the merited rebuke for that (illegible) soldiers generously gathered around the prisoner and assured him of protection from further insult."

12 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin Experiences of Union Men in Virginia

We heard a statement, to-day, of Mr. H. C. Strunk, recently a resident of Bath County, Va., but now living on Olive Street, in this city, in which he graphically sketched his exit from the Old Dominion last May. Mr. Strunk is a Chester County man by birth, but removed to Bath County, Va., for the sake of his wife's health, the mineral springs in that region being quite famous. He had resided there several years, and was doing very well up to the 23rd of last May. On that day, at the election, he voted for Virginia to stay in the Union, his vote being the only one for the Union out of from 125 to 150 generally given at that poll. There were about fifty men who would have liked to have voted for the Union in his district, but they had no backing and were afraid to do so. As soon as Mr. Strunk had deposited his vote, a "Squire" exclaimed "that's the only Union vote here to-day;" whereupon Mr. S. was assailed by two persons, flung down a rocky bank, and brutally maltreated. His forehead yet bears the marks of the cuts then received. He was then threatened with shooting, but on motion of a New Yorker who resided there, he was given three hours to leave the county and the State, the threats being endorsed by a crowd of Secessionists. Mr. S. had just time to get his wife ready and hurry away, leaving his house and farm of 175 acres, with the crops in the ground and his blooded stock in the fields, and the stable. The results of years of toil were thus dissipated, and he left his home \$2,000 poorer than he had been before depositing his vote. In personal property his loss is \$1,000. This he will hardly ever see again, though he expects to get his farm back when the rebellion is crushed out.

Mr. Strunk took the cars with his wife, at Millborough Depot, and came to Staunton, being insulted coarsely on the way by some acquaintances, who told him "he ought to have been hung long ago." He stopped at Staunton one day, and then came through to Manassas Junction, in a car full of drunken rollicking soldiers. At Manassas he and his wife had to stay in the cars with the soldiers all night, but got through safely to Alexandria at last.

Mr. S., on his way towards Alexandria, became acquainted with a Mr. W. H. Frear, who had been living in Virginia for seventeen years, but who had been driven from his home on the North Carolina border, leaving \$20,000 worth of property behind. He was a Union man and a Northerner. Mr. S. also met other refugees, and described their flight. One man made out a conditional deed for his property and left it in charge of a hired man who is to keep it in case the owner is never allowed to come back. Many other cases were equally distressing, and their relation would serve the arms of every Federal soldier, could they hear them related.

14 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror \$100 REWARD

For the delivery to me of my man BEVERLY. He is about 27 years old, color black, near six feet high, face covered with short beard and moustache, large eyebrows and large eye-lashes. He probably travels in a dark gray mixed summer coat, or blue cloth with brass buttons, and carpet bag. He says he has read Shakespeare, and may travel with a forged pass. He has relations at Mrs. Dr. Frank Talliaferro, in Orange, and acquaintances at Mr. Ariss Buckner's in Loudoun, and in King George and in Westmoreland, though he may take a more direct route to the enemy through Stafford and Prince William. The above Reward will be paid if taken over fifty miles from home – otherwise \$50

A. N. Bernard
Fredericksburg, Va.

14 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror Canadian Sympathy

The Canadian papers avow a solid satisfaction at the Yankee defeat at Manassas. They say that the bluster, braggartism and arrogances of the Yankees had disgusted every body, and that the whole world will hear with pleasure of their discomfiture. We may infer from this what will be the reception of Manassas in London.

14 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror

McDowell's Report

Capt. Roger's artillery

Manassas Rumor

The Hessian General, McDowell, the chief jockey at the Bull Run Races on the 21st July, has rendered his official report. It is a very lengthy paper, and the author has manifested a loose taste for starting facts. He says nothing about that three millions of property that we captured, and foots up his loss in killed, wounded and missing at less than 1,500. He admits, however, that the Grand Army was so completely routed, panic stricken and demoralized, that he could do nothing with it.

A rumor was rife on our streets Monday evening said to have been brought from Manassas, to the effect that the recognition of the Southern Confederacy by England had been officially announced to the Confederate Congress on Saturday. Of course it created quite a commotion, and there were not a few who believed it correct, but as the Richmond papers of Monday make no mention of it, we presume it may be set down, as most rumors of the day – false. England and France we have not the shadow of doubt, will both recognize us before long, but neither, we think, are likely to be very hasty about it.

Capt. Roger's Artillery – This company has received of the trophies taken at Manassas besides a Parrott rifled Cannon an Artillery Forge or Blacksmith Shop on wheels – which is a most ingenious Yankee invention. It has anvil, bellows, tools, wrenches, and all other smiting arrangements complete for artillery purposes, and at the time of its capture contained upwards of three hundred readymade horse shoes. This company is new stationed at Fairfax C. H. and attached to Gen. Longstreet's Brigade.

14 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror

Report of Capt. Welby Carter's Company

Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch

Fauquier County, August 1st. – I have seen several requests in your paper to Captains of companies to send the lists of the killed and wounded in the Manassas battle, which requests would have been complied with, but Cavalry companies are kept on the outposts, on the alert, scouting, and have little leisure for wielding the pen, when their duty is to the sword. I hope, therefore, it will not be considered out of place for the weaker sex to discharge that duty. I will endeavor to make my report as succinct as possible, as she fault with ladies is they are too prolix. It is with no desire to puff the company that I write, as I have no relatives in it, and I am not a resident of the State.

Col. J. E. B. Stuart arranged the companies so that the first organized were in advance; the oldest being Capt. Carter's as it was a company prior to John Brown's invasion. At the time when the New York Zouaves were attempting to out flank Capt. Imboden's Battery, (which had done such able service,) Col. Stuart give the order to charge to the Cavalry, which was gallantly and daringly obeyed by the Loudoun Cavalry. Leaping a fence, and through balls thick enough to blind them, they succeeded in breaking the lines of the Zouaves, who were around Sherman's battery, which rendered that an easy conquest afterwards.

This was the only company who charged at that time, owing it is thought to the fact that the Clark Cavalry did not understand the command; hence the dreadful havoc in Captain Carter's ranks, who charged forward with only thirty-three men. (Messrs J. T. Carter, Gus Carter, T. Leath, C. Shamblin, Plaster, and F. Carter having been detailed on other duty, were absent,) Of the first four in front, (Sergeants and Corporals, Enoch McCarty, James Francis, John DeButts and Robert Fletcher,) the first were killed instantly, riddled with balls. – in their right arms; badly wounded. – Captain Carter led them until his horse was shot and his clothes torn in shreds from their balls. He remounted in a few moments. The others killed were Stephen Cornell, leaves a wife (poor) and ten children, J. H. Plaster, C. F. Dowell, Lang, and John Hicks, of Maryland. The others wounded were James Baker, of Middleburg, dangerously; L. P. Wilson, wounded, (taken prisoner and regained by the taking of fifteen Federal prisoners;) Grubb, Thos. Shamblin, Mr. Moore of Leesburg, Jos. Thomas (not dangerously wounded), Bird Carter, Missing – Willie Wilson of Martinsburg, horse killed and supposed to be taken prisoner.

The remnant of this brave little band are doing the duty equal to a whole company, within a few miles of the enemy below Fairfax. They had to be reinforced in horses, as six, besides those mentioned, were killed. I must close, though the bravery of all the Southern soldiers is a fitting theme for the troubadours of old to chant.

A SOUTHERN LADY

15 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

A Plucky Professor

Some civilians went to Manassas not only to see but to aid in the fight. Professor F. W. Bardwell, of Antioch College, went over into Virginia to see a squad of Antioch boys serving in the Ohio Second, and not desiring to leave the field “to the sound of the enemy’s cannon,” he took a musket, joined the ranks, and fought through all the battle from Friday morning till Sunday night. The boys say he was “brave as Julius Caesar.” That’s the sort of spectator’s that we want at our battles.

16 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

Prince Napoleon’s Visit to Manassas

Washington, August 9. – Late this evening Prince Napoleon returned with his suite and the French Ministers, from Manassas. He rode from Fairfax to Manassas with four of the United States horses in the hands of the enemy. Three regiments of cavalry and four of the rebel infantry held possession of Fairfax. When it was known at Manassas that Prince Napoleon was coming the enthusiasm was wild.

Gen. Beauregard and Gen. Johnston are both at Manassas. They received the Prince with the greatest possible respect. He arrived at about 11 o’clock last evening, and breakfasted with these generals. All their pressing invitations and entreaties that he would just go on to Richmond and see President Davis, the Prince firmly declined.

The fortifications of Manassas are formidable, and our guns, particularly those of “Sherman’s Battery,” formed an important part of the defence. Gen. Beauregard informed the Prince that he captured sixty-two guns at the battle of Bull Run. The baggage wagons taken at that contest were standing around in all directions. The dead were not properly buried. They were simply put under ground, and some of the feet were seen above.

The soldiers in Manassas were very numerous, but very poorly dressed. The captains wore Linsey pants, with shirts bound with yellow tape. Some of these had added to the slouched hats the desecrations of the dead officers.

At departing, the rebels gave the Prince a salute with the United States guns. On his return to Fairfax, Col. Stewart approached the carriage of the Prince and said, “I hope you like our fortifications, Prince.” “O, pretty well.” “I hope, “ he said again, “You will interfere for us when you get home.” The diplomatic Prince shrugged his shoulders as he replied, “I know nothing.”

N.Y. Times

17 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

Prince Napoleon in Virginia

Accounts of his Visit to Manassas

Washington, August 9. – Prince Napoleon left this city to-day for New York. His visit to Manassas has provoked a great deal of comment. The French Minister and Secretary of Legation went with him, under the pass of Secretary Seward. They were gone forty eight hours, during which time they examined the battle-field of Bull Run, and spent a night within the rebel lines at Manassas. They had an interview with Gen. Beauregard, who treated them with great attention.

Although every member of Prince Napoleon’s suite was forbidden to speak of the incidents of his visit to Manassas, the Prince himself had an interview after he got back with Gen. McClellan, but with no other. The colored coachman made public what is known of the princely visit at Alexandria. Col. Franklin furnished him with four United States horses. He dined that day with the Rebel Col. Stewart, at Fairfax, who gave him for a change of horses four captured at Bull Run. Reaching Manassas late that night, he was received by Gen. Johnston, who sent to Manassas for Gen. Beauregard, who arrived early in the morning.

The Prince was very much fawned upon. The conversation between him and Beauregard was in French, the latter interpreting remarks made by other officers. One reason to induce the Prince to go on to Richmond was, that “Our Congress is now in session, and we wish you to compare our Legislators with those at Washington.” At Fairfax on his return, Col. Stewart said to him: “I hope your country will not interfere in this contest. With no outside interference we are able to take care of ourselves.” The Prince did not commit himself in his reply.

The rebels profess to have 80,000 troops at Manassas and boundless reinforcements behind. The Maryland Regiment is camped three miles this side of Fairfax, and their pickets extend a mile further. This regiment is very shabbily dressed; worse than those at Manassas. A large number are barefoot. The colored driver of the Prince is well acquainted with Gen. Johnston, who greeted him kindly. He was given in charge

of a soldier, but allowed to walk about a pleasure. He was asked no questions by officers, but quizzed unmercifully by soldiers sent to him for that purpose.

He was asked about the force and fortifications here; what force there is at the Bridges, and particularly if the northern part of the city is well defended; If there are any troops at Silver Spring, the Blair place. This driver was sent for by the President, to day, who simply asked him questions about our lost wagons and stores.

19 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin
Later From Europe – Arrival of the Steamer Bohemian
The Bull Run News in England

Father Point, August 18. – The steamship Bohemian, with Liverpool dates to the 8th inst., passed here this evening on her way to Quebec. The Steamship City of Washington and Hibernian arrived out on the 8th inst.

The Bull Run News

The news of the Bull Run battle was received on the 4th inst., and caused a profound sensation. The Northern Americans were much depressed, and the Southerners correspondingly exulted, causing almost a collision in the Liverpool News room.

Mr. Russell's letter to the "Times" was confined to graphic details of the rout of the Northern army, which he calls a cowardly rout, a miserable, causeless panic, and disgraceful to men in uniform and not soldiers.

The Times says, editorially, that the victory was not a complete one. The Union army lost all, even their military honor, and wishes to find something in it to congratulate either the victors or the vanquished, but sees nothing but what must stimulate the evil passion of both combatants.

The Daily News denounces the Times' criticisms, but says that nothing happened which was not anticipated as possible.

All the journals think that the event has closed the door to compromise, and must embitter and prolong the contest.

A Paris letter says that the success of the Southerners has powerfully operated on the opinion of the Parisians in favor of the Secessionists.

An anonymous advertisement appears in the Liverpool Post for a shilling subscription for a testimonial to Beauregard for his skillful generalship.

The London Herald says that a report has been received that Napoleon, on the receipt of intelligence of the defeat of the Northern army, decided to recognize the Southern Confederacy. The statement is believed to be unfounded.

The London Times has another article bitterly sarcastic on the Battle of Bull Run, and says that there must arise gathering doubts that the Southern nut is too hard to crack, and that the military line as a matter of business does not answer. The same article ridicules and laughs at the threats of the prominent New York journals against England. It fears that the question of the blockade may involve England in some difficult complication. The Times remarks that "there is a little cloud which, although only as large as a man's hand, may come to overshadow the whole sky."

19 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin
Escape of a Virginian
From the Syracuse Journal

The following are copies of letters to Miss Sylvia Eastman, of this city, from her brother, late of the Prince William Cavalry, in the Rebel Army.

Washington, July 25, 1861. – Once more I have the liberty and opportunity to write you. We have seen rather serious times in Old Virginia, during the last three months, though, as yet, our family have not suffered particularly. Russell, you know, has belonged to the Prince William Cavalry for more than a year when the war broke out. April 23rd, he was ordered out to join the Secession army, but I would go as his substitute. Therefore I went into the Southern army, but for the safety of the family only. Last week the militia were ordered out, and then he would have to go anyway. On my way to Dumfries, where I was sent with dispatches, I stopped at home and told him, also gave him directions how to escape. After he was safely away, I deserted, and am now here, bound to be revenged. I ant to get up a company of as desperate fellows as ever looked down the muzzle of a gun, and go right forward with the Federal Army. Quite a number are ready, here, and if you know of any such, your way, write me, and I will come after them.

July 31st. – I received your letter this morning, and answer immediately, as I know not when I shall again have time to write. You wished me to send a message home for you immediately. It will be impossible to do so until Manassas Junction is taken; then I hope we can communicate with home as often as we wish.

In my last I did not tell you how I managed to get away, I believe, and I will do so now. First, Russell and C., together with McLamb's boys, left, as I directed, but the latter, poor fellows! Were taken prisoners. The succeeders would have given considerable to have caught them all, but Russell and Will put their clothes on a raft and swam Occoquan Bay, pushing the raft before them, and so bravely escaped. After losing their way several times, and lying in the woods two nights, they at length arrived here in safety, upon learning which I followed suit. I was then sent down to the river to withdraw the guard. Leaving my horse, I walked about three miles to where they were stationed, and when they had gone, went out into a field where some negroes were at work, and ordered them to follow me. We went into a fish house and took out a boat, which, when put in the water, leaked faster than I could bail with a large pail. We then went in search of old clothes, and finally succeeded in caulking it pretty well. One negro got in with me and we started on our voyage with nothing except two pieces of board we found on the shore. We succeeded in this way very well for a mile or so, when there came up a gale and we were obliged to go ashore again. We laid down for an hour, then started again. This time we got along better, and finally landed five miles above, this side of Occoquan Bay, about one o'clock A.M. We spent the rest of the night in a field, under a shock of rye, out of the rain. In the morning again took up the line of march, and walking fifteen miles to Accotink, where I arrived about eleven o'clock, without having had anything to eat since six o'clock of the morning before.

You can imagine my condition after going without food so long, and walking and working as I had. We are all doing well enough at present, however, so you need feel no more anxiety on our account. We left the crops harvested, with no one to draw them in or thresh them. I had no opportunity to go home after clothes or anything, and am in rather destitute circumstances; but that I don't mind any, as I am now getting wages enough for my wants.

They talk some of making me guide for one division of the army, and I may have to move soon. It is yet uncertain.

Your affectionate brother
H. F. Eastman

20 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

The Battle of Bull Run

W. H. Russell's Letter in Full

From the London Times

July 22. – I sit down to give an account – not of the action yesterday, but of what I saw with my own eyes, hitherto not often deceived, and of what I heard with my own ears, which, in this country, are not so much to be trusted. Let me, however, express an opinion as to the affair of yesterday. In the first place, the repulse of the Federalists, decided as it was, might have had no serious effects whatever beyond the mere failure – which, politically, was of greater consequence than it was in a military sense – but for the disgraceful conduct of the troops. The retreat on their lines at Centreville seems to have ended in a cowardly rout – a miserable, causeless panic. Such scandalous behavior on the part of soldiers I should have considered impossible, as with some experience of camps and armies I have never even – alarms among camp followers seen the like of it. How far the disorganization of the troops extended I know not; but it was complete in the instance of more than one regiment. Washington this morning is crowded with soldiers without officers, who have fled from Centreville, and with “three months' (–en),” who are going home from the face of the enemy on the expiration of their term of enlistment. The streets, in spite of the rain, are crowded by people with anxious faces, and groups of wavering politicians are assembled at the corners, in the hotel passages, and the bars. If in the present state of the troops the Confederates were to make a march across the Potomac above Washington, turning the works at Arlington, the capital might fall into their hands. Delay may face that event out of the range of probability.

The North will, no doubt, recover the shock. Hitherto, she has only said, “Go and fight for the Union.” The South has exclaimed, “Let us fight for our rights.” The North must put its best men into the battle, or she will inevitably fall before the energy, the personal hatred, and the superior fighting powers of her antagonist. In my letters (---) in my conversation, I have endeavored to show that the task which the Unionists have set themselves is one of no ordinary difficulty; but in the (___) state of arrogance and

supercilious confidences, other real or affected to conceal a sense of weakness, one might as well have preached to the pyramid of Cheops.

Indeed, one may form some notion of the condition of the public mind by observing that journals conducted avowedly by men of disgraceful personal character – the be-whipped, and (be---ked), and unrecognized pariahs of society in New York – are, nevertheless, in the very midst of impulse and defeat, permitted to indulge in ridicules rodomontade toward the nations of Europe, and to move our laughter by impotently malignant attacks on “our rotten old monarchy,” while (---e) stones of their bran-new Republic are tumbling about their ears. It will be amusing to observe the change of tone, for we can afford to observe and to be amused at the same time.

On Saturday night I resolved to proceed to Gen. McDowell’s army, as it was obvious to me that the repulse at Bull Run, and the orders of the general directed against the excesses of his soldiers (adi –ted) serious defects in his army – not more serious, however, than I had reason to believe existed. How to get out was the difficulty. The rumors of great disaster and repulse had spread through the city. The livery stable keepers, with one exception, refused to send out horses to the (--ne) of action – at least, the exception told (--so). Senators and Congressmen were going to make a day of it, and all the vehicles and horses that could be procured were in acquisition for the scene of action. This curiosity was aroused by the story that McDowell had been actually ordered to make an attack on Manassas, and that Gen. Scott had given him till (--o’clock) to be master of Beauregard’s lines. If Gen. Scott ordered the attack at all, I venture to (--he) was merely the mouthpiece of the more violent civilians of the Government, who mistake (---ensity) of feeling for military strength. The consequences of the little skirmish at Bull Run, (--ding) in the repulse of the Federalists, were much exaggerated, and their losses were put down many figures the fancy of the individual item (--was) speaking suggested. “I can assure you, (--), that the troops had 1,500 killed and wounded; “I know it.” I went off to the headquarters, and are Gen. Scott’s Aid informed me that General McDowell’s official report gave six killed and thirty-seven wounded. The livery keepers stuck to (--1,500 or 2,000). The greater the number hors combat, the higher the tariff for the hire of (--adrupeds.) All I could do was to get a kind of (--riole,) with a seat in front for the driver, to which a pole was affixed for two horses, at a (Dar--) day price, and strong led horse, which Indian experiences have induced me always to rely upon the neighborhood of uncertain fighting. I had to enter into an agreement with the owner to pay for horses and buggy if they were “captured or injured by the enemy,” and thought I smiled at the precautions, they proved not quite unreasonable. The master made no provision for (in---nnity) in the case of injury to the driver, or the colored boy who rode the saddle horse.

When I spoke with officers at Gen. Scott’s headquarters of the expedition, it struck me they were not at all sanguine about the results of the day, until one of them said as much as induced me to (--ok) he would advise me to remain in the city, if I () did not take it for granted it was part of my (--y) to go to the scene of action. An English gentleman who accompanied me was strongly (dis---ded) from going by a colonel of cavalry on the (---f), because, he said, “the troops are green, and no one can tell what may happen.” But my friend () his pass from Gen. Scott, who was taking the whole affair of Bull Run and the pressure of the (---rrow’s) work with perfect calm, and we started on Sunday morning – not so early as we ought, perhaps, which was none of my fault – for Centreville, distant about 25 miles southwest of Washington. I purposed starting in the beautiful moonlight, so as to arrive at McDowell’s camp in the early dawn, but the aides could not or would not () us the countersign over the Long Bridge, and without it no one could get across until after five o’clock in the morning. When McDowell moved away, he took so many of the troops about Arlington that the camps and forts are rather denuded (---men). I do not give, as may be observed, the (--nes) of regiment unless in special cases – first, cause they possess little interest, I conceive for () in Europe who read these letters; and (-ondly), because there is an exceedingly complex system – at least to a foreigner – of nomenclature in the forces, and one may make a mistake between a regiment of volunteers and a regiment of (--te) militia of the same number, or even of (---lars) in the lower figures. The soldiers (--ging) about the forts and over the Long Bridge across the Potomac were an exceedingly (--empt), “loafing” set of fellows, who handled (---r) firelocks like pitchforks and spades, and I doubt if some of those who read or tried to read papers could understand them, as they certainly to not speak English. The Americans possess excellent working materials, however, and I have the occasion repeatedly to remark the rapidity and (---) with which they construct earthworks. At the Virginia side of the Long Bridge there is now very strong tete de pent, supported by the (regu---) redoubt on the hill over the road. These (---ks) did not appear to be strongly held, but it is (---sible) men were in the tents near at hand, (de---ed) though they seemed, and at all events (--nforcements) could be speedily poured in if necessary.

The long and weary way was varied by different pickets along the road, and by the examination of the papers and passes at different points. But the (---try) looked vacant in spite of crops of Indian (--), for the houses were shut up, and the few (Indi—ous) people whom we met looked most blackly (---er) their brows at the supposed Abolitionists, () portion of Virginia is well wooded, and (undu—ing) us heavy, regular waves of field and forest; () the roads are deeply cut, and filled with loose (----es), very disagreeable to ride or drive over. The houses are of wood, with the usual negro huts adjoining them, and the specimens of the race which I saw were well dressed, and not ill looking. On turning into one of the roads which leads to Fairfax Court House, and to Centreville beyond it, the distant sound of cannon reached us. That must have been about 9 ½ A.M. It never ceased all day; at least, whenever the rattle of the gig ceased, the booming of cannon rolled through the woods on our ears.

One man said it began at 2 o'clock, but the pickets told us it had really become continuous at 7 ½ or eight o'clock. In a few minutes afterwards a body of men appeared on the road, with their backs towards Centreville, and their faces toward Alexandria. Their march was so disorderly that I could not have believed they were soldiers in an enemy's country, for Virginia hereabouts is certainly so, but for their arm and uniform. It soon appeared that there was no less than an entire regiment marching away, singly or in small knots of two or three, extending for some three or four miles along the road. A Babel of tongues rose from them, and they were all in good spirits, but with an air about them I could not understand. Dismounting at a stream, where a group of thirty men were drinking and halting in the shade. I asked an officer "Where are your men going, Sir?" "Well, we're going home, Sir, I reckon, to Pennsylvania." It was the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment, which was on its march, as I learned from the men. "I suppose there is severe work going on behind you, judging from the firing?" "Well, I reckon, Sir, there is." "We're going home," he added, after a pause, during which it occurred to him, perhaps, that the movement required explanation – "because the men's time is up. We have had three months of this work." I proceeded on my way, ruminating on the feelings of a General who sees half a brigade walk quietly away on the very morning of an action, and on the frame of mind of the men, who would have shouted till they were hoarse about their beloved Union – possibly have hunted down any poor creature who expressed a belief that it was not the very quintessence of everything great and good in government and glorious and omnipotent in arms – coolly turning their backs on it when in its utmost peril, because the letter of their engagement bound them no further. Perhaps the Fourth Pennsylvania were right, but let us hear no more of the excellence of three months service volunteers. And so we left them. The road was devious and difficult. There were few persons on their way, for most of the Senators and Congressmen were on before us. Some few commissariat wagons were overtaken at intervals. Wherever there was a house by the roadside the negroes were listening to the firing. All at once a terrific object appeared in the wood, above the trees – the dome of a church or public building, apparently suffering from the shocks of an earthquake, and heaving to and fro in the most violent manner. In much doubt we approached as well as the horses' minds would let us, and discovered that the strange thing was an inflated balloon attached to a car and wagon, which was on its way to enable Gen. McDowell to reconnoiter the position he was then engaged in attacking – just a day too late. The operators and attendants swore as horribly as Anna's warriors in *Fianders*, but they could not curse down the trees, and so the balloon seems likely to fall into the hands of the Confederates. About 11 o'clock we began to enter on the disputed territory which had just been abandoned by the Secessionists to the Federalists in front of Fairfax Court House. It is not too much to say that the works thrown up across the road were shams and make believes, and that the Confederates never intended to occupy the position of all, but sought to lure on the Federalists to Manassas, where they were prepared to meet them. Had it been otherwise the earthworks would been of a different character, and the troops would have had regular camps and tents, instead of bivouac huts of branches of trees. Of course the troops of the enemy did not wish to be cut off, and so they had cut down trees to place across the road, and put some field places in their earthworks to command it. On no side could Richmond be so well defended. The Confederates had it much at heart to induce their enemy to come to the strongest place and attack them, and they succeeded in doing so. But, if the troops behaved as ill in other places as they did at Manassas, the Federalists could not have been successful in any attack whatever.

It was noon when we arrived at Fairfax Court House – a poor village of some thirty or forty straggling wooden and brick houses, deriving its name from the building in which the Circuit Court of the county is held, I believe, and looking the reverse of flourishing – and one may remark, obiter, that the state of this part of Virginia cannot be very prosperous, inasmuch as there was not a village along the road up to this point, and no shops or depots, only one mill, one blacksmith and wheelwright. The village was held by a part of the reserve of McDowell's force, possibly 1,000 strong. The inhabitants were, if eyes spoke truth,

Secessionists to a man, woman and child, and even the negroes looked extra black, as if they did not care about being fought for. A short way beyond this village, Germantown, the scene of the recent excesses of the Federalists, afforded evidence in its blackened ruins that General McDowell's censure was more than needed.

The chimney stacks being of brick, are the sole remains of the few good houses in the village. Here our driver made a mistake, which he rather persisted in that a colored chattel informed us we could get to Centreville by the route we were pursuing, instead of turning back to Germantown, as we should have done. Centreville was still seven miles ahead. The guns sounded, however, heavily from the valleys. Rising above the forest tops appeared the blue masses of the Alleghenies, and we knew Manassas was somewhere on an outlying open of the ridges, which reminded me in color and form of the hills around the valley of Baidar. A Virginian who came out of a cottage, and who was assuredly no descendant of Madame Esmond, told us that we were "going wrong right away."

There was, he admitted, a by-road somewhere to the left front, but people who had tried its depths had returned to Germantown with the conviction that it led to any place but Centreville. Our driver, however, wished to try "if there were no Scherer's about?" "What did you say?" quote the Virginian. "I want to know if there are any Secessionists there." "Secessionists!" (in a violent surprise, as if he had heard of them for the first time in his life.) "No, Sir-ee, Secessionists indeed!" And all this time Beauregard and Lee were pounding away on our left front, some six or seven miles off. The horses retraced their steps, the colored youth who bestrode my charger complaining that mysterious arrangement which condemns his race to slavery was very much abraded by the action of that spirited quadruped combined, or rather at variance with the callosities of the English saddle.

From Germantown, onward by the right road, there was nothing very remarkable. At one place a group of soldiers were buying "Secession money" from some negroes, who looked as if they could afford to part with it as cheaply as men do who are dealing with other people's property. Buggies and wagons (Anglice carriages) with cargoes of senators, were overtaken. The store carts became more numerous. At last Centreville appeared in sight – a few houses on our front, on our front, beyond which rose a bald hill – the slopes covered with bivouac huts, commissariat carts, and horses and the top crested with spectators of the fight. The road on each side was full of traces of Confederate camps; the houses were now all occupied by Federalists.

In the rear of the hill was a strong body of infantry – two regiments of foreigners, mostly Germans, with a battery of light artillery. Our buggy was driven up to the top of the hill. The colored boy was dispatched to the village to look for a place to shelter the horses while they were taking a much required feed, and to procure, if possible, a meal, for himself and the driver. On the hill there were carriages and vehicles drawn up as if they were attending a small country race. They were afterward engaged in a race of another kind. In one was a lady with an opera glass; in and around and on others were legislators and politicians. There were also a few civilians on horseback, and on the slope of the hill a regiment had stacked arms, and was engaged in looking at and commenting on the battle below. The landscape in front was open to the sight as far as the ranges of the Alleghenies, which swept round from the right in blue mounds, the color of which softened into violet in the distance. On the left the view was circumscribed by a wood, which receded along the side of the hill on which we stood to the plain below. Between the base of the hill, which rose about 150 feet above the general level of the country, and the foot of the lowest and nearest elevation of the opposite Alleghenies extend about five miles, as well as I could judge, of a densely wooded country, dotted at intervals with green fields and patches of cleared lands.

It was marked by easy longitudinal undulations, indicated by the form of the forests which clothed them, and between two of the more considerable ran small streams, or "runs," as they are denominated, from the right to the left. Close at hand a narrow road, descended the hill, went straight into the forest, where it was visible now and then among the trees in cream colored patches. This road was filled with commissariat wagons, the white tops of which were visible for two miles in our front.

On our left front a gap in the lowest chain of the hills showed the gap of Manassas, and to the left and nearer to me lay the "Junction" of the same name, where the Alexandria Railway unites with the rail from the west of Virginia, and continues the route by rails of various denominations to Richmond. The scene was so peaceful one might well doubt the evidence of his sense that a great contest was being played out below in bloodshed, or imagine, as Mr. Seward sometimes does, that it was a delusion when he wakes in the morning and finds there is civil war upon him. But the cannon spoke out loudly from the green bushes, and the plains below were mottled, so to speak, by puffs of smoke and by white rings from bursting shells and capricious howitzers. It was no review that was going on beneath us. The shells gave proof

enough of that, through the rush of the shot could not be heard at the distance. Clouds of dust came up in regular lines through the treetops where infantry were acting, and now and then their wavering mists of light-blue smoke curried up, and the splutter of musketry broke through the booming of the guns. With the glass I could detect, now and then the flash of arms through the dust-clouds in the open space, but no one could tell to which side the troops who were moving belonged, and I could only judge from the smoke whether the guns were fired toward or away from the hill. It was evident that the dust in the distance on our right extended beyond that which rose from the Federalists. The view toward the left, as I have said, was interrupted, but the firing was rather more heavy there than on the front or right flank, and a glade was pointed out in the forest as the beginning of Bull's or Poole's Run, on the other side of which the Confederates were hid in force, though they had not made any specific reply to the shells thrown into their cover early in the morning. There seemed to be a continuous line, which was held by the enemy, from which came steady solid firing against what might be supposed to be the heads of columns stationed at various points or advancing against them. It was necessary to feed the horses and give them some rest after a hot drive of some 26 or 27 miles, or I would have proceeded at once to the front. As I was watching the faces of the Senators and Congressmen, I thought I had heard or read of such a scene as this – but there was much more to come.

The soldier who followed each shot with remarks in English or German were not as eager as men generally are in watching a fight. Once as a cloud of thick smoke ascended from the trees, a man shouted out, "That's good; we've taken another battery; there goes the magazine," But it looked like, and I believe was, the explosion of a cannon. In the midst of our little reconnaissance. Mr. Vizetelly, who has been living, and, indeed, marching with one of the regiments as artist of *The Illustrated London News*, came up and told us the action had been commenced in splendid style by the Federalists, who had advanced steadily, driving the Confederates before them – a part of the plan, as I firmly believe, to bring them under the range of their guns. He believed the advantages on the Federal side were decided; though won with hard fighting, and he had just come up to Centreville to look after something to eat and drink, and to procure little necessaries in case of need, for his comrades. His walk very probably saved his life. Having seen all that could be discerned through our glasses, my friend and myself had made a feast on our sandwiches in the shade of the buggy to give him half an hour or more before I mounted, and meantime tried to make out the plan of battle, but all was obscure and dark. Suddenly up rode an officer, with a crowd of soldiers after him, from the village. "We've whipped them on all points!" he shouted, "We've taken their batteries, and they're all retreating!" Such an uproar as followed. The spectators and the men cheered again and again, amid cries of "Bravo!" "Bully for us!" "Didn't I tell you so?" and guttural "hochs" from the Deutschland folk and loud "hurroora" from the Irish. Soon afterwards my horse was brought up to the hill, and my friend and the gentlemen I have already mentioned set out to walk toward the front – the latter to rejoin his regiment if possible, the former to get a closer view of the proceedings. As I turned down into the narrow road or lane already mentioned, there was a forward movement among the large four wheeled tilt wagons, which raised a good deal of dust. My attention was particularly called to this by the occurrence of a few minutes afterward. I had met my friends on the road, and after a few words rode forward at a long trot as well as I could past the wagons and through the dust, when suddenly there arose a tumult in front of me at a small bridge across the road, and then I perceived the drivers of a set of wagons with the horses turned toward me, who were endeavoring to force their way against the stream of vehicles setting in the other direction. By the side of the new set of wagons there were a number of commissariat men and soldiers, whom at first sight I took to be the baggage guard. They looked excited and alarmed, and were running by the side of the horses – in front the dust quite obscured the view. At the bridge the currents met in wide disorder. "Turn back! Retreat!" shouted the men from the front, "We're whipped, we're whipped!" They cursed and tugged at the horses' heads, and struggled with frenzy to get past. Running by me on foot was a man with the shoulder-straps of an officer. "Pray what is the matter, Sir?" "It means we're pretty badly whipped, and that's a fact," he blurted out in puffs, and continued his career. I observed that he carried no sword. The teamsters of the advancing wagons now caught up the cry. "Turn back- turn your horses" was the shout up the whole line, and backing, plunging, rearing, and kicking, the horses which had been proceeding down the road reversed front and went off towards Centreville. Those behind them went madly rushing on, the drivers being quite indifferent whether glory or disgrace led the way, provided they could find it. In the midst of this extraordinary spectacle, an officer, escorted by some dragoons, rode through the ruck with a light cart in charge. Another officer, on foot with his sword under his arm, ran up against me. "What is all this about?" "Why we're pretty badly whipped. We're all in retreat. There's General Tyler there, badly wounded." And on he ran. There came yet another, who said, "We're beaten on all points. The

whole army is in retreat” Still there was no flight of troops, no retreat of an army, no reason for all this precipitation. True, there were many men in uniform flying towards the rear, but it did not appear as if they were beyond the proportion of a large baggage escort.

I got my horse up into the field out of the road, and went on rapidly toward the front. Soon I met soldiers, who were coming through the corn mostly without arms; and presently I saw (f--) (-locks), cooking tins, knapsacks, and greatcoats on the ground, and observed that the confusion and speed of the baggage carts became greater, and that many of them were crowded with men, or were followed by others, who clung to them. The ambulances were crowded with soldiers, but it did not look as if there were many wounded. Negro servants on led horses dashed frantically past; men in uniforms, whom it were a disgrace to the profession of arms to call “soldiers,” swarmed by on mules, chargers, and even draught horses, which had been cut out of carts or wagons, and went on with harness clinging to their heels, as frightened as their riders. Men literally screamed with rage and fright when their way was blocked up. On I rode, asking all “What is this all about?” and now and then, but rarely, receiving the answer, “We’re whipped;” or, “We’re repulsed.” Faces black and dusty, tongues out in the heat, eyes staring – it, was a most wonderful sight. On they came like him –

“ – who having once turned round goes on,

And turns no more his head.

For he knoweth that a fearful fiend

Doth close behind him tread.

But where was the fiend? I looked in vain. There was, indeed, some cannonading in front of me and in their rear, but still the firing was comparatively distant, and the runaways were far out of range. As I advanced the number of carts diminished, but the mounted men increased, and the column of fugitives became denser. A few buggies and light wagons filled with men, whose faces would have made up “a great Leporello” in the ghost scene, tried to pierce the rear of the mass of carts, which were now solidified and moving on like a glacier. I crossed a small ditch by the roadside, got out on the road to escape some snake fences, and, looking before me, saw there was still a crowd of men in uniforms coming along.

The road was strewn with articles of clothing – firelocks, wrist-belts, cartouche-boxes, caps, great coats, mess-tins, musical instruments, cartridges, bayonets, and sheaths, swords and pistols – even biscuits, water bottles, and pieces of meat. Passing a white house, by the roadside, I saw, for the first time, a body of infantry, with sloped arms, marching regularity and rapidly toward me. Their faces were set blackened by powder, and it was evident they had not been engaged. In reply to a question, a non-commissioned officer told me in broken English, “We fell back to our lines. The attack did not quite succeed.”

This was answering to one who had come through such a scene as I had been witnessing. I had ridden, I suppose, about three or three and a half miles from the hill, through it is not possible to be sure of the distance, when. Having passed the white house, I came out on an open piece of ground, beyond and (--relling) which was forest. Two field pieces were unlimbered and guarding the road; the panting and jaded horses in the rear looked as through they had been hard worked, and the gunners and drivers looked worn and dejected. Dropping shots sounded close in front through the woods; but the guns on the left no longer maintained their fire.

I was just about to ask one of the men for a light when a sputtering fire on my right attracted my attention, and out of the forest or along the road rushed a number of men. The gunners seized the trail of the nearest piece to wheel it round upon them; either made for the tumbrels and horses as if to fly, when a shout was raised, “Don’t fire; they’re our own men;” and in a few minutes on came pell-mell a whole regiment in disorder. I rode across to one and stopped him. “We’re pursued by cavalry, “he gasped; “They’ve cut us all to pieces.” As he spoke a shell burst over the column; another dropped on the road, and out streamed another column of men, keeping together with their arms, and closing up the stragglers of the first regiment. I turned, and to my surprise saw the artillerymen had gone off, leaving one gun standing by itself. They had retreated with their horses. While we were on the hill I had observed and pointed out to my companions a cloud of dust which rose through the trees on our right front. In my present position that place must have been on the right rear, and it occurred to me that after all there really might be a body of cavalry in that direction; but Murat himself would not have charged these wagons in that deep, well-fenced lane. If the dust came, as I believe it did, from field artillery, that would be a different matter. Any way it was now well established that the retreat had really commenced, through I saw but few wounded men, and the regiments which were falling back had not suffered much loss. No one seemed to know anything for certain. Even the cavalry charge was a rumor. Several officers said they had carried guns and lines, but then they drifted into the nonsense which one reads and hears everywhere about “masked batteries”

One or two talked more sensibly about the strong positions of the enemy, the fatigue of their men, the want of a reserve, severe losses, and the bad conduct of certain regiments. Not one spoke as if he thought of retiring beyond Centreville. The clouds of dust rising above the woods marked the retreat of the whole army, and the crowds of fugitives continued to steal away along the road. The sun was declining, and some thirty miles yet remained to be accomplished as I could hope to gain the shelter of Washington. No one knew whither any corps or regiment was marching, but there were rumors of all kinds – “The Sixty-ninth are cut to pieces.” The Fire Zouaves are destroyed,” and so on. Presently a tremor ran through the men by whom I was riding, as the sharp reports of some field pieces rattled through the wood close at hand. A sort of subdued roar, like distant breakers, rose in front of us, and the soldiers, who were, I think, Germans, broke into a double looking now and then over their shoulders. There was no choice for me but to resign any further researches. The mail from Washington for the Wednesday steamer at Boston leaves at 2 ½ on Monday, and so I put my horse into a trot, keeping in the field alongside the roads as much as I could, to avoid the fugitives, till I came once more on the rear of the baggage and store carts, and the pressure of the crowd, who, conscious of the aid which the vehicles would afford them against a cavalry charge, and fearful, nevertheless, of their proximity, clamored and shouted like madmen as they ran. The road was now literally covered with baggage. It seemed to me as if the men inside were throwing the things out purposely. “Stop,” cried I to the driver of one of the carts, “everything is falling out,” “_____ you,” shouted a fellow inside, “If you stop him, I’ll blow your brains out.” My attempts to save Uncle Sam’s property were then and there discounted.

On approaching Centreville, a body of German infantry of the reserve came marching down and stemming the current in some degree; they were followed by a brigade of guns, and another battalion of fresh troops. I turned up on the hill half a mile beyond. The vehicles had all left but two – my buggy was gone. A battery of field guns was in position where we had been standing. The men looked well. As yet there was nothing to indicate more than a retreat, and some ill behavior among the wagoners and the riff of different regiments. Centreville was not a bad position properly occupied, and I saw no reason why it should not be held if it was meant to renew the attack, nor any reason why the attack should not be removed, if there had been any why it should have been made. I swept the field once more. The clouds of dust were denser and nearer. That was all. There was no firing – no musketry. I turned my horse’s head and rode away through the village, and after I get out upon the road, the same confusion seemed to prevail. Suddenly the guns on the hill opened, and at the same time came the thuds of artillery from the wood on the right rear. The stampede then became general. What occurred at the hill I cannot say, but all the road from Centreville for miles presented such a sight as can only be witnessed in the track of the runaways of an utterly demoralized army. Drivers flogged, lashed, spurred, and beat their horses, or leaped down and abandoned their teams, and ran by the side of the road; mounted men, servants, and men in uniform, vehicles of all sorts, commissariat wagons thronged the narrow ways. At every shot a convulsion as it were seized upon the morbid mass of bones, sinew, wood, and iron, and thrilled through it, giving new energy and action to its desperate efforts to get free from itself. Again the cry of “Cavalry” arose.

“What are you afraid of?” said I to a man who was running beside me. “I’m not afraid of you,” replied the ruffian, leveling his piece at me and pulling the trigger. It was not loaded or the cap was not on, for the gun did not go off. I was unarmed, and I did go off as fast as I could, resolved to keep my own counsel for the second time that day. And so the fight went on. At one time a whole mass of infantry, with fixed bayonets, ran down the bank of the road, and some falling as they ran must have killed and wounded those among whom they fell. As I knew the road would soon become impassable or blocked up, I put my horse to a gallop and passed on toward the front. But mounted men still rode faster, shouting out “Cavalry are coming.” Again I ventured to speak to some officers whom I overtook and said, “If these runaways are not stopped, the whole of the posts and pickets into Washington will fly also!” One of them, without saying a word, spurred his horse and dashed on in front. I do not know whether he ordered the movement or not, but the van of the fugitives was now suddenly checked, and, pressing on through the wood at the roadside, I saw a regiment of infantry blocking up the way, with their front towards Centreville. A musket was leveled at my head, as I pushed to the front – “Stop, or I’ll fire.” At the same time the officers were shouting out, “Don’t let a soul pass.” I addressed one of them, and said, “Sir, I am a British subject, I am not, I assure you running away. I have done my best to stop the disgraceful rout (as I had), and have been telling them there are no cavalry within miles of them. “I can’t let you pass, sir!” I bethought me of Gen. Scott’s pass. The Adjutant read it, and the word was given along the line, “Let that man pass!” and so I rode through, uncertain if I could now gain the Long Bridge in time to pass over without the countersign. It was about this time I met a cart by the roadside, surrounded by a group of soldiers, some of whom had

“Sixty-nine” on their caps. The owner, as I took him to be, was in great distress, and cried out as I passed, “Can you tell me, sir, where the 69th are? These men say they are cut to pieces.” “I can’t tell you.” ‘I’M in charge of the mails, Sir, and I will deliver them if I die for it. You are a gentleman and I can depend on your word. Is it safe for me to go on?” Not knowing the extent of the debacle, I assured him it was, and asked the men of the regiment how they happened to be there? “Shure, the Colonel himself told us to go off every man on his own hook, and to fly for our lives,” replied one of them. The mail agent, who told me he was an Englishman, started the cart again. I sincerely hope no bad results to himself or his charge following my advice. I reached Fairfax Court House; the people, black and white, with anxious faces, were at the doors, and the infantry were under arms. I was besieged with questions, though hundreds of fugitives had passed through before me.

At one house I stopped to ask for water for my horse; the owner sent his servant for it cheerfully, the very house where we had in vain asked for something to eat in the forenoon. “There’s a fright among them,” I observed, in reply to his question respecting the commissariat drivers. “They’re afraid of the enemy’s cavalry.” “Are you an American?” said the man. “No, I am not.” “Well, then,” he said, “there will be cavalry on them soon enough. There’s 20,000 of the best horsemen in the world in Virginny!” Washington was full eighteen miles away. The road was rough and uncertain, and again my poor steed was under way, but it was of no use trying to outstrip the runaways. Once or twice I imagined I heard guns in the rear, but I could not be sure of inconsequence of the roar of the flight behind me. It was most surprising to see how far the foot soldiers had contrived to get on in advance. After sunset the moon rose, and amid other acquaintances I jogged alongside an officer who was in charge of Colonel Hunter, the commander of a brigade, I believe, who was shot through the neck, and was inside a cart, escorted by a few troopers. This officer was, as I understood, the major or second in command of Col. Hunter’s regiment, yet he had considered it right to take charge of his chief, and to leave his battalion. He said they had driven back the enemy with ease, but had not been supported and blamed – as bad officers and good ones will do – the conduct of the General: “So mean a fight I never saw.” I was reminded of a Crimean General, who made us all merry by saying after the first bombardment: “In the whole course of my experience I never saw a siege conducted on such principles as these.” Our friend had been without food, but not, I suspect, without drink – and that, we know, affects empty stomachs very much – since 2 o’clock that morning. Now, what is to be thought: of an officer – gallant he may be, as see! – who says, as I heard this gentleman say to a picket who asked him how the day went in front, “Well, we’ve been licked into a cocked hat; knocked to _____.” This was his cry to teamsters, escorts, convoys, the officers, and men on guard and detachment, while I, ignorant of the disaster behind, tried to mollify the effect of the news by adding, “Oh! It’s a drawn battle the troops are reoccupying the position from which they started in the morning.” Perhaps he knew his troops better than I did. It was a strange ride through a country now still as death, the white road shining like a river in the moonlight, the trees black as ebony in the shade; now and then a figure flitting by into the forest or across the road – frightened friend or lurking foe, who could say? Then the anxious pickets and sentries all asking “What’s the news?” and evidently prepared for any amount of loss.

Twice or thrice we lost our way or our certainty about it, and shouted at isolated houses, and received no reply, except from angry watch dogs. Then we were set right as we approached Washington, by teams men. For an hour, however, we seemed to be traveling along a road which, in all its points, far and near, was “twelve miles from the Long Bridge.” Up hills, down into valley’s with the silent grim woods forever by our sides. Now and then, in the profound gloom, broken only by a spark from the horse’s hoof, came a dull but familiar sound like the shutting of a distant door. As I approached Washington, having left the Colonel and his escort at some seven miles on the South Side of the Long Bridge, I found the grand guards, pickets posts, and individual sentries burning for the news, and the word used to pass along. “What does that man say, Jack?” “Begorra, he tells me we’ve not bet at all – only retreating to the old lines for convenience of fighting to-morrow again. Oh, that iligant!” On getting to the t’ete de pont however, the countersign was demanded; of course I had not got it. But the officer passed me through on the production of General Scott’s safeguard. The lights of the city were in sight and reflected by the waters of the Potomac, just glistened by the clouded moon, shone the gay lamps of the White House, where the President was probably entertaining some friends. In silence I passed over the Long Bridge. Some few hours later it quivered under the steps of a rabble of unarmed men. At the Washington end a regiment with piled arms were waiting to cross over into Virginia, singing and cheering. Before the morning they received orders, I believe to assist in Keeping Maryland quiet. For the hundredth time I repeated the cautious account, which, to the best of my knowledge was true. There were men, women and soldiers to hear it. The clocks had just struck 11 P. M., as I passed Willard’s. The pavement in front of the hall was crowded. The rumors of defeat

had come in, but few of the many who had been fed upon lies and the reports of complete victory which prevailed could credit the intelligence. Seven hours had not elapsed before the streets told the story. The "Grand army of the North," as it was called, had representatives in every thoroughfare, without arms, orders, or officers, standing out in the drenching rain. When all these most unaccountable phenomena were occurring I was fast asleep, but I could scarce credit my informant in the morning, when he told me that the Federalists utterly routed, had fallen back upon Arlington to defend the capital, leaving nearly five batteries of artillery, 8,000 muskets, immense quantity of stores and baggage, and their wounded prisoners in the hands of the enemy!

Let the American Journals tell the story their own way. I have told mine as I know it. It has rained incessantly and heavily since early morning, and the country must be unfit for operations; otherwise, if Mr. Davis desired to press his advantage, he might be now very close to Arlington's Heights. He has already proved that he has a fair right to be considered the head of a "belligerent power." But, though the North may reel under the shock, I cannot think it will make her desist from the struggle, unless it be speedily followed by blows more deadly even than the repulse from Manassas. There is much talk now (of masked batteries," of course) of outflanking, and cavalry, and such matters.

The truth seems to be that the men were overworked, kept out for twelve or fourteen hours in the sun exposed to a long range fire, badly officered, and of deficient regimental organization. Then came a most difficult operation – to withdraw this army, so constituted, out of action in face of an energetic enemy who had repulsed it. The retirement of the baggage, which was without adequate guards, and was in the hands of ignorant drivers, was misunderstood and created alarm, and that alarm became a panic, which became frantic on the appearance of the enemy, and on the opening of their guns on the runaways. But the North will be all the more eager to retrieve this disaster, although it may divert her from the scheme which has been suggested to her, of punishing England a little while longer. The exultation of the South can only be understood by those who may see it, and if the Federal Government perseveres in its design to make Union by force, it may prepare for a struggle the result of which will leave the Union very little to fight for. More of the "battle" in my next. I pity the public across the water, but they must be the victims of hallucinations and myths it is out of my power to dispel or rectify just now. Having told so long a story, I can scarcely expect your readers to have patience, and go back upon the usual diary of events; but the records, such as they are, of this extraordinary repulse must command attention. It is impossible to exaggerate their importance. No man can predict the result or pretend to guess at them.

20 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin Russell on Bull Run

We publish the entire letter of the London Times' correspondent on the Bull Run Battle. It must be borne in mind that Mr. Russell did not witness the fight. He started towards Centreville on Sunday, and arrived there when the battle was over and the panic had begun. His report is no more highly colored than were some of those sent on by our own people in the first day of excitement and alarm. Moreover, he writes in a spirited, graphic manner, and, now that we are recovering from the Bull Run disaster, we can read his report of it without any ill felling towards him.

20 August 1861 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin Rebel War News – From the Camp at Manassas Correspondence of the Louisville Courier

Camp Bartow, Thursday, August 8. – We are now in the midst of that ominous calm which invariably precedes the storm. Were it not for the martial display about us, one would not readily imagine that war, not peace, was our trade. The sun shines peacefully over the slopes and valleys of Manassas, and the water courses, which for days after the eventful Sabbath ran with blood, sweep on in gentle murmurs through wooded fields and meadows heaped with hay. There is absolutely nothing to denote the purposes of the seventy thousand men here assembled. Quiet hangs over the whole scene, and the bugles that at evening play softly might as well "sing truce," for there is not a note of bravado in them. But when the murky cloud of battle will arise upon our horizon, who knows? Nor when in fury it will burst over our heads, hurtling its fatal arrows through our ranks, who can tell? We cannot, however, be mistaken in the supposition that very soon another, and we hope an effective blow will be struck by our army in the assertion of Southern Independence. It seems impossible to render the Yankee Administration sensible of its jeopardy and the absurd of its persisting in the contest, until at the very gates of the Capital we dictate the terms of an honorable peace. Nobody that I am aware of, wants Washington City, but if its capture is

necessary to the adjournment of these great troubles, then we shall have it, and that right speedily. I must confess, too, that personally, nothing would gratify me more than a march up Pennsylvania Avenue, one of these bright summer mornings.

There is something intoxicating or inspiring in the thought of our coming in possession of the scene of so much of our old renown – where the footsteps of the young nation were directed in the paths of virtue and wisdom, but, alas, where to-day, pride and arrogance and all the meaner vices of mankind hold away in the halls of legislation and the chambers of executive ministers. Washington City our own, as it may be, we could soon disenthral unhappy and down-trodden Maryland, and having posted our picket guards well on to Philadelphia, render the South a unit, and extort from the Lincoln Government a full and unreserved recognition of our liberty and sovereignty as a confederation of States. I do not pretend to give this as a programme of the campaign, but I feel as unbounded confidence in the success of our arms on every field of importance and an assurance that within two months we shall have driven the invader beyond Maryland.

The brave, defiant and noble course of Hon. John C. Breckinridge in the United States Senate commands the admiration of all loyal men. It presents a spectacle of moral courage than which none more sublime has attracted the attention of men for generations. He is in constant peril, not alone from the murderous and tyrannical government, but from the hired assassins of the Federalists. Undaunted he breasts the storm, calmly courts the dangers of his place, and in all things proves himself worthy of his noble lineage. The conduct of Henry C. Burnett in the lower House is no less a source of congratulation. We of the Kentucky Battalion yet hope to place Breckenridge and Burnett in a triumphal car when we enter the streets of Washington.

News there is none, or rather what we have must be kept cut of the papers. The health of our command is excellent, and the utmost cheerfulness prevails.

Yesterday eleven of the enemy marched into our lines and delivered up their arms. They said they were heartily tired of fighting against a cause which was evidently just in itself and favored by the propitious smiles of heaven.

Se De Kay

CAMP BARTOW, NEAR MANASSAS, VA., August 19th, 1861

The welcome news was received yesterday that our tents had arrived at the Junction. And immediately Quartermaster Sergeant Kirk was dispatched with a detailed to “fetch them.”

But scarcely had the wagons got beyond our sight are the sky overcast, and such a thunder storm I never witnessed, and such an indiscriminate rush for a place that could afford relief from the approaching deluge I never saw before. We have learned long since that these Virginia rains are anything but trifling in their nature, as the rain comes down by barrel full, and every ravine or road resembles a creek.

In the midst of the storm, our eyes were gladdened by the sight of Colonel Tom Taylor, plunging “on through rain and mire,” and despite the inclemency of the season the news was soon known throughout the camp that he had brought with him his commission and would supersede Colonel Claiborne on the morrow; and in a few days, we would be joined by the commands of Captain Fitzhugh, Thompson, Childers, and Anderson, and we would immediately be formed into a regiment, with Capt. Ben Anderson as major, and the report says Roger Hanson as lieutenant-colonel. Colonel Taylor informs me that he has made arrangements at Richmond for everything that tends to the comfort of the regiment.

Of course everything wears a different look this morning, and the late visit of Prince Jerome, who left for Washington yesterday, excites but little comment, as all is swallowed up in our new commander and our tents; And I sincerely hope that I shall soon have the pleasure of chronicling the entire absence of all the bickering and discomforts that have beset us heretofore.

As for the visit of ye Prince, but little can be said, except the mere fact that he was escorted to General Beauregard’s Headquarters by the famous Black Horse troop on Wednesday evening, and on the morrow visited the battlefield. In company with the staff, and it is to be hoped that all the stuff about these terrible masked batteries, will be ventilated abroad. And the truth about our whipping them in a fair field with terrible numbers against us.

The court-martial in the cases of Capt. Harvey, is still sitting, and the evidence that has been deduced goes to show that he was not guilty of some charges that I stated before, and will doubtless be honorably acquitted. At least such is the general impression among the officers.

I shall close this hastily written scrawl by assuring our friends generally, that we are in “good condition,” and anxiously awaiting for something sanguinary to turn up.

21 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror
From the Richmond Christian Advocate
Interesting Letter from Manassas

Mr. Editor, - I have desired greatly to write you an account of the two battles at Bull Run, but could not for two reasons. The first was the want of any facilities for writing, such as paper, pen, ink, and table; and the second the want of full and definite information to communicate. It is true I was on the field during the battles but very little could be seen on Thursday because the trees on each side of the Run concealed the fighting parties, and still less on Sunday, because the battle raged along a line of seven miles, and I was at the heat of it. The engagement of Thursday, being my first experience of war, and confined to a small area, was very impressive. We marched to the Run on Wednesday, and spent the night on the ground. I had prayers with our regiment – the Eleventh of Virginia Volunteers – that evening and the next morning. The services were deeply solemn, for many were expected to sleep in death before another sun set and much depended on the issue of the contest. The proclamation of Beauregard in the morning told us that we would be assailed by superior numbers, but that they could be repulsed and that he relied greatly on the use of the bayonet. Our brigade, under Gen. Longstreet, was then arranged along the Run without any entrenchments, and awaited the approach of the enemy. Soon the firing of a musket was heard, and a few of our men who had crossed the Run as a picket, brought us the accoutrements of a dragoon of the Federal Army whom they had shot. The day wore on. I descended a hill, and stood by two pieces of the Washington Artillery, watching the glittering bayonets and clouds of dust on an opposite hill, which showed the passage of hostile troops. Presently the report of a cannon was heard, and the first ball fell by the spot where I stood. Quick almost as though the artillerists hitched up, and hurried out of sight behind the cover of the woods, bearing with them the long Minnie shaped ball which had descended among them. I do not know its name, but it was designed to explode, and failed to do so. I looked at my watch and found that half an hour had passed since noon. During four hours from that time the engagement lasted. – The thunder of cannon, the bursting of bomb, the rattle of musketry like hail on window glass, the double quicking of regiments down to the edge of the Run, and the careering of riderless horses across the field, formed a scene of solemn grandeur and thrilling interest. The first regiment, the seventeenth, and two companies of the eleventh, bore (the heat of the battle. Six pieces of the Washington Artillery, and I am told, (for I had no opportunity of seeing it,) a part of Kemper's battery, did most efficient work.

As the first gun was fired a few minutes after 7 A.M. of Sunday, July 21, I mounted my horse, and hastened from the Junction to our regiment, still stationed at Blackburn's Ford. On my way I met several regiments, some of them Mississippians, moving from that ford to some other part of the line of action. I hailed them as they passed: "Virginia's salutation to her sister Mississippi! Let each State of the Southern Confederacy cover herself with glory, and all pour a common glory on the united South to-day. God bless you, friends. Commit your souls and the righteous cause you uphold to Him." Dr. Bocoock was with me, and addressed them in a similar strain. I cannot tell much of this day's work. The hard fighting was on our left, and we had nothing to do but to take quietly cannonading of the enemy. Next above Gen. Longstreet's brigade was Gen. Bonham's, and below were Col. Ewell's and Gen. Jones'. It was a severe ordeal, however, to our men to lie still, and be shelled, wholly ignorant of the reasons for their own inactivity, and of the progress of the terrible struggle on our left. (You must understand that I was in the rear, and during the greater part of the day in a pretty secure place. Being a non-combatant, I was not exposed.) But I sat beneath a hill by a wounded soldier from Richmond and read to him the thirteenth and fourteenth chapters of John. I watched anxiously the march of a regiment under Col. Early, through the meadow and up a hill, to move to a point where they were more needed, for I knew that they could be seen as they ascended, and would be fired upon by the battery. The cannon booms, the shell bursts, and five fall wounded. – But they keep close to the woods, and suffered no more damage at that time. – One brigade had crossed the Run, and were prepared, in co-operation with those below, to attack the battery which never ceased to play on them, but preemptory orders came from Beauregard for their withdrawal to the entrenchments – a slight breastwork of earth which they had thrown up on Friday. I learned afterwards that this was made necessary by the critical condition of the extreme left, whose retreat we might have been required to protect. The enemy was pouring upon them in overwhelming numbers, and raking them with powerful batteries. But though drivers back the distance of perhaps a mile our brave fellows would not yield, but fought on with desperate valor – raw volunteers against regulars and the choice of the Federal volunteers. Men with such a spirit cannot be subdued. To return to my own position, I sat down by Capt. F. J. Boggs, and we conversed about the strange manner in which we were spending the Sabbath. He wore a determined, but anxious face.

His company had been in the hottest of the fight on Thursday, and acted nobly. He spoke of the souls now being sent into eternity, and of the hard conflict raging above us, whose guns were incessantly roaring in our ears, whose issue was so doubtful. We watched the bombs as they exploded in quick succession over the spot which his regiment had left a few minutes before. Our men had eaten not a mouthful all day. At length our suspense is broken by a loud cheering. – Down, down the Run, from left to right, flew the shouting, taken up by successive regiments. Here comes Gen. M., with an intensely excited countenance. “What means that shouting? He asks. “The enemy flee, and the day is ours.” We replied, for so we interpreted it. “Are you sure that the cheers are on our side?” – “I will run to the South Carolinians and enquire,” I replied. So off I hasted, and got to them just in time to see the two last companies form and march in pursuit. I trust that many hearts went up that hour in gratitude to the God of battles.

**21 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror
Correspondence of the Richmond Enquirer
Manassas, August 4th 1861**

Messrs Editors : Many accounts of the late battle of Manassas have been written, and all are read with a pride becoming a people battling for their homes and their liberties; every deed of daring minutely related, and in hardly any instance exaggerated. Every man engaged on the memorable 21st of July, may be looked upon as a hero; every one whose ashes mingle with the dust of their fathers who with their lives and blood purchased the first charter of our freedom, dedicated it to their children, which those children now fight to maintain, should be venerated and respected as the preserved of independence. Two names have as yet escaped even a passing notice. I refer to cadets Moore and Norris. They were both boys, neither of them had reached their twentieth year, yet prompted by that love of freedom, instilled into the very soul of every Southern child, they determined to choose upon the field of Manassas liberty or death. Their lives were sacrificed upon altars of their country.

Yes, cadets Charles C. Moore, and cadet Norris, are among the slain, and in after years, when historians may recount the deeds of daring, may their names not be forgotten. Belonging to no company their names are upon no list; yet they were killed in one of the most gallant charges made during the day. Many feet in advance of any company or regiment, pierced with many balls they died. The last words heard upon their lips were as they turned to a regiment, staggering under a heavy fire, “come on boys, quick, and we can whip them” Their graves are upon the field. When in after years the star of freedom beams brighter, when marble monuments shall be erected to bear the names of the more honored dead may we remember that Norris and Moore died upon the same field in the same glorious cause

**24 August 1861 – New York Times
Our London and Paris Correspondence
More of Mr. Russell’s Revelation about the Battle of Bull Run
The British Press on the Battle and the Blockade**

The mails from Liverpool, brought by the *Canada* to Boston, reached New York last evening. We are thus placed in possession of highly important and interesting letters from our correspondents in England and upon the European Continent, and also received files of foreign journals, from which we derive instructive extracts and information.

FROM PARIS

The News of the Battle of Bull Run – Attacks of the Press upon the North – reports of Recognition of the Southern Confederacy – Danger to be Apprehended from England, &c.

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Friday, August 9, 1861

Adversity makes enemies. Everybody now finds a kick for the defeated party at Manassas. In all, or nearly all, the accounts that are sent to Europe of the deplorable affair, the North is talked of as a used up and defeated party. In Europe, so much is thought of the first battle of a campaign, that whoever gains it is regarded as the probable winner of the last. The journals are not sparing in their taunts, but none of them quite reach the crushing irony of the London Times, in its issue of Wednesday last. It is a well-known fact that people prefer to read attacks rather than defences of a cause, whether good or bad; and on this account the public in France and England have been fed lately almost entirely on falsehoods and sarcasms against the North. With the noise, therefore, that has been constantly made against the cause of the Union, it is not surprising that we hear now of Bourse reports, both here and at London, to the effect that the Southern Confederacy has been recognized by France. The reports are absurd, of course, but they are valuable

indices of the current of events. The friends of the Union, strong in the justice of their cause, have taken little pains to stem the tide of misrepresentation and abuse which has been poured forth lately through the European Press, to prejudice and poison the public mind, for they felt that the Union Army at a proper time would give a better reply to all these slanders than any they could make. The affair at Manassas has now placed a new arm in the hands of the Southern Party and their colleagues, of European haters of Republican institutions, with which to attack the Union Party. Fortunately, we have the most positive assurance that the Emperor of France is determined to stand a neutral observer of the fight till it is finished, and one or the other party renounces the struggle; and since that is all the Government of Washington asks of him, we cannot see any occasion for alarm or uneasiness as to the recognition of the Southern Confederacy.

It is to England that you must look for danger, not on the subject of recognition, for that only occupies secondary ground, but on that of cotton and the blockade. If New Orleans, Mobile or Charleston be not opened by January to the exportation of cotton, you will have trouble with that Power. And if England sees herself obliged to provoke further the displeasure of the friends of the Union, she will see that it is her interest that the Union be permanently dissolved, and crippled in all its parts. The London papers are boldly discussing this subject of the blockade in connection with the next cotton crop, and what is more significant still, Englishmen in this quarter no longer disavow the sentiment of their papers as not being those of English people. We already know what the sentiment of the English Cabinet are; if the people of England only half way sustain the Cabinet, the question is decided against us.

Our power and prestige abroad are gone, and this is the most cruel and most criminal feature in the conduct of the originators of the great rebellion. It would have been no disgrace to have been crippled in our power by a combination of foreign nations; but to see America crippled and humbled by Americans is quite a different thing. A man has a certain right in general to do what he pleases with what belongs to him; but this right does not extend to the striking of his mother.

Would it not be strange if you could derive, all the way from Paris, the plan of campaign of Jeff Davis and his Generals? One of the Paris correspondents of the *INDEPENDANCE BELGE*, who is evidently in relation with the Southern agents at Paris, writes to his paper since the Manassas affair, among other things relating to that event, the following:

“By private letters from America relating to the terrible fight at Manassas, we learn that the Confederate Government is not disposed to compromise the fruits of its victory in assuming the offensive against its beaten enemies. It will content itself with guarding its extensive lines of defence, and will only decide upon a diversion on Washington in case the National Army shall attempt to penetrate the Southern States by the Ohio and Mississippi..”

Since the article from the *Journal des Debats*, which I sent you ten days ago, that paper has published two other articles on the American question, both against the North, and both very ably written. We may, therefore, perhaps class the *Orleanist* paper among the converts which the Southern agents have been able to make to their cause. The *Falrie* also has lately gone over to the enemy, while the *Constitutionnel* is also there, not from principle, but because accident has placed its American columns in the hands of a *Louisianian* and a *Secession*. To these three journals may be added the legitimist and Catholic sheets, the *Union*, the *Monde*, and the *Gaze-te de France*, who oppose the North of course, because they detest free institution and republicanism under any form. We can only claim now as decidedly ours the *Opinion Nationale*, the *Siecle* and the *Presse*, the three liberal and democratic papers of Paris. Fortunately they are the three papers of Paris the most read, and we can well afford to see the *Patrie*, the *Constitutionnel* and the *Journal des Debats*, *Bonapertist*, and *Orleanist* shook joined hands under the Slavery flag of Jeff Davis with the ultramontane and reactionary sheets, like the three cited above. Things have at last found their proper level; the company is now properly sorted; we have the Emperor and the liberal, progressive Press; they have fallen into _____ship with the monarchical, anti-republican, reactionary Press. We wish them joy of their society.

Gen. Wedd expresses himself only in general terms in regard to his interview with the Emperor. He was eminently satisfied with His Majesty's views on the American question.

To day the Emperor gives a grand review at Paris to his guest, the King of Sweden and his brother, the Prince Oscar. It will be made up of the garrison of Paris and the Imperial Guard. Some surprise was manifested that the Emperor should leave Paris within twenty-four hours with the arrival of the King of Sweden, who be at the springs on the Rhine, and consequently insight of the French frontier, refused to accompany her husband to St. Cloud, and the Empress taking this as a personal offence, did not deem it proper to help her husband do the honors to the King during his stay. Her Majesty has gone to Pau.

From London**The Battle of Bull Run, and its Effect Upon European Nations**

From Our Own Correspondent

London, Saturday, August 10, 1861

The news of the battle of Bull Run came down on us like a thunder-clap last Sunday. Extras were hawked about the streets that morning, containing a telegram of the blackest description – much worse than the newspaper accounts of the next morning justified – and the consternation among the loyalists was very great. Subsequent advices somewhat relieved our alarm, but only increased the sense of shame and mortification; and Mr. Russell's letter in the Times, so brilliant, so lifelike, and yet so humiliating, gave the last blow to our wounded national pride. Of course the very ability of Mr. Russell's description increased the bitterness of the punishment, and caused great indignation. Yet I confess that I cannot see the justice of the anger that would punish him for telling merely what he saw. If it was so – and his account bears all the marks of truth – we ought rather to own up fairly, and to see that such a disgrace never occurs again. Often a man's own angry pride is cap and bells to a fool. It ought not to be so with us.

Of course, the first thought after the realization of the strength of the blow, was what would be its effect on European nations, and particularly on England. That it could not but be very bad every one knew, and we were not slow to feel. The Times at once came out in a tone so needlessly insulting and so wantonly malignant, that no one could doubt any longer, even if there ever had been any doubt, on which side its sympathies lie. One can bear with Mr. Russell somewhat, for, whatever hot-headed people may say, his letters have been active agents in our favor here, and his influence has been thrown generally on our side. But it has uniformly been in spite of the controlling influence of the journal itself, and its editors it is said, do not hesitate to call him an Abolitionist of the deepest dye. This time, their bitterly unfair attack was so flagrant as to call out the protests of at least two of the liberal papers, which commented in the warmest style on the language which the Times used. But, after all, the Times is not England, nor even the best part of it. Its course is more likely ultimately to react in our favor here, than to hurt us; and in throwing off its mask, it has partly destroyed its own power for evil. The English Government does not often act precipitately, and it is not likely to do so now. Of recognition of the insurgents there seems no present danger, but it is not so certain that this check will not encourage the cotton interest to make an effort to set aside our blockade. After all the action of England will depend on events. Yet on the other side of the water, will be able to predict it before we can, according as the war progresses well or otherwise. As yet, however, no one knows of any intention of this Government to interfere with the blockade. It is certain, or as near certain as anything can be, that the British fleets are ordered to respect it faithfully and without cavil or quibble, any statement to the contrary notwithstanding, and if the time shall come when this rule will be broken through, the British Government will do it with its eyes open as to the consequences, and will hardly venture on this step without the assistance of France.

Another piece of engineering against us is ___ evident in the columns of the Times and elsewhere, but this has less to do with politics than with financiering. It has been very plain here for some time past, that a systematic effort was being made to beat down our credit on the money market; and as it becomes more and more evident every day that a loan must soon be negotiated here, and it is even reported that agents are now here on that business, the daily papers are beginning to teem with money articles, leaders, chance paragraphs, &c., &c., all tending to represent our credit as good for nothing, and then to drive us out of the market, and have us at the mercy of a few rich and powerful Jews. As usual, the Times is conspicuous in this attack also, and of late its money articles have contained systematic and transparently intentional misrepresentations and falsification of our whole past financial history and present condition. The hand of Mr. Yancey and his friends is also evident in this work. Their enemy has been stimulated by their late success to fresh efforts here, but in general the move seems to be a merely financial one, and those are principally at the bottom of it who expect themselves to get the loan into their own hands. The defeat at Bull Run has, if anything, rather overdone the thing even from their point of view. For the moment our credit is nowhere, and it would be useless to attempt to raise money here now, until our armies have recovered the ground which has been lost.

Nor have we anything better to expect from France. Accident and more cautious mode of action has placed France in a better position before the Americans than England has occupied but I have strong reasons to believe that in reality we have fewer real friends there than here. Here at least we have a party, and an active and respectable one, who comprehend our position and will do all they can to sustain us. It is not so on the other side of the channel. Their sympathies – so far as they are really engaged in our affairs –

lie on the side of their relatives in Louisiana. In England the recognition of our insurgents would create a struggle that would inevitably overthrow the Ministry. In France the Emperor has but to say the word, and the whole nation would acquiesce, as it always does. That he will say that word as soon as England does, I have as yet heard nothing to make me doubt.

Meanwhile, as a delicate hint to warlike nations, the great iron war steamer, the Warrior, has left her dock, and will soon be ready for active service. How she will work, time alone will show. As usual, there are plenty of persons who disbelieve in her. One says she is too crank; another says she is not shot proof; another that her 'tween decks are so dark and ill-ventilated, that in a battle the men would be deafened and stifled with the noise and smoke of her heavy breech-loading guns, and on a cruise that she would be anything but comfortable to her crew. No doubt any number more of such faults will be discovered; but meanwhile she has gone down the river, and so far all has gone well. The Government has devoted the greatest care to her, changing her arrangements again and again, and doing all that science could to make her perfect; and more of the same model are now rapidly growing in the different dock yards.

24 August 1861 – New York Times
The Drift of the London Press
How the North Behaves Under Reverse
From the London Times

The people of the Northern States of America are behaving after their defeat in a manner which is somewhat unaccountable. They do not seem at all inclined to lessen its importance. They do not seem at all inclined to lessen its importance. They do not affect to conceal that they have been totally and disgracefully defeated, that their opinions of their own merits and of their enemies' deficiencies were unfounded, and that, instead of a short and brilliant campaign, they must either prepare for a desperate war or give up their scheme of subjugating the South. And yet this national calamity and this grievous shame do not seem to affect them as they would affect an European community. They even take a pleasure in the sensation caused by their unparalleled defeat. Excitement is to all classes a necessary daily dram, and, if they have it, it matters not whether it is brought by success or misfortune. Then the people have so little realized the meaning of war, and they have such confidence in their own energy and fortunes, in their faculty of coming "right side upwards," that, as a community, they are no more depressed by a total rout than they would be in their individual capacities by a pecuniary loss. A singular trait in human character is exhibited by their open acknowledgment to all the world of defeat, coupled with the "enthusiastic reception" which they are giving to whole regiments of volunteers who, on pretence of time being up, are marching homeward on the morrow of a great defeat and on the eve of an expected advance of the Southern Army. The more aristocratic New York Volunteers had returned home long before the Battle of Bull Run, and now regiments from almost every state are hastening back to their respective districts, to be received with the loudest plaudits of their friends. The Fourteenth of Ohio, on returning to Toledo, "experienced a very cordial reception." It was mentioned that after a few weeks' furlough, they would be ready to reenlist – those few weeks for all that they know, being destined to decide the fate of the Union forever. But the most extraordinary case is that of Gen. Patterson's Army. The General, according to his own account, was in front of Gen. Johnson, who had 40,000 men. "My force is less than 20,000 men. Nineteen regiments, whose terms of service was up, or would be within a week, all refused to stay an hour over their time, with the exception of four. Five regiments have gone home, two more go to-day, and three more to-morrow. To avoid being cut off with the remainder, I fell back and occupied this place." This is, we think, one of the most astounding incidents in the history of war. It entirely agrees with the statement given by our special correspondent that while the cannon of Beauregard were thundering in their ears, a regiment of volunteers passed him on their way home, their three months' term of service being complete. If such a thing had happened to one corps, it might have been set down to the bad counsels of one or more discontented spirits, or to the injudicious conduct of some commanding officers. But here it is evident that the whole volunteer Army of the Northern States is worthless as a military organization. It is useless to comment on the behavior of men who, pretending to rush to arms for the salvation of their country, make off in thousands when the enemy comes in sight, and leave their General to take care of himself. This is certainly carrying to its furthest limit that right of secession which they flew to arms to punish. In any other country such conduct would be looked upon as the extreme of baseness. But the Americans do not visit it as such, and they, perhaps, have an instinctive sense of the justice of the case. They feel how hollow has been so much of the indignation expressed by their party – how much the campaign against the South is a sham, entered

into in obedience to a “sensation” policy, and differing widely from the earnest and steady resolve which animates men who are fighting for objects really dear to them. If England or France were invading the Northern States, no one can believe that a whole American Army would evaporate because three calendar months were up; nor, to bring matters nearer home, can we imagine that the Southerners will take the rail homeward while New York rowdies and Boston Abolitionists are desolating the villages of Virginia.

In all ages success in war has inclined to the party which is fighting for its existence, and is consequently steeled to a sterner resolve. There is a want of this earnestness to be noticed in the conduct of the Northerners. They take things easy to a degree which astonishes an Englishman who recollects the frenzy which followed the first misfortunes of our Army at the end of 1854. The whole story of the battle of Bull Run is given by the Northern papers, of course with many variations, but, we are bound to say, with entire candor. The completeness of the defeat, the courage of the enemy, and the panic of their own Army are not extenuated or denied in any way. There is of course, the usual tendency to lay the blame on the commanders, and to save the self-love of the Army at the expense of its chiefs. But, making allowances for this, it is probable not only that the leaders were incompetent, but the mass of the troops felt that they were. From the first there seems to have been little purpose in anything that was done. The advance began before dawn, and one writer says that even at that hour there seemed a lack of unity and direct purpose among the officers which sometimes was made too evident to the troops not to affect their spirit and demeanor. At the very opening of the day it was plain to all that real and sound discipline was abandoned. On the other hand, the Confederates were evidently commanded by men who knew something of war. The ground on the National side was wooded almost down to the ravine through which the stream flows, but on the other side “the enemy had cleared away all obstructive foliage, and bared the earth in every direction over which “they could bring their artillery upon us.” The battle began about sunrise, and was at its height a little after noon. The accounts given by the Northern correspondents describe the enemy as almost destroyed by the repeated charges of the Nationalist. Allowing for exaggeration, it may be taken as pretty certain that they were hard pressed, and that some at least of the National troops behaved with gallantry. The Seventy-first New York Regiment is described as having inflicted severe loss on the enemy. Indeed, the bulletins published by the Confederate authorities appear to admit that the Southern Army suffered severely at one period of the action.

But this was but the beginning of the day’s work. Whether the Confederates had any plan of fighting settled beforehand by their commanders we do not as yet know; but the account of the Northerners is that “the enemy appeared upon our left flank, between us and our way of retreat.” A panic then seized the Federal troops. We have looked through the different narratives in vain for any probable cause of this terror, but the word “cavalry” appears so frequently, that we must suppose that a body of Southern horsemen did appear somewhere, though the country is obviously not well suited to the action of that force. From the same description of the battle we quote as follows: The rebel cavalry, having completely circumvented our left, charged in upon a number of wounded and stragglers.” Then followed the scene which has been sufficiently described in these columns. On the whole the newspapers which have come from the North within the last few days are most interesting. The tone in which the calamity is discussed is, we think, very creditable to the people of the Northern States; and strange to say, it has not increased, but as far as one can judge, has lessened the bitterness expressed towards the Southerners,

24 August 1861 – New York Times

The News From Europe

The Battle as Described by the Correspondent of the London Times

The Victory Unsurpassed by Austerlitz and Solferino

The steamship Bremen, from Southampton on the 7th inst., arrived at this post last evening. Her advices have been anticipated, in their general features, by the telegraphic abstract forwarded from the Bohemian, which left Liverpool on the same day.

We add, however, various extracts and details of the highest interest, especially a brilliant letter of Mr. Russell, the correspondent of the London Times, descriptive of the disaster at Bull Run.

The Mercantile and Shipping Gazette says: The number of wrecks during July was 91; making a total during the present war of 1,117.

**Description of the Engagement by Mr. Russell
Special Correspondent of the London Times
Washington, Friday, July 19, 1861**

After I had closed my letter to-day, the real nature of McDowell's position was communicated to me. He advanced his left somewhat, with the view of turning the enemy's right if possible; but a careful reconnaissance convinced him that Beauregard had fortified himself so strongly in a position which nature had made sufficiently formidable, that he could not persist in his design of attacking him on that point with any chance of success. Still less could he venture with safety to make a turning movement under the eyes of his enemy, in a country full of difficulties. Bull Run is a stream, larger than a rivulet, and not sufficiently dignified in this land of big waters to be called a river, which intersects the railway from Alexandria to Manassas, and the road from Centreville south, running through a succession of gorges and hills, between steep wooden banks – a kind of Alma, which the Confederates have occupied strongly in advance of the main line of their defences. Gen. McDowell, brought up by the defences and by the entrenchments commanding the roads and passages is now engaged in a careful examination of the whole line, and will possibly feel his way towards the enemy's left, and, if there should be any comparative weakness discovered there, he will concentrate with the view of forcing it. In his march on the 18th, McDowell's advance under Tyler became engaged with the enemy, and an affair of artillery took place, the result of which seems to have been the repulse of the Nationalist. Very exaggerated statements were circulated in reference to their loss on both sides, and the skirmish has been, as usual, called "a battle." The Confederates will be encouraged by the action, and the Nationalists will not be by any means better disposed for the hard work before them. I observe that the Nationalists do not speak with confidence of immediate success or certain victory, whereas all the Southerners have expressed a perfect conviction as to their superiority. Their friends – and there are many in this city, particularly among the women – speak in the same tone. It is difficult to understand the source of this complete self-reliance, and of the utter contempt in which that North which is threatening half Europe is held by the people of the United States in America which set it at defiance.

Saturday, July 20, 1861

The Head-quarters' report is that the whole loss on the 18th was 24 killed and wounded. Lieut.-Col. Callum of the Engineers, has gone over to Centreville to see if he can be of assistance to the General, and to report on the actual state of affairs, and up to a late hour last night no movement of consequence took place, nor was there any renewal of long-range practice. The Confederates are resting on their arms, but the delay will be of great service to them, inasmuch as they can get any reinforcements they require from the rear. The halt will produce an unfavorable impression on the country, and on the Army, unless it be followed by a speedy move. The reports, which did not, I hope go beyond New York, that Manassas had been abandoned, are, of course, untrue. As far as I can learn of the country, there is no means of getting out of his position left open to McDowell without an engagement, unless he falls back on the line of his advance. In all probability, therefore, he will attack his enemy on the very spot selected by the latter as his best position. More will be known before the dispatch of the --- mail. Should there be a conflict, the politicians say it promises to be one of the most bloody that have ever taken place on this continent. The preponderance of guns is with the enemy, but McDowell has more field artillery. The war without is a contrast of the calm of Congress. I went down to the Senate to-day, and on my way a crowd of men and boys, shouting and running in a cloud of dust, attracted my attention. The crowd were encompassing a body of soldiers, in the midst of whom were fifteen Confederate prisoners, who had been taken at Fairfax Court House. These prisoners were marching along bravely with their guard, and held their heads up stoutly, many of them taller than the soldiers under whose custody they were going to the Adjutant-General's office. A mob is generally cruel, little boys en masse are certainly so, and therefore it was not to be wondered at if the cries I heard were very hostile to the prisoners. There was not one of them probably who did not believe he would have made his entry into Washington under very different circumstances. Although the departure of McDowell's corps has diminished the number of soldiers and officers in the streets of Washington, enough remains behind to constitute almost the majority of the groups round the shops or the papers up and down the thoroughfares. Numbers of soldiers also flock to the Capitol, and the galleries open to the public present a fair show of the immense variety of uniforms which distinguish the motley and enormous armies on both sides. On entering the Senate to-day I found Mr. Latham talking to distant California with vigor and some effect. He appeared to blame both sides, but cast the preponderance of his censure against the violence of the South. At the close of his speech the Senate went into Executive session, and as is usual under the circumstances, sat with closed doors.

As the Senator from California was considered to be merely making a speech, the Senator, as is often the case, were not present in the Chamber in any great numbers. Their chairs were empty, their desks were covered with papers, and the House had a very vacant, uninteresting air, which was not at all diminished by the crowded galleries. The number of ladies fluttering their fans in the heated air gives an Exeter Hail look to the place, not at all suggestive of wisdom or dignity in debate and the sleepy soldiers and civilians who bow their heads about in the midst of the oration contribute to the undignified aspect of the Senate in the present juncture of affairs. The galleries, which constitute such a remarkable feature in the Chamber, run round the four sides of the square, and the front row is not more than 13 or 15 feet above the floor. They are not supported on pillars, but are actually a part of the House, and the walls which rise from the floor of the Chamber to the front row are the sides of the apartment itself. There are five rows of commodious seats, rising in tiers, and receding to the outer wall, and the flat ceiling, I should think is not more than 15 feet above the heads of the persons ____ back seats. These walls are all profusely ____ and highly decorated around the cornices, angles, and moldings, and are divided into panels and ____, which break the monotony of the plain surface at some cost of simple good taste. The ceiling is ____ divided into numerous compartments and is very lavishly gilded, burnished, and colored. Each square compartment is filled with colored glass, containing allegorical transparent figures and emblems, through which the light falls on the floor. Opposite the door, in a kind of recess or alcove, is the chair of the presiding officer – the Lord Chancellor – of the Senate. There is a small table in front of it, and below, on a small estrade, is the table of the clerks, underneath and at the sides of which are the desks of the official reporters and the places of the pages of the Senate. The reporters for the public Press sit in the gallery immediately above the President's head, those in the front row alone being well accommodated as far as I could judge, with either a sight or a hearing of the speakers. The desks and seats of the Senators are disposed in semicircles with the diameter parallel to the side of the house, and in the centre of which is the chair of the President. Besides each chair is a spittoon. Outside the semi-circumference is a vacant space called "the floor" and detached benches or sofas are placed along the walls beneath the galleries for strangers who may be honored by the privilege of "the floor" on the introduction of Senators during the debates. The opposition, if it can be called so, sit on the Speaker's right. They number perhaps 10 to 11 Senators, and among them are four who are regarded as Secessionists. Of these the chief is Mr. Breckinridge, a tall, dark, swarthy man, with a square head covered with thick dark hair, and large square jaws and chin, mediocrity of resolution and self reliance which he has, indeed, exhibited in taking his place in the Senate in defiance of the ill-concealed aversion of his ____ Senators. The pages are continually going to and fro amid the seats in answer to the backs of the Senators, or carrying in the cards and notes of persons outside. As I was speaking to Mr. Sumner a note was brought to him from one of his constituents. The man heard that his brother was killed yesterday at Bull Run, and wanted a pass to go out and find his body; and Mr. Sumner at once wrote a note to Gen. Scott and Gen. Mansfield to speed poor Gordon Frazer on his errand. At another time a knot of Senators assembled on the floor, and listened eagerly to someone who had news to tell, nor did they disperse till the President's hammer and words called them to order. The news was that "Gen. McDowell had carried Bull Run without firing a shot. Seven regiments had attacked the position and carried it at the point of the bayonet." Great satisfaction was expressed in the lobby outside. It was added by some that Gen. Scott had given McDowell till mid-day to-morrow to be in possession of Manassas. Alas! Soon there appeared one of the President's household, who declared that Mr. Lincoln had not heard a word of the good news, and that Gen. Scott was in equal ignorance of the success. All this time Mr. Latham is exercising, and just as I settle down to recover the clew of his argument in come the active little pages laden with bundles of letters and newspaper's which they proceed to distribute at the various desks. The mail is in. It is a difficult matter I see for a United States Senator to fix or command his applause from the galleries had subsided on Mr. Latham's resuming his seat no one rose to reply, and the public were driven forth, as an executive session was about to commence. Little bits of gossip, however, are gathered up. A friend of Mr. Seward has moved in the other House for the production of his dispatches. Such being the case, there is no reason why they should not see the light in England. In America the Minister has, however, a power of mutilation. He can omit passage it is not good for the world at large to know. Gen. Patterson is to be superseded by Gen. Banks, who has shown so much energy at Baltimore that, though a civilian it is thought he will act with vigor in the field. On the 17th, Patterson marched from Bunker Hill, Va. but did not proceed to Winchester, where Gen Johnston, at the head of the Confederates, was awaiting him in equal force, with the advantage of intrenchments and fortifications in his front. Patterson led his column to Charleston, on the east of his enemy. He intends to open communications with Harper's Ferry, to rebuild the bridge there, and restore the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, than facilitating the operations of the corps in Western

Virginia very considerably, and throwing open the communications with Baltimore and Maryland and all the North. It is just reported that Johnston has evacuated Winchester. It would seem that Patterson's movements have been very judicious if such is the case, but changes and promotions here are not always dependent on merit, and it may be that the General has failed in some important operation entrusted to him. Mr. Secretary Cameron and Gen. Scott are not on good terms at least there is no entente cordiale between them. In any controversy before the public, Mr. Cameron knows that his military rival would carry the day, and he does not desire such an issue. He is an able man, but armis cedant toga, and Gen. Scott is now master of the situation.

The papers which have just come in afford much amusement to the officers, who naturally turn to the accounts of the action at Bull Run, if it is worthy of the name of action. The tone of these dispatches is sometimes, to say the least of it, peculiar to the exigencies of the telegraph wire. What is to be thought of a General who "was exposed to the enemy's fire for nearly four hours?" Yet Gen. Tyler did it all – It was his duty, perhaps, and the enemy's fire was not deadly. But, oh, sons of battle, what was he to the "representatives of the Press," who we are told by the modest chronicler "stood their ground as well as any, in spite of the shot, shell, and rifle balls that whizzed past them for hours!" Discriminating projectiles truly. But then "the firing of the enemy was very wild." However, the haste and confusion of the retreat, which was very like a runaway was due "to the inefficiency and cowardice of some of the offices." Masked batteries and the wind of shot play a very important part in these engagements shot play a very important part in these engagements.

28 August 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror Narrow Escape

In the late battle of Bull Run several of the soldiers in Col. Allen's Regiment made very narrow escapes. Mr. Richard H. Washington received some six or seven bullet holes through his clothes without injury to his person. The same occurred with Mr. Geo. Flagg. A ball passed the shoulder of Mr. Samuel W. Wright, slightly tearing the cloth. These gentlemen are members of the Botts Greys.

16 Sep 1861 – Richmond Daily Enquirer To the Editors of the Enquirer Manassas Junction, Sept. 11, 1861

Gentlemen – In a list of Virginians published in your paper of the 10th, who still remain in the service of Lincoln's despotism, you number Major F. N. Page, Assistant Adjutant General, with the rest. This is a mistake, no doubt, as Major Page has been dead more than twelve months, having died at Fort Smith, Ark. He was as fine a Southern man as any that lives now, and I can safely say, from my intimate knowledge of his sentiments in regard to the rights of the South, that he would have hailed the separation of the South from the North with as great joy as the strongest secessionist to be found, and would, I am confident have been, from the very first, where all true Virginians should be. I feel confident that you will correct an error that does so much injustice to so pure a man.

With high respect,

W. L. Cabell,
Major and Quartermaster C. S. A.

18 September 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror The Battle of Bull Run

A correspondent of this paper writes that the charge in the battle of the 18th of July was made by companies of the 17th Virginia Regiment – the Loudoun Guards and Alexandria Rifles; that they were ordered to the charge by Major George W. Brent; that Captain Mayre only commanded the Alexandria Rifles, and that Captain George H. Head commanded the Loudoun Guards. The writer of the communication makes this statement for the purpose of correcting General Beauregard's report, in which, as our readers will remember, it was said that "some of our troops had pushed across the stream, and several small parties, under command of Capt. Marye, met and drove the enemy with the bayonet." If our correspondent is right, and General Beauregard wrong, it was from no desire on the part of our gallant commander on the Potomac to deprive the several participants in the charge of the honor due them.

Unintentional errors in such matters may be committed; but those who have watched the career of Beauregard well know that he discharges all his duties without fear, favor, or affection.

11 Oct 1861 – Richmond Daily Enquirer
Special Notice to those who mail letters to Soldiers
Manassas Junction, October 7, 1861

Not knowing how long the present war may continue, it may not be improper to call this particular attention of soldiers and their friends abroad to the importance of directing letters properly, if they wish their friends in camp to receive them. Letters should always be addressed to the care of the Colonel, at the same time naming the regiment and State. If one happens to be wrong, the other may serve as a guide. By the addition of the name of the Captain of the soldier's company, the delivery of the letter may be still more certainly insured. To put the simple name of an individual, with the Captain attached, the letter will rarely attain its destination. It is frequently the case that there are many Captains of the same name, and thus it is impossible for the postmaster to know the regiment to which he belongs. Captains and soldiers being confined to their camps, engaged in a march, or some other military duty, have not the opportunity to come to a post office. Each regiment, therefore, engages one of its men to procure the letters for the whole, which are put in a box marked for the regiment, and being taken to camp, are duly distributed among the various companies. In case of the removal of a regiment to a point beyond their last post office, according to the late law of Congress, the letters of the whole regiment, without farther charges to the soldiers, may be forwarded to any other post office, if they are properly directed; otherwise they must remain as dead letters, as it is impossible for the postmaster to know what else to do with them. A great deal of the annoyance which soldiers in camp suffer in the loss of their letters is almost invariably in consequence of inattention to the above rules; and whether they contain money or other valuables the same result must follow. At Manassas Junction, alone, there are said to be several thousand letters, to which owners cannot be found, for want of proper direction. Let all correspondents of soldiers learn them that it is useless in most instances to write to them unless they comply with these directions. Several have stated in my presence that they have never lost a letter, by getting their friends to give the attention referred to, from the beginning of the correspondence.

A Soldier

22 October 1861 – Richmond Enquirer
To the Voters of Prince William County

Military duties which I am unwilling to neglect at this juncture of public affairs will in all probability, prevent my attendance upon the approaching session of the Sovereign Convention of Virginia; and being anxious that you should be no longer unrepresented in that body. I have this day forwarded to the Executive my resignation.

In retiring from the service of so generous and confiding a constituency, I cannot for best to return you my grateful acknowledgements for the high position I occupied by your kindness and partiality, and express the hope that the place I now vacate may be filled by some one of you who will more ably represent the patriotic people of Old Prince William.

As your representative, I ever strove zealously and (a---tly) to separate the State from the despotic Government inaugurated at Washington, and to preserve our liberties by the resumption of State sovereignty. Amid terrifying scenes of the first session of the Convention, when overwhelmed with the prospect of defeat, or elated by the hopes of success, it was a never failing source of gratification that I was sustained in all I did by you and we now enjoy the proud satisfaction of having our sentiment's endorsed by a hundred thousand patriotic Virginians.

Respectfully, October 16th, 1861

Your fellow citizen

Eppa Hunton

24 October 1861 – Richmond Enquirer
Additional Reports

Dumfries, Va., October 16th 1861 – Messrs. Editors: The batteries on Ship Point, south side of Quantico Creek, were unmasked on Monday night, and yesterday, a Federal Steamer opened fire on them as she passed by. The enemy fought their guns well, but did not hurt one of our men, or do the works the slightest injury, as I know from personal observation a few minutes after the action. The Steamer was struck twice, it was thought.

About 5 o'clock this morning, a tug attempted to steal past, hugging the Maryland shore close. She was fired upon, it is supposed with effect.

A number of streamers are lying some miles above, and four or five below the batteries; and it is supposed we shall soon have a big fight. Have no fear of the result. We are ready to receive the whole navy of Lincoln, and though it is not polite to go into details. I can assure you, we are prepared to flank movements on land.

A short time since, Lieut. Dabney of Walker's battery, was ordered to Freestone Point south side of Neabsco Creek with the big rifle gun captured at Manassas to draw the attention of the Yankees from the Quantico batteries. He was supported by a large force of infantry and two rifled field pieces from Hampton's legion. A tug came within three hundred yards and fired several shots, then withdrew and a large steamer reopened on them.

Our battery had orders not to fire until they had received twelve or thirteen shots! Which was impatiently submitted to twelve times, when a few shots from Dabney's gun drove them off, the large steamer with a hole in her bow, as a gentleman from Maryland reports who saw her, large enough to roll a wheelbarrow through. If it had been for the remarkable order noticed above the tug that first fired could easily have been sunk. Our men showed great coolness yesterday and their cheers could be heard above the whizzing of the shells.

About ten days ago a detachment of the Quantico guard ran a long boat best capable of carrying a regiment through the Yankee fleet ten miles up the river and anchored the boat in this creek a mile from its mouth. On last Thursday night the Yankees sent a boat's crew up the creek and set fire to the boat, causing a loss to the Confederate States of two thousand dollars. They were seen by our pickets but they were under orders not to fire at boats coming into the creek. It was a bold act in the enemy, if they were aware of the batteries being erected, as they passed immediately under them. As the Yankee crew retired, some of the pickets opened ire upon them, in the face of contrary orders.

QUANTICO

Dumfries, Va., October 20th 1861 – Under cover of the rain and fog, about 11 o'clock, A. M. yesterday, two tugs, with schooners on each side of them, attempted to pass the batteries at the mouth of Quantico Creek. The fog lifting they were discovered by the batteries, which opened upon them for half an hour, as they passed up. The fire was so severe, the tugs cast loose from two of the schooners, and succeeded in making their escape, badly injured – one supposed to be on fire. Captain Nelson, of the Quantico Guard aided by the Texans, of W—fel's regiment and others, proceeded in boats to the Maryland side of the river, and brought two schooners safely into Quantico Creek, where they are now unloading. One schooner had about fifty cords of wood on board, the other the packet schooner "Fairfax of New York," had a cargo composed of five hundred barrel of cement, and four hundred and thirty two bales of hay, averaging 300 lbs. to the bale – There was a piano, bureau, chairs, &c. also on board. We counted ten places where shot had taken effect. One 32 pound ball is imbedded in her side, and one 32 and one 43 were found sticking in the bay. The shot that struck were all 32 pounders or upwards. One of the solid shot from the large rifle cannon captured at Manassas under charge of Lieut. Dabney of Walker's light artillery, board a hole through the fore mast, as neatly as if done by an augur. The tugs did not return the fire, as they were between the schooners.

By order of General Tr---be, Captain Chatard, C. S. N., has charge of the batteries. Today a large number of small river crafts taking advantage of a stiff North western, and bugging the Maryland shore, passed the batteries. The troops here are in fine spirits and eager to meet the enemy.

QUANTICO

4 Dec 1861 – Leesburg Va. Democratic Mirror Death of John Woodard

It gives us pain to have to record the death of Mr. John Woodard, a member of the "Loudoun Guard", which occurred at the Hospital Culpeper C. H., on Saturday last of typhoid fever. As a member of the Guards, Mr. Woodard participated in both the fights at Manassas of the 18th and 21st, and in each displayed great firmness and courage. Quiet and unobtrusive in his manner, firm and faithful to every trust, he had won the confidence and respect of his officers, and the esteem and good will of his brothers in arms. He was true, tried and trusty as a soldier, while as a citizen honest, uprightness and strict integrity marked his whole life. With nothing to defend save the honor of his State and the land that had given birth to his children, when the foot of the invader pressed the soil of Virginia, prompted by the patriotic instincts of his nature he was among the first to volunteer his services in her defence – how well he performed his part let

the bloody fields of Manassas and Bull Run tell. But in the fullness of life and the pride of manhood he has gone to his grave, leaving behind him a wife and three small children, whose helpless condition we would commend to these among whom he labored in health and in whose defence he so gallantly periled his life, with an abiding confidence that they will do what they can to assuage the grief his death has occasioned around the family hearthstone, by shielding from the rude blasts of adversity the stricken ones who mourn his loss.

13 May 1862 - Alexandria Gazette

Occoquan, Virginia Fire

“FIRE IN OCCOQUAN” A fire occurred in Occoquan on Saturday Night last destroying the Mill owned by Francis Hanna, and the houses belonging to Mr. J. Janney. It was said that the Mill was fired by an incendiary hand.

28 August 1862 Richmond Inquirer

Bristow Station

On Tuesday evening last, when the railroad train was fired into at Bristow Station, the engineer put on a full head of steam, and ran in a hurry down to Manassas Junction. In his fright he took the liberty of fancying that the regular signal lights to notify him to approach slowly, were merely decoy lights, to bring his train to a halt, and continued to run at full speed. The consequence was a collision, by which he annihilated his own train and the empty one standing in its path. The wreck of the two trains thus made is said greatly to have increased the trouble and confusion of the attack of the same night there.

28 August 1862 – Alexandria Gazette

Rumors &c.

The very air is filled with rumors and reports by fighting that has been going on between the opposing forces in Virginia, since night before last. Parties direct from Centreville state that cannonading commenced at Manassas at daybreak yesterday morning and continued during the day; musketry was also heard. The 12th Pennsylvania Cavalry who were driven from Gainesville and Manassas yesterday and reached here last night confirm the previous reports of the appearance in large force at Manassas and Centreville of the Confederates and on the streets this morning it is currently reported that scouting parties have been down below Fairfax Station. Gen. Pope is reported to be between two forces of Confederates and his situation is consequently considered dangerous. The reports concerning Bull Run bridge are contradictory, but it seems to be credited that that structure has been destroyed. The reported destruction of a portion of the Railroad and the cutting off of telegraphic communication with General Pope’s army is confirmed. Gen. Taylor is reported severely wounded, and it is said that several pieces of cannon at Manassas were captured by the Confederates.

28 August 1862 – Alexandria Gazette

Correspondent of the Philadelphia Press

As Mr. Zeigler and his companions were proceeding towards Washington to day, with the body of Gen. Bohlen, they were attacked by guerillas and forced to abandon the remains, and take to the wood, where they stayed for a long time. They finally made their escape with great difficulty, under cover of darkness, to-night.

Samuel Friedman, was arrested yesterday in Baltimore, charged with aiding soldiers to desert, by furnishing them clothes, wherewith to pass as private citizens, and then escape.

The only loss of railroad trains occurring in the affairs of the past week was that of the four trains of cars seized by the Confederates at Manassas on Tuesday night.

The 12th Pennsylvania cavalry, that retreated on Thursday last between Bristow and Manassas Junction, were 800 strong when surprised.

Lieut. Gen. Scott writes from West Point that his condition is so much improved as that he is now able to take his daily walks without the assistance of a cane even.

28 August 1862 – Alexandria Gazette

A Confederate Prisoner

G. D. Hill, of the 6th Virginia Cavalry, captured while on picket at Manassas, was brought to this city, last night, to be sent to Washington.

28 August 1862 – Alexandria Gazette

War News

The Confederates on Tuesday night successfully accomplished another attack on the right flank of the Federal army, this time advancing as far as Manassas Junction. The first attack was made at Bristoe Station, four miles beyond Manassas, where a train was fired into, but with what effect is not known. At the Junction the Federal guard consisted of a cavalry regiment, two companies of infantry, and a battery of artillery. The greater portion of the infantry and artillery were reported to have been captured, and the latter turned upon the Federal troops during the fight which took place. Four trains of empty cars are believed to have been captured by the Confederates, - As soon as information of the affair reached Fairfax Station, reinforcements were dispatched under Gen. Sturgis to attack the Confederates, whose force was variously estimated at from five hundred to two thousand. It is reported that much artillery firing was heard yesterday in the direction of Manassas leading to the belief that an engagement was going on. Another report was in circulation in Washington yesterday that five of the trains of cars containing the troops sent up were captured.

28 August 1862 – New York Herald

Battle of Thursday near Manassas

On Wednesday morning, 27th instant, at about eleven o'clock, General Taylor's brigade, of Major General Slocum's division of the army of the Potomac, consisting of the first, second, third and fourth New Jersey regiments, were ordered to proceed to Manassas by rail from their camp near Fort Ellsworth, Alexandria.

The brigade arrived at Bull Run Bridge about seven o'clock in the morning. The troops landed and crossed the bridge with as little delay as possible, and marched towards Manassas. After ascending the hill emerging from the valley of Bull Run, they encountered a line of the enemy's skirmishers, which fell back before them. The brigade marched on in the direction of Manassas, not seeing any of the enemy, until within range of the circular series of fortifications around the Junction, when heavy artillery was opened upon them from all directions. The enemy was concealed within the earth works and the brigade having no artillery or cavalry- the artillery and cavalry of the division not having yet arrived from New Port News – General Taylor retired beyond the range of the enemy guns to the rear of a sheltered crest of ground, where he was attacked by a brigade of rebel infantry, and a sharp musketry fire was kept up for about twenty minutes, when the General, perceiving a large cavalry force advancing towards his left rear, apparently with the intention of cutting off his retreat by Bull Run Bridge, retired by way of Blackburn's Ford. Crossing the ford, he was pursued by the rebel horse artillery, who fired into him occasioning considerable loss. General Taylor was wounded very severely in the leg, and it is thought that amputation will be necessary, His son, Lieutenant Taylor, aid-de-camp, was also wounded. Several other officers were killed and wounded. Among the former was Lieutenant William H. Prume, who was killed by a cannon ball, his head being entirely severed from his body.

The brigade retreated in all haste towards Fairfax, followed by the enemy, who pursued them beyond Centreville. Our loss is said to be very great in killed, wounded and missing, but our informant is unable to give accurate account.

There are a variety of reports as to the force of the enemy. A surgeon says that he saw three Brigadiers and one Major General, thus inferring that a whole division of the enemy were engaged; others, that the infantry which was there was only dismounted cavalry of General Stuart's about three thousand strong, with a couple of horse batteries.

Taylor's Brigade did not number more than fifteen hundred men. There were but few officers engaged, a great many having been captured in previous engagements.

The Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry are reported to have acted very cowardly on the appearance of the enemy in the neighborhood of Manassas. It is said that they put spurs to their horses and "Skedaddled," and that the artillery cut the traces of their horses and followed them.

28 August 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer

An Impudent Rebel Exploit

A Successful Foray Upon Manassas Junction and Bristow Station

Many rumors were afloat yesterday morning of a successful attack by a body of rebel cavalry upon the detachment of Union troops stationed at Manassas Junction, which has been used for some time past as a depot for supplies of the Army in Virginia. These reports were contradictory, of course, but the most material of them are embodied in the following extracts from the Star of last evening.

A rebel raid, similar to that made on Friday night last at Catlett's Station, was successfully accomplished on Tuesday night, not only at Bristow, but also at Manassas Station. The attacking force, variously estimated at from five hundred to two thousand cavalry, is supposed to have been a portion of Col. Fitzhugh Lee's force, that made the raid on Friday night at Catlett's.

From all we can learn of the facts, (and most of the information on the subject comes through Federal soldiers, who, running on the first alarm, were brought up all standing near Centreville by Federal pickets.) the first assault was made upon cars on the railroad at Bristow, four miles beyond Manassas. A train was fired upon there, with what resulting damage we know not.

The Federal guard at Manassas is said to have consisted of the Twelfth Pennsylvania cavalry, (very green troops,) two companies of infantry, and a battery of artillery. The men bringing the news to Centreville and Fairfax were of the cavalry, and represent that most of the infantry and artillery were captured, and the latter turned immediately against us, in the skirmish. It appears that the Federal wagon trains there at the time had sufficient warning to enable them to move back to Centreville without loss. Four trains of empty cars on the siding at Manassas are understood to have fallen into the hands of this marauding party. The Bull Run Bridge is safe.

As soon as information of this affair reached here on Tuesday night from Fairfax Station a considerable force was dispatched by rail, under Gen. Sturgis, to punish the daring marauders.

We take it for granted that the rebels destroyed as much of the railroad and telegraph at Manassas as possible through they could not do much more damage there, we apprehend, than can be rectified by our construction corps at hand in perhaps twenty-four hours. The interruption of telegraphic communication of course prevents the reception of the details of this disgraceful affair. From all we know of it so far, we feel sure that, instead of recrossing the Rappahannock on Saturday, Col. Fitzhugh Lee's force hurried into the mountain back of Warrenton, from whence he had but to dash down twenty or twenty-five miles upon Bristow and Manassas. We take it for granted that he did not remain at Manassas until Sturgis arrived there, but again made off for the fastnesses in his rear. By this time a sufficient force of cavalry has doubtless been sent after him by Gen. Pope. They will hardly catch him, however, if he chooses to go over the ridge at Front Royal, and there disperse his force to come together again somewhere in the valley.

It is undeniably true that the success of the rebel raids grow out of gross incompetence and inattention to their duties of the officers in charge of our railroad and other similar guards. It is high time that examples, by shooting on the sentence of courts martial, had been made of some of those responsible for these occurrences, so well calculated to make our armies justly the derision of the world. The country will no longer excuse neglect on the part of our military authorities to enforce attention on the part of their subordinates to the plainest rules of military duty and discipline – rules which, if longer neglected, will insure our ultimate defeat in this war, we care not how many men we put in the field, nor how much money we spend for war purposes.

P. S. – We learn that persons arriving from the vicinity of Fairfax represent that much artillery firing was heard early this (Wednesday) morning in the direction of Manassas, and indeed up to the hour they started for Washington by rail. If this be true, Lee or whoever commands the marauding rebels, felt himself strong enough to remain about Manassas until daybreak, when Sturgis probably came upon him and engaged him. We, however, receive this information with many grains of allowance, adhering to the theory that such rebel raids are being ventured only with a small force, and constituted as to do as much damage by night as possible, and prepare to run swiftly for hiding places ere effective pursuit can be essayed.

Up to nine o'clock on Tuesday night there had been no more fighting across the Rappahannock; nor, as far as we can learn, had the rebels shown themselves in force about there. We therefore adhere to the opinion that the rebels have already made off (for the most part) for Gordonsville, leaving Col. Fitzhugh Lee's small cavalry force to worry and annoy us on our right flank, and thus delay pursuit as long as possible. We reject the theory that the rebels have sent a considerable force in the Valley again; as to do so, their Generals know well, would be to insure its immediate destruction. They know, if but from the

publications in the New York newspapers, that the army of the Potomac is now where it can conveniently operate in conjunction with the army of Virginia. They know too, that if they lose Gordonsville, Richmond falls of its own weight very shortly afterwards, and that they must keep all their strength in this region together for its defence. While raids upon our flank and rear, like those of Col. Lee, annoy us, they effect nothing whatever in shaping the general result of a campaign. We will become more watchful of such matters, doubtless, and thus be improved by them.

We are enabled to add to the above portion of a dispatch received yesterday afternoon at the Commissary General's Office from an officer at Alexandria. The dispatch relates to supplies and movements of troops, which we are not at liberty to give. It concludes as follows:

Alexandria, August 27

Half-past 12 o'clock P. M.

Capt. Musser's son is here; says his father is either killed or a prisoner, and stores destroyed. I have two trains, but cannot get out, as the road is probably destroyed. They are fighting at Manassas now; a great many troops are going out to regulate matters.

29 August 1862 – New York Times

The Raid on Manassas Junction

From the National Intelligencer of Yesterday

Many rumors were afloat yesterday morning of a successful attack by a body of rebel cavalry upon the detachment of Union troops stationed at Manassas Junction, which has been used for some time past as a depot for supplies of the Army in Virginia. These reports were contradictory, of course, but the most material of them are embodied in the following extracts from the star of last evening:

"A rebel raid, similar to that made on Friday night last at Catlett's Station, was successfully accomplished on Tuesday night, not only at Bristow, but also at Manassas Station. The attacking force, variously estimated at from 500 to 2,000 cavalry, is supposed to have been a portion of Col. Fitzhugh Lee's force that made the raid on Friday night at Catlett's.

From all we can learn of the facts, (and most of the information on the subject comes through Federal soldiers, who, running on the first alarm, were brought up all standing near Centreville by Federal pickets,) the first assault was made upon cars on the railroad at Bristow, four miles beyond Manassas. A train was fired upon there, with what resulting damage we know not.

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It is undeniably true that the success of the rebel raids grow out of the gross incompetency and inattention to their duties of the officers in charge of our railroad and other similar guards. It is high time that examples by shooting on the sentence of Courts-martial, had been made of some of those responsible for these occurrences, so well calculated to make our armies justly the derision of the world. The country will no longer excuse neglect on the part of our military authorities to enforce attention on the part of their subordinates to the plainest rules of military duty and discipline – rules which, if longer neglected, will

insure our ultimate defeat in this war, we care not how many men we put in the field, nor how much money we spend for war purposes.

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We are enabled to add to the above a portion of a dispatch received yesterday afternoon at the Commissary General's office from an officer at Alexandria. The dispatch relates to supplies and movements of troops, which we are not at liberty to give. It concludes as follows:

Alexandria, August 27 – 12 ½ o'clock P. M.

Capt. Musser's son is here; says his father is either killed or a prisoner, and stores destroyed. I have two trains, but cannot get out, as the road is probably destroyed. They are fighting at Manassas now; a great many troops are going out to regulate matters.

From the Correspondent of the Tribune

Wednesday, August 27 – 3 P. M.

News again from the front, or rather from the rear of the front

Two thousand rebel cavalry, last night or early this morning, it is not clear which, dashed in upon the rear of our lines, reached Manassas Junction, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and captured three trains, numerous prisoners, and quartermasters stores to the amount of a half a million dollars. This latter is the official statement, and is not likely to be ever stated.

A messenger just arrived states that the rebels are still in possession of Manassas Junction! That they have destroyed all the buildings, public and private, the station-houses and storehouses, and have burnt the railway bridge over Bull Run! That bridge is six miles this side of Manassas Junction. It is a structure of considerable length and expense. Its destruction cuts off railway communication between the Capital and the Army. No trains will leave Alexandria to-day.

I have received no further particulars. The above information is mainly from official dispatches, but the facts are known here from other sources. Soldiers arrived at Alexandria this morning who were at Manassas when the attack was made. They say that the rebels had with them flying artillery, and that they used it against a railway train arriving from Alexandria.

The boldness of this dash far exceeds that upon Catlett's Station. It is twelve miles further to the rear, eighteen miles further to Bull Run, where the bridge was burnt. It is so completely within the lines that it seems impossible that the force which has accomplished it should escape. With different corps of our army at Warrenton and Warrenton Junction, Gen. Pope's headquarters being at the latter place, it is not easy to see how the enemy effected an entrance into the lines at all. It is possible that Thoroughfare Gap has been left unguarded, and that the rebels dashed in on the line of the railway which passes through that opening. In that case they have undoubtedly destroyed also the bridge over Broad Run at Gainesville. However they came the dash is characteristic of rebel enterprise and audacity, and cutting, as it does, the only railway between Washington and Gen. Pope's headquarters, and destroying telegraphic communication between Gen. Hallack and the army whose movements in the field he is directing, it more

than compensates for the brilliant cavalry movements upon Culpepper, Beaver Dam and Frederick Hill, by which Gen. Pope first signalized his assumption of command.

It is not easy to see what excuse is to be offered for this success. Catlett's was bad enough, and its consequences sufficiently disastrous. But such a success, one might expect, would put a General on his guard against its reputation. Here we have it again, on a larger scale, still bolder in its plan, and more sudden and complete in execution. There is a very brilliant field indeed for future explanation. Meantime, the Capital is without communication with the army by rail or telegraph, and the War Department received its dispatch this soon by the hands of a special messenger. To -night will bring us further details. The substance of this news should reach you by telegraph to-night, and particulars by mail tomorrow.

Notwithstanding this news, we have reports that the rebels are retreating, and that our army is already moving forward. There is nothing from the Shenandoah. Gen. Banks' Corps is named as advancing in another direction.

29 August 1862 – Alexandria Gazette War News

From the statements published it appears that the Confederates, instead of simply making dashing foray along the Orange and Alexandria railroad, have moved up a considerable portion of their army between the Federal force under Gen. Pope and the fortifications around Washington. At Bull Run bridge an engagement took place, lasting all day, between a brigade of Federal troops, under Gen. Scallon and a considerable force of the Confederates. The battle was for the possession of the bridge which at the close of the day the Confederates still held. It is supposed that the fight was resumed yesterday. Gen. Hooker's division advanced to Bristow Station, four miles beyond Manassas Junction, and there encountered a large Confederate force, and a battle ensued which was kept up all day, the Confederates finally falling back to Manassas Junction. The Federal loss in killed, wounded and missing in this engagement is estimated at about three hundred. At Manassas Junction another battle took place. The troops which were sent out to reinforce the Federal force at that point, on reaching the circle of fortifications surrounding the place, were opened on by a heavy fire of artillery and were compelled to fall back. Gen Taylor, the commander, seeing that efforts were being made by the Confederates to cut off his retreat, withdrew his troops across Blackburn's Ford, the Confederates firing upon them as they moved. The loss of the brigade is believed to be severe. A skirmish probably occurred at Fairfax Station, as it is reported that a large portion of a New Jersey regiment were captured by the Confederates at that place. It is reported that the Confederates are encamped twenty or thirty thousand strong between Manassas Junction and Gainesville, and that the great body of their army is massed at the Plains, in Fauquier County on the Manassas Gap Railroad, forty-one miles from Alexandria. Gainesville is twenty-eight miles from Alexandria on the same railroad, in Prince William County. Confederate scouts have appeared at a church in Loudoun County twenty miles from Washington City and at Vienna fifteen miles from Alexandria.

29 August 1862 – New York Times The Rebel Dash at Manassas

The rebels certainly succeeded in harvesting the credit of all the dash and enterprise of the war. On Tuesday night, the cavalry of Gen. Stuart, for a third time in the history of the Summer campaign, made their appearance in the rear of the Union Army. Manassas is between Gen. Pope's centre and Washington City. It was upon the Manassas Station the rebels made their descent, in numbers stated – probably with exaggeration – at two or three thousand men, capturing a battery of New York artillery, some empty cars, and destroying a serious amount of army stores. Such thorough workers, we may be sure, did not leave the railroad track and the telegraphic wire untouched; and we shall not be surprised if stories of the destruction of two or three important bridges should prove true. To the rest of the narrative, as sent us by straggling correspondents, we may give more reserved credit. It will turn out, we suspect, that the rebels did not burn the railroad bridge six miles nearer Washington; and that the panic like story of their continuing to hold Manassas in strong force, is founded only in a frightened fancy. Nothing is less probable than that with a heavy body of McClellan's army threatening to flank their main body on the South of the Rappahannock, they would place a considerable force at Manassas, where it must certainly be cut off and captured. This view gathers strength from a later report of the army of Pope having assumed the offensive, and commenced its advance upon the enemy; a movement certainly not undertaken with a hostile army and broken communications in the rear.

It is quite easy, of course, to say these escapades of the rebels are mere episodes; flashes without anybody seriously struck; the mere pleasant by-play of the great war drama, the tragedy of which needs just such relief. But this is hardly sufficient. The moral gain to the enemy is incalculable – the moral loss to the National forces equally so. Where is the vigilance, which, if duly on the alert, would defeat such attempts? Why is the possibility of such feats seen only by the enemy? Or, if it is equally seen to be so by our leaders, why are such feats thus repeated? In the army of Gen. Pope the cavalry has been in excess of the proportion due to the number of infantry. Why, after that cavalry had proved its ability to emulate Stuart and Morgan by its operations around Orange Court House has it been permitted to sink into idle obscurity?

But while such secondary questions are asked, there is a general and obvious solution to the whole difficulty. Our Army is attacked with impunity, because it has remained persistently on the defensive. We cannot expect the enemy to be idle simply because we choose to be so. It is safe to presume, even in the absence of the vexatious evidence thrust upon us again and again during the past twelve months, that they who are so desperately in earnest as are the rebels, will not let their spurs rust in disuse, or shut their eyes to opportunities of inflicting damage, because their antagonists prefer to ___ in insecurity. Give the army motion and activity; fling them in masses upon the enemy, and maintain the fight and the pursuit so long as an armed rebel can be found, and we will keep the enemy too busy to find leisure to harass our rear. Such goads and spurs as these should prick us into action.

29 August 1862 – New York Times News of the Day – The Rebellion

Our advices from Virginia this morning, are not of the most agreeable character. The rebels have made another raid, this time in the rear of Gen. Pope's army, and have succeeded in temporarily severing communications between the army and Gen. Halleck's headquarters in Washington. A body of two thousand rebel cavalry, accompanied by flying artillery, on Tuesday night, or early Wednesday morning, made a successful dash at Manassas Junction, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, captured three or four trains, a number of prisoners, and quartermasters' stores to a considerable amount – one account says a half a million dollars. They also tore up the railroad track, demolished the telegraph, and are believed to have burnt the railroad bridge over Bull Run, which is some six miles this side of Manassas Junction. A dispatch received in Washington from Alexandria, dated at noon on Wednesday, states that fighting was then going on at Manassas, and that a great many troops were going out to "regulate matters." From this we infer that the rebel force has not been allowed to escape with impunity. We hope so. Meantime we are glad to receive assurances that everything is going on well in the extreme front. It is still asserted that the main rebel force is retreating, and that our army is already advancing. One of our correspondents expresses confidently the belief that the fate of the rebellion will be divided within two weeks.

29 August 1862 Philadelphia Evening Bulletin The Army in Virginia The Late Fight at Manassas Junction Correspondence of the New York Tribune

Alexandria, August 28 – The facts of the raid on Manassas, as obtained from a courier this morning arrived, are as follows:

On Tuesday night, about 8 o'clock, the pickets at Manassas Junction were driven in, and the two companies of the One Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania Infantry and some artillery stationed there, surprised and attacked by Gen. Ewell's entire division, numbering from 7,000 to 10,000 infantry and cavalry, with artillery.

After a short skirmish the handful of men at the Junction fled, the rebels turning upon them nine of our own guns, and keeping up a brisk fire till the Union troops were taken prisoners – a few escaping across Bull Run. Here, at Union Mills two regiments of Gen. Cox's Division, the 11th and 12th Ohio, under Col. Scammon, were stationed; and they immediately advanced to meet the approaching body of rebels. A conflict ensued in the early morning between the Junction and Bull Run, lasting for three hours, when the Union troops, being largely outnumbered and flanked on the right, retired across Bull Run Bridge. Here a vigorous attempt was made by Col. Scammon to hold the bridge. At 11 o'clock, two rebel regiments forded the Run above the bridge, when the Twelfth Ohio charged on them and drove them across the river with heavy loss. In this skirmish Captain D. W. Pauly was wounded slightly. The regiment lost, in killed, wounded and missing 35 to 40 men.

At 12 o'clock, Col. Scammon was obliged to retire, moving along the railroad in the direction of Alexandria. The rebels advanced across Bull Run, and yesterday afternoon their advance cavalry were at Fairfax and Burtis Stations.

It seems that on the approach of the enemy to Manassas the force divided, three regiments with cavalry and artillery filing off towards Centreville, via Sudley's Ford. On the old battle ground they were met by the New Jersey brigade, consisting of the First, Second, Third, and Fourth New Jersey infantry, under Brigadier General Taylor, where the severest fight of the day occurred. Gen Taylor was severely but not dangerously wounded in the lower part of one leg, and now lies in the Mansion Hospital, Alexandria. Both sides suffered very heavily, but as the enemy held the field it is impossible to ascertain the nature or extent of the casualties.

At the time of the rebel advance, nine companies of the Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry (new troops) were encountered on the Manassas Gap Railroad, near White Plains – the enemy having approached through Thoroughfare Gap – but were defeated and scattered after a short skirmish. A number of them were taken prisoners. The prevalent opinion seems to be that they did but little fighting as the remnants of the regiment in Alexandria this morning have very incoherent notions of the affair.

On taking possession of Manassas Junction the rebels captured seven trains loaded with provisions, ammunition, &c., and ten locomotives, all of which they destroyed. Of the 84 men of the One Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania, on the ground, nearly all were killed, wounded or taken prisoners, as only three are known to have escaped. Captain Craig, Company B, and Corp. Corcoran, of Company B, are known to be wounded and prisoners.

Contrabands just in from Manassas state that they were not generally molested; that the nine captured guns are mounted in the crumbling embrasures of the old forts at Manassas, apparently ready for action, but that preparations are making for departure, and that there seems to be an intention to destroy everything, but the houses have not yet been burned.

It is said that a detachment of the division made an advance to the Occoquan yesterday, and that they have probably gone to Acquia Creek, and destroyed the Government property at that place.

After the first car with the wounded was run into Alexandria yesterday, another train was dispatched to bring in another load, but was fired into, and driven back, about four miles this side of Bull Run.

Our loss has been immense in Government stores, and large in killed, wounded, and missing. The telegraphic communication with Gen. Pope yesterday was had via Fredericksburg – none whatever direct.

Lieutenant Taylor, A. D. C., of General Taylor's staff; Captain Niffins, of the Fourth New Jersey, and Lieutenant Buckley, of the Second New Jersey, are among the wounded and brought off.

The friends of Gen. Bohlen, who left here on Tuesday to recover his body, were at Manassas Junction when the attack was made. Their horse and buggy were captured, and they escaped through the woods to Washington, where they arrived last evening.

Later. – A captain just in from Centreville says that firing was heard this morning beyond Manassas, and it is believed that Gen. Pope has attacked Gen. Ewell in the rear.

It seems incredible that the rebels should have ventured to send infantry so far to the rear and beyond even the centre of our lines. Advancing from Thoroughfare Gap on the line of the Manassas railway, they are exposed to attack in their own rear by overwhelming forces, nor is it evident how they can escape. If Thoroughfare Gap was left open by Gen. Pope, it is a blunder that ought to cost him command, for it is the plain, conspicuous avenue for the entrance of an enemy bold and prompt enough for a movement on his flank or rear. It was suggested in a letter two days ago as the probable path of the force that surprised Cattell's. Can it be that the rebels have been permitted to seize and are still permitted to hold such a position as that, vital to the security of our forces? With an army of irresistible strength and our undoubtedly superior numbers at the Warrenton end of the railway, and with a heavy force at this end, the rebels are sad for almost two days have been in possession of the road which is the only means of communications ---- (bottom of page torn and missing) ----- enemy has appeared in force near Leesburg, and it is even asserted that that place is already in rebel possession. While there is no doubt of the fact that rebel cavalry have advanced themselves near the Upper Potomac, the latter statement is probably premature. But this cavalry may be the advance guard from the Shenandoah Valley, and its approach the announcement of another movement on Harper's Ferry and on Maryland. Rebel sympathizers are jubilant and confident and have been for days predicting this very movement.

This news is gathered from the best sources accessible to the press. From the War Department, where the whole truth is known, nothing can be learned; but that the account of the attack on Manassas, its

possession by the rebels, and their advance along the road toward Alexandria, are in substance, correct, I have no doubt whatever. Though it may be difficult for the North to believe that rebel cavalry have shown themselves within twenty miles of Alexandria, and that the rebels have again been victorious near the old battle field of Manassas, the facts seem beyond question. I write in greatest haste for the morning train. Fuller details by next letter.

The following are the names of some of the officers and men killed or wounded by the enemy in recent skirmishes in Virginia.

Killed

Captain Campbell; Major Titus 17th Pennsylvania; Lieutenant J. H. Plum, 2nd New Jersey; Lieutenant Colonel Collet, 1st New Jersey.

Wounded

General Taylor, New Jersey Brigade, leg amputated; Lieutenant McAllister L. 12th Pennsylvania; Lieutenant Winn, M. 12th Pennsylvania; Lieutenant Zimmerman, M. 12 Pennsylvania; Captain D. B. Jenkins, F. 12 Pennsylvania; Lieutenant D. Chase, K. 12th Pennsylvania; Adjutant G. W. H. Henice, 12th Pennsylvania; Captain Nippins, 4th New Jersey; Lieutenant Buckley, I. 2nd New Jersey; B. Miller, K. 4th New Jersey;; G. U. Carr, I. 3rd New Jersey; C. F. Foulke, E. 12th Ohio; T. H. Scott, I. 12th New Jersey; J. Halfrick, A. 12th Ohio; D. Essex, A. 2nd New Jersey; R. S. Hewitt, A. 3rd New Jersey; J. Opp, C. 12th Ohio; O. Miller, B. 7th New Jersey; H. K. Hirdule, B. 1st New Jersey; W. Atchison, I. 2nd New Jersey; Col. Buck, 2nd New Jersey; Capt. Wildrake, B. 2nd New Jersey; Capt. Bishop, 2nd New Jersey, prisoner; Capt. Stahl, K. 2nd New Jersey; Lieut. Taylor, L. 3rd New Jersey; Capt. Stickney, F. 2nd New Jersey; Lieut. Carr, I. 3rd New Jersey; Robert McCunn, E. 12th Ohio; Eugene Slatter, E. 12th Ohio; John Johnson, 1st New Jersey Artillery; J. Weaver, F. 2nd New Jersey; J. Naylor, C. 3rd New Jersey; W. T. Mears, A. 3rd New Jersey; J. Getty, C. 3rd New Jersey; J. Kerney, I. 4th New Jersey; J. T. Lewis, G. 1st New Jersey; A. Carnell, B. 12th Pennsylvania; Sergt. John Schoen, I. 12th Ohio; E. M. Helm, H. 12th Ohio

29 August 1862 – Alexandria Gazette Correspondence of the Baltimore American Military Matters

Alexandria, August 30. – It is difficult to say what is the actual condition of affairs in the neighborhood of Manassas and Fairfax, the fugitives coming in represent that we have met with a most serious disaster. Women, children, and contrabands are flocking in from the vicinity of Fairfax, and there seems to be no doubt but that the Confederate cavalry have visited that place. They say that they fled on their approach, and that a large conflagration was visible in that direction, probably the destruction by the Confederates of the Government stores. It is also said that they have destroyed the railroad bridge over Accotink Creek, five miles this side of Fairfax.

There seems to be no doubt that they had not only full possession of Manassas Junction and Bull Run, but also of Centreville,; and it is rumored they have captured two of the four New Jersey Regiments that were stationed at Centreville.

The fighting brigade of General Hooker, which was pushed forward yesterday by General McClellan is reported this evening to have checked the advance of the enemy at Centreville, and driven them back to Manassas Junction, after some severe fighting. This is generally credited, though no cannonading has been heard at the front to-day.

In the meantime the army of General Pope is beyond Manassas, and unless it can cut its way through the confederate forces at Manassas, is entirely cut off from Washington, as that of General Burnside and the corps of General Porter, which was landed at Aquia Creek. That they will soon open a way for themselves there can be no doubt.

The Confederate forces that have made this extensive raid in the rear of General Pope are understood to be all cavalry, under the command of Colonel Lee.

29 August 1862 –Washington Daily National Intelligencer 29 August 1862 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin (small changes) “ Liberty and Union, Now and Forever, One and Inseparable” From Gen. Pope’s Army Late Engagements At Bull Run and at Bristow Station

It turns out that the cannonading heard nearly all day on Wednesday by persons in Fairfax County was that of an engagement between Scanlon’s brigade, of Gen. Cox’s division, and a force of the rebels,

considerably outnumbering them, at Bull Run, the contest being for the possession of the railroad bridge at that point. We believe that the rebels retained possession of it at nightfall, but have every reason to think that Scanlon must have dislodged them from it at an early hour on Thursday morning. On Wednesday night he certainly expected to be able to do so. Our impression is that his loss throughout the day's skirmishing was inconsiderable.

The main engagement of Wednesday was that of Hooker's division, with a considerable rebel force, at Bristow Station, four miles beyond Manassas Junction, and thirty-one miles from Washington.

It appears that the movement of the enemy on Friday, from the south bank of the Rappahannock, via Jeffersonston, in the direction of Little Washington, was actually designed to throw the most of the rebel army across the Rappahannock at the base of the Blue Ridge. This was done, and it now supposed that on Wednesday morning that army, for the most part, was massed at or near White Plains, in the valley between the Blue Ridge and Bull Run ranges, seven or nine miles northeast of Warrenton.

At an early hour on Wednesday morning Gen. Hooker's division (doubtless dispatched to that point by Gen. Pope on account of the affair there of the night before) came up with a large rebel force about Bristow Station, with whom he had a heavy engagement, lasting nearly all day. In the course of it Hooker drove the enemy step by step back to the vicinity of Manassas Junction. Our total loss in killed, wounded, and missing in the day's engagement at that place was about three hundred. Gen. Pope is said to regard the affair as a signal Union success.

It is evident from these facts that the late skirmishers on the Rappahannock were little more than feints on the part of the rebels, who aimed to get in between Pope's army and the fortifications around Washington. We opine that having done so in a measure they will have rather a lively time in getting out of the position they have thus chosen.

From the movements and positions of the rebels it is evident that their purpose is either to put Bull Run between themselves and Pope's Army, and while essaying to prevent (with a comparatively small force) the latter from crossing it, to assail us in and about our fortifications; or else to attempt to cross over into Maryland, marching via Leesburg. Twenty-four hours, at furthest, will surely solve this problem of their present aims. It matters not which scheme the rebels have in view; as either must inevitably fail, met as it will be by our two united great armies, and the troops in the fortifications immediately surrounding this city.

Further particulars of the fight at Manassas

One of the New York batteries; belonging to Sturgis's corps under Capt. Van Putcamer was at Manassas Junction on Tuesday night, and lost four or six pieces in the fight with the Confederates, being surrounded, and having neither infantry or cavalry support. The Twelfth Pennsylvania cavalry ran off, and came into Alexandria with few missing, about nine o'clock on Wednesday night.

On Wednesday morning early, Gen. Taylor's brigade. (1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th New Jersey volunteers, 0 of Maj. Gen. Slocum's division of the Army of the Potomac, was sent by rail to Manassas. The troops landed at Bull Run bridge and marched to Manassas, on approaching which place they met a line of rebel skirmishers, who fell back before them. The brigade continued its march, and on coming within the circle of fortifications at the Junction, which they had no idea were occupied, a heavy concentrated fire of artillery was opened upon them from three different directions. Gen. Taylor had no artillery or cavalry, that of the division not having arrived from the Peninsula, and was consequently obliged to retire out of range behind a sheltering ridge. While here it is reported that they warmly engaged a brigade of rebel infantry. At length, seeing a large force of rebel cavalry making toward Bull Run bridge with the evident intention of intercepting his retreat, Gen. T. withdrew his troops across Blackburn's Ford. To this point the enemy pursued him with horse artillery, pouring canister into his ranks with some damage, wounding, among others, the General severely and his son almighty, and killing Lieut. Plume, of the Second New Jersey regiment.

The brigade was a small one, not numbering over fifteen hundred effective men. Its loss at Gaines' Mill was very severe, and in the present affair it was almost without officers. Its loss is not known, but is pretty severe.

The Enemy in Force at Gainesville

We have information that the enemy was encamped some twenty or thirty thousand strong at Gainesville, between Manassas Junction, at 2 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

A large portion of Taylor's New Jersey brigade was captured at Fairfax Station by the rebel cavalry some five hundred of which were seen between Centreville and Fairfax Court House on Wednesday noon, and are supposed to be the same that made the above capture.

From the fact that the enemy on Wednesday night burnt the bridges at Accotink and Pope's Run, it is supposed that they are moving off in some other direction, and wish to avert pursuit. - Star

29 August 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer
The Recent Raids of the Enemy

In an article under the head of "How to cure a bad matter," prompted by the rumor that in the recent raid of the insurgents on Catlett's Station, in the rear of General Pope's army, that officer had lost not only his private baggage, but also certain valuable papers relating to the conduct of the campaign, the New York Evening Post remarks as follows:

"The raid on Catlett's, in the rear of Pope's army, like that of Gen. Stuart around the entire rear of Gen. McClellan's position on the Chickahominy, shows that with audacity and enterprise an active enemy may easily put us to blush, and cause our commanders bitter mortification, if not serious loss. If we make light of the reported loss of Gen. Pope's papers, it is not to excuse him, who, unless his actions hitherto greatly belie his character, will be bitterly stung by what he must as a soldier consider as a personal and admirably delivered insult to himself. It is rather that we do not trust the rumor which describes this loss to be so serious; we do not believe that even a careless commander leaves his papers lying around loose in the manner supposed."

The second daring and successful raid effected by the enemy at Manassas Junction, another point in the rear of Gen. Pope, and a "base of supplies" for his army, suggest that the impunity with which these petty but annoying movements are accomplished is emboldening the insurgents to reduce them to a system. We fear that the Confederate Generals have been encouraged to make these demonstrations on the "line of Gen. Pope's retreat" because they were aware that it does not enter into that officer's views of strategy to give any attention to the state of affairs behind him. In his address to his soldiers, under date of last July 14th, it will be remembered that he announced as his governing principle "to study the probable lines of retreat of our opponents, and to leave our own to take care of themselves." To this effect he ordered as follows:

"I desire you to dismiss from your minds certain phrases which I am sorry to find much in vogue amongst you. I hear constantly of taking "strong positions and holding them," of lines of retreat," and of "bases of supplies." Let us discard such ideas. The strongest position a soldier should desire to occupy is one from which he can most easily advance against the enemy. Let us study the probable lines of retreat of our opponents, and leave our own to take care of themselves. Let us look before us and not behind. Success and glory are in advance. Disaster and shame lurk in the rear."

In the case of an enemy who is erratic and enterprising in his movements, it will be necessary for General Pope to "look behind" as well as "before." Fortunately for him, and fortunately for the country, Gen. McClellan, with his veteran troops, is in a position to guard the army of Gen. Pope and the capital of the nation from the "disaster and shame" that "lurk in the rear."

29 August 1862 – Washington Daily Intelligencer
The War in Virginia
The Late Movements – Gen. McClellan in Command
Special Correspondence of the Baltimore American

Alexandria, August 28th – 3 P. M. – There has been much excitement here to-day growing out of the movements of the rebels at Manassas Junction, Fairfax Court House, and along the line of the Orange and Alexandria railroad. The rumors afloat are of the most contradictory character, and troops have been pushed forward from here as fast as they are landed from the transports.

Gen. McClellan visited Washington last evening and had an interview with the President and Gen. Halleck, and it is said was tendered and has accepted the command of the whole army of Virginia. He is here to-day and it is said has assumed the command, and is making such disposition of the forces at his command as is calculated to check the rebel army in the bold dash they are making for the National Capital.

It is difficult to say what is the actual condition of affairs in the neighborhood of Manassas and Fairfax; the fugitives coming in represent that we have met with a most serious disaster. Women, children, and contrabands are flocking in from the vicinity of Fairfax, and there seems to be no doubt but that the rebel cavalry have visited that place. They say that they fled on their approach, and that a large conflagration was visible in that direction, probably the destruction by the rebels of the Government stores. It is also said that they have destroyed the railroad bridge over Accotink Creek, five miles this side of Fairfax.

There seems to be no doubt that they had not only full possession of Manassas Junction and Bull Run, but also of Centreville; and it is rumored they have captured two of the four New Jersey regiments that were stationed at Centreville.

The fighting brigade of General Hooker, which was pushed forward yesterday by Gen. McClellan, is reported this evening to have checked the advance of the enemy at Centreville, and driven them back to Manassas Junction after some severe fighting. This is generally credited, though no cannonading has been heard at the front to-day.

In the mean time the army of Gen. Pope is beyond Manassas, and unless it can cut its way through the rebel forces at Manassas is entirely cut off from Washington, as well as that of Gen. Burnside and the corps of Gen. Porter, which was landed at Aquia Creek. That they will soon open a way for themselves there can be no doubt.

While the skirmishing was going on across the Rappahannock, and the rebels were making it appear as if they were determined to advance with their main body on Washington by that route, it is now ascertained that they were marching with their main body around the head waters of the Rappahannock, at the base of the Blue Ridge, and are now actually massing their troops at White Plains, and have taken possession of Thoroughfare Gap, fully ten miles north of Manassas. The cavalry raid on Fairfax is said to have been made from this direction, so that the main body of the rebel army is now in a position either to advance on the Potomac by way of Leesburg or direct on Washington through the Gap, as circumstances may warrant.

It is also said that a messenger reached here this afternoon by way of Aquia Creek and the river from Gen. Burnside, announcing that the rebel force of Gen. Ewell has penetrated in the rear of Gen. Pope and occupies the left bank of the Occoquan river. This would seem to be almost impossible, but it is generally credited here.

Those who have been endeavoring to make it appear that Gen. McClellan had an inferior force to contend with before Richmond are now satisfied that the rebel army is fully equal, if not superior in numbers, to the entire combined forces of Pope, McClellan, and Burnside.

The announcement that Gen. McClellan has been assigned to the command of the entire army has given great satisfaction to both the troops here and our loyal citizens. He is at work with his usual energy, and it is hoped he will be able to bring success out of what now appears so disastrous. The rebel army is entirely cut off from its base of operations and source of supplies, and is penetrating a region of country where subsistence is very scarce.

A large force is now marching to meet them and to assist in opening the way to Pope and Burnside. If successful, he will doubtless place the rebel army in a worse position than that which the main body of our troops is now in, as they can, if necessary, fall back to Fredericksburg and reach Washington by the river. On the other hand, if Jackson is cut off his army may be scattered and destroyed. The movement of the enemy is a bold but most hazardous one.

29 August 1862 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

The War in Virginia

Further Particulars

Alexandria, August 28, - The enemy have succeeded in holding their own in the vicinity of Manassas. Last night they got down to Burk's Station, some 14 miles from here, and drove the telegraph operators away. They were the last to leave. It is probable that the rebels destroyed every thing around the station.

30 August 1862 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

04 September 1862 – Richmond Examiner

Additional Particulars

Washington, August 9th – A gentleman who arrived in this city last night from Alexandria is the bearer of much more agreeable news from the seat of war. He says that it was generally understood in the best informed military circles that General Pope and Burnside had succeeded in cutting their way through to Manassas and forming a junction with Gen. McClellan on the side of Centreville. The enemy had been defeated in the vicinity of Manassas.

A private letter from a merchant in Baltimore says that, as the Potomac is now fordable, at every point, much excitement prevails in Western Maryland in the consequence of the recent incursion of the

rebels. The enemy, however, has not appeared on the Upper Potomac, though much excitement prevails on both sides from an apprehension of an early visit.

The excitement and depression which prevailed both at Washington and Baltimore yesterday, has been fully relieved by the extensive character of the military operations in progress.

The Washington Star, of Friday evening, says: "We have information that satisfies us that the force that suddenly appeared between the position of the army of General Pope and this capital, at Bristow and Manassas, on Tuesday night last, was the army corps of the rebel General Jackson and Stuart's Independent Cavalry Corps. They (the infantry and Artillery) marched, about thirty thousand strong, from near Waterloo, on the head waters of the Rappahannock, around by White Plains, to Manassas (about forty miles) in two days, without wagons, tents, blankets, or even knapsacks, thus leaving their baggage of every description to be transported by the wagons with the other army corps of Lee's force following on behind them.

"Instead of fighting merely a portion of Stuart's cavalry at Manassas on the day before yesterday, Taylor's Brigade was actually confronted by the greatest portion of Jackson, Ewell, Talliaferro, A. P. Hill, and Stuart, and General-in Chief Robert Lee or his son, Brigadier General Fitzhugh Lee, being present (at Manassas) during the engagement. We think Fitzhugh Lee rather than his father. There were besides a host of other rebel Brigadiers then and there engaged."

A correspondent of the Inquirer writes as follows:

Alexandria, August 29, 1862, 2 o'clock. – A great many conflicting rumors have been current all day, relative to the army. Mr. W. Simpson, of Washington, succeeded in making his way from Warrenton to this place on a hand car. The enemy before us are commanded by Jackson, Hill and Ewell.

On Wednesday last Generals Kearney and Hooker attacked the enemy about one and a half miles beyond Bristow, the enemy at this point being commanded by General Ewell. Our forces attacked the rebels with such impetuosity that they fell back in some confusion, at least two miles. Night came on, which saved the enemy from total rout. Yesterday, at daybreak, Generals Kearney and Hooker opened the ball, the enemy falling back towards Centreville. At this point our forces came up with them, when a severe engagement ensued, which lasted until dark, with heavy losses on both sides. The enemy fought with great desperation and the shades of night again caused a cessation of hostilities.

The fight was again renewed this morning. But it is evident that the enemy cannot stand before the veterans of Gen. Heintzelman's corps d' armes. It is very difficult to estimate the number of killed and wounded on our side. The loss is very heavy. Five trains and the locomotives thereto attached, have been destroyed, and the remnants are yet scattered along the road.

Gen. Sickles's Excelsior Brigade was in the thickest of the fray, and right nobly did they sustain their former reputation won on the Peninsula before Yorktown and Richmond. The brigade has suffered severely. The bridges and stations from Bristow to Bull Run have been destroyed.

The enemy captured over 1000 contrabands, last evening, of all sizes and ages. They were making their way to our lines. The poor wretches were in a horrible condition.

The enemy captured over 500 prisoners at Manassas. They also got into the Quartermaster's Department and many of them changed their clothes, leaving their old dirty and filthy duds behind.

The train that left Warrenton on Tuesday night, containing sick and wounded on their way to this point, was captured, and those of the sick and wounded that could be readily removed were taken prisoners.

"Stonewall" Jackson was at Salem on Sunday, and then marched 52 miles on Monday and Tuesday for the purpose of getting to the railroad. He reached the railroad on Tuesday night, at 8 o'clock, and at once commenced to intercept the trains running up and down. The switches were turned so as to turn the cars off on a siding, and from thence down embankments.

Reinforcements have been going all day to assist in driving these miscreants to the wall. In the attack by the rebel cavalry, their cry was: "No quarter to the Yankees!"

The booming of the guns could be plainly heard at Alexandria last evening and to day. Contrabands still continue to arrive by hundreds.

General Patterson's brigade, known as the Second Jersey brigade, was called upon by General Hooker, and they went into the fight in their usual manner. Wednesday's fight was terrible, our boys driving them in all directions, the enemy flying like scattered sheep, leaving their dead and wounded to mercy of our troops. Most of the rebels left on the field were Germans, belonging to General Ewell's division of the rebel army. General Glover, of Hooker's division, and Adjutant General Dickerson, of the same command, acted nobly during the whole engagement. The Lieutenant who brought Sickles's brigade out of the action was released only six weeks ago from Richmond. His company came out of the action

with fifteen men. The brigade is now less than a regiment. Hooker went in his usual bulldog style. The enemy got the range of our troops early in the action.

30 August 1862 – Alexandria Gazette
Washington Republican Special Correspondent
A Late Battle
Alexandria, August 29.

This has been an exciting day in the city. The constant arrival and departure of troops throughout the day, the bustle and activity about our wharves and in the river in front, the marching and countermarching in our rear, and the innumerable flying and exciting rumors, have conspired to keep our city up to the fever point all the time. Amid the mass of information of all kinds, it is almost impossible to get at the real events which are now transpiring within only about twenty miles of us – events which may tell on the future of our country with more power than we at present are aware of. I have tried to sift from the confused mass what particulars I deem most reliable.

I saw about 25 of the wounded of the New Jersey brigade, who were in the attack on the Confederates at Manassas. They arrived here this morning, and were sent at once to the hospitals. They came all the way from the battle field on foot. From them I learn that General Taylor, who commanded the brigade, was shot and both legs were taken off. He was brought to Alexandria. These men represent the action as terrific while it lasted. It was understood that the brigade was ordered to hold the bridge across Bull Run, but the party in command supposing that the fortifications at Manassas were held by a small party of guerillas, ordered the brigade up the hill for the purpose of clearing out the enemy. Before reaching the fortifications, our force discovered that we had fallen on an ambush. The Confederates opened fire from three batteries, and soon displayed a large force of infantry and cavalry, estimated at twenty thousand or more.

The New Jersey boys stood the fire manfully and returned it as well as they could, but having no artillery support, and being subjected to a murderous cross-fire by an overpowering force, they were obliged to retreat to the bridge, which they succeeded in crossing just in time to save being cut off and hemmed in. They were obliged to leave their dead and severely wounded on the field. Our loss cannot be accurately stated, but it is heavy, nearly every company reporting from 15 to 40 loss. The bridge was immediately destroyed by our force, which held the Confederates in check for a while, and then commenced the retreat, during which the small brigade, now fearfully cut up, was harassed during the entire from Bull Run to Annandale, by cavalry and guerilla parties. A number of shots were fired at them even at the latter place, only about six miles from us.

30 August 1862 – Alexandria Gazette
30 August 1862 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin – News from Virginia
30 August 1862 – New York Times
30 August 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer
Despatch from General Pope to Major General H. W. Halleck, General in Chief

As soon as I discovered that a large force of the enemy was turning our right toward Manassas and that the division I had ordered to take post there two days before had not arrived from Alexandria. I immediately broke up my camps at Warrenton Junction and Warrenton and marched rapidly back in three columns.

I directed Gen. McDowell, with his own and Gen. Sigel's corps and Gen. Reno's division, to march upon Gainesville by the Warrenton & Alexandria pike, Reno and one division of Gen. Heintzelman's corps to march on Greenwich, and with Gen. Porter's corps and Gen. Hooker's division, I marched back to Manassas Junction.

Gen. McDowell was ordered to interpose between the forces of the enemy which had passed down to Manassas through Gainesville and his main body, moving down from White Plains through Thoroughfare Gap. This was completely accomplished, Longstreet, who had passed through the Gap, being driven back to the west side. The forces sent to Greenwich were designated to support Gen. McDowell in case he met too large a force of the enemy.

The division of General Hooker, marching towards Manassas, came upon the enemy near Kettle Run in the afternoon of the 27th inst., and after a sharp action routed them completely, killing and wounding three hundred, capturing their camps and baggage, and many stand of arms.

This morning the command pushed rapidly to Manassas Junction, which Jackson had evacuated three hours in advance. He retreated by Centreville, and took the turnpike towards Warrenton.

He was met six miles west of Centreville by Generals McDowell and Sigel late this afternoon. A severe fight took place, which has terminated by darkness; the enemy was driven back at all points, and thus the affair rests. General Heintzelman will move on him at daylight from Centreville, and I do not see how the enemy is to escape without heavy loss. We have captured a thousand prisoners, many arms, and one piece of artillery.

John Pope, Major General

30 August 1862 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

31 August 1862 – New York Times

01 September 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer

The Great Battle of Friday

Official Dispatch fro Gen. Pope

Headquarters, Groveton near Gainesville, August 30, 1862

To Major Gen. Halleck, General-in-chief, Washington, D.C. – We fought a terrific battle here yesterday, with the combined forces of the enemy, which lasted with continuous fury from daylight until after dark, by which time the enemy was driven from the field, which we now occupy.

Our troops are too much exhausted to push matters, but I shall do so in the course of the morning, as soon as Fitz-John Porter's corps come up from Manassas. The enemy is still in our front, but badly used up.

We have lost not less than eight thousand men killed and wounded, and from the appearance of the field, the enemy have lost at least two to our one. He stood strictly on the defensive, and every assault was made by ourselves. Our troops have behaved splendidly.

The battle was fought on the identical battlefield of Bull Run, which greatly increased the enthusiasm of our men. The news just reached me from the front that the enemy is retreating towards the mountains. I go forward at once to see. We have made great captures, but I am not able yet to form an idea of their extent.

John Pope, Major General Commanding

30 August 1862 – New York Times

The Guerrilla Raid upon the Orange and Alexandria Railroad

The Attack at Bristoe and Manassas Junction

Narrow Escape of an Important Mail Agent

Washington, Thursday, August 28, 1862 – When an intimate and old personal friend said to Jeff Davis in the early part of the rebellion that the attempt of the South to destroy the Government would prove a failure, the high-tened Jeff, with one of his characteristic shakes of the head and a swing of his arm, as if about to kill a big mosquito upon the end of his nose, said: Then, by G_d, Sir, as a last resort we will adopt the guerrilla system, and the world in arms cannot crush us." A similar determination was expressed subsequently by A. H. Stephens and Yancey, and from the recent raids upon the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, it would seem that the rebellion has reached just that crisis in its progress where perforce they are compelled to adopt the so long threatened guerrilla system. The whole of Stuart's command, with Fitzhugh Lee, Yules, and other well known men, seem to have dwindled down to a mere partisan bands of guerrillas, who practice all the excesses, to annoy their opponents, known to that system of warfare in the most uncivilized countries. The rules of war by them are entirely ignored, and their men are made enthusiastic demons by the promises of plunder, a chance to murder the hated Yankees with impunity, and of larger liberty to gratify their fiendish hate whenever they enter the Free States, which they are confident of doing at a very early day. The guerrillas system of warfare has always hereto fore been ignored by every civilized people – not alone for its barbarity, but because, as a military agency, it was almost useless. The present raids upon the road in the rear of Gen. Pope's army have no particular significance or importance. Small mounted forces can by sudden dashes upon the line of communications, in the right time, rob unarmed men and unoffending citizens; burn empty wagons and destroy empty railroad cars; all this is annoying, to be

sure but it really has no military importance, and cannot be a part of any general plan for a flank movement. Soldiers who go on a reconnaissance for such a purpose do not sneak about, like the highwaymen of old, in the night time, and rob and murder indiscriminately; but run the hazards of a soldier's calling, in a manly and soldierly way. These fellows rob their victims of the smallest articles of value.

No alarm, therefore, need be felt by the public; none is here felt by the military authorities, at the frequent dashes upon the railroad. These depredators will speedily be disposed of.

The last attack of which we have any account was made at Bristol Station, four miles south of Manassas Junction, and between Kettle Creek and Broad Run, on Tuesday night, at about 9 o'clock. There were four trains of cars between that point and Warrenton Junction, on their way to Alexandria.

The first of these reached Bristol's at about 9 o'clock, and received a volley of musketry. The private mail agent, Mr. Wallace, was upon the train with a very important mail, which he had just obtained at Gen. Pope's headquarters. The guerrillas had placed a pile of sleepers upon the track, with the intention of throwing the train off, but the engineer being badly frightened, put on all steam, dashed through the obstructions, the cow-catcher wiping them from the track without injury to the locomotive. A train was standing upon the track near the water-tank at Manassas Junction, as the special mail train (which, by the way, consisted of sixteen cars) came along. A violent collision took place, by which several cars were broken to pieces, and two lives are known to have been lost, while many persons were more or less seriously wounded. The Mail Agent occupied a car at about the centre of the train. The car was broken in the centre, but he escaped injury, secured his mail matter, and traveled on foot through the woods to Fairfax, from which point he telegraphed to the Superintendent of the railroad, and a special train was sent to that point for him, and the mail was brought through in safety. The trains behind did not fare so well. Two of them – consisting of two locomotives and thirty-five cars – were captured and burned. The last train was saved through the coolness and judgment of the engineer. Upon approaching Manassas Junction he saw at a glance that there was trouble ahead, and instead of taking to the woods as many have done, he reversed the engine, ran back to Catlett's Station, thereby saving the train. The force of rebels at Manassas Wednesday night was estimated at 1,200 men, commanded by Fitzhugh Lee. The commanding-General has taken effective measures to put a stop to these raids and punish the parties engaged in them, and not many days will have elapsed before the road between Alexandria and Gen. Pope's army is free from all obstructions. As the passengers left Fairfax Thursday morning cannonading was heard at Manassas, our troops having arrived there at 8 o'clock A. M. This firing was distinctly heard in the city but it is not supported that the rebels have any force there other than that we have mentioned as under Lee. They, however, captured three pieces of cannon with caissons and everything complete.

30 August 1862 – Alexandria Gazette

Latest News From the South

The Richmond Dispatch of the 26th contains the following intelligence

Passengers who arrived in Richmond Monday evening reported that the Confederates had entered Warrenton without firing a gun, and captured large quantities of commissary and other stores. Also that the Confederate cavalry had burned the railroad bridge over Cedar Run, cutting off the retreat of the Federals in the direction of Manassas, and that a large body of Confederate infantry and artillery had marched down from Warrenton and taken position between the Federals and the point where the bridge was destroyed. (The Dispatch does not consider this latter statement positively correct.)

31 August 1862 – New York Times (Headlines)

Defeat of the Rebels on the Old Bull Run Battle-Ground; Dispatches from Gen. Pope; A Terrific Battle on Friday, Lasting All Day; The Combined Forces of Enemy Engaged; The Rebels Driven from the Field; Our Losses Not Less than Eight Thousand Killed and Wounded; The Rebel Losses Probably Double; Important Captures Made by our Forces; Retreat of the Rebels toward the Mountains on Friday Morning; Prompt Pursuit of Gen. Pope; Another Great Battle Yesterday

31 August 1862 – New York Times

Dispatch from Gen. McDowell

Washington, Friday, August 30

Secretary Chase received this afternoon, through Gen. Pope's messenger, the following note from Gen. McDowell, dated on battle field at 6:15, morning:

“Dear Governor – Please telegraph Mrs. McDowell that I have gone through a second battle of Bull Run, on the identical field of last year and unhurt. The victory is decidedly ours.

Very sincerely,
Irvin McDowell

31 August 1862 – New York Times
Another Battle Yesterday

Information has reached Washington from private sources that Gen. Pope came up with and attacked the enemy again shortly after nine o'clock this morning.

Gen. Fitz-John Porter had probably arrived on the field by that time from Manassas, only seven miles distant. The cannonading was distinctly heard in Washington.

The railroad was regularly run this forenoon from the town of Warrenton to Bristoe, so it is already clear that the only damage remaining to be repaired to the railroad is to build the Bull Run and Rappahannock bridges. The former should be completed to-night, and the latter may be in four or five days.

The news received from the army has occasioned the greatest excitement throughout this city. Orders were issued by the Heads of the different Bureaus, calling upon the employees to repair to the battlefield, for the purpose of attending to the condition of our wounded. The order required each man to provide himself with two days rations.

A prompt response was made to the call, and not only the persons employed by the Government, but many others, left the city for the purpose stated.

Although the engagement with the enemy is of a most appallingly sanguinary character, yet such is the confidence of Union Men in the skill and strength of our army, that an abiding faith in our ultimate success is everywhere discernible.

31 August 1862 – New York Times
The Second Bull Run Battle
Washington, Saturday, August 30,

To-day's Evening Star, speaking of the battle of yesterday, says: “The battle was continued by the army corps of General Heintzelman, McDowell and Sigel, on our side, against a rebel force believed to number from fifty to sixty thousand strong – that is, against the army corps of Jackson, and, we presume, a portion of the rest of Lee's army that had succeeded in making its way down from White Plains through Thoroughfare Gap.

The location of the battle of the day was in the vicinity of Haymarket, and from Haymarket off in the direction of Sudley Church, or in other words but a few miles northwest of the scene of the never to be forgotten battle of Bull Run.

Heintzelman's Corps, if we are correctly informed, came up with the enemy's rear about 10 A. M., seven miles from Centreville, which point he left at daybreak.

He found Stonewall Jackson fighting with McDowell or Sigel, or both, on the right, in the direction of Haymarket, the position they took by going north from Gainesville, to command the entrance to and exit from Thoroughfare Gap.

Our own informant, who left Centreville at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, a cool and clear-headed man, says that, up to that hour, the impression prevailed there that nothing had definitely resulted from the day's fighting, which, through continuous, had not been a very bloody battle.

Persons subsequently arriving, who were on the field of action themselves until 4 P. M., however, represent that the tide of success was decidedly with the Union Army, which pushed the rebels successfully on both sides.

An impression prevails that the reserve of Lee's army, supposed to be from twenty to forty thousand strong, might suddenly appear near the field, and we know that the heavy corps under Fitz-John Porter was so posted that it could instantly move upon Lee with equal ease, whether attacking McDowell, Sigel or Heintzelman.

The railroad, we are happy to say, has already been repaired quite up to Bull Run, and supplies, etc. are now being transported over it to that point.

By midday we have every reason to believe that the Bull Run bridge will again be passable, when the trains can again run to Manassas.

In evacuating Manassas, the rebels paroled the 760 Union prisoners they had taken since the commencement of the movement for which they are paying so dearly. The rebels realized that prisoners in

their present strait were an elephant in their hands, and wisely thus get rid of them. These 700 prisoners covered all the stragglers they had taken, as well as the 500 of Taylor's Brigade.

**31 August 1862 – New York Times
Washington, Saturday, August 30,
From Private Sources**

On Wednesday morning, or rather Tuesday night, a report reached Warrenton Junction that Jackson was again in our rear, and that, instead of making an attack and retiring, as his cavalry did on Friday night last, at Catlett's Station, he had taken up a position on the railroad near Bristoe, four miles south of Manassas; had burned two railroad trains, torn up the railroad track, cut the telegraph, and took prisoners all the guards along the road.

These reports prove to have been true, and the events of Wednesday showed his determination not to be easily driven from the neighborhood.

It seems from what can be learned from the rebel wounded in our hands, that Jackson and Ewell started from the vicinity of Warrenton Springs on Sunday, with three divisions, crossed the Rappahannock some six miles south of Blue Ridge, and proceeded by way of Orleans and Salem to Bristoe making the distance in about two and a half days.

On reaching this point their first object of attack was the house of Mr. Lip-----, where ten officers were stopping, and who were on the back porch at the time, smoking.

The house was attacked both front and rear, and the bullet-holes in the wood and plaster, with the fact that none of the party were wounded, showed what poor marksmen these rebel cavalry were. The entire party, however, with the exception of Capt. O. A. Tildenmore, were taken prisoners. The names of the officers taken prisoners are as follows: Lieut. Col. Pierson, First New York Volunteers; Lieut. Allen, and two other Lieutenants of the same regiment; A Lieutenant of the Fifty-Seventh Pennsylvania Regiment; First Lieutenant of Company B, One Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers; A Captain of the Fourth Maine Regiment; Lieuts. Pendergast and Johnson of the Thirty-Eighth New York Volunteers.

The next attack of the rebels was upon a company of the One hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, left to guard the road, two or three of whom were killed, and the remainder are supposed to be captured.

A train of empty cars then came along from Warrenton, and was fired into by a regiment of infantry and one of cavalry, but escaped without serious injury.

Orders were then issued by Jackson to tear up the railroad track, which was done, and a second train coming along, ran off the track, and was fired into.

A third train following ran into the second and was also fired into, and some persons on board were taken prisoners.

A fourth train made an appearance, but the Engineer suspected something wrong, stopped at a distance and blew a whistle, and being answered by one of the others, backed and returned toward Warrenton.

The two trains were then fired, under the direction of Jackson, and entirely consumed, excepting the iron work.

The rebels then proceeded a mile down the track, burned the bridge at Cattle Run, tore up some thirty feet of the track, and cut the telegraph. They also burned the bridge across Broad Run, at Bristoe.

On Wednesday morning, Ewell's Rebel Division was placed in position on each side of the railroad, having three batteries, one on the right, one on the left, and the other near the railroad, with infantry and cavalry between, the entire force being concealed behind brush-woods and the rail (illegible word) with an open field in front.

Our troops sent down from Warrenton Junction to attack them consisted of Hooker's Division, with a portion of Kearney's but the latter, it is said, did not get a chance to enter into the contest.

Gen. Hooker was in command, and not expecting the enemy to be in any large force, ordered a change through a piece of woods and into the cleared space, when a most murderous fire was opened upon him from the entire line of the rebels, their batteries throwing grape and canister, the most of which, however, went over the heads of our troops; but the fire from the rebel line of infantry was very destructive, and some of Hooker's regiments were compelled to fall back to the woods, but on being supported by

others failed, and, after firing several volleys, repeated the charge, when the rebels broke and retreated, our boys pursuing them, shouting and yelling.

The Third New Jersey Brigade was commanded by Col. Carr, who had his horse shot under him while urging his men on to an attack. This is the Brigade though somewhat changed, which so nobly held the extreme left at the battle of Williamsburgh for four hours, sustaining a loss there of over six hundred killed and wounded.

Adjutant Benedict's horse was also shot during the action. Lieut. Col. Potter, of the Second Regiment, Excelsior Brigade, was shot in the hand while leading his men. The pursuit continued till dark, the enemy retreating towards Manassas.

The result of this action was that the enemy was beaten and driven from the field, sustaining a loss of about equal to our own.

Our loss was about fifty killed and over two hundred wounded, a complete list of which was collected, but stolen.

The Second New York regiment lost about ten officers and some ninety or one hundred killed and wounded.

The physicians on the ground (Dr. Morrow of the Second New Hampshire being the only name I can now recollect) exerted themselves to relieve the wounded; and although the accommodations to operate were very poor, they succeeded during the afternoon and night in attending to all

Gen Pope arrived on the ground late in the evening and proceeded towards the scene of action, but the fighting was then over and the enemy in full retreat.

Jackson had left for Manassas during the day with his division, where he pillaged the place, capturing a large number of prisoners, and burning every building, except the telegraph building and a few shanties, after taking off their own old rags, and putting on our good clothing, and helping themselves to food of all kinds, arms, equipment, and whatever else they could carry away out of the cars, about a hundred of which were at that place, for the greater part loaded with supplies for our army. The Rebels then set fire to all the cars and they now present a mass of bleached ruins.

On their arrival, they found a portion of two New Jersey Regiments of Infantry, which had arrived there during the forenoon. They immediately attacked them, our troops defending themselves for some time, but finding the number of the enemy so great, and that they were being flanked, they retreated towards Centreville, and got away with the loss of some forty wounded and about twelve killed. The rebels captured six hundred and twenty-five of them, but they were paroled yesterday morning just before the battle commenced.

The pursuit was continued towards Centreville on Thursday afternoon, and a squadron of the Second Pennsylvania Cavalry, with Gen. Birney, was in the advance, and stopped at Centreville to inquire the route taken by the enemy. While there a woman waved a flag from the back window, at which signal a force of rebel cavalry, about 2,000 strong, under Gen. Lee, emerged from the woods. Our men had scarcely time to mount their horses and escape, coming down the road at full speed, the enemy in swift pursuit. They were followed until they came to where our infantry were drawn in line of battle on each side of the road, at which point the rebels received a volley which caused them to retreat at more than a double-quick.

Our troops took up the line of march, and followed the rebels during the night on the Gainesville or Warrenton road., and soon came in sight of the old Bull Run battle-ground in strong position, and under cover of the woods.

Action commenced about 9 o'clock, our batteries having been placed in position, and Milroy's Brigade having the advance, was ordered to charge the rebels through the woods, and to cross toward the railroad switch, when the enemy poured into our troops a perfect storm of grape and canister. This caused them to fall back, but they soon (illegible word), and paid the enemy with interest.

The rebels here rose en masse behind the railroad track, and again caused our men to fall back, which opened upon the rebels terrifically. The enemy were at the time only about thirty yards distant, and the effect of the fire destroyed at least 600 of them. In this section, however, Hampton lost one of his guns. He had to change his position to the left, as he was unable to maintain himself under the fire which the rebels poured into him.

The battle in other quarters raged furiously; the general result of which has already been stated from other sources.

The position of the forces on Thursday night remained about the same as it was at the commencement of the action. The loss on both sides is heavy. Gen. Dur—a, while engaged in making a

recognizance to-day was wounded in the hand. The fighting up to 12 o'clock today was a desultory character. We occupy the ground where the rebels had buried their dead.

31 August 1862 – New York Times
August 1861 - Washington Star
Philadelphia, Saturday, August 29
Fighting Stopped at Noon Yesterday

“At 12 ½ o'clock this afternoon, the firing that has been heard all day stopped, as we learn from parties just down from Fairfax County. We trust this fact means the surrender of the rebels, and we don't see how it can mean anything else.”

The Star also contains some severe strictures on the slow movements of Gen. Franklin's Division which were open to criticism in Washington to-day.

According to the accounts of those last from the battle-field, the belief there was that Jackson was aiming to get off from Pope in the direction of Aldie.

The Star doubts this. A dispatch is published from Capt. Mass--, late Commissary in charge at Centreville, announcing his arrival there with 624 paroled prisoners.

The Star contains an urgent call for nurses, for whom prompt railroad transmission has been ordered by the War Department.

31 August 1862 – New York Times
Our Correspondence from the Field
The Guerilla Raid upon the Orange and Alexandria Railroad
Capture of a New York Battery at Manassas
The Fight at Bull Run &c,

Headquarters in the Field, Between
Alexandria and Bristoe Station
Thursday, P. M., Aug. 28, 1862

I have fortunately been able to obtain some reliable and interesting details of the transactions during Tuesday night and a portion of yesterday, (Wednesday,) on the line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad and Vicinity. Tuesday evening, between 5 and 8 o'clock, five trains of empty cars were captured and mostly destroyed by a rebel cavalry force on the road between Bristoe Station and Manassas Junction, and on the same evening the enemy destroyed the bridge across Broad River, and subsequently the bridges across other small creeks on the railroad. There were stationed at Manassas Junction, Tuesday, the Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, numbering between 500 and 600 men, Col. White, and the First New York Battery – 10 pieces – about 300 men to serve them. At 5 o'clock, a dispatch was received by telegraph from Warrenton Junction, directing the cavalry to proceed immediately to White Plains, (15 miles) on the Manassas road, and keep a sharp look out for the enemy, who it was understood, had crossed the Rappahannock in force on Sunday, and by the way of Jeffersonton and Little Washington, was making his way for some point on the line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, with a view, no doubt, to divide our forces and isolate the command of Gen. Pope – a position which the commander of the Union forces desired him to take, and a fatal one to the enemy it is certainly believed to be. The Pennsylvania cavalry left for the point directed, but finding none of the enemy at White Plains, at a late hour the corps started to return to the Junction. When within eight or nine miles of the latter place, they found a corps of about 1,000 cavalry, supposed to be commanded by Fitzhugh Lee, drawn up to dispute their further progress. A brisk skirmish took place, when our cavalry cut their way through the rebel ranks, losing a number in killed, wounded and prisoners. There was a kind of running fight kept up until the Junction was reached, at about 1 o'clock A. M. of Wednesday, when the rebels apparently retired satisfied. The cavalry fell back to a position one mile north of the Junction, known as Beauregard's Headquarters, and were under arms all night, without knowing what had transpired at the Junction during their absence at White Plains. In this interval the rebels had fallen upon the First New York Artillery by surprise – the officer in command supposing the approaching force to be our cavalry until too late – and captured eight of their ten guns. This was not done, however, until after a most sanguinary resistance, resulting in the killing and wounding of

quite a number on both sides. A member of the Pennsylvania cavalry, not knowing that the Junction was in possession of the rebels, walked very deliberately to the place at sunrise, and finding himself in a trap, coolly asked the first rebel he met "how things were going," and in reply the rebel soldier said, "All right – we have had lots of fun and plunder." Our soldiers then attempted to set loose a number of Government horses tied in a stable, when an officer said, "That is not one of our men – shoot him." At about this time the two guns saved from the New York Battery commenced throwing shell, and this soldier escaped and reached his own command. It was now 7 o'clock Wednesday morning. The rebels occupied the earthworks near the Junction, but after a time advanced from their position and made an unsuccessful attempt to take the remaining guns of the New York Battery. A running fight was kept up along the line of the railroad, our troops gradually falling back until near mid-day, when at a point one mile south of Fairfax Station, they were met by a force of infantry and artillery under the command of Brig. Gen. Taylor, of New Jersey, and the rebels were driven back to Manassas Junction forthwith. A fact especially worthy of notice in this connection is, that upon the person of a prisoner captured was found a copy of the identical dispatch sent by telegraph from Warrenton Junction, between 4 and 5 o'clock P. M. of Tuesday, directing the cavalry at Manassas Junction to leave for White Plains, so that they enabled to attack the place when the least resistance could be offered. It is believed by many that this dispatch could not have been obtained in any other way than thought the agency of some employee of the Government.

Of the fight that took place Wednesday afternoon, with Gen. Taylor's force, on the road between Manassas Junction and Bull Run, and the latter place, but little reliable information can be obtained at this time. The engagement was a sharp and deadly one – the rebels holding their position at night; but those who ought to know what occurred this morning look very good natured, and hence we, who are in the dark, draw the inference that the rebels got their desert this morning. The rebel force in action at Bull Run, Wednesday evening; is believed to have been about 5,000 men, principally cavalry and artillery. Our force consisted of ten regiments of infantry, and ten guns. Gen Taylor was so badly wounded in one of his legs, by the explosion of a shell, that the leg was amputated to-day. The eleventh and Twelfth Ohio Regiments, it is said, suffered the most – the latter having, according to a statement of a member, eighty wounded and twelve killed. The wildest rumors were circulated in Alexandria to-day about the result of the fight yesterday and this morning, but there is no occasion for any alarm. A force of (blank) men left the vicinity of Alexandria early this morning for the scene of action – a force which with that under Gen. Pope's immediate command, is sufficient to crush a very respectable force of the enemy. I shall send forward additional details as soon as anything reliable can be obtained. The excitement was somewhat intensified in Alexandria last night, by the 12th Virginia Cavalry rushing into the city in a panic; and the excitement was again renewed this morning by the return of a train of cars that started for Manassas Junction. The train was fired upon when fifteen miles out, and returned.

I escaped from the Rappahannock just at the right moment. Had I been 20 minutes later on Tuesday night, I should have been captured by the rebels. The train that kept us company all the way up was nabbed. It is supposed that Jackson had nearly his whole force near White plains. If so there is no escape for them so far as I can see. Pope must have 200,000 well disciplined troops south of Jackson there are 75,000 fresh troops encamped about Washington, and then there is an immense force of tried men – say 50,000 men – between this point and Jackson's position. Gen. McClellan reached Alexandria Wednesday morning, and was at the telegraph office writing dispatches – orders – nearly at night. He can write with facility with either hand. To-day he is confined to his room by reason of slight indisposition. The rebels captured a saddle of mine at Manassas Junction, and a small bundle of papers and clothing. They were placed on the train just behind the one in which I took passage, by mistake. I hope that Halleck's infamous order about correspondents will be modified soon. It is very unsatisfactory to be compelled to obtain information as we do now. The Tenth New York Cavalry, 750 men (new corps) , is now passing to the front. They are the finest set of men, and best mounted, in the service. They elicit the admiration of every one.

New regiments are rolling in upon us here almost every hour in the day – quite as fast as they can be accommodated. Three hundred paroled prisoners, I suppose, left Washington yesterday for Dixie, via Fortress Monroe. But these matters you get by telegraph. The reports in the Tribune of the fighting on the Rappahannock are, for the most part, grossly erroneous.

31 August 1862 – New York Times

The Operations of Gen. Taylor's Brigade at Bull Run and Vicinity Aug. 27

Jackson Completely Cut Off on Thursday by Generals Hooker and Kearney

Fairfax Court House, Friday, Aug. 29, 1862

In my last I gave you a correct and somewhat detailed account of the operations of the Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and First New York Battery, at Manassas Junction and vicinity, on Wednesday, the 27th inst., down to the time when they were received by the arrival of reinforcements. To continue in order as the events occurred, Brig. Gen. Taylor, in command of the New Jersey Brigade, 1600 strong all infantry – left Alexandria early on Wednesday morning, to reinforce the command at Manassas Junction. When one mile north of Bull Run Bridge, they found the track obstructed by the debris of a destroyed train of cars, and disembarking, proceeded on foot towards Manassas Junction. Upon arriving in sight of the latter place, they saw the Stars and Stripes flying, and heard the roar of cannon; as the flag was there, and no shots were directed toward Gen. Taylor's column, that officer concluded that our forces were firing upon a force of the enemy beyond, and consequently pressed forward at a double quick. Too late the discovery was made that the troops at the Junction were rebels, and that the raising of the "Stars and Stripes," and the aiming of their guns in an opposite direction was a ruse of the enemy. When within half gunshot distance, the rebels opened upon Gen. Taylor's command, right, left, and front, with the eight 32 pound cannon which they had captured a few hours before from the New York battery. Their cavalry immediately fired a volley and charged at the same time, which for a moment created a panic in our ranks. Gen. Taylor speedily obtained order, and gradually fell back to Bull Run Bridge, he having no artillery or cavalry to use against the rebels. At the latter place Gen. Taylor was reinforced by the arrival of the Eleventh and Twelfth Ohio Volunteers – the latter a cavalry corps – and quite a brisk fight took place, when the rebels were finally repulsed. Gen. Taylor was wounded in the leg while gallantly rallying his men against a superior force of the enemy, composed of cavalry and artillery. Late at night the commander of our forces, learning that the rebels had received large reinforcements, fell back to Fairfax Station, and at 11 o'clock at night moved on to this place, as the advance of a large force which left Alexandria on Thursday morning. The rebels had disappeared.

It is alleged that the Twelfth Pennsylvania Cavalry acted in the most scandalous manner at Bull Run, and the bulk of the regiment made a rapid retreat toward Alexandria. Of the truth of this however, I cannot vouch.

Jackson Cut Off

The movements on Thursday, the 28th, were more important than any that have taken place on this line during the present campaign. Pope's strategy is being developed. Gens. Hooker and Kearney, with their thoroughly disciplined commands, advanced upon the rear of Jackson and have forced him toward Leesburg, where he is completely cut off, and must, with his whole force, be captured or destroyed, unless some stupendous error is made on our side. Jackson will probably get into Washington somewhat sooner than expected, and in a manner less agreeable than he anticipated.

There is heavy firing northwest of this place this morning, and it is supposed that our forces have compelled Jackson to face about and fight.

31 August 1862 – Philadelphia Press

2 September 1862 – New York Times

Newspaper Accounts

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press, under date of the 31st gives graphic descriptions of the battles at Bull Run, from which we select the following:

It will hardly be necessary for me to mention the fact that it was not until yesterday afternoon that the War Department determined to relieve the newspaper correspondents from the restraint placed upon them, in order to prevent them from furnishing any news direct from the Army of Virginia. When it was announced that the "embargo" had been taken off. The news spread like lightning, and every one's countenance wore an expression of hope that some reliable information, concerning the details of the recent great battles south of us would be speedily forthcoming in bulletins, extras, and, at the latest, in Sunday papers.

It is now certain that it was part of the plan of the rebel leaders, Jackson and Lee to reach Manassas Junction ahead of us, or drive us out of it and then make it a base of future operations and supply for their armies, as they advanced into Maryland. To this end Lee ordered Longstreet and Anderson to move as one column, due north upon the Junction, uniting his forces there with those of Jackson, advancing from the west. It would seem that the rebel army with which we had to contend in the recent battles, including the grand divisions of Jackson, Longstreet, Anderson and Huger's old command, could not have been less than eighty thousand men.

By some strategy, not yet manifest, the rebels succeeded, about ten days since, in turning our right flank at Warrenton, and marched upon Manassas almost unperceived. As soon as Gen. Pope became assured of this, he ordered Hooker'n to march upon Manassas Junction rapidly from Alexandria, with five days' cooked rations, in light marching order, but with a good supply of ammunition.

Hooker sprang forward with his gallant fighting division, and, meeting the rebels under Ewell, at Kettle Run, several miles southwest of Manassas, gave him a sound thrashing, and drove him from Bristoe Station and the railroad, over which our large army, near Warrenton, was being supplied with stores; and although the rebels had made a raid upon Catlett's Station, and destroyed a small portion of the bridge and track at Cedar Creek, this movement of Hooker prevented Longstreet from getting in our rear with a large army and entirely severing Pope's communication with Washington. Thus the army of Virginia was saved from annihilation or ignominious surrender, which must have followed a want of supplies, as there is no forage in that country.

It will be plainly seen from this that Longstreet was at least to hold in check what he supposed to be our entire army at Warrenton, while Jackson moved through Centreville on to Leesburgh, via the turnpike road over Goose Creek, over the Potomac and into Maryland.

Longstreet apparently fell back when Heintzelman came up with the balance of his corps to reinforce Hooker, and upon his arrival at Gainesville opened communications with Jackson, who is said to have been moving toward Gum Spring, twelve miles Northwest of Centreville, at the time, and informed Stonewall of the condition of affairs, which, being fully appreciated by the latter, he at once turned about and struck for the Warrenton turnpike, intending to join Longstreet at Gainesville.

In the meantime Gen. Pope moved his army up from Warrenton as rapidly as possible; McDowell, with his own and Sigel's corps and Reno's Division, moving to the left, through Greenwich towards Gainesville, which movement, Gen. Pope says, caused the rebels retreat through Thoroughfare Gap and to return reinforced.

On Friday, after a tedious night advance, McDowell, Sigel and Reno came upon Jackson, six miles west of Centreville, as he was retreating to Gainesville, and a severe pitched battle took place, which lasted all day, and the field was stoutly contested. This was a drawn battle, but Jackson's loss was very heavy, and observing the trap that had been set for him, he endeavored to retreat across Bull Run on Friday Night, but from some cause he did not get his army entirely over.

Our forces moved after him that night, and by daybreak yesterday morning had driven the enemy over Catharpin Creek. Up to that date of Gen. Pope's dispatch, headed "Groveton, near Gainesville," we had captured all of Jackson's baggage wagons and camp equipment, and a large number of prisoners.

The fields were said to have been full of rebels overcome with exhaustion, hunger and thirst, who readily gave themselves up. Thoroughfare Gap in light marching order, with ten days rations of very poor quality, and that this had been all consumed. If this be true future victories over him will be easy.

At any rate, I learn that during yesterday the battle continued all day without any decisive results, the fighting being desultory, and both armies being almost utterly exhausted.

The enemy had now retreated for some distance, and was back of Gainesville. McDowell, Sigel, and Reno still held the enemy at bay, and waited anxiously for the arrival of Gen. Porter's corps of fresh troops from Manassas, but from some unaccountable delay he did not arrive. The probability is that his men have been over tasked with long marches, and want of proper comforts, they having left their camp equipment and overcoats behind.

The city is full of rumors to-day about the battle going on to-day in the vicinity of Bull Run. The excitement runs high on the avenue in consequence of the circulation of these reports. I am happy to say that I have just seen an officer of high rank, this afternoon, who has given me some most important news.

Gen. Pope seems to have met with a temporary reverse to-day. He was successfully driving the enemy during yesterday, whom he supposed to be under command of Gen. Jackson, but about 4 o'clock a tremendous cloud of dust was seen on the right, and Gen. Pope became convinced that heavy reinforcements for the enemy had succeeded in getting through Thoroughfare Gap, and were marching towards his right, with a view of turning it, and getting in his rear.

He accordingly determined to withdraw his jaded troops from the immediate field of action, which the enemy at once took possession of. It was mortifying for Gen. Pope to do this, but Sumner and Porter had not arrived to save the day. Centreville is a most important point, and Manassas Junction is equally so, and no one can fail to see that it is absolutely necessary for us to keep possession of them.

This morning (Sunday) the rebels renewed the battle at daybreak, and it has been raging furiously all day. An attempt was made to turn our right, but the brave Sigel, with his trusty Germans, and the

batteries he knows so well how to maneuver, was at once ordered to the right, and the enemy was driven back with heavy loss. Sigel headed a bayonet charge in person, it is said, and in this new position distinguished himself.

Then a bold stroke was made at our centre, which was handsomely repulsed by McDowell. After this a desperation was fearfully evident among the rebels, and there soon emerged from the dust a long solid mass of men coming down upon our poor worn out army at a bayonet charge on the double-quick. By the description of those who saw this line of bayonets, I am satisfied that in the distance it must have presented a spectacle at once awful sublime, terrible and overwhelming.

On came the demons, as if emerging from the earth in well-caparisoned myriads, reaching in solid column as far as the limit of human vision. But we were fully prepared to meet this onset properly, and our men stood, pale but full of courage, awaiting the result, fully determined to die nobly fighting for the Stars and Stripes, if die they must; and they saw no safety in retreat.

Perfectly astonished at the confidence and courage of our men, the rebels came up handsomely within range, and taking our fire, semi-orderly commotion was observed in their ranks. While this encouraged our men, Gen. Pope saw what was the intent of it all.

Almost as quick as thought, the bugles sounded the order to the rebel phalanxes, and instantly the huge mass of rebels was hurled against our left wing. The gallant divisions of Reno and Schenck – heroes and victors of other fields – stood their ground for a short space, but were soon overpowered and gave way. Setting up a yell of triumph, the rebels pushed over piles of their own dead men and the corpse of many a patriot, using the bayonet at close quarters with our troops.

The rebels were slow in re-forming. They had not driven us back with considerable loss, and they did not make another advance until half an hour after, about noon to-day.

Now everything looks like a great defeat to the arms of the Union, but God has not willed it so. We are never to be defeated at or near Bull Run again. Our reinforcements are in sight at last. Sykes, with his invincible regulars is in sight.

It is the vanguard of Fitz John Porter's corps they are coming up from Manassas to give the rebels some of the "touches" they applied to them so artistically at Gaines Mill. His fire is delivered in the enemy's flank, and the rebels stagger back.

The rebels seem three to our one, when cheering is heard in our rear, and the dust rises in clouds seemingly for miles in extent. Half an hour passes by and puts Sumner, with his augmented and regenerated corps, in the advance. The troops that had fought so hard and so long fall back to Centreville for rest.

Many of them sank right down, and cooled by the rain that was falling, were soon fast asleep, dreaming of home and all that is lovely and beautiful in life, while the roar of cannon was still ringing loudly in their ears, stupefied with the sudden relapse from extraordinary excitement of the past week.

Shortly after noon to-day Franklin's Corps moved on from Centreville, and took an advanced position.

It is said that our captures of prisoners and stores, camp equipment, &c., are immense. The various trains returning from the battlefields are loaded with tons of stores of every description taken in the recent battles.

The army corps of Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks is at Manassas Junction. He has rendered most important services, although not actively engaged with the enemy. It is understood that he was anxious to move into the valley and prevent any reinforcements from reaching Jackson, but it was thought best to leave him to hold the Junction and keep communication open between our army and Washington.

Persons who have arrived from the immediate vicinity of Manassas to-day report that our loss in killed and wounded is very heavy, and it is generally conceded that 8,000 is too low a figure. But all agree in saying that the enemy's loss far exceeds ours owing to the superior arms of our soldiers and their determined valor and terrible enthusiasm.

Very triumphantly the rebel hordes advanced. It was evident, at first glance, that they had been heavily reinforced, and it was equally impressed upon our consciousness that we must meet the approaching contest with men wearied enough in body and not a little dampened by the thought that Sumner and Franklin had failed to come up. But the force under our control was disposed as well as circumstances would allow.

All the officers from the Major-General commanding to the humblest Lieutenant were indefatigable in their exertions to make energy and tact stone for the want of those happy coinciding circumstances which so often materially contribute to decide the issue of a battle. The men stood nobly up to their work.

The day was far advanced. Our men had fought with more than mortal heroism. Tempered valor flushed each eager countenance. We had suffered severely in killed and wounded; but few of our number had been taken prisoners – the fighting was too desperate, and the field too hotly contested on both sides to prevent any yielding save in death. The bravery of the rebels must be admitted.

Whether they were intoxicated or not, as in the seven days' battles, I cannot say, but I would not be greatly surprised if such should ultimately prove true. Many of them had thrown aside their coats and jackets, and entered the contest with an Irish dash and recklessness. Many of our men had had not a mouthful to eat since morning, but there was no indication at any point in our line either of wavering or weakness.

It was whispered along the ranks in the pauses of the conflict that Franklin was coming to our aid from Alexandria, and the men were hopeful. Under such circumstances, the order "Fall back! Fall back!" came like a thunder-clap to every ear. Each countenance drooped. There was a slacking in our fire, the line wavered for an instant, and the massing of the troops commenced. Sad, indeed, was the massing of such mere fragments.

Regiments were reduced to corporals guard, and indeed, it is no exaggeration to say that from some brigades it would have been difficult to form a couple of stout companies. But no matter now for regimental forms: the object is simply to get the men into compact form and retreat them safely. Retreat? Palsied be the tongue that dares to call the deliberate backward movement of those wearied men a retreat.

If it be retreated to imperil everything that is dear to man for the sake of the National honor – to tell in the excitement of a life and death struggle amid every discouragement and actual thwarting – If to hunger, and thirst, and bleed, and fight for two whole days and then, in presence of overwhelming numbers to fall back, slowly and orderly, upon reinforcements if this is retreat, our army did retreat.

The intelligence of Pope's reverse received early this morning, had a visible effect upon the President and he continued uneasy until Gen. Halleck informed him of the concentration of our forces beyond Centreville, and our success in driving the enemy back this afternoon.

Our Chief Magistrate has the most unbounded confidence in the ability of Gens. Halleck and Pope and it was said that he will take occasion to personally thank the Generals who have distinguished themselves in these battles.

This afternoon our whole army is massed ten miles south of Centreville, beyond Bull Run, and notwithstanding that the rebel army has received such great reinforcements, we are driving the enemy at every point, and victory, sooner or later, is considered certain. Jackson will certainly be driven to the mountains.

He cannot pass through Thoroughfare Gap again, for Heintzelman is guarding the road, and he cannot break through the brave corps, especially with our grand armies at his heels.

31 August 1862 – New York Times

The Significance of the Second Battle of Bull Run

The Fate of the Bogus Confederacy to be Determined

The Bulk of the Rebel Army Engaged

Washington, Saturday, August 30.

The battle of Bull Run substantially began the war – has been the common remark on the streets this afternoon – and the new battle of Bull Run is now ending it, The rebels have staked everything on this die. They know they must defeat us before the new levies become effective, or their last opportunity is gone; and so, abandoning baggage, and with only such rations as they can carry, they have attempted to fight their way into Washington or Maryland. Four days have been spent in this attempt – three of them in hard fighting. They are in a country utterly barren of supplies, and have been too busy to forage for them, if the country did afford them. The rations they carried with them must be exhausted, and the opinion therefore begins to be suggested as probable, in well informed circles, that to-day's battle, or at least to-morrow's must exhaust their resources and compel either a surrender or a hasty retreat.

Officials likely to be well informed as to the recent progress of affairs expresses the utmost confidence both as to the results of the engagement thus far, and the prospects for to-morrow. The cannonading continued up to dark, and unless one party or the other retire under cover of the darkness, it must be renewed with dawn.

There are rumors that the rebels have been heavily reinforced, but they probably arise from the pretty well ascertained fact that the bulk of the rebel army has been engaged.

The first definite news of yesterday's engagement reached here early this afternoon. The War Department speedily communicated the facts to the different Departments, and made request for the volunteer nurses to proceed immediately to the battlefield. Most of the bureaus in several of the Departments were at once left almost destitute of clerks. The following regulations were issued for persons proposing to go down:

The Volunteers for attending to the wounded on the battle-field will observe the following directions:

First – The volunteers of each department will be enrolled by one of their own number as chief, and for each division a surgeon will be furnished by the Surgeon-General, under whose direction they will act.

Second – Each volunteer will provide himself with a bucket and tin cup; to supply water, and also a bottle of brandy.

Third – Transportation will be furnished for all as rapidly as possible at the rendezvous, by Capt. Danas, corner of Twenty-second and G streets. Those who can, should provide their own transportation .

Shortly after these regulations were issued, the Government began impressing the hacks and all other means of conveyance. The Street Railroad Company tendered their omnibuses, recently bought from the late omnibus line , and a large number were accepted. Large numbers of citizens began preparing to go down. Many of them have gone already, and many more start out at daybreak.

Trains are running out to Manassas again, and telegraphic communication is restored. The wounded have already began to come in from the battle-field of the previous days. Provision can be made in the Hospitals already fitted up here for several thousand more – many of the wards having been lately emptied by the return of convalescents in their regiments. Besides these, the hospital accommodations in Baltimore are to be brought into requisition immediately, and some of the wounded have already begun to be sent over. It is also stated that the capitol itself is to be occupied.

The Star says: "Not only was the sound of the cannonading of the great battle near Centreville to day, distinctly heard here, but the smell of the gun powder was quite perceptible at times when the win freshened from that quarter.

31 August 1862 – New York Times The Second Battle of Bull Run

In the closing week of June last, the so called Confederate President, Jeff Davis, from his chamber at Richmond, listened to the thunder of the cannon of hostile armies battling before his capital. In the closing week of August, President Lincoln, from the White House, heard the deep peals of the artillery of the contending hosts which, having now changed location, are struggling for supremacy before the National Capital. The geographical change of position does not indicate that Richmond is any the less likely to fall, or that Washington is any the less safe now than it was then. In truth, the fact rather is, that if we have any one General with sense and pluck enough to take advantage of the palpable opportunity the rebels have given us, we may be said to be much nearer to Richmond now when the battle-field for its possession is a hundred miles away from, it than we were two months ago, when our fevered and shrunken army had shoveled its way up to within seven miles of its outskirts.

The accounts of the sanguinary battles of the last four days fought in the rear of Gen. Pope's army, have been very meager and contradictory. They have been confined to Pope's two very brief official reports, dated the 28th and 30th, and to such information as could be picked up by an active corps of correspondents stationed at Washington, Alexandria, and other points outside of the army lines from which they have not yet been expelled. Many of these statements are rumors brought by fugitive soldiers, fleeing Unionists, women and negroes, and from their evident want of truthfulness, many of those which we have received have been excluded from our columns. Gen. Pope's official dispatches give us no details. Of the affair near Kettle Run on Wednesday, (the first day of fighting in his rear.) all he says is that Hooker's division "routed the enemy completely, killing and wounding three hundred capturing camps and baggage and many stand of arms." Of the battle of Thursday, six miles west of Centreville, which we otherwise know was a very hardly-contested field, he says: "A severe fight took place, which has terminated by darkness. The enemy was driven back at all points, and thus the affair rests." And he also gives forth that on that day he "captured 1,000 prisoners, many arms, and one piece of artillery.

Of Friday's battle, which was fought on the identical battlefield of Bull Run, he reports: "We fought a terrific battle with the combined forces of the enemy, which lasted with continuous fury from daylight until after dark, by which time the enemy was driven from the field, which we now occupy." And

he further states our loss on that day as being “not less than eight thousand men, killed and wounded,” while the enemy’s loss he puts down as at least “two to our one.” Of the battle of yesterday we have as yet nothing official; but the telegraph from Washington reports that one was actually raging, and that the cannonading could be heard in that city. As Fitz John Porter’s corps was expected to come up from Manassas and join Pope yesterday morning, and as other National columns yesterday effected a junction with him, and as, consequently, his force of Saturday was most likely far greater than it had been on any previous day, the probability is that the hardest of the series of engagements thus far may have been fought yesterday.

Thus, from day to day, have the battles grown in magnitude – from Wednesday, when there was but a single division of our army engaged, and our loss is reported as but 300, until Friday, when probably not less than fifty thousand men were engaged on our side, and our loss, even at the first rumor, is given at the fearful figures, 8,000; or, may be, until yesterday, when twice fifty thousand may have been engaged, and the losses have only been counted by God. Sunday is a day which has had more than its share of bloody battles during this war; and what scenes of carnage may be enacted to-day, near to the river on whose banks Washington lived and died, and where his dust now lies, we shall soon enough know.

All these engagements seem to have been to the last decree indecisive. Up to yesterday morning, the rebels still held their ground in what Pope calls his front – (that is to say, in what was his rear before he wheeled around) somewhere near Centreville, it would seem. One or two more such engagements, however, must inevitably exhaust the Southern army. The rebels have, within the week, exhibited an audacity, if not a desperation, that is extraordinary; and now, in falling back to Centreville, and in throwing detachments of their army to Vienna, to Leesburg, and even, it is said, to the line of the Potomac, they show that they are making the grand struggle for life or death. If this Richmond rebel army, which has thus pierced almost to our Capital, be permitted to retire again into Central Virginia, there will be plenty of future fighting for us on fields infinitely less advantageous than that they have now challenged us to combat upon. They have given us an opportunity to destroy them never equaled in the history of this war, and seldom offered by an army to its adversary in any war. With our far superior numbers and position, there will be terrible culpability somewhere if the chance be not taken advantage of.

31 August 1862 – New York Times Care for the Wounded

Washington, Saturday August 30.

Hundreds of the convalescents of the various hospitals reached their quarters to-day, and will be sent out of Washington to make room for patients from the recent battle-field, who are already arriving. The conduct of Maj.-Gen. Pope is highly commended in Government as well as in other quarters.

Between five hundred and a thousand Government Clerks repaired to the battle-field, in compliance with a request from the War Department, not in pursuance of an order, as erroneously stated in a previous dispatch, this afternoon, the report having reached here that the dead and wounded on both sides needed attention.

Col. Puleston, the military agent of Pennsylvania, accompanied by Majors Gilliland and Pinkerton, and a number of other Pennsylvania, left immediately on the receipt of the news for Manassas, with large supplies of stimulants and hospital stores for the wounded.

The Pennsylvania Relief Association also sent off with alacrity quantities of stores in the charge of agents.

Dr. Page, of the Columbus Hospital, left this evening for Centreville, in charge of two hundred ambulances and the citizen nurses from the different Government departments.

Dr. Webster, of the Douglas Hospital, also left for the battle-field in charge of a large train of medical supplies and Citizen Volunteer Surgeons of this District.

Gen. Wadsworth has taken possession of all the backs in this city and sent them forward as a train to transport the sick and wounded to this city.

31 August 1862 New York Times Who Fought the Battle?

From the Richmond Enquirer, August 15

It is universally conceded that but for the opportune junction of the two commands of Johnston and Beauregard at Manassas, the result of the late battle would have been at least apocryphal. Hence to the brain that conceived the union of these forces is due in a great degree the chief credit of the day. Well

founded information ascribes this happy conception to the military sagacity of Gen. Beauregard. Perceiving that it was quite impossible for his limited command to successfully oppose the advance of McDowell's overwhelming columns, he early in the week telegraphed both to the President and Gen. Johnson, urging the union of forces as an absolute necessity. After some reflection, both of these eminent military men acceded to the suggestion, and the junction was effected as rapidly as circumstances permitted.

On arriving at Manassas, Gen. Johnson, being the ranking officer, assumed command, not, however, without ratifying the whole plan of battle prepared by Gen. Beauregard, and chivalrously assigned to him its execution through the day. These orders of battle were confidentially distributed to each of the regimental commanders, and were drawn up with great elaboration and completeness, and are esteemed a masterpiece of elegant and precise composition.

**1 September 1862 – New York Times
Washington Star of Saturday Evening
The Second Battle of Bull Run**

“The battle was continued by the army corps of Generals Heintzelman, McDowell and Sigel, on our side, against a rebel force believed to number from fifty to sixty thousand strong – that is, against the army corps of Jackson, and, we presume, a portion of the rest of Lee's army that had succeeded in making its way down from White Plains through Thoroughfare Gap.

The location of the battle of the day was in the vicinity of Haymarket, and from Haymarket off in the direction of Sudley Church, or, in other words, but a few miles northwest of the scene of the never to be forgotten battle of Bull Run.

Heintzelman's Corps if we are correctly informed, came up with the enemy's rear about 10 A. M., seven miles from Centreville, which point he left at day-break.

(first few words illegible) Jackson fighting with McDowell (words illegible) the right, in the direction of Haymarket, the position they took by going north from Gainesville, to command the entrance to and exit from Thoroughfare Gap.

Our own informant, who left Centreville at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, a cool and clear-headed man, says that, up to that hour, the impression prevailed there that nothing had definitely resulted from the day's fighting, which, through continuous, had not been a very bloody battle.

Persons subsequently arriving, who were on the field of action themselves until 4 P. M., however, represent that the tide of success was decidedly with the Union Army, which pushed the rebels successfully on both sides.

**1 September 1862 – New York Times
Reports from Alexandria
Alexandria, Saturday, August 30**

There had been heavy firing heard to-day in the direction of Centreville, and the contest of yesterday was undoubtedly renewed this morning.

Telegraphic communication has been reestablished to Manassas, and the cars are running as far as Bull Run. The bridge and railroad are being repaired with the greatest dispatch, and trains will probably extend their trips to-morrow.

There are still a large number of troops in Alexandria awaiting transportation to the field of battle. A Pennsylvania Brigade, comprising of One Hundred and Twenty (illegible lines) and Thirty-Sixth Regiments, under Gen. Cook, were to march to-day.

Those who were able to be moved from the Alexandria hospitals have been taken to Washington, to make room for the wounded who are to arrive to-day.

**1 September 1862 – New York Times
The Battles near Washington**

The series of heavy battles which began on Wednesday morning last, near the small stream called Kettle Run, a short distance southwest of Manassas Junction, seem to have come to a virtual termination on Saturday evening, near the historic ground of Bull Run and Centreville. An authorized Washington telegram this morning announces that there was but little if any fighting going on yesterday. Throughout the four days from Wednesday to Saturday the fighting was continuous, hot and bloody. Beginning on the first day, with but a single division of the National Army, which was the attacking party and achieved a decided success, the battle waxed in magnitude on Thursday, with dubious results, swelled into the

proportions of a general engagement with fearful carnage and a successful issue on Friday, till on Saturday the reinforced rebels became the attacking party, and a "severe battle" – how severe we as yet know not – followed, the result of which, according to this morning's dispatches was that "the advantage, on the whole, was with the enemy, and Gen. Pope fell back to Centreville with his whole army, in good order.

Thus closes the record of a week, in which, when the facts are known, it will probably be seen was fought two if not three of the greatest and most sanguinary battles of the present war. It is to be hoped that by and bye, the public will be furnished with some authentic details of at least their main features.

It would appear beyond dispute that the greater part of the late Richmond rebel army was engaged in these battles. The danger of the movement to Pope's rear was too great to have been risked by a much smaller force;

And whichever route through the mountains stonewall Jackson may have taken to circumvent Gen. pope, he was undoubtedly at once followed by all the divisions that could be spared, while probably only enough rebel troops were left on the Rappahannock to check our advance upon Richmond in case of a rebel reverse. The magnitude of the Union force engaged, also coupled with the indecisive result of the engagement, is itself sufficient proof of the magnitude of the opposing army. However insane it may appear to us it is quite evident that the rebels set out on their perilous northward journey, with no less purpose than that of destroying Pope's army before it effected a junction with McClellan, and then, perhaps, fording the Upper Potomac and passing into Maryland, while a favorable moment might even arise for a dash upon Washington.

It would appear that our army immediately in front of that city is not by any means as vigilant or as active as it should be in this crisis; for not only have the rebels been allowed to capture the town of Vienna, half a dozen miles from Washington, and drive out the Unionists – not only have they been permitted to seize the greater part of the Alexandria and Leesburgh Railroad, including the very important town of Leesburgh itself, but they have been allowed to make their appearance at the Chain Bridge across the Potomac. This is a day and an hour for extremist vigilance; and looking at the fact that each successive battle of last week was fought on a field nearer to Washington than the one which preceded it, it is not a point of National Honor to let the rebels get much closer. Within a circuit of a few miles around the National Capital, we have now an army of not less than a quarter of a million of soldiers.

1 September 1862 – Alexandria Gazette

How Jackson Got into Pope's Ear

Strategy of the Confederate Leaders

The Alexandria correspondent of the Philadelphia Press vouches for the correctness of the following statements.

Of course the principal topic is how Jackson managed to get around the right wing Gen. Pope's army and make his raid upon Manassas Junction, for the purpose of operating in the rear of Gen. Pope's army, while General Lee made the attack on the front. All the six days fighting of our army on the Rappahannock is now known to have been merely a feint on the part of the Confederates, and their supposed retreating toward Sperryville via Little Washington was also intended for the same purpose. Instead of the whole Confederate army moving back, General Lee carefully concealed his main force along the banks of the Rappahannock, while he sent Jackson to Warrenton with 40,000 men, 5,000 of whom were cavalry under Colonel Lee, to march along the country between the Blue Ridge and Bull Run range of mountains.

Jackson concentrated his forces at the Plains and Salem, and sent his cavalry through to reconnoiter. Soon he followed with his infantry, and coming through Thoroughfare Gap, he made a forced march until he reached Centreville. From this place he was within striking distance of Gen. Pope's rear, and he improved it, no doubt thinking that he could annihilate the army of Virginia before it could have any succor from Washington. The cavalry dashes of Colonel Lee were though by some to be too daring if he was not confident of having infantry to support him in case of an emergency, but so far as I could hear our officers did not share the same opinion.

The Confederate cavalry, by their attack on our forces on Tuesday night, created such a panic among the Federal troops that the Confederate cavalry had it all their own way, and during the night they held high revel in our camp. The battery of artillery they had captured they placed in favorable position and drew their cavalry up in line of battle, so that it could be concealed from our forces. Some of their guns were placed in a fort, and the others were planted so that if our forces should make an attack on their

position they could concentrate a cross fire upon us. The best riflemen in the command were picked out and posted in the rifle-pits, which are very numerous in that locality.

**1 September 1862 – Alexandria Gazette
Washington, August 30.**

Secretary Chase received this afternoon, through Gen. Pope's messenger, the following note from General McDowell, dated

On the Battle Field, at 6:15 Morning, August 30. – Dear Governor: Please telegraph Mrs. McDowell that I have gone through a second battle of Bull Run, on the identical field of last year, and am unhurt. The victory is decidedly ours.

Very sincerely,
Irvin McDowell

**1 September 1862 – Alexandria Gazette
War News**

We give the statements of Gen. Pope's dispatch which is dated at an early hour on Saturday morning at the headquarters on the field of battle, and the information of subsequent movements of the hostile armies is received through the press agency. The dispatch from this source is dated Washington, yesterday, and states that the expected reinforcements did not reach Gen. Pope and that the Confederates largely strengthened by fresh troops, assumed the offensive on Saturday morning and attacked the Federal army, which boldly met the assault and a severe battle followed, the advantage all being with the Confederates. Gen. Pope fell back to Centreville, where he was joined by the troops marching to his relief. The position of the Federal army at Centreville is said to be a very strong one, having railroad communication with Washington. Centreville is eight miles from Gainesville, four from Bull Run and eighteen from Washington.

Large quantities of hospital supplies have been sent from Washington to the battle-field, and many of the medical officers of the army and private physicians have proceeded to the same locality. The advices received in Washington indicated that there was but little, if any fighting yesterday.

**1 September 1862 – Washington National Republican
The Battle of Saturday**

We derive the following account of the battle of Saturday from a gentleman who left Centreville at 7 o'clock Saturday evening. He is known to us as a person who had been employed by a leading New York paper to report military doings in the Peninsula, and who is very likely to form a correct judgment to the extent of his observation, which is active and quick.

The battle was an artillery battle down to 4 o'clock in the afternoon, each party being engaged in "feeling" the other. Gen. Porter commanded our left wing, Sigel and Heintzelman the centre and left. McDowell's force was in the rear, having been much exhausted in the battle of Friday. The scene of the fight was the old field of Bull Run.

At four o'clock in the afternoon, the enemy having massed his infantry, made a furious and successful attack upon Gen. Porter. Our informant, who witnessed the fighting in front of Richmond, says that none of the musketry firing there was heavier than this of the rebels at Bull Run.

When he perceived that his left wing was to be attacked, Gen. Pope ordered up McDowell's force to support Gen. Porter, but it did not arrive in time to save Gen. Porter from defeat but on contrary became itself involved in the retreat which followed.

In short, the divisions of both Gen. Porter and McDowell were routed, and fell back in disorder across Bull Run stream to Centreville. Our right wing remained firm and unbroken, covering the retreat of the left wing, and preserving the army from any serious catastrophe.

Our informant does not think our loss on Saturday in killed and wounded, to have been greater than on Friday, say four thousand; but the loss in prisoners was much more considerable.

Gen. Franklin's division arrived at Centreville on Saturday evening, and there was then a general concentration of our forces at that point. Gen. Bank's division, however, had not arrived there. It was not in the battles of Friday or Saturday, and there were some apprehensions that it might be cut off.

Our force, as massed at Centreville on Saturday evening, was large enough for all purposes, and has been much increased since.

Our informant says that there was no disorder at Centreville, but everybody was full of courage and hope as respects the immediate future.

1 September 1862 – Alexandria Gazette from the Washington Republican

The terrific cannonading on the battle ground at Bull Run was distinctly heard here all day Saturday. As the wind from that quarter freshened, the sound became so clear and distinct, that most persons thought that the scene of battle had been shifted to somewhere near Alexandria. The sound, when everything was calm, resembled distant thunder, but at five o'clock, when the wind sprang up from the southwest, the sound became more distinct, and the number of guns in the engagement could almost have been counted by the reverberation of their sound. During the afternoon, the street corners were thronged with crowds of excited persons.

01 September 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer The Four Days' Struggle

The following summary of the conflicts in Virginia during the past week, commencing on Tuesday night, immediately after the foray of the enemy on Manassas, has been prepared from the best unofficial sources within our reach. The correspondents of the press having been excluded from the lines of the army, we are without any detailed account of these battles.

Commencement of the Fighting

On Tuesday night, about 8 o'clock, the pickets at Manassas Junction were driven in, and the two companies of the One Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania Infantry, one company of Pennsylvania cavalry, and some artillery stationed there, were surprised and attacked by Gen. Ewell's entire division, numbering from 7,000 to 10,000 infantry and cavalry, with artillery. After a short skirmish the handful of men at the Junction fled, the rebels turning upon them our own guns, and keeping up a brisk fire till the Union troops were forced to retreat across Bull Run. Here, at Union Mills two regiments of Gen. Cox's Division, the 11th and 12th Ohio, under Col. Scammon, were stationed; and they immediately advanced to meet the approaching body of rebels.

Another Conflict

Early on Wednesday morning a conflict ensued between the Junction and Bull Run lasting for three hours, when the Union troops, being largely outnumbered and flanked on the right, retired across Bull Run Bridge. Here a vigorous attempt was made by Col. Scammon to hold the bridge. At 11 o'clock, two rebel regiments forded the Run above the bridge, when the Twelfth Ohio charged on them and drove them across the river with heavy loss. In this skirmish Captain D. W. Pauly was wounded slightly. The regiment lost, in killed, wounded and missing 35 to 40 men. At 12 o'clock, Col. Scammon was obliged to retire, moving along the railroad in the direction of Alexandria, and halting at a point half way between Fairfax Court House and Centreville.

The First Battle

The New Jersey brigade under command of Brig. Gen. George W. Taylor, and attached to Gen. Franklin's division, left their encampment near Alexandria, at two o'clock in the morning of Wednesday, and, proceeding out the Fairfax road for some distance, they made a detour to the left, and, at ten o'clock the same morning, reached the old battle-field of Manassas. The enemy, being made aware of their approach, were drawn up in line of battle, and as soon as they emerged from the wood skirting the field, at once opened on them with the eight pieces of artillery which were taken the day before, together with two other pieces, which they had secured some time during the night. The terrific rain of grape and canister which was hailed upon them for a time disconcerted them. At this juncture Gen. Taylor, having no battery or cavalry with him, saw that he must either make a charge or an inglorious retreat. The charge was ordered, but the Confederate batteries being supported by infantry, it proved ineffectual, and they were compelled to retire, which they did, to Sangster's Station, towards Fairfax, all the time keeping up a continual fire, and thus keeping the enemy in check.

At Sangster's Station they met with two Ohio regiments who had been sent to reinforce them. The Federal troops under Taylor mistook the reinforcement for another body of Confederates, and for a time a panic ensued. Confederates the whole time keeping up continual fire upon them, and doing immense

damage, most of the casualties occurring at this point and time. The disorder and confusion was at last stayed. The troops who were at first engaged, as well as the reinforcements, commenced again to fire at the Confederates, and to such an extent as to cause them to give up the chase and to return towards Manassas. Leaving one of the Ohio regiments to guard the point at Sangster's Station, the remainder of the troops returned to Fairfax Court-house.

It was while the confusion and disorder was apparent, caused by the Federal troops mistaking friends for foes, that most of the casualties occurred, and it was at this time that General Taylor was so badly wounded in the leg below the knee that amputation was considered necessary after he was removed to the Government Hospital at Alexandria. When last heard from, the General was comfortable and in a fair way of recovery. It is stated that the casualties in all will amount to three hundred on our side, while it is stated that the loss of the rebels is equal to if it does not exceed ours.

Second Battle

On Wednesday Generals Kearney and Hooker attacked the enemy about one and a half miles beyond Bristow, the enemy at this point being commanded by Gen. Ewell. Our forces attacked the rebels with such impetuosity that they fell back in some confusion at least two miles. Night came on, which saved the enemy from total rout. They lost their camp equipage and baggage, and about three hundred men in killed and wounded.

Third Battle

On Thursday, at daybreak, Generals Kearney and Hooker renewed the battle, the enemy falling back towards Centreville. At this point our forces came up with them, when a severe engagement ensued, which lasted until dark, with heavy losses on both sides. The enemy fought with great desperation, and the shades of night again caused a cessation of hostilities.

Fourth Battle

On Friday a terrific battle was fought with the combined forces of the enemy. The engagement lasted from daylight until after dark, by which the enemy was driven from the field, which was occupied by our troops, who were too much exhausted to press the enemy further through he remained in front. Our loss in this desperate conflict in killed and wounded, was seven or eight thousand. The loss of the enemy was much greater. Many prisoners were taken. This battle was fought on the field of Bull Run.

Fifth Battle

Notwithstanding the numbers of persons who went forward on Saturday evening and yesterday morning from Washington towards the field of battle between Centreville and the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and who returned to this city last evening, we are enabled to gather very little information of a connected and satisfactory character.

What seems to be generally admitted is that up to Saturday morning the Union Troops not only maintained their ground, but successfully assailed and pressed the enemy from his position for several miles. On Saturday morning the two armies were again engaged, and the battle raged with fierceness till about eleven o'clock, at which time the Union army held possession of the field.

From eleven o'clock till about three in the afternoon there was a partial cessation of the contest, but at the last named hour, the enemy having received heavy reinforcements, to the number, it is thought, of 40,000 men, he renewed the attack with great fury on the corps of Gen. McDowell, which he at length succeeded in breaking through, and thus reversed the respective positions as regards the field of battle, which is now in the enemy's possession. It was on this account that the citizens, clerks, and other employees of the Government, who were forward on Saturday afternoon to succor the wounded and assist in burying the dead, were unable to carry their benevolent designs into effect, the state of affairs preventing any approach to the field.

Gen. Pope fell back in good order to Centreville where he has been reinforced by the division of Gen. Franklin and Gen. Sumner. With these additions to his army we may expect that Gen. Pope will render a good account of the daring foe, who must have received heavy reinforcements indeed, if enabled to resist, for any time, so large an army as that now gathered around him.

In the engagement of Saturday both armies suffered for their heavy losses. We have heard that Gen. Sykes, of the regular army, received a severe wound in the arm. Gen. Schenck of Ohio, was also so severely wounded in one of his arms that it is feared amputation will be necessary. He is now at Willards' Hotel, in this city. Among the wounded left on the battle-field is Col. Fletcher Webster, of Massachusetts. We are told that he was badly wounded by a shot through his chest.

During the battles the Union forces two or three thousand prisoners, one thousand of whom, we learn, arrived at Alexandria yesterday.

It is reported that to provide against the worst that can possibly occur a squadron of gunboats has been ordered to rendezvous in the Potomac river near Washington.

2 September 1862 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

2 September 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer

Another Account of the Battle of Saturday

Washington, September 1st – A gentleman, who returned to-day from the battlefield, reports that in Saturday's fight the left wing was commanded by General McDowell, but owing to the murderous enfilading fire he was compelled to fall back. Sigel commanded the centre, and Kearney the right.

It appears that our forces attacked the enemy in the woods, from which the latter opened murderous batteries, causing great slaughter. The rebels suffered equally as much as our troops. Our men, fearless and determined, fell back about a mile, leaving our dead and wounded on that field. Our informant says our main forces were five miles from Centreville on Sunday in battle array and prepared for all emergencies, having been strongly reinforced.

All the wounded have been removed from the battle field of Thursday and Friday, which was yesterday still in our possession; but not so, at the latest advices, the scene of conflict on Saturday, which the enemy still occupied. The cars came in this morning from the first named field, bringing many wounded, some to Alexandria and others to Washington. The most devoted attention is being paid to this description of our soldiers.

Our informant, when passing through Centreville, saw thousands of stragglers at that place – men of different regiments all mixed up and exhibiting a scene of disorganization. An officer remarked that these men would all be right the next day, after they had recovered from their fatigue and so it proved. Our informant, while returning to the city this morning early, saw them all marching back properly companied to their respective regiments. They appeared to be cheerful and anxious to rejoin their comrades.

When the ambulances in large numbers reached the late battle-field, yesterday, to bring away the wounded, a stampede commenced among them, the drivers having turned the heads of their horses toward the road leading to Washington and beat a hasty retreat with their empty vehicles. Some frightened driver imagined that Stuart's cavalry was dashing up, and accordingly gave the alarm. The panic spread almost with the speed of electricity, and doubtless would have been prolific of serious consequences had not the guard on the road rushed forth with pointed guns and threatened to shoot the drivers unless they returned to the field. This conduct on the part of the guard had the desired effect. After awhile the ambulances again reached the field, and performed their appropriate duty in bringing away the wounded.

The Washington Star, of September 1st says:

The great battle of Saturday last, on the south side of Bull Run, could hardly be called an engagement until perhaps 5 P. M. when the action became general. By 6 P. M. the enemy, who had managed to break through Thoroughfare Gap in the course of the afternoon, with the whole of his reinforcements, massed his troops so heavily upon Pope's left wing, under McDowell, supported by Fitz John Porter, as to drive that back half a mile, with great loss. There it made a stand, successfully checking the further advance of the enemy until night put a stop to the battle.

Finding his men and horses that had been in the engagement completely worn out for the time being, General Pope, when the battle ceased, threw his whole force upon the east bank of Bull Run (continuing) to hold the crossing of that stream on the direct road between Centreville and Manassas), and posted his army on the slope of the ridge stretching down to Bull Run. That is to say, covering the slope for a space of about twelve miles in length and two and a half miles broad. General Franklin, with his fine division, had reached him by an early hour yesterday, and in the course of the day he was joined by the whole army corps of General Sumner.

Yesterday evening, General Banks joined him also, with his whole corps. That is, without the loss of a man, in executing his orders to fall back, after having so completely destroyed the railroad and its paraphernalia from Manassas Junction towards the Rappahannock, as to render it impossible that it might be used by the enemy for any purpose whatever. It is not proper for us to mention the extent of the reinforcements which Franklin, Sumner, Banks – and last night, Couch, with his division – have carried to Pope. They are sufficient, however, to make up ten-fold for his losses in the battle of Saturday, when he doubtless fought the whole force of the rebels.

So there need be no apprehension, we take it, that he will not be a match for them when the next shock of battle comes off. The fact that the enemy did not seek to renew the engagement yesterday, ere Pope's reinforcements arrived, augurs either that he has suffered so much in the four days fighting, and is so short of munitions, food, etc., as to be incapable for the time being of taking advantage of his success of the day before, or was preparing for a flank movement, against which General Pope is surely on his guard.

The fact that he fired cut-up railroad iron for cannon balls, and that his men are living on hard crackers and coffee made of roasted wheat, lead to the impression that inability is at the bottom of his inactivity of the day, and indeed until 9 A. M. to-day; to which time the engagement had not been renewed.

Heavy reinforcements of veteran troops for Gen. Pope have been landing all night and this morning at Alexandria, who will all have joined him, we presume by daybreak tomorrow morning. It is inferred that he does not propose himself to renew the fight until they come up with him, by way of making assurance doubly sure. (The following is only legible in the Washington National Intelligencer) The fact that the enemy did not seek to renew the engagement on Sunday before these reinforcements arrived assures either that he has suffered so much in the four days fighting as to be incapable for the time being of taking advantage of his success of the day before, or was preparing for a flank movement, against which Gen. Pope is surely on his guard.

The fact that not only Jackson, but Longstreet and Ewell got through Thoroughfare Gap successfully, has caused some surprise, as it is stated that a regiment can hold the Gap against all comers, as it is narrow, and the road through it one in which it would be impossible for the enemy to unlimber a gun at the defensible points. It is stated that Longstreet's advance, a single regiment of sharpshooters, was driven back (shelled) by a detachment sent out for that purpose; but that, from some cause this force of ours was subsequently withdrawn, and the Gap left open for Longstreet to pass through unchallenged.

Prisoners state that Gen. Lee was personally in command on Friday and Saturday. We have no means of estimating our losses in killed, wounded, and missing, of the battle of Saturday last. They were principally of the troops composing McDowell's and Fitz John Porter's command, and are variously stated at from three to five thousand.

Among the killed were Gen. Hatch (contradicted;) Gen. Buford (reported;) Capt. Smead, of 5th Artillery; Col. Brown, 28th Indiana; Col. Coltus, of 73rd Pennsylvania; Capt. Reed, 12th Infantry; and Capt. Weed, 5th Artillery.

Among the wounded were Gen. Tower, leg shot off; Gen. Schenck, wrist fractured badly; Gen. Kearney, very badly wounded; Col. Fletcher Webster, of Massachusetts, very badly; Col. Thomas, 22 New York, desperately through head and lungs; Gen. Sigel, in the hand; Col. Hays, of 65th Pennsylvania; Col. Soest, of the 29th New York, very badly; Lieutenant Wharton, of 14th Infantry, slightly in the arm.

The rebels lost Gen. Ewell, killed; Gen. Jackson, badly wounded, and indeed a larger proportion of generals and other field officers killed and wounded than we did, except of the corps of McDowell, that stood the brunt of the day's engagement.

During Sunday there was no general fight, but simply skirmishing, and the rebels made no attack, but employed themselves by throwing shells from under cover of woods, from which they could not be induced to come out.

Arrival of Wounded Soldiers

Yesterday morning two trains arrived, bringing about thirteen hundred soldiers, all but about one hundred of whom were wounded in the late battles in Virginia. The remainder were sick. These trains bring up wounded men from several New York and other regiments.

Of the 1st Excelsior New York regiment 400 went into the fight and nearly all were killed or wounded. The 2nd Excelsior regiment also suffered terribly; the 14th (Brooklyn) had three captains killed and many of the men wounded and taken prisoners. The 44th New York likewise suffered severely, and the brigade of Gen. Butterfield has not more than one hundred effective men left; the 17th is very much cut up, company I especially, having but five men left. The 24th went into the fight 500 strong, and yesterday morning but 100 rations were drawn. The 101st, 45th and 9th New York also suffered severely, the latter having forty killed and sixty wounded. In the 3rd (loyal) Virginia nearly all the officers were killed or wounded. The 18th Massachusetts lost about one-half of its number. The 115th Pennsylvania was twice engaged, and lost also about half its men.

2 September 1862 – Charleston S.C. Mercury Manassas – Great Battle

A great battle – the last, we hope, that is to purple the soil of the Old Dominion – has been fought and won. The news is direct, official and satisfactory. General Lee is no braggart. He announces to the President that the valor of our troops has again prevailed upon the Plains of Manassas. On the memorable field McClellan and Pope had marshaled their united hosts to meet our advancing columns. On Thursday, the 28th, and Friday, the 29th of August, the conflict was opened by the enemy. Our right and left wings, commanded respectively by Stonewall Jackson and Longstreet, were successively assailed; but, in both instances, the attack was repulsed. On Saturday, the 30th of August, our whole army became engaged with the combined forces of the enemy, and achieved “a signal victory.” This is the sum of our information. It is enough to indicate that the fight is likely to prove, in its fruits, the most important success, thus far, of the war.

The country will join with General Lee, in grateful acknowledgment to the Lord of Hosts, who has thus smiled once more upon our cause. But vain indeed, and costly would be our triumph, if we should fail to grasp the advantages which it offers. We trust and believe that there will be no such failure.

The beaten and demoralized masses of the Yankee army can scarcely be rallied for another struggle south of the Potomac. The road lies open, to the gates of the Yankee Capital. Let our Generals but unleash their victorious legions and Washington is ours. Maryland will arise and cast aside her fetters; and in thirty days the seat of war will be transferred “beyond the outer boundaries of the Confederacy.”

We await with impatience the next tidings from the Potomac. For we believe that there can be no more delays upon the sod which covers the dead heroes of Manassas.

2 September 1862 – New York Times

2 September 1862 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

Details of the Recent Engagements

News VIA Alexandria

Alexandria, Sunday, Aug. 31

According to all accounts Stonewall Jackson, yesterday, succeeded in forcing his way through the National troops surrounding him, and effected a junction with the remainder of the Confederate forces. This result was not attained without fearful loss on both sides as the most desperate fighting took place.

From all that can be learned, in the absence of any regular report, the corps of Gens. McDowell, Heintzelman, Porter and Sigel were engaged, the former having the left, the latter the right, and the others operating about the centre.

The principal part of the fighting seems to have been on the left and centre. The left was thrown up from Manassas Junction towards Thoroughfare Gap, the right at about Centreville, and the centre on the old Bull Run Battle-field out from Manassas.

The action was commenced by the enemy opening his batteries upon our left, between 1 and 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Their guns were strongly and advantageously posted upon a ridge, while our batteries had to fire from the open plain. Gen Morrell's Division supported our batteries at this point.

After some severe cannonading, Gen. Buford's Brigade of Cavalry, comprising the First Michigan, the First Virginia, and the First Vermont Cavalry were ordered to our extreme left to reconnoiter, and guard against any attempt to turn our left flank which movement was threatened by the enemy.

Riding beyond our left, where our infantry were formed close behind our batteries – which were playing with great precision upon the enemy, while our troops were cheering vociferously – our cavalry reached a slight eminence, and were about to send out a detachment to explore, when the enemy were seen coming up in force along the line of the adjacent woods.

A rebel battery was seen to whirl into position, and then came shell thrown into the midst of our cavalry, followed by canister and grape. Thus was discovered the intention of the enemy to attempt a flank movement.

Long lines of rebel infantry could plainly be seen hurrying up to take position, and soon other rebel batteries were brought up, and opened upon our left.

Our cavalry, forced to retire, retreated behind a low ridge, but the clouds of dust revealed their place of retreat, the rebels continued shelling them, and another change of position was made.

Here a body of cavalry were observed riding toward the spot, and the sabers of our cavalry were drawn to meet the coming foe. The squadron proved to be friends – the Fourth New-York Cavalry. Where they had come from, as Gen. Sigel was on the right, was and is a mystery. They reported the rebel cavalry under Gen. Stuart as about making a charge.

The New York Cavalry fell in behind Gen. Buford's Brigade, the bugles sounded, and over the hill galloped our men to meet the advancing rebels. As our men approached them, the rebel cavalry discharged double-barreled shot guns and then met us in full charge. Our men broke the enemy's line and pursued them. The rebels rallied in splendid style and dashed forward again to meet the charge. Again their line was broken, and as our cavalry was preparing to charge again the rebels opened fire upon them from their batteries and with musketry, compelling them to retire.

Meanwhile, our left had given way, and was on the retreat, passing the cavalry. A battery, which had run short of ammunition, was on the point of being captured, but under the determined resistance of our cavalry it was safely brought off.

The troops fell back upon Gen. Franklin's Division, which had just come up, and were formed in line to prevent straggling and anything like a panic.

Had Gen. Franklin's corps arrived two hours earlier upon the field, the result of the day's fighting would have been different.

The fact of Gen. Stuart's Cavalry being armed with double-barreled shot guns is proved by a number of the guns being captured and several of our cavalry having buckshot wounds.

Col. Broadhead, commanding the First Michigan Cavalry, was captured; Lieut. Merriam was wounded and taken prisoner; lieut. Moss was killed; Gen. Franklin's Division retired to Centreville after preventing confusion and giving our retreating troops time to rally.

During the fight a body of the enemy concealed in the woods annoyed our forces much by their rifle practice. Gen. Martindale's Bridge charge them and drove them from the woods amidst the cheers of our men.

Gen. Hartsuff's Brigade made a similar charge, but with a different result. They penetrated into the woods, when a deadly fire of grape and canister was opened upon them from a masked battery. At the same time a murderous volley of rifle balls came from one side and a desperate charge of the enemy from the other. Our men fought bravely, but were forced to retire. The enemy remained upon the battle-field over night. To-day there has been some skirmishing. Reinforcements are going up to-day, and a battle is anticipated to-morrow.

The road from Alexandria, extending to Centreville, was densely crowded all this day with wagon trains, ambulances, hacks and private conveyances on their way to and from the latter place. The number of wounded sent to Washington was comparatively small.

Not a few persons who had reached Centreville and intermediate points, intending to aid the sick and wounded, were turned back for the reason that the battle-field of Manassas was in the possession of the rebels, and that their services were not needed. Many who had ridden to Centreville have returned to Alexandria on foot. Pickets had been thrown out all along the road to prevent stragglers from deserting the front.

Four Government employees, who had started from Gen. McClellan's headquarters last night, in company with a mail carrier, (intending to act as nurses,) were arrested at Ball's Cross Roads, on suspicion of being spies, but on being returned to Gen. McClellan's headquarters were discharged.

2 September 1862 – New York Times

Our Correspondence from the Field

Jackson's Tactics and how they were met

Desperation of the Rebels

Centreville, Va. Sunday, August 31st 1862

The commencement of the conflict now pending between the National and rebel forces may be said to date from Tuesday, the 25th inst., upon the night of which day Stonewall Jackson appeared with a large force at Bristoe, where he destroyed about fifty cars and two locomotives. He also tore up the railroad track for some distance and burnt two bridges. The cars were on the way to Alexandria having conveyed a portion of Gen. Hooker's Division to Warrenton Junction a few hours previous. One of the locomotives was thrown down an embankment and, upon examination, was found to have been pierced with sixty-three rifle shots. The other locomotives, which was remaining on the track, showed marks of having been shot at twenty-five times. One of the engineers jumped from his locomotive and surrendered himself as prisoner, but the rebels did not heed the usage of civilized warfare and shot him upon the spot. At the time of the raid but few persons were aboard the trains, and those were parties employed by the Government to superintend and assist in their running. The cars were empty. The telegraph wire was cut in several places and one of the poles severed.

From Bristoe Station, Jackson proceeded to Manassas Junction, two miles below, where he burned about one hundred other cars which were standing upon a side track in readiness to be drawn to Warrenton Junction. The cars destroyed here were heavily laden with subsistence stores, ammunition and saddlers and blacksmiths materials. All, or nearly all the ammunition, consisting of three car loads was secured, and carried away. A few shells had been left in the cars as the fragments of ragged iron found upon the ground testified. All the subsistence stores that he could conveniently dispose of were taken by Jackson. A half-dozen barrels of hard bread were discovered near the track, also a quantity of hams. At the Junction the rebels burned another bridge, tore up more railroad track and also burned a large bakery and several small buildings in the immediate vicinity of the same. Half an hour before the rebels appeared Gen. Sturgis, who, with his brigade, had been guarding the Junction, was ordered to report with his force to Warrenton. When Gen. Sturgis had left the Junction, six pieces of artillery, belonging to a New Jersey battery, was left almost entirely unsupported, consequently the rebels found it an easy matter to overcome the artillerists and capture the guns. At about the time the rebels arrived at the Junction, Gen. Dana's New Jersey Brigade, which was stationed at the railroad bridge over Bull Run, acting upon orders previously received, were advancing to Manassas. The bridge is situated about five miles from the Junction, and, of course, as the Brigade approached that place, they were surrounded by the rebels and a great many taken prisoners. All the prisoners, however, taken at the junction by Jackson were paroled on the following day, he doubtless considering that they might occasion him much trouble before he could get them safely into Richmond.

From the Junction, Jackson proceeded to the railroad bridge over Bull Run and destroyed it. The reflection of the burning cars, bridge and buildings could be seen distinctly at Warrenton Junction. The mass continued to burn throughout the night.

Until Thursday morning Jackson remained in the vicinity of Bristoe and Manassas Junction, and dined on Wednesday with a family living near the depot at the former place. When preparing to leave, he ordered his temporary landlord to pack up his worldly goods and make ready to depart with his family into the land of Secessia. The hosts, however, was too keen to observe the import of the command, and began at once to conjecture how he should escape being forced into the rebel service. He gained permission of Jackson to go a short distance from his home for the ostensible purpose of procuring a wagon, in which he might convey his family and goods from the Union Line; but instead of returning immediately, he remained concealed in the woods until our forces appeared and drove the rebels from the line of the railroad, on the following day.

Although the rebels commenced their depredations early on Tuesday evening, it appears that no effort was made to repel them until the next morning, when Hooker's Division and one brigade of Kearney's (Robinson's) the whole under command of Gen. Hooker were sent from Warrenton Junction down the railroad, to meet and drive away the enemy. The ground in the vicinity of Bristoe is undulating, therefore affording good points upon which to plant batteries, and also a fine protection for the men against the enemy's fire. Before reaching Bristoe from the Warrenton side, the railroad is lined on each side by dense woods which fringe an open field of many hundred acres in extent. Along the skirt of these woods, Jackson had posted a portion of his force, while he held the remaining in reserve, and out of sight, behind the hills in the rear. He had two batteries of six pieces each, planted one on either side of the railroad, which the rebels commenced using with destructive effect at the opportune moment. Hooker ordered his men to advance cautiously and deployed skirmishers through the woods who reported the presence of the rebel pickets at the further end. Soon after, several shots were exchanged by the advance guard on both sides. But instead of moving his troops down the railroad, Hooker took a sweep around the woods at his left and entered the open field upon the right wing of the enemy's advance. This movement caused the rebels to fall back and not without confusion, and it being a propitious moment for the Union force to deal a good blow. Gen Hooker gave the command to fire, which was followed by a tremendous volley of musketry. More of the enemy fell at this fire than by any succeeding one. Our force suffered mostly from the effect of batteries stationed on the hills in front of them. The projectile used by the enemy was grape and canister shot. The fight lasted from 3 to 5 o'clock. Hooker succeeded in forcing the rebels from their position and bivouacked at night on the battle ground. Our casualties amounted to fifty killed and about one hundred and fifty wounded, The rebels left their dead and over one hundred of their wounded on the field. On Thursday morning the bodies were buried by order of the Commanding General.

Prisoners captured on this occasion agree in the statement that Jackson had a force of 30,000 men. They also state that he came to Bristoe on the road leading from Centreville to Manassas Gap, and followed the same road on his retreat. He commenced retiring from Manassas Junction Thursday morning, burning

all the bridges that he crossed, including the one over Bull Run. Kearney and Hooker closely pursued, and did not stop until the rebels had been driven to Haymarket, and night overshadowed the chase.

It was expected that the rebels would receive reinforcements from Richmond; but in order to detain the reinforcements as long as possible King's Division was sent round to Thoroughfare Gap to oppose the entrance of the rebels. King's Division took the road leading from Catlett's Station to Manassas. They arrived upon the ground early Thursday evening, and in the course of a couple of hours were engaged with the rebel Longstreet, who was endeavoring to force his division through the Gap. The rebels were held in check for some hours, which was a great advantage to Pope, as he had an opportunity to march his troops and properly dispose them.

The attempt of Jackson to come in upon our rear has evidently been anticipated by Pope for some days before the event actually happened. On Tuesday, the 26th, orders were issued for the troops to proceed to Manassas Junction, and on that same day the line of the Rappahannock was abandoned, with the exception of that portion near Fredericksburg. During Tuesday night and all day Wednesday the supply and baggage trains were moving towards Manassas Junction, from which place they were sent to Centreville and subsequently to Fairfax Court House. They were at length concentrated in a valley just outside the limits of Centreville. Three locomotives and about one hundred and fifty cars loaded with the sick and wounded and medical supplies at Warrenton Junction, were waiting at that place for the burnt bridge to be reconstructed and the track re-laid so that they might pass on to Alexandria. On Thursday, however, it was deemed advisable to transfer the sick and wounded who could not walk to ambulances, by which means they were conveyed to Alexandria. The medical supplies were placed in wagons. It will be inferred from that movement that the event of the rebels occupying Warrenton Junction was not wholly unanticipated by Pope.

The battle of Friday and Saturday took place upon the old Bull Run Battle-ground. On Friday the fight was on our right, which was held by Sigel in the morning, and in the afternoon and evening by Heintzelman. King's Division had suffered considerably in the engagement the night previous, and was held in reserve, with the remainder of McDowell's Corps.

Porter's Corps arrived at Warrenton Junction from the Rappahannock on Thursday, and were ordered to proceed to the battle-ground. They took a position on the road leading to Centreville. At the left of the road were stationed McDowell's and Bank's Corps.

At daylight on Friday morning the fight was commenced by the rebels endeavoring to turn our right, or the troops under command of Sigel. They brought to bear a heavy artillery fire, and received in return one equally as energetic from us. Three times during the morning they advanced in mass upon Sigel, but were successfully resisted each time. The rebels had the choice of position, and had the advantage of us in that respect. They had woods for cover, and from the rising and falling of the ground, could keep up a rapid and decimating fire, without exposing any large bodies of their troops. Sigel and his men fought nobly till about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when they were relieved by Kearney and Hooker of Heintzelman's corps. The rebels, as is their usual practice, frequently relieved their troops, and had fresh men to meet those of Heintzelman. In the afternoon the fight became desperate, the enemy seeming determined to force back our right. After his usual custom, Kearney was at the head of his column, cheering on his men, and throwing defiance at the rebels. Hooker was equally conspicuous, and fought – as he always fights with the coolness, judgment and daring of a brave man. The contest lasted till dark, the enemy having been driven a mile from his original position. The loss on both sides was heavy, but it is impossible to make an approximate estimate. Sigel took 800 prisoners, and captured seven pieces of artillery.

The battle was renewed by us at 7 o'clock on Saturday morning. The disposition of our forces was about the same as on the previous day; Heintzelman held the extreme right; Porter and McDowell the centre, and Banks the extreme left. Sigel was held in reserve in the rear of Porter's corps. The fight was sustained on our part by Porter's force until afternoon when the enemy concentrated his entire force upon McDowell. The engagement was almost entirely with the artillery until 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Up to this time little damage had been sustained on either side. The rebels at length became desperate and charged with solid columns upon Porter's men. They did not succeed in breaking the line, however, and were compelled to fall back to their original position. The result was in our favor, inasmuch as we drove the enemy although we suffered severely in so doing. The rebel loss must have been frightful, as our artillerists fired at excellent range.

At 3 P. M. the enemy changed tactics, and moved the major part of his force toward McDowell, who was on the left of the centre. At this point we had stationed three batteries – Lapine's Fifth Maine, of

four pieces; Thompson's New York, of six pieces, and Howell's Battery, of four pieces. For some reason, Lapine's battery, which was in the extreme front was unsupported by infantry. This was certainly a great oversight on the part of McDowell. Then again, the troops under McDowell were too much scattered to effectually resist an enemy's advance. It was particularly observed that an immense number of stragglers were loafing about the field. Stragglers are a nuisance to an army, and the discipline of troops can be ascertained by observing if many of them leave the ranks during a march.

The enemy charged at first upon Lapine's Battery and succeeded in capturing it. They then advanced eight columns deep toward McDowell's force; but, strange to say, instead of offering any opposition, McDowell ordered his men to fall back, which they immediately commenced doing. All three of the batteries were then left unsupported, and, of course, to fall into the hands of the enemy. It is reported however, that three pieces out of the sixteen were drawn from the field by the artillerists. Soon as McDowell's troops commenced retiring, the cowardly stragglers set up a shout and ran pell-mell to the rear. Teamsters and ambulance drivers were the next to follow, and it was feared that another Bull Run fight was about to be inaugurated. The breaking of the line in the centre of course compelled the right and left to fall back. If the movement had been conducted systematically all might have been well, but the fear of being the last man seemed to seize the troops, and they made a rush for Centreville. Before reaching Bull Run they were partially rallied, which had the effect to hold in check the advance of the enemy. Several attempts were made to arrest the flight of the men between Bull Run and Centreville, but they all failed. Men with loaded rifles and fixed bayonets behind a breastwork at Centreville were the only barrier sufficiently strong to keep back the troops.

Darkness soon come on, and it being ascertained that the enemy was not rushing upon them with the celerity of lightning, the men became calm and set about preparing something to eat.

Franklin's entire corps had arrived two miles beyond Centreville when the stampede commenced. They drew up in line of battle at that point and remained there during the night.

The battle of Saturday was a loss to us on account of mismanagement somewhere. McDowell is blamed by both officers and men for not standing firm upon the approach of the enemy. His men assert that they will not fight under him again.

Our forces have now fallen back to Centreville. Sumner's corps passed up from Alexandria to-day. The road from Alexandria is lined with reinforcements. It is doubtless the intention of the rebels to make the next a decisive battle. All their available force is at Manassas. Prisoners state that Jackson in an address to his men, told them that he would take Washington within eight days or sacrifice his whole army.

The Union and the rebel armies are now face to face with each other. It remains to be seen which side shall conquer. Our casualties in the two days fight will probably amount to about 5,000 killed and wounded.

WHIT.

2 September 1862 – New York Times

The Recent Battles as Viewed from Washington

Position of the Contending Armies and their Relative Force

Washington, Sunday Evening, Aug. 31, 1862

That the greatest battle of the war has been raging for several days past in the vicinity of Manassas, is now known in Washington, although the information is not allowed to go over the wires. That this fight, up to the present time, has not resulted in a success to the National arms, is also now known. The same mail that carries this will convey to you an account of this fearful contest, by one of your special correspondents on the field, and hence I shall not attempt any account in detail; but I will give a few observations from this point of view, and the conclusions to which the intelligent public here has arrived in regard to the present "situation."

When Jackson threw himself with a comparatively small force, in the rear of Pope, he executed one of those bold inspirations of genius whose very audacity almost insures success. Pope's retreat had been a feat of such astonishing rapidity that he may almost be excused for not conceiving it to be possible for Jackson to thus overtake and flank him. At the same time, Jackson's daring subjected him to a terrible risk but promised brilliant rewards. The risk, thanks to his prompt reinforcement by Lee and Longstreet, he has survived, and the rewards he has realized in the capture of immense stores, giving the rebels a welcome supply of ordnance stores and ammunition as well as of provisions, of which, in consequence of their rapid march, they were destitute.

Had our military leaders, however, possessed the boldness and promptitude of Jackson, he would inevitably have fallen a sacrifice to his enterprise and courage. Probably he estimated all the chances, as in his raid in the Shenandoah Valley, and the fact shows that his estimate was correct.

Both armies have now been reinforced; Jackson by a force estimated at from 40,000 to 60,000; Pope by divisions from the corps of McClellan and Burnside. The enemy made an overpowering attack on McDowell's corps, when Longstreet came up and drove it back with great loss of men and ordnance. The fighting of our men was superb. Since that reinforcement we have been on the defensive, and are now back as far, at least, as Centreville – perhaps further – The retreat has been made with entire steadier and the men exhibit the utmost coolness and courage. But little fighting has been done to-day; the enemy, who occupy the old battle ground of Bull Run, apparently seeking some means of turning our flank. Our Generals are, of course, ignorant of what the morning will bring forth.

In case our troops prove too weak to hold the present line of defence, they will still be able to fall back in good order to the fortifications in front of Washington, unless the enemy, by some daring flank movement, succeed in occupying them first. In the former case. Washington is entirely safe till the new levies arrive – in the latter contingency, its fate would seem to be sealed.

I think confidence is lot in Gen. Pope. To-night an officer of some prominence, who was in the fight, announces, after visiting the War Office, that tomorrow morning will see a new Commander in the field. Whom it can be, I can only guess. McClellan has not been in the field at all, nor has Burnside but there is confidence in the latter, who is now said to be at Centreville, and must be the man, if a change is made.

Yesterday afternoon, the War Department invited everybody to go out to the battlefield and assist in tending and nursing the wounded. Washington responded almost en masse. From 3 to 7 o'clock the streets swarmed with people and conveyances, armed with blankets and baskets and rolls of lint. A thousand, I should say, went out, and this morning, notwithstanding the rain, a large number more. But at 10 o'clock this morning the order was countermanded and passes were refused, and it turns out that the whole affair was ill-advised, and that very few of those who went were allowed to go far enough to find the wounded they sought. Scarce a hack or omnibus was left in the city; this evening sees them returning. But the affair was not altogether bootless, and the result is very creditable to the loyalty and charity of the citizens of Washington.

The wounded are now arriving in, and are well cared for. Our loss is heavy – probably 15,000 to 20,000 already. We have also some prisoners – 1,000 are already in.

On the whole, if our Generals show average brains, and the loyal citizens of the country at once fill up the new regiments, the war was never in better shape; for though this last kick of the enemy is severe, it is final, and a dying spasm. His present army, all of which is at Manassas, is the last he can raise.

J. M. W.

2 September 1862 – New York Times

Secure Position of the Union Army

Judge White, of the New York Supreme court, telegraphed the Tribune from Washington at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon as follows:

"I have just returned from our army close to the battle-field. Our men are in good spirits and as firm as veterans. They hold Centreville and its vicinity, with part of the old battle-field of Bull Run.

2 September 1862 – Alexandria Gazette

The Battle Last Wednesday

The New Jersey brigade under command of Brig. Gen George W. Taylor, and attached to Gen. Franklin's division, left their encampment near Alexandria, at two o'clock in the morning of Wednesday, and, proceeding out the Fairfax road for some distance, they made a detour to the left, and, at ten o'clock the same morning, reached the old battle-field of Manassas. The Confederates, being made aware of their approach, were drawn up in line of battle, and as soon as they emerged from the wood skirting the field, at once opened on them with the eight pieces of artillery which were taken the day before, together with two other pieces, which they had secured some time during the night. The terrific rain of grape and canister which was hailed upon them for a time disconcerted them. At this juncture Gen. Taylor, having no battery or cavalry with him, saw that he must either make a charge or an inglorious retreat. The charge was ordered, but the Confederate batteries being supported by infantry, it proved ineffectual, and they were compelled to retire, which they did, to Sangster's Station, towards Fairfax, all the time keeping up a continual fire, and thus keeping the enemy in check.

At Sangster's Station they met with two Ohio regiments who had been sent to reinforce them. The Federal troops under Taylor mistook the reinforcement for another body of Confederates, and for a time a panic ensued. Confederates the whole time keeping up continual fire upon them, and doing immense damage, most of the casualties occurring at this point and time. The disorder and confusion was at last stayed. The troops who were at first engaged, as well as the reinforcements, commenced again to fire at the Confederates, and to such an extent as to cause them to give up the chase and to return towards Manassas. Leaving one of the Ohio regiments to guard the point at Sangster's Station, the remainder of the troops returned to Fairfax Court-house.

It was while the confusion and disorder was apparent, caused by the Federal troops mistaking friends for foes, that most of the casualties occurred, and it was at this time that General Taylor was so badly wounded.

Nat. Int.

2 September 1862 – Alexandria Gazette War News

The detailed accounts of the engagement near Gainesville, on Saturday last, show the battle to have been one of the most desperate and bloody of the war. The Federal loss is estimated at from three to five thousand killed and wounded, mostly belonging to the divisions of Gen. McDowell and Porter. The loss of officers is reported as very heavy. Generals Hatch and Buford are among the killed, and also Col. Fletcher Webster, son of Daniel Webster. The Confederates are also supposed to have lost many in killed and wounded, but as they held possession of the field nothing positive could be known. It is believed that, with the exception of some skirmishing, there has been no fighting since Saturday. Up to noon yesterday no firing had been heard at Fairfax Court House, seven miles from Centreville. It is understood that the Federal forces are rapidly concentrating at Centreville. General Banks' corps at last advices was in a favorable position to soon reach Gen. Pope. The Confederate position is in the western part of the old Bull Run battle field. A Washington paper states that Gen. Burnside has evacuated Fredericksburg, and withdrawn his forces to a position where they can be brought into active service. Gen Banks, before he left Manassas destroyed a number of locomotives and cars.

3 September 1862 – Memphis Appeal The Battles of the 28th and 29th Ult.

Dispatches from Gen. Lee

Groveton, August 29th, 10 P.M. – This army achieved to-day, on the Plains of Manassas, a signal victory over the combined forces of McClellan and Pope. On the 28th and 29th, each wing, under Gens. Longstreet and Jackson, repulsed with valor the attacks made upon them separately. We mourn the loss of our gallant dead in every conflict, yet our gratitude to Almighty God for mercies rises higher each day. To Him and to the valor of our troops, a nation's gratitude is due.

R. E. Lee.

Richmond, September 2. – A communication from the President transmitting copies of dispatches from Gen. Lee was read in both houses of Congress to-day.

The President says: From these dispatches it will be seen that God has again extended his shield over our patriotic army, and has blessed the cause of the Confederacy with a signal victory, on the field already rendered immortal by the gallant achievements of our troops. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on the skill and daring of the commanding generals who conceived, or the valor and hardihood of the troops who executed the brilliant movement, whose results are here communicated.

3 Sep 1862 – Washington Star Saturday's Fight

Up to 1 o'clock on Saturday the fighting was so light that it was thought there would not be any serious action for the day. A cavalry reconnoissance of four regiments, including the Michigan Cavalry, sent from the left to ascertain if the enemy were attempting a flank movement, discovered nothing to indicate their presence; but on returning to the left, and after taking position, the enemy suddenly made their appearance in immense numbers in a wood in front, and so near that their faces could be distinguished.

At the same point a battery was suddenly wheeled into position and fired at the cavalry. The first shell struck in front of the cavalry, and ricocheted high over to a field in their rear. The second shell burst over their heads, when they fell back to the cover of a hill. Stuart's cavalry presently appeared in large

force, coming on a charge. The Confederate cavalymen were armed with costly English shot guns, which they held at the breast fired (both barrels at once) as they approached on the charge.

Our cavalymen repelled the charge with their sabers, and the enemy fell back to the shelter of the woods, rallied superbly and returned again to the charge, and were again repelled. The enemy's infantry now opened upon our cavalry, compelling it to retreat. About the same time our left wing was repulsed, and fell back with considerable loss.

Two lines of pickets effectually prevented the stragglers from moving off, and the centre and right wing stood so firmly as to prevent the enemy from gaining any substantial fruits from their first successes.

Our soldiers who had been in the thickest of the fight, on the conclusion of the action fell down on the ground, too much exhausted to seek shelter or food, and slept where they were through the night, despite the falling rain.

Their hardships were increased by the want of water, as every spring and well was naturally drained to supply such a host, and many cheerfully paid twenty-five cents for a canteen full. Others drank the muddy water from the sloughs where thousands of horses had passed through.

The fact that not only Jackson, but Longstreet and Ewell, got through Thoroughfare Gap successfully, has caused some surprise, as it is stated that a regiment of men can hold the Gap against all comers, as it is narrow, and the road through it one in which it would be impossible for the enemy to unlimber a gun at the defensible points.

It is stated that Longstreet's advance, a single regiment of sharpshooters, was driven back (shelled) by a detachment sent out for that purpose; but that from some cause this force of ours was subsequently withdrawn, and the gap left open for Longstreet to pass through unchallenged.

Prisoners state that Gen. Lee was personally in command on Friday and Saturday. A gentleman who left Fairfax Court House yesterday evening at half-past six o'clock says that at that time reinforcements and ammunition were pouring into the Federal lines.

3 September 1862 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin

The War In Virginia

Further Particulars of the Battles Near Bull Run

Some Account of the Union Losses

(Correspondence of the New York Herald)

Bull Run, September 1. – After some very laborious research I have been enabled to gather a few items relative to some of the losses in men and material during the last few days contests. Of course the list is far from complete, but will be interesting meager as it is. The Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers, belonging to Sigel's command, lost 105 in killed and wounded.

The Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, also, in the same command, lost 76 in killed and wounded. The other regiments in proportion. The Sixty-eighth New York Volunteers lost nine officers wounded. The Seventy-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers lost two officers killed, names unknown, and all the rest of the officers but five wounded. The Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania lost several officers wounded. And the Twenty-ninth New York Volunteers have only 106 men left.

Gen. Sigel lost eighteen pieces of field artillery during his engagements with the rebels, including his celebrated Jackass Battery, which has inflicted much loss on the enemy in recent skirmishes and everywhere he has used it.

In General Fitz John Porter's corps the losses were comparatively heavy in wounded, both in officers and men.

The Pennsylvania Reserves especially the Bucktail Rifles and the Seventh Regiment, made a noble fight and suffered severely.

General Banks, who it was rumored was cut off beyond Bull Run, passed your correspondent a few moments ago, having brought in his command and his trains safely.

General Sigel's corps lost about one thousand killed, wounded and missing in the various battles last week. His wagon trains were not destroyed as reported, but mainly brought off safely.

I learn that General Sigel has asked to be relieved of his command. Cause supposed and believed to be dissatisfaction at his association with General McDowell. General Sigel has made a glorious reputation in this war, and his services are sadly needed,

General Sumner's corps reached Fairfax Court House on Saturday night, and marched early Sunday morning to the front, near Centreville. It is supposed they had an engagement yesterday with the enemy, as

cannonading was heard to the southwest of Centreville, where they were supposed to be. This corps has not been engaged since its arrival in this vicinity.

Our losses in the engagements of Thursday, Friday and Saturday, will probably reach fully 10,000 killed, wounded and missing. The killed are in unusual disproportion to the number wounded. A singular disproportion of the entire number are seriously wounded.

Our forces had to retire to Centreville because the flank commanded by General McDowell was turned by the rebels, notwithstanding there had been a complete success on all sides up to five o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

The rebel prisoners claim that Pope's apparent success on the right and centre was a part of Jackson's strategy – a feint of theirs to distract our attention from the left, against which the hard attack was made.

The losses among the rebels are supposed to be vastly greater than ours, as their men fought with great desperation, and rushed on apparently heedless of all danger.

Our forces now occupy the heights of Centreville, where they are strongly entrenched. Heavy reinforcements of infantry, artillery and cavalry are coming forward. Nothing that the rebels can bring against us will avail them in this mighty struggle.

[Correspondence of the New York Tribune]
Headquarters, General Pope's Army
Centreville Heights, Virginia, September 1st

Your correspondent arrived at Centreville on Saturday afternoon as General Pope and the army of Virginia were returning from the hard fought battle-field of Manassas Plain.

Seven hundred rebel prisoners were filed up the Fairfax road in the rear of Centreville, while McDowell's corps came sweeping up from the battle. I continue the history of the retrograde movement of the army of Virginia from Saturday at six o'clock, up to which time a full account has been furnished you by your correspondent C. A. P.

Before commencing my report as an eye witness I am enabled to give the following succinct account of the previous four days fighting, through descriptions and data kindly given me by Gen. Kearney, through his Chief of Staff.

The Commencement

While General Pope was stationed at Warrenton, the rebels under Jackson, Ewell, Longstreet, Hill, Stewart, and Fitzhugh Lee, conceived the strategic movement of marching the great mass of the Confederate Army around the head waters of the Rappahannock through Thoroughfare Gap, and thence to Manassas, hoping to cut off the Army of Virginia from its base of supplies, and hoping thereby to starve it out or compel them to fight on their chosen battle field.

As soon as Gen. Pope was informed as to the intended movement of the rebels, owing the force to be smaller than it really was he set about capturing the force between him and Washington, and to keep open the route from his army to his base of supplies.

The first appearance of the rebel army after moving through Thoroughfare Gap was made at Bristow Station, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad

Wednesday's Movements

(Bottom of the newspaper torn and missing)

----- (return to top of the paper) – plan a retreat back again to Thoroughfare Gap. To prevent a similar movement on the part of the enemy, Gen. Sigel was ordered to Gainesville and General McDowell was dispatched to Thoroughfare Gap.

General Hooker was advanced along the railroad to Bristow Station to attack the enemy in the front, while Gen. Banks was ordered to follow Gen. Hooker as a reserve, in case the enemy should defeat Hooker, and cause our forces to assume a retrograde movement.

The order to McDowell was also to keep Longstreet and Ewell from joining Jackson at Manassas, by the way of Thoroughfare Gap. McDowell was not able to arrive soon enough to prevent the enemy from being reinforced by the great mass of the rebel army.

The enemy, in force, arrived at Manassas on Wednesday evening, when Ewell was sent to Bristow Station, to destroy what Union supplies there should be standing on the track. Ewell's force coming up was met by Hooker coming down, and also by Kearney, who had arrived by way of Greenwich. The fight at this station was a signal victory on the part of Hooker and Kearney.

Through the combined infantry movement of Hooker and artillery movement of Kearney, 700 prisoners were taken in this engagement, beside some small arms and accoutrements. The enemy were

driven back to Manassas, and as night came on they took possession of the heights across Broad Run. Then both forces rested.

In this battle the loss of the enemy was heavy, and among them were some of their finest officers. General Ewell was wounded in the leg by a shot from a rifled cannon, and his leg has since been amputated.

Friday's Fight

At dawn of day on Friday, Kearney, Reno and Hooker, of Heintzelman's corps, and Sykes's division, of Porter's corps, came up before Manassas.

Birney's brigade was first on the battle ground of Manassas at 7 o'clock on Friday morning. The enemy had left the immediate vicinity of the Junction, and the buildings were burning behind them. Kearney's division was now ordered to march on, cross Bull Run near the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and move on Centreville, where the enemy were reported to have been posted in considerable force. Kearney advanced and drove in their videttes, and crossed the Run without opposition.

One mile beyond the bridge, on a commanding high, Kearney, advancing to within a mile and a half of Centreville, they met a regiment of the enemy's cavalry, who immediately charged on them. Our cavalry skirmishers – two companies of the Second Pennsylvania cavalry – turned and fled, the enemy in hot pursuit. On arriving near our infantry line, they were met by a heavy fire from our infantry skirmishers on the right and left of the wood, and thrown back in confusion.

Gen. Birney here came near being taken prisoner. The rebel cavalry seeing him in front, noticed his shoulder straps, and then commenced a scrub race, for life on one hand and a General on the other. However, Gen. Birney escaped.

Kearney's division now advanced to Centreville and occupied the works without molestation, Hooker and Reno encamping three miles in the rear on Thursday night, and Sigel also coming up from the direction of Manassas. The stone bridge was destroyed and Sigel's skirmishers soon met those of the enemy in the woods on both sides of the Warrenton road, but beyond the Leesburg road.

The enemy's skirmishers were driven in and Sigel commenced shelling the woods, when the enemy soon opened with artillery from beyond.

Kearney forded Bull Run, one mile above the bridge, which was destroyed, and found Sigel's troops in line of battle, their right resting on Leesburg road and their left on Bull Run. Kearney immediately formed his troops to the right of Sigel, his right resting on Bull Run, the two Divisions making a curve. Hooker and Renoe were the reserve. At 10 o'clock, on Friday, the enemy were attacked by Sigel's right under Carl Shurz, which resulted in driving them some distance.

On two occasions Shurz was hardly pressed, and was only able to stand the shocks of the enemy through the superior bravery of the First, Third, and Eighth New York Regiments of Kearney's division.

At 10:30 the enemy advanced in great force, and Heintzelman's and Hooker's division of Heintzelman's corps were ordered to the front. Augur's brigade of Greenough's division fought the enemy for about two hours desperately, but being overpowered by superior numbers, for the first time in the war Hooker fell back – not, however, until Augur's brigade had exposed his flank. The back movement of our troops from their position exposed the left of Kearney. The rebels were now behind the embankment of a new railroad. Kearney, leaving one brigade to hold the right flank of the Union forces, immediately changed front and led two brigades to the assault, attacking the enemy in the flank.

The cross fire drove the enemy across the railroad and through the woods. Randolph's and Graham's Batteries now let fire, and sent the enemy backward in a precipice retreat.

The rebels were now driven through the cornfield beyond the railroad from the woods, and pressed hard by Birney's Brigade on to the heights beyond. Night coming on, the further progress of the Union forces was impeded; but with the assistance of two regiments of Stephens Brigade, Kearney maintained his advanced position during the night. Morning found them on the field.

Saturday's Battle

During the night of Friday and early Saturday morning McDowell and Porter arrived. Porter was sent to turn the enemy's right, and Rickett's division of McDowell's corps relieved Kearney in front. The morning opened with a skirmish -----(bottom of the page torn and missing) continued below from - The National Intelligencer of 6 September 1862

A correspondent of the same paper gives a general view of the battle of Saturday, as related to him by a field officer belonging to Gen. Ricketts's division, who witnessed the conflict from an ambulance in which his illness obliged him to lie.

The officer is a cool and intelligent witness, and as regards Saturday's battle he says that we were completely outmaneuvered by the rebels. Until 12 o'clock little fighting occurred. Our skirmishers pushed into the woods from the open plain where our troops were massed, and gradually drove their skirmishers back on the right, uncovering a considerable force behind them. Between twelve and one o'clock, upon a bill in front of the woods which they occupied opposite our centre, a rebel battery made its appearance, fired a few shots, and, after fifteen minutes' skirmishing with one of our batteries, retired. Presently, on another crest of the bill, further to the left, another battery appeared, a few more shots were exchanged, and it also dropped behind the hill. This was repeated on another hill further and further to the left several times, then all was quiet for a few moments. Presently the whole range of hills was covered with batteries, and an immense force appeared opposite our left and centre and opened a terrible fire. Still further to the left a cloud of dust marked the advance of a heavy column, marching to turn that flank. Before the concentrated fire from the hill and the charge of the column on the flank our troops gave way. Several batteries were captured, even our reserves were shaken, and, at least on this part of the field, regiments retired not precisely as they would withdraw, from a parade. Many regiments however, were honorable exceptions.

Our field-officer was able to be in command of his regiment when it was with the rest of Ricketts's division, sent out to hold Longstreet in check and prevent him from reinforcing Jackson by way of Thoroughfare Gap. Three regiments were pushed forward to seize the Gap, but they were too late. The rebels held it in force, and poured from above from each side, and the front a destructive fire, the marksmen being entirely invisible. The Gap was discovered to be very narrow affording barely passage for the railroad and carriage road by its side, and a small stream, and a turnpike, and carriage road beyond it – the mountains rising precipitately on each side. To the right, at the entrance of the Gap, was a gully, and on this side of a steep hill. Col. Fletcher Webster of the 12th Massachusetts, sent several companies to feel the enemy who were posted on this hill in force, and firing from above at our men, but they found the hill on this side too steep to climb. The division soon found that it was impossible to hold its ground and it was obliged to retire.

The same officer says that when his regiment was in advance on the other side of the Rappahannock, holding the redoubts on the two or three bills which formed our outposts, he saw for three days a constant stream of infantry and cavalry, artillery, and wagons moving up stream in the direction which they would naturally take in order to flank Gen. Pope as they did. Why this movement was allowed to go on, and why our counteracting movements were taken at so late an hour after the enemy had passed, he does not say.

The Battle of Monday Night

Another correspondent of the Tribune give further accounts of the battle of Monday night, near Centreville. It now seems to be certain that both Generals Kearney and Stevens were killed in that action. The fight lasted for four hours, and took place at a point three miles in the rear of Centreville, ending in the complete repulse of the rebels.

Gen. Reno posted his troops with his right resting against a wood. Gen. Stevens' division was upon the left, Reno himself holding the right. After the line of battle was formed the enemy attempted to turn Reno's left flank. Stevens, to anticipate and prevent this movement, advanced at the head of his division to the attack. The enemy were posted in a cornfield, the further side of it partially protected by the woods. In the centre of the field was a ravine, into which Gen. Stevens advanced. As he was leading his column, some distance before reaching the enemy's line, he was shot dead by a bullet through the head. His troops, disheartened by his loss, and undoubtedly outnumbered, fell back in considerable disorder. Gen. Reno found himself at this period without any support upon his left, with his troops mostly out of ammunition, while the enemy were approaching in heavy force upon the left flank, and threatening to turn his position and cut his force in two.

It was at this juncture that Gen. Kearney arrived upon the field. The night was very dark, the rain falling very heavily, with a terrible storm of thunder and lightning. It was nearly impossible to discover at once the exact position of the enemy. On the exposed left flank of Gen. Reno they were supposed to be advancing, and Gen. Kearney, detaching one brigade to the left, rode forward to make a reconnaissance in person. He was told that there were no troops of ours in front of the position which Gen. Stevens had held, and that through the Gap the rebels were rapidly advancing; but disregarding or disbelieving the information he went forward, accompanied only by an orderly, and coming suddenly upon the rebel advance, was shot dead. His death remained unknown until the following morning, but as he did not return

to his command, and was supposed to be a prisoner, Gen. Birney took command of the division and arranged the order of battle.

Gen. Reno had at this time withdrawn entirely from the fight, and Gen. Birney found the enemy in front of him considerably to the left of Reno's original position, and even threatening to turn his own left flank. Gen. Robinson's brigade, with Graham's battery, first United States was ordered to the left. Gen. Birney's brigade constituted the reserve, also strengthened by Randolph's battery, which opened on the enemy with vigor and effect.

Gen. Birney formed his line of battle in front and on this centre with his own brigade, consisting of seven regiments. A musketry fire was opened on both sides and continued with great sharpness for perhaps half an hour. The enemy's line being unsustained by artillery was greatly shaken by the cannonade from our side and by the heaviness of the infantry fire. Gen. Birney, as soon as he perceived indications of the enemy's unsteadiness in his front, ordered the Fortieth (known as the Mozart) and First New York, both commended by Col. Egan, and the Scott Life Guard. (Thirty-eighth New York, Col. Ward, to advance in a bayonet charge. These three regiments moved across the cornfield, down the ravine, and up the opposite slope, with the greatest gallantry and determination, and almost instantly broke the rebel line and put them to flight. They were pursued by the fire of our artillery, but owing to the darkness and the storm, pursuit by infantry for any distance was impossible.

Our troops occupied the position of the enemy from which he had been driven, Gen. Birney's reserve brigade holding the ground all night.

3 September 1862 Richmond Enquirer - The Yankees Claim Another Victory At Bull Run

30 August 1862 – New York Times

New York Herald of last Saturday

New York Press Agency, August 29, 1862

Through the politeness of Mr. Kieser, of the gallant Third Alabama Regiment, we have been placed in possession of a copy of the New York Herald of last Saturday, from which we select many articles of interest.

We have reliable advices, through letters received to-night, that affairs at Washington and Alexandria have worn a more favorable aspect. The secessionists of the latter city are less jubilant, and carry desponding countenances.

General Burnside and Pope have successfully cut their way through the rebel forces to Manassas, and have formed a junction with the Army of Virginia under Gen. McClellan this side of Centreville.

There has been a severe engagement with the rebels by the divisions under the command of General Hooker, Sturges and Sumner, in which the rebels were completely routed and driven back from the vicinity of Manassas and Bull Run through the passes of the Bull Run Mountains.

The loss of life on both sides is said to have been heavy. No accurate information is obtained but it is understood and believed the enemy were very severely punished, and many prisoners taken.

It is also stated that the Potomac River is now fordable at any point above Washington and much excitement prevails throughout Western Maryland, arising from the fear that a portion of the rebel army may make a desperate and destructive raid in that quarter, but the arrangements for a proper reception of the traitor at all points are ample for all emergencies of such a nature.

The enemy has not yet appeared on the Upper Potomac, although indications have pointed to such an event and the excitement on both sides of the line continues.

The fears for the safety of Washington are entirely dispelled, as the defences of the capital are perfect and impregnable.

The general feeling of the loyal people of both Alexandria and Washington is one of more confidence, and the depression which has prevailed among loyal men for the past week has given way to that of joy and gladness.

That there have been the most extensive movements of troops from Alexandria and other points is beyond a doubt, and it is currently believed that the major portion of our army has had either skirmishing or hard fought battles with the enemy within the last twenty four hours.

It is generally believed an extensive forward movement was made by the whole army to-day, under General McClellan involving a battle; but the result if a battle was fought, has not yet been announced. Our advices are up to noon to-day and are from the most trustworthy sources.

The following is Pope's official dispatch from Manassas Junction:

Manassas Junction
August 28th, 10 o'clock, P. M.
To Major General H. W. Halleck,
General in Chief.

As soon as I discovered that a large force of the enemy was turning our right toward Manassas, and that the division I had ordered to take post there two days before had not yet arrived there from Alexandria; I immediately broke up my camps at Warrenton Junction and Warrenton, and march rapidly back in three columns.

I directed McDowell with his own and (four words not legible) Alexandria pike; Reno and one division of Heintzelman to march on Greenwich, and with Porter's corps and Hooker's division I marched back to Manassas Junction.

McDowell was ordered to interpose between the forces of the enemy, which had passed down to Manassas through Gainesville and his main body, which was moving down from White Plains through Thoroughfare Gap. This was completely accomplished Longstreet who had passed through the Gap, being driven back to the west side. The forces sent to Greenwich were designed to support McDowell, in case he met too large a force of the enemy.

The division of Hooker, marching towards Manassas, came upon the enemy near Kettle Run on the afternoon of the twenty-seventh and after a sharp action, routed them completely, killing and wounded three hundred and capturing their camps and baggage and many stands of arms.

This morning the command pushed rapidly to Manassas Junction, which Jackson had evacuated three hours in advance. He retreated by way of Centreville, and took the turnpike towards Warrenton.

He was met, when six miles west of Centreville, by McDowell and Segel. Late this afternoon a severe fight took place, which has been terminated by the darkness. The enemy were driven back at all points and thus the affair rests.

Heintzelman's corps will move on him at daylight from Centreville, and I do not see how he is to escape without heavy loss.

We have captured a thousand prisoners, many arms and one piece of artillery.

(signed) John Pope,
Major General

ANOTHER YANKEE LIE

The following dispatch appears in the telegraphic column of the Yankee papers:

"Philadelphia, Aug. 25. – The "Press" has a letter from General Pope's army, dated the 223, stating that General Sigel has captured two thousand rebels who had crossed the Rappahannock on a bridge, which was destroyed by the fire of a Federal battery, cutting off their retreat and forcing a surrender after the loss of four hundred in killing and wounded."

The "Chronicle," a dirty sheet published in Washington, contains a long letter purporting to give the particulars of the above mentioned affair, concluding with the following significant paragraph:

If you should hear that Gen. Sigel's corps has been cut to pieces or captured; that the enemy had met us on the North bank of the Rappahannock; that we had retreated to Manassas; that Fredericksburg had been taken, or even that General Pope had been captured, you had best laugh, as I do, at the credulity of men and the wilderness of chronicles."

If this penny-a-liner had remembered the Divine injunction. "Thou shalt not lie," he would have prepared the hirelings of the "Chronicle" for the reception of just such news as is foreshadowed in the above paragraph, for we doubt not "it will come to pass."

"THE POTOMAC ARMY TIED UP"

Under the above caption we find the following article in the New York "Tribune:"

"The army of the Potomac, like the coffin of Mohammed, hangs between Heaven and earth. It is for the time being, neither threatening Richmond nor defending Washington. It has let loose a whirlwind upon Pope, and will almost certainly be too late to brace him against it. It is practically a nonentity, serving no more immediate purpose than do the cargoes in transit from Hong Kong to New York now tossing in the middle of the Pacific. It is the limp body of a half-drowned man being borne up the bank for resuscitations. Do not understand me as questioning its ability or its desire to be of immediate service, or do early and vigilant fighting, if it is so happy as to be in at the death. I only speak of the transparent fact that, as the situation now appears the crisis on the Rapidan may be fought out, lost or won, and we be far away on the billow – the muddied miniature billows of the Potomac though they be." Troops, our General believed in

achieving another victory by defeating and driving the rebels before him, and perhaps is destroying that portion of the enemy's army.

But with all this good and certain news we have yet to fight a battle that is to be the decisive one in front of the national capital, and will be undoubtedly be one of great magnitude and importance's. The Government takes this view of the position of things in that neighborhood, and to meet the emergency it is announced that McClellan takes the immediate command of the whole Army of Virginia, with Pope and Burnside at the head of the two auxiliary armies of the Rappahannock and Potomac.

THE RAID BY GENERAL STUART AND LEE

If we had not heard one word of this affair from Confederate sources, the following confused, bungling and unintelligible account from a Yankee correspondent, would have assured us of a complete success to the Confederates. The correspondent of the Philadelphia "Inquirer", dating from Manassas, August 24, writes":

Friday evening, about 8 o'clock, as your correspondent was in camp with the baggage and supply trains of Siegel's First Army Corps, south of Catlett's Station, an alarm was given that the rebel cavalry had attacked and taken the Station and were advancing upon us. For a time the consternation occasioned by so sudden and unexpected an attack was great; by the cool and determined behavior of some of the officers and men ordered was soon restored. The Purnell Legion formed quickly and fought bravely, and, although crushed back by overwhelming numbers, stood their ground until resistance was destruction. The "Bucktails," under Col. Kane, of your city covered themselves with glory.

Upon repairing to the station at daylight we found that last night the railroad train from Rappahannock reached there about 8 P. M. and was waiting for a train to come up from Alexandria. In about an hour a cry was heard from the camp ahead of the train, to "fail in men, we are attacked." So it was; true as preachin' we were. The rebel cavalry rode up to the engine and ordered the engineer to surrender. He refused and the "chivalry" fired several volleys at him, and at the same time fired into the rear of the train, which had attached two passenger cars and about fifty passengers in them. The whole train was in an instant surrounded, and all who dared to come out were surrounded and taken prisoners. As the rebels dismounted, the engineer drew the valve and some one separated the train, leaving two car loads of sick from Warrenton. Just as the train started along thirty men of Company B, Purnell's Legion, of Baltimore, advanced to the rear of the train and poured a volley into the rebel cavalry who had it surrounded.

The rebels fell back in a perfect "skedaddle," but in a few minutes rallied and charged most vigorously and took all the men prisoners.

The hospital at Catlett's Station was "sacked," and all the sick taken out South. The rebels then had their own way, and pillaged and plundered to their hearts content. The sutler wagons were plundered of such articles as the scamps wanted and then burnt. The rebels returned near the Station nearly five hours, doing as they pleased. A fearful thunderstorm raged during the whole time of the attack. The lightning was almost blinding, and the thunder was most appallingly fearful. The rain fell in drenching torrents. While one of the rebel regiments was at work immediately at the Station, another dashed upon Gen. Pope's wagon train, half a mile further up the road. The train was guarded by about two hundred of the Pennsylvania Bucktails, under Col. Kane, who had just reached here the previous day, since being wounded at Cross Keys.

The men rushed out and fired a volley in the darkness; the rebels fell back, but advanced again, and surrounding the whole party, took Col. Kane and some one hundred and forty-nine of his men prisoners. But Providence favoring, Col. Kane encouraging his men, sent them out one by one to the rear in the storm, and when all were out, followed himself, and while the rebels were absorbed by the storm, escaped. Fourteen of the same gallant men charged on a body of the rebel cavalry, killing a large number of their horses, which lay along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. The rebels then popped over to Pope's wagons, took all his fancy horses, papers, &c. and burned his two wagons. They also robbed and burned two sutlers' wagons and three of the supply wagons with all the equipage of Gen. Pope and others, which they did not want. Gen. McDowell's guard lay but a short distance off, and kept up a continuous fire, aided by a few "Bucktails" who had escaped previous to the surrounding. But the rebel fire and charge was too severe and the men fell back. The rebels took some half dozen horses from McDowell's train, and all private stores, completely rummaging his mess cheats and wagon. Another party had crossed the railroad and gone down to Gens. Rickett's and King's supply trains and headquarter wagons. They gave a tremendous shout, and charged down into the ravine, where King's wagoners were, upon the outside, guarded by some Wisconsin troops, who drew up and fired into the rebel cavalry killing two and taking two

prisoners, during a skirmish of nearly an hour. When the fire opened Maj. William Painter, Division Quartermaster, and Captain D. B. Jones, Commissary, ran out mounted their horses, cheered the men, urging them to stand firm, and were taken prisoners.

An hour before daylight a squadron of the brave Colonel Allen's 1st Maine Cavalry charged up the railroad, and the rebels at once departed thence for Warrenton. In the commencement of the "break," one of the correspondents of the "Enquirer," was, with a friend, taken prisoner, but subsequently escaped from nine of the chivalry. The two took to the scant woods and crouched behind a stump until daylight appeared. During that time they heard the rebels conversing and during the vivid flashes of lightning saw them lead off our men prisoners.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT

We find the following version of the affair in the special correspondents of the New York "Tribune" under date of August 25:

Last evening, as the Engine Secretary was bringing down to Manassas from a short distance above Bristow Station two companies of the 105th Pennsylvania Volunteers, to remain at the Junction as depot guard, he was fired upon about two miles out of Bristow by parties of dismounted cavalry from both sides of the road. The rebels used their horses as breastworks, and fired their carbines over their backs. The firing not being very rapid, the engineer but little attention to it, but, with the conductor and fireman, hid himself behind the boiler tanks, and let on all steam. The train, rushing on a furious rate, soon came in contact with two or three dozen ties heaped upon the track; but the engine, being a powerful one, dashed them off as if they were but wisps, and continued on to Manassas. Arriving there, Capt. Musser was immediately notified that the rebels were approaching, and with all the means at his disposal prepared to receive them. The 12th Pennsylvania, Col. Pearce which has been stationed at Manassas several months doing guard duty for depots and trains, has that afternoon been ordered to join its brigade, and at 5 o'clock marched up the road leading to Bristow and Catlett's Stations halted for the night. Upon mustering his forces, Capt. Musser discovered that he had but two companies of the 105th Pennsylvania, numbering in all but eighty souls, to protect five hundred thousand dollars worth of property. Nothing remained for him to do but to arrange the empty cars, many of which were lying near the depot, in the form of barricades, and await the arrival of the rebel cavalcade. At half past eight just an hour after the engineer (Smally) arrived, and notified him of his danger, the Rebel host dashed in upon Captain Musser and his little band. But his numbers were too small; the cavalry came down upon him like a whirlwind, dismounted from their horses, and poured volley after volley through and around the barricade of cars, and when many of the little band behind them were killed and wounded, forced their way through, and took all who had not escaped prisoners. Capt. S. C. Craig and Corporal Corcoran fell wounded at the commencement of the fight.

After having subdued the little opposition they met with, the rebels then turned their attention to the rich stores, which they could destroy, but which they could not carry off with them. The torch was soon applied, and what had taken weeks to concentrate at that point, was destroyed in a few hours. The son of Capt. Musser, from whom I have this account, escaped, with several others, by fleeing to the woods and walking to Fairfax Station.

Sutler of the 12th Pennsylvania, Col. Pearce, I am informed that before the rebel cavalry reached Manassas they engaged that regiment and cut it all to pieces, killing four Captains, killing and wounding many others, and taking the rest prisoners.

The statements must be taken with some allowance. The sutler was evidently one of the first to leave, having reached Alexandria at an early hour this morning, after having ridden all night. The part, therefore, taken by the 12th Pennsylvania in the fight cannot be accurately given until to-morrow.

From other persons who escaped I learn that brisk firing continued nearly all night; that toward morning the heavy roar of artillery was heard, and continued until a late hour in the day. The 1st New Jersey Brigade, Gen. Kearny are reported to have engaged the enemy near Bull Run Bridge, where a desperate struggle was maintained on our part to hold it, and on the Rebels to destroy it. The bridge is still said to be in our possession, although the brigade of Gen. Kearny is reported as having been terribly cut up. Fighting also was carried on with portions of artillery are said to have been captured by the Rebels. Accounts differ about the brigade from which these guns were taken; but all say that we lost at least a battery.

Gen. Stuart is supposed to have got in the rear of Gen. Pope via Thoroughfare Gap. – This raid is by far the boldest one of the war, but it is reported this evening that Stuart did not escape without great loss.

The Attacks at Manassas and Bristow Station

Of Wednesday night, as has been detailed else where, an attack was made upon Bristow Station, and also at Manassas Junction. Our forces at the latter point, composed exclusively of raw troops, were dispersed.

The Rebels at Gainesville and Manassas

Some of our scouts who raged through the woods to ascertain the exact condition of affairs saw at Gainesville, ten miles beyond Manassas, a rebel entrenchment which they estimated at from 20,000 to 30,000. The rebel forces composed of cavalry and infantry occupied Manassas all that night. Yesterday morning they advanced, and had in their possession seven cannon, captured from our forces at Manassas.

The Rebels Burn the Bridges

Until dark last night the rebels had destroyed nothing upon the line of the railroad, but during the night they burned the bridges across the Accotink and at Pope's Head.

Rebel Cavalry at Fairfax Court House

The scouts reported some five hundred Rebel cavalry on their way from Centreville to Fairfax Court House. This statement has been verified from other reliable sources and official reports.

And at Leesburg

It is known also that during the night a rebel cavalry force entered Leesburg, and made prisoners of a portion of Capt. Means company of Union troops, being raised at that point. It is supposed that the rebel force at Leesburg were a party of guerrillas residing in the vicinity, who were emboldened by the near approach of the rebel army to make a demonstration against Means' men, who were very obnoxious to the secessionist in that neighborhood.

Jackson and Ewell in Danger

Enough remain in the vicinity of Washington, under the direct command of General McClellan, to take care of the twenty or thirty thousand rebels under Generals Ewell and Jackson who have thus thrust themselves into the meshes of a net from which they are not likely to escape.

Bull Run Swollen by Rains – Bad for the Rebels

It is stated to-night that Bull Run is swollen to such an extent from the recent heavy rains that all the bridges have been swept away, and the rebel force on this side is in danger of being bagged. There is reason to believe that they have already been attacked by a portion of General Pope's army, and the preparations made here will certainly result in the capture or destruction of this entire rebel force, unless they should prove more active in their movements than it is believed they can be.

2 September 1862 – Washington Daily Intelligencer

How Jackson Got Into Pope's Rear

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Press attempts an explanation of the manner in which General Jackson managed to get around the right wing of Gen. Pope's army, and make his raid upon Manassas Junction for the purpose of operating in the rear of Gen. Pope, while Gen. Lee made the attack on the front. He says:

“All the six days fighting of our army on the Rappahannock is now known to have been merely a feint on the part of the rebels, and their supposed retreating toward Sperryville via Little Washington was also intended for the same purpose. Instead of the whole rebel army moving back, Gen. Lee carefully concealed his main force along the banks of the Rappahannock, while he sent Jackson to Warrenton with forty thousand men, five thousand of whom were cavalry under Col. Lee, to march along the country between the Blue Ridge and Bull Run range of mountains. Jackson concentrated his forces at White Plains and Selena, and sent his cavalry through to reconnoiter. Soon he followed with his infantry, and coming through Thoroughfare Gap, he made a forced march until he reached Centreville. From this place he was within striking distance of Gen. Pope's rear, and he improved it, no doubt thinking that he could annihilate the army of Virginia before it could have any succor from Washington.”

It seems from what can be learned from the rebel wounded in our hands that Jackson and Ewell started from the vicinity of Warrenton Springs on Sunday, the 24th, with three divisions, crossed the Rappahannock some six miles south of the Blue Ridge, and proceeded by way of Orleans and Salem to Bristow, making the distance in about two and a half days.

“On reaching this point their first object of attack was the house of Mr. Lipscomb, where ten officers were stopping, and who were at the time sitting on the back porch smoking. The house was assailed in both front and rear, and all the officers captured. Amongst them was Lieut. Col. Pierson, of the First New York volunteers. Their next attack was upon a small guard on the Warrenton railroad, several of

whom were killed. They then assailed successfully three railroad trains on their way from Warrenton, two of which were captured and burnt. They then proceeded a mile down the track and burned the bridge at Cattle Run, tore up some thirty feet of the track and cut the telegraph; they also burned the bridge across Broad Run at Bristow.

3 September 1862 – Alexandria Gazette
The Late Battles – From the New York Papers

The result of the fighting on Friday was, in substance, that the Confederates had at first been driven about two miles, but subsequently meeting heavy reinforcements, and in their turn attacking, recovered a mile of the ground they had lost.

Saturday the battle was more general. Heintzelman, Porter, McDowell, Sigel and Banks were engaged, though Sigel having had the hottest work the day before, was kept back as a reserve. The day was spent until 10 o'clock in massing troops, deploying and maneuvering.

Heintzelman attacked at ten. Porter moved down on the centre, Heintzelman on the right, both corps co-operating in one movement.

Porter's advance was at once met and checked by immense masses of Confederate infantry, and almost at the same moment became exposed to an enfilading fire of grape and canister.

The troops endured this with heroic bravery for more than an hour. An officer who watched them with his glass says he could see the ground strewn with fallen ranks of dying and dead.

Finally they broke and fell back in disorder. The reserves of both corps became disordered by the stream of fugitives which poured back upon them, and large numbers of the men who had not been in action at all, joined the retreat.

The enemy advanced his batteries rapidly, and poured in a storm of shot and shell upon these confused and flying masses. The right wing was then beaten, and the battle became seriously endangered.

McDowell then advanced in support, and endeavored to hold the centre, but his movements were anticipated by the enemy, and both he and Sigel were enveloped by the Confederates on their left, and outnumbered at all points.

Then Sigel brought up his brigades successively to their position, and held them at the front while the tide of fugitives poured by. Large bodies of McDowell's troops broke and retreated in disorder, pell-mell, across Bull Run.

At five in the afternoon the battle was going on heavily. Gen. Pope had ordered up and into the fight the last of his reserves, and was still endeavoring to retrieve the day; but along the Centreville road, artillery, infantry, wagons and cavalry were mingled together in confusion, and all falling to the rear.

The right remained comparatively firm, and prevented the enemy from following up his advantage. Indeed, the last of the crossing of Bull Run was in perfect order, and by 8 o'clock the stream was crossed, and the enemy troubled us only by a few shells. We were falling back to Centreville.

Franklin with his whole corps was between Stone Bridge and Centreville, and pressing on. Sumner with his corps was close behind, between Centreville and Fairfax Court House, urging his troops forward at their greatest speed.

3 September 1862 – Richmond Enquirer
To the Editor of the Enquirer
Louisa, Va., August 30, 1862

The following is an extract from a letter received at this office from a correspondent residing in Louisa County, who is known to me, and whose statements may be relied upon:

I was informed this morning at Gordonsville by Mr. John a. Spilman, of Warrenton, (who you know very well) that the most brutal murder that I have ever known, was committed on the person of Dr. John G. Beale, of Fauquier County, Va., either on last Wednesday or Thursday, by a party of Pope's soldiers. Mr. Spilman got his information direct from an old servant man belonging to Dr. Beale's father, who was in Warrenton to procure a coffin. The Negro said these men came to the house and said they intended to search it. The Doctor told them that the house had already been searched more than a dozen times, and that he was tired of being annoyed in that way, and that they must go and bring a commissioned officer to conduct the search, when one of them drew a pistol and shot him through the head, killing him instantly. His wife and daughter were in the house at the time. The latter has been an invalid for years. I ask, is not this case that comes under the proclamation of the President, and will not the Confederate Government, by the prompt execution of some of the officers belonging to Pope's army, show to Lincoln

and his minions that it intends to protect its citizens; for if private citizens are permitted to be murdered by a lawless soldiery, and our authorities do not retaliate with promptness and severity, it may not be long before they will be able to carry out the threat of the wretch Baker, who boasted in the Senate of the United States, that they could “exterminate us, and would re-people the country,” with (what he was pleased to call) a hardier race.

Mr. Spilman said there were no Yankees now in Warrenton, but from what he could learn, they were still in the country as high up as Rappahannock Station, and along the Railroad, as far down as Bealeton. Our forces occupy Manassas, and I suppose Pope must fight or retreat by Fredericksburg.

3 September 1862 – Charleston S.C. Mercury
Progress of the War from Virginia the Seat of War

Richmond Dispatch 1 September 1862

New York World – 5 September 1862

Washington Daily National Intelligencer 6 September 1862

The extraordinary reticence of the Government throws back all the Virginia papers upon the resources of their old and indefatigable friend “The Reliable Gentleman.” The following account of the events immediately preceding the second great Battle of Manassas is taken from Monday’s issue of the Richmond Dispatch:

It is asserted, on what ought to be regarded as reliable authority, that our forces, in large numbers, have gained the rear of the enemy, and that on Saturday, and perhaps yesterday, a bloody struggle was in progress on Bull Run, in the immediate vicinity of the battle field of the 21st July 1861. Coupled with this statement is another, to the effect that other divisions of our army were pressing the enemy from this side, and forcing him on in the direction of our forces that have already been thrown between him and Washington. These statements we believe to be entitled to fuller consideration than should be given to mere street rumors, but we do not claim for them the sanction of unquestionable authority. We give them because we think them not at all improbable.

There are also reports of a heavy battle on Friday, near Bristow’s Station, four miles south of Manassas, between the division of Gen. Ewell and the forces of the enemy, in which it is said that our forces were twice driven from their position, with severe loss, but receiving reinforcements, handily drove the enemy back, capturing several batteries and some five thousand prisoners. Reports conflict as to the precise locality of this engagement, one representing it at Bristow’s Station and the other near the Plains, on the Manassas Gap Road. If such a fight really took place, we think it more than likely the latter location is correct. It is also stated by some that the divisions of Jackson, A. P. Hill, and Ewell, were all in the battle, and others that it was fought by Ewell’s division alone.

Another report, which was brought to the city by passengers on Saturday, and again yesterday, represent that General Stuart has taken Harper’s Ferry, and holds possession of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Bridge at that point. No particulars of the capture of this place are furnished, but those familiar with Stuart’s dashing exploits are generally ready to believe any report with reference to his daring feats. The latest information from Harper’s Ferry placed the Federal forces there at four regiments. This force may have been withdrawn, or it may have been increased. The Federals have for some time boasted that the town was strongly fortified and prepared to resist the attack of a vastly superior force. How much truth there was in these boasts will be shown by a confirmation or contradiction of the report of its capture. If it has fallen into our hands it has been captured by a cavalry force, unsupported by infantry or artillery.

A member of Congress, who came down on the Central train yesterday afternoon, says that the Baltimore Sun, of Thursday, had been received in the Valley, in which it was stated that our forces had captured at Manassas, on Wednesday, five trains of cars loaded with provisions, and that later on the same day five other trains, on board of which were some two thousand Yankee troops. This affair was commented upon by the Yankee press as very discreditable to their commander, and some harsh reflections as to his fitness for his position indulged.

Our own account of this affair reports that a portion of our cavalry had advanced on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad to Bull Run bridge, about five miles beyond Manassas, and having burned the bridge, continued their advance to Dye’s Station, where they concealed themselves, and arrested the approach of a number of trains of which they had previously received information. After the trains had passed the concealed portion of the cavalry the track was torn up behind them. When they reached the bridge, the officers on board finding that something was wrong, determined to return to Alexandria, but before backing far they found the track torn up, and their retreat effectually intercepted.

The cavalry then approached in superior numbers, and the enemy surrendered without firing a gun. The number of prisoners reported captured agrees with the statement of the Sun, being estimated at 2,000, together with all the officers, regimental and company, and a quantity of arms and ammunition, which were being conveyed to General Pope. After this brilliant affair, the cavalry returned to Manassas, without sustaining the loss of a single man.

Some fifteen hundred to two thousand Yankee prisoners were yesterday between Rapidan Station and Gordonsville, and may be expected in this city today. It is supposed that these are the prisoners captured at Dye's Station by our cavalry.

3 September 1862 – Lynchburg Republican Battle News

Few additional particulars of the battle on Saturday last, upon the plains of Manassas, were received last night. That our victory was a most signal one, and the rout of the enemy total and complete, admit of no doubt. But that this glorious result was attained at a fearful cost of life and the loss of many of the noblest and bravest spirits of the Southern army, is, alas! But too true.

On the side of the enemy, General McDowell is said to be mortally wounded. General Seigle killed, as also the infamous Sickles. Pope and McClellan are also reported wounded, but we know not with what truth.

Our losses in the fight of Saturday, it is supposed, will reach at least ten thousand, and of these three thousand were killed. Our informant, an officer, who participated in the fight, says the ground was covered with the dead. In many places they lay in heaps, and in one particular spot, in an open field, through which our men charged upon a battery of the enemy, he could walk over the dead for the space of fifty yards.

On the enemy's side, the losses are supposed to be at least twice as great as ours, exclusive of prisoners, whom the officer above mentioned thinks did not exceed four thousand, taken during the fight, though they were being captured each moment in their flight. He was in the battle of the 21st of July, and describes the rout of the enemy on Saturday as far more disastrous than that. Our cavalry charged them at every step in their retreat, and slaughtered them until it became a butchery. Night put an end to the bloody scene, and our men bivouacked in the open field to renew the pursuit on Sunday morning.

The retreat of the enemy was being urged towards Luray, every other avenue of escape being cut off. But little chance, it was thought, was open to them on the route, and our informant thinks that before this, in all probability, the army of Pope has ceased to exist, and the larger portion of it is killed or captured.

The number of cannon captured was under-estimated yesterday. It is stated that Pope had about one hundred and fifty guns, and it is not thought that he saved twenty of them. They, however, were many of them rendered unfit for use before being abandoned by the enemy. The whole battle field was strewn with small arms of every description, and overcoats and blankets almost innumerable. The fight, as we stated yesterday, was near the Sudley Church, and nearly upon the same ground of the memorable conflict of last year. When our informant left, on Saturday night, having been wounded, our men were in glorious spirits, and there was not one who did not anticipate that before the week closed, the last of the invaders would be driven from our State, and our victorious legions be pouring into Maryland to rescue her from the oppressor's grasp.

There were rumors of more severe fighting on Monday, but we place no credence in them whatever. From all accounts that have reached us, Pope's army was too much cut up and demoralized to have made a stand so soon, and we are reliably informed that on Sunday our troops were sixteen miles from the battlefield, on the Leesburg road, still pursuing the enemy, who were in detached squads and without any show of organization.

3 September 1862 – Philadelphia Evening Bulletin Further Particulars of the Battles Near Bull Run Some Accounts of the Union Loses. Correspondence of the New York Herald

Bull Run, September 1.- After some very laborious research I have been enabled to gather a few items relative to some of the losses in men and material during the last few days' contest. Of course the list is far from complete, but will be interesting meager as it is.

The Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers, belonging to Sigel's command, lost 105 in killed and wounded.

The Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, also, in the same command, lost 76 in killed and wounded. The other regiments in proportion.

The Sixty-eighth New York Volunteers lost nine officers wounded. The Seventy-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers lost two officers killed, names unknown, and all the rest of the officers but five wounded. The Seventy-fourth Pennsylvania lost several officers wounded. And the Twenty-ninth New York Volunteers have only 106 men left.

Gen. Sigel lost eighteen pieces of field artillery during his engagements with the rebels, including his celebrated Jackass battery, which has inflicted much loss on the enemy in recent skirmishes and everywhere where he has used it.

In General Fitz John Porter's corps the losses were comparatively heavy in wounded, both in officers and men.

The Pennsylvania Reserves, especially the Bucktail Rifles and the Seventh regiment, made a noble fight and suffered severely.

General Banks, who it was rumored was cut off beyond Bull Run, passed your correspondent a few moments ago, having brought in his command and his trains safely.

I learn that General Sigel has asked to be relieved of his command. Cause, supposed and believed to be dissatisfaction at his association with General McDowell. General Sigel has made a glorious reputation in this war, and his services are sadly needed.

General Sumner's corps reached Fairfax Court House on Saturday night, and marched early Sunday morning to the front, near Centreville. It is supposed they had an engagement yesterday with the enemy, as cannonading was heard to the southwest of Centreville, where they were supposed to be. This corps has not been engaged since its arrival in this vicinity.

Our losses in the engagement of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, will probably reach fully 10,000 killed, wounded and missing. The killed are in unusual disproportion to the number wounded. A singular disproportion of the entire number are seriously wounded.

Our forces had to retire to Centreville because the flank commanded by General McDowell was turned by the rebels, notwithstanding there had been a complete success on all sides up to five o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

The rebel prisoners claim that Pope's apparent success on the right and centre was a part of Jackson's strategy – a feint of theirs to distract our attention from the left, against which the hard attack was made.

The losses among the rebels are supposed to be vastly greater than ours, as their men fought with great desperation, and rushed on apparently heedless of all danger.

Our forces now occupy the heights of Centreville, where they are strongly entrenched. Heavy reinforcements of infantry, artillery and cavalry are coming forward. Nothing that the rebels can bring against us will avail them in this mighty struggle.

3 September 1862 – Charleston S. C. Mercury Latest News from the North

Richmond, September 2. – Northern papers of the 30th have been received. The Herald's correspondence from Washington indicates that the greatest excitement prevails among the Unionists in Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William Counties, Va. Families of Yankee settlers in those parts were fleeing to Washington, abandoning everything. The panic was caused by the raid of Stuart's Cavalry on Bristow Station, Orange and Alexandria Railroad. The train from Warrenton Junction for Alexandria escaped capture by dashing under a full head of steam, to Manassas Junction, where it ran violently into another train, producing a general smash and heavy loss of life. Stuart's cavalry subsequently occupied Manassas Junction. At both places they captured a large amount of stores and number of prisoners.

Pope's official dispatch, dated August 29, claims a victory over Longstreet and the capture of a thousand prisoners, many arms and one piece of artillery. He says that Heintzelman's corps would move against Jackson, six miles west of Centreville, at daylight, and he did not see how Jackson could escape without heavy loss.

4 September 1862 – Savannah Republican Battlefield of Manassas, August 31

Another great battle has been fought on the bloody Plain of Manassas, and once more has Heaven crowned our banners with the laurel of victory. The conflict opened Friday afternoon, and last night not a

Federal soldier remained on the south side of Bull Run, except the prisoners we had taken, and those who sleep the sleep that shall know no waking until the great day of judgment.

I did not arrive in time to witness the battle of Friday, the 29th. Leaving Gordonsville at 9 o'clock that day, on a freight train, I reached Rapidan Station, the present terminus of the railroad, at noon. There I took horse, forded the river, struck for the Rappahannock – forded that river also - got to Warrenton at 1 o'clock yesterday – rested my horse, and then took the turnpike for the battlefield, fourteen miles distant, where I arrived in one hour and fifteen minutes, and just in time to witness, for the second time, the triumph of the Confederate arms on these ever memorable plains.

I cannot undertake to give the number of men engaged on either side. It is not probable, however, that the enemy had more than 75,000 troops on the field. Our own forces were considerable less, a large part of the army not having arrived in time to participate in the fight. Longstreet's corps d'armee held the right, A. P. Hill's and Anderson's (late Huger's) divisions the centre, and Jackson's veterans the left. Jackson was the first to reach the plains below the Blue Ridge; Hill came next, and then Longstreet, who entered at Thoroughfare Gap. The enemy occupied the Gap with a full division, and seemed disposed to dispute the passage of our troops; but Tooms' and Anderson's Georgia brigades, which led the corps, made a bold dash and soon drove them away with but little loss. That was on Thursday, the 28th. Jackson had brought the enemy to bay between Gainesville and Groveton, two miles from the old battlefield, on the Warrenton turnpike. Knowing this, Longstreet pressed forward and succeeded in getting into position on the right of the turnpike, in time to hold that part of our lines while Jackson engaged the enemy on the left.

It should have been stated that Longstreet played the enemy a clever trick before he left the south bank of the Rappahannock. Jackson and Hill having moved around by Sperryville above, he made feints at several fords on the Rappahannock as if he would cross over, and thus drew the attention of the enemy to those points, whilst he put his forces in motion, and marched rapidly to the northward and around to Gainesville. So successful was the maneuver that a late Northern paper, now before me, congratulates its readers upon the brilliant victory achieved by the Federals in driving us away from the fords!

The enemy advanced to the attack on Friday. He was probably aware of Jackson's comparative weakness. He soon discovered, however, that a heavy Confederate column (Longstreet's) had got into position on the right, and immediately commenced a retrograde movement. The battle, which was hotly contested for a time, in which the artillery took a prominent part, continued through the afternoon, and resulted in the repulse of the enemy among the entire line. Jackson's forces were chiefly engaged, and behaved with their usual gallantry. The scene of the conflict was just in front of Gainesville, and on the left of the Warrenton turnpike as you look towards Washington. The enemy were driven back to the edge of the old battle field of Manassas. The Confederates slept upon the field, and there awaited a renewal of the attack on yesterday. They were not disappointed, for the enemy again advanced against our left at 2 o'clock, p. m. and engaged Jackson first. By three the engagement became general, and the battle was joined. Gen. Lee was in command – having come to the front some days ago. But a word of explanation in regard to the field and the position of the combatants.

The Warrenton and Alexandria Turnpike runs nearly eastward, and the road from Sudley Ford on Bull Run to Manassas Junction north and south. These highways intersect each other in the centre of the old battle ground. Advancing down the turnpike, our forces faced to the east and in the direction of Washington, while the enemy faced to the west, but not exactly towards Richmond. The line of battle, about three miles in length, extended across the turnpike almost at right angles and nearly parallel with and just west of Sudley Road. The battle of Manassas was to be fought over, and the point to be decided was, whether we should advance upon Washington or the enemy upon Richmond. This was the issue, and this the battle ground.

Pope had brought up his old united States Regulars, eighteen regiments, under Fitz John Porter, Heintzleman's division, and other corps of his James river army. It was evident that the enemy were confident of victory. They were aware of Jackson's weakness, and of the fact that not more than half of our army had come up; and by precipitating the battle, they hoped to avenge their shameful defeat on the same ground.

As I had already stated, the enemy opened the battle by an attack upon our left. A heavy column, with a full complement of artillery, was launched against Jackson's veterans, but there, as elsewhere, they encountered a "Stonewall" as immovable as the Blue Ridge. The onslaught would have been fearful to any other but Confederate troops struggling for the dearest rights known to man. The attack was repulsed, however, and the enemy forced to retire.

In the meantime a heavy force was moved up against A. P. Hill and Anderson in the centre, and Longstreet's splendid corps on the right. The attack upon the right was made by McClellan's Regulars, and was furious. Jackson was pressed very hard at one time, and found it necessary to ask for assistance; but instead of sending it to him, Gen. Lee created a diversion in his favor, which answered the same purpose, by pressing forward our right under Longstreet. The effect was soon perceptible; Jackson was not only relieved, but was enabled to move forward and drive the enemy back in disorder. On the right the conflict raged with great violence for more than an hour before we had made any impression upon the serried ranks of the Regulars. When they did yield, it was slowly and in perfect order. It could hardly be called a retreat; we pushed them, as it were, from one elevation to another, gradually following them up and firmly holding the ground they had been forced to abandon.

In this way the contest continued until near sunset, the retrograde movement of the enemy growing more rapid and less orderly as the battle proceeded. Jackson pressed forward vigorously on the left; Hill and Anderson did the same in the centre; and as the foe retired faster in that part of the field than on the right, our line finally assumed somewhat the form of a crescent.

Jackson at length bent his line around to the Sudley Road, near the church of that name, and about the same time the centre and right reached the old battle ground. Then followed as splendid fighting on the part of the Confederates as the world ever saw. As the fact broke upon them that they again stood upon that glorious field, and that the enemy sought a renewal of the decision rendered there one year ago, they swept on as if they were borne onward by the fiat of fate. The eye grew brighter, the arm waxed stronger, and catching the inspiration of the place, and of the children of glory who sleep upon its hills, they sent up shout after shout, that rose high above the mighty din and uproar, and sounded in the ear of the already retreating foe like a sentence of judgment.

About the same time Gen. Toombs, who had been absent under orders, reached the field at the top of his horse's speed. His appearance was greeted with the cheers of ten thousand Georgians in Longstreet's corps. The shouts were caught up along the valley and over the hills as his splendid form swept across the field in the direction of his brigade. He found it at length, and led it immediately forward in the thickest of the fight. Dashing down the hill not far from where Bee and Bartow fell, he got within forty paces of a Federal brigade, which saluted him and his men with a terrific fire. The men called to him to dismount, as otherwise he would certainly be killed. His only reply, uttered in trumpet tones, was: "President Davis can create generals; God only makes the soldier – ON!"

Finally our entire line crossed the Sudley Road, and swept past the Stone House at the intersection of the roads, the Henry and Lewis Houses on the right, on towards Bull Run. But the enemy managed his artillery with great skill and judgment. His firing was superb, and I must admit, superior to our own. His batteries were posted at commanding points, and enabled him to cover the retreat of his infantry by delaying our advance. Night, too, came to his rescue, and to Nature and not to his own arms, was he indebted for his escape from utter destruction. The pursuit was kept up until utter darkness prevented further effort, and the order to halt was given.

The enemy escaped across Bull Run during the night, and morning found him in a hurried retreat, for the second time, over the same road and from the same battle field, back to Washington. Thus the issue has been decided for the second time in our favor, and the judgment of July, 1861, stands affirmed before the world. The battle of Manassas has been fought over, and a gracious God and our own right arms have given us the victory.

General Stuart advanced to Centreville and beyond this morning, but saw nothing of the enemy, except stragglers who were waiting to be taken.

It is too early to enter into details, either as to the part performed by individuals or the extent of the victory. Gen. Drayton was not entirely successful in bringing his excellent brigade into action in time, but otherwise, the battle was a complete success.

The strategy of the enemy was clever, and deserves attention. He had attacked Jackson on Friday, and was repulsed. He renewed the attack yesterday, and thus sought to create the belief that his chief object was to turn our left. Having, as he supposed, produced this impression upon Gen. Lee, he suddenly precipitated upon our right a very heavy force, including the old United States Regulars and other picked troops, under Fitz John Porter and Heintzleman. His object doubtless was to turn our right, throw us back against the Blue Ridge, keep open his communications by the Alexandria and Orange Railway, and with Fredericksburg, and his gunboats to the south, and cut us off from the base of our supplies. The conception was excellent, but the execution was faulty.

**4 Sep 1862 – Alexandria Gazette
Further Accounts of the Battles
Correspondence of the New York Times
Washington, August 31st 10. P.M.**

A gentleman whose official position gave him the entrée to Gen. Pope's headquarters, who talked freely with him and with a number of Generals and other prominent officers, and who observed with cool civilians eyes, left Centreville at about 1 o'clock to-day, and arrived here this evening. He supplies the latest authentic account of the situation.

When he arrived at the heights of Centreville, at about half-past 6 o'clock this morning, things appeared to his unpracticed eye to be in no little confusion. Men roaming about singly, and in squads – guns un motion towards this and that point. But in the course of two or three hours he perceived order coming out of apparent chaos. The men who had been seeking their regiments had found them, and the regiments were marching and countermarching , - All the artillery, the supervision of which was entrusted to General McDowell, had found its place. All seemed ready to meet an attack, and strong picket guards had been sent out to look for the enemy, the order to one being to push on to Manassas.

The only officers who had much to say about demoralization or panic or disorganization were those whose appearances indicated that they spoke from personal experience. In General Pope's headquarters, which were established in a house on the street of Centreville, all was cool and serene. There, with the General Commanding, were Gens. McDowell, Reno and Reynolds, with other officers of high rank. – All were in good spirits, and sent the most cheerful messages to the Secretary of War. – They regarded their position as impregnable, were disposed, indeed, to invite attack; and were not apprehensive of any flanking movement by the enemy.

Although the officers at headquarters did not seem to be disposed to admit it in so many words, the inevitable inference from what they said was that we were defeated on Saturday. – Friday closed with a victory; we were driving the enemy back when night came on. But in the morning, as was soon made evident, he was stronger. A force estimated at 40,000 strong had marched to his relief through Thoroughfare Gap. Our line of battle was formed about six miles from Centreville, and not far from the old Bull Run battle-field.

Gen. McDowell was on the left, Gen. Fitz John Porter in the centre, and Gen. Reno on the right. The left fronted a heavy piece of woods, in which there was little show of force, while opposite the centre and right the signs were that the enemy had massed his troops. Our forces were disposed upon the supposition that this was the case. But it was discovered soon after the battle began that the real strength of the Confederate army was on our left. Gen. Lee, who was in command of the whole Confederate army, had massed his troops on our left, and poured in a terrible fire, which caused Gen. McDowell's corps to waver and fall back. The battle raged all day, but the enemy proved too strong for us, and towards night our forces fell back to Centreville, leaving the killed and most of the more seriously wounded in the hands of the enemy. That enemy, luckily, perhaps, for us, did not pursue our retiring columns, and made no attempt to molest them. The retrograde movement was, according to the Generals and other officers with whom my informant talked, executed in good order.

Gen. Reno said that the real cause of our defeat was want of supplies. The horses had hardly anything to eat for from three to five days, and the men had fared little better. His words were borne out by the voracity with which staff officers, who usually have the best opportunities to secure what is to be had, devoured their breakfasts to-day. In spite of this, how-ever, in spite of all drawbacks, to some of which it is not yet time to allude, Gen. Reno and all the officers with whom my informant talked agreed that a column of ten thousand fresh troops would have changed the fortune of the day. "Where is Franklin?" Where is Sumner?" was the question. The answers have given you in a previous letter.

**4 September 1862 – New York Tribune
From the Battlefield**

Sergeant Burnham, of the Metropolitan Police, who went to the battlefield of Saturday, returned yesterday. From him we learn that one hundred and fifty wagons driven by negroes, were sent to the field under a flag of truce to bring away the wounded. The rebels consented to the removal of the wounded, but took the negroes. Burnham noticed that many of our dead and wounded were stripped of their clothing, and spoke of it loud enough to be heard by a rebel officer, who told him that the dead were stripped in violation of Gen. Lee's orders.

A party who with a flag of truce went from Centreville on Monday morning to the battle-ground report that they found the battlefield deserted by the enemy, who had left our dead and wounded untouched. The wounded were placed in ambulances and taken off the field, and the dead were buried.

The Michigan Cavalry

The casualties among the officers of the First Michigan Cavalry in Saturday's battle were: Col. T. F. Brodhead, wounded and taken prisoner – shot through the lungs, probably fatal; Major Town, badly wounded, (three gun-shot wounds and two saber cuts,) is at the Providence Hospital, in Washington; Major Atwood captured, unhurt; Lieut. Merrian, wounded and captured, Lieut. Moore, killed. The regiment behaved very gallantly, and lost severely. Col. Brodhead was wounded in a second charge made by his regiment, but said nothing about it, and it was not known even by his officers. He rallied men of other regiments as they fell back, and when nearly surrounded was urged by some of his officers to retire, but said he would not so long as he had any men to fight with. Assistant Surgeon Nash, of his own regiment, is with him. Michigan has reason to be proud of her sons.

4 September 1862 – New York Times

Determined Bravery of Union Forces

The Rebels Driven Back – Retreat Toward Thoroughfare Gap

Interesting Details of the Recent Battles

Washington, Wednesday, Sept. 3, Evening

Eleven hundred paroled prisoners, some of whom were taken by the enemy as far back as Thursday, at Manassas, arrived late this evening at Aqueduct Bridge, Georgetown, and report that Gen. Lee has established his headquarters three miles beyond Bull Run, on the Warrenton Turnpike. The only force at Fairfax was Stuart's Cavalry, he being there in person.

The rebels assisted the men in the burial of our dead, last night, whom they stripped of their clothing with the exception of their pants. Our men say the enemy at the time were so hungry that they rushed for the haversacks of our killed and wounded. Our men saw the soldiers of the enemy marching to the rear on the Warrenton Turnpike, towards Thoroughfare.

Washington, Tuesday, Sept. 2.

The city to-night was in a state of great excitement, and not without most substantial cause. Crowds were gathered at all the hotels, and on the streets, discussing and speculating on the future.

It may here be said that while the more timid of our citizens apprehend danger from the rebel movements, there are stout hearts that are not intimidated.

Last night there was a series of skirmishes along the whole front, during which we lost two of our best Generals, and other valuable officers. According to prevalent reports, it was Hookers Division which was mainly if not altogether engaged in driving back the rebels; but the one mile of skirmishing was attended with much loss of life.

At 4 o'clock this morning a train of one hundred wagons, with Commissary stores, was intercepted by the enemy between Fairfax and Centreville, and driven off towards Manassas before the party could be overtaken. They secured the entire train. So soon as this raid in the rear of our army at Centreville was known, the necessity of guarding that direction became apparent, and at noon the whole army of Virginia had abandoned Centreville, and was massed this side of Fairfax Courthouse. At noon they again took up the line of march, and this evening the advance was in sight of Munson's Hill. The enemy's cavalry followed them in the distance, but made no attack, and the entire movement was being accomplished in excellent order.

At noon to day Gen. McClellan rode out to meet the returning columns, and was received with great demonstrations of gratification and pleasure by the army.

The works for the defence of Washington are all in an excellent condition, and are strongly manned by experienced artillerists. The gunboats now lining the Potomac are doubtless designed to prevent any attempt to interrupt the navigation of that river.

The Cabinet meeting to-day was long continued and the guess is no doubt true that it had reference to our present condition. The Government, it is apparent, is exerting every energy for the city's defence. It may be safely repeated there is no panic here, but of course there is naturally a generally expressed solitude regarding the future.

4 September 1862 – New York Times
The death of Gen. Stevens
Capture of one of our Supply Trains
Washington, Wednesday, Sept. 3, 1862

From a gentlemen who left Fairfax Court-House at 12 o'clock yesterday, we learn the particulars of the death of Brig. Gen. Isaac L. Stevens of Oregon.

Gen. Stevens' Brigade had been dispatched from Centreville, to drive back a body of the enemy, who had made their appearance about two and a half miles this side of the latter place toward Fairfax Station, and were interfering with our transportation and ambulance trains. While at the head of his brigade, on horseback, driving the enemy through the woods, he was struck in the breast by a Minnie ball, and instantly killed.

His son, a captain in the New York Seventy-ninth, but at the time Acting Assistant Adjutant-General of the brigade, was wounded, but how badly our informant could not ascertain. The rebels were finally driven from their position, with considerable loss.

The bodies of a rebel Colonel and two First Lieutenants were found in the woods this morning. Our informant could not ascertain their names.

A wounded rebel prisoner states that the rebel force in the fight on Monday evening was commanded by Jackson in person. The attack was made by the rebels, at a point between Centreville and Fairfax Court-house, about 4 ½ in the afternoon, and continued until dark, when the rebels were driven back a mile and a half, with considerable loss.

The forces engaged on our side were part of Gen. Reno's and Gen. Kearney's divisions, with Gen. Birney's Brigade in the advance. The following regiments were engaged: First, Fortieth, Twenty-eighth and One Hundred and First New York; Twenty-eighth Massachusetts, and Third and Fourth Maine.

Early on Monday morning, Stuart's rebel cavalry made a dash upon our supply trains, about half way between Fairfax Court-house and Centreville, and captured one hundred wagons loaded with commissary stores. From this fact, probably across the rumor that a battle had been fought.

A surgeon, who was taken prisoner by the rebels on Friday last, succeeded, yesterday, in making his escape to this city. He states that the rebels robbed him of all his money, watch, and case of surgical instruments, compelling him to attend to their wounded, and giving him to eat, during the four days he was a prisoner, three hard army biscuits. A portion of Gen. Banks corps was in the fight.

Bull Run Battle-Ground, Sunday, August 31, 1862

I am, as you will perceive by the above date, in the midst of stirring scenes and events transpire with more rapidity than the most rapid photographer could incite. I shall not attempt, at this time, to furnish you with many details which would be of great interest to your readers, because these cannot be given at this time without exposing some facts which at least for the present, should not be known, and because I have neither the time or conveniences to enable me to do justice to the subject.

In a word, Jackson's rebel force (estimated at 70,000 men, with an immense supply of artillery) is in a corner where it cannot escape, except through our lines. His rear is against two mountains bordering Thoroughfare Gap, on the Manassas Junction Railroad, and the Gap, which is only wide enough for a single wagon-road, with impassable hills on either side, is most effectually blocked by rocks, blasted at the sides of the Gap, and the pass filled with the debris. A portion of McDowell's command also stands ready to render any attempt to skedaddle without artillery a very dangerous undertaking. In front of this rebel force are King's, Hooker's, Kearney's, a part of Cox's and Rickett's Divisions, with Banks Division as a reserve, near Catletts Station. The series of engagements which had commenced the previous Wednesday, on the banks of the Rappahannock, were concluded on Sunday evening, when a large force of the enemy turned our right flank by crossing above the Warrenton or Sulphur Springs, with the evident intention of sweeping down our flank and rear, which, had they been able to accomplish, would have been fatal to our army. This flank movement, though most skillfully executed, failed in its main object, and because of the non-arrival of Hooker's and Kearney's Divisions in time, Gen Pope was compelled to do the next best thing, which was to hold the enemy in check until the expected reinforcements arrived. The rebel army gradually made a northerly direction toward White Plains, (our troops following closely) with a view of uniting with Ewell's command, who had crossed the Rappahannock at the base of the Blue Ridge, and was making haste to get through Thoroughfare Gap. King's Division, (late McDowell's) which had been ordered up from the centre (near the Rappahannock Station) to the right on Sunday, returned through Warrenton on Monday, passed through Baltimore on the old Alexandria turnpike, his advance reaching the Thoroughfare Gap Thursday, just in time to obstruct the passage of Ewell's command. A desperate fight

took place at the Gap between the Second Regiment of Sharpshooters, (Col. Post, of New York,) which was the commencement of active hostilities in the new location. In the fight, which lasted two hours, (until nightfall,) the Brooklyn Fourteenth was prominently engaged, and supported Regular Battery B. Gen. Pope only wanted the enemy kept at bay for five hours, for Kearney's and Hooker's Divisions to come up, and to let them pass through and fall into the trap prepared for them. How admirably the plan succeeded, you have read at the commencement of his letter, by the position of affairs as they stand today. Late at night King's Division, having accomplished the object of its mission, fell back four miles to near the Manassas Junction Railroad, and Ewell and his cohorts promptly marched through the Gap. During the night Kearney's and Hooker's Divisions came, and took a position at the left of King's command. A desperate engagement was fought at this point the next day, Friday – the rebels 55,000 strong, it is said, commanded by Gen. Hill – our troops holding their ground at nightfall.

Hooker's Division reached Warrenton Junction on Monday last, and on Wednesday – the day after the destructive raid by the rebels upon the Orange and Alexandria Railroad – marched toward Catlett's Station, where, at 12 o'clock M., the commands of Patterson and Sickles – the latter commanded by Col. Nelson Taylor, late Democratic candidate for Congress in the Third New-York District – became engaged with a strong rebel force, posted in a belt of pine woods westerly of the railroad, with a battery of four pieces protecting the track itself. Our artillery had not come up, but never the less our troops went at the work with spirit, drove the enemy from the woods at the point of the bayonet, when the Fourth and Second Regiments of Sickles' command plunged forward in the face of a deadly fire, and without the aid of artillery, promptly captured the battery that had made such havoc in their ranks, and treated their enemies to a little artillery practice with the same guns. This was one of the most spirited and desperate charges made during the whole war. The engagement lasted one hour and fifteen minutes, when the rebels retreated towards Manassas Junction. Our loss, owing to the strong position of the enemy, was much greater, undoubtedly, than theirs. Our loss is estimated at three hundred – some say six hundred – Sixty of whom were killed. A full list of the killed and wounded cannot be obtained for some days yet. Among the killed are Lieut. Murphy, Company E. Second Excelsior; Lieut. Longtrust, Company G, Second Excelsior. Wounded – Lieut. Col. Potter, in command of Second Excelsior; Adjutant Powell, Second Excelsior; Capt. Green, Company D, Second Excelsior. After the fight, and the balance of the division having come up, the whole command moved forward to Manassas Junction, and last night occupied a prominent position in the cordon drawn around the rebel hosts.

Rickett's Division, which was in the retrograde movement from Culpepper, crossed the Rappahannock Monday night, and during the Rappahannock battle occupied a position near the centre, on the following Saturday (last) went to Warrenton, thence to Sulphur Springs, returned and camped near Waterloo on Monday, Tuesday noon started in the direction of Haymarket, and after some fighting on Wednesday, is in the position this A. M. indicated above.

It is Sunday, and both armies are busily occupied in removing the wounded and burying the dead who fell in the desperate battle of yesterday, (Saturday) which lasted from an early hour in the morning until darkness compelled the contending forces to cease the work of carnage. Up to this hour only one gun has been fired to-day, and that was a 30 pound shot sent into a squadron of cavalry who seemed to make a dash through the strong line of sentinels that hems them in. The one shot had the desired effect. There is a current report this morning that Stuart, with 1,500 of his cavalry, got out of their cage last night through Sigel's command. If they did escape, rely upon it they did not make a break at the part indicated. Bull Run bridge is now being repaired, and the cars will soon be running to Manassas Junction again. To-morrow – who shall foretell of the morrow – another desperate battle, doubtless, and in the end a complete triumph of the Union arms. No one here doubts the results. Still the rebels are desperate and slippery, and may possibly get out of their present position. But I do not see how they can escape until they first whip our army. That they cannot do.

We annex a few additional names of killed and wounded, picked up at random: Lieut. Col. Bashie, 87th New York, (Col. Dodge,) wounded at Manassas Junction and taken prisoner; Jack Moser, Co. A. 87th New York; C. Verplank, Co. I, 87th New York, slightly injured by spent ball, Lieut. Hendrickson of the 87th New York, are safe. At the Manassas skirmish nearly all the members of Cos. A. D., I. and K. of the 87th New York, were captured, together with Lieut. Col. Bachie, Capts. Lasson, Jackson, Schuyler, and Leycraft, (brother-in-law of Alderman strong, Brooklyn;) Lieut. Judge, Co. I, Adj. Hudson, Serg.- Major Charles Hughes, Lieut. Beckwith, Co. K, and others. R. Henry Ryder, color-bearer, escaped with the colors by secreting himself in the bushes until nightfall, when he started on foot for Alexandria. Company F., of this regiment, is at Alexandria, guarding commissary stores. Lieut. Ammerman, of Co. C. is safe. James

Shehan, of Great Bend Penn., brakeman on the cars, was shot and killed by guerrillas, in the attack upon Bristow Station; the telegraph operator at Manassas Junction was wounded; John Hennessay, citizen and cook, was murdered at the same place. Wounded at Bull Run yesterday – James R. Teachman, Co. G., 2nd New Jersey; James T. Davis, Co. I. 12th Ohio; Wm. Tounley, Co. I. 1st New Jersey; George Clarkson, Co. I. 1st New Jersey; John Mulhern, Co. G. 56th Pennsylvania. Peter Snook, Co. F., 12th Ohio, died in temporary hospital near Bull Run Creek.

I must bring this letter to a close; a battery is just now opened; perhaps the work of to-morrow may be commenced to-day.

4 September 1862 – Alexandria Gazette

Military Matters

Correspondence of the Baltimore American

Washington, September 3, A. M. – Washington was last night in a state of great excitement, and not without substantial cause. Crowds gathered at all the hotels discussing and speculating on the future, and the announcement that Gen. McClellan had been assigned to the command of all the troops assembled for the defence of Washington was generally predicted to mean that before twenty-four hours shall elapse the whole Army of Virginia would be within the area of the territory under his jurisdiction.

The facts are that the army of Virginia has been outgeneraled, outflanked and so disheartened by the daily and hourly evidences of superior generalship on the part of the Confederates, that it is now on the way to Alexandria, mourning the loss of many gallant officers and men who have lost their lives, or are suffering from wounds and exhaustion, many of them in the hands of the Confederates. By the time this letter reaches you the whole command of General Pope will have fallen back upon the entrenchments and works for the defence of Washington, under the command of General McClellan.

As far as I can learn here the history of the past three days has been a succession of small disasters both in the front and rear.

The whole number of killed and wounded in the battles up to the present time does not exceed 11,000. In the first battle on Friday at Bull Run the loss on the Federal side did not exceed 4,000, although Gen. Pope announced it 8,000. What the loss of the enemy has been or whether any of their prominent officers have suffered, is not known. It is however, believed to be equal if not greater than ours.

In ion with the wounded who are constantly arriving here I find that they have no faith in General Pope's capacity to command a great army, and ridicule the pretentious announcements he put forth at the commencement of the campaign, with "headquarters in the saddle," &c. They complain of bad generalship, and say that the whole campaign has been without plan or strategy, and that he has walked into every trap they set for him, without foresight or common prudence.

As to General McDowell, his withdrawal from the Army of Virginia is a necessity that the President can no longer resist. Not only his own command, but every other division denounce him in terms and language that it would not, perhaps, be proper to repeat. Suffice it to say that those fighting under him complain that his orders led them constantly to disaster while he kept himself in safe position; and other commanders charged him with having failed to properly guard and protect the points assigned to him. In fact his longer presence, whether these charges are true or false, will have a most demoralizing tendency.

At four o'clock yesterday morning a train of one hundred wagons, with commissary stores, was intercepted by the enemy between Fairfax Station and Centreville and driven off towards Manassas before the party could be intercepted. They secured the whole train, and doubtless fared sumptuously to-day. So soon as this raid in the rear of our army at Centreville was known, the necessity of "looking to the rear" again became apparent, and at noon the whole army of Virginia had abandoned Centreville and was massed this side of Fairfax Court House. Last evening they again took up the line of march, and at five o'clock the advance was in sight of Munson Hill. The enemy's cavalry followed them in the distance, but made no attack, and the whole movement was being accomplished in excellent order. At noon yesterday Gen. McClellan, at the request of the President, rode out to meet the return column, and was received by his troops with the most enthusiastic demonstrations of gratification and pleasure.

**4 September 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer
Correspondence of the New York Tribune
Washington, Sunday, August 31, 1862**

A staff officer who left the field of battle yesterday afternoon at five o'clock gives the following account of Gen. Pope's operations from Thursday to Saturday night. The account is clear, connected, and intelligible.

The battle commenced on Thursday at five o'clock in the afternoon, and lasted without intermission except from darkness. The conflict took place near and south of Stone Bridge, on the old Manassas battle-field.

Jackson's forces were estimated at thirty thousand. On Friday morning Jackson undoubtedly succeeded in effecting a junction with Longstreet. It is considered certain also that large portions of the rebel army succeeded in uniting with their hardly pressed forces, and either on Friday or Saturday probably its main columns arrived on the battle-field, either through Thoroughfare Gap or from the north by a road leading from Aldie Gap.

The battle was opened Friday morning by our assault, Sherman's battery commencing the contest. Sigel's line of battle was formed with Gen. Schurz on the right. Gen. Schenck on the left, and Gen. Steinwehr in the centre and as a reserve. These are Sigel's three division commanders.

Gen. Milroy, with his independent brigade, led the advance. The enemy were pushed gradually but steadily back till about one o'clock in the afternoon. The enemy then suddenly and fiercely advanced in a bayonet charge against Milroy, who was compelled to fall back.

Gen. Schenck sent forward a brigade to support Milroy but both were driven back and lost severely. Gen. Milroy's command was so badly cut that he could not gather a regiment.

Gen. Schurz meanwhile was fighting in the woods with the greatest determination and courage, and though losing heavily, holding his ground and handling his troops with the greatest skill. Gen. Steinwehr supported him.

On the left of Schenck heavy masses of rebel troops appeared, and that General sent for reinforcements. Steven's and Reynolds's divisions were ordered to his support, but all were driven back.

The result of the fight on Friday was in substance, that the enemy had at first been driven about two miles, but subsequently meeting heavy reinforcements and in their turn attacking, recovered a mile of the ground they had lost. Our troops rested at night a mile in advance of the position where the battle had begun in the morning.

The division of Gen. Steinwehr, which had acted partly as a reserve, was engaged in support of Schurz, and most effectively handled.

On Saturday the battle was more general. Heintzelman, Porter, McDowell, Sigel, and Reno were engaged. The day was spent until 3 o'clock in massing troops, deploying, and maneuvering.

Heintzelman commanding the right, attacked at three with Reno's corps, holding his own in reserve. Porter moved forward in the centre at the same time.

Porter's advance was at once met and checked by immense masses of the enemy's infantry, and almost at the same moment became exposed to an enfilading fire of grape and canister. The troops endured this with heroic bravery for more than an hour. An officer who watched them with his glass says he could see the ground strewn with fallen ranks of dying and dead. Finally they broke and fell back in disorder.

The enemy advanced his batteries rapidly, and poured in a storm of shot and shell upon these confused and flying masses. The left wing was completely beaten, and the battle became seriously endangered.

McDowell then advanced in support, and endeavored to hold the centre left, but his movements were anticipated by the enemy, and he was enveloped by the rebels on their right, and outnumbered at all points.

Then Sigel shoes out, and his qualities as a soldier became more than ever conspicuous. Riding everywhere over the field he brought up his brigades successively to their position and held them at the front while the tide of fugitives poured by.

Large bodies of McDowell's troops broke and retreated in disorder, making pell-mell across Bull Run.

At five o'clock in the afternoon the battle was going heavily against us. Gen. Pope had ordered up and into the fight the last of his reserves, Sigel's corps, and was still endeavoring to retrieve the day; but along the Centreville Road, artillery, infantry, wagons, and cavalry were mingled together in confusion, and falling to the rear.

Our right remained comparatively firm, and prevented the enemy from following up his advantage. Indeed, the last of the crossing of Bull Run was in perfect order, protected by the right, which passed over last, and by eight o'clock the stream was crossed, and the enemy troubled us only by a few shells. We were falling back to Centreville.

Franklin with his whole corps was between Stone Bridge and Centreville and pressing on. Sumner with his corps was close behind, between Centreville and Fairfax Court-house, urging his troops forward at their greatest speed.

Gen. McClellan is universally and bitterly blamed for this reverse. If his troops had been sent forward when they were ordered, Pope would not have been compelled to fight with half his army against the whole rebel force. Sumner and Franklin, who only reached the field last night, too late for the fight, should have been there three days ago. McClellan was three times ordered to move and refused, and by a general order this morning is removed from the command of all troops, except those remaining in Alexandria.

When applied to by Gen. Pope on Friday to send supplies to his starving army, he returned word that he would not send them unless Pope sent a cavalry escort for the trains. And at this time all McClellan's forces were held idle at Alexandria.

Gen. Schenck, who fought most bravely and skillfully, is badly wounded – right arm shattered by a grape shot. He will probably lose it. Gen. Stabel is reported killed.

Five hundred rebel prisoners are at Fairfax Station awaiting transportation to Washington. They concur in saying, as does information from all other sources, that the whole rebel army was engaged, under Gen. Lee's command. Its numbers no one of them set at less than one hundred and fifty thousand, and many estimated them at two hundred or three hundred thousand. The prisoners also all say that they were promised an easy and speedy march into Washington. They were certainly to be there within a week.

Jackson was the advance guard of the grand army, and was engaged alone the first day; Jackson and Longstreet the second day; and Jackson, Longstreet, and Lee the third and fourth days.

An immense number of our men were wounded in the arm or shoulder; heretofore the major part of the wounds of our men were in the legs. So says the staff officer whose account of the battle we have given above. He says also that although many of our men left the battlefield unreasonably, they were perfectly cool, and replied to questions that they were on their way to join their regiments. He adds that there was nothing that could be called demoralization or panic.

Gen. Hallack, we are happy to hear, praises Gen. Sigel without stint. He fought for seven out of eight days continuously. Gen. Schurz's conduct is also very highly spoken of.

Gen. Pope dispatches to-day are all hopeful. General McClellan's unfavorable. The latter is, however, a long distance from the field.

5 September 1862 – Charleston S.C. Mercury

The Latest from the Seat of War

Manassas, August 30 (via Rapidan, September 4)

The Second Battle of Manassas has been fought on precisely the same spot as that of 21st July 1861, with the difference that our forces occupied many of the positions which were held by the enemy at that time, and that the enemy fought upon the ground that had been held by us. Several of our regiments entered the field just where McDowell's division did a year ago. The fight began about three o'clock in the afternoon, near Groveton, on the Warrenton Turnpike. Longstreet was on the right and Jackson on the left, their line being in the form of a broad V, with the enemy within. The enemy made their first advance by endeavoring to turn Jackson's flank, but were repulsed in great confusion – a battery of twenty pieces of artillery, commanded by Col. Stephen D. Lee, of South Carolina, mowing them down by scores. Longstreet at once threw forward Hood's and Bryson's brigades, and advanced his whole line, which was in a short time separately engaged. Jackson now gave battle, and the enemy was attacked on every side. The fight was fiercely contested until after dark, when the Yankees gave way and were driven in disorder for a distance of three miles. Their force consisted of McDowell's, Seigel's, Banks', Morrell's, Sickles', Milroy's, McClellan's. and Pope's divisions. The loss of the enemy exceeds that of the Confederates in the ratio of five to one. Their dead literally cover the field. Our men captured a number of batteries, numerous regimental colors, thousands of prisoners, and from six to ten thousand stand of arms. We might have taken more of these last; but the men could not be burdened with them. One Yankee Brigadier General is now lying dead at the negro Robinson's house, where the Yankee bodies are so thickly strewn that it is difficult to pass without stepping upon them. Generals Ewell, Jenkins, Mahone, Marshall, and Gadberry, of South

Carolina, are killed. Colonels Benbow, Moore and McGowan, of the same State, are wounded. Major D. C. Kemper is severely wounded in the shoulder; Captain Tabb and Captain Mitchell, of the First Virginia (the latter a son of John Mitchell, the Irish patriot), are wounded. Adjutant Tompkins, of the Hampton Legion, and Adjutant Cammeron, of the Twenty-Fourth Virginia were both wounded. About fifty Yankee "citizens of Washington," who had come out to witness the show, have been bagged by our forces.

Richmond, September 3rd – No official dispatches have been received from the seat of war in Northern Virginia to-day. The reports brought by passengers all indicate that our victory over the Yankees was complete, and that our troops are in pursuit of the routed enemy.

5 September 1862 – Charleston S.C. Mercury

A Letter in the New York Tribune says:

General Taylor, upon discovering that the enemy had flanked him, and that his whole command were in danger of being taken prisoners, ordered a retreat. After having retreated a mile or two, General Taylor discovered a ravine in which he thought he could conceal his troops until reinforcements arrived. But he hardly got his men fairly in their hiding places when he found himself nearly surrounded by the enemy. A strong body of cavalry men were on his left, guarding one entrance to the ravine, and a battery of artillery was brought to bear upon his right, raking his entire brigade. The firing from this battery made terrible havoc in the ranks. General Taylor himself, his son, on his staff, and his nephew, were wounded, also more than one half his officers. Of course nothing but a still further retreat was in order, and last evening the wearied and decimated brigade rested in Fairfax.

About four hundred citizens of Fairfax left that town hastily on the appearance of eight or ten rebel cavalymen, who accidentally strayed in that neighborhood and exposed themselves to view. Two whole regiments of our infantry also ran at the sight of these fifteen cavalymen, throwing their guns away, and skedaddling as fast as spurs to their horses could get them away. The only excuse is, that they supposed that there were more rebels in the rear of the fifteen who appeared on the hill.

I learn from another source that the captain of one of our batteries ran away, leaving six pieces out of eight in the hands of the enemy, a too easy prey – not a gun having been fired. Nearly the whole of the command of this brave (?) captain followed their leader in his hastily and inglorious retreat, but those few who remained behind nobly used the two remaining guns with considerable effect.

The latest news when I close my letter is, that the rebels are certainly advancing in strength; the purpose is first to break every means of communication between Washington and Pope, then to march straight on the capital. Every bridge on the railway is destroyed; the rebels hold every strategic point within the centre, and are doubtless within the mountains with their whole army.

The amount of property fallen into the hands of the rebels at Manassas is immense – several trains heavily laden with stores, ten first class locomotives, fifty thousand pounds of bacon, one thousand barrels of beef, two thousand barrels of pork, several thousand barrels of flour, and a large quantity of oats and corn. A bakery which was daily turning out fifteen thousand loaves of bread was also destroyed. Next to Alexandria, Manassas was probably the largest depot established for the army of Virginia.

Another correspondent writes: A released chaplain says that the enemy has captured engines and cars in such numbers that they looked "nearly a mile long," and that they have captured clothing enough to furnish an army.

The news of the advance of our army from Manassas, had caused a great panic in Washington – equally as bad as that after the battle of Manassas. It was feared our army would cross over the Potomac and move against Washington.

5 September 1862 - Charleston S.C. Mercury

The Second Battle of Manassas

The Richmond Examiner has accounts from passengers, from Manassas of the mortal wounding of Generals Pope and McDowell, and the capture by our army of seven or nine thousand prisoners. The same journal contains the following account of the battle of Saturday last.

The battle was fought on the Plains of Manassas, our , our forces occupying the identical positions occupied by the enemy at the beginning of the ever memorable battle of the twenty first of July, eighteen hundred and sixty one, and the enemy occupying the positions held by us on that occasion.

On Monday, General A. P. Hill, moved down from Salem along the Manassas Gap Railroad, and on Tuesday took possession of Manassas Junction, capturing several hundred prisoners and eight or ten guns. General Ewell followed Gen. Hill, and General Taliaferro, commanding General Jackson's old

division, followed General Ewell, General Taliaferro reached Manassas Wednesday evening just as the troops of Ewell and Hill were evacuating that position and falling back towards Bull Run in the direction of Centreville. General Taliaferro occupied Manassas, and made a show of throwing out heavy pickets toward the enemy, who was at Bristow Station, on the Orange and Alexandria railroad, five miles distant in a south-westerly direction; but shortly after night fall calling in his pickets, he also fell back towards Centreville, and took a position near Groveton, where he remained all night. His position was to the right of Generals Hill and Ewell. At dawn the next (Thursday) morning, occasional reports of cannon and musketry begun to be heard towards the left, which were kept up at intervals until evening. Still no enemy had yet been seen on the portion of the field occupied by General Taliaferro's division. But about five o'clock, p. m., they were suddenly borne down upon by several heavy columns of the enemy, numbering, it was estimated, twenty thousand men. The fight was opened on both sides with artillery; at first at long range, but gradually the enemy drew up his batteries to our lines. By six o'clock the distance between the combatants had been reduced to musket range, and the fight along the whole line of Taliaferro's, Ewell's and Hill's divisions became general. The enemy fought with great obstinacy, being inspired, it is thought, by the supposition that they had caught General Jackson in small force, and had an opportunity of crushing him. But as often as they charged our lines they were driven back with thinned ranks, without being able to move us from our position. Finally, night closed over the scene, and the enemy retired from the conflict. The battle was, however, kept up until nine o'clock by the artillerist on both sides. Our men rested on their position that night, and on Friday morning moved forward a mile in the direction of the enemy.

Our loss in this battle is estimated at between eight hundred and a thousand killed and wounded. The enemy's is known to have been more than double that number. Among our casualties were the following: Gen. Ewell, leg shattered, rendering amputation necessary; General Taliaferro, slightly wounded in the foot, neck and arm; Gen. Jenkins, wounded in chest and leg; Gen. Trimble, shot in head; Gen. Field, in thigh; Col. Skinner, of First Virginia, mortally wounded; Major May, Twelfth Virginia, killed; Col. Neff, Thirty-Third Virginia, killed; Major Terry, of ___ Virginia, wounded in arm; Major Lawson Botts, Twenty-Second Virginia, shot in head; Col. Baylor (commanding Stonewall Brigade), killed; and Lieut. Col. Feury, of Seventh Virginia, wounded. The wounded have been all removed to hospitals established near Aldie, in the county Loudoun.

It was stated last night upon apparently good authority that after their defeat on Saturday the enemy fled towards Edwards', on the Potomac, near Leesburg, whither they were pursued by a portion of our victorious troops. Another report prevailed to the effect that a portion of our army was in Alexandria.

5 September 1862 – Washington Intelligencer Individual Experiences from Bull Run

I left Washington on Sunday morning, at 11 o'clock, in company with a large passenger train of volunteer physicians and nurses. At Alexandria the doctors were requested to remain. I think the greater proportion of the civilians in the train also went no further. A number, however, proceeded on the train of box and platform cars. The greater part of these left at Fairfax Station, and probably returned by the next train to Washington. We left the train at Bull Run Bridge, and went on foot through Union Mills Station to Centreville, arriving there at 10 o'clock at night on Sunday.

I accompanied an ambulance train of about fifty ambulances from Centreville to the battle-ground, under a flag of truce, arriving at the latter point about 12 o'clock on Monday morning. Went to work, under directions of Medical Director McFarland, to bring in the wounded from the field. Some sixty volunteer civilians were thus engaged. We brought in about three hundred to the Surgeons' headquarters, being more than sufficient to fill the ambulances provided. Many wounded were also carried on stretchers from the woods and fields to points on the roadside where the ambulances might conveniently reach them. The ambulances and several baggage-wagons were filled on Monday evening with the wounded who had received surgical attention, numbering about two hundred and fifty – leaving about fifty at the Surgeons' temporary headquarters on the field unprovided for. The number of wounded scattered over the field to whom no succor has been extended were estimated by the Surgeon who left on Wednesday morning at two thousand – probably too high; a thousand would probably be nearer the number.

After much delay, in taking the parole of the wounded in the train, and of sixty or seventy wounded who were able to walk, the train proceeded to Centreville, arriving there about 4 P.M. It was there stopped by the rebel officers in command of the post and conducted to Gen. Stonewall Jackson's headquarters, about five or six miles distant, where we arrived at 8 o'clock P. M. After some two hours' delay, the party in charge of the train received from Gen. Jackson a pass through the Confederate Lines,

and we wended our way slowly back to Centreville, over a rough, dark road, at great expense of suffering to the wounded, reaching there at about 12 o'clock at night. There we camped, and distributed some soup, coffee and brandy, to the wounded. These supplies we received from the rebels, who had captured (as we were informed by one of our surgeons, who had remained at Centreville, in charge of the wounded there,) forty-one wagon loads of our hospital supplies. As Tuesday night was cold, we borrowed one hundred and sixty blankets of the rebels, (being hospital blankets of the captured stock,) to make the wounded as comfortable as possible.

On Wednesday morning at sunrise, the train started for Washington, under the escort of rebel officers, coming by the way of Fairfax Court-House and Falls Church, and proceeded to Alexandria in the evening.

Our own dead, with the exception of a few, were lying unburied up to Tuesday morning. The bodies of the dead and a large share of the wounded were stripped of their shoes, hats or caps, and all their accoutrements, and their pockets rifled of everything of value. We are assured, however, that this was done by camp followers, and that Stonewall Jackson had dealt severely with the marauders whenever caught. We saw not a single dead rebel, and but very few wounded. The dead, it would seem, were carried from the field for the most part, and secretly buried. Our wounded state that on Sunday, when a great many of the rebels were visiting the battlefield, they were kindly furnished with water and biscuit.

On Tuesday sixty-one citizens of Washington – a portion of the volunteer nurse corps – passed us at the battlefield on their way to Gen. Lee's headquarters, in charge of a rebel guard. They had straggled through the enemy's lines without the protection of a flag of truce, and had been taken prisoners. I presume they were paroled, but it is possible that they have been sent to Richmond.

We saw many thousands of the rebel soldiers. They are clad in all varieties of costume – many of them being barefooted, but they are well armed, and although courteous, talk exultingly and defiantly.

While on the battle-field we saw two trains of Confederate army wagons, moving northwardly toward the Bull Run Mountains. Also, several batteries of artillery moving in the same direction. From this we inferred that a movement was making toward the Upper Potomac, and from conversations with divers rebel parties, I think that Hill's and Longstreet's and Ewell's forces – Ewell himself was wounded – have gone in that direction and that it is the intention of the rebels simply to menace Washington, while the true point aimed at is by the way of Leesburg into Maryland. I judge so, because they talked confidently of attacking Washington, which I inferred was to mislead us. These accounts and statements were, however, from subordinate officers and privates.

Rev. Dr. Burrows, of Richmond, who is a chaplain in the rebel army, informed us that 48,000 more troops were on the way from Warrenton, coming up. I cannot say whether he spoke truth.

We noticed that a large number of horses in rebel hands, and also many baggage wagons, were marked "U. S."

We heard of three negro ambulance-drivers who were spirited away by the rebels while we were on the battle-field, and that nine of our party had been taken prisoners while wandering over a portion of the field distant from the surgeon's quarters.

Only a portion of the battlefield of Friday and Saturday is that of the 21st July 1861 – the greater part of it being west.

Most of the rebels whom we met were courteous, but some of them spoke with bitterness of the "Yankees" – the general appellation applied to the Union forces.

6 September 1862 – Richmond Enquirer From Manassas

The past few days have been occupied in the burial of the dead on the plains of Manassas. The movements of the armies beyond are unknown, the game of strategy being now deemed essential by both combatants – the one for the preservation, the other for the capture of Washington.

A flag of truce was sent out from the enemy's lines a day or two after the last battle, asking permission to bury their dead. It was granted. Soon after a regiment of negroes, armed with spades, appeared upon the scene. After they had performed their work, they were very properly taken in charge by our troops; most of them being runaway "Contrabands."

6 September 1862 – New York Times

A Retrospective Glance at the Battles on the Rappahannock, Thoroughfare Gap, Bull Run The Fight on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad

Our Losses – Citizens Captured – Stragglers – A Splendid Charge

Fairfax Court-House, Va. Tuesday, September 2nd 1862 – A retrospective glance at the movements of the opposing forces during the last three weeks may be both interesting and instructive. After the battle of Cedar Mountain, the Union forces concentrated in the vicinity of Culpeper; the enemy advancing in superior numbers – Gen. Pope's army on Sunday evening, August 17, continuing the retrograde movement commenced at Cedar Mountain, and fell back to the Rappahannock River, where it arrived Wednesday, the 20th of August. In this movement the rear was protected by Buford's and Bayard's Cavalry, who had a smart skirmish with the advance of the enemy on Tuesday, the 19th, when the latter were repulsed with heavy loss, and the rear-guard, under orders, fell back upon the main body, near Rappahannock Station, across the Rappahannock. On Thursday, August 21, the enemy had stationed batteries along the river bank on our front for miles, and at an early hour attempted to discover the exact position of our forces, by opening an artillery fire among our whole front. This demonstration was promptly responded to, and the enemy's batteries were each in turn silenced, forcing them to be constantly changing their position. This artillery duel was kept up for three days – Thursday, Friday and Saturday – mixed up with occasional work by the infantry and cavalry on both sides, and was really the most magnificent artillery fight of the war. Bayard's Cavalry repulsed a movement, then supposed to be an attempt to turn our left flank, but which subsequent events to the belief that it was intended only as a feint, to give them a better opportunity to operate on our right and centre, each of which were successively tried, but without gaining the desired object – a foothold upon the left bank of the river. During these three days there were several brilliant dashes made, principally by troops under the command of Gen. Sigel. On Thursday, Gen. Sigel crossed the river at a ford several miles above the railroad bridge, to reconnoiter. He returned to the left bank early in the evening having had a brief skirmish with the enemy. At 4 o'clock the following morning he threw a force across the river and made a dash upon the rebel battery of eight pieces. He was repulsed, but promptly reformed, took the battery, but was not able to hold it, the enemy having received large reinforcements. The next day the enemy attempted to execute a similar movement. Gen. Sigel permitted them to throw across two squadrons of cavalry and a battery, and as a brigade of infantry got fairly into the river, he opened a destructive fire upon them from three batteries, destroying and capturing nearly the whole force. A prisoner taken at the time, stated that he believed he was the only man of the infantry force who escaped with his life. The river, for a time, at this point, was filled with dead bodies, and the rebels were very cautious thereafter when they knew that Sigel's command was in front of them. Sunday, the enemy succeeded in throwing a large force across the river above Warrenton or Sulphur Springs, near Amissville, and the bulk of this force passed up to Salem and was there joined by a force from Front Royal. All but Longstreet's and Hill's command got through Thoroughfare Gap on the Manassas Railroad. Our army was immediately thrown back, and on Thursday, the 28th August, Rickett's command was at the easterly entrance of the Gap to dispute the passage of Longstreet, and Hill's command, said to be 40,000 strong. Gen. Pope desired this force of the enemy to be kept back for five hours, when he would be prepared for them to step into a trap, said to have been laid for their benefit, but which miscarried. It is said, through the tardy movements of some General who failed to arrive with his command in time. The contest at this point for three hours, from 4 till 7 o'clock p. m., was a spirited one, and the loss of life on both sides was heavy. In this fight, Thompson's Battery, which took such a conspicuous part at Cedar Mountain, rendered efficient service, as also did the Fifth Marine Battery and the Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers. At other points during Thursday, portions of our force had contests with the enemy, and were everywhere victorious,

On Friday morning the two armies came together upon the old Bull Run battle-ground, and had a pitched battle which lasted all day. The Union forces occupied the battle-field at night. The contest was renewed the following day-Saturday – at an early hour, and the indications were, up to 4 o'clock, the Union troops would prove the victors. At the hour named, through some alleged mismanagement of Gen. McDowell who had command of the left, the enemy succeeded in flanking us. Every officer with whom the writer has conversed, believes this could have easily been avoided, and many statements are made, not all creditable to the General who had command at this point. This flank movement endeared it necessary for our army to fall back to Centreville, which it did in good order – leaving the rebels in possession of the field. On Sunday morning the enemy attacked our left – a feint – but there was no general engagement during the day.

It is next to useless to estimate the loss in the battles of Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It was very heavy on both sides. A rebel officer acknowledged to the writer that they had 300 killed – a large loss for them to admit. They claim to have taken 1,400 prisoners, including 50 or 60 citizens, whose curiosity led them to the field “to see the rebel army whipped,” as their captors believe. Our loss in killed and wounded will amount probably to 5,000, possibly more. The reports of 10,000 to 14,000 killed, wounded and missing, may be true, for it is estimated that not less than ten or twelve thousand stragglers passed down the railroad towards Alexandria, some under the pretence of finding their regiments; others going they knew not where nor cared so long as it was not toward the enemy, These stragglers were picked up in scores by the irregular cavalry, and go to swell their list of captures “taken the on field of battle.” On this particular subject I shall have something to say at another time

Just before the left of our line gave away, Saturday afternoon, a redeeming feature of the fight took place. A rebel brigade opposite Gen. Seymour’s Brigade, of Gen. Reynolds’ command, made a charge. The movement was quickly discovered by the Commander of the Corps – Gen Porter – who ordered the Second, Fifth and Sixth Pennsylvania Reserves to charge also. Between the contending forces and about midway there was a road several feet lower than the surrounding surface of the land. The first struggle was to obtain possession of that road, which the Union brigade succeeded in doing – re---- the rebel brigade with terrible slaughter. While Maj. Wadell was waving the flag of the Sixth Regiment to rally the brigade after the derangement consequent upon the charge, a shot cut the staff in twain. Gen Reynolds rode forward, seized the colors, rode up and down the line with them wrapped partially around his person, when “the boys” actually ceased firing, and gave their General three rousing cheers. Gen. Reynolds was so much pleased with the conduct of the brigade that he could only express his appreciation of their conduct by exclaiming “Bully for you, boys.” At the same time throwing his cap high in the air. This elicited another burst of applause. The brigade immediately closed up in order, marched to the rear by the right of companies, and there reformed in line of battle with as much deliberation and coolness, amidst a shower of bullets, shot and shell, as if on parade in a green field of their own native State. These regiments belong to the McCall corps, which has acted so noble a part wherever they have met the enemy. It was almost at the very moment succeeding this charge that McDowell’s left gave way for want of sufficient support, which was close at hand. The cheers of the brigade were heard along the line towards the right where, very naturally, it was supposed that the left had gained some signal advantage, and the cheers were responded to along the whole line. Their joy was soon turned into grief, and their words were those of denunciation upon the man who is held responsible for the disaster of that day.

While the main army was moving forward from Warrenton to Bull Run, and subsequent thereto , there was some skirmishing going on at different points, which must be recorded. Ricketts’ force had a brisk contest for an hour on Tuesday. Hooker had the engagements, described in a previous letter, at Catlett’s Station, on Wednesday. Gen. Taylor had the misfortune to get into the fight at Manassas Junction, which also was described in a previous letter. During the battle of Bull Run, Gen. Banks, with his command, was covering the extreme left of our line, to keep off reinforcements for the enemy, and to be used as a reserve. He crossed to Bristow Station, and there, on Sunday, was approached by the rebel Generals Longstreet and Hill, backed up by a force treble his own. Gen. Banks decided to fall back upon the main army, which movement he commenced to execute on Sunday afternoon, the 31st of August. At this point there were upon the road 220 cars and five locomotives – all of which were destroyed, together with a large quantity of fixed ammunition, ordnance stores, & c., belonging to Government, and this property was saved the previous week, when the raid was made upon the railroad; and as the bridges had not been repaired at Bull Run and at several other points, the property could not be taken over the road to Alexandria. Everything, even the houses, (shanties,) were destroyed, so that when Gen. Longstreet reached the station, immediately after Gen. Baker retired, he found nothing for him to steal. That evening a portion of Longstreet’s Corps passed up to and beyond Manassas Junction on the railroad and captured several hundred stragglers from regiments engaged on the battle-field.

During the cannon duel on the Rappahannock on Saturday =- the last day – Col. Frisbee, of the Thirty-seventh New York, had a very narrow escape from instant death. He had just dismounted from his horse, when a shell struck the pommel of the saddle, passed along and took off the head of a negro.

In the above battle the Second United States Sharpshooters were stationed along the bank of the river to pick off the rebel gunners, and had only two men killed and five wounded. At one point near Sulphur Springs they killed forty rebel sharpshooters and lost only one man. The rebel commander, finding that his sharpshooters were in a place from which any attempt to escape would be certain death, adopted the dishonorable ruse of sending in a flag of truce about some frivolous matter, which was not listened to by

Gen. Pope and under the cover of the flag the rebel sharpshooters – some 300 in number – escaped to a more healthy position. Such is chivalry.

On Friday, at Bull Run, Jackson's Brigade of McCall's Division, while marching into action, each brigade in column of regiment closed en masse, as ordered by Gen. McDowell – without any forewarning found themselves within one hundred and fifty yards of a battery, which made and havoc in the ranks, in close order as they were. On the same day the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment of this brigade got badly cut up by charging upon a battery when only ordered to skirmish in front. They were repulsed.

On Thursday the brigade of which the Brooklyn (N.Y.) Regiment forms a part, was engaged with the enemy, when he retreated up the Warrenton turnpike. The brigade was ordered to follow in pursuit at double quick for about two miles, when they were flanked, and a deadly fire was poured in killing a large number. It was at this point the Brooklyn Fourteenth had so many men killed and wounded. This battery, which rendered such efficient service at Cedar Mountain, was equally efficient on the left of our line Saturday, but was finally overpowered by a superior force, and three of the four guns captured. When the horses had all been killed, and the enemy were advancing in one high mass to capture this battery and turn our left, the Captain put on the "prolongs," (ropes,) and kept up a constant fire as he fell back. The last discharge was when the enemy were within thirty yards, and the four pieces were discharged at about the same time. The enemy then pounced upon the men at the battery, and two had their skulls split up with sabers while defending their favorite pieces.

By the latest reports from the army we learn that General Ewell, having suffered amputation of his leg, is doing well. Pope was wounded in the thigh, and Sickles certainly killed. We are believed to have captured over eighty pieces of cannon – many of them rifle pieces. Another battle is thought to have been fought on Wednesday in the neighborhood of Manassas.

6 September 1862 – New York Times

Progress of the War

News From the Army of Northern Virginia

Our intelligence of the great battle fought last Saturday on the Plains of Manassas is still meager and unsatisfactory. The few facts we have are obtained through the Richmond Examiner, from an officer of Longstreet's division, who was wounded about the close of the engagement. His knowledge, however, extends little beyond the occurrences in his own immediate brigade.

The battle was begun about three o'clock in the afternoon. Jackson having command of the left wing, rested his extreme left on Bull Run, at Union Mills; Longstreet in the centre, faced Manassas Junction; while our left, under A. P. Hill, stretched away towards Thoroughfare Gap. The battle was begun on the left, but in a few moments became general, and raged with unexampled fury until near nightfall, when the enemy giving way, were pursued on all sides with great slaughter. Having retreated a distance of two miles, the enemy suddenly and very unexpectedly halted, and poured such murderous volleys of artillery and musketry into our lines, that our advance was checked. At this juncture, darkness coming on, there was an end of the conflict. Our troops occupied that night the ground they had taken from the enemy. The next morning the combat was renewed and lasted for two hours, but with what results we have been unable to learn. Our loss in the fight of Saturday is loosely estimated at ten thousand men. The enemy's is thought to be double that number. Our informant says that the two miles over which we pursued the enemy were red with dead and wounded Zouaves. We took several thousand prisoners, all of whom are said to have been paroled the next morning, and allowed to proceed through our lines to Washington. Among these prisoners were some raw recruits who had only been in the service ten days. Our informant thinks the forces of the enemy outnumbered us two to one. The enemy retreated towards the Potomac in the direction of Occoquan

7 September 1862 – New York Times

Alleged Capture of Three Companies of the Eighty-Seventh (Brooklyn) Regiment

On Tuesday night last Companies A, D and I of the Eighty-seventh (Brooklyn) New York Regiment, were sent to Manassas Junction, and arrived there just before the place was attacked by the rebels. Since that affair the only information of the whereabouts of these companies is obtained from Corporal Vangusten, of Co. I, and private Isaac Osbourn, of Company I, and another member of the same regiment, who came straggling into this place yesterday. Their story is that the companies above named were attacked by a superior force, and soon after were surrounded, and in their opinion, must have been captured, together with Lieut. Col. Bachia and Quartermaster George Hudson, of the same regiment. They

state that the rebels attacked them furiously, and their constant cry was, "Give no quarter to the d—m Yankees." That has been the watchword of the rebels on the line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad for the last two weeks. Vangusten and Osborn made their escape by taking to the bushes as soon as their party was surrounded. The story many or may not be true.

7 September 1862 – Mobile Advertiser and Register

The War in Virginia

Particulars by an Eye Witness

Gordonsville, Sept. 5th – The mail and telegraphic communication is not yet reestablished westward, hence my delays.

The battle of Manassas has been fought a second time and a great victory again achieved. The enemy sought to prevent the junction of Longstreet with Jackson, by a heavy column at Thoroughfare Gap, but were driven back after a sharp fight. They then attacked Jackson at Gordonsville, on Friday, hoping to crush him before Hill got up, but were again defeated.

Longstreet arrived, and the attack was renewed on Saturday, at three o'clock, when a terrific conflict ensued on the old battle ground of Manassas, which continued until night, the enemy having been driven in confusion across Bull Run.

Gen Lee was in command. Longstreet commanded the right wing, Jackson the left, and Anderson the centre.

The Federal force was 70,000, their loss 10,000; our loss 6000, including Gens. Ewell, Jenkins, Mahone, and Trimble wounded.

Pope telegraphed at five o'clock that a Federal victory was certain. The Federals retired to Centreville, thence to Fairfax, and are supposed to be retreating to Washington, badly demoralized.

Jackson engaged the rear guard last evening, resulting in a Confederate loss of two hundred; loss of the enemy much heavier, including Gen. Kearney, who was killed and his body brought in by the 49th Georgia regiments. The enemy were driven back. Haileck was at Centreville. McClellan had been placed in chief command.

The Confederates charged with great gallantry and most obstinate courage throughout. Cols. Wilcox of the 7th Georgia and meano, Glover, Gadberry and Marsh, of South Carolina, were killed, and several field officers wounded.

8 September 1862 – New York Times

A Visit to Bull Run Battle-Field

Stonewall Jackson in Disguise Obtaining Information

Men in the Rebel Ranks Express their Love for the Union

Washington, Friday, Sept. 5, 1862

To-day, taking advantage of the protection afforded by a flag of truce, which was granted for the purpose of removing the wounded and burying the dead, who fell in the battle of Friday and Saturday, I visited the scene of those sanguinary conflicts. Passing out of our lines upon the Centreville road, and crossing Bull Run Creek at Blackburn's Ford, the outer picket of our army in that direction was reached about two miles from the little hamlet dignified by the name of Centreville. All beyond this barrier, for two miles, was disputed ground, occupied by neither friend nor foe, to the advance picket of the rebel camp. Entering the rebel lines but a short distance, evidences of the carnage of a recent deadly strife were to be seen far and near. On either hand were wounded soldiers, just able to drag themselves along at a slow pace by the aid of a cane or a friendly hand, men who had been captured after having been disabled in battle, now paroled and started for a more congenial and friendly camp. Dead horses, broken carriages, shot and shell, and, here and there the dead body of a man, shattered trees, ambulances filled with the wounded, caps equipment and clothing scattered about, all bore unmistakable evidence of the sanguinary battle that had been fought. Turning to the left from the main road and riding perhaps a mile, the dead bodies of our soldiers were visible on every hand. Near this point the strife was hottest on Friday. In the edge of a piece of timber in close proximity to the field, numerous tents were pitched for the temporary accommodation of our wounded, and where they were cared for by soldiers of our army acting as nurses, who nobly stood to their posts in the hour of trial, while our physicians for the most part, abandoned their charge, leaving the bleeding, dying patriots to the tender mercies of a demoralized foe. The medicines left for the wounded were confiscated by the enemy, who refused to permit any portion of them to be used, and many of those left upon the field died because of this inhuman conduct. In plain view of the hospital tents, not fifty yards

distant, the dead bodies of seventeen of our men had been placed, side by side by the rebel soldiery, in full view of the wounded and suffering men, as if they took a fiendish delight in making the picture as shocking as possible. On one side of this field stood two squadrons of Stuart's Cavalry, formed in square, and standing and lying about the vicinity were large numbers of Rebel soldiers, looking curiously at the strangers (?) within their camp; many of them ill concealing the brutal delight they experienced in viewing the scene before them. A ride of a few minutes in a south-easterly direction, another field was reached, where the contest raged the fiercest on Saturday evening, and near the point where, in some unaccountable manner, our left wing gave way – countable manner, our left wing gave way – by which the tide of battle was turned against us, and the day was lost, to be fought for again, it is to be hoped, with far different results. This field presented a more ghastly sight, for in this vicinity it is estimated nearly two hundred of our dead were scattered about on the field and in the adjoining woods. The enemy holding the field the night after the scene of carnage had closed, aided by negroes, the officers gathered up their dead, and buried them in trenches, in some instances going so far as to cover the newly disturbed earth with leaves and brushwood – all of which was evidently done to deceive their deluded followers and those whom chance brought into the vicinity, as to the exact extent of their losses, The common instincts of humanity seems to have entirely left the breast of a majority of the rebel soldiery, for they not only neglected to pay the customary attention to the brave dead of the Union army around them, but also violated the sanctity of death by robbing the lifeless bodies of coats, caps, shoes, jewelry, money. And all other valuables, and ignoring the claims of the living also who were suffering and within their power. We doubt if, of all the vast number who fell in the battles of Friday and Saturday, there was one who, dead or alive, was not robbed of everything of value. Of the hundred or more bodies to be seen above the ground, there was not one whose pockets had not been rifled, and their shoes and other articles of clothing taken away.

Returning to the first field, mentioned above, the visitors were surrounded by a motley group of human beings, gaunt in their appearance, ill armed and clad, who eagerly questioned all who would listen to them about the affairs of the Government. Among the number was the guerrilla chief, Jackson, disguised in the habiliment of a private soldier. This was not the first disguise Jackson has donned for the nonce ; for while returning towards Richmond from the pursuit of Gen. Banks, and at a time when he expected to be cut off by Gen. Shields, he disguised himself in citizen's attire, and actually performed the duties of a wagon-master for several days, to avoid being recognized if taken prisoner. This fact I have from one of our officers who was a prisoner, and with him at the time. Nearly all of the rebel officers present wore the uniform of private soldiers, and wore no mark whatever to show their rank. The writer entered the enemy's lines especially to obtain the names of the wounded and prisoners in their hands. But he was peremptorily refused this privilege, and threatened with a Richmond Prison for violating the flag of truce by taking the names of a few of the dead on the field. The same officer in an imperious manner, said there was a Major or a Colonel "yonder," and perhaps I could identify him. We walked to the spot. The deceased had nothing on but pants, under-shirt and socks; the pockets had been turned inside out, and everything of value removed. In reply to the question, how he knew that it was a field officer at all, our rebel companion suddenly became red in the face, and after hesitating a moment, stammered out that they supposed it was a field officer. I told him in plain terms that the body had been robbed, and expressed my astonishment that such treatment of the gallant dead was permitted. He indignantly denied that it was permitted, but added in a deprecating tone of voice, that the men could not be restrained. Nearly all of the rebel soldiers present were disposed to be quite familiar. They talked freely about the war, and laid particular stress upon the horrors of the war in which we were now engaged. Many of them seizing upon a favorable opportunity, told us that they were Northern Men and had been forced into the service, and intended to desert at the first opportunity, and a number did come into our lines that night. Men, Southern born, expressed a similar determination – indeed, so many applied to me for information that would enable them to escape, that I began to think there was a plan laid to induce me to violate the flag of truce. There was a second class present, who openly declared that they were tired of the war, and did not really understand what they were fighting for, and expressed a hope that peace would be soon restored again to the distracted country. One-fourth, perhaps, of those with whom we conversed, were rabid Secessionists per se- claimed the right of a State to secede, would fight until they died rather than that the Union should again be restored, talked bitterly against Abolitionists: denied having been whipped any where except when the Union forces had been aided by gunboats; were certain of taking Washington; did not desire to enter the Free States, but should do so if the "Lincoln" policy was carried out, and seemed to have full confidence in their ability not only to whip the troops of Uncle Samuel, but all the rest of the world. I was particularly struck with the gratuitous attempts of this little class to convince me that the rebel army had enough to eat all the time.

“We have none of the luxuries of life,” said an officer, “but we have all of the substantial requisite for the army.” I had not broached that subject, but seeing a gaunt-looking soldier devouring an ear of raw corn, cob and all, very greedily, within a few feet of us, and evidently a very hungry man, I asked why it was then that his men ate corn cobs? “Oh,” says the officer, in reply, “we like corn better in that way than when it is cooked.” “But do you like corn cobs?” “Oh, yes sometimes,” was the reply. A soldier who expressed to me a desire to get within our lines, said that the rebel force started from Richmond with only two days’ rations in each man’s haversack – bacon and corn flour – and without a baggage train; that the army had subsisted upon the country as it passes along. I told him that hardly seemed possible. He solemnly averred that it was true, and that for days together the soldiers got nothing but green corn to eat; and that they were not permitted to cook it because there was more nourishment in it as pulled from the stock. In confirmation of his statement that the rebel soldiers were “half-starved,” he called my attention to the fact that whenever the rebel soldiers came upon hard bread abandoned – thrown away by our soldiers – I would find that the smallest piece had been gathered up. I had before noticed this, so different from the reckless waste of hard bread and other provisions within our lines. The rebel soldiers who expressed any opinion about the matter at all, seemed to talk as though this was the last struggle of the Confederate Government, and if not successful in driving the Union forces from Virginia soil, and capturing Washington and Maryland, then their game was up. If they accomplished this much, they expected the government would be compelled to “let them alone.” This class of men have no doubt of their final triumph, and that too, at an early day. I took the liberty of saying to one of the most rabid Secessionists present, who had considerable to say against confiscating – particularly of slave property, - that the Government up to the present time had been playing war, hoping that a mild policy would bring about an early peace, but that within a very short period the war would be conducted upon a true war basis, and when that was done the Confederate Government would be wiped out very speedily. He thought Lincoln had already thrown his whole power into the war, and did not believe the Northern people would stand his rule much longer; and frankly acknowledged that the Confederate Government was making its last effort. He believed that “both governments” were in a very reduced condition, and by sheer exhaustion would be compelled to agree upon terms of peace at an early day. This was one of the most intelligent of the rank Secessionists with whom I conversed. Everyone, without exception, when asked what their loss was on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, were ready with the answer, “We had only 300 killed.”

At 2 o’clock P. M. to-day, there were at least two hundred of our wounded men remaining upon the battlefield, and as the truce expired at sundown, no doubt at least one hundred of them were left behind owing to the absence of facilities of moving them within our lines. An officer assures me that they had only 1,400 of our soldiers prisoners, and all except the officers would probably be liberated on parole. The same officer also said that they had seventy-five citizens in custody, who had come out from Washington “to see the rebels whipped.” I had heard of no such visitors, and told him I presumed they were citizens who came to aid in taking care of the wounded. This seems to surprise him, and the bitter smile upon his face passed away. A majority of the citizens who came here to aid the wounded, might as well have been captured, or remained at home, so far as any aid they rendered the wounded. They were apparently far more anxious to gratify a prurient desire to witness a horrible scene, and obtain curiosities from the battlefield, than to aid the wounded. There were some honorable exceptions, however, and one gentleman in particular – John T. Hildreth, esq. of Brooklyn, N.Y. – rendered invaluable service, and his disinterested devotion to the helpless, will long be remembered by many a poor sufferer. Through his personal exertions the lives of at least four wounded men, who fell on Friday, were saved.

E. A. P.

8 September 1862 – Richmond Enquirer
Headquarters Field of Battle, Groveton, near Gainesville, Aug. 30th, 5.A.M.
Major Gen. Halleck(?), General-in-Chief:

We fought a terrible battle here yesterday, with the combined forces of the enemy, which lasted with continuous fury from day light until after dark; by which time the enemy was driven from the field, which we now occupy. Our troops are too much exhausted yet to push matters, but I shall do so in the course of the morning, as soon as Fitz John Porter’s corps comes up from Manassas.

We have lost not less than eight thousand men, killed and wounded, and, from the appearance of the field the enemy lost at least two to one. He stood strictly on the defensive and every assault was made by ourselves.

Our troops behaved splendidly. The battle was fought on the identical battlefield of Bull Run, which greatly increased the enthusiasm of our men.

The news just reached me from the front that the enemy is retreating towards the mountain. I go forward at once to see. We have made great captures, but I am not able yet to form an idea of their extent.

John Pope,

Major General Commanding

The following correspondence will illustrate the thoroughness of the enemy's defeat in the battle of the 30th. It bears date, as will be seen, of the next day.

Centreville, August 31, 1862

Sir: Many of the wounded of this Army have been left on the field for whom I desire to send ambulances. Will you please inform me whether you consent to a truce until they are cared for?

8 September 1862 – Charleston S. C. Mercury

News by Telegraph

Latest News from the Seat of War in Virginia

Richmond, September 6 – one hundred and sixty prisoners, including sixty-two commissioned officers, arrived this evening from Manassas. Gen Lee in a letter to the President says: We paroled seven thousand prisoners, captured about the same number of arms, and thirty cannon." Gen. Kearney was killed by the 49th Georgia Regiment. Pope sent a letter to General Lee begging him to take care of his wounded.

September 7, - A letter from Gen. Lee to the President, dated Chantilly, September 3, says that on Monday the enemy attacked the front of our advancing column, with a view, apparently, of covering the withdrawal of his train along the Centreville road, and masking his retreat. Our position was maintained with slight loss on both sides. Maj. Gen. Kearney (Yankee) was killed in this affair. On Tuesday, about noon, the enemy evacuated Fairfax Court House and proceeded towards Alexandria.

A private dispatch from Gordonsville, Va., this afternoon, says that an Aid of General Lawton reports General Ewell at Buckland, Prince William County, Va. in an improving condition.

Gordonsville, September 6. – Jackson, yesterday, had another skirmish with the enemy on the Little River Turnpike, to the left and in advance of Centreville. He drove the Yankees, who were supposed to be the rear guard, covering the retreat of their army, for a considerable distance. Our loss in killed and wounded was 200. The enemy's loss was greater, including Gen. Phillip Kearney, shot in the back. The enemy evacuated Centreville, leaving behind him 15,000 blankets, and large supplies of sugar, coffee and liquor. One thousand more prisoners have been brought in.

The enemy is now removing his valuable property from Alexandria. The Chain Bridge over the Potomac, five miles above Washington, has been destroyed. We are paroling the rank and file of our prisoners and sending back the wounded. Pope telegraphed to Washington that he had whipped the rebels, driven them into the mountains, and held the battle-field. Twenty car-loads of "Citizens" came out from Washington to celebrate the event and care for the wounded. We captured fifty of them. The enemy's loss was from 12,000 to 15,000. Ours is estimated at 6,000. Colonel Means is dead. Hopes are entertained of Col. Moore's recovery. Major Palmer, of the Holcombe Legion, is wounded in the right lung. Lieutenant K. L. Stevens is shot in both legs.

8 September 1862 – Richmond Enquirer

Headquarters Field of Battle

Groveton, Near Gainesville – August 30, 5, A. M.

Major. General Halleck, General in Chief –

We fought a terrific battle here yesterday, with the combined forces of the enemy, which lasted with continuous fury from daylight until after dark, by which time the enemy was driven from the field, which we now occupy. Our troops are too much exhausted yet to push matters, but I shall do so in the course of the morning, as soon as Fitz. John Porter's corps comes up from Manassas. The enemy is still in our front, but badly used up.

We have lost not less than eight thousand men, killed and wounded, and from the appearance of the field the enemy lost at least two to one. He stood strictly on the defensive and every assault was made by ourselves.

Our troops behaved splendidly. The battle was fought on the identical battle-field of Bull Run, which greatly increased the enthusiasm of our men.

The news just reached me from the front that the enemy is retreating towards the mountain. I go forward at once to see. We have made great captures, but I am not able yet to form an idea of their extent.

John Pope, Major General Commanding

8 September 1862 – Charleston S. C. Mercury
Interesting Details of the Battles
From the Richmond Examiner

Since the announcement of our victory last Saturday on the Plains of Manassas, and the retreat of the enemy, the question which has most puzzled the brains of the Southern people has been, how the enemy, who was thought to have been cut off from Alexandria, had effected his escape through or around our lines in the direction of that city. The fog which has for a week enveloped this subject is at once dispelled by the extracts from a letter from an officer of General Jackson's corps, which we give below. It will be seen that through a portion of our forces, under Gen. Ewell and Jackson, were, on Tuesday and a part of Wednesday, the 26th and 27th ultimo, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, between Pope and Alexandria, on the approach of Pope from Warrenton they withdrew to the west and halted in the vicinity of the Warrenton Turnpike, where, having rejoined Longstreet and A. P. Hill, they awaited the approach of the enemy and delivered him battle on the 28th, 29th and 30th. The final battle was fought west of the Warrenton Pike, by which, when routed at the close of the day, the enemy fled towards Centreville. We give the letter referred to:

"Wednesday August 27. – About 2 p.m., Gen. Ewell whose division, except Trimble's brigade, had remained at Bristow, was pressed by heavy columns of the enemy from the direction of Warrenton. The Yankees were checked, with great loss on their side – some one hundred killed and wounded on our part. Gen. Ewell rejoined General Jackson in the evening, when the whole army moved towards Sudley's Mills – the enemy immediately occupying Manassas. In the evening a bloody fight ensued on or near Dogan's Farm, already hallowed by the blood of our brave men shed on the 21st of July 1861. Gen Jackson was satisfied with the result through our loss in officers is peculiarly heavy.

"Thursday. – A terrific battle took place this afternoon, near the scene of last night's fight. The enemy repulsed with loss.

"Friday. – Nearly all the day engaged in fighting. The enemy attacked us four several times, and each time was successfully repelled.

"Saturday. – This was the grand day, before which all other days of this war pale. McClellan, Halleck, Pope, et id omne genus, are gathered on the same plain, and marshal their mighty hosts for the subjugation of the rebels! No – for the preservation of their capital! Ninety thousand Yankees with thundering force upon our gallant army – men wearied with heavy marches and continuous fights. Without the usual prelude of skirmishing, they attack our whole lone simultaneously, and are driven back with a loss almost fabulous. Again they come – again repulsed. Fresh divisions – McClellan's chosen troops – Fitz John Porter's corps of regulars – come up to meet the fate of their comrades, when at last our boys could be restrained no longer. With a yell they charged on the retreating enemy, when a rout ensued equal to that of Bull Run, of the 21st July, 1861. They were pursued for miles – they flying to Centreville, and we following immediately behind.

"Sunday Night. – The main battle of yesterday was fought on the line of the railroad from Gainesville to Alexandria – the Independent track which was commenced but not completed – our left resting near Sudley's Mill and right on the battlefield of the 21st July, 1861 – commencing in rear of Groveton, by the Dogan House, and widening up in the rout.

Such a series of battles have never occurred on this continent. Lee's army has marched, within a fortnight, one hundred and fifty miles, and fought four battles and sundry combats. We owe to God a debt of gratitude for all his mercies, and for his evident intervention in our behalf as a people.

We have been furnished with the following extract from a private letter:

Gainesville, September 1st. – We have given the Yankees an awful drubbing – surpassing any day before Richmond. Jackson and Longstreet used them up. They went off in Bull Run style. Our left (Jackson) fought on the left of the turnpike, about where Evans fought them on the 21st July. Longstreet whipped them exactly upon the ground at the Henry House. Three Yankees lie dead under a little tree where poor Bartow lay. We whipped them three times nearly upon the same ground, and Manassas 21st, makes four times. They ought to be satisfied now. I have just heard that the Yankees have gone from Centreville, and are pushing for life to Washington."

September 1, 6 p. m. – In the saddle at Sudley's Church – Our troops going on to Fairfax – enemy skadadling yet, and we are getting prisoners and contrabands innumerable. As soon as we arrest the Yankees we release the privates and send them to Harper's Ferry, on their way home. The officers we keep, of course, for the benefit of Pope's proclamation."

Several gentlemen who left Manassas last Monday, reached this city last evening by the Central train. Up to the time of their departure there was no intelligence of another battle. All of our troops had disappeared in the direction of Centreville, in pursuit of the enemy.

The enemy's loss, in killed and wounded, in the battles of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, was estimated by our Generals, after a survey of the field, at between eighteen and twenty thousand. Thousands of the enemy's wounded were, on Monday evening, lying on the field just where they had fallen; having the agonies of hunger and thirst superadded to those of their wounds. No flag of truce had been sent to their relief, and our ambulance corps being busy with our own wounded, could spare no time to render them attention. Several thousand of the wretches must already have died for the want of a little water.

In comparison with that of the enemy, our loss is almost miraculously small. Our wounded, it is said by those who have had the best opportunities of judging, will number between six and seven thousand; while our loss in killed will not exceed six hundred. The great majority of the wounds received by our men are said to be slight. The disproportionately great loss of the enemy is accounted for by the splendid performance of our artillery, which operated from excellent positions, and hour after hour poured murderous fire into Pope's heavy columns as they tried to break our lines, and by the one sided slaughter which occurred during the early moments of the rout and retreat.

**9 September 1862 New Orleans Daily Picayune
Forney's Philadelphia Press of the 29th, said:**

We believe the rebels are concentrating their forces around Manassas Junction, coming by the Virginia Central Railroad on the east, and by the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, via Strasburg, on the west, and that a great battle is now imminent in the vicinity of Manassas. The rebel forces on our left have been brought up, no doubt, on the Fredericksburg and Richmond Railroad. The very fact that a large force of rebels is now at Gainesville, is proof positive that this army is but a portion of that now in the Shenandoah Valley, and have probably been brought up by the enemy as reinforcements for the army at Warrenton, which was held in check so long by Gen. Sigel.

Johnson reinforced the rebel army at the first battle of Manassas by the same route and in the same manner, but this time the movement will prove a total failure. Gen Pope is in the rear of the main body of the rebel forces, and their ignominious flight and capture is looked upon by the "knowing ones" in Washington as certain. The battle of Bristow's Station was fought by Hooker and managed in his usual masterly style – his brave division driving back the rebels step by step, in a heavy engagement lasting nearly all day. Our loss in this important affair is set down at three hundred, which is certainly light. Gen Pope regarded the affair as a signal union victory. The design of the enemy here was evidently to gain possession of the railroad bridge – a trestlework structure – and thus cut off one source of supplies and communication with our large army somewhere beyond.

There can be no doubt that both armies have sustained considerable losses, but the enemy exhibit evident signs of confusion, and seeing the trap into which he has been drawn, is endeavoring to get back to the Rappahannock, cross it and strike the Central Railroad, in full retreat south. We are assured that this will be utterly impracticable, and that almost certain disaster awaits the rebel arms in Virginia, and that very soon. We regret exceedingly the loss of Capt. Van Putcamerie fine battery, and also the men of Gen. Taylor's gallant New Jersey brigade; but considering all things our loss has been small, and our success will surely be great. A few days more will solve the problem. With two large armies and a powerful reserve, we have much to hope for and nothing to fear.

The Inquirer, of the same city and date has the following correspondence:

Alexandria, Aug. 28 – The enemy have succeeded in holding their own in the vicinity of Manassas. Last night they got down to Burke's Station, some fourteen miles from here, and drove the telegraph operators away. They were the last to leave. It is probable that the rebels destroyed everything around the station.

The 1st New Jersey Brigade, yesterday, got into a gully where the enemy had two cannon planted. They opened at once on the Jersey troops, and a heavy body of rebel cavalry came in at their rear, completely hemming the brigade in a pen. A panic was at once created, some escaping, but many were killed and wounded.

Up to last evening it was thought that our loss was between two or three hundred in killed and wounded.

Previous to the firing and attack on Manassas, there was considerable uneasiness manifested by all hands at the post. Trains were being made up as the firing commenced. The dispatcher started on a train,

and rode about a mile, and then got off the cars and made his way back to Manassas. The firing commenced as soon as he reached there.

The volleys of musketry were terrific. The enemy had artillery planted, and our forces had none. Great praise is bestowed upon the 12th Ohio. A portion of the 12th Pennsylvania Cavalry behaved badly, and were placed under arrest and taken to Alexandria by a guard. This is the regiment formerly known as Col. Frishmuth's.

The road between Manassas and Alexandria was crowded all day yesterday with contrabands escaping. They are all shades of colors, great and small. They are coming in droves this morning, and are all in the most filthy condition – clothes in rags and tatters. Where they all come from is hard to tell. A great deal of suffering among them must naturally follow this great exodus. What will be done with them? Is a query asked on all sides.

All night long rumors of varied character reached this place. At one time the enemy were barreling directly for Washington. No one is allowed to go down the road except troops.

Pope and Burnside form a Junction with McClellan

The following dispatch is to the New York Associated Press, and is dated on Friday the 20th. It is published in the New York papers of the 30th ultimo:

We have trustworthy advices, through letters received to-night, that affairs at Washington and Alexandria to-day wore a more favorable aspect. The Secessionists of the latter city are less jubilant, and carry despondent countenances.

Generals Burnside and Pope have successfully cut their way through the rebel forces to Manassas, and have formed a junction with the Army of Virginia, under Gen. McClellan, this side of Centreville.

There has been a severe engagement with the rebels by the divisions under the command of Gens. Hooker, Sturges and Sumner, in which the rebels were completely routed and driven back from the vicinity of Manassas and Bull Run, through the passes of the Bull Run Mountains.

The loss of life on both sides is said to have been heavy. No accurate information is obtainable on this point, but it is believed the enemy were severely punished, and many prisoners taken.

It is also stated that the Potomac River is now fordable at any point above Washington, and much excitement prevails throughout Western Maryland, arising from the fear that a portion of the rebel army may make a desperate and destructive raid in that quarter but the arrangement for a proper reception of the traitors at all points are ample for all -----(missing)

The enemy has not yet appeared on the Upper Potomac, although indications have pointed to such an event, and the excitement on both sides of the line continues.

The fears for the safety of Washington are entirely dispelled, as the defences of the capital are perfect and impregnable.

The general feeling of the loyal people of both Alexandria and Washington is one of more confidence, and the depression which has prevailed among loyal men for the past week has given way to that of joy and gladness.

That there have been the most extensive movements of troops from Alexandria and other points is beyond a doubt, and it is currently believed that the major portion of our army has been either skirmishing or hard fought battles with the enemy within the last twenty four hours.

It is generally believed that an extensive movement was made by the whole army to-day, under Gen. McClellan, involving a battle, but the result, if a battle was fought, has not yet been announced.

Our advices are up to noon to-day (Friday) and are from most trustworthy sources. From the Herald's remarks on the situation, as at latest dates, we make the following extracts:

It will now be seen that after ten days retreating, maneuvering and fighting between Culpeper Courthouse and Centreville, it is not Pope, but the rebel army, which is in a tight place; for Pope is not in the situation in which McClellan found himself when his right wing was turned by the enemy in front of Richmond – that is, without supports or reinforcements; On the contrary, on the right of Pope, and on the way up from Fredericksburg, is the new army of the Potomac, under Burnside, while advancing forward from Alexandria is the newly organized army of Virginia under McClellan; Gen. Burnside is reported to have since joined Pope, and the two forces united have, with great slaughter, cut their way through the rebel ranks, and formed a junction with Gen. McClellan.

But we have yet to fight a battle that is to be the decisive one in front of the national capital, and it will undoubtedly be one of great magnitude and importance. The Government takes this view or the position of things in that neighborhood, and to meet the emergency it is announced that McClellan takes the

immediate command of the whole Army of Virginia, with Pope and Burnside at the head of the two auxiliary armies of the Rappahannock and Potomac.

There is to be active and sharp work. The fortifications in front of Washington are the base, and onward is now the word. The question which is presented to Gen. Lee is not how Gen. Pope to be most effectively put out of the way, but how is an engagement to be avoided without having to fight the superior forces of Pope, McClellan and Burnside combined.

This is the battle which we now anticipate with or without the choice of Gen. Lee, and there is no reason to apprehend any other than the best results.

We come now to the New York papers of the 30th ult. The latest received. The Herald of that date, under the head of "The Situation," says:

The news as far as we have received of the operations in front of Washington is very encouraging. Gen. Pope has sent a dispatch from Manassas Junction to Washington, in which he states that finding the rebels were trying to turn his position, he divided his command into three columns – one under McDowell, another under Reno, and the third under his own personal command.

McDowell was to interpose between the rebel forces that had passed through Thoroughfare Gap and the main body at White Plains. This he accomplished successfully. Reno was to move to Greenwich and support McDowell if necessary, while the third column proceeded to Manassas Junction. At Kettle Run the last met, fought and routed the rebels, who suffered severely in men, arms and camp materials. Jackson, who had evacuated his position at Manassas Junction, was met six miles west of Centreville by McDowell and Sigel, and a severe fight took place, which was terminated by darkness. Heintzelman was to have moved on to Centreville yesterday morning, with every prospect of completely defeating the rebels.

Later advices state that Gens. Burnside and Pope cut their way through the rebel ranks and formed a junction with Gen. McClellan. The rebels were driven from their positions and through the Bull Run Mountain passes, with great slaughter, by Gens. Hooker, Sumner, and Sturgis. They are reported thoroughly routed. A general battle was expected to be fought during yesterday, and we understand that the news, as far as received, is very good.

It is implicitly believed that Gen. McClellan has been placed in the immediate command of the whole army of Virginia, with Gen. Burnside as commander of the army of the Potomac, and Gen. Pope as commander of the army of the Rappahannock. Although not officially announced, it is reported that Gen. McClellan has assumed the above command.

One of our special correspondents has put in possession of the plans of the rebels in front of Washington: Jackson, with 35,000 men, was to have marched via Shenandoah River, and attack Pope in his rear, while Lee kept him engaged in front and on the right and left flanks. This plan was defeated by the retreat of Pope. Another portion of Jackson's army was to have passed up the Shenandoah valley, and cross the Potomac into Maryland. Doubtless this will be, or perhaps has already been promptly met and also defeated.

This ideas of the Times, of the same date, under the head of "The Rebels before Washington," are thus expressed editorially:

It is quite possible Gen. Pope or Gen. Halleck may hereafter explain that it was because they knew the enemy to be entangling himself in meshes from which it would be difficult to escape, that they passively witnessed his change of base. For if it is true that the great body of the Confederate Army now stands between the Rappahannock and the capital, there can be no doubt that it has placed itself within the certain stroke of our army, and can only save itself by dispersion or surrender.

To talk of an advance into Maryland, whether the object be Washington or Baltimore, is simply lunacy. Washington is entirely secure against the largest force they can hurl upon it, whether the attack comes from the eastern or western bank of the Potomac. And to advance into a hostile country, with a powerful army pursuing and gradually surrounding their diminishing forces, whose munitious waste at every step of their progress, would be an ecstasy of madness, of which, however extreme their desperation, the rebels can hardly be capable.

It can scarcely be doubted that the present movement receives its impulse from despair. The leaders of the conspiracy are constrained to stake everything upon a single venture. They aimed to reach and strike down Pope before McClellan joined him. They failed; and as a return to Richmond without banners garlanded with victory would be utter ruin, and the end of their tremendous experiment, there was nothing for it but to attempt the destruction of the two armies before their consolidation had been effected.

They have, therefore, rushed madly to the rear of the Union lines. They abandon all routes of communication, and apparently all chances of retreat. The country they occupy is bare as a desert. For a

moment they may subsist on the stores found in the Government depositories; but when these are exhausted they have the alternative of fighting with an antagonist superior in strength, and holding every surrounding position, or of unconditional surrender. We have had small reason to confide in the military abilities of those commanding the Army of Virginia; but if they fail now, with the enemy thus in their power, to throttle the rebellion, the Republic may well despair.

**10 September 1862 – New York Times
Accounts of the Late Fighting in Virginia.**

We have received, via Fortress Monroe, copies of the Richmond Examiner of the 5th, and the Enquirer of the 6th instant. The latter contains the following: “The movements of the armies beyond are unknown, the game of strategy being now deemed essential by both combatants, the one for the preservation, the other for the capture of Washington.

“A flag of truce was sent a day or two after the last battle by the enemy, asking permission to bury their dead. It was granted. Soon after a regiment of Negroes, armed with spades, appeared, and after performing their work, they were very properly taken in charge by our troops, most of them being runaway contrabands.”

The 18th of September has been appointed by Jeff Davis as a day of fasting and prayer, by a proclamation given at Richmond the 4th inst., inviting the people of the Confederate States to assemble for worship, to render praise to God for the triumph at Richmond and Manassas

The Enquirer claims the victory of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday’s battles, and says that Lee’s headquarters were at Annandale, eight miles from Alexandria.

The Richmond Enquirer also says: “It is now one week since our last battles, and the public has no information of the particulars. It is trifling with the public heart to be thus careless of its deepest feelings. No one knows who was killed or wounded. We do not know whose fault it is; but, in behalf of the bereaved, we appeal to the Secretary of War to ascertain who has fallen and make it public.”

Parties of wounded rebels are daily arriving at Richmond from Manassas, and have nowhere to go, and no one cares for them.

The Richmond Dispatch of Sept. 4, calls on the Confederate Congress to extend the most vigorous measures for executing the conscription act, so as to call into the field able bodied men between 18 and 45 years of age, to enable them to at once push their line of battle into the heart of the enemy’s country.

**10 September 1862 – Richmond Examiner
From the Rebel Army of Northern Virginia**

Little or nothing has been added to the scant stock of information regarding the recent battle on the plains of Manassas. A number of gentlemen who participated in the engagement reached this city last evening, but they know absolutely nothing, except that our army had achieved a great victory on the same ground on which it was before victorious on July 21, 1861. They know neither our loss nor the enemy’s; the number of prisoners captured by us, nor the route of the enemy’s retreat. The most of them say in vague terms that the enemy fled before our men towards Alexandria, or Arlington Heights, or Leesburgh, they don’t know which, and they can give no explanation of how he effected a retreat in this direction, our lines being confidently asserted to have extended across all the roads leading to Washington, from Union Mills to Thoroughfare Gap. Some, however, maintain that the enemy retreated through Centreville. If this be true, he must have broke through Longstreet’s men with whom we have conversed assert that the enemy, so far from breaking our lines, was driven back a distance of two miles. From all we have been able to learn we think it most likely that the enemy, during Saturday night, escaped toward Alexandria by passing to the east of Jackson’s extreme left. If, in the fight of Saturday, we drove him before us, as there seems little doubt that we did, and there has been no subsequent fight, there were but two ways by which he could have passed our army – by hugging the Potomac on Jackson’s left, or passing clear around our army by a detour to the westward. But with our present scant information, the discussion of this subject is profitless indeed.

All agree that the battle was a most disastrous one to the enemy. A gentleman who rode over the field on Monday assures us that he saw ten dead Yankees to one Southerner. Our informant was of the opinion that the greatest loss sustained by us was in Gen. Jackson’s Division – the enemy directing his heaviest columns against this wing, as it occupied the direct and coveted route to Washington City.

The following telegram is from an intelligent gentleman connected with the Southern Press, and was received in this city late last evening.

Saturday Night, August 30.

The enemy were whipped off the field with great slaughter, and many guns were taken. They ran so fast in some parts of the field that Jackson, who was ordered to press them, replied that they were too fast for him.

Sunday Morning, August 31

We are just starting in pursuit after yesterday's work; our troops are doubtless at work, as they were ordered to proceed at daybreak, and it is now an hour after. We append an extract from a hastily-written letter from the field, by an officer of the army to a friend in this city.

Manassas, Aug. 29. via Rapidan, Sept. 4

11 September 1862 – New York Times

The Recent Battles in Virginia

Reports of Major General Pope

Headquarters Army of Virginia, September 3, 1862

General: I have the honor to submit the following brief sketch of the operations of this army since the 9th of August.

I moved from Sperryville, Little Washington and Warrenton, with the corps of Banks and Sigel, and one division of McDowell's corps, numbering in all thirty-two thousand men, to meet the enemy, who had crossed the Rapidan, and was advancing on Culpepper. The movement toward Gordonsville had completely succeeded in drawing off a large force from Richmond, and in relieving the army of the Potomac from much of the danger which threatened its withdrawal from the Peninsula.

The action of August 9, at Cedar Mountain, with the forces under Jackson, which compelled his retreat across the Rapidan, made necessary still further reinforcements of the enemy from Richmond; and by this time, it being apparent that the army of the Potomac was evacuating the Peninsula, the whole force of the enemy concentrated around Richmond was pushed forward with great rapidity to crush the army of Virginia before the forces evacuating the Peninsula could be united with it. I remain at Cedar Mountain, and still threatened to cross the Rapidan, until the 17th of August, by which time Gen. Robert Lee had assembled in my front, and within eight miles, nearly the whole rebel army. As soon as I ascertained this fact, and knew that the army of the Potomac was no longer in danger, I drew back my whole force across the Rappahannock, on the night of the 17th and day of the 18th, without loss of any kind, and one day in advance of Lee's proposed movement against me. The enemy immediately appeared in my front at Rappahannock Station, and attempted to pass the river at that bridge, and the numerous fords above and below, but without success.

The line of the upper Rappahannock, which I had been ordered to hold, that the enemy might be delayed long enough in his advance upon Washington to enable the forces from the Peninsula to land and effect a junction with me, was very weak, as it could be crossed at almost any point above the railroad bridge by good fords.

By constant vigilance and activity, and much severe fighting for three days, the enemy was gradually forced around from the railroad crossing to Waterloo Bridge, west of Warrenton. Meantime my force had been much diminished by actual loss in battle, and by fatigue and exposure – so that, although I had been joined by a detachment under Gen. Reno and the other division of McDowell's corps, my force barely numbered forty thousand men.

On the ___ a heavy rain fell, which rendered the fords impassable for twenty-four hours. As soon as I discovered this, I concentrated my forces, and marched rapidly upon Sulphur Springs and Waterloo Bridge to drive back the forces of the enemy, which had succeeded in crossing at these points. This was successfully done, and the bridges destroyed.

I passed one day – or rather part of one – at Warrenton and beyond. The enemy still continued to move slowly around along the river, masking every ford with artillery and heavy forces of infantry, so that it was impossible for me to attack him, even with the greatly inferior forces under my command, without passing the river over fords strongly guarded, in the face of superior numbers.

The movement of Jackson toward White Plains and in the direction of Thoroughfare Gap, while the main body of the enemy confronted me at Sulphur Springs and Waterloo Bridge, was well known to me, but I relied confidently upon the forces which I had been assured would be sent from Alexandria, and one stray division of which I had ordered to take post on the works at Manassas Junction, I was entirely under the belief that these would be there, and it was not until I found my communication intercepted that I was undeceived. I knew that this movement was no raid and that it was made by not less than twenty-five thousand men, under Jackson. By this time the army corps of Heintzelman, about ten thousand strong, had reached Warrenton Junction; one division of it, I think, on the every day of the raid; but they came without

artillery, with only forty rounds of ammunition to the man, with out wagons, and even the field and General officers without horses. Fitz-John Porter also arrived at Bristow Station, near Rappahannock with one of his divisions, 4500 strong, whilst his other division was still at Barnett's and Kelly's Ford. I directed that corps, about 8500 strong, to concentrate immediately at Warrenton Junction, where Heintzelman already was. This was accomplished on the evening of the ___th. As soon as it became known to me that Jackson was on the railroad, it became apparent that the upper Rappahannock was no longer tenable. I could not detach a sufficient force to meet Jackson, and at the same time attempt to confront the main body of the enemy. I accordingly at once evacuated Warrenton and Warrenton Junction, directing McDowell, with his own corps and Stuart's and the division of Reynolds, to march rapidly by the turnpike upon Gainesville, so as to intercept any reinforcements coming to Jackson through Thoroughfare Gap; and instructing Reno, with his command and Kearney, with one division of Heintzelman's to march on Greenwich, so as to support McDowell in case of necessity. I moved back along the railroad upon Manassas Junction. Near Kettle Run Hooker came upon the advance of Ewell's Division on the afternoon of the 27th. A severe action took place, which terminated at dark, Ewell being driven from the field with the loss of his camp and three hundred killed and wounded. The unfortunate oversight of not bringing more than forty rounds of ammunition became at once alarming. At nightfall Hooker had but about five rounds to the man left. As soon as I learned this I sent back orders to Fitz-John Porter to march with his corps at 1 o'clock that night, so as to be with Hooker at daylight in the morning. The distance was only nine miles, and he received the dispatch at 9:50 o'clock, but did not reach the ground until after 10 o'clock next morning. He can probably explain better than I can the reason of this delay.

Fortunately Hooker had handled the army so severely the evening before, and the movement of McDowell had begun to be so apparent, that the enemy fearful of being surrounded, had retreated precipitately from Manassas Junction, directing his retreat through Centreville, as McDowell, Reno and Kearney had made the road Gainesville impracticable. I immediately pushed forward to Manassas, and thence to Centreville, which was occupied by Kearney that night only a few hours after the enemy had left it. Reno had reached Manassas Junction, and Fitz-John Porter was immediately ordered up from Broad Run, where he had stopped. McDowell's movement, conducted with vigor and speed, had been completely successful, the enemy being intercepted at Gainesville, and part of his forces driven back through Thoroughfare Gap. Late in the evening of the ___ McDowell advance (Gibbon's Brigade) met the force of Jackson retiring from Centreville, and about six miles from that place. A very sharp skirmish took place, ended by the darkness, in which the brigade of Gibson behaved very handsomely, and suffered heavy loss.

Sigel was close at hand with his corps, but did not join the action. I instructed Kearney to move forward at early day dawn toward Gainesville, closely followed by Hooker and Reno, and engage the enemy thus placed between McDowell and Sigel on the west, and Fitz-John Porter with his own corps, and Reno's Division of McDowell's Corps, which had for some reason fallen back from the Warrenton Turnpike toward Manassas Junction, to move at daylight in the morning upon Gainesville, along the Manassas Gap Railroad until they communicated closely with the forces under Heintzelman and Sigel, cautioning them not to go further than was necessary to effect his junction, as we might be obliged to retire behind Bull Run that might for subsistence, if nothing else.

Heintzelman marched early from Centreville toward Gainesville, closely followed by Reno. Meantime, shortly after daylight, Sigel's and Reynolds' Division of McDowell's corps had become engaged with the enemy, who was brought to a stand, and he was soon joined by Heintzelman and Reno, when the whole line became actively engaged.

Porter marched as directed, followed by King's Division, which was by this time joined by Rickett's Division, which had been forced back from Thoroughfare Gap by the heavy forces of the enemy advancing to support Jackson.

As soon as I found that the enemy had been brought to a halt, and was being vigorously attacked along the Warrenton Turnpike, I sent orders to McDowell to advance rapidly on the left, and attack the enemy in his flank, extending his right to meet Reynolds' left, and to Fitz-John Porter to keep his right well closed on McDowell's left, and to attack the enemy in flank and rear, while he was pushed in front. This would have made the line of McDowell and Porter at right angles to that of the other forces engaged.

The action raged furiously all day, McDowell, although previously in rear of Porter bringing his whole corps on the field in the afternoon, and taking a conspicuous part in that day's operations. To my surprise and disappointment, I received late in the afternoon from Porter a note saying that his advance had met the enemy on the flank in some force, and that he was retiring upon Manassas Junction without engaging or coming to the assistance of our other forces, although they were engaged in a furious action

only two miles distant, and in full hearing of him. A portion of his force fell back towards Manassas, and he remained, as he afterward informed me, where he was looking at the enemy during the whole of the afternoon of Friday and part of Friday night, passing over in plain view to reinforce the troops under Jackson without an effort to prevent it or assist us. One at least of his brigades under Gen. Griffen, got round to Centreville, and remained there during the whole of the next day's battle, without coming on the field, though in full view of the battle which was raging, whilst Gen. Griffen himself spent the day in making ill natured strictures upon the General commanding the action, in the presence of a promiscuous assemblage.

Darkness closed the action on Friday, the enemy being driven back from his position by Heintzelman's corps and Reno, concluded by a furious attack along the turnpike by King's Division of McDowell's corps, leaving his dead and wounded on the field.

I do not hesitate to say that if the corps of Porter had attacked the enemy in flank on the afternoon of Friday, as he had my written order to do, we should utterly have crushed Jackson before the forces under Lee could have reached him. Why he did not do so I cannot understand.

Our men much worn down by hard service and continuous fighting for many previous days, and very short of provisions, rested on their guns. Our horses had had no forage for two days. I had telegraphed and written urgently for rations and forage to be sent us, but on Saturday morning, before the action was resumed, I received a letter from Gen. Franklin written the day before at Alexandria, stating to me that he had been directed by Gen. McClellan to inform me that rations and forage for my command would be loaded into the cars and available wagons as soon as I would send a cavalry escort to Alexandria to bring them up. All hope of being able to maintain my position, whether victorious or not vanished with this letter. My cavalry was utterly broken down by long and constant service in the face of the enemy, and bad as they were could not be spared from the front, even if there had been time to go back thirty miles to Alexandria and await the loading of trains. At the time this letter was written Alexandria was swarming with troops, and my whole army interposed between that place and the enemy. I at once understood that we must, if possible, finish what we had to do that day, as night must see us behind Bull Run if we wished to save men and animals from starvation.

On Friday night I sent a preemptory order to Gen. Porter to bring his command on the field, and report to me in person within (three hours after he received the order. A portion he brought up, but, as I before stated, one of his brigades remained the whole day at Centreville, and was not in the engagement. The enemy's heavy reinforcements having reached him on Friday afternoon and night, he began to mass on his right for the purpose of crushing our left and occupying the road to Centreville in our rear. His heaviest assault was made about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, when, after overwhelming Fitz-John Porter and driving his forces back on the centre and left, mass after mass of his forces were pushed against our left. A terrific contest, with great slaughter, was carried on for several hours, our men behaving with firmness and gallantry under the immediate command of Gen. McDowell. When night closed, our left had been forced back about half a mile, but still remained firm and unshaken, while our right held its ground.

Gen. Franklin with his corps, arrived after dark at Centreville, six miles in our rear, whilst Sumner was four miles behind Franklin. I could have brought up these corps in the morning in time to have renewed the action, but starvation stared both men and horses in the face, and broken and exhausted as they were, they were in no condition to bear hunger also. I accordingly retired to Centreville that night in perfect order. Neither on Sunday nor on Monday did the enemy make any advance upon us. On Monday I sent to the army corps commanders for their effective strength, which, all told, including Sumner and Franklin, fell short of sixty-thousand men. Instead of bringing up thirty thousand men. Franklin and Sumner united fell short of twenty thousand and these, added to the force I had, already wearied out, and much cut up, did not give me the means to do anything else than stand on the defense.

The enemy during Monday again began to work slowly around to our right for the purpose of possessing Fairfax Court-House, and thus turning our rear.

Couch's division and one brigade of Sumner's had been left there, and I sent down Hooker on Monday afternoon to take command and post himself at or in front of Germantown, at the same time direction McDowell to take position along the turnpike from Centreville to Fairfax Court House, about two miles west of the latter place.

Heintzelman was directed to post himself in rear and support of Reno, who pushed north of the road, at a point about two and a half miles east of Centreville, and to cover that road, it being my purpose, in the course of the night, to mass my command on the right, in the direction of Germantown, where I felt convinced the next attack of the enemy would be made.

Late in the afternoon of Monday, the enemy made his demonstration upon Germantown, but was met by Hooker at that place, and by Reno, reinforced by Kearney, further west. The battle was very severe though short, the enemy being driven back a mile with heavy loss, leaving his dead and wounded. In this short action we lost two of our most valuable and distinguished officers, Gens. Kearney and Stevens.

By moving, the whole of my command was massed behind a difficult creek, between Flint Hill and the Warrenton Junction, with the advance, under Hooker, in the front of Germantown.

With the exception of Sumner, the commanders of the army corps of the Army of the Potomac had continued to inform me that their commands were and had been demoralized ever since they left Harrison's Landing; that they had no spirit and no disposition to fight. This latter statement their conduct in the various actions fully contradicted, but the straggling in those corps was distressing.

The full facts having been reported on Tuesday afternoon, to retire to the intrenchments near Washington, which was accordingly done on that day and the next, in good order and without the slightest loss.

Banks, who had been left with the Railroad trains cut off at Bristol by the burning of the bridge, was ordered to join me on Monday at Centreville, which he did on the afternoon of that day.

This brief summary will explain sufficiently in detail the whole of the operation of the forces under my command, during sixteen days of continuous fighting by day and marching by night.

To confront a powerful enemy with greatly inferior forces, and fight against him day by day without losing your army; to delay and embarrass his movements, and to force him, by persistent resistance, to adopt long and circuitous routes to his destination, are the duties which have been imposed upon me. They are, of all military operations, the most difficult and most harassing, both to the Commander and to his troops. How far we have been successful I leave to the judgment of my countrymen. The armies of Virginia and Potomac have united in the presence and against the efforts of a wary and vigorous enemy in greatly superior force to either, with no loss for which they did not exact full retribution.

Among the officers whom I feel bound to mention with especial gratitude, for their most hearty, cordial and untiring zeal and energy, are Gens. McDowell, Banks, Reno, Heintzelman, Hooker, Kearney, and many others of inferior rank, whom I shall take great satisfaction in bringing to the notice of the Government. The troops have exhibited wonderful patience and courage, and I cannot say too much for them.

12 September 1862 – New Orleans Daily Picayune

Lee's Cavalry at Manassas and Bristow

The Wash Star, of the 27th ult., said: A rebel raid, similar to that made on Friday night last at Catlett's Station, was successfully accomplished last night, not only at Bristow, but also at Manassas Station. The attacking force, variously estimated at from 500 to 2,000 cavalry is supposed to have been a portion of Col. Fitzhugh Lee's force, that made the raid on Friday night, referred to above.

From all we can learn of the facts (and most of the information on the subject that had reached Washington up to noon to-day comes through skedaddling Federal soldiers, who, running on the first alarm, were brought up all standing, near Centreville, by Federal pickets,) the first assault was made upon cars on the railroad at Bristow, four miles out beyond Manassas. A train was fired into there, with what resulting damage we know not.

The Federal guard at Manassas is said to have consisted of the 12th Pennsylvania Cavalry- very green troops – two companies of infantry, and a battery of artillery.

The skedaddling men bringing the news to Centreville and Fairfax were of the cavalry, and represent that most of the infantry and artillery were captured, and the latter turned immediately against us in the skirmish or affair. It appears that the Federal wagon trains there at the time had sufficient warning to enable them to move back to Centreville, without loss. Four trains of empty cars on the sideling at Manassas are understood to have fallen into the hands of this marauding party.

The Bull Run bridge (represented an hour ago to have been burned also) is safe – we know this positively.

As soon as information of this affair reached here last night, from Fairfax Station, a considerable force was dispatched by rail, under Gen. Sturgis, to punish the daring marauders.

We take it for granted that the rebels destroyed as much of the railroad and telegraph at Manassas as possible, though they could not do more such damage there we apprehend, than can be rectified by our construction corps at hand in perhaps twenty-four hours. The interruption of telegraphic communication of course prevents up to this hour a better knowledge here of the details of this most disgraceful affair.

From all we know of it so far, we feel sure that instead of recrossing the Rappahannock on Saturday, Col. Fitzhugh Lee's force hurried into the mountains back of Warrenton, from whence he had but to dash down twenty or twenty-five miles upon Bristow and Manassas. We take it for granted that we did not remain at Manassas until Sturgis arrived there, but again made off for the fastnesses in his rear. By this time a sufficient force of cavalry has doubtless been sent after him by Gen. Pope. They will hardly catch him, however, if he chooses to go over the ridge at Front Royal, and there disperse his force, to come together again somewhere in the valley.

It is undeniably true that the success of these rebel raids grew out of the gross incompetence and inattention to their duties of our officers in charge of our railroads and other similar guards. It is high time that examples, by shooting, on the sentence of drum head courts martial, had been made of some of those responsible for these occurrences, so well calculated to make our armies justly the derision of the world. The country will no longer stand neglect on the part of our military authorities to force attention on the part of their subordinates to the plainest rules of military duty and discipline – rules which, if longer neglected, will insure our ultimate defeat in this war, we care not how many men we put in the field, nor how much money we spend for war purposes.

The National Intelligencer of yesterday goes on thus:

We are enabled to add to the above a portion of a dispatch received yesterday afternoon at the Commissary General's office at Alexandria. The dispatch relates to supplies and movements of troops, which we are not at liberty to give. It concludes as follows:

Alexandria, August 27. – Capt. Musser's son is here; says his father is either killed or a prisoner, and stores destroyed. I have two trains, but cannot get out, as the road is probably destroyed. They are fighting at Manassas now; a great many troops are going out to regulate matters.

A telegram from Philadelphia gives a different version of this affair, as follows: - Philadelphia, August 28. – The Inquirer, of this city, has accounts of a rebel raid at Bristow and Manassas Stations. They captured the 11th New York Battery, destroyed four empty trains, tore up the railroad track and demolished the telegraph.

The Baltimore American of the same date, had the following:

We learn from gentlemen who arrived here last evening from Loudoun County, that yesterday was a day of great excitement in that vicinity, as well as in the valley. The guerrilla bands were scouring the country, and White's rebel cavalry, supposed to be the same which made the dash on Saturday last, on the Winchester road, and destroyed a train of cars, have appeared at Waterford, a short distance from Loudoun, capturing a company of cavalry stationed there, with all their horses and arms. The men, we learn, were paroled, and the rebels made good their escape with their booty. They were overpowered by superior numbers after a sharp fight, in which a number were wounded on both sides.

There was great excitement among the people throughout Loudoun County on intelligence being received of the raid on the previous night, on Manassas Junction. It was rumored that the cavalry force which operated at Manassas was approaching Leesburg, and that the advance guard of the rebels was already in the county at Morrisonville. The following letter from our correspondent at Berlin confirms the statement.

Messrs. Editors of the Baltimore American:

Berlin, Aug. 27. – Another dash was made by White's cavalry on Capt. Means' company, in the town of Waterford, early this morning, and resulted in killing and capturing the most of the Federal cavalry under Capt. Means. The captain made his escape with some others. The greatest excitement prevails in Loudoun County; people don't know what to do or where to go. There are reports of thousands of Confederate soldiers marching to the Junction (Manassas). As to the truth of the Waterford raid, that has been confirmed; as to the great moving on the Manassas Junction, it comes from such a source that it appears creditable.

X.

13 September 1862 – Charleston South Carolina Mercury
The Battle of Manassas Plains
Groveton Va. near Manassas
Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch
Sunday, August 31

As a favorable opportunity offers to write you, and as many Richmond men were in the great fight yesterday, I will drop you a line stating simply what I saw and what part was taken by the battalion to

which my company is attached. It is composed of four companies – Captain Jordan, of Bedford; Rhett, of South Carolina : Eubank, and W. W. Parker of Virginia.

Hearing that a fight would probably come off yesterday, col. S. D. Lee, of S.C., who commands the battalion, pushed on for Salem on Friday last till 2, a.m. Saturday, when we found ourselves upon the battlefield of the day before. At day break I was aroused by pretty brisk picket firing on our right and left, and, to my surprise, found that we had advanced right in among the pickets, indeed not more than five hundred yards from the enemy. About six we were ordered to fall back and take position on the left of the turnpike, about a half mile from the road upon a commanding position. Here we had a grand view of the plains of Manassas, reaching as far as Centreville.

To the front the land breaks beautifully into hill and dale, forming a sort of amphitheatre. About a mile immediately in front were a few houses called Groveton, I believe; and this point the Yankees occupied with a strong battery – indeed, two of them. On their right and rear long lines of infantry were seen in line of battle, and far in the distance immense clouds of dust filled the heavens. From early morn a brisk little picket firing was kept up on our right; our boys occupying a barn and an orchard. An attempt was made by a few companies (advancing through a corn field) to drive out this troublesome picket. In our own battalion there were sixteen guns; and four others, two from Norfolk and two from Lynchburg. I believe, making twenty, occupied the crest of the hill before mentioned. The rifle guns were ordered to “fire at the men in the corn field.” A few shots stopped their advance, and caused the men to scatter and lie down. Then commenced a cannonading between our batteries and two of the enemy, which was kept up, with intermissions of 15 or 30 minutes, till the great fight took place. About 1, a.m. a regiment advanced rapidly on the enemy’s left, determined this time to drive out our pickets. This effort succeeded, and our brave sharpshooters retired through the orchard in good order. So soon as they got well out of the way we opened upon the enemy, and in ten minutes they skedaddled in fine style, sheltering themselves in the ravines and behind the barn.

At 2 o’clock the forces which had been moving almost the whole day towards our left, began to move in the opposite direction, and we concluded they were retiring towards Manassas, two or three miles distant. Several attempts were now made to advance upon our left like those to drive in our pickets on our right, but a few shells served to scatter the skirmishers and drive them into the woods that skirted this beautiful valley on either hand. When almost every officer was satisfied that the enemy, foiled in his attempt to make us bring on the fight by these little advances on our right and left, was about to retire, and merely kept up the cannonading in order to conceal his retreat, suddenly at 4 p. m., regiment after regiment of infantry were thrown out of the woods upon our left and advanced in very good order for the purpose of driving out our pickets and take our batteries on the left flank. In an instant, Col. Lee, always cool and self-possessed, ordered every howitzers to the left, and then such a blaze of artillery as I never heard. The guns, from the nature of the ground, were very close together, and it was almost impossible to distinguish the discharge of the guns in your own from those in other batteries. It was clear that the next thirty minutes would determine the fate of all our batteries. At the same time the enemy made his infantry advance, he commenced a most furious cannonading. No sound was heard for two hours from this time but the roar of cannon and the bursting of shells. The enemy had a 36 pounder which was used some time during the earlier part of the day, but fortunately he did not get our range. So soon as the dark columns got near enough to our infantry, two small regiments, which had been placed upon our left to support us, poured a deadening fire into them.

For sometime four or five regiments had gotten out of our sight, having advanced under cover of the hill, and I expected to see the men driven out of the woods and see the enemy mount the hill; but still the battle raged. The shells burst above, around, and beneath us. Every man is at his post; no talking, no ducking of heads now all intense, silent earnestness. It was a struggle for life. The face of every man was flushed, his eye full, and his arm stronger than was wont. It seemed that the very heavens were in a blaze, or, like two angry clouds surcharged with electricity and waffled by opposing winds, had met terrific in battle. Presently the Yankee columns begin to break and men to fall out to the rear. The retreating numbers gradually increase, and presently the great mass, without line or form, now move back like a great multitude without guide or leader. From a slow, steady walk, the great mass, or many parts of it, move at a run, and our eyes tell us the victory is won. Then did many a man say deep down in his heart, with flushed face and filling eyes: “Thank God!” One youth ran to me, and said: “I thought God honored that child’s faith! He heareth the young ravens when they cry. Now the scene changes, Our infantry pour down from left and right. And our guns cease lest we should kill our own men. The guns of the enemy, however, blaze the faster, as if a fit of desperation. On our right Longstreet, whose name is a terror to the enemy. The battle

gradually recedes – slowly, but steadily, like a great storm of a summer’s day. Our ammunition was exhausted and we could not follow. Until nightfall the battle raged, especially on the right, and it is said that our loss in that quarter was heavy, that nothing withstood the onset of our men. But I must close, as the courier is about to leave. Major Kemper, of our battalion, was severely wounded in the arm, but not dangerously. He is a brave, unassuming officer. It was not his first fight, as the country knows.

Of the 800 men in our battalion, not more than six were wounded, and none fatally – two in Capt. Rhett’s, one in Capt. Grimes’, two in Capt. Parker’s (Sergeant James Jones in the arm and hip slightly, and private David Richardson slightly in the leg, and one other that I do not know personally.

On Lee’s position was well chosen, and the battle was brought on in the enemy’s attempt to capture his batteries. Our men behaved remarkably well. It is impossible to state our loss. It is, however, much less than that of the enemy. This is certainly true in that part of the field where our battalion operated. I know this from personal inspection. This morning we moved up and occupied the enemy’s ground, and we are permitted to rest and see if something may not be had to eat, as our men have been fasting for over twenty four hours. But for green apples they would have suffered greatly.

13 September 1862 – New Orleans Daily Picayune

Latest from the North

Dispatches to the Black Republican Press

Terrific Battle at Bull Run

Headquarters Field of Battle, Georgetown, near Gainesville Va.

Major General Halleck, General in Chief at Washington

We fought a terrific battle here yesterday with the combined forces of the enemy, which lasted, with continuous firing, from daylight until after dark, by which time the enemy was driven from the field, which we now occupy.

Our troops are too much exhausted to push matters, but I shall do so in the course of the morning, as soon as Fitz John Porter’s corps comes up from Manassas. The enemy is still in our front, but badly used up.

We lost not less than 8,000 men killed and wounded, and from the appearance of the field the enemy has lost at least two to our one. He stood strictly on the defensive, and every assault was made by ourselves. Our troops behaved splendidly.

The battle was fought on the identical battle-field of Bull Run, which greatly increased the enthusiasm of our men.

The news just reaches me from the front that the enemy is retreating toward the mountains. I go forward immediately to see. We have made great captures. I am not yet able to form an idea of their extent.

John Pope

Major General Commanding

13 September 1862 – New Orleans Daily Picayune

The War in Virginia

Richmond, September 5 – A private dispatch from Gordonsville, this afternoon, says that an aid of Gen. Lawton reports Gen. Ewell at Buckland, Prince William County, in an improving condition.

The latest news from the seat of war received here is to the 1st inst. The Yankees were still flying toward Alexandria – our troops pursuing. A Confederate force has occupied Winchester, capturing ninety prisoners and a large amount of stores and ammunition.

Richmond, September 6 – One hundred and sixty prisoners, including sixty-two commissioned officers, arrived this evening from Manassas. Gen Lee, in a letter to the President says we paroled seven thousand prisoners, and captured about the same number of arms, and thirty cannon.

Richmond, September 7 – A letter from Gen. Lee to the President, dated Chantilly, September 7, says that on Monday the enemy attacked the front of our advancing columns with a view of apparently covering the withdrawal of his train on the Centreville road, and making his retreat. Our position was maintained with but slight loss on both sides. Major Gen. Kearney, of the Yankee army, was killed in this affair. On Tuesday, about noon, the enemy evacuated Fairfax Courthouse and proceeded toward Alexandria.

**13 September 1862 – New Orleans Daily Picayune
Latest from Washington and Bull Run
Special to the Memphis Appeal**

Philadelphia, Sept. 3. – The Enquirer makes the following statement: Falls Church has been evacuated by our troops. The wounded who were at the hospitals and Falls Church have arrived at Washington. The railroad bridge at Bull Run has again been destroyed by the rebels. Stonewall Jackson is on his way to Baltimore via Leesburg, with forty thousand men. He intends crossing near Edward's Ferry.

The latest from General Pope's headquarters say that his whole column is falling back and thence to Washington.

Excitement at Washington

Washington, Sept. 2. – The city to-night is in a state of great excitement, and not without cause. Last night there was serious skirmishing along the whole front, during which we lost two of our best generals and other valuable officers – Kearney and Stevens.

It is stated that it was Hooker's brigade which drove the rebels back, but this mile of skirmishing was attended with great loss of life.

At four o'clock this morning a train of one hundred wagons of commissary stores was intercepted by the enemy between Fairfax and Centreville, and driven off towards Manassas before it could be overtaken. When this raid on our rear at Centreville was known, the necessity of guarding that direction caused our whole army to abandon Centreville, and it was marched this side of Fairfax Court-house. This morning it again marched, and by evening the advance was in sight of Munson's Hill. The rebel cavalry followed at a distance but made no attack to-day.

McClellan rode out to meet the army, and was received with great gratification. The works for the defence of Washington are in good order, and manned by experienced artillerist, and gunboats now line the Potomac.

Washington, Sept. 3 – Eleven hundred paroled prisoners, some taken at Manassas, arrived this evening. They report that Gen. Lee has established his headquarters three miles beyond Bull Run, on the Warrenton Turnpike. The only force at Fairfax was Stuart's cavalry. Our men engaged in burying the dead, report that they saw rebels marching to the rear on the Warrenton turnpike toward Thoroughfare Gap.

Washington is quite. The excitement has subsided; the disposition of troops during the last twenty-four hours having restored confidence.

New York, Sept. 3.- The New York Tribune's Washington correspondent says: The latest trustworthy news from the front was brought by a surgeon who left Fairfax Court-house at half-past 9 o'clock on Monday evening, and reported to the military authorities here.

After midnight the enemy was still pursuing, or threatening to pursue, the flanking movements to which Gen. Pope's dispatches of yesterday referred.

Gen. Lee was believed to have moved his troops on the Little River Turnpike, which runs to the north of Centreville, from Gum Springs through Germantown to Fairfax Courthouse.

Ample preparations have been made to meet him, and the probabilities were that there would be a great battle fought to-day (Tuesday) or to-morrow, (Wednesday.) The supposition was strengthened by telegrams from Fairfax Station, dated late in the evening, to the effect that there was heavy firing in the direction of Leesburg, between which place and Fairfax Station lies Fairfax Court-house.

The report brought by other officers, who left the front at an earlier hour than this surgeon, was that the enemy had fallen back with his whole army, for lack of supplies, being satisfied with what he had already done, or at least feeling himself unable to accomplish more.

**14 September 1862 – New Orleans Daily Picayune
From Richmond – Additional Particulars
Battle of Manassas**

Richmond, Sept. 5. – The President has issued a proclamation setting apart Thursday, the 18th inst., as a day of prayer and thanksgiving to Almighty God for His great mercies vouchsafed to our people, and more especially for the triumph of our arms at Richmond and Manassas.

Richmond, Sept 5. – The Examiner of the 4th, says General Ewell is doing well. Pope is wounded in the thigh. Sickles is certainly killed. It is believed we captured eighty pieces of cannon.

The Lynchburg Republican says it is thought our loss in Saturday's battle was 10,000 of which 3,000 were killed.

**18 September 1862 - New Orleans Daily Picayune
From the Richmond Dispatch of September 1
The Dash at Manassas**

The information received from the seat of war since our last issue is so meager in its details that it is exceedingly difficult to arrive at any direct conclusion as to the operation of the contending forces. From the remarkable reticence that is observed, and the astonishing success which attends the efforts of the Government to withhold all intelligence of the movement of our forces, it is inferred that some magnificent plans for the annihilation of the Federal Army are on the eve of execution, and that a few days will demonstrate the wisdom with which these plans have been devised, and the spirit and vigor with which they have been carried out.

It is asserted on what ought to be regarded as reliable authority that our forces, in large numbers, have gained the rear of the enemy, and that on Saturday, and perhaps, yesterday, a bloody struggle was in progress on Bull Run, in the immediate vicinity of the battlefield of the 21st of July, 1861. Coupled with this statement is another, to the effect that other divisions of our army were pressing the enemy from this side, and forcing him on in the direction of our forces that have already been thrown between him and Washington. These statements we believe to be entitled to fuller consideration than should be given to mere street rumors, but we do not claim for them the sanction of unquestionable authority. We give them because we think them not at all improbable.

There are also reports of a heavy battle on Friday, near Bristow Station, for miles south of Manassas, between the division of Gen. Ewell and the forces of the enemy, in which it is said that our forces were twice driven from their position with severe loss, but receiving reinforcements, finally drove the enemy back, capturing several batteries and some five thousand prisoners. Reports conflict as to the precise locality of this engagement, one representing it at Bristoe's Station, and the other near the Plains, on the Manassas Gap Road. If such a fight really took place, we think it more likely the latter location is correct. It is also stated by some that the divisions of Jackson, A. P. Hill and Ewell, were all in the battle, and others that it was fought by Ewell's Division alone.

Another report, which was brought to the city by passengers on Saturday, and again yesterday represents that Gen. Stuart had taken possession of Harper's Ferry and holds possession of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad bridge at that point. No particulars of the capture of this place are furnished, but those familiar with Stuart's dashing exploits are generally ready to believe any report with reference to his daring feats. The latest information from Harper's Ferry placed the Federal forces there at four regiments. This force may have been withdrawn, or it may have been increased. The Federals have for some time boasted that the town was strongly fortified and prepared to resist the attack of a vastly superior force. How much truth there was in these boasts will be shown by a confirmation or contradiction of the report of its capture. If it has fallen into our hands, it has been captured by a cavalry force, unsupported by infantry or artillery.

A member of Congress, who came down on the Central train yesterday afternoon, says that the Baltimore Sun, of Thursday had been received in the Valley, in which it was stated that our forces had captured at Manassas, on Wednesday, five trains of cars loaded with provisions, and later, on the same day, five other trains, on which were some two thousand Yankee troops. This affair was commented upon by the Yankee press as very discreditable to their commander, and some harsh reflection as to his fitness for his position indulged in.

Our own account of this affair reports that a portion of our cavalry has advanced on the Orange and Alexandria railroads to Bull Run Bridge, about five miles beyond Manassas, and having burned the bridge, continued their advance to Dye's Station, where they concealed themselves, and awaited the approach of a number of trains, of which they had previously received information. After the trains passed the concealed position of the cavalry, the track was torn up behind them.

When they reached the bridge, the officers on board finding that something was wrong, determined to return to Alexandria, but before backing far they found the track torn up, and their retreat effectually intercepted. The cavalry then approached in superior numbers and the enemy surrendered without firing a gun. The number of prisoners reported captured agrees with the statement of the Sun, being estimated at 2,000 together with all the officers, regimental and company, and a quantity of arms and ammunition which were being conveyed to Gen. Pope. After this brilliant affair, the cavalry returned to Manassas, without sustaining the loss of a single man.

Some fifteen hundred to two thousand Yankee prisoners were yesterday between Rapidan Station and Gordonsville, and may be expected in this city to-day. It is supposed that these are the prisoners captured at Dye's Station by our cavalry.

26 September 1862 – New Orleans Daily Picayune

The Dead at Bull Run

The Washington special correspondent of the New York Times, writing on the 7th says: Up to last night not less than 1000 of our dead at Bull Run lay unburied – 1000 corpses, black, swollen and decomposed by a week of hot suns and beating showers, were still refused a covering of earth. Worse than this, as revolting, and more painful, the wounded lay days – long days and long nights, some of them a week of long days and long nights – among those putrid corpses, wanting care for their wounds, wanting food, wanting water, calling in faint voices to occasional passers-by, friend or foe, for help, and receiving none. These are facts, disgraceful as they are stubborn. Last night, a new regiment from Pennsylvania marched under flag of truce upon the battle-field for burial duty. Surgeons and a party of nurses from this city have been there since Monday attending to the wounded – an insufficient party of but ten or fifteen men, whose utmost exertions but sufficed to reach and partially relieve the host of the wounded on the seventh day.

Although under flag of truce, our parties were permitted to go and come at pleasure. All this ---ons work, which should have been done in a day, was devolved upon ----- few humane surgeons and nurses. Although our authorities must have known that the dead still remain on the field, an entire week passed before adequate means were taken to hide in the earth the revolting spectacle. Somewhere there has been gross neglect of duty.

The party who were upon the field the entire week gathered and sent to Centreville and on to Alexandria over 1,500 wounded; 925 were sent from the field Friday and Saturday, all of whom had lain where they fell three or four days before succor came. The search for the poor wretches presented the most heartrending scenes. My informant says, as he approached the poor lads, they would look eagerly at him, and in tones of touching importunity say: "Doctor, come to me; you look like a kind man; Doctor, for God's sake, come to me."

He says, in one small clearing, and in the edges of the woods around and along the excavations for an unfinished railroad, where had been some of the heaviest work on Friday, where Schurz, and Kearney, and Stevens fought, lay ridges of mangled bodies where they fell, the blue clad corpses of our dead soldiers, and among them were wounded men, still uncared for, some of them dying. Some of the gentlemen who were on the field tell us that, for some time, they were so overcome by the unpleasant sights and smells that reached their senses, that they could not set themselves about their benevolent labors.

The surgeons had provided themselves with food, lint and bandages before leaving Washington – hence were enabled to do justice to each case when reached, The slightly wounded had been paroled and sent within our lines some days previously. The cases which remained were, consequently, of a most serious nature.

There remain now upon the field, in care of Dr. Coolidge and assistants, 150, who cannot be removed. The losses during the week of battles in killed and wounded will sum up not far from 10,000.

10 October 1862 – New Orleans Daily Picayune

From the Army in Virginia

Mobile, Oct. 2. – A special to the Advertiser and Register, dated Charleston, Sept. 30, says: We have no news from our army, which is believed to be resting near Winchester and receiving daily accessions of recruits, Active movements are intended at an early day. On Friday last a thousand Yankee cavalry visited Manassas Junction, and subsequently proceeded to Warrenton, Where a large number of our sick were in hospitals, and captured and paroled all the sick and wounded. The telegraph office at Warrenton has been recently closed.

22 October 1862 – Mobile Advertiser

News from the Potomac

The Richmond Enquirer of the 17th says

"A citizen informs us that the Potomac opposite to Dumfries, is full of gunboats, watching the Virginia shore and endeavoring to prevent the passage of boats across the river.

“The enemy’s pickets are between Alexandria and Occoquan. Our pickets extend a few miles beyond Dumfries.

The Whig of the same date has the following:

“Persons arriving from the North report that the dash of Gen. Stuart into Pennsylvania has produced a great commotion and tremor in the country of the Abolitionists. This is about the third time Stuart has made a “circle around the enemy,” and hitherto his reconnaissance’s have been followed by something else, not promotive of the health of the John Brown army. Let us be patient.

“From the same source we learn that McClellan contemplates anything else than an advance into Northern Virginia. The Lincoln proclamation has had the effect, upon many of his officers and men, of producing certain twinges about their necks, which bring to mind the sad and lamentable fate of the redoubtable John Brown, whose exploit in that vicinity was once openly condemned by themselves.

“From certain movements elsewhere, we may be justified, any day, in looking for another tremor in the enemy’s country, resulting from an invasion of Yankee land in a direction not at all looked for by the Abolitionists. The horses are saddled, and the troops booted and spurred.”

29 October 1862 – New Orleans Daily Picayune

Washington Artillery

The Killed, Wounded and Missing – Battle of Manassas

Manassas – August 29 and 30, 1862 –

1st Company, Capt Squires was in the fight on the 29th, but lost no men

2nd Company, Capt. Richardson, Killed – Private H. N. White, wounded – Privates A. R. Blakely, Douglas Ward, H. D. Smmmers.

3rd Company, Capt. Miller. – Wounded – Sergt W. A. Collins, Private E. Charpiaux, Driver J. Bloom.

4th Company, Capt. Eshleman, Wounded – Privates J. W. Lecestie and R. S. Burke; Driver D. Nolan.

Killed, 1; Wounded, 9 – Total 10

2 November 1862 – New York Times

From Our Army in Virginia

Petticoats – One Hundred and Twenty Ounces of Quinine Recovered

Centreville, Thursday, October 30, 1862

The quietness that had settled down on Centreville, during the last few days, was rudely disturbed at an early hour yesterday morning, by the arrival of Government Detective Sergeant Lee of Washington, with the information that a carriage, containing a gentleman and two ladies, and a loaded team with a white driver, had departed from the National Capital for Secessia, loaded with articles contraband of war. This, as may well be supposed, of itself, was not of so unusual occurrence as to create any great consternation in the minds of the officials here- so accustomed have they become to seeing all kinds of people – Secessionist, Unionist, non combatants, and go-betweens – come along with passes, not infrequently obtained from sources not to be questioned – were not the information in this case coupled with the suspicion that the passes had been surreptitiously obtained through the agency of some person occupying a confidential position in the War Department at Washington, not in Richmond. Capt. Lawrence, of Gen. Stahl’s Staff, at once took the matter in hand, and set himself to work to ferret out the offenders. The Provost Marshall was consulted, and the pickets in every direction were notified, and Capt. Lawrence, after ascertaining the names of the persons composing the party, their antecedents, present residence, and the probable route they would take to reach their home, mounted a fleet horse, and rode in the direction of Chantilly . Five minutes after the picket on the pike near Chantilly, on the road leading to Fairfax Court House, had received instructions, the identical vehicles, with their occupants, reached the picket, and produced a document, furnished them in Washington, authorizing “Mrs. Turner of near Fauquier County, Va. – her daughter, Miss Buckner, and Mr. Bailey, with the wagons and contents, “to pass the Union lines. The officer in charge of the picket – his instructions then being fresh – did not consider the passes “all right,” whereupon Mrs. Turner produced two papers – as he was told she would do – one signed by “M. Blair,” stating that the bearer was a relative of his, and her party were all right, with an endorsement, requesting the proper officer “to see if he could help Mrs. Turner along, “signed “ A. Lincoln.” But all this array of documents proved to

be of no avail, and Mrs. Turner and party were, with all due politeness, invited, much against their will, to accept of a cavalry guard to the headquarters of Gen. Stahl, at this place. Arriving here, the Commanding General placed the delicate task of a preliminary investigation in the hands of Col. Von Gilsa, and was ably surrounded in his arduous duties by the Assistant Provost-Marshal of Fairfax Court House, Capt. Brown who had been promptly sent hither by Col. Robinson, the Provost Marshall, upon being informed of the arrest by telegraph. Each member of the party arrest declared, in turn, that they could not imagine why they were detained in this manner, and while protesting, were escorted to the General's headquarters, and Capt. Brown at once commenced examining the contents of the two wagons. The search resulted in finding sixty bottles of quinine, containing once ounce each, and a tin "cinnamon" caddy, with the store mark "C. W. Wait & Son, No. 68 South Street, Baltimore," upon it, filled with the same precious drug, and a small quantity of whisky. Thus rewarded, Capt. Brown felt warranted to proceed a little further and search Mrs. Turner & Co. But who was to discharge this delicate but important duty? That was the question that agitated the mind of all for a time. Madame Gilsa was appealed to in vain to do it. – there were no other ladies about who could be trusted. An officer present finally remembered that there was a strong Union woman in one of the regiments and it was agreed that her services should be secured, and that Madam Gilsa should be a witness to the proceedings, so as to prevent the possibility of the woman being tampered with. Miss Buckner was the first subject taken in hand. She is a tall, queenly looking Miss of 18 summers or more, with soft, dark eyes, beaming with intelligence, and a mouth – oh, such a mouth! A fit companion to the eyes and a nose – well, there is no use of describing her further; but she is a woman whom any man, seeing her once, would stop to take another look, perhaps several more, and feel well repaid for the exertion; in a word, she was the most dangerous woman whom I have seen in Centreville, for she captivated all who approached her. Even Provost Marshall Brown, who can face anybody wearing pantaloons, was for once uneasy, and, with all the evidence, of her guilt he had obtained, he in a moment of tenderness, handsomely apologized to the handsome being in crinoline before him, because his orders rendered it necessary for him to put her to some inconvenience, The young lady retired to a chamber to be searched, with a smile and willingness of manner that made all feel as if she was not the leading spirit in the enterprise in which she was engaged. She gracefully swept her enormously extended skirts through the door, and disappeared. A few minutes had only elapsed when the door was reopened, and a large bundle was thrown out upon the floor. No one seems to know at first what it was; finally the word "bishop" was heard; the boldest of the officers present seized it, and between a nice linen covering was found sewed up in bags made of oiled silk, about five pounds of quinine. Whew! What a skirt-extender for a young lady! The lovely Miss reappeared too but what a change a few moments had made in her attire. She was as calm and collected as ever, however. Mrs. Turner's turn came next. Nothing contraband was found upon her, and she was surprised (apparently) to learn that anything of a contraband nature was found about her daughter's person – "for the life of her she could not tell how it got there." Mrs. Turner has outlived two husbands, and bids fair to outlive another, if she gets one soon. Sharp- visage, sharp black eyes, piercing through spectacles, sharp nose and chin, lips thin and compressed, tall and straight in figure, are all points to be seen in one glance at Mrs. Turner. Imagine such a woman talking as demurely as a young child, with no end to a story, interlarded with scriptural quotations, and expressing a hope of going to heaven, occasionally, and the reader can form some idea of Mrs. Turner, who, with her daughter, is just calculated to pull wool over the eyes of the unsophisticated Union people in the capital, and obtain passes for carrying on a contraband trade with the rebels. Bailey, the beardless youth with them, is one of the long white-haired gentry, who apparently knows just enough to obey the orders of his superiors who are with him. After making the discoveries above related, the Provost Marshall, with his charge, under a proper guard, started for Washington, where upon a further examination it is surmised that letters of importance may be found. The quinine found cost in Washington \$3.50 per ounce. Bailey says he took Confederate money to Washington and there turned it into green-backs by paying 50 cents on the dollar – so that he estimates his quinine costs him \$.25 per ounce. He purchased 120 ounces, costing him \$630. Quinine in Secessia is eagerly bought up at \$70 per ounce, and had he succeeded in getting through our lines with it, he would have realized \$8,400, or a net profit (not deducting expenses) of \$7,770. That is a rather strong inducement to speculate. I mentioned the fact, because he alleges that he is not connected with the rebel army, but is simply a speculator upon the necessities of his neighbors. His story is not believed here. Miss Buckner brought the quinine along to oblige a friend, and did not know she was doing anything wrong. Mrs. Turner did not know anything about the contraband articles and cared less. These are the reports of the parties themselves. They are smart enough to pull wool over all the old fogies in Washington and get back to Salem, where they reside, within ten days. It is believed here that they have been engages in the contraband

goods trade for a long time. Gen. Bayard left Union Hill day before yesterday, with cavalry and cannon, on a reconnaissance.

3 November 1862 – New York Times

From the Army of Virginia

Skirmish at Thoroughfare Gap

Another detachment of the same force of cavalry had a skirmish yesterday at Thoroughfare Gap – a place where our soldiers always find the enemy. The affair was of short duration, as the rebels retired to their haunts in the almost impassable hills in the vicinity. If the enemy feel disposed to make a stand at any of the passes along the Blue Ridge, between the points named, there will, doubtless, be stirring news from that quarter before many days; or, in plain terms, they have been challenged to battle, and if they do not run away too fast, they will be compelled to fight.

3 November 1862 – New Orleans Daily Picayune

From a Special Dispatch to the Chicago Times

Washington, October, 15. – The Star states that it has positive information from Catlett's Station up to yesterday afternoon, which satisfies if that there is no rebel force, except the usual picket guard on the Rappahannock, nearer to us on that line than Culpeper Court House, where there may be one or two small regiments; in other words that there is no reason for believing the rumor that Joe Johnson is advancing on Manassas with a considerable force, that yesterday frustrated some persons on the front, and at night frustrated more or less in Washington. If it is Jeff Davis' design to make a demonstration along the line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, it is clear that he has yet made no discernible movement, great or small, in that quarter.

4 November 1862 Washington Daily National Intelligencer

Rebel Capture of a Railroad Train

We extract the following from the correspondence of the New York Times dated at Centreville on the morning of Saturday last:

"I have this moment returned from an expedition to capture the capturers of a train on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and find that my dispatch relative to the capture of a train of cars and ninety prisoners by the rebels was not sent by special order of Gen. Sigel. I will furnish you the general facts. A train, consisting of a locomotive and twelve platform cars, containing (as a guard) thirty two of the Fifty-eight New York Volunteers commanded by Capt. Brown, and sixty mechanics and laborers to repair the road, went to Manassas Junction yesterday. Returning, at 5 o'clock P. M., the rebels interrupted their progress at Union Mills, by removing the rails. The locomotive was upset, the engineer and fireman wounded, and thirty soldiers and a majority of the sixty workmen captured. Gen. Sigel sent out a force last night which captured the destroyed train.

5 November 1862 Washington Daily National Intelligencer

The Campaign in Virginia

Continued Advance of the Union Army

Telegraphic Correspondence of the Star

Manassas Junction, November 4 – 8 A.M. – I have information from Gainesville up to six o'clock this morning, when nothing was known there leading to the belief that the rebels yesterday attempted to dispute the march of Gen. Sigel's command from this point in the direction of Front Royal. Our news from that force is very cheerful, the men being in fine spirits and eager to press on and form a junction with McClellan's army as soon as possible.

Gen. Sickles is established here for the time being, though he too is pushing out his forces, a portion of which must now be holding the railroad miles from here, in the direction of Manassas Junction.

The enemy were said three or four days ago to be rebuilding the bridge over Broad Run, beyond which they have run no cars in this direction since Pope's retreat upon Washington. If they finished that work before Sickles was upon them, a delay of not more than three days in our progress in that direction will be saved us, for our efficient railroad construction corps can rebuild the bridge in that time. We shall know in a few hours whether the advance of Sickles's command found it safe or not.

This point (Manassas Junction) looks already almost as lively as when it was so important a depot for supplies, shortly after Pope's army moved out from here. Three heavily laden trains arrived and depart daily, crowded with supplies, troops &c. &c.

Manassas Junction, November 4th 10 A.M.

More news of interest is momentarily reaching us, since mine sent two hours since. Scouts report that they met a squadron of rebel cavalry seven miles north of Fredericksburg. There is a force of only about seventy or eighty men now at that place.

The rebel force at Catlett's Station and Warrenton Junction had not been changed up to yesterday morning.

Union people just come in report a rebel force of five thousand infantry and two thousand cavalry at the town of Warrenton, with some artillery. Nothing further from Thoroughfare Gap.

Longstreet's and Walker's forces are reported to be already on their march to Culpeper, but this rumor is doubted.

5 November 1862 – New York Times Reports From Manassas Junction

Washington, Wednesday, Nov. 5.

Information from Manassas Junction this morning, says that the portion of Gen. Sickles' command sent forward to look after the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, found it in better condition than was anticipated to a point nearly up to Catlett's Station. The railroad bridge at Broad Run was found partially burned by the rebels, and its supports partly sawed through. It can, however, be easily and quickly repaired. Kettle Run Bridge was found uninjured.

Our troops hold the country in the vicinity of Brentsville, and have driven in the patrolling rebel pickets upon Warrenton Junction. They, however, continue to scout down as low as Catlett's Station, and will doubtless destroy the Cedar Run Bridge, if they have not already done so.

The Manassas Railroad is in pretty good working order clear up to Thoroughfare Gap. Information received last night indicates that the total rebel force at Warrenton Junction is not more than 3,000 infantry, with corresponding numbers of cavalry and artillery.

7 November 1862 – New York Times Latest Reports From Gainesville

Gainesville, Va. Thursday, Nov. 6

Gen. Sigel has so far recovered as to be able to visit Thoroughfare Gap to-day. Cars run on the Manassas Road as far as White Plains beyond the Bull Run range.

The affair of the conflagration at Haymarket is being thoroughly investigated by Provost-Marshal Robinson, of Gen. Sigel's Corps. Several witnesses were examined today, but no conclusion was arrived at. All was quiet along the left wing of the Army of the Potomac to-day.

7 November 1862 – New York Times

Skirmishing with the Rebel Cavalry at Buckland Mills & New Baltimore

The Rebels Forced to Skeddaddle

Gen. Sigel's Movements – The Second of Gen. McClellan's Guns.

Buckland Mills,

Two and a Half Miles Northeast of New Baltimore Va.

Tuesday, Nov. 4, 1862

A portion of Gen. Stahl's command – cavalry and artillery – left Gainesville this morning and halted at this point. The advance was commanded by Col. Wyndham, of the First New Jersey Cavalry. Upon reaching this point, Col. Beardsley, of the Ninth New-York Cavalry, with a force of 500 men, was sent forward near New Baltimore, and a picket was placed in the village itself. At a little past 4 o'clock, just as the commander of the advance and his Staff had disposed of an excellent dinner at a mansion by the roadside, our picket, stationed at New Baltimore, was driven in by a rebel force of 2,000 cavalry and two pieces of artillery. The first fire of the enemy caused every man to be ordered to his saddle, and the column was placed in position to receive an attack. Maj. Knox of the Ninth New York Cavalry, was ordered to the front, with sixty carabineers as skirmishers. Col. Beardsley, ascertained the probable strength of the enemy, and having abundant evidence that they had at least two pieces of artillery, with which they were throwing shells, fell back to the main force at this place, under the command of Col. Wyndam, who then assumed

command of the advance, and disposed of the whole force so as to be ready for any emergency that might arise. The main force, with artillery, was stationed on high ground, bordering the Warrenton Turnpike, east of the village and of Broad Run, and an advance and flankers covering all points were thrown out to the front. While this arrangement was being made, Still occupied the extreme front with his command deployed as skirmishers under the brow of a friendly hill. The rebel cavalry, with fourteen men deep, charged down the pike, and when within short range, M. J. Knox gave the order to fire. The fire was so well directed that the rebel commander – not knowing what force was concealed behind the hill and supposing no doubt.

I had written thus far, when at about 10 o'clock P. M. a picket came dashing in to report that one of our pickets had been attacked on the road toward New Baltimore, by 150 rebel cavalry; that a portion of the pickets had been captured and a general attack was expected. Col. Wyndham dashed out and in less than half an hour set matters at rest again. So I will continue my writing. But it is not very agreeable to be compelled to keep a horse saddled at your side as a means of safety. – that there was a large body of cavalry, and possibly artillery, wheeled his column and took them back again. Maj. Knox having received no orders to fall back, and seeing the enemy retreating, concluded to make a charge upon their rear. He dashed after them until he reached New Baltimore, and it being dark, built fires as if a large force intended to stop there for the night, and then fell back to near this place without having lost a man. When our pickets were first attacked at New Baltimore, it was really quite amusing. The men were just cooking something to eat, and had their little pots of coffee on the fires, roasting pork and a few were indulging the of eating roast turkey. When the order to mount came, all the little “fixens” had to be abandoned; pots and pans were hurriedly stowed away, and the pack animals, lame horses, and stragglers were ordered to the rear, to be out of the way.

Last night, (Monday) Capt. Flint, of the First Vermont Cavalry, with 88 men was sent out to this place on picket duty. During the night, they were attacked by about 150 rebel cavalry. Capt. Flint drove the rebels as far as New Baltimore and then returned to his post again.

Gen. Sigel had not arrived in Gainesville at 6 o'clock this P. M., but was momentarily expected at, that hour. We shall not know until he arrives what the direction of our march will be – probably to Warrenton, 8 miles, first. The rebels are known to have infantry, cavalry and artillery there, but in what quantity we are all in the dark about. We shall probably find out to-morrow.

Gen. Schure took his whole division through The Thorough Gap to Salem, to-day. He had only a little skirmishing.

There seems to be a kind of running fight between McClellan's and the rebel forces. We have heard their guns now for several days, but we have no definite knowledge of what is going on.

A private in the Forty-fifth New York. (Col. Amsberg,) for stealing, was tied to a stake in the camp at Gainesville, this A. M., and the word “thief”, in large letters, pinned to his back and breast.

I slept on a feather bed, and had my clothes off for the first time in thirty days, at Gainesville, last night. It almost made me sick.

I forgot to mention above, that our advance guard to-day, under Maj. Knox, had to force the rebel pickets back from this place as we moved along. There was some firing, but no person was hurt.

8 November 1862 - New York Times

Army Operations in Virginia

Report from the Extreme Front

Gainesville, Va., Friday, Nov. 7 – The Corps of General Reynolds, belonging to General McClellan's command took possession of Warrenton yesterday. The rebels evacuated the place without stopping to fight.

An investigation into the causes of the conflagration at Haymarket, has resulted in convicting two men of Gen. Steinwehr's command. A Court-martial has been ordered, which meets to-day to try the cases.

It is intensely cold to-night. This morning a snow storm commenced, the first of the season.

8 November 1862 – New York Times

A Visit to Thoroughfare Gap – The Troops in Good Spirits

Letter from Gainesville

Gainesville, Tuesday, Nov. 4, 1862 – Gen. Sigel's corps is in its new position, and the General himself is expected to be here this morning. Whether we are to go on immediately or remain here and await

the motions of McClellan I don't know; but the general opinion of all is that we shall move forward to Warrenton to-day or to-morrow.

I went to Thoroughfare Gap yesterday and returned to this place – it being headquarters. Major Knox, of the Ninth New York Cavalry, with about 200 men, drove in the enemy's pickets and drove what few rebels there were through the Gap. There were but few shots fired, no artillery, and "nobody hurt" at least on our side.

Gen. Schurz's Division occupies the Gap, and the Sixty-first Ohio, Lieut-Col. McGroarty, is on the other side near White Plains. The enemy's pickets are at White Plains. Gen. Stahl's Division (Col. McLane's and Col. Gilsa's Brigades,) are in this vicinity. Gen. Sikeles Division is said to be at Manassas Junction. There is one regiment of Sikeles' Brigade at Centreville.

The troops are all in good spirits, and if a chance is afforded they will render a good account of themselves.

As we crossed the Bull Run Battlefield, a man in the Fifth New York Cavalry picked up an old shell and threw it heavily upon the ground, when it exploded, injuring him seriously and probably fatally.

We expect to have the railroad opened to Alexandria to-day, and communication with Washington by telegraph to-day or to-morrow.

I got a secession woman yesterday where the cat had the rooster. I took dinner at her house; she declared that Confederate money was just as good as Uncle Sam's and was quite indignant because I did not think so too. After getting my dinner I handed her a Confederate bill to pay for it, when she peremptorily refused to take it; she wanted United States money. Notwithstanding their professed love for the Confederacy, I have yet to see the first rebel who would take Confederate money in payment for food.

There was heavy firing – cannon – nearly all day yesterday in the direction of Ashby's Gap – Pleasanton's command probably.

8 November 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer
From the Army of the Potomac
The Advance at Warrenton
Correspondence of the Associated Press

Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac
Rectorstown (Va.) November 6th 10 P.M.

As the particulars of the fight yesterday at Barbour's become known, the more brilliant the victory is found to have been. The battle was fought by cavalry alone, and between the best troops either army can produce. The final result shows that the rebels left thirty-six dead on the field. Their wounds must have been numerous. Our loss was five killed and ten wounded.

Pleasanton to-day reports that Jackson occupies Chester Gap with his command. The town of Warrenton was occupied by our troops this afternoon at three o'clock, taking five prisoners belonging to the Third Virginia Cavalry, and two infantry soldiers who stated their regiments had gone up the valley.

Gen Bayard had a slight skirmish to-day on the Waterloo Road, killing one man, wounding two and taking ten prisoners, without any loss on his part.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac
Rectorstown, November 7, 1862

A heavy snow storm set in this morning about 9 o'clock, with every indication of continuing. The weather is cold. There is nothing new about military matters, excepting that the army is in motion. Gen Sumner and Staff arrived last night. Nothing but a construction train has arrived on the Manassas Gap railroad, although one is hourly looked for.

Gainesville Va., November 7, 1862

Gen. Reynolds's corps of Gen. McClellan's command, took possession of Warrenton yesterday. The enemy evacuated the place and there was no fighting.

An investigation into the cause of the conflagration at Haymarket resulted in the conviction of two men of Gen. Steinwehr's command. A court martial meets to-day to try the cases.

The nights are intensely cold. The first snow of the season this morning.

Rectorstown, (Va.) November 7, 1862

At Warrenton, after Gen. Reynolds's command entered it yesterday afternoon it was stated that the enemy now are in force at Culpepper Court House, a considerable portion of their retreating troops having halted there in the previous three or four days. They also add that rebel works are being thrown up there

and on the south side of the Rappahannock, at Rappahannock Station; which is not believed here by the by, as neither of these points are defensible by the rebels under existing circumstances.

**9 November 1862 – Washington Star
From Manassas**

Manassas Junction, Friday, November 7th 1862 – According to reports from the front of this command, the rebels were yesterday sending so heavy reinforcements by rail to Warrenton Junction, that Gen. Patterson probably last night withdrew the force under him from Cedar Run Bridge to the vicinity of Bristow Station, where he will be within easy supporting distance of the balance of Gen. Sickles' command. As I have no idea whatever that the rebels contemplate making anything of a stand east of the Rappahannock River, my belief is that the increase of troops at Warrenton Junction is caused simply by halting there for a few hours the rebel force on the day before yesterday at Warrenton, who are probably now falling back (via Warrenton Junction) by rail.

**10 November 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer
The Advance of Gen. McClellan's Army
Correspondence of the Associated Press**

Headquarters Army of the Potomac
Warrenton, November 9, 1862

Gen. Pleasanton yesterday, in a skirmish with Gen. Stuart near Little Washington, captured three pieces of artillery; also a captain, lieutenant, and five privates. No loss on our side has been reported.

Gen. Bayard yesterday occupied and now holds the railroad bridge across the Rappahannock. The bridge is not injured. The bridge across Broad Run has been destroyed.

There is nothing new up to this writing – five o'clock – from the front at the Rappahannock. – The weather is clear and cold.

Gainesville, (Va.) November 8th – Gen. McClellan moved his headquarters again this morning – this time as far as Warrenton. This is regarded as proof that he is pushing the pursuit down along the east base of the Blue Ridge, rather than by crossing his army over into the valley, as some thought he would likely to do.

I entertain no doubt that he will find the rebels making a stand on the south bank of the Rapid-Ann, to save, if possible, their important railroad at Gordonsville, the loss of which will be a calamity that must lead to the fall of Richmond, if the authorities at the same time push the campaign vigorously on the south side of James River.

**18 November 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer
From the New York Commercial Advertiser
Depredations of General Sigel's Troops
The Burning of Haymarket**

The New York Commercial Advertiser of Saturday contains two letters from the Army Corps of Gen. Sigel which should attract attention for the exposures they make of the disgraceful conduct of a portion of the troops of that command, and which it appears some of the more prominent officers have vainly endeavored to correct. The Commercial says of these statements that they come "from one who has the best opportunities for observation in Gen. Sigel's corps." Surely there is need that the Government should devise some plan to protect its own interest, so periled by the misconduct of those who have rallied to the flag.

One of the letters is dated at New Baltimore (Va.) on the 7th instant, and the other at Gainesville (Va.) on the 10th. We extract the following passages.

War Described and in Reality

I remember an article on the subject of war, written many years ago by the Rev. Dr. Channing, which made a deep impression on the public mind. His description of its horrors, vivid and graphic beyond his usual power, fails as far to be the reality, as it is witnessed by every considerate person in the Eleventh (Sigel's) Corps of the Army of the Potomac, as does an account of a banquet to the dinner table itself. It is not of the battle field, or of the horror and wretchedness which follows it, that I write, but of the desolation and misery and poverty and woe that fall upon the inhabitants of every town and village and hamlet and homestead wherever this army moves. From the Potomac to Fairfax Court House, whether you follow the Alexandria or the Long Bridge road, a distance in either case of about eighteen miles, there is

not a single cultivated farm or a solitary inhabited home – not one rood of fence, not a barn yard or garden, or rick of straw – not a single evidence, not of thrift but of life, over what was once one of the fairest and richest portions of the Old Dominion. This certainly is not the work of Sigel's army corps – fifty army corps, during sixteen months, have traversed the ground – but what follows is.

A Country in Ruins

Between Fairfax Court House and Thoroughfare Gap, or rather between Centreville and the last named place, there is a tract of country where up to a few days ago armies had not encamped. Everything exhibited signs of thrift, well fenced and stocked farms, comfortable houses, barns, factories, ricks of grain in the fields, and one pleasant little village, Haymarket, containing some twenty houses, on the road. A fortnight ago not a soldier was to be found along the six miles of road, and the same is probably true to-day. And yet the little village lies in ashes, not a building being left standing, and the inhabitants are wanderers without a home; more than thirty farm houses and as many barn, one factory, thousands of rods of fences, and innumerable hay and grain ricks, with all the cows and other cattle, pigs, poultry, and sheep, have been destroyed; dwellings have been rifled and the inhabitants, generally women, subjected to every species of outrage; horses taken wherever found; and the whole country, for all purposes of affording sustenance to man or beast for the next ten years to come, is a desert as hopeless as Sahara.

Essentially Foreign Organizations

I do not mean to say that a large army can pass through any country and leave it as it was found. But I do mean to say, in the very words of an order issued by Gen. Carl Schurz to prevent in some measure the utter ruin which followed the Eleventh Corps, fed, clothed, and cared for by the Government every day ten times better than the people near whom it passes, that it is a “band of marauders.” Gen. Sigel and his two division Generals, Schutrz and Steinweir, set themselves earnestly and resolutely against all this, but with ten thousand foreigners in the command, large numbers of whom cannot speak English and know and care nothing about the merits of the war or the character of our people, officered almost entirely by their own countrymen, who look for promotion from German influences and interests, and holding themselves aloof from all the American regiments interspersed in the corps, it is impossible in any considerable degree to forestall or change this terrible condition of things. There is no doubt that the delay in furnishing Gen. Sigel with the troops raised especially to act under his command, which caused so much dissatisfaction a few weeks ago, was in a great measure occasioned by the fear at Washington of this very state of things. And wisely, It was tried under Blenker; it may be tried under any number of Generals, good or bad, and the results will be the same.

How Unionist Are Treated

We often wonder what has become of the Union feeling in the South, but any man who expects to find it after what is daily taking place in the army corps knows little of human nature. Even the more distant neighborhoods, too far for the soldiers to straggle, there are annoyances and troubles put upon the most respectable inhabitants to which the gentry of Austrian Italy were never subjected. A brigadier-general who hopes the Senate will confirm his nomination next winter, or an aspiring colonel with a leisure day on hand, mounts his horse, and, in company with a few friends to compose his staff, rides into the country. He makes a call at every good looking house; enters without knock or ceremony; walks into the parlor; asks for, if he does not find sitting there, the ladies; inquires whether they have cider or spirits, and expresses a wish for one or the other; invites all his staff to sit and converse with them mainly and in German; walks out and looks into the stables and outhouses; comes back to the house and lights his cigar, and, without a word of thanks or parting expression of civility, goes out, mounts his horse, and rides away with all the satisfaction of a man who has done a brave deed. Do you wonder they call us “HESIANS?” I myself have seen a colonel commanding a brigade (have seen it within the last week) go repeatedly to a female boarding school, with no assignable reason and without invitation, may, against the wishes of the ladies – and there were none but ladies – expressed with an intensity of scorn in looks which would have tinged the cheek of any gentleman, and re-enact what I have described above. His staff of young officers were always with him, and thought they could not appreciate it, I could never for a moment forget that they were foreigners and that the dignified matron and the trembling girls before them were my country women.

The Wanton Burning of Haymarket

The court martial, now sitting, brings out the facts of the atrocious conduct of the staff and other officers in the burning of Haymarket un such a manner that “to mit Sigel” a town will hereafter be a word of terror to all. The work was done under the direction of a lieutenant and a count, both connected with the staff. They claim to have had authority, which, however, does not appear. The former, with an orderly and some soldiers, went into a shed and split and prepared the kindling for burning the houses. All protestations

on the part of the women and children, for such only, with a few old men, were left in the village, were unheeded. The fires were set in various places amid terror and shrieks. One poor woman, whose child was very ill, begged that the house might be spared. Her plea, if unintelligible in words – for German was the only language in which the soldiers spoke – must have been understood in actions, for she held the poor sufferer up before them; but it was in vain, and the next morning the body of the dead baby laid by the side of the smoking ruins of the house. One old man, who pleaded earnestly that one house at least might be left to shelter the houseless inhabitants from the cold, was struck three times by Count ___ with his sword and badly wounded. He has, however, been able to attend and give his testimony before the court. I understand that every house, barn, shed and every description of building was utterly destroyed, and that during the pitiless weather of the last four days the poor inhabitants have been endeavoring to keep themselves warm under the shelter-huts made from the boughs of trees.

How Other Corps Act

What a contrast does all this present to any other army corps in the field! Fitz John Porter's corps, containing at least ten thousand more men than this, have marched from the Upper Potomac, through the whole valley, down to Warrenton, during the last week. Not a private house was intruded upon by the officers; headquarters were in tents; soldiers were in no instances permitted to depredate upon inhabitants; and what of Union feeling there was – and it is far more extensive than I had supposed all over Virginia – was not choked out of life by the bitterness of private wrongs.

I say again that to Gen. Sigel these lawless marauding are as hateful as to any native born General in the army, but he alone has command of a corps composed in its rank and file, its line, field, and staff officers, its commissariat and camp and garrison equipage departments, almost wholly of foreigners, and they neither to the “manor born,” nor to the language even imitated. To them an order issued in English falls meaningless. To them, most naturally, American sympathies are wholly foreign. They class with each other, disregard all association with those who cannot speak German; they converse only in their vernacular and are addressed by their commanding officers only in the same; they refuse to attend the religious services that are not alone conducted in German; they regard native Americans, holding office in the corps as entirely out of their sphere; and they war, as a general thing, with some most honorable exceptions, for power, plunder and pay.

I have been told that to write thus is to give aid and comfort to the enemy. I do not believe it. I am told also that it is against military rule for a subordinate officer thus to write, and that I shall bring upon myself all the indignation of the highest officers in the corps and subject myself to arrest and trial. Neither do I believe this. The chiefs in this corps do not fear the truth. And if they did, and if the truth, affecting my country's honor and liberty, by being spoken out manfully, condemned me to suffering, I should twice deserve it if I shrank from speaking it still.

Order from Gen. Schurz

The following is a portion of the eloquent order of Gen. Schurz alluded to above:

Headquarters Third Division

Thoroughfare Gap, November 4, 1862

Col. Krzyzanowski, Col. Com. Second Brigade

“I am informed that depredations have been committed on several farms in the neighborhood, and that notionally privates but commissioned officers entered houses and farm yards and appropriated to themselves various articles without paying for them. This must be stopped immediately. Soldiers found outside the camp without passes will be arrested and punished. Commanders of brigades and regiments will see to it that commissioned officers who set a bad example to their men, in the way above indicated, are placed under arrest immediately and that charges are preferred against them. I appeal to commanders of brigades and regiments to do everything in their power to stop these lawless robberies, and to save us from the disgrace of being called a band of marauders.

“By order of Brigadier General Schurz”

20 November 1862 – New York Times

Letter from Gainesville

Gen. Sigel's Headquarters

Gainesville, Saturday, Nov. 15, 1862

At the date of this letter it will be seen that Gen. Sigel's headquarters are still at this place, and not further south, as many loyal people north of this hope and believe. No person connected with the Eleventh

Army Corps is responsible for this; that burden rests entirely upon persons remote from the command, and who doubtless have reasons of their own – whether sufficient or not – for it. Indeed, it was expected by all here that we should have continued in the advance and enter Warrenton – a place which for weeks before its final reoccupation was at the mercy of the commanding officer had he been permitted to act; but the powers at Washington, for some good purpose, it is best to assume, decree it otherwise, and while the advance of this corps was within sight of Warrenton – where it had been for several days – another was directed to take the position. By some the movement was looked upon as peculiarly strategic, while others, admitting it to be strategy, at the same time believe that the strategy displayed has the ear-marks of diplomacy. Be this as it may, I do not propose to unravel the red tape and let the facts within drop out of their enclosure at this time, but record it as one of the mysterious events of the war. While brooding over this, a gleam of hope shines upon us from Washington. Madame Rumor says the Eleventh Army Corps will advance in some direction at an early day: the direction will depend doubtless upon a variety of circumstances – chiefly pertaining to the movements of Jackson. It is quite certain that the rebels have a very respectable force in the Shenandoah Valley, ready to pounce upon our rear or upon the capital should the army too soon move in a southerly direction. With the Union army south of the Rappahannock, a raid by Jackson's force in its rear would be no trifling matter, and it is against such a movement, it is believed, that the special attention of the military authorities is directed at this time. In a few days the whole face of affairs may be, and probably will be, changed, by the falling back of the rebel force to which reference is made; but until this change occurs no Southward movement in force can take place. Gen. Burnside is carefully maturing a plan for continuing the campaign, and he will not move until everything is in readiness to strike a telling and effectual blow at the rebellion.

As this corps is composed of fighting men – soldiers who are serving a country and not an individual – it is not the least demoralized by the recent change made in commanders, and is, therefore, as ready as ever to discharge any duty that it may be called upon to perform with alacrity. None of its officers have resigned, and none have threatened, so far as I know, to commit so suicidal an act. It would give the loyal people of the country a new hope of the success of the cause in which they are engaged, could they realize how little interest the army takes in mere political questions. The great body of the army is truly loyal, because they feel that they are fighting for a holy cause, and it matters not with them whether traitors or loyal men are elected by party to place and power, so long as the head of the nation is unquestionably loyal and equal to the important trust, confided to him.

Of news there is but little here at present. Last night a man was brought in by our scouts from the vicinity of Leesburg, on suspicion of being a spy. He has been engaged for some time past in inducing Union soldiers to desert, but he at last met with one who, while apparently yielding to his persuasion, laid a plan for his capture. The spy has been sent before Gen. Burnside.

Some little excitement existed along the line of the railroad yesterday, caused by a sudden suspension of telegraph communication between Bull Run and Alexandria. After a lapse of three hours the line was in working order again, through the efficiency of Maj. Eckerts, A. D. C. and Telegraph Superintendent. The wire had been cut at a point about five miles north of Bull Run Creek, by some venturesome servant of the rebellion – probably a bushwhacker.

Mr. Hunton, a large planter residing near New Baltimore, was arrested a few days since and taken to Washington. It is alleged that he was entirely too active a rebel to be trusted within our lines.

20 November 1862 –Washington Daily National Intelligencer The Advance from Warrenton

The evacuation of Warrenton and adjacent points by the army of the Potomac was first commenced on Saturday morning, and by Tuesday morning was entirely completed, the Grand Army being on its route to Fredericksburg.

The advance consists of Gen. Sumner's corps, and on Tuesday morning Gen. Hooker's and Porter's (now Butterfield's) corps left Warrenton Junction and joined the main body of the army, already advancing.

On Monday evening a number of trains of cars, containing large quantities of Government stores, not immediately needed by the army, left Warrenton Junction and after collecting other matters along the line, arrived safely at Alexandria. Trains, however, were running out as far as Manassas on Tuesday for the purpose of collecting stores at that and intermediate points.

Thus it will be seen that the movement of our army is a general one, and that all military operations are to be removed to that section of Virginia previously alluded to. General Burnside's headquarters have been removed from Catlett's Station.

On Monday evening, while sitting in the cars, near Warrenton Junction, a report was circulated in the neighborhood that the rebel cavalry had entered Warrenton, and were about to make a dash upon the Junction. So far as the latter reported intention was concerned the troop did not make its appearance, although no doubt the rebels are now in possession of the town.

There are no rebel forces in the vicinity of Aquia Creek. The railroad at that point, connecting with Fredericksburg, some fifteen miles distant, is sadly in need of repairs before military stores can be transported over it. Within some seventy-two hours, however, there is no doubt but a corps of engineers will place the road in good repair.

As yet none of the bridges along the line of railroad between Manassas Junction and Warrenton Junction have been destroyed, although there is little doubt but such a course will be pursued some time during to-day or tomorrow – Corr. Philadelphia Inquirer.

21 November 1862 – The Fredericksburg Virginia Herald The Wanton Burning of Haymarket From the New York Commercial

Gainesville, November 10 – The court martial, now sitting, brings out the facts of the atrocious conduct of the staff and other officers in the burning of Haymarket in such a manner, that to “mit Sigel” a town, will hereafter be a word of terror to all. The work was done under the direction of a Lieutenant and a Count, both connected with the staff. They claim to have had authority, which; however, does not appear. The former, with an orderly and some soldiers, went into a shed and split and prepared the kindling for burning the houses. All protestations on the part of the women and children, for such only with a few old men, were left in the village, were unheeded. The fires were set in various places amid terror and shrieks. One poor woman, whose child was very ill, begged that the house might be spared.

Her pleas, if unintelligible in words – for German was the only language in which the soldiers spoke – must have been understood in actions, for she held the poor sufferer up before them, but it was in vain and the next morning the body of the dead baby laid by the side of the smoking ruins of the house. One old man, who pleaded earnestly that one house at least might be left to shelter the houseless inhabitants from the cold, was struck three times by Count ___ with his sword and badly wounded, He has, however been able to attend and give his testimony before the court. I understand that every house, barn, shed and every description of building was entirely destroyed; and that during the ___ weather of the last four days the poor inhabitants have been endeavoring to keep themselves warm under the shelter huts made from the boughs of trees.

22 November 1862 – The Fredericksburg Virginia Herald Affairs in the Army of the Potomac

A dispatch from Manassas Junction, dated the 14th, says Gen. Burnside was engaged actively for three days before in getting supplies to the front and preparing for a forward move. The New York Tribune has the following dispatch from the Army of the Potomac:

Two resignations in consequence of a change of commanders, have been reported to Gen. Doubleday from his division. They were endorsed with the recommendation that the applicants be dishonorably dismissed from service.

A young officer in one of the Rhode Island batteries while at Fitz John Porter's headquarters yesterday, remarked. “After this we may as well give up and acknowledge the independence of the Rebels.” Half an hour later he was surprised by a summon to Burnside's headquarters. He admitted he made the remark, but stated that he did so under excitement, and said more than he meant. “You now have an opportunity to retract it.” Said Burnside; “but if I were not personally acquainted with your antecedents and your loyalty, you would have been instantly dismissed. – neither you nor any other officer, high or low, can utter such sentiments and remain in this army.” The offender made a full retraction and apology.

18 November 1862 – Washington Daily National Intelligencer
The Army of the Potomac
Headquarters Army of the Potomac
Tuesday, December 9, 1862

The weather is mild and the snow has melted considerably

An officer who came through from Alexandria with a strong escort was told at Dumfries that sixteen sutlers, with their wagons, were captured by White's rebel cavalry last week, and the owners made to drive their own teams to some rebel station in the interior. White was represented as having a large regiment of cavalry. It has for several days been considered unsafe to pass beyond Dumfries without a strong escort.

A special court martial met to-day to try John W. Irvine on the charge of being a spy, he having been captured within our lines. The accused was a private in the Ninth Virginia Cavalry and was captured near his father's house, in the vicinity of Hartwood Court-house. It is understood that the court have agreed upon a finding, the result of which is not known.

The following order has just been published: "No person will be allowed to cross the lines in the direction of the enemy without a pass from these headquarters. Lewis Richmond, A. A. G.

29 November 1862 – New York Times
From The Eleventh Army Corps
Reports of Scouts as to the Whereabouts of Jackson, Stuart, and Black Horse Cavalry
A Skirmish near Buckland Mills

Headquarters Eleventh Army Corps
Fairfax Court-House, Wednesday, Nov. 26, 1862

Again we hear, via Washington and Alexandria, that Gen. Sigel has been compelled to fall back from this position: that there has been a fight, and, among others, the Commanding General has fallen a victim to a shot fired by a rebel sharpshooter. This report, we are assured, was current in the above named places to-day, and created no little excitement. The telegraph office was finally visited, and there it was ascertained, as this letter indicates, that there was no foundation whatever for the rumor. Like the many other bogus reports circulated at the National Capital, to affect the disposition of troops, it was doubtless hatched in the brain of some ardent Secessionist, who still, perhaps, is drawing a monthly stipend for illy performed services at some comfortable desk at the disposal of Government officials. But the wish was unquestionably father to the thought, for not only is the Eleventh Army Corps in statu que, as it has been since falling back from Gainesville, in obedience to orders issued from headquarters, but present appearance indicate that the status of the corps is not to be changed very soon, by force or otherwise. We have a report to-night, it is true, received from sources deemed reliable, that the rebels have again made their appearance along our whole line of front, but in what force it is impossible to state at this time. Of this more will be known to-morrow.

The Whereabouts of Jackson and Stuart

The information above referred to came from Gen. Sigel's scouts. They report that Jackson has taken up his headquarters at Upperville, a little village between Middleburgh and Paris, on the road leading to Ashby's Gap, and between forty and fifty miles from this place. The number of men with him or within supporting distance, is not now known, but the bulk of his force is doubtless near Ashby's Gap. The return of Jackson to this vicinity is no evidence whatever that the rebels intend to attack this position, or to make an attempt upon Washington, but rather that they have not yet got over their bewilderment at the retrograde movement of this corps, and did not dare to leave entirely exposed the rear of the rebel army in its progress toward Richmond. There are other objects which may have had something to do with the reappearance of Jackson. It is reported that he has not removed from the Shenandoah and Bull Run Valleys quite all the forage and provisions to be found there and that he is now very busily engaged in removing everything desirable for the sustenance of an army from these valleys toward Richmond. This fact of itself, together with the one that it is the rebel policy to divide our army as much as possible – and in no other way could they accomplish this purpose better than by making a bold show of pickets where they are now – would be sufficient to account for the reappearance of Jackson. If he can just induce the authorities at Washington to keep fifty or seventy-five thousand men guarding Washington, and if Longstreet can amuse Burnside's troops at Fredericksburg until such time as the rebels are better prepared for their reception further South, it will doubtless be called good strategy, even in military circles at Washington. But as to any real fighting in

front of Washington – do not anticipate any such event. There will be some skirmishing between reconnoitering parties and pickets – nothing more.

The Whereabouts of Stuart

From the same source we have information to the effect that Gen. Stuart yesterday took up his headquarters at Salem – the little village or hamlet bearing that name, three or four miles west of Thoroughfare Gap. No more is known about his force than there is of Jackson's. As for that matter, Jackson's and Stuart's name adopted by any two persons, with numerous pickets, a reconnoitering party of one hundred picked men, and a reserve force of one man, would be all-sufficient to keep the Aunt Polly's and all the guidance at the Capital under a constant excitement for an indefinite period of time. The Generals named, with the bulk of the troops at their disposal, might as well and probably will be – if they are not now – nearer Richmond – in a position to aid Lee in repelling Gen. Burnside. Could the Press or any other institution adopt some means to arouse the authorities at Washington to a consciousness that our troops are expected to do some other duty than simply to protect the Capital by waiting to be attacked, this would not be so. The commanding officer of this corps, I am told, has asked in vain for permission to assure the offensive, and as a consequence of this refusal, the rebels are still in our front, and there is no certain way of ascertaining in what force, unless the present policy is changed.

The Black Horse Cavalry

This is another bugbear corps – composed, the major part of it, of gentleman – that is, men who own a nigger and a dark colored horse, and the sons of the gentlemen aforesaid; men who take up arms and lay them down at will; who play the rebel, neutral or on-the-fence dodge – the meanest to be found, not even excepting White's guerrillas. One company of this cavalry is in Warrenton and another at Waterloo Bridge, on the Rappahannock; and as they brought no rations with them, the men are "boarding round." Eating each family, in turn, out of house and home. The force cannot stay their long, because when the Union troops left, there was not more than a week's supply of provisions for the cat-get-a-way, in this place. Poor Warrenton! Thy people are very kind-hearted, and, like Yankees, have an itching palm for Uncle Sam's currency; but they have been also very foolish about secession. Times have changed and the people begin to think that practical secession is something more than they bargained for. Warrenton is an excellent place of quarter rebels, for the fare to be had will put say man upon the sick lists within a week.

White's Guerrillas

And still we have another set of rebels at Aldie, known in this vicinage as White's guerrillas. They don't amount to much in the fighting line, and can do but little harm where they are. The above fact came from very reliable sources, and – may be true.

A Skirmish – The Result

Capt. Konig – better known to the readers of the Times as Lieut. Konig – went on a scout yesterday with nine men. He visited various places, and wanted to visit others, but met with obstructions. He attempted to call upon some old acquaintances at Buckland Mills or Burklandville, but when within a mile of the village, and near Broad Run, a party of thirty rebel cavalry interposed their objection to his further progress. This interference as might well have been expected, brought on a fight at once, for Capt. Konig is a fighting man. The affair resulted in the Captain retiring with the honors of war, having killed of the rebel force one Lieutenant and one private, and captured three privates. Our loss was one man wounded and taken prisoner. Nothing short of one hundred rebels can be induced to interrupt Capt. Konig and nine men when he is traveling to Capt. Konig and nine men, when he is traveling is quietly along the road again.

3 October 1863 – New York Times **Army of the Potomac** **The Bushwhackers at Work**

The bushwhackers are beginning to be quite active again along the line of the railroad, particularly between Manassas Junction and Alexandria. They have made several demonstrations of late along the line of road, but thus far have not succeeded in doing much damage. On Sunday they set a bridge on fire near Fairfax Station, but were driven off before they had time to complete their work. Only one train was delayed by the occurrence.

15 October 1863 – New York Times

Battle Imminent in Virginia

Meade's Army on Manassas Plains and Lee Across the Rappahannock

Our Army Stripping for the Fight

The Cavalry Operations of Saturday and Monday

Washington, Wednesday, October 14. – The surplus baggage of the Army of the Potomac has been removed to the rear, and that army is stripping for a fight. Meade's position yesterday morning was on the north bank of the Rappahannock, his right flank resting on the eastern slope of the Bull Run mountain. Since then, however, he has fallen back to the neighborhood of Manassas plains. Lee's whole force has crossed the Rappahannock, and were yesterday pressing our rear. A battle this morning was considered imminent. Our trains last night were all in Centreville.

Eleven A. M. – Rumors are rife that a general engagement began at daylight this morning on the old Bull Run battle-ground.

The command of the Army of the Potomac, of course, is fatal. Gen. Meade in his turn has been compelled to give place to some other men. His removal from command seems to have been determined on. His successor is said to be Maj. Gen. Dan. E. Sickles.

16 October 1863 – New York Times

Fighting near Catlett and Bristow Station – Desperate Fighting on Both Sides

The Enemy Repulsed with Heavy Loss

A Train Supply Attacked by Guerrillas

Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Oct. 15

The Major-General Commanding announces to the army that the rear guard, consisting of the Second corps, was attacked yesterday, while marching by the flank. The enemy, after a spirited contest, was repulsed, losing a battery of five guns, two colors and 450 prisoners. The skill and promptitude of Major Gen. Warren, and the gallantry and bearing of the officers and soldiers of the Second corps, are entitled to high commendation.

By command of Maj.-Gen. Meade
(signed) S. Williams

The following is a special dispatch to the New York Times – Washington, Thursday, October 15. Mr. E. A. Paul sends the following to this bureau.

Army of the Potomac, Wednesday, October 14.

The enemy made two desperate and unsuccessful attempts to-day to whip this army in detail, and destroy our train, but in both most signally failed.

Just at daybreak, between Catlett's Station and Warrenton, near a place called Auburn, Stuart and A. P. Hill made a simultaneous attack upon Gregg's cavalry and the Second Army corps.

Almost the first intimation given of their presence was the opening of the batteries upon the Second corps. Our troops were speedily in position, and the enemy were repulsed with considerable loss.

Late in the afternoon Hill made another dash to cut off the Second corps. He first attacked the rear of the Fifth corps, killing three of the Pennsylvania Reserves, and wounding fifteen or twenty more.

When the head of the Second corps had reached Kettle Run, near Bristow Station, Hill made a terrible onslaught on both corps. The Second corps was on the east side of the railroad track and used the road embankment at several points for breastworks with decided advantage. The enemy charged at one time up the embankment when a portion of the Second corps charged in turn, capturing some seven or eight hundred prisoners and one battery of artillery, mostly of Heath's division.

Several other charges were made, and each time the enemy were forced back with great slaughter, leaving their killed and wounded in our hands. A rapid artillery fire was kept up on both sides until long after dark, when the enemy gave up and retired. I have not been able to obtain a full list of our killed and wounded, but it is not large.

In battery B, Rhode Island artillery, the following casualties occurred: Chester Hunt killed; Martin V. B. Eaton, leg off; John Kelly, slight; Lieut. Penin, slight; and Edward Howard, slight.

Captain Ball, of the Third Minnesota, was wounded in three places and under the most aggravating circumstances.

When the enemy charged up the railroad, finding themselves in a dangerous place, they waved their hands in token of surrender. At this instant Capt. Ball sprang to the top of the embankment, and a volley was fired at him, three shots taking effect.

The Minnesotans returned the fire, and many a rebel suffered death in retaliation for this act of treachery.

There was some artillery practice this morning near Rappahannock Station, but without much damage to either side.

The First Maine cavalry, Col. Smith, which was cut off on Monday night, near Jefferson, across the Rappahannock, reached Bristow Station Tuesday night. The regiment escaped with the loss of a squad of men sent to communicate with Gen. Gregg, about twenty in all. Our army behaved handsomely.

Following is an additional list of casualties: Killed – Col. James E. Mallon 42nd New York, Tammany regiment, commanding Third brigade, Second division Second corps. Wounded – Capt. S. N. Smith, 7th Michigan Infantry, Inspector-General of Gen. Webb's staff.

16 October 1863 – New York Times

Dispatches to the Associated Press

Washington, Thursday, October 15 – 1 P.M.

The Extra Star says the firing yesterday in front, was that of a considerable engagement between a large force of rebels and a portion of the army of the Potomac: a part of Gen. Warren's Second corps, which was in the vicinity of Bristow Station, infantry and cavalry, being engaged on both sides.

The result was a decided Union victory; the rebels being badly beaten with the loss of an entire battery and one hundred prisoners, who fell into our hands.

Before the termination of the engagement the Sixth, Maj-Gen, Styles' corps, came up and assisted in driving the enemy off the field.

Washington, Thursday, Oct. 15 – P.M.

The falling back of our forces from Rappahannock Station to Bristow and Catlett's is represented as a magnificent spectacle. They marched by four parallel lines. There were no delays nor confusion. Every movement was conducted with remarkable regularity.

In the recent conflict between Pleasonton and Stuart's forces, while the latter was endeavoring to effect a flank movement on the former's left, the colors of both these Generals at one time were not over fifty yards distant from each other, and while there were charges of cavalry on the left and front, hand to hand encounters followed.

Our cavalry were in splendid condition, and exhibited the greatest bravery and gallantry. Their officers say they never showed a better spirit, and in the succession of charges and rallying, obeyed orders with a coolness, regularity and rapidity unequalled in the war. The country being open, the spectacle is described as interesting and grand beyond description.

A few particulars of the engagement yesterday in the neighborhood of Catlett's and Bristow Stations have been received. It appears the rebels early in the morning furiously attacked the Second army corps, commanded by Gen. Warren, and the cavalry division of Gen. Gregg. The Second corps being one of the oldest, and highly efficient, succeeded in stopping the rebel advance, compelling the enemy to fall back with heavy loss, our own troops also suffering largely. The Federal cavalry in like manner fought with great desperation, leaving many killed and wounded on the field.

A considerable number of prisoners fell into our hands, and a battery of six fine guns. Gen. Sykes, with the Sixth army corps, ably supported the Second in their arduous task of defending the rear. At 6 o'clock in the evening, Gen. Lee made a desperate attempt to flank Gen. Meade by the way of Chantilly, and endeavoring to get into his rear by the way of Fairfax Court-house. In this he was unsuccessful, as Gen. Meade anticipated the rebels by falling rapidly back to the coveted spot, thus effectually checking a movement which would have endangered both the Army of the Potomac and the Capital.

During last night Gen. Meade ordered one of his supply trains further back in his rear, when it was attacked by a small force of rebels, probably mounted guerrillas. The teamsters, resolved not to lose the property, rallied to defend it, and succeeded in driving away the enemy, who escaped with only two of the very large number of wagons.

It is not believed there has been any fighting of important to-day. Artillery firing was heard early this morning, but it was not of long continuance.

Maj.-Gen. Daniel E. Sickles, with his staff, left here for the front at 2 o'clock this afternoon. In case of a general engagement he will take command of his own corps.

The guns captured, four of which are United States regulation, three-inch, and one Blakeley gun, were exhibited here to day. The prisoners were mostly North Carolinians, about fifty of whom have expressed a desire to take the oath of allegiance.

Our casualties yesterday were small. A considerable number of rebel dead and wounded fell into our hands, the latter not being included in the foregoing aggregate of prisoners.

The march from our late to the present position was accomplished in the most perfect order, and without the loss of wagons or other property. The enemy were in check at every point where they attempted a surprise or attack. The force which attacked Gen. Warren were portions of Gen. Hill's corps.

Some of the prisoners state that they had marched from Hanover Junction, near Richmond, since Saturday last.

17 October 1863 – National Intelligencer

From the Army of the Potomac

The Fight of Wednesday

Report from the front state that there was skirmishing all along the line of our army on Thursday, and some firing also upon the old Bull Run battle-field, but no engagement of consequence. Yesterday it is stated that there was no fighting at all, the enemy not having shown himself in front of our lines. We copy, with some condensation, from the correspondence of the New York Herald, the following details of the principal battle of Wednesday last:

Headquarters Army of the Potomac
In the Field, October 15, 1863

Time is wanting to detail the retrograde movement of Gen. Meade's army from the line of the Rapid-Ann to its present position. Suffice it to say that on Saturday night last the entire army left the vicinity of Culpeper on its homeward march. We marched along the line of the railroad from that time until Wednesday morning encountering the enemy at times, and skirmishing occasionally, avoiding a general engagement. A general action might have been brought on at any time between the Rappahannock and our present position, but it was reserved for Wednesday to witness a renewed trial of the capabilities of our brave men in the field.

The details of the fight at Auburn in the morning you already have by telegraph. Consequently I shall confine my report to the great fight at Bristow Station.

In the afternoon the Second Corps had been assigned the arduous duty of guarding the rear of the army, and on the morning of Wednesday at daylight took up its line of march. They marched to Bristow, on the south side of the track of the Orange and Alexandria railroad, with flankers well out on both sides and skirmishers deployed. At Bristow the Orange and Alexandria railroad runs in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction over a broken and woody country. The town of Bristow is non est. But a few old chimneys point out the place where the village once was, just at the west of Broad Run, about three miles west of Manassas Junction, and half a mile west of the station.

About half-past twelve o'clock the advance of the Second Corps (Gen. Webb's Division) reached the eastern edge of the woods looking out towards Broad Run. The rear of the Fifth Corps was just crossing Broad Run by the northernmost road, when, as suddenly as lightning and as astonishingly as a thunderbolt from a clear sky, boom, boom, boom, came a half dozen discharges of artillery, not a hundred yards away. It was the enemy emerging from the woods north of the railroad by an obscure road, and firing upon the rear of the Fifth Corps. A few shells from the rebel battery killed four Pennsylvania Reserves and wounded eight others before they could be got over the run to a place of safety on the eastern side. Then a line of rebel skirmishers appeared, cresting the bill of the track and running obliquely from the road to the upper crossing of Bull Run.

Gen. Warren immediately formed his plans, and right beautifully were carried out. Gen Webb's division was thrown forward along the line of the south side of the railroad, with its right resting on Broad Run and its left at the wagon road. Gen. Hayes' division was marched by the right flank and took position to the left of Webb, while Caldwell faced the railroad and awaited action.

A section of Brown's battery (Company A, First Rhode Island Artillery) was thrown across Broad Run and put in position in the open field where it could face the enemy and enfilade his skirmishers, the remainder being placed on the hill just west of the run and bearing directly upon the massing enemy. On the hill to the northwest of Brown was Arnold's famous battery, the same which at Gettysburg did such terrible execution among the rebel infantry. Then there were others batteries, but their names I could not learn; but they were not behind their compeers in the bloody fray.

As soon as the rebels discovered that the rear of the Fifth Corps had crossed to the east of Broad Run, and that Warren was preparing for a fight, they developed two batteries in the edge of the wood and commenced sending their respects to the Second Corps. They were close by, their most distant guns being

not over nine hundred yards from the line of the Union Infantry. They had the advantage of us at first; for they, knowing our position and having their batteries ready planted, were able to open upon us before our line could be formed or our batteries planted, and they knew and appreciated their advantage, and right heartily did they improve it. For full ten minutes they rained their bullets and hailed their shells with demoniac fury; but not a man of the gallant old Second quailed, not a gun was dropped, not a color dipped; but like Spartans they faced their foe, as if each man felt that upon himself rested the responsibility of crushing the rebellion.

But the rebels did not long maintain their advantage; for Brown and Arnold lost no time in getting their batteries placed, which, when accomplished, made short work of all opposition. Rebel lines of infantry skirmishers melted away like wax over a hot fire, and the rebel batteries died out like camp-fires in a heavy rain. Simultaneously with the ripping, tearing, death-dealing, artillery, the Union infantry stood hiding their forms behind a bank of flame and a fog of smoke, cheering as they discharged their pieces and vainly begging to be permitted to rush to the immediate locality of their adversaries.

Then came a lull in the awful music; for the enemy unable to stand against the terrible storm, had fled to the woods for safety, leaving six of their guns upon the field, one too badly crippled to be brought away. When the enemy ceased playing upon us, and the smoke had lifted so as to exhibit the field, and it was known that the enemy had retired, a detail of ten men from each regiment was made to bring away the deserted pieces. With a cheer which could be heard for miles, the men bounded across the track and climbed the opposite hill, seized the pieces as best they could, wheeled them into position turned them towards the retreating demons, and fired a parting salvo with the ammunition which had been designed for the Yankees. Then the boys dragged five of them away, shouting as they came to the south side of the track and placed them in battery, the infantrymen acting as artillerists and doing wondrous works of carnage.

Shortly after the Second Corps had got into position the rebels tried their old tactics of massing and charging. A dense gray body of men were seen forming between the east of the woods and the run on the slope of the hill, north of the railroad upon which the artillery and infantry opened at once, driving the throng back into the woods at a double quick.

After this maneuver a second line of skirmishers was thrown forward to the brow of the hill skirting the river, and two regiments of North Carolina troops – the Twenty-sixth and Twenty-eighth – came charging on our extreme right, over the railroad near the bridge. This post was held by Col. Heath, commanding the brigade, which was the first of the second division, and consisted of the Nineteenth Maine, Fifteenth Massachusetts, First Minnesota, and Eighty-second New York. Our boys waited for their “erring Southern brethren,” who came on with a yell until they reached the track of the railroad, when a volley, and another, and another, set them homeward at a pace which defies illustration.

The brigade of Carolinians, which was commanded by Brig. Heth, broke and fled, hiding themselves behind the rocks and bushes along the stream. This brigade of North Carolinians was Pettigrew’s old brigade, and the men prided themselves on their prowess. But the men opposed to them were too well versed in fighting to be intimidated. It was laughable to see them extricate themselves from their dilemma. They did not dare to rise from behind their cover when once hid; for no sooner would a head appear from behind a log, or rock, or bush, than a minie would whistle it back to death. Run they dared not, fight they could not, and the only alternative left them was to surrender at discretion, which they did. The captured of this brigade numbered about five hundred, and Gen. Heth will have to recruit before taking it into action again.

When the enemy found that the Second Corps was ready and able to hold its ground, and had no notion of leaving – a fact they discovered after about five hours’ hard fighting – they withdrew to the cover of the dense wood in their rear, only firing with their artillery, the flame and smoke of which would act as a target for our gunners.

At dark the fighting ceased, and darkness found us in full possession of the field, the rebels having fallen back to and beyond the woods, having suffered the loss of six pieces of artillery, two battle flags, two colonels killed and one taken prisoner; probably five hundred killed and wounded, whom they left upon the field, and about seven hundred and fifty prisoners.

The brunt of the fighting was done by Gen. Webb’s and Gen. Hayes’ divisions, with the artillery; but it was only so because Gen. Caldwell, who was on the left, was employed in watching a heavy force of rebels which was massed in the woods across the railroad immediately in his front.

During the afternoon, while the heavy cannonading was going on, Gen. Meade sent the Fifth Corps, under Gen. Sykes, to reinforce the Second; but they did not reach the field before dark, and then the fortunes of the day were closed and they could be no service. Gen. Warren had won his victory and

vindicated the wisdom of the power which made him a Major General. The victory was signal and complete.

After the fight had closed we buried all our dead, brought off all our wounded, and came over Broad Run in perfect order and safety. We have not lost a dollar's worth of property by capture.

The brave and gallant Col. Mallon, of the Forty-second New York Regiment, commanding the third brigade of the second division, was shot through the stomach, and died in half an hour. Capt S. N. Smith, Assistant Inspector General on Gen. Webb's staff was severely wounded in the shoulder. Capt. Francis Wessells, Judge Advocate to Gen. Webb, wounded in thigh. Orderly Sergeant Allman, as brave and true a soldier as ever lived, was killed while bearing the flag of his General's headquarters. Captain Cooper, Inspector General of the Third brigade, was wounded in the thigh. Lieut. M. Caste, of Gen. Owen's staff, was killed. Capt Plumb, of the 125th New York, was killed. Capt Lemon, of the same regiment was wounded. Lieut. Olsoner, of the same, was wounded, as also Lieut. Lowe, of the Twelfth New Jersey, and Capt. J. Ball, of the First Minnesota.

Probably our entire losses in killed and wounded will not reach two hundred, while those of the enemy will not fall short of five hundred, besides the prisoners captured. We lost none in battle except the killed and wounded, though it is probable a few stragglers fell into the hands of the rebels between Warrenton Junction and Bristow.

Among the rebel slain and left on the field were Brig. Gen. Cooke, a son of Gen. Phillip St. George Cooke, of the Union Army, and Col. Ruffin, of the First, and Col. Thompson, of the Fifth North Carolina Cavalry.

The battle flags captured were that of the Twenty-sixth North Carolina Infantry, captured by the Nineteenth Maine, and that of the Twenty-eighth North Carolina taken by the Eighty-second New York. The battery captured consisted of one large Whitworth gun, two fine _____, and three brass field-pieces. One of these how ever was so badly broken up as to be worthless, and was left upon the field. The others were brought away and today have been sent to Washington.

I am reliably informed that the rebel Colonel Thompson stated that General Lee's object was to head us off before reaching Centreville, and supposed that when he made the attack upon Warren he was at the head of the entire army with his corps. Consequently, he only threw forward one portion of A. P. Hill's corps, numbering in all about twelve thousand men, with four batteries of artillery, in order to hold us in check until the other corps of Ewell, together with the two remaining divisions of Longstreet's corps, could come up. I presume the story is true; but they have found out their mistake.

Our forces are now safely and securely posted, our trains all parked in convenient and safe retreats, and the army is in excellent spirits.

I cannot learn that the enemy has advanced since the fight came off nor do I think he will; but, if he does, he will have to fight us on ground of our own choosing.

18 October 1863 – New York Times Rebels withdrawal to the Rappahannock Details of the fighting on Thursday

Washington, Saturday, Oct. 17, It is ascertained from the Army of the Potomac that the heavy rain of yesterday prevented any field operations.

Our cavalry scouts failed to find any considerable body of the enemy, and our signal men, owing to the fog and haze, saw indications of only one large camp at Bristow Station.

It is believed the enemy, having during the previous day reconnoitered our position, and finding our lines impregnable, retired rearward, and fearing a rise in the Rappahannock would interfere with their base of supplies have expedited their movements toward that line.

Our troops are equally well posted for an advance or defence. The enemy's forced marches and the scarcity of supplies render it impossible to actively advance or retreat. If they attack us, their defeat is considered beyond doubt.

Gen. Sickles arrived in the front last night, prepared to take the field if a fight came. His friends there, however, think his valor carries him too far in his present physical condition.

A report reached Headquarters that the enemy were in force this morning at and around Manassas Junction. Some of our troops immediately prepared to advance, probably to reconnoiter.

Our recent movements have been exclusively of a strategic character, in which Lee has been thus far completely outgeneraled by Meade. No fears exist of our not being able to cope with Lee in the field, if we can get his forces in a mass, without our having a long base of supplies to protect.

The Republican says the Government has information contradicting the report that Lee's army had been thrown across the Upper Potomac into Maryland.

Hon. John M. Botts, it is already known, has been taken a second time to Richmond by the rebels. He was arrested immediately on our falling back to this side of the Rappahannock, on the charge of having violated his parole, and having invited Federal officers to his house, the proof resting on certain indiscreet newspaper letters soon after our arrival at Culpepper, and also on the finding on his premises of a musket and equipments abandoned by one of our soldiers. Two of his daughters voluntarily accompanied him to Richmond.

18 October 1863 – New York Times
Our Special Army Correspondence
Army of the Potomac, Thursday, Oct. 15, 1863

Another day has been devoted to the by-play or the strategic efforts of the commandants of the two great armies now moving in parallel lines, each endeavoring to secure the advantage of situation movements that always precede a general engagement. Nothing but skirmishing, (and only little of that,) moving of trains and immense columns of troops has been done to-day, but the shock of battle is imminent, and no one can tell what an hour may bring forth. Both armies are seemingly in readiness, and, apparently at least, eager for the fray. No men ever fought with more determination than that portion of the gallant and battle-stained Second Corps, engaged yesterday at Bristow Station, under the accomplished and energetic Warren. With the enemy there was an unmistakable difference. While their officers fought as only despite men can fight in a failing cause, their men did not seem to be imbued with the same spirit, and fled or surrendered themselves as prisoners of war, more readily than has been their wont in previous trials of strength. I have good authority for reporting this state of things, but as obvious facts are more potent with the reader, I will cite in evidence of this want of spirit, that in one single division of Hill's corps, (so say the prisoners,) one Colonel was killed, and three other Colonels and one General were wounded, 470 of the 700 prisoners reported captured, I have seen; I have also seen and examined five of the six pieces of artillery captured, the sixth piece having been left behind owing to the want of means to bring it from the field; moreover, forty-seven of the prisoners say they are tired of fighting Yankees, and have signified a wish to take the oath of allegiance. These men say they know many others now in the rebel ranks who are only awaiting an opportunity to some within our lines and give themselves up. The credibility of the enforcement of the death penalty in case of a recapture, deters them from deserting unless under circumstances where escape is sure; but so closely are the troops watched that this is difficult. The defection of the North Carolina troops is admitted by all, and so bitter is the feeling entertained against them by, particularly, South Carolinians who propose to take the oath of allegiance, say that the men from either of the States named would shoot a man from their State as quick as they would a Yankee. This condition of affairs rendered their situation in the Confederate army anything but an agreeable one.

In the recent movements the whole Quartermasters' property – with the exception of a few wagons that broke down – was saved entire; a fact reflecting the greatest credit upon the officers of that Department, when the vast caravan of teams and the surrounding circumstances are considered. It is the first instance, I believe, in this war, on either side, when an army moving to the rear has succeeded in saving its entire train.

The cavalry, during the week, has sustained its hard-earned reputation of efficiency. Gen. Gregg's command, since the actions of Sunday, has been the most actively engaged with the enemy. That command, in addition to the fighting on Monday, took a prominent part in the engagement yesterday, and rendered efficient service.

Thursday, 15th,

The loss of the Second Corps at the fight of Broad Run, or Bristow Station, was only 200 in killed and wounded – but a small number being killed. Besides the prisoners, seven guns and two battle flags were captured in this fight, which to a number of conscripts was their first. Of course, finding themselves alive and well, they feel remarkably jubilant over the result, and think this fighting is not such fatal business after all.

Among the incidents of the field, one is related of Lieut. Anderson, of the Ambulance corps. This officer seeing a man fall wounded not far from the enemy's line, rode forward, and lifting him on his horse, galloped back to his position, past two of the rebel regiments. The Colonel of the first one he passed was heard distinctly to order his men not to fire on him, but the second did not treat him so well, although he came through the fire in safety with his burden.

The firing in front, to day, was a demonstration of the enemy's upon Bull Run. At Union Mills, where the railroad crosses the river, and in front of Warren, at Mitchell's and Blackburn's Ford, they kept up quite a heavy shell fire, with very little harm to our forces; and when they endeavored to mass infantry for a crossing, our fire soon dispersed them. The Third Corps, under French, is at Union Mills.

At sundown all firing ceased, except off to the left. Gen. Buford, at or near Brentsville, had been engaged by the enemy, and his guns could be distinctly traced by the flash as they advanced across the country, apparently driving the enemy rapidly.

It is evident that Meade has foiled the rebel General, and left him somewhat doubtful what to do next.

19 October 1863 – Charleston S.C. Mercury From Lee's Army

Richmond, October 17, - Passengers by the central train from Gordonsville, this morning reports of a general engagement at or near the old Manassas battlefield, on Tuesday, resulting in a defeat of the enemy and the capture of several thousand prisoners. No particulars received. The Medical Director of Lee's army has telegraphed to Gordonsville for the ambulance again. The citizens' ambulance committee left for the seat of war this morning. Nothing official received yet.

Culpeper, October 17. – There was a heavy rain yesterday, and the Rapidan Bridge careened last night, making it impassable.

The battle reported at Catlett's Station on Wednesday, turns out to have been a cavalry skirmish, in which we took some prisoners. There was hard fighting late Wednesday evening at Bristow Station. The enemy were driven back when his skirmishers fell upon McIntosh's artillery, supported by Cook's Brigade. Cook was wounded early in the action and the enemy threw his brigade into confusion, taking five pieces of artillery. Reinforcements coming up, we were pursuing the enemy at last advices toward Dumfries. Our loss was about 500 killed and wounded – Posey badly in the thigh. Above 1500 prisoners were captured by us during the day.

Heavy firing was heard on Thursday, in the direction of Manassas, and many rumors are afloat, but nothing reliable.

19 October 1863 – Alexandria Gazette The War in Virginia

The intelligence from the Army of the Potomac is conflicting. The Federal cavalry scouts on Saturday evening reported that the Confederates had massed a large force at Manassas, but a reconnaissance made yesterday to within a mile of Bristoe Station discovered a few Confederate scouts only. It is also reported that General Lee is now moving towards the lower Shenandoah and the Federal posts on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, but nothing seems to be definitely known of such movement. The Federal army is said to be equally well posted for an advance or a defence. It appears that there was no fighting on Friday or Saturday beyond some slight skirmishing.

19 October 1863 – New York Times The Army of the Potomac – Washington Excited by Rumors Meade's Army Reported Within the Washington Defences Lee Said to be Massed Near Manassas

Washington, Sunday, October 18. – Washington has been filled with rumors and excitements throughout the day.

Belief in the progress of a great battle within eighteen miles of the city was very general, but no engagement has taken place.

The rebel guerrillas are prosecuting an active campaign between Meade's army and Washington. This morning several officers, attached to Gen. Sedgwick's headquarters, were captured by guerrillas concealed in the woods near Chantilly.

This afternoon a party of our men were met by some rebels this side of Fairfax Court-house, and attacked, with a loss on our side of two wounded, and a Captain, whose horse was killed under him, taken prisoner. Those who escaped, meeting a paymaster close by with over one hundred thousand dollars, told him the story, and he quickly retraced his steps. A supply train was also interfered with.

Dispatches to the Associated Press

Washington, Sunday, October 18 – It is reported that Gen. Meade's army is within the defences of Washington.

There has been no battle, and the exact position of Lee's army is unascertained, or at least is not known in this city. It appears certain, however, that Lee has not crossed the Potomac.

The information received to-night is to the effect that reports came in from our cavalry yesterday evening that the enemy had massed a force at Manassas.

There were vague reports that the enemy was straitened for supplies, and having signally failed to secure them from Gen. Meade, has again turned his attention and face toward the Lower Shenandoah Valley, and to our posts on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Trusty parties have been sent out to ascertain the truth of these reports.

Rebel infantry pickets made their appearance last night in the vicinity of Chantilly, which indicates the presence of a heavy rebel force in that vicinity. But Gen. Sedgwick drove them back to Frying Pan from his front.

Later information up to noon to-day says our cavalry reconnaissance went out as far as one mile from Bristow and found nothing but a few rebel cavalry scouts.

Rumors continued to multiply to the effect that a rebel column was moving towards Point of Rocks or Harpers's Ferry. But after careful inquiry by private parties no information has been obtained to confirm those reports.

**19 October 1863 – New York Times
Special Correspondence of the N. Y. Times
Army of the Potomac, Thursday, October 15, 1863**

Another day has been devoted to the by-play or the strategic efforts of the commandants of the two great armies now moving in parallel lines, each endeavoring to secure the advantage of situation – movements that always precede a general engagement. Nothing but skirmishing, (and only little of that,) moving of trains and immense columns of troops has been done to-day, but the shock of battle is imminent, and no one can tell what an hour may bring forth. Both armies are seemingly in readiness, and, apparently at least, eager for the fray. No men ever fought with more determination than that portion of the gallant and battle-stained Second Corps, engaged yesterday at Bristow Station, under the accomplished and energetic Warren. With the enemy there was an unmistakable difference. While their officers fought as only desperate men can fight in a falling cause, their men did not seem to be imbued with the same spirit, and fled or surrendered themselves as prisoners of war, more readily than has been their worst in previous trials of strength.

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At sundown all firing ceased, except off to the left. Gen. Buford, at or near Brentsville, had been engaged by the enemy, and his guns could be distinctly traced by the flash as they advanced across the country, apparently driving the enemy rapidly.

Everything thus remains; the army is ready for any new scheme of Lee's, or, if he decides to retreat, to follow him up again.

It is evident that Meade has foiled the rebel General, and left him somewhat doubtful what to do next.

19 October 1863 – New York Times

News of the Day

The Rebellion

The clash of arms between the opposing hosts in Virginia cannot be much longer delayed if the brief reports which are telegraphed from Washington may be depended on. The latest dispatch informs us that the Army of the Potomac is now within the defences of Washington, but the position of Lee's army is not made known. We infer, however, that the rumored withdrawal of the rebel forces to the Rappahannock is not a fact, and that there is truth in the statement that the rebels are in force at Manassas Junction, and have sent reconnoitering parties thence into the Shenandoah Valley.

The President of the United States, in view of the speedy expiration of the term of service of a portion of the soldiers of the Republic. Saturday issued a Proclamation calling for three hundred thousand volunteers. In case the quota required of each State is not raised by volunteering, a draft will be ordered to make up the deficiency.

19 October 1863 – National Intelligencer

From the Army of the Potomac

We learn from the front that on Saturday the rebels appeared at Bull Run, but the extent of their force is not known. The right of Gen. Sedgwick, near Chantilly, was menaced on Saturday by rebel scouts, but that officer perceiving them sent out a force and drove them away. It is not probable that there was any fighting yesterday – certainly none up to noon. It would seem from what we have learned that our army is not well informed of the enemy's intentions, but his movements are closely watched, and if he should advance for battle he will not find our army unprepared. The information received induces the belief that an attack is apprehended, and the proximity of the two armies is such that it may occur at any day.

19 October 1863 – National Intelligencer

From the Correspondent of the New York Herald

Army of the Potomac, October 16, 1863

Up to six o'clock this evening all has been quiet to-day along the entire front. I rode down the lines of the First and Second Corps, and with the aid of a powerful field glass only discovered three or four rebels, and they were mounted. There is no appearance otherwise of the enemy in front of our lines at any point.

The smoke of the rebel camp fires indicates that they have fallen back to Manassas, in the immediate vicinity of the famous brick house where Gen. Beauregard had his headquarters before the first Bull Run battle.

Col. Ruffin, of the First North Carolina cavalry, was not killed during the engagement with the Second Corps, but was wounded, and is a prisoner in our hands. The first report, however, was that he was killed.

There are various speculations and camp rumors as to what Lee intends to do, and the strength of his forces. Gen. Meade is undoubtedly well informed as to the movements of the rebel army, and prepared for any contingency. He has issued a general order directing all sutlers and sutlers' teams to proceed at once to Alexandria and Washington.

19 October 1863 – National Intelligencer

In the Field, Virginia, October 15, 1863

At about nine o'clock yesterday morning the workshop train of the Army of the Potomac, under the charge of Capt. E. J. Strang, en route from Brixville, was attacked by a party of guerrillas in the vicinity of Bull Run. No guard, as is usual, accompanied this train; but the teamsters and attaches made a gallant resistance, and succeeded in repulsing the enemy, who fled without loss to themselves. After crossing the Bull Run stream they were again attacked, it is supposed, by another gang of guerrillas. The men again fought bravely, routing the enemy, but sustaining the loss of Mr. Sherwood, wagon master in charge of the train, who was killed instantly, and a blacksmith taken prisoner, whose name I cannot ascertain. The rebels

were completely foiled in their hopes of securing booty, only succeeding in capturing three horses, with their harness. This train would have been a handsome prize, consisting of two hundred and fifty wagons and ambulances, one hundred and fifty head of horses, and a hundred mules. Two much credit cannot be awarded to the teamsters and officers in charge for the gallantry displayed upon this occasion.

The train of Kilpatrick's cavalry division was shelled by the rebels near Brentsville, the trains of three corps and of the whole cavalry corps being in close proximity. Capt. Mead, whose was in charge, succeeded in bringing out his train without loss by way of Wolf Run Shoals.

20 October 1863 – Charleston S.C. Mercury

From General Lee's Army

Gordonsville, October 19. – All quiet in front. Our reported loss in the fight on Wednesday, at Bristow Station, is as follows: Cook's Brigade, killed and wounded, 509; Kirkland's Brigade, killed and wounded, 614. The number of the killed in both brigades is about 200. The enemy's loss is not known.

Richmond, October 19 – Since the stampede of Meade's army to Centreville and the abandonment of the pursuit by General Lee, affairs in Northern Virginia have suddenly lost all interest. One result of our advance to Manassas is a considerable addition to our stock of railroad iron. It is reported to-day that a fleet of Yankee gunboats and transports are in the York River – the former being engaged in looking for torpedoes. The Yankee flotilla in the Potomac is said to be unusually vigilant in patrolling the river, in order to break up the blockade trade across that stream.

Heavy firing was heard on Thursday, in the direction of Manassas, and many rumors are afloat, but nothing reliable.

20 October 1863 – Alexandria Gazette

Telegraphic Dispatches to the Philadelphia Inquirer

From General Meade's Army

Washington, Oct. 29, 1863

One of the Inquirer's special correspondents from the front reports that reconnaissance's were made on all sides from Centreville, by General Meade, on Saturday and Sunday. It was ascertained that the Confederates had retired toward the Rappahannock. On Monday General Meade advanced. That evening his army rested some miles beyond Bull Run. At day light this morning the march was resumed, and General Meade is following up the Confederates as rapidly as possible. Confederate cavalry covered their retreat.

Gen Fitz Lee held Gainesville Sunday night. On Monday morning Kilpatrick came __ and engaged __ in a sharp fight lasting all day. The Federal cavalry drove the Confederates received reinforcements and renewed the attack with vigor and forced Kilpatrick back two miles from Gainesville. The fighting was not renewed this morning, and the Federal infantry are advancing in that direction.

It is believed that the Confederates retired today. Confederates deserters say their force consists of Ewell's and Hill's Corps and estimate their strength at seventy thousand. Citizens along the line make the same estimate.

On Saturday night Gen. Merritt's Reserve Cavalry Brigade advanced to Manassas Junction, and had a fight with the Confederate cavalry there. Five Confederates were killed. – The Federal loss was three wounded and none killed.

On Sunday, Merritt drove the Confederates to Bristoe Station, where they opened a battery of seven guns on him, which checked its advanced, as his orders were to learn their position. On Monday morning the Confederates left the Federal front again. General Merritt advanced to Catlett Station and found no Confederates there. A Confederate prisoner captured by Merritt says the railroad is completely destroyed for twenty four miles below Bristoe Station, and below Manassas Junction the troops found the rails torn up and cross ties burned, and the bridges and abutments burned and blown up, and culverts destroyed and embankments thrown down in deep cuts. The construction train, this morning commenced repairing the road at Bristoe, but it is so badly damaged that it cannot be repaired at a rate of more than one mile a day.

Accounts that Lee is in retreat, with Meade following him, trying to get him to deliver battle, but Lee by this time is on the other side of the Rappahannock.

The Federal Government has sent one thousand blankets to the Federal prisoners in Richmond, and if these are delivered by the Confederate authorities, supplies of clothing will be sent for the prisoners there.

20 October 1863 – Alexandria Gazette

Headquarters: Army of the Potomac, Sunday, October 18, 1863

The special correspondent of the New York Tribune at the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac furnishes the following account of the rebel movements at the extreme front on Sunday and of the operations of the guerrillas during Saturday night:

I have just returned from the extreme front. We crossed Bull Run at Stone Bridge, followed it up to Sudley's Mills or Church, and struck out thence upon the old battlefield where we found Gen. Kilpatrick hunting for the Confederates.

We were drawn out by a sharp artillery fire in the morning, Gen. Kilpatrick had been disturbed at Stone Bridge in the morning by his pickets being driven in upon him, when he sent out Gen. Custer and followed with his entire division. The Confederate cavalry made a stand in and behind some stone houses in a clearing, but were sent flying by a few shells from our artillery, in which, arm of the service they seemed deficient. The fugitives were followed in the direction of Gainesville, Jones Confederate brigade diverging towards Manassas. When we arrived there had just been a little cavalry brush, and private Caudwell, was brought off wounded in the arm by a minie. – No Confederate infantry was seen, and it is not believed there is any in force this side of Bristoe.

The skirmishing in front for two days has been slight, the Confederates striking only at points apparently exposed, and failing to gain the least advantage. Our flanks have been, however, greatly annoyed by guerrillas.

Last night Fairfax Court house was alarmed by a report that Stuart was coming down to Aldie, and a force was sent out to meet him. – The facts, as finally ascertained, are, that at about eight o'clock in the evening, fifteen men of the 13th New York cavalry, stationed at Stuart's near Chantilly, and about equal distant from Fairfax and Centreville, were surrounded by some guerrillas under Moseby himself. As they were outnumbered, they attempted flight, but six of Capt. Jackson's company were captured. One made his escape this morning, and reports two hundred and fifty Confederate cavalry on the Frying Pan Road, towards Gainesville.

About the same time last night a squad of guerrillas made a descent on the Alexandria railroad at Accotink, and carried off some fifteen of the 120th New York, stationed there.

While at Fairfax Station this afternoon at three o'clock I heard rapid cannon firing for a quarter of an hour in the direction of Manassas, and judging from the sound in that vicinity, it was probably nothing more than a continuation of our reconnaissance in front.

Thirteen officers of Gen. Sedgwick's Corps were captured in detail this afternoon as they strolled in a wood near headquarters, by Confederates concealed in the thicket, and spirited away before the trap was discovered. Two were on the general's staff and one a commissary.

This afternoon a captain's horse was shot under him, between Fairfax Court House and Washington, and the rider taken prisoner. A corporal and several privates were wounded by the same party of guerrillas, who escaped with their prey.

20 October 1863 – New York Times

The Army of the Potomac

A Reconnaissance to Manassas

Our Army in Magnificent Spirits, and Full of Confidence in Meade

Details of Last Week's Operations

Washington, Monday, October 19 – There is the same ebb and flow of rumor to-day as yesterday. Cavalry soldiers returning from Edward's Ferry, report that there was heavy cannonading throughout yesterday about twelve miles away, and seemingly at Point of Rocks.

The explanation by wiser ones is that the woods were being tossed with shells to dislodge guerrillas supposed to be lurking there.

A reconnaissance, made yesterday some miles out beyond Bristow Station, demonstrated that there was no force of rebels along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. Our captures demonstrate that only A. P. Hill's corps and Stuart's Cavalry took part in last week's operations. Where is Ewell? Where is the principal part of Lee's army? The force that Warren whipped marched with only five days rations in the sack and in the wagon. These were ate up by Saturday, and unless rebels can live on dirt and atmosphere

air, they have got to fall back south of the Rappahannock. Indeed, it is probable now that they are wholly gone.

The effectual destruction of the railroad by Meade at selected points will cripple the rebel commissariat, and insure for a time Lees staying where he can feed his troops.

On the other line of reconnaissance made last Wednesday up the Shenandoah Valley as far as Front Royal, showed that no rebel army had marched down the Valley simultaneously with their advance across the Rapidan. Up to this hour (3 P. M.) there seems, therefore, to have been no well-grounded reasons for Washington to believe that an attack in force upon Meade had been contemplated by Lee.

It is known that the Richmond Government thought that four corps had been detached from Meade's army for Rosecrans' needs, and it is the better judgment here that Lee simply intended to feel of Meade. The (___gering?) was expensive, costing him fifteen hundred men.

The rumor originating at Baltimore, and industriously circulated here, that the rebels had crossed the Potomac at Point of Rocks, was an offspring of the stock market.

Later – Gentlemen from the front this afternoon, say that Lee was in line of battle on the old Bull Run field on Saturday, and that on Sunday he had gone. Gen Sickles, who has also arrived this afternoon, confirms this intelligence. There are telegrams in town also to the same effect.

Gen King's Adjt., Capt. Robert Chandler, will go with him as Secretary, of Legation. Gen. Corcoran will take command of Gen. King's Division. Col. Brandsley, of the Twenty-fourth N. Y., has been appointed Asst. Adjt. Gen. on Gen. Meade's staff, with the rank of Capt. In the regular army.

Dispatch to the Associated Press

Washington, Monday, Oct. 19, - Accounts from the Army of the Potomac say there are no tidings of Lee's whereabouts, as he has recently materially changed his position. Such dispositions have been made of our own army as will meet all contingencies.

There is no truth in the report that Gen. Meade's army is within the defences of Washington. Heavy firing of artillery was for an hour or two heard this forenoon in the direction of Manassas.

A sutler's train was attacked to-day this side of Fairfax Court House by guerrillas, who were driven off by the cavalry escort. The latter had an officer captured and one man killed.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer writes under the date October 18

“The rebel prisoners brought in to-day state that they crossed the Rapidan on Monday and Tuesday last, with five days' rations, three in knapsacks and two in wagons. This supply will be exhausted tomorrow (Saturday), There is not a pound of forage nor a day's subsistence for a single regiment, to be collected in the country north of the Rapidan to the Potomac. The destruction of the bridges across the Rapidan and Rappahannock by our troops compels the rebels to transport their substance by wagons from Gordonsville to Culpeper, to the position they now occupy, a distance of forty or fifty miles. These disadvantages, under which they labor, will compel them to fight or beat a nasty retreat.

Complimentary Order of Gen. Meade to the Cavalry

Headquarters Army of the Potomac

Camp near Centreville, October 18, 1863

General Orders, No. 97 – The attention of the Major-General Commanding having been called to the omission in General Orders, No. 96, of the 15th inst., from these Headquarters, to mention the services of the cavalry constituting part of the rear-guard on the 14th inst. He takes the earliest occasion to bear testimony to the activity, zeal and gallantry, not only of the Second division but of the whole Cavalry corps, and to the efficient and arduous service rendered in all the recent operations, from the Rapidan to this place,

By command of S. Williams, A. A. G. Major General Meade

Our Special Army Correspondence

Centreville, Va. Sunday, October 18, 1863

There are no rebels at Manassas. Gen. Gibbs, commanding a cavalry brigade, made a reconnaissance yesterday, from Centreville towards Broad Run, and reports the enemy still on the other side of that river. It is presumed that Lee has not the ability to advance yet, for want of supplies. Things are changed since last year, when Pope fed and clothed both armies.

From Sedgwick, on the extreme right, comes information of a force of about 500 cavalry and two guns, under Stuart, engaged in reconnoitering our position at that point. That it was Stuart rests on the statement of some people in a house near by, to whom that General made himself known. It may have been Moseby or White. Several commissary wagons and one or two officers have been picked up, quite boldly,

by parties of guerrillas, in the woods. Maneuvers, meantime, occupy the attention of the army. The Fifth Corps have changed position several times. It is evident that Lee is nonplussed. His loss in the fight at Broad Run – killed, wounded and prisoners – was certainly 1,500 men – a very unfortunate blow at this time for his army, and calculated to repress them a great deal. Our army is certainly in magnificent spirits; they feel that a head directs them which will not fall. J.

Army of the Potomac, Sunday, October 18, 1863

Last night, Moseby, or some other daring leader, made a dash within our lines through some of the by-paths, and succeeded in capturing a picket of twelve men on the Chantilly road, a few miles from Fairfax Court-house. Three of them during the night escaped, while being converted outside the lines, and returned to camp. The night before a similar party cut off an empty train which had been with supplies to the Sixth Corps, and captured thirty mules - five teams – a portion of which, however, were subsequently recovered. Yesterday morning, one of our scouts succeeded in capturing one of Moseby's guides and two of his men. It is believed that Lee has advanced just as far North as he dares, and is now hurrying back. He will be closely pursued by this army.

Correspondence of the Associated Press

Centreville, Saturday, Oct. 17, 1863

I employ a few leisure moments to give a cursory review of the last seven days' campaign. It is pretty evident now that it was Lee's intention to make a grand raid in the rear of the army of the Potomac, cutting off railroad communication with Washington by destroying the bridges, securing supplies for his half – famished troops and horses, by seizing scattered wagon trains, and then by rapid evolutions throwing his main force upon different points, and demoralize and destroy Gen. Meade's army in detail.

On Saturday last, when Lee's flank movement was discovered. Gen. Meade ordered a rear movement east of the Rappahannock from Culpepper, Kilpatrick's and Buford's cavalry divisions, with infantry supports, covered our rear. At this time Hill's rebel corps had advanced by way of Sperryville and Little Washington on our north flank toward Warrenton, and Waterloo.

Our reward movement commenced at daylight Sunday morning, and the army reached the east bank of the Rappahannock the same afternoon.

Judging that Ewell's Corps had not pursued us to the river, on Monday Gen. Meade sent three corps and Buford's cavalry on a reconnaissance over the Rappahannock toward Culpepper, and found no heavy force of the enemy there. Lee in the meantime had pushed his main column toward Warrenton, in the hope of executing his well planned movement upon our rear, but our reconnaissance toward Culpepper led him to believe that it was Gen. Meade's intention to get in his rear. He, therefore, halted his army and took a position to give a defensive fight.

Up to this time Lee had the decided advantage. He was as near to Washington as General Meade, and unencumbered with trains, had every prospect of gaining Manassas and Centreville, and cut off our retreat and all our heavy trains. He evidently expected to be attacked in force on Tuesday morning, and maintained his position in line of battle until near noon on Tuesday, awaiting our advance. Gregg's cavalry division had retarded Stuart's advance over the Rappahannock during Monday, although compelled to fall back upon the river, prevented a continued and prompt advance of the rebel cavalry to destroy the railroad.

Quietly during the reconnaissance of Monday, Gen. Meade had prepared his trains and got them en route rearward, and during Monday he had withdrawn his corps from the Culpepper reconnaissance, destroyed the railroad bridge, abutments and all and sent the pontoons eastward, before daylight on Tuesday morning. Sunrise saw the whole army well on the way towards Catlett's Station and that vicinity; the cavalry and light battalions protecting our rear and right flank. From elevated points of view the advance of our army over the plains of Fauquier by four parallel routes, with flanking columns of infantry stretching for miles and moving steadily forward, was magnificent beyond description. Cannonading and musketry were frequently heard on our now left flank, as bodies of rebel cavalry came down at different points, under the fixed belief that they would reach the railroad and cut our line unopposed. That they were extremely puzzled is no expression of their surprise. They were astounded at finding a force at every point, miles from the line of travel, to meet and repel them there.

Not was Lee less mystified and non pleased when he learned that he had been successfully outgeneraled by Meade. He pushed off Stuart's cavalry from Sulphur Springs upon our rear Tuesday evening, and rushed forward Hill's corps at double quick to support them. Ewell advanced more leisurely. Hill's troops were "double quicked" on Wednesday from Warrenton to near Bristow Station, to support the cavalry and light batteries, who were then engaged in the vain endeavor to cut off our rear guard. The result

of their effort has been heretofore stated. The gallant and indomitable Warren gave them battle, and a lesson in the history of the war not easily forgotten.

On Wednesday night we had re-crossed Bull Run, and formed a line front to the enemy, from Chantilly on the north to Wolf Run Shoals on the south. Not a farthings worth of property has been abandoned or destroyed by the enemy, out of the millions of dollars transported from Culpepper, nearly sixty miles in three days. This result is ascribable to the experience and ability of Brig. – Gen. Rufus Ingales, chief Quartermaster of the army, and his expert reliable and active assistants.

The services of the cavalry corps under Major Gen. Pleasanton, cannot be too highly appreciated and the division commanders, Gens. Buford, Gregg and Kilpatrick, executed their delicate and arduous duties with the most admirable coolness, decision and skill.

At this hour Lee having been foiled in his grand endeavor to annihilate Gen. Meade, has now fallen back toward the Rappahannock discomfited, dejected, disgusted. A heavy reconnaissance is again advancing in that direction, and from the heights of Centreville, where I am now writing, can be heard our guns announcing that we have met the rebel outposts.

Let me relate a fact which has a very important bearing upon the conscripts of the army. When Gen. Warren was attacked at Bristow he threw his infantry from the hill, south of the road, down through the swampy ground, and ensconced them along the embankment of the railroad, under a shower of shell and musketry. The raw conscripts, and there were many hundreds of them in the command, gave themselves up for lost. Pale and trembling, they involuntarily went forward, took position with their comrades, and performed their portion of the fight. Every whistling rifle ball, every shrieking shell they apprehended was destined to destroy them individually. It was beyond their comprehension when told that they had charged and beaten a brave enemy in a fierce fight, and captured several hundred of Hill's veterans, five guns, three standards, beside killing several hundred of rebels, and come commanders say that they fought equally well with those of two years experience, exhibiting no signs of fear, when the first impulse had passed.

That Gen. Warren is the man to make a good soldiers is indisputable, and that he commands a gallant corps is undeniable. The following incident is characteristic.

When falling back during the night after the fight at Bristow, he saw a conscript straggling along, apparently without any weapon. "To what command do you belong?" asked Gen. W. "Second Corps." Replied the man, with a strong nasal tang denoting his recent departure from the Eastern States. "what are you doing here without a gun?" demanded the General. The man gave an evasive reply, indicating that that was his own business. "What have you got under your coat there?" inquired Gen. Warren. "A gun, you ____ fool," returned the conscript, partly revealing a gun beneath the folds of his ample coat there?" "There's no discount on that man," remarked Gen. Warren to an Aid, and passed on. Should this meet the brave fellow's eye, he will learn that he addressed his complimentary response to Gen. Warren, and will wonder, perhaps, why he was not punished.

21 October 1863 – Charleston S.C. Mercury

The Latest Yankee News

Petersburg, Va., October 20. – We have received Northern dates to the 16th inst. The Yankee claim to have gained a decided victory at Bristoe Station. Meade telegraphed to Washington that he had captured five pieces of artillery, two stand of colors and four hundred and fifty prisoners.

One thousand men were detailed from the convalescent camp at Washington on the 15th inst. To throw up fortifications south of the Potomac

Richmond Va. October 20. – A flag of truce boat from City Point, arrived this morning without a prisoner and only one passenger, Mons. Paul, the French Counsel to Richmond, who has been absent several weeks. Northern papers of the 17th are all jubilant at the result of the fight at Bristoe Station, Col. Matton, 62d New York, was killed. A telegram from Washington, dated the 16th says our army last night was in line of battle. The whole baggage and transportation trains were sent to the river, and the sutlers ordered to Alexandria.

The loss in the 2nd Corps at the battle of Bristoe Station was two hundred killed and wounded. The cannonading on Thursday was caused by an attempt by the rebels to cross Bull Run. Nothing from the front to-day. The relative positions of both armies it is believed remains unchanged.

21 October 1863 - Richmond Enquirer

23 October 1863 – New York Times

Buckland Report

The Richmond Enquirer, of October 21, states that a dispatch from Gen. Lee to Gen. Cooper, dated Oct. 20, says:

“Gen. Stuart, yesterday opposed at Buckland, the advance of Gen. Kilpatrick’s division of cavalry, while Fitts Lee attacked his flank and rear. The enemy was pursued until he reached his infantry supports at Haymarket and Gainesville. Two hundred prisoners were captured.”

21 October 1863 – New York Times

The Mass of Lee’s Army Disappeared

Advance of Our Cavalry to Warrenton Junction

Rebel Report that they have Gone to Whip Burnside

Destruction of the Railroad Between Manassas and the Rappahannock

Washington, Tuesday, October 20 – The mystery of Lee’s movement last week is uncovered; a part of his army was at Culpepper this morning, being vigorously embarked on trains of cars for the Southwest.

Later. – An officer just in from the front brings the intelligence that Lee’s whole infantry force is across the Rappahannock. Some of his cavalry are still on this side, and part on the other side.

Our reserve cavalry under Gen. Merritt, yesterday advanced as far as Warrenton Junction, meeting but few rebel cavalry, who retired as we advanced.

The rebels tore up and utterly destroyed the railroad between Manassas and the Rappahannock. Every bridge and culvert was ruined, and in some places the embankments were blown down. The rails and cross ties were burnt and the iron curled up with heat so as to be worthless.

Construction trains left Manassas this morning to repair the damage. So thorough has been the destruction, that with all the force our engineers can at present command not more than one mile a day can be repaired.

Rebel prisoners taken by our cavalry say that Lee’s design was by his attack last week to shove Meade back to the defences of Washington, then to turn and make the railroad impassable toward Richmond for three or four weeks, and to hurry with a superior force down the Virginia and East Tennessee Railroad, smash Burnside if he could, and then to hurry back to Meade’s front.

Dispatches to the Associated Press

Washington, Tuesday, October 20 – There is probably no truth in the rumor that Gen. Meade is in hot pursuit of the rebels, or that they have retreated beyond the Rapidan.

Harrisburgh, Tuesday, October 20 – No such information as that spoken of in a Philadelphia dispatch, concerning a purported rebel raid into Pennsylvania, has been received here. The whole report is believed to be a canard.

Army of the Potomac

The Spirit of the Men and the Skill of the Generals

Details of the Recent Retrograde Movement

Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac

Saturday Evening, October 17, 1863

The recent movements of the two great armies now confronting each other in Virginia are not without interest, particularly by reason of the science and skill displayed by the Commanding Generals, and the indomitable energy manifested by the men composing both armies. Within a period of five days these two formidable bodies have traversed a distance of en seventy and eighty miles, - in an air line, - skirmishing occasionally, and maneuvering daily to be prepared for defence or attack, at the same time transporting the immense quantity of munitions of war required, with rations and forage for so large a force of men and animals. How this could be done is one of the wonders of the present age, and a feat never before accomplished so successfully, it is believed, in this or any other country. While the task was a serious burden to the enemy, it was much more so for our army, because it was a long distance from its base of supplies, was possessed of a superfluous quantity of material, which had to be transported as the army fell back with only twelve hours notice and closely watched, and constantly harassed as it was by an implacable enemy who let no opportunity pass unimproved, night or day, to attempt a surprise or threaten a

general engagement; and when it is considered too, that we were passing through, practically, an enemy's country, where all the advantages were on the side of the foe – the mind that gave direction and controlled the vast machinery of which this army is made up must be something superior to that vouchsafed to a majority of military commanders.

The man possessing this capacity was during all the time calm and quiet as though attending to any of the ordinary affairs of life – his temper unruffled, giving his orders in firm but mild manner, commanding the respect and prompt cooperation of all under him. To this power of self-control perhaps may be attributed the perfect success of the movement as much as to any other one cause; for by it there was a sympathetic feeling aroused in the heart of every subordinate, and the whole army seemed to be actuated by a controlling desire to do all that was possible to insure success. To an outside observer it was a sublime spectacle, and a general summary of the details of the movement may not be uninteresting to the readers of the Times. On Friday, the 9th inst., the two armies occupied opposite banks of the Rapidan, our line extending on the left to the vicinity of Falmouth, and on the right to Robertson's and Hazel Rivers, beyond Thoroughfare Mountain, the centre being in front of Culpepper. On that day it would appear, by subsequent events, both armies were under orders to advance – and portions of both did advance – Gen. Buford's cavalry taking the lead on our side. At this time the Signal Officer on Thoroughfare Mountain telegraphed that two columns of the enemy – infantry and cavalry – were moving on the Orange and Gordonsville roads toward Madison Court-house, threatening our right flank, then being under the watchful care of Gen. Kilpatrick's cavalry division and a small force of infantry, under Gen. Prince, but there was no collision between the enemy's advance and our pickets until Saturday morning, the 10th, when they crossed Robertson's River at Runell's Ford and Ceighersville forcing in the cavalry pickets upon the One Hundred and Twentieth New York Infantry, and by 10 o'clock A.M. both infantry and cavalry had been forced back to James City. Half an hour later the Signal Officers were compelled to evacuate Thoroughfare Mountain owing to the close proximity of the enemy. For a while Col. Alger, of the Fifth Michigan cavalry, checked their advance at James City, while Major Hammond, with the Fifth New York cavalry, checked them on the Ceighersville road. The infantry division retired slowly while Gen. Davies's brigade of cavalry held Crooked Run – the First Virginia cavalry holding the Sperryville road all night. Gen. Custer's brigade was not attacked on Crooked Run. All night this brigade (except the First Virginia,) was relieved by Col. Gregg's brigade, of Gen. Gregg's division, and Gen. Custer moved to James City and the enemy were held until late at night.

On Sunday morning, the 11th, the whole of Kilpatrick's cavalry division, under orders, moved off – Custer's brigade to Colvern Tavers, Davies' to Gaines' Mill to cover the retiring of the Fifth New York, at an early hour was sent up the Sperryville road, and being hardly pressed, fell back fighting. No sooner had the infantry all crossed Mountain Creek, than the enemy pressed the cavalry back to Culpepper, where the Fifth New York again held their advance until the rest of the cavalry had crossed and our batteries had been placed in position on a hill, which was the day before occupied by Gen. Pleasonton. Here an artillery duel took place. Gen. Gregg's division was from this point sent on the right flank, and moved up to guard the fords on the Rappahannock above the railroad bridge. Gen. Buford, at the same time, was hotly engaged with the enemy at Stevensburgh, seven miles southwest of Culpepper. At about this time Capt. Gregg, who had, with his squadron of the Second New York cavalry, been sent on a reconnaissance up the Cedar Mountain Road, returned to find himself cut off at Culpepper. In cutting their way through, Capt. Gregg was killed and several men were lost, but a majority of the squadron succeeded in rejoining their command, after some hard fighting. Gen. Pleasonton it now being 1 o'clock ordered Gen. Custer's brigade on the right and Gen. Davies' on the left, closely pressed by the now exultant enemy. And they had reason to be so, for from the high ground occupied they could see what Gen. Kilpatrick could not, that Gen. Buford had been forced back from Stevensburgh to beyond Brandy Station, this bringing a force of the enemy directly obstructing the line of Gen. Kilpatrick's retreat. The division retired in column, taking successive position to retard the progress of the enemy, and when the rebel force was discovered in front and flank at Brandy Station, in an instant every saber was drawn and cheer after cheer filled the air, and, to the music of Custer's brigade band, the column moved forward to meet the enemy's column under Stuart, ready to charge. The cool determination of the men caused the enemy to give way in front, when they formed on the flank and opened a heavy fire of artillery. Several charges were here made upon both the rear and flanking columns with success, having been led by the Generals themselves. Taking up a new position, the enemy, having been reinforced by infantry, charged our lines several times, but were handsomely repulsed. After a severe contest here, in which our own and the enemy's battle-flags several times came in close proximity. Gen. Pleasonton massed the artillery of both divisions, and, placing them in position, invited a further

contest, which having been most respectfully declined and our own infantry, with trains and baggage, having safely crossed to the left bank of the Rappahannock, the cavalry fell back to the river.

As I have said before, from Culpepper Gen. Gregg's division moved in a northerly direction on Sunday, to the different fords on the Rappahannock, above the railroad bridge. The First New Jersey cavalry had a severe conflict at Sulphur Springs on Monday, losing in all some forty men in killed and wounded, among the former Major Lucas, who was shot through the head and killed instantly. The whole division (excepting the First Maine and First Maryland) was forced back Monday night to Fayetteville. The First Maine cavalry, under Col. Smith, and 180 men of the First Maryland cavalry, Major Russell, were sent off early Monday on a reconnaissance, with instruction to proceed as far as possible on the road to Sperryville. Sperryville was reached without meeting any fighting force, though several squads of the rebel cavalry were seen. Here Lieut. Harris and twelve men were sent to communicate the result of the reconnaissance thus far made to Gen. Gregg. This party has not been heard of since, and was undoubtedly captured. At Sperryville Col. Smith ascertained that Ewell's Corps was expected every hour, and that the whole of Lee's army was advancing northward. The object of the expedition having been accomplished, toward evening the command started to return by the route it came, intending to encamp for the night two miles east of Amissville. Major Russell, with his detachment of First Maryland cavalry, was sent on in advance, after passing the latter place to communicate with Gen. Gregg. He had gone but a short distance before he was attacked by the enemy, and his men fell back in some disorder upon the main command. Col. Smith supposing the enemy had only a small force, at once disposed his command for action, but upon reconnoitering he ascertained to his discomfiture that he had the whole of A. P. Hill's corps to defeat before he could advance any further on that road; wisely concluding that the Commanding General would not expect him to attempt, much less to accomplish, such a task, he determined to seek safety in flight. The column was wheeled about, and in good order, but at a reasonably rapid rate, all things considered, was marched through Amissville again to Gaines Cross Roads, where the services of a colored man were obtained to guide it to a place of safety. Passing through Little Washington, the vicinity of Warrenton was reached late at night, where camp fires were discovered, and it became a question as to which side the camp belonged. It was finally settled upon that Maj. Baxter, of the First Maine, should advance alone, and obtain the coveted information. He entered the camp, and finding everybody asleep, deliberately dismounted, walked up to a sleeping soldier and shook him, when the following dialogue took place:

Major – "Say, you, to what regiment do you belong?"

Soldier – (Half asleep) – "Twelfth,"

Major – "Twelfth what?"

Soldier – "Twelfth Virginia Cavalry!"

Major – "All right."

Soldier – (Who by this time was fairly awake) – "To what do you belong?"

Major – "Never mind – it's all right," and springing upon his horse he rode rapidly away to inform Col. Smith that it was a rebel camp. The column was again speedily reversed, and not withstanding the jaded condition of the horses and men they were forced along at a pretty rapid rate through by roads and fields, taking a circuitous route to New Baltimore, Major Brown conducting the advance, where they arrived in safety. Soon after day-light Tuesday morning the command reached a cornfield within a few miles of Bristoe Station, and as may well be believed, all felt a sense of relief at being so near their friends again. Here the command made a halt to feed after a continuous march of nearly 80 miles in little more than twenty-four hours – most of the time surrounded by enemies in largely superior numbers. To the credit of the Colonel in command the fact should be added that he lost in this expedition only some 24 men, 12 of them were captured (probably) while attempting to communicate with Gen. Gregg, as ordered, and the balance were lost by reason of their horses giving out.

On Monday the great question under consideration at headquarters was, what the enemy proposed to do. It was not known then, bear in mind, where the main force of the enemy had gone. Gen. Meade having decided to offer battle across the Rappahannock, put forward Buford's cavalry division at noon to clear the way, and immediately crossed the Fifth, Second, and Sixth corps, which were formed in line of battle in the order named, from right to left, the whole under the command of Gen. Sedgwick, while the other troops were held in reserve for emergencies. Gen. Buford advanced, driving the enemy before him to between Brandy Station and Culpepper – the Fifth corps on the right and the Sixth corps on the left, advancing at supporting distance all the time, gradually closing in upon the centre, leaving the Second corps as a reserve. But Gen. Lee did not see fit to accept the gage of battle thus tendered, and therefore, at night our troops were withdrawn to the left bank of the river. This movement, together with other

information obtained, rendered it quite certain that Lee was marching his whole force northward, and measures were adopted, accordingly, to meet the emergency. The vast trains of supplies and ammunition had to be set in motion and protected in their transit northward – a gigantic task, which was accomplished without the loss of teams or supplies. The infantry columns were set in motion and the cavalry divisions were ordered to cover the flanks and rear. All day Tuesday the two armies moved on parallel lines and no collision took place. At about 4 o'clock Wednesday morning, Gen. Gregg's division of cavalry and the Second corps were attacked simultaneously by A. P. Hill's corps. The first warning of the presence of the enemy came in the shape of shell and round shot. As well may be supposed there was a momentary panic in camp, and some amusing and ridiculous scenes occurred; but as the actors were numerous, and they did no more than what a majority of people would do under similar circumstances, I forbear mentioning details. It is sufficient to know, however – and was a fortunate circumstance – that the troops were quickly in hand and so well managed that the enemy gained no advantage whatever – except taking a few stragglers prisoners – by the nocturnal attack. They were repulsed and driven back both by the cavalry and infantry. This little affair was, perhaps, a fortunate occurrence for us, because it revealed, to a certain extent, not only the object but the desperation of the enemy. He had undoubtedly calculated that by making a night attack our troops would be stampeded, and under the excitement the different corps d'arme'e could be whipped in detail. But Lee made a slight mistake in selecting the Second corps upon which to try his experiment. By 9 o'clock all the columns were in motion again, and no other demonstration was made by the enemy until late in the afternoon, when, just as the last of the Fifth corps had crossed Kettle Run, near Bristoe Station, Hill opened his batteries upon the Pennsylvania Reserves in rear of the column, killing three men and wounding a number. This attack did not interrupt the advance of the corps. Soon after, the advance of the Second corps approached Kettle Run on the east side of the railroad. In a fit of desperation – for in no other way can so foolhardy an act be accounted for – Hill opened his batteries upon this corps, and there was a grand rush to secure the railroad, the embankment of which formed, in many places, a formidable breastwork. The two divisions (First and Second) of the Second Corps advanced and obtained this position. The enemy, led by their officers, as if mad, rushed up to this breastwork, when a fearful slaughter took place in their ranks, our own troops suffering but little, as only their heads were exposed. As one division of the enemy approached, a signal of surrendering was made, when our men withheld their fire, and Capt. Ball, of the Second Minnesota, jumped upon the railroad track to receive them, when a volley was fired at him and he received three serious wounds. This act of treachery had a maddening effect upon our men, and for a time the slaughter was terrible. Three times our men charged across the railroad, driving the enemy before them like frightened sheep on each occasion, capturing not less than 500 prisoners and one battery – all from North Carolina troops. Fifty of these prisoners have already taken the oath of allegiance, and many of them are half convinced that Lee purposely sent them into this trap as a punishment for the well-known want of devotion that exists among the North Carolina troops to the cause of Jeff Davis. Be this as it may, I am assured by those who ought to know that a majority of the North Carolina soldiers will desert the failing fortunes of the Confederate cause whenever opportunity occurs. At about dark a lively artillery duel was opened, and kept up for an hour or two without any great damage to either side – the enemy finally withdrawing – Lee, satisfied, no doubt, that the Army of the Potomac was not to be caught asleep. The scene after nightfall was fearfully grand and imposing. The night was very dark, and while every discharge of artillery could be distinctly seen, belching forth fire spitefully like so many demons, and the shells could be heard as they passed through the air, the actors in this fearful tragedy were not visible. To the observer it conveyed an idea of the damned engaged in destroying each other in some infernal pit prepared by the hand of Omnipotence. Standing on an eminence at one side overlooking this conflict, every echo being duplicated by the surrounding hills, the sound of the shells and shot whirring thorough the air, as it was echoed to my ears through the boughs of a pine forest near at hand, produced a moaning, unearthly sound, as if the pit which the imagination depicted was a reality, and the sounds I heard were the groans and signs of a hell full of souls in misery.

This attack seemed to render it certain that the enemy proposed to risk another battle on Manassas Plains. The Commanding General, undoubtedly was ready for such a battle, and the troops were placed in position, but no enemy came; not appearing on Thursday, the troops were all moved across Bull Run, and the cavalry left to guard the fords. Thursday the First Maine cavalry was sent out on a reconnoissance. The regiment found the enemy's cavalry in some force near Manassas Junction, and two wounded in the conflict. Friday and Saturday were devoted to studying out the intentions and whereabouts of the enemy. At present the indications are that he will not risk a pitched battle, but has become alarmed at the appearance

of the Army of the Potomac, as managed by Gen. Meade, and is retiring. The mystery will be solved within a few days.

E. A. Paul

22 October 1863 – New York Times

Gen. Meade Steadily Advancing and Rebels Sulkily Retiring

Stuart's Cavalry Pushed from Gainesville

Our Left Column at Greenwich Village

Rebels in Force at Buckland Mills, Flour Mills Beyond

Dispatch to the Associated Press

Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Tuesday, October 20th The cavalry – Gen. Kilpatrick's division – in front of the army moved forward yesterday to near Warrenton, driving the rear guard of the enemy. The whole army advanced to within supporting distance during the day.

Dispatch to the Associated Press, Warrenton, Wednesday, Oct. 21st P. M. – Advices from the Army of the Potomac say that the right column advanced yesterday to within three miles of Warrenton, and the left column as far as Greenwich Village.

Our advance entered Warrenton without serious opposition, contrary to the general expectation. The conclusion is that the rebels are really retreating before our advance.

The railroad is intact to Manassas Junction and Gainesville on the Manassas Road, and the telegraph connects with the latter place.

Washington, Wednesday, Oct. 21st – Accounts from the Army of the Potomac, up to 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon, furnish us with the following highly important intelligence:

Gen. Kilpatrick's cavalry division, yesterday, pushed back Gen. Stuart's rebel cavalry beyond Gainesville toward Warrenton. There was considerable fighting but no considerable loss on our side.

Gen. Lee, it is positively stated, was at Warrenton on Monday, and had formed his line of battle and posted his artillery. Our troops were moving steadily onward in two columns. Up to 8 o'clock in the morning there was no cannonading on the front.

Gen Buford's division having taken the road Thoroughfare Gap, reported that there was no enemy there in force.

A locomotive came up on the Manassas Railroad to Gainesville, showing that the track was unbroken.

Gen. Custer reports that in the engagement on Monday we drove the rebel cavalry from Gainesville to beyond Buckland Mills, five miles westward.

At this point Gen Custer's forces encountered a rebel line of battle, infantry and artillery, at least a mile long.

Gen. Davies' cavalry brigade and battery were at one time entirely cut off by the rebels, but he succeeded in extricating himself.

We lost about two hundred in killed and wounded and missing, and several wagons, one of which contained the official papers of the brigade.

At 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon the rebels were in force at Buckland Mills, four miles from Gainesville.

Our troops are advancing. A great battle is considered imminent.

Lieut. Col. Morsek(?) of the Ninth New York, has received a commission in place of Col. Hendrickson, who is now holding a similar command in the Invalid corps.

22 October 1863 – New York Times

Special Correspondent

The Cavalry Fight on Monday

Gen. Kilpatrick's cavalry division advanced from Bull Run on the Warrenton pike Sunday afternoon, skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry to this vicinity. Monday morning two regiments of the enemy's cavalry were driven across Broad Run at Buckland's Mill, a position occupied by the enemy in considerable force. After a severe fight the enemy were driven from the village of Buckland's Mill by Gen. Custer's brigade, when Gen. Davies' brigade was advanced on the road to Warrenton, and the whole command was halted for dinner. At about 2 ½ o'clock a force of the enemy's infantry and cavalry forced themselves between the two brigades, when the infantry forced Custer's brigade across Broad Run, and the cavalry attacked Davies' command. The force thus divided and attacked by both infantry and cavalry, in largely superior force, was badly cut up. The exact loss is not at present known, but in killed, wounded and

missing, it will probably amount to 200 men. Gen Davies cut his way through, and reached this side of Broad Run last night.

Capt. Clark's squadron of the First Michigan was all supposed to be captured except eleven men at one time, but they are coming in. Most of the wagon train with the cavalry was captured, including Gen. Custer's headquarters wagon, in which was all the brigade papers.

Among the wounded are Adj. Maynard, Capt. Allen, Co. K., and private Wm. Cuff, Co. I, all of the First Michigan.

This morning the whole army is again in motion towards Warrenton, the army retreating sulkily before it. The army has thus far been managed most skillfully.

Gen. Custer's brigade did not retire from Buckland Mills until his men had exhausted all their carbine ammunition. The officers and men then held the bridge with their pistols, until the enemy had forded the river and thus flanked the brigade, which then fell back, holding the cavalry in check, so that it could no faster than the infantry supports. When near Gainesville, the enemy cried out. "Where is your Kilpatrick now?" Just at that moment our cavalry fell back into the woods, and the enemy's cavalry, supposing that a stampede had been started, came on with a dash in advance of the infantry and ran into the Fifth corps skirmish lines. A deadly fire was opened upon the enemy's cavalry at short range, killing many, among others the rebel officers leading the charge. Gen. Kilpatrick's division, notwithstanding the severe fight against large odds yesterday, is again on duty to-day.

Wounded at Buckland's Mills – October 19

_____ Dickerson, Co. E. 6th Mich. – foot
Richard Miller, Co. E. 1st Mich. – shoulder
Geo. Briggs, Co. F. 6th Mich. – head
Dennis G. Lahey, Co. C. 1st N. Y. – back
Corp. Dexter Brown, Co. E. 1st Mich. – hip
Edwin Mead, Co. K. 6th Mich. Breast
Adj. D. G. Maynard, 1st Mich. – leg
Wm. Huff, Co. I. 1st Mich. – shoulder
Jacob Schank, Co. L. 2nd N. Y. – thigh
Capt. Jerome Allen, Co. K. 1st Mich. – shoulder
Corp. W. L. Anthony, Co. A. 7th Mich. – shoulder
Ed. Jackson, colored – leg
Andrew Matty, Co. F. 7th Mich. – foot
Sergt. H. Hart, Co. I 5th Mich. – wrist
J. A. Zerland, Co. H. 6th Mich. – hip
Corp. Connelly, Co. C. 2nd N. Y. – knee
Sergt. Arthur Neal, Co. A. 6th Mich. – hip
Corp. E. H. Burnett, Co. M. 2nd N. Y. – head
Corp. John Guynn, Co. E. 1st Virginia – thigh
Robert W. Mallory, Co. C. 1st Virginia – shoulder
Sergt. Morris Ives, Co. D. 1st Vt. – shoulder
Capt. John Britton, Co. F. 18th Penn. – arm
Wm. Parker, 5th Mich. – shoulder
Charles E. Haff, Co. H. 2nd N. Y. – hand
Sergt. John O. Hopper, Co. K. 2nd N. Y. – neck
Joseph Wescott Saddler, Co. H. 2nd N. Y. – arm
Ira Brown, Co. F. 3rd N. Y. – neck
Capt. D. G. McMillion, Co. F. 5th N. Y. – neck

Two o'clock P. M., Tuesday. – The enemy are in force at Buckland's Mills, and a battle is expected to take place there on Broad Run. E. A. Paul

22 October 1863 – Alexandria Gazette
Orange and Alexandria Railroad

A dispatch from the Army correspondents of the N. Y. papers, says: - "The destruction of the O. & A. R. R. by the Confederates in their retreat was most complete. Not only were the rails torn up and piled upon heaps of ties, which were burned, thus warping and bending the iron, but all the bridges were destroyed, even the abutments being blown down, culverts blown up, water stations destroyed, timber felled across the track, and every conceivable device resorted to make the destruction complete. Of course we have not seen the full extent of damage done to the Bristoe Station and in that vicinity, it will require a week or two, with the strongest possible force of workmen to put it in order. This work has already been commenced."

22 October 1863 – Alexandria Gazette
The War in Virginia

The fight at Thoroughfare Gap on Sunday was between Stuart's and Buford's cavalry and their respective batteries. It lasted four hours, and was almost exclusively confined to the artillery on both sides. The action it is said ended by a charge of Gen. Buford's cavalry, and the Confederates retreated.

Gen. Kilpatrick, with a force of his cavalry, got into a fight with some three brigades of the Confederate, near New Baltimore on Monday evening. He made an attack on the Confederates, but soon found that they were cutting in on his flank and rear, and he had to turn and fight his way back towards Haymarket, hotly pursued, but was sustained by the arrival of the First Army Corps, under General Custer, upon whose appearance the Confederates fell back towards Aldie.

A press messenger reports that on Monday Gen. Custer drove the Confederates from Gainesville to Buckland Mills, a point five miles distant, where they encountered a heavy body of the Confederate army. The Federal loss in the affair was two hundred killed, wounded and missing, and several wagons, one containing important papers. On Tuesday, the Confederate cavalry under General Stuart fell back before General Kilpatrick from near Gainesville towards Warrenton. General Lee, it is positively stated, was at Warrenton on Monday, with his troops formed in line of battle. At noon on Tuesday the Confederates were in force at Buckland Mills, about seven miles northeast of Warrenton. The Federal forces were advancing in two columns, and a general battle was considered imminent. A later dispatch states that the right column of the Federal army advanced on Tuesday afternoon to Warrenton and the left as far as Greenwich, in Prince William County, eight miles east of Warrenton, and five miles south of Buckland Mills. The troops entered Warrenton without opposition, leading to the belief that the Confederates are retreating.

The railroad is intact to Manassas Junction and to Gainesville, on the Manassas road, and the telegraph connects with the latter place.

23 October 1863 – Alexandria Gazette
From the Army of the Potomac

Advices from the Army of the Potomac, received last night, state it has now been ascertained that none of the Confederate Infantry were engaged with Kilpatrick's cavalry near Buckland Mills on Monday. A brigade of Confederate sharpshooters, dismounted and partially concealed, deluded the Federal cavalry into the belief that they were attacked by infantry. Lee' with the exception of Stuart's cavalry, crossed the Rappahannock on Monday, at Rappahannock Station. – Stuart fell back on the river, Tuesday, not stopping in Warrenton. Officers of Gen. Lee's army stated that their retreat was caused by a destitution of provisions. Their bridge over the Rapidan had been carried away by the rise caused by the storm of Thursday night, and Lee laid a pontoon bridge over which he crossed his army to the south side of that river. It is believed no considerable Confederate force is now north of the Rapidan, unless it be a portion of Stuart's cavalry with his artillery. It was currently stated by Confederate officers that, having driven Meade back towards Washington, and having destroyed a portion of the Orange and Alexandria railroad, either Hill's or Ewell's corps would now be immediately dispatched to the assistance of Bragg. This is strengthened by previous reports that one of these corps was about to start before the late movement began. Confederate papers say Lee captured ten thousand Federal troops, a full battery and a large number wagons, during his late campaign. Official reports contradict this statement, a few prisoners excepted. The Warrenton railroad has not been destroyed by the Confederates. The Federals now hold the country east of the Rappahannock.

23 October 1863 – New York Times
The Army of the Potomac
The Bulk of Lee's Forces South of the Rapidan
Further Details of the Cavalry Fight at Buckland's Mills

The presence of Gen. Meade and Staff here to-day filled the city with the rumor that he had been relieved of his command.

There is no change in the military condition today at the front. Engineers are repairing the damage done to the railroad by the rebels on their retreat.

Accounts from the Army of the Potomac, received to-night say:

"It has been ascertained that none of the rebel infantry were engaged with Gen. Kilpatrick's cavalry, near Buckland Mills, on Monday last.

A brigade of rebel sharpshooters dismounted and partially deluded our cavalry into the belief that they were attacked by infantry.

Gen. Lee's army, with the exception of Gen. Stuart's cavalry, crossed the Rappahannock on Monday at Rappahannock Station.

Gen Stuart fell back on the river on Tuesday, not stopping in Warrenton, through which he passed, although he admitted that his men had not enjoyed a meal for twenty-four hours.

The officers of Gen. Lee's army stated that their rapid retreat was caused by a destitution of provisions.

The bridge over the Rapidan had been carried away by the rise in the river, caused by the storm of Thursday night, and Gen. Lee laid a pontoon bridge, over which he crossed his army to the south side of the river.

It is believed that there is no considerable rebel force now north of the Rapidan, unless it be portions of Gen. Stuart's cavalry, with his artillery.

It was currently rumored by rebel officers that Gen. Lee, having driven Gen. Meade back toward Washington, and destroyed a portion of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, that either Gen. Bragg. This report is strengthened by previous rumors that one of these corps was about to start thither before the late movement began.

The rebel newspapers say that Gen. Lee captured ten thousand of our troops, a full battery and a large number of wagons during his late campaign. It is sufficient to remark in answer to this, that the official reports contradict this statement.

The Warrenton Railroad has not been disturbed by the enemy. We now hold the country east of the Rappahannock. There are no signs of a battle.

23 October 1863 – National Intelligencer
The Army of the Potomac

A Washington dispatch in yesterday's New York Tribune says: "The message which the President sent to Gen. Meade last Saturday deserves to be recorded as a part of the history of the campaign now drawing to a close. Mr. Lincoln told Gen. Meade that he must find and fight the enemy at once; that if he won a victory he should have all the glory; but if he were defeated, he himself would, as commander-in-chief, assume the responsibility.

A dispatch from the correspondent of the same paper gives the annexed summary of subsequent movements of the Army of the Potomac.

On Monday morning Buford went through Thoroughfare Gap with two brigades of cavalry. The rebel infantry got behind him and he had to cut his way back through the infantry and through the Gap to New Baltimore, where he camped on Monday night. On Tuesday morning he moved in again through Thoroughfare Gap, this time successfully.

On Monday there was skirmishing all day. In the afternoon Stuart made a dash on our lines and captured the 7th Maryland Infantry, 3rd Division, 1st Corps, just at the right of Thoroughfare Gap. On Monday night the 2nd and 3rd Corps camped at Bristow, and marched to Bealton on Tuesday.

On Tuesday affairs were generally more quiet. All heavy baggage was sent to the rear, and the army stripped for the fight which we supposed likely to ensue on the morrow.

On the retreat of our forces they blew up the railroad bridges. The rebels have since blown up the stone abutments.

In the skirmish on Monday night Major Clark and fifty men of the 5th Michigan Cavalry, dismounted as skirmishers were captured by a body of infantry at Buckland Mills. The rebels then dashed on to within two miles of Gainesville, and skirmished there.

On Tuesday neither Gregg's nor Kilpatrick's division had any skirmishing – the first day of rest enjoyed by them since September 9. – Kilpatrick is reported to have made a raid beyond Warrenton, near Water Mountain, on Tuesday, but was driven back with heavy loss.

Our headquarters on Tuesday night was at Gainesville, the whole army steadily moving forward. The general opinion is that the rebels are all of a day in advance, but leave sufficient force to prevent rapid movements forward. There is no probability of a battle.

23 October 1863 – New York Times
The Cavalry Advance to Buckland Mills
The Late Fight of the Third Cavalry Division
Gallant Conduct of the Whole Command

The advance of this army – Lieut. Whitaker and twenty of Gen. Kilpatrick's cavalry division – entered Warrenton last evening, the enemy's cavalry, under Stuart, at the same time retiring toward Sulphur Springs.

The recent gallant cavalry fight of Gen. Kilpatrick's division at Buckland Mills and vicinity is still the subject of conversation throughout the army. Now that all the command is in I am able to furnish a more reliable account of that affair than the first dispatches, which were necessarily incomplete, owing to the absence of a portion of the command. The commander of the division received orders on Sunday last to move as far as possible towards Warrenton, under the supposition that nothing but cavalry would oppose his progress, and knowing that Kilpatrick had whipped Stuart alone on several well-contested fields, it was not thought worth while to advance infantry within immediate supporting distance. Notwithstanding this division has been constantly on active duty and the men and horses were considerably the worse for ware, the order to march was obeyed with alacrity and the command was moving by 3 o'clock P. M. on Sunday. But little progress had been made from Bull Run before the enemy's pickets were encountered and driven back upon their supports at Gainesville, where two regiments were found drawn up in line of battle. Night coming on the command camped. Early Monday morning the advance was sounded, and the enemy retired from Gainesville, fighting as they went, taking the Warrenton pike. From Gainesville Gen. Kilpatrick took the precaution to send the First Virginia regiment, Major Farrable, to Haymarket and vicinity to guard the right flank, and the Seventh Michigan, Col. Mann, to Greenwich and vicinity to guard the left flank, while the remainder of the division moved up the Warrenton pike. The enemy fled precipitately until they had crossed Broad Run, at Buckland Mills, where Hampton and Jones' brigades, under the immediate command of Stuart, with two batteries, occupied a very strong position west of the run. The banks of Broad Run in this vicinity are very steep, and, therefore, are not fordable only at a few places. Pennington's and Elder's batteries were opened with effect, compelling the enemy to move their batteries several times. After an artillery duel and skirmishing for nearly two hours, and the Commanding General having received word that there was no enemy near at hand on his right or left, under a concentrated fire of the artillery a crossing was effected in force by the pike bridge. The skirmishes, not to be left behind, boldly waded the river, and notwithstanding all the obstacles to such a movement, kept up an excellent line, the whole command pushing forward under a very heavy fire. The conflict, though comparatively brief here, was sharp, the enemy contending manfully for every foot of ground, but when they did give way, Gen. Davies' brigade, which had before been held in hand while Custer's had the advance, moved rapidly forward, pressing the enemy above New Baltimore. While Gen. Custer's command was taking a nooning, a messenger came in out of breath to Gen. Kilpatrick, with the information that a column of the enemy was threatening his left. Suitable disposition of the force was at once made to resist this unexpected danger by Maj. Cook, Chief of Staff, and Adj. Gen. Estes. No sooner had this been done than a portion of the Seventh Michigan which had been stationed on their flank was forced back by a line of rebel infantry, acting as skirmishers, with a strong reserve, believed to have been at least one full division, with a brigade or more of cavalry. The extreme danger of the command as situated was seen at a glance by Gen. Kilpatrick, and he dispatched Lieut. Hickey, with orders to Gen. Davies to fall back at once, as he was in danger of being cut off. Gen. Davies had in part anticipated the order, for upon hearing firing at his rear, had fallen back to within one mile and a half of Gen. Custer's brigade, and was there awaiting orders when the messenger arrived. While this was transpiring the Fifth Michigan, Col. Alger, was deployed as skirmishers to so far as possible fill up the gap between the two brigades, and keep back a threatened movement of the enemy to divide the

command. A severe struggle now took place for possession of the pike – our forces trying to hold it so as to enable Davies to pass and take up a new position, while the enemy were determined that the movement should not be made. Having both infantry and cavalry in this they were successful – Gen. Custer, however, succeeding in getting his command in safety across Broad Run after the most desperate fighting – in which Pennington's battery. (Co. M. Second artillery.) as usual, took a most important part – firing with great rapidity and making their guns a terror to all massed forces with which the enemy threatened the retiring troops, though at one time they boldly came within a very short distance of the guns, intent upon capturing them.

Once across the river the bridge was held – though some of the men were entirely out of carbine ammunition, and resort was had to Colt's revolvers, in which the officer took a conspicuous part. The enemy, however, succeeded in effecting a crossing some distance to the left, and the brigade fell back fighting to the vicinity of Gainesville, where the troops disappeared in a belt of timber, passing through a line of Sixth corps infantry skirmishers there concealed, whom the enemy, not seeing, made bold to charge, and were repulsed with great loss, the officer leading the charge being among the killed.

When Gen. Kilpatrick saw that Custer's brigade was safe across Broad Run, he directed him to fall back slowly, and fighting if pursued, and then started, accompanied by an orderly only, to join Gen. Davies, whom he had notified previously by an Aid that he was cut off, and must make his way to the pike leading from Thoroughfare Gap to Gainesville. To many not acquainted with the circumstances, this might seem a foolhardy errand, having to recross Broad Run, which he did at the bridge, and to run the gauntlet of skirmishers for more than a mile; but Gen. Kilpatrick would rather have lost his own life on that field than to lose a brigade, the fate of which then hung in the balance; and while having the utmost confidence in the ability and coolness of Gen. Davies, he at the same time realized the fact that his own presence would do something toward encouraging the troops, particularly as some of them had been associated with him for years. Providence permitting, he succeeded in reaching the command with ten or a dozen gallant spirits, both officers and men, who, seeing the noble conduct of their General, resolved to accompany him, without orders. Fortunately, as the sequel will show. Dr. Capehart, Chief Surgeon of the brigade, was familiar with that section of country, and avoiding the main road leading to Thoroughfare Gap, reached the pike a short distance above the village of Haymarket. The difficulty of this movement will be understood when it is stated that this reduced brigade was attacked in the rear by both Hampton's and Jones' brigades, and that Fitz Lee was ready to confront it on the Thoroughfare Gap Road, which they expected Davies would take when cut off. When Gen. Kilpatrick reached the command, he at once ordered the Harris Light (Second New York) to act as rear guard. No hard pressed were they in rear and flank that the choicest spirits – because the bravest, both officers and men – of the command joined the rear guard, and nobly did they withstand the onset of the enemy, and even mocked them – while exulting at the idea of even driving a moiety of Kilpatrick's command – in their beast-like yelp, and hurried them back on more than one occasion by the sword alone. At one time the rear-guard and the advance of the enemy were all mixed together; the enemy's advance wearing a uniform similar to that worn by our own troops, in the excitement of the moment it was not easy to distinguish one from the other. As an instance of this I may state that a rebel urged Lieut. Whittaker of Gen. Kilpatrick's staff, to press forward. Whittaker, supposing it was some of our own men, upbraided him for wishing, as he supposed, to press past and abandon the wagons. By 7 ½ o'clock in the evening both brigades were in camp at Gainesville, having been engaged nearly all day fighting a combination of infantry and cavalry, with a loss, all told, as now appears – including killed, wounded and missing – not to exceed 100 men, instead of 300 or 400, as was at first reported by stragglers. And instead of losing 8 or 9 wagons, the actual loss is only two, and one of these got mired, and the other broke down. No horses or mules were lost. In this retreat Elder's battery took a conspicuous part, and was handled with consummate skill.

Gen Kilpatrick, upon bringing his Second brigade into camp, reported personally at headquarters, and received the thanks of both Gens. Meade and Pleasanton for the able manner in which he had discharged the important duty that had been entrusted to him, and the skill he displayed in extricating his command from the most trying positions in which a command can be placed. It is just such emergencies that test the capacity of a commanding officer, and Gen. Kilpatrick, all through the trying scenes of Monday, showed that he was fully equal to the occasion, for nothing but cool judgment and discriminate section, with hard fighting, saved the division from the trap the enemy had laid for it. Gens. Kilpatrick, Custer, Davies, Cole, Alger, Mann, Sawyer, and in fact a large majority of the officers and men, deserve particular mention for preserving intact, almost by superhuman exertions the hard-earned reputation of the cavalry corps.

Gen. Merritt reports that the enemy have no completely destroyed the Orange and Alexandria Railroad between Warrenton Junction and the Rappahannock River, that it will take two months to reconstruct it; and in the opinion of Engineers it will be much easier and save time to construct almost an entire new road, that to attempt to repair the old one. They have filled the cuts – of which there are several – with trees and earth; burnt the culverts and bridges, blown up the abutments, destroyed the ties, and miles of rails by heating and twisting them.

E. A. Paul

23 October 1863 – Charleston S.C. Mercury
The Campaign in Virginia & Situation of the Armies
Bristow Station, Va. October 15, 1863

The mails from Virginia bring us no stirring news from the seat of war in that State. There has been no general engagement, and the prospect of such an occurrence never was, to all appearances, more distant at any period of the war. Meade is believed to be resting at Centreville. He “fell back” with more celerity than Pope, and with more success than either he or McClellan. If it should be the design of Meade again to advance towards the Rapidan, he, can hardly do so in less than a month, as it will take him at least that time to reconstruct the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, which by the exertions of both armies, has been pretty thoroughly demolished from Culpeper Court House to Manassas Junction. The army correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer writes as follows from Bristow Station, Va., October 15.

I wrote you last from Warrenton, near which place both Hill and Ewell bivouacked on Tuesday night. Stuart had driven the enemy during the day from Jeffersonton, Culpeper County, four miles beyond the Rappahannock, back as far as Auburn, a little village four miles below Warrenton, in the direction of the railroad – a distance of nearly twenty miles. Here, just before night, our cavalry came up, for the first time, with the enemy’s infantry, and were forced to give back a mile or two, towards Warrenton, and our pickets, on Tuesday night, extended three miles out of Warrenton, on the Cub run road. Early on Wednesday morning Ewell began to move on this road with Rhodes’ division in the advance. Our artillery, or rather detachments from Colonel Snowden Andrew’s and Colonel Carter’s battalions, opened a brisk fire on the enemy, to which they responded quite energetically. Simultaneously with this, Rhodes threw forward one of his brigades as skirmishers, and this line soon succeeded in driving the enemy before them from the temporary stand which they had taken. After this, Ewell’s corps moved forward, steadily pushing the enemy before them, by Catlett’s Station, and on to Bristow, capturing some three hundred Yankees, Early alone taking one hundred and seventy. After the skirmish at Auburn, Early led the advance of Ewell’s corps, for the reason that in order to dislodge and drive the enemy, Rhodes had to make something of a detour.

A. P. Hill’s column left Warrenton on Wednesday morning by the Centreville turnpike, passing New Baltimore, immediately beyond which he turned to the right and took the road to Greenwich on to Bristow Station. The column of Yankees which he was pursuing on this road, encamped the night before at Greenwich, twelve miles beyond Warrenton and had about two hours start of Hill on Wednesday morning. The head of Hill’s column came up with them, however, on yesterday, at Bristow Station, about three o’clock, and here a fight ensued, lasting until near sunset, in which our forces were repulsed, or rather Kirkland’s (formerly Pettigrew’s) and Cook’s brigades of North Carolinians were driven back, and five of our guns were captured, belonging to Lusk’s and Rice’s batteries, of McIntosh’s battalion. One of the guns, however, was retaken this morning, so that our loss will only be four pieces. Our losses in wounded will foot up, I think, about three hundred. Kirkland’s brigade lost one hundred and sixty eight wounded, as follows:

11 th North Carolina	13
26 th North Carolina	53
44 th North Carolina	60
47 th North Carolina	28
52 nd North Carolina	<u>14</u>
In all	168

Gen. Kirkland himself was wounded in the arm, but is on the field again this morning. In Cook’s brigade, the Division Surgeon told me he thought one hundred would cover the wounded. These were the two brigades which were engaged with the enemy’s force, consisting, as some say, of a whole Yankee corps, but as others affirm, of only a line of skirmishers. Gen. Cook was wounded in the left leg. It is quite serious. His leg is well nigh crushed. His surgeon informed me that he had taken a hand full of bone out of

the wound.. In reply to an inquiry which I put as to whether he thought the General would lose his leg, he said he thought it problematical. Lieut. Col. Martin, of the 11th North Carolina, was badly wounded, his arm being broken and being struck in the head, besides. Capt. John Montgomery, of the 44th (Kirkland's) was killed.

During the shelling that ensued Posey's, Mahone's, Davis' and Perry's brigades were exposed and suffered about as follows: Posey had one man, a private of the 48th Mississippi, killed, and eight wounded, among them General Posey himself, who is wounded severely, but not dangerously, in the leg. The command of Posey's brigade now devolves upon Colonel Harris, of the 12th. Mahone lost sixteen, among them Lieutenant Colonel Niermeyer, 61st Virginia, slightly wounded in ankle; Captain Barrand 16th Virginia, mortally, and Willie Robinson and C. M. Cole, of Company G, 6th Virginia, was mortally wounded. Davis lost about twenty wounded, and Perry two killed and twenty wounded. H. H. Walker's Virginia brigade lost some for or five wounded, but there were no officers among them.

In the skirmish which took place at Auburn between Rhodes and the enemy, yesterday, we lost a small number of wounded, but I have not heard exactly how many. Of losses in the artillery I have no information, but I think they were slight.

I have thus spoken upon the best information attainable as to our loss in wounded. I have just returned from a ride over the battle ground, where they have been burying the dead to-day. I was told by the burial detail that we buried about fifty-six of our men. Only two dead Yankees were left upon the field as far as I could see. We lost some prisoners, but how many I cannot say accurately – not over a hundred I think.

Last night the enemy again retired in good order down the Occoquan road, but it is supposed they have turned up and are making for Centreville, where their prisoners say that Meade has told them that he means to make a stand. Hill captured about one hundred prisoners yesterday, which I have seen. What the Yankee loss was in the fight of yesterday I have no means of learning. I am told that they left about one hundred of their wounded in the charge of two of their surgeons, in our hands.

It is certainly a little singular, and a fact calling for explanation, that a pursuing army should have its artillery captured by its retreating adversary. It must have resulted from gross mismanagement somewhere. But as at present advised, I am not prepared to fix the blame. Gen. Cook, who commanded the two brigades, says, as I am informed that his men fought well, but that they were not properly supported – the supports being more than a mile in rear; and, further, that his men had to move upon the enemy in a line running somewhat at right angles with the enemy, so that he had to encounter, at the same time, a superior force in front, and on his flank, or rather in his rear. This may or may not be the explanation; I cannot say. I made efforts to find General C. but was unable so to do. I passed over the field today; It is immediately at the railway station. The ground on our side and over which we charged at the Yankees, is an open field, skirted at its farther edge by pine forest. As soon as our men emerged from this forest, they were exposed to the ranking fire from the enemy's batteries, which were situated on a crest just below the railroad station. This crest was the highest elevation in the neighborhood. The open field, of which I have spoken, terminates in a high bank on the upper side of the railroad, and it was behind this that the enemy were concealed, and from which they poured their murderous fire upon our men, and one that succeeded in driving them completely back. No further effort was made yesterday evening to dislodge them. This morning the Yankee bird had flown.

Stuart has kept the cavalry quite active since this movement began and Jones' brigade, which has been in the advance, has been specially active and serviceable. General Stuart has commanded in person and headed the advances, and has fought the enemy from James City in Madison on Saturday evening back to this point. At one time on Tuesday evening the enemy contrived to cut off Stuart's communication with Gen. Lee, but this was readily restored on Wednesday morning, at which time the 1st North Carolinas Cavalry captured a whole regiment of Yankee infantry, but being heavily pressed by a large column of the enemy were compelled to relinquish their hold upon them. At this time I am told that Colonel Griffin of this regiment was killed.

Meade can truthfully say that General Lee has broken up his (Meade's) winter quarters, for from Culpeper to Bristow the Yankees had constructed their huts and cabins. And here at Bristow they had torn down an elegant new house to get the weatherboarding to construct huts for their winter occupation.

It is certainly true that Meade has managed his retreat most orderly, and that he has saved his stores, and lost but few men, though I think it equally true that the Yankee Army is considerably scared. And it is a fact that Barney did not sleep a wink Tuesday night while encamped at Greenwich, in Prince

William County but paced the floor of the house in which his headquarters were almost incessantly, repeatedly consulting his watch and sending couriers to the pickets to know if they saw any rebels.

There has been heavy firing all day to-day, and even into night, some distance below; but at this writing I have not learned the nature of it, though it is supposed to be an engagement between some portion of our cavalry and the enemy.

Our boys have been sadly disappointed in their expectations of captures, and from more than one of them you can hear such an expression as this: If Jackson had been along, we would have gotten everything we wanted. Alas! We have no Jackson now. Our boys, however, make the Yankees whom they capture, pull of their shoes, which they at once convert to their own use.

The country people hereabouts are loud in their praises for Mosby. They say that he has done the Yankees great harm, besides compelling the enemy to keep at least fifteen thousand men as a railway guard, and preventing straggling and raiding parties from going through the country committing depredations.

Friday, October 16 – The ambulances are busy this morning conveying the wounded back to Warrenton. General Kirkland has been compelled to quit the field by his wound. A heavy rain fell yesterday and last night, which, to some extent, may impede operations.

I learn that we have over one thousand prisoners here now to send back. Among them a Colonel, pretending to be crazy. Nothing from the firing yesterday – onward is the word this morning.

24 October 1863

Reports by Telegraph

Washington, Friday, October 23

Major General Meade, after a brief visit to Washington, returned to his headquarters to-day. Cavalry reconnaissance's are continued on our part as far as the Rappahannock.

The Orange and Alexandria Railroad has already been repaired one mile beyond Bristoe Station. Forces are engaged day and night in repairing the damages of the enemy.

Reports from the army say the discipline and morale of the army were never better than at the present time, and both officers and men have the greatest confidence in the ability of Gen. Meade.

The Signal corps has earned additional honors during the late campaign. Among other valuable services, it first discovered the movements of the enemy from the Rapidan to Madison Court House, and thence, via Sperryville, to Warrenton, thus enabling Gen. Meade to take such measures as resulted in defeating Lee's plans. The corps attached to the Army of the Potomac is under the direction of Capt. Norton.

The condition of the residents of Fauquier and Prince William Counties is represented as painful, there being very scant supplies of the necessities of life. They are bordering on starvation.

It is estimated that 1500 men will cover all our losses in the late campaign, including killed, wounded, stragglers and prisoners.

24 October 1863 – Alexandria Gazette

Latest Southern News

The Richmond Dispatches of October 21, contains the following dispatches.

Gordonsville, October 20 – One Thousand Yankee prisoners, captured last week, are expected here to-night. The Rapidan bridge will be repaired to-morrow morning.

The following dispatch from Gen. R. E. Lee to Gen. Cooper, dated October 20th, is published. – “Gen. Stuart yesterday opposed, at Buckland, the advance of Gen. Kilpatrick' division of cavalry, while Fitz Lee attacked his flank and rear. The enemy was pursued until he reached his infantry support at Haymarket and Gainesville. Two hundred prisoners were captured, with their horses and equipment.

A writer in the Washington Chronicle complains that the guard at the steamboat landing in Washington, “are not strict enough” in their search of the baggage of travelers down the Potomac,” and says that trunks, &c., should be more thoroughly examined than they are now.

The Negro boy, in Washington, who recently killed young Samuel Howard Kinsey, has been found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to two years imprisonment in the penitentiary.

The condition of the residents of Fauquier and Prince William countries is represented as painful, there being very scant supplies of the necessities of life. They are bordering on starvation.

24 October 1863 – New York Times

27 Oct 1863 - National Intelligencer

Lee's Campaign

A Complete View of the Late Rebel Movements

The Strategy of Both Sides – What was Aimed at and What Effectuated

Full Details from our Special Correspondent

Army of the Potomac, Warrenton, Va.

Thursday, October 22, 1863

The Army of the Potomac has at length settled down, after its great race up and down Virginia. The whirl, and bustle, and confusion of the backward and the forward movement have so far given place to calmer moods, that it is possible now to survey with some satisfaction the series of complicated and exciting events whose relations and upshot it was at the time impossible to grasp.

It must be acknowledged that the campaign of the past fortnight has not been one that has brought much glory to either army. The operations, with the exception of a variety of skirmishes and the one considerable brush at Bristoe, have all been of the kind included under the term strategy – that is, marches and maneuvers out of sight of the enemy. The rebels have inflicted no great damage on us. We have inflicted no great damage on the rebels. In truth, the real results of this invasive movement on the part of Gen. Lee are to be sought for not so much in anything that has been accomplished here in Virginia, as in the relations of operations here to the whole field of war. In this regard it remains to be seen how far the progress and fortunes of the war will be effected by the late rebel movement. At present it assumes the character of a diversion in favor of operations in the Southwest. There is not the shadow of a doubt that a considerable portion of the troops with which Lee threw back Meade are now on their way to reinforce the rebel army in Tennessee for active work against some portion of the great line now being held by the Union forces from Chattanooga to the Gaps of Virginia.

Rebel Theory of Lee's Forward Movement

I have had frequent opportunity of learning the rebel theory of Lee's late movement, having conversed with many citizens of the country through which we have, during the past two or three days, passed in the wake of Lee's army, and they all tell the same story. It is that the movement was made for the purpose of throwing the Army of the Potomac back on Washington and then utterly destroying the railroad connecting Meade's army, on the line of the Rapidan with its base, thus relieving Richmond from the standing menace which our occupation of that front of operations held out, exhausting the season during which it is possible for us to make a Fall campaign, and throwing us over till next Spring, when the dissolution of our army and prospective rebel operations in the Southwest would secure them peace.

These views were stated to me as those of the rebel leaders by (among many others) an intelligent and cultivated Englishman named Green, who lives in the style of an English gentleman on a charming estate at Greenwich, a few miles north of Warrenton, and with whom Gens. Lee and Ewell, and their respective staffs, stayed last Sunday, while on the retreat.

Real Object of the Campaign

Such was the theory given out by the rebels on their backward movement. And through perhaps not the whole truth, it is, doubtless, a large element in it. A plan of campaign such as that on which Gen. Lee lately entered embraces, doubtless, a complex of aims; and there can be no doubt that, if the rebel Generalissimo had been able to plant himself in a favorable position on Meade's communication, he would have given battle. The desperate dashes which they made at our trains show, too, how greedy they were for booty. With these addends we have, perhaps, the whole of the series of motives that prompted Lee to the forward movement. There is no probability that he ever purposed crossing the Potomac for a fresh invasion of Maryland or Pennsylvania. There is, on the contrary, very great certainty that he did not design such a movement, for his army brought no pontoon train, a fact in itself conclusive against any such design, and further corroborated by the limited quantity of supplies he had with him.

As to the results of the movement, the rebels did not succeed in any considerable captures; the movements of the lieutenants on whom Lee relied to execute his plans were too slow; the retrograde movement of Meade too swift and too skillful, to afford him the fitting opportunity for battle, and the one practical result obtained is the destruction of the railroad, and what that involves.

The Destruction of the Railroad

This work has been very thoroughly done, Lee's whole army having been engaged on it for two days. From Bristoe to the Rappahannock, the destruction is complete – bridges burnt, culverts blown up, ties taken up and burnt, rails twisted and rendered useless, cuts filled up, etc. etc. The engineers say that it

will be at least a month before it can be again put in running order. It is with no small mortification, therefore, that we have to confess the rebels have achieved an end fully commensurate with the labor and risk of the campaign. The rebel theory, so far as it consigns the army of the Potomac to a role of inactivity in Virginia is accepted by our own Generals, and it will depend on the conduct of these who direct military operations over the whole theatre of war how far the pass to which the rebels have brought affairs in Virginia will affect the fortunes of the war on other fields.

A Retrospective Glance

In order to be able to draw any just deductions from the events of the past fortnight, it will be well to take a glance at the salient features of the campaign as a whole. It is, perhaps, due to state that my personal experience is confined to what happened on the return tide of the army, not having been with it on its retrograde movement, but having joined it at Bull Run on Monday of this week. On the march, however, and sitting around the bivouac fires with the leading Generals in the army, during the past three days, I have heard so much about it that I can give the dates and marches with more accuracy than has hitherto been done.

First Disclosure of Rebel Intentions

On Friday and Saturday, the 9th and 10th of the current month, the designs of Lee to execute a turning movement on the right flank of the position along the Rapidan began to be suspected. The geographical configuration of the region on the Rapidan peculiarly favors a secret maneuvers of this kind on the part of the rebels, for while on the north side of the Rapidan, occupied by us, the face of the country falls down to a wide extended plain, on which every movement on our part could be seen with the greatest ease – the south side, occupied by the rebels, presents a series of high ridges, which completely mask their movements. Gen. Meade, in order to learn the design of the enemy, sent out cavalry reconnoissance, the details of whose operations you have already published, and having satisfied himself that Lee was actually making a movement northward from Madison Court House, the army was on Sunday drawn back from the Rapidan to the Rappahannock, passing the latter river at Kelly's and the upper force.

A Forward Movement to Feel the Enemy

Gen. Meade was still, however, in great doubt as to the real proportions of the rebel demonstration; so on the following morning, Monday, the 12th, at 11 A. M., the Second, Third and Sixth corps were sent back across the Rappahannock, and pushed forward to the vicinity of Brandy Station. Having become satisfied of the reality of the rebel movement on our right, these corps at midnight of Monday retraced their steps across the Rappahannock.

Position of our Army at Starting

On Monday night the position of the army was as follows: The Third Corps at Freeman's Ford; the First at Kelly's Ford; Buford's Cavalry at Brandy Station; Gregg at Fayetteville; Kilpatrick toward Hartwood.

The Rebel Position and Movements

In the meantime, where were the rebels? From Madison Courthouse Lee had pushed directly north to Sperryville, and on Monday night, while we were at the positions just indicated, the rebels were advancing across the fords of the Hedgeman River.

Thus far the rebels had clearly the advantage of us. We had lost a day by the counter movement. This was clear gain to them. They had the shorter line, whether to Washington or any point between them and Washington. Accordingly, for the next two days – Tuesday and Wednesday – it became a regular race between the two armies which should first reach the heights of Centreville.

The Second Corps marched all Monday night up to Fayetteville to guard the road, and stayed there till the whole army passed.

A Race Between the two Armies

On Tuesday both armies were pushing toward as fast as they could, parallel to each other and separated by but half a dozen miles or less.

The rebels passed through Warrenton, and citizens here tell me that they occupied the whole of Tuesday in doing this, their trains being extremely long.

We passed some miles to the right, crossing Cedar Run at a place named Auburn, five miles due east of Warrenton.

General Lee Forms a Plan

At Warrenton Gen. Lee formed the bold design of sending one of his corps (Hill's) by a rapid detour to seize the heights of Centreville, while his other (Ewell's) should fall upon our flank and rear.

It was on Wednesday morning, when our whole army passed Cedar Run at Auburn, Gen. Warren's Corps (Second) bringing up the rear. To this commander was assigned the duty of covering the trains of the army, which were much delayed in the crossing by the pontoons.

A Critical Moment

The occasion was now an extremely critical one. Ewell had begun pressing severely on our rear, and already on Wednesday morning, at Auburn the rear guard became engaged with a portion of his force. A double necessity was upon Gen. Meade: first, he must move with extreme celerity to reach Centreville in advance of Hill, who had the start of him, and was on the shorter time; secondly, he must keep back the enemy from his trains in the rear.

Meade Requests Warren to Hold On

The army having passing Auburn, pushed rapidly on toward Catlett's. A couple of miles beyond Auburn, Warren received a message from General Meade to hold on to give him time for his trains. The Second Corps, accordingly, for two hours exhausted all the recourses of tactics to keep back the enemy, by forming line of battle, skirmishing, shelling the woods, &c., the enemy making vigorous demonstrations all the while. The task was boldly and bravely and effectually performed by Gen. Warren.

About noon we reached Catlett's and began his retreat toward Bristoe. The latter place was made at 2:45 P. M. on Wednesday.

Hill's corps had reached Bristoe about simultaneously with Warren – in fact, had just got ahead of him sufficiently to form a line of battle, which he did perpendicular to the railroad.

The Battle of Bristoe

The position was the most perilous one in which a column can be placed – marching by the flank and met by the enemy in line of battle. Gen. Warren was equal to the emergency. The troops were brought up at the run – the First Division (Caldwell's) having come up thus for a mile and a half, laden with eight days rations.

The troops which had been marching on the left of the railroad were brought quickly over to the right, and Gen. Warren, seeing that the enemy had neglected to occupy the cut and embankment of the railroad, on the instant jumped his men, unseen, into it. More prudence on the part of the rebel commander, or less sagacity on the part of the Union commander, would have proved the destruction of that corps.

The rest of the army had all gone ahead. The First Corps (Newton's) had already reached Manassas. The last one but Warren's, namely, the Fifth, (Sykes) passed beyond Bristoe simultaneously with Warren's coming up, and just as he got engaged with the enemy, he received from Sykes the comforting intelligence that he "was moving off slowly and is in good order!"

Gen. Warren had formed his troops under cover of the cut and embankment of the railroad, constituting ready-made breastworks. On the left he placed a defensive crenel. Dowe rushed the enemy, charging on this flank, when suddenly the troops under cover rose up, and at close range poured volley after volley of deadly fire late the advancing and presently retreating rebels.

After twenty minutes' fight the enemy was glad to make off, leaving a thousand dead and wounded and five hundred prisoners in our hands! It was well that night came on as it did, for just as the sun set, Ewell, who had been following in Warren's rear, came up, but had only time to form line of battle when the darkness interrupted further operations, and the rear guard was able to pass on and join the main body of the army.

Lee's Plans Disconcerted

The repulse at Bristoe completely disconcerted Lee's plans, so far as they embraced the view of getting on the communications of Gen. Meade or reaching Centreville before him. Lee had no longer with him that unmatched executive officer, Stonewall Jackson, unequalled at a rapid march. Hill proved slow and feeble and instead of striking the head of the Union column he struck its rear, and got badly handled in consequence.

The Rebels Halt

From this moment Lee abandoned all purpose of giving battle, and never advanced the main body of his army much beyond Bristoe. Detachments were, however, sent to follow up the Union force and make demonstrations. On Friday, at 11 o'clock A. M., the enemy appeared in front of Blackburn's and Mitchell's fords, and made a vicious attack on our skirmishers, but were promptly driven back. Stuart's cavalry, meanwhile was sent by a detour round northward and westward; but being checked and repulsed in all their efforts, they gave up the attempt. The rebel army was now set to work to destroy the railroad, and the effectual manner in which they did their work has already been mentioned. Thursday, Friday and Saturday seem to have been employed in this manner, and then Lee began his retrograde movement – the rebel army

passing through Greenwich on Sunday, and Warrenton on Monday, and thence down across the Rappahannock, their rear covered by the cavalry.

Meade Awaits Further Developments

In the meantime the Union army lay at Blackburn's Ford, Bull Run, Chantilly and Centreville, awaiting the development of the enemy's plans. Headquarters were on the old Bull Run Battlefield itself, by the woods through which the regulars made their charge.

A Forward Movement

On Monday, the 19th, the forward movement was begun, the army crossing Bull Run on pontoons. The Second corps took the road toward Auburn, the Sixth toward Warrenton, the Third toward Catlett's the First and Fifth toward New Baltimore. Tuesday, 20th found the army on the line indicated – the line of Cedar Run. It had been expected and hoped that we should meet the enemy, but they were far ahead, and nothing but small cavalry parties appeared. On Wednesday, our cavalry returning, gave the intelligence that the rebels were all across the Rappahannock and the Rapidan. In this situation, pursuit was, of course, hopeless, and has for the present been given up.

Criticism of the Campaign

In passing judgment upon the conduct of this campaign – even if that be possible at all at this time – we must weigh duly all the elements, that center into the problem. Had Gen. Meade been free to operate with no other considerations in view save those of a military order, a blow might have been struck at the audacious invaders that would have proved their death blow. When Lee's force was massed at Sperryville, and Meade's on the Rappahannock, the Union Commander was already practically on the rebel line of communications, and an advance on the part of General Meade direct on Gordonville he would have brought Lee promptly back to attend to the menaced safety of the rebel Capital, and he might have, in a strong position, given the rebel forty thousand battle with double that force. This would have been to repeat the brilliant strategy of Turenne, who when his opponent, Montecuculi crossed to the left bank of the Rhine to invade Alsace, himself passed to the right bank, and thus brought Montecuculi hurriedly back to look after his own communications. Turenne had no Washington to look after. Meade was bound, at all hazards, to cover the Capital, and could not possibly afford to risk a battle with his face to the Potomac. The conduct of Gen. Meade was prudent, and under the circumstances, probably the best possible; but, in a purely military point of view, a line of action was open to him which was not only prudent, but, in an extraordinary degree, bold and decisive, which is oftentimes the best kind of prudence.

Meade's Anxiety to Give Battle

As to the imputation that Gen. Meade was, during the retrograde movement, trying to get away from Lee, and maneuvering, throughout, to avoid a battle, and would have fought the rebels at Sperryville, at Winchester, at Centreville, or anywhere else in which he could have brought his army into position, had not the wily strategy of Lee, and his own exceedingly defective information as to the position of the enemy balked his designs and desires. Referring last night as we sat around the camp-fire, to his disappointment at not having been able to get battle out of Lee, he said, to report literally his own pungent expression, that it "was like pulling out his eye teeth not to have had a fight." Whether a man of a different stamp would not have been able to compel a battle I know not; but Meade was not only willing but eager to bring such a result about, and did all he could in this view.

The Corps Commanders

If the whole truth must be told, it must be confessed he was too little aided by the Corps Commanders. Too many of them are possessed by the mere spirit of routine, by an unwillingness to go beyond the mere letter of orders, (whatever change of action circumstances may dictate,) and to do nothing without orders. It is not that they do not do what they are told, but that they lack zeal. There is hardly one – I think I am sure there is not more than one – who would take the responsibility and do on the moment what the highest duty requires. The conduct of that Corps Commander, who, when Warren became engaged with one corps of the enemy at Bristoe Station and the other rebel corps was coming up close behind, sent word, as the booming cannon plead with him to return and aid Warren to engage the enemy and make the action decisive, that he "was moving leisurely off," is an illustration of the spirit of the conduct of too many of these General officers.

The Army of the Potomac

The Army of the Potomac – which I revisit after an interval of some months, and after seeing several of our other great armies in the field – remains the same splendid military organism – unchanged, save in having bettered itself in many soldierly qualities. In marching, especially, I detect a very marked improvement, as compared with my recollections of the march over the same ground last year. Nothing

could be more perfect than the training which these old campaigners have acquired in all the arts and economies of marching. As an illustration of the marching done during the campaign of the past fortnight, I may mention that on the 14th Warren's Corps marched twenty-four miles and fought two engagements. As to the upshot of the wonderful tramps which they have been making through the days and nights of this late curious campaign, they feel puzzled, amused, and are somewhat disposed to think they have been bamboozled. But they are the same patient, all suffering, heroic men. Yet how seldom do we hear a word of praise to these brave self sacrificing fellows!

Our losses is men, during the campaign have been inconsiderable, and in material very slight; but the horses have suffered severely. Gen. Pleasanton, Chief of Cavalry, tells me that the number of killed, wounded and broken-down horses during this campaign will reach thirty-five hundred.

Incidents by the Way

In the counter-march we passed over much of the same ground over which we had come up, and almost every spot of which has been rendered famous by some action during the numerous campaigns of the last three years. As I rode over the battle-field of Bull Run my horse's hoofs knocked about the skulls of poor fellows who, having been laid in shallow graves by the hill slopes, had been literally washed out of their last resting places by the rains. All along the way the army was followed by flocks of carrion crows preying on the dead horses that strew the way, or picking out the eyes of unburied rebels lying in the woods.

I conversed on the way back with several citizens who had seen and talked with Gen. Lee. They say he never looked so well. Gen. Ewell was with him, looking cadaverous and wasted with long sickness. Though minus a leg, he rides his horse, and a mounted orderly attends him with a crutch for his use when he dismounts. The citizens report that the rebel army appears in fine condition, physically and morally – being, as a general thing, well clothed and fed. The cavalry and battery horses are, however, in a wretched plight, being almost universally utterly broken down. The rebels in passing through the country took everything they could find in the way of forage and subsistence, and corn-fields belonging to Virginians which our troops had protected, were unceremoniously stripped by the rebels. The rebel army started out with but fourteen days provisions, and the heavy rains of Saturday had carried away the railroad bridge over the Rapidan, thus endangering their supplies. Gen. Lee accordingly sent all round to hunt up everything in the way of food and forage he could find. At Warrenton, Gen. Jeb. Stuart being invited to dine by a citizen, sent back to inquire if the proposed host could feed his command. On receiving in reply to this droid interrogatory that he could not, the famous raider sent back word. "Then you cannot feed me."

Prospects

It remains to be seen what action the military authorities at Washington will take in regard to the Army of the Potomac, in view of the pass to which affairs have been brought by the late campaign. Every one in the army here agrees that active operations against Richmond by this line are over for this year. I may say, further, that everybody is persuaded that nothing can ever be done against Richmond by this line. The map is against our ever being able to do anything effective in this way by any such force as we now have. Every General in the army agrees that the south side of the James River is the only line on which to operate directly against Richmond. If, therefore, the Army of the Potomac is for the present to do nothing, we should at once abandon this barren wilderness, fortify the fords of the Potomac, man the defences of Washington thoroughly, and send two or three of our best corps to the decisive theatre of war in the Southwest. When the business there is once well done up, it will be no longer a question either of Richmond or of Virginia.

William Swinton

26 October 1863 – New York Times

Accident to a Soldiers Train

Headquarters Army of the Potomac – Saturday, October 24, 1863

A train of seventeen cattle cars, containing about one hundred and twenty-six condemned horses and a guard of one hundred and twenty-six troopers all belonging to Gen. Kilpatrick's (third) Cavalry Division, started from Gainesville at eleven o'clock last night, and when four miles on the road to Alexandria and on a curve, the train going at a very rapid rate, several of the track ties gave way, precipitating eight of the cars from the track and down a steep embankment. Twenty of the guard were injured, four or five dangerously, but strange to say no one was killed. Many of the horses were killed instantly, and others received such injuries as to render necessary their being shot. Capt. Downing, of the 21 (or 24th?) New York Cavalry, who had charge of the horses, escaped without injury. Dr. Hackley,

Surgeon-in-chief of the Third Division of Cavalry, and Drs. Capellant and Kingston, with a sufficient corps of assistants, were promptly on the spot, and rendered all necessary assistances to the wounded.

26 October 1863 – New York Times
The Army of the Potomac
Lee Again Across the Rappahannock in Force
Shocking Accident to a Cattle Train

Special Dispatch to the New York Times
Washington, Sunday, October 25

E. A. Paul sends the following to this Bureau: Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Saturday, October 24. The enemy's infantry recrossed the Rappahannock this morning, upon two pontoon bridges, near the Orange and Alexandria Railroad Bridge, and driving back Gen. Gregg's cavalry division, which lost heavily, had a short engagement with two brigades of our infantry, one belonging to the Second corps and the other to the Third corps.

The enemy now occupy a line the left of which rests near Beverly Ford, crossing the railroad near Bealton Station, and extending toward Stafford Court-house.

Col. Daevin's brigade of Gen. Buford's command had a severe fight this morning near Bealton Station. The enemy showed only infantry to the front.

Among the killed in Gen. Gregg's command is Major C. F. Taggart, Second Pennsylvania cavalry, formerly on Gen. Kilpatrick's Staff. Major Taggart was shot through the knee, which was so badly shattered as to render amputation necessary. Death ensued a short time after the operation was performed. Deceased formerly resided in Philadelphia. He was considered the best swordsman in the army.

A frightful railroad accident occurred on Friday night on the Manassas Gap road, about five miles from the Junction. A train of seventeen cattle cars, loaded with 126 condemned horses, belonging to Kilpatrick's Cavalry, and accompanied by 126 troops as a guard, rushed in the dark, at the height of speed, around a curve upon an embankment, tore the rails from the old and rotten ties, and was sent headlong, as far back as the ninth car, down the steep. The soldiers placed for the trip on the rounded roofs were shaken and thrown off right and left as the cars thumped over the displaced ties and rails and fell under the moving train, or went down the embankment with the wreck. Seventy-five of them were maimed, some of whom have since died. Fifty horses were either killed outright or so injured that they had to be shot. The following is a list of the wounded:

Wm. H. McGlumpy, W. S. Webster, John Polkey, Sergt. E. J. Weyght, Wm. E. Childs, David Thorp, David Fritz, S. Garrison, Jacob Gewart, Amos Noble, Corp. John More, - all of the Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry; James Cavan, John Carlan, M. Nutting, Wm. Russell, S. W. Fousand, P. McMullen, - all of the Fifth New York Cavalry; Wm. Itheskel, Frank Vahen, of Second New York Cavalry; and one unknown man mortally wounded.

26 October 1863 – National Intelligencer
Army of the Potomac
Gen. Lee's Late Campaign – Its Character
Correspondent of the New York Times

Army of the Potomac
Warrenton, (Va.) October 22, 1863

The Army of the Potomac has at length settled down, after its great race up and down Virginia. The whirl, and bustle, and confusion of the backward and the forward movement have so far given place to calmer moods that it is possible now to survey with some satisfaction the series of complicated and exciting events whose relations and upshot it was at the time impossible to grasp.

It must be acknowledged that the campaign of the past fortnight has not been one that has brought much glory to either army. The operations, with the exception of a variety of skirmishes and the one considerable brush at Bristow, have all been of the kind included under the term strategy – that is, marches and maneuvers out of sight of the enemy. The rebels have inflicted so great damage on us. We have inflicted no great damage on the rebels.

In truth, the real results of this invasive movement on the part of Gen. Lee are to be sought for not so much in anything that has been accomplished here in Virginia as in the relations of operations here to the whole field of war. In this regard it remains to be seen how far the progress and fortunes of the war will be affected by the late rebel movement. At present it assumes the character of a diversion in favor of

operations in the Southwest. There is not a shadow of a doubt that a considerable portion of the troops with which Lee threw back at Meade are now on their way to reinforce the rebel army in Tennessee for active work against some portion of the great line now being held by the Union forces from Chattanooga to the Gaps of Virginia.

I have had frequent opportunity of learning the rebel theory of Lee's late movement, having conversed with many citizens of the country through which we have, during the past two or three days, passed in the wake of Lee's army, and they all tell the same story. It is that the movement was made for the purpose of throwing the Army of the Potomac back on Washington and then utterly destroying the railroad connecting Meade's army on the line of the Rapid-Ann with its base, thus relieving Richmond from the standing menace which our occupation of that front of operations held out, exhausting the season during which it is possible for us to make a fall campaign, and throwing us over till next spring, when the dissolution of our army and prospective rebel operations in the Southwest would secure them peace.

As to the results of the movement, the rebels did not succeed in any considerable captures; the movements of the lieutenants on whom Lee relied to execute his plans were too slow; the retrograde movements of Meade too swift and too skillful to afford him the fitting opportunity for battle, and the one practical result obtained is the destruction of the railroad, and what that involves.

This work has been very thoroughly done, Lee's whole army having been engaged on it for two days. From Bristow to the Rappahannock the destruction is complete – bridges burnt, culverts blown up, ties taken up and burnt, rails twisted and rendered useless, cuts filled up, &c. The engineers say that it will be at least a month before it can be again put in running order. It is with no small mortification, therefore, that we have to confess the rebels have achieved an end fully commensurate with the labor and risk of the campaign. The rebel theory, so far as it consigns the army of the Potomac to a role of inactivity in Virginia is accepted by our own Generals, and it will depend on the conduct of those who direct military operations over the whole theatre of war how far the pass to which the rebels have brought affairs in Virginia will affect the fortunes of the war on other fields.

**26 October 1863 – New York Times
From Our Special Correspondent
Whereabouts of the Enemy – What is to be Done Next**

Headquarters Army of the Potomac
Warrenton, Va., Thursday, Oct. 22, 1863

It can do possible harm to say that Gen. Meade and Staff reached this place last night, and pitched tents on the Culpepper road, near where headquarters were located in the latter part of July last. This is the third time the headquarters of the army have been located in Warrenton within a year. Where the army is to go next I do not know, and would not tell if I did. Supplies for the army are now received via Gainesville, which involves a land carriage of ten miles, and the probabilities are that no advance will be made, at least, until such time as a more convenient point for receiving supplies can be hit upon. Whether that will be Culpepper – which will involve the reconstruction of that portion of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, recently destroyed by the enemy – or some other point, I do not believe has yet been decided upon. The opinion advanced by me in a letter during the early part of the recent movement, to the effect that Lee did not mean fight unless he could secure some great advantage of position, or find an opportunity to whip this army in detail, is now generally coincided with. That the enemy had some ulterior motive other than anything immediately connected with a northern campaign, is now also quite apparent. Whether or not it was from sheer desperation produced by the falling fortunes of the affairs of the so-called Southern Confederacy, which rendered apparent offensive operations necessary, and an effort to prevent an advance upon Richmond or a cover, as some profess to believe, for a further reinforcement of Bragg, are among the questions to be answered in the future. The evidence is constantly accumulating that Richmond has been at the mercy of this army for the last two months, and is so now. Why the opportunity has not been improved, is one of the mysteries that puzzles all those who have nothing else with which to occupy their attention, and who do not profess to know the line of policy adopted for this army. Whatever might have been Lee's object in advancing as far as Warrenton, he was completely foiled and out-generated by Meade, so far as the actual movements were concerned. Twice Lee was offered battle; once on Monday of last week, on the right bank of the Rappahannock; and again on the following Wednesday, at Manassas, where the Second corps was attacked. These offers of battle were both declined, and the bulk of Lee's army was employed in destroying the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. Aside from the attack on the Second Corps, the attack upon Gen. Buford's command, near Brentsville, the following day, while guarding the rear of the army-

train – when quite a severe fight occurred, in which the division fully sustained its character as an efficient organization – and the one on Kilpatrick’s cavalry, at and near Buckland Mills, no others of consequence have been made by the enemy. There are those who believe that the destruction of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad indicates that Jeff. Davis proposes for the future to abandon to its fate all that portion of Virginia north of the Rappahannock, as well as by that set to retard the advance of the Union Army. I do not feel competent to offer any opinion as to the plausibility of any of the theories advanced in this letter, but give them as advanced by others.

The army never was in better condition for a fight. The officers and men alike, during the last ten days, have been prompt and obedient, and obeyed all orders with alacrity. The whole of the enemy’s infantry are far away from this across the Rappahannock River. Their cavalry, with the exception of some small detachments, are covering the rear of this retrograde movement.

Pennington’s Battery

While the army is resting, I will take advantage of the opportunity to notice a matter of general interest. There are but few people, I take it, who fully realize the amount of duty performed by the older troops in the field. Seeing yesterday the new and beautiful battle-flag of Pennington’s battery, attached to Custer’s brigade, of Kilpatrick’s cavalry division, completely covered with a list of battles in which it had been engaged, leaving no room upon it for several of the most recent, it occurred to me that a notice of the fact would be read with interest. What is now popularly known as Pennington’s battery is Horse Battery M, Second United States Artillery. It has been present at every battle in which the Army of the Potomac has been engaged, and has actively employed in thirty-one engagements, viz.: In 1861, Bull Run; 1862 – Yorktown, May 4; Williamsburgh, May 5; Hanover Court House, May 27; the seven days’ fighting; Malvern Hill, July 1; do., August 2; South Mountain, Sept. 13; Antietam, Sept. 17; Williamsport, Sept. 19; Martinsburgh, Oct. 2; Noland’s Ford, Oct. 12; Philomont, Nov. 2; Union, Nov. 3; Upperville, Nov. 4; Barber’s Cross Roads, Nov. 6; Amosville, Nov. 11. In 1862 – Stoneman’s raid, May; Beverley Ford, June 9; Hanover, Penn., June 30; Hantertown, July 2; Gettysburgh, July 3; Monterey, July 4; Williamsport, (second time,) July 6; Booneboro, Jul 8; Hagerstown, (second time) Aug. 12; Falling Waters, July 14; Battle Mountain, July 24; Hagerstown, (first time) Aug. 6; Brandy Station, Aug. 11; Buckland’s Mills, Oct. 19. The battery was, in the early part of the war, commanded by Capt. Henry Benson, who was killed at Malvern Hill, and at one time by Brig. Gen. Hunt, now Chief of Artillery with the Army of the Potomac, and at another by Lieut. Parsley O. Craig, son of Col. Craig, of Ordnance Department, who was killed in the first battle of Bull Run. Its present commander, First Lieut. Pennington, with his assistants, have nobly sustained the reputation of the battery as one always ready for duty, and a terror in action to the enemy, because of the tenacity with which the battery is fought, and for the almost miraculous science displayed in throwing shot and shell. The other officers of the battery are Lieuts. C. A. Woodruff, William Egan and Frank B. Hamilton. The latter officer has just been detailed as instructor at West Point. The guns are 3-inch rifled ordnance.

The new flag was made by Tiffany, at a cost of \$125, which amount was paid by a company subscription. The flag is the usual size of battle-flags, made of red satin, with a heavy gold bullion border. Above the crossed cannon which are chenille work. Is the letter of the battery, (M,) and “U. S.” in nettle work, and the vacant space on either side, above and below, is filled with a list of the actions in which the battery has been engaged, the names being neatly put in with the needle. The staff is mounted with sliver, and is topped with the usual silver spear. The officers and men are all jealous of their hard-earned reputation, and rely upon it, no enemy of the Union will ever secure that flag with-out having to make a desperate fight for it.

27 October 1863 – New York Times

Army of Northern Virginia

Bristoe Station, Va., Thursday, Oct. 15, 1863

It is certainly a little singular, and a fact calling for explanation, that a pursuing army should have its artillery captured by its retreating adversary. It must have resulted from gross mismanagement somewhere. But as at present advised, I am not prepared to fix the blame. Gen. Cook, who commanded the two brigades, says, as I am informed that his men fought well, but that they were not properly supported – the supports being more than a mile in rear; and, further, that his men had to move upon the enemy in a line running somewhat at right angles with the enemy, so that he had to encounter, at the same time, a superior force in front, and on his flank, or rather in his rear. This may or may not be the explanation; I cannot say. I made efforts to find General C. but was unable so to do. I passed over the field today; It is immediately at

the railway station. The ground on our side and over which we charged at the Yankees, is an open field, skirted at its farther edge by pine forest. As soon as our men emerged from this forest, they were exposed to the ranking fire from the enemy's batteries, which were situated on a crest just below the railroad station. This crest was the highest elevation in the neighborhood. The open field, of which I have spoken, terminates in a high bank on the upper side of the railroad, and it was behind this that the enemy were concealed, and from which they poured their murderous fire upon our men, and one that succeeded in driving them completely back. No further effort was made yesterday evening to dislodge them. This morning the Yankee bird had flown.

Stuart has kept the cavalry quite active since this movement began and Jones' brigade, which has been in the advance, has been specially active and serviceable. General Stuart has commanded in person and headed the advances, and has fought the enemy from James City in Madison on Saturday evening back to this point. At one time on Tuesday evening the enemy contrived to cut off Stuart's communication with Gen. Lee, but this was readily restored on Wednesday morning, at which time the 1st North Carolinas Cavalry captured a whole regiment of Yankee infantry, but being heavily pressed by a large column of the enemy were compelled to relinquish their hold upon them. At this time I am told that Colonel Griffin of this regiment was killed.

Meade can truthfully say that General Lee has broken up his (Meade's) winter quarters, for from Culpeper to Bristow the Yankees had constructed their huts and cabins. And here at Bristow they had torn down an elegant new house to get the weatherboarding to construct huts for their winter occupation.

It is certainly true that Meade has managed his retreat most orderly, and that he has saved his stores, and lost but few men, though I think it equally true that the Yankee Army is considerably scared. And it is a fact that Barney did not sleep a wink Tuesday night while encamped at Greenwich, in Prince William County but paced the floor of the house in which his headquarters were almost incessantly, repeatedly consulting his watch and sending couriers to the pickets to know if they saw any rebels.

There has been heavy firing all day to-day, and even into night, some distance below; but at this writing I have not learned the nature of it, though it is supposed to be an engagement between some portion of our cavalry and the enemy.

Our boys have been sadly disappointed in their expectations of captures, and from more than one of them you can hear such an expression as this: If Jackson had been along, we would have gotten everything we wanted. Alas! We have no Jackson now. Our boys, however, make the Yankees whom they capture, pull of their shoes, which they at once convert to their own use.

The country people hereabouts are loud in their praises for Mosby. They say that he has done the Yankees great harm, besides compelling the enemy to keep at least fifteen thousand men as a railway guard, and preventing straggling and raiding parties from going through the country committing depredations.

28 October 1863 – New York Times

Fearful Railroad Catastrophe

Twenty-Five Soldiers Injured – Fifty Horses Killed

A railroad accident – an unusual occurrence in this section – took place last night on the Manassas Gap Railroad, resulting in the maiming of twenty five soldiers, several of whom have since died, and the killing of fifty horses or more. The train left Gainesville at about 11 o'clock P. M., and consisted of seventeen cattle cars, loaded with condemned horses belonging to Gen. Kilpatrick's cavalry division, under the charge of Capt. Dowling of the Second New York cavalry, Lieut. Whittemore, of the Fifth New York, aid to Gen. Davis, Lieut. Safford, Fifth Michigan, and Lieut. McDonald, First Virginia, accompanied by 126 troopers from the several regiments, as a guard. There being no turn switch at Gainesville, locomotives are necessarily run backward to Manassas Junction – a fact no doubt largely contributing to the disaster. The night was very dark, but notwithstanding this the train moved off at great speed, until a curve about five miles distant was reached, when the track ties, being rotten, gave way under the pressure, causing the locomotive to run from the track, dragging with it for several rods eight of the 17 cars, and precipitating them down a steep embankment, a mess of ruins. The soldiers were riding on the top of the cars, and the severe shock and jarring motion caused by wheels passing over the ties shook them off helter skelter upon the ground. A number of the cars rolling over, some fifty of the men were buried beneath the ruins, and the great wonder is that all were not instantly killed or mortally wounded. Fortunately, considering the circumstance, only five or six were very dangerously injured. The scene, as described by parties on the train who escaped uninjured, was most appalling. The darkness of the night, the rain, the frantic horses

endeavoring to extricate themselves, many, fairly kicking their way out of the rubbish, and the ground and screeches of the men, crushed under the overturned cars, some calling for help and others praying for death to come that they might be relieved from their torments, all combined, made up a scene of horror not soon to be forgotten. Capt. Downing, who escaped uninjured, immediately started on foot, his horse having been killed, for Gainesville for assistance. Dr. Hackley, surgeon in chief of the Third cavalry division, accompanied by Dr. Capehart, chief of First brigade, Dr. Ki---row, Second New York, Lieut. Hickey, ambulance officer, promptly repaired to the spot rendering prompt and much needed aid. The cars off the track were all in ruins but many of the horses were caught under the debris, and horses, cars and men laid in a confused mass, and it was not until nearly daylight that all of the men could be removed from their perilous position.

Twenty five soldiers and one officer were more or less injured, and of the 126 horses on the train, 50 were either killed instantly or were so injured as to render the shooting of them a necessity. The track was materially damaged by the accident, causing a delay of trains for half a day or more. To the rapid speed at which the train was running, and the rotten ties, this accident is attributed.

Annexed is an official list of the injured, as furnished by Dr. Hackley, all of whom are in the Post Hospital at Gainesville.

An axe borrowed from a citizen residing near the scene of the accident, was used in extricating the men, and unfortunately, got broken. This morning the owner made a terrible ado about his axe, and was anxiously endeavoring to ascertain who would pay him for it. There are some mean people even in the land of "Tachivalry."

E. A. Paul

29 October 1863 – New York Times

Bold Dash of Bushwhackers

The Cavalry Fight at Buckland

Army of the Potomac, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 1863

On Sunday evening a party of bushwhackers dashed upon a train, between Warrenton and New Baltimore, and captured the mules attached to an ambulance and wagon belonging to the Provost-Marshal's department. They cut the lead mules loose from one team, and placing a prisoner upon each, started them into the woods in charge of two men. Neglecting to disconnect the mules, they were soon brought to a halt, astride a tree, when one of the escort cut the lines. One of the prisoners, an employee of Capt. Clinton, of the Provost-guard, instead of going on with his newly found acquaintances, seized upon the opportunity to ride in an opposite direction from which they were going, and succeeded in making good his escape.

It has been ascertained positively that the rebel Brig. Gen. Young's brigade of Infantry, of Anderson's division, was engaged in the fight with the Third cavalry division, near Buckland Mills, on Monday of last week. This information not alone comes from Secessionists who saw the command and conversed with the commanding officer, but is confirmed from numerous sources the semi-official report to the contrary notwithstanding. Stuart commanded the cavalry in person on that day, but, as he is under a cloud just now with Virginians, Hampton, who is the rising man, gets all the credit, little or great as that may be for the Buckland's Mills affair. The rebels seem to think it a great feat to compel Gen. Kilpatrick's division of cavalry to retire, even when a superior force of cavalry is brought against it, backed by a large force of infantry.

The rebel army in our front is said to be very badly off for clothing of all kinds. A well known citizen who has seen all of the force north of Richmond within two weeks, assures me that at least one-third of the men are barefooted, and another third wear shoes made by themselves. It is only in this way that the fact that they have recently robbed nearly every house they have visited of all the blankets and wearing apparel they could lay their hands upon, can be accounted for.

While Lieut. Boyce, of the Fifth New York Cavalry, was scouting last Saturday in the vicinity of Thoroughfare Gap he was attacked by a squad of the enemy, who succeeded in wounding him in five places, and after that he made his escape from them. Lieut. Boyce is well known as one of the most dashing officers in the service, and one of the best scouts in the army. He always finds the enemy when he goes out. His wounds, though serious, it is hoped will not prove fatal.

While referring to gallant men, it will not be out of place to mention Sergt. Barker, of the Second New York Harris Light Cavalry. His superior officer says that he has earned a commission half a dozen times by his gallant conduct under trying circumstances. He it was who, after Capt. Gregg had been killed on a reconnaissance during the retreat from Culpeper, brought the squadron safely through the enemy's lines, but not without a fight, in which he showed both coolness and a capacity to command. He also

distinguished himself in the recent retreat of Gen. Davis' brigade from Buckland's mills, as one of the rear guard. As in example, and to incite emulation, the Governor of the State of New York can do no more worthy act than recognize such patriotic services.

Chaplain Rowe of the same regiment is a man whose praises are in the mouth of every one for timely and efficient services. He is always with the regiment, and his whole time is devoted to the temporal and spiritual welfare of the man. He is their friend, advisor and counselor, and commands the respect of all who know him – something that cannot be said of every Chaplain in the army.

Divine service was held last Sunday in Christ's Episcopal Church, Warrenton, one of the local preachers officiating. The reverend gentleman omitted all portions of the service recently interpolated by the priests of rebeedom, no doubt, out of respect to the large number of Union Officers present. This is the only church open for publish worship in Warrenton, and the sound of the bell on Sunday made the town seem quite homelike.

29 October 1863 – Alexandria Gazette

Latest News

Rents, in this place, especially for houses on King Street, are increasing instead of diminishing. Houses never brought such rents before in Alexandria. In the mean time, hundreds of shanties and slight frame buildings for "contrabands" are going up in the suburbs of the town. Wood and coal are scarce and high.

Z. H. Kankey, a citizen of Prince William County, Virginia, arrested on the 25th of last month, on the charge of disloyalty, to the U. S., was released yesterday, by order of Col. Baker.

30 October 1863 – Alexandria Gazette

Philadelphia Inquirer Correspondent

Army of the Potomac – Near Gainesville, Va. Oct. 29, 1863

The freshness of the atmosphere here away is making the men muffle up in their great coats. They seem sad to think that winter is now upon them, and the Confederates are enjoying their partially finished huts and quarters on the Rapidan, while they are left out in the cold. The physical condition of the men and the moral condition of the army here are about on a par: neither are first rate, nor have we any advantage over the Confederates except in the superiority of our equipment and supply.

The present position is considered a strong one, and the army is probably more concentrated and better prepared at all times for a general engagement than ever before. The line of operations is now quite contracted, and at a convenient distance from the base of supplies, which arrive partly by rail and partly by wagons.

The Railroad has been repaired to this vicinity, and will soon be in complete order to the advance corps. Matters and movements indicate that it will only be necessary to complete its repairs to Rappahannock Station.

General Lee is evidently anxious to keep the army back, and makes the best show of the few men he has now under his command that is practicable. On Monday he made a bold push forward to reconnoiter, his spies having informed him that the Federal army was advancing from Warrenton in force. This had to cease immediately, so he shelled the outposts and drove in a few advanced pickets and videttes, while Moseby received orders to renew his operations in the rear to create alarm. The Confederates were checked and have been unable to flank; some of Moseby's men have been captured, and some escaped with horses, wagons, mules, stores and the like, to a place of safety.

I think desultory fighting will continue for some time, but that the Confederates will be forced into a general engagement in the end there is little doubt.

31 October 1863 – Alexandria Gazette

Latest News

There is no news of special interest from the army of the Potomac. A portion of the Federal Forces are said to be at a point where Turkey Run crosses the Warrenton Railroad, that is about six miles west of Bristow Station, on the Orange Railroad.

31 October 1863 – New York Times
The War in Virginia
A Detailed Sketch of the Recent Campaign
From the Richmond Examiner, October 26th

No connected account has yet been published of the movements of our army during the recent campaign in Northern Virginia. From the information in our reach, we make up a hasty and imperfect narrative

It would appear to have been General Lee's plan to send A. P. Hill's corps by a route west of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad to Manassas Junction, there to cut off Meade's retreat, whilst Ewell's corps followed on the right flank of the retreating enemy, and would be ready to fall upon his rear when he should be brought to a stand. In furtherance of this plan Hill left Madison County on or about the 8th inst., and moved toward Sperryville. On the same day Ewell crossed the Rapidan at Raccoon Ford. At this place occurred the first cavalry fight in which we drove the enemy back, but not without sustaining considerable loss. Here Newton and other gallant officers fell.

Meade having apparently seen through the designs of Gen. Lee, began his retreat simultaneously with our advance, and, having the benefit of the railroad, and moving on a direct line, it is no matter of surprise that he managed to frustrate them.

On Sunday, Hampton's cavalry, under the immediate command of Stuart, moving in advance of Ewell's corps, reached Culpepper Court-house, and, moving along the railroad, encountered the enemy at Brandy Station. The battle took place on the farm of John Minor Botts, one of the charges of our cavalry being made through his front yard. We may here remark that the property on the farm of this extraordinary individual, of whom the Government of the Confederate States stand in such fear, had been religiously respected by the Yankees: whereas, the country around was little better than a wilderness, his fences and crops were untouched. But that Sunday night wrought a change in its condition. Three thousand Confederate cavalry bivouacked there after the battle, and fed their horses in his cornfield. The next morning there were very few fence-rails and very little corn left. The men could be heard to say while building high their fires, "Pile on boys, they are nothing but d--d old Union rails." Botts came down Monday morning and said he would like to get a certificate of the quantity of corn used and rails burnt. He was dismissed very cavalierly, and told that we had no time to attend to such matters.

Monday our cavalry came up with the enemy at Jefferson, on the road from Culpepper Court-house to Warrenton. There an obstinate fight took place, which resulted in the enemy being driven across Hedgemen's River to Warrenton Springs, from which place the enemy were also driven after a battle. In each of these battles we took several hundred prisoners. Ewell's corps, having changed its line of march, reached Warrenton on Tuesday morning. Meade's army was at this time across the Rappahannock, and believed to have halted at Warrenton Junction, and between that point and Catlett Station. Two thousand cavalry were sent down from Warrenton to reconnoiter in the direction of Catlett. On arriving near the latter place, Tuesday evening, they found the enemy were moving heavy columns of infantry along the railroad toward Manassas; and they thereupon immediately turned to retrace their steps toward Warrenton, but on reaching a road which crossed their route, leading from Warrenton Junction to Manassas, they found that the enemy were also moving infantry in large masses along this road. They were thus completely hemmed in. Night came on as they reached this road. The heavy tramp of the enemy's infantry and the rumble of their artillery sounded right in front of them. Gen. Stuart withdrew his little force into a thicket of old field pines, hoping that the enemy would pass him by unnoticed, and leave his road to Warrenton clear. The enemy were moving so near our position that every word of command and even ordinary conversation could be distinctly heard by us. Our situation was extremely critical – any accident – the accidental discharge of a pistol – would have disclosed our position, and then, in view of the overwhelming force of the enemy nothing awaited us but destruction or surrender. Stuart gave his officers and men to understand that surrender was not to be thought of, but that the enemy was to be fought to the last. A council of war having been called, it was resolved, as the best thing that could be done under the circumstances, to desert the nine pieces of horse artillery, and for the cavalry in six columns to endeavor to cut their way through the enemy. But after some reflection Stuart resolved not to abandon his artillery, and struck upon a device for informing Gen. Lee, who was at Warrenton, of his situation. He called for three volunteers to undertake a desperate enterprise. Crockett Eddins, of this city, and two other young men immediately stepped forth to undertake anything their General might order. Stuart ordered them to put on infantry knapsacks, and, shouldering muskets to advance in the darkness to the road, fall into the enemy's column, and, crossing it, to make their way to Warrenton, and say to Gen. Lee that he was surrounded, and he" must send some of his

people to help him out.” Eddins and his two gallant comrades obeyed orders, and reached Warrenton in safety.

The last division of the enemy halted and bivouacked opposite Stuart and within one hundred and fifty yards of his position – so close that we could hear the Yankee pouring out oats to feed their horses. During the night two of Meade’s staff straggled into our lines and were taken prisoners. One of them, a gay young fellow, said to Stuart. “All right, General, we sup with you to-night, you dine with us to-morrow,” intimating that Stuart would, by that time, be a prisoner.

At daylight Wednesday morning Stuart was informed by the cracking of our skirmishers’ muskets that Lee had received his message, and was sending “some of the people” to help him. As Lee’s advancing columns attracted the enemy’s attention. Stuart, from the rear, opened on them with grape and canister. The enemy were much disordered by the cannonade from so unexpected a quarter, and, taking advantage of the confusion, Stuart limbered up his guns and, with cavalry and artillery, dashed through the hostile ranks and rejoined General Lee. The enemy suffered a loss of one hundred and eighty killed in this affair.

That evening Hill’s corps reached Bristoe Station just after Meade’s army had passed that point. What appeared to be a small portion of the enemy was discovered behind a long embankment of the railroad, and two brigades of Heth’s corps were ordered to dislodge them. Then followed the battle of Bristoe, which has already been mentioned in these columns. What appeared to be a trifling force of the enemy, turned out to be two full army corps, lying in ambush to gobble up any inconsiderate brigades that might attempt to dislodge them. An hours experiment convinced our men that a formidable force was in their front, and they withdrew. We had three or four hundred men killed and wounded in the fight. The enemy adm’t a severe loss, but they left but few dead upon the field. Before the main body of our army could get up the battle was over. That night our men were drawn up in line of battle, but when the day broke on Thursday morning, the enemy was gone. Our forces followed them as far as Manassas Junction, and, resting here a day, began a retrograde movement towards the Rappahannock. Our cavalry on Thursday, crossed Bull Creek, near the foot of Bull Run Mountain, and made a reconnaissance as far as Centreville, where they were driven back by the enemy’s infantry.

Thus ended this famous retreat and pursuit. Our army returned to the Rappahannock, having lost in the campaign about one thousand men killed, wounded and prisoners, and having taken near two thousand prisoners. Of the enemy’s loss in killed and wounded we have no means of making an estimate. During the pursuit our troops never made over twelve miles a day. The results of the campaign are important. We took a large number of prisoners and horses, ascertained Meade’s army to consist of not more than fifty thousand infantry, destroyed the railroad from Manassas to Rappahannock Station, and removed Meade’s headquarters from the Rapidan to the Rappahannock.

During the campaign our cavalry did splendid service. They performed all the successful fighting, and took nine-tenths of the prisoners.

As belonging rather to the period of our retreat than of Meade’s. We have made no mention of the cavalry victory gained by Stuart over Kilpatrick on the 19th instant.

31 October 1863 – New Orleans Daily Picayune The Campaign in Virginia

We have St. Louis, Cincinnati and Chicago papers of the 21st and 22nd, and Memphis of the 24th, from which we glean the following intelligence:

Washington, Oct. 21.- Advices from the Army of the Potomac say that the right column advanced yesterday to within three miles of Warrenton, and the left column as far as Greenwich Village. Our advance entered Warrenton without serious opposition, contrary to the general expectation. The conclusion is, that the rebels are really retreating before our advances.

New York, Oct. 21 – The Washington special of the New York Tribune says: Your correspondent “Bela” reports the Army of the Potomac in full pursuit of the retreating rebel forces. Trains ran out to Bristow to-day, and large quantities of railroad material are being transported for putting the track in repair and rebuilding the bridges. The rebels destroyed the track for miles, burning the ties and digging down grading. A prisoner asserts that it is entirely destroyed for twenty-four miles beyond Catlett’s, and that Lee’s object was to capture supplies and so disable the road that we could not disturb him until another corps of his army could be sent to Bragg and return.

Our forces are in the meantime pushing on, but thus far without opposition, or any indications of being able to halt Lee and force a general engagement this side of the Rapidan.

The Washington special to the New York Times says: The mystery of Lee's movement last week is uncovered. Part of his army was at Culpeper this morning, being vigorously embarked on trains of cars for the Southwest.

An officer just in from the front brings intelligence that Lee's whole infantry force is south of the Rappahannock. Some of his cavalry are still on this side and part on the other.

Our reserve cavalry, under Gen. Merritt, yesterday advanced as far as Warrenton Junction, meeting but few rebel cavalry, who retired as we advanced.

Washington Oct.21- Accounts from the Army of the Potomac to yesterday noon state that Kilpatrick's cavalry pushed back Stuart's rebel cavalry beyond Gainesville towards Warrenton. There was considerable fighting but little loss to us.

It is positively stated that Lee was at Warrenton on Monday, and had formed a line of battle, and posted artillery. Our troops were moving steadily forward in two columns. Buford reports that there was no enemy in force at Thoroughfare Gap.

At 10 yesterday P. M., the rebels were in force at Buckland Mills, four miles from Gainesville. Our troops are advancing. A great battle is considered imminent.

Washington, October 20. – Gen. Custar reports that in the engagement of Monday we drove the rebel cavalry from Gainesville to beyond Buckland Mills, five miles westward. At this point Gen. Custar's forces encountered a rebel line of battle, infantry and artillery, at least a mile long. Gen. Davis' cavalry brigade and battery were at one time entirely off by the rebels, but he succeeded in extricating himself.

We lost about 200 in killed, wounded and missing, and several wagons, one of which contained the official papers of the brigade.

TWO DAYS LATER – Via the River

By the arrival, yesterday afternoon, of the Schuyler, Capt. Spencer, we have Western papers of the 24th and Memphis papers of the 26th, from which we take the following intelligence:

Army of Potomac, Oct. 21. – Among the camp rumors bearing the semblance of truth are these: That Lee's headquarters are now at Culpeper; Ewell's and Hill's Corps between Culpeper and Warrenton.

Washington, October 22 – Intelligence from the front to-day show active operations, for the present, are at an end. Gen. Lee's forces beyond the Rappahannock are probably concentrated near Culpeper. The statement of Washington papers, that our forces had penetrated that far, is untrue. Gen. Meade came to Washington to-day, and after an interview with the President and Gen. Halleck, returned late this evening to headquarters.

A close examination of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad shows that, from Manassas to Warrenton Junction, it has been destroyed most effectually by the rebels in their retreat, destroying what our forces left.

The Herald's Washington dispatch says that Gen. Meade is here to consult with the President in regard to a new and successful promising movement of the Army of the Potomac, for the execution of which arrangements are already being made. If rapidly carried out as proposed, this movement will surprise Gen. Lee, relieve Burnside from all threatened danger, and take Richmond, before the rebel army sent westward is brought back there.

New York, October 23.- The world's special says: Thus far Lee has retreated without stopping to make any considerable resistance, and the main body of his army is now reported beyond the Rapidan I understand orders have been issued to push him to the wall and force him to a battle; but whether, under present circumstances, a battle will be obtained or risked is a matter of conjecture. If the rebel commander, as now seems probable, gets fairly out of fighting distance, you may fairly expect that the fate of Rosecrans has been visited upon Gen. Meade, who has certainly been too cautious in pursuing. Indeed, I hear quite reliably, that Gens. Sedgwick and Sickles are already talked of to succeed him, unless he shall retrieve himself in the eyes of the Administration. Cavalry reconnoissance's are continual, on our part, as far as the Rappahannock.

The Orange and Alexandria Railroad has already been repaired one mile beyond Bristow Station. Forces are engaged, day and night, in repairing the damage done by the enemy.

The condition of the residents of Fauquier and Prince William Counties is represented as painful, there being very scant supplies of the necessities of life. They are bordering on starvation.

It is estimated that 1500 men will cover all our losses in the late campaign, including killed, wounded, stragglers and prisoners.

1 November 1863 – New York Times

Army of the Potomac

Another Review of the Recent Movements

Besides the very full and lucid account of the late campaign of General Lee, which we published a few days ago, we present the following review of it from another pen. It contains many new points of great interest.

Correspondence of the New York Times
Thursday, October 22

When General Lee had so fortified the Rapidan that a small force could easily hold the line, and also conveyed the idea that the absence of part of Longstreet's corps had materially weakened the Army of Virginia, he proceeded to take advantage of the false sense of security which he imagined he had created in the mind of Gen. Meade, to attack the Army of the Potomac. For this purpose Lee massed his forces on the right of that army, now reduced by the Eleventh and Twelfth corps recently sent to the West.

This was not accomplished, however, without some knowledge of the movement coming to Gen. Meade, who commenced to fall back across the Rappahannock and concentrate his troops. While performing this movement on Sunday last, the cavalry under Buford and Pleasanton became hotly engaged, the enemy supporting their cavalry, as it advanced, by infantry. The details of this fight have been already published. Dashing charges were made on sides. At one time Kilpatrick got partly cut off, and was relieved by the prompt action of Buford. The One Hundred and Twentieth New York was also at one time divided from the rest of the army, but with the exception of about fifteen men, all were extricated from their perilous position. By night of Sunday the army had crossed the Rappahannock.

Next morning the enemy had retired, very few were in front, and from the extreme right, where it was supposed the main force of the army of Lee would still keep up with us, reports came from Gen. Gregg that but a small force of the enemy was there and all was well. The natural inference was, that the whole affair of the day before was a ruse, under cover of which they might make movements unobserved by us. An immediate return of the cavalry was ordered toward Culpepper, and by night the country had been reoccupied as far as that town; the Sixth, Second and Fifth corps, advancing to the vicinity of Brandy Station, and bivouacking for the night in line of battle.

Large fires lit up the country far and wide, for the nights are now getting cold and frosty. The officers of army headquarters were grouped round the blazing rails, discussing the probable whereabouts of the enemy, and the fate of John Minor Botts, who was taken when we left Culpepper, accused of breaking his parole of neutrality, and carried a prisoner to Richmond, whither two of his daughters accompanied him – thus illustrating the fact, that a man cannot remain neutral in this contest, and if one should try to sustain such a position, he becomes an object of suspicion to both sides. John Minor Botts professed Unionism and at the time has taken advantage of the times, to make money in the whiskey trade. With the Confederate scrip thus accumulated he was wisely bought land, and was only awaiting the departure of the Union Army to make further purchases in that time. He steadily refused, however, to make any statements to our officers that could be damaging to the Southern cause.

To return: the camp was suddenly aroused by the information, from Gregg, that the enemy had crossed in force near Sulphur Springs, and after hard fighting, had driven Gregg's cavalry with much loss. Then there was mounting in hot haste: the designs of Lee were partly unfolded, and the return of the troops that were across the Rappahannock, because the first necessity. These, scarcely through supper and preparing for repose, were aroused and countermarched, and it was gratifying the next morning to see with what good humor they bore the discomforts of the night march after the fatigues of the day before.

Of Gregg's fight an outline only reached us. He had dispatched the First Maine on a reconnaissance toward Little Washington, and in the endeavor to hold the ground till their return, some of the regiments suffered severely, the Tenth New York, the Fourth and Fourteenth Pennsylvania having the rebels massed on all sides of them. The Fourteenth is said to have only succeeded in bringing off the field 70 out of 370 men it went into action with. In the night the rebel cavalry penetrated within two miles of Bealton Station, where an immense train of wagons was parked.

On Tuesday, long before daylight, the camp was aroused, wagons packed, and breakfast eaten by fire and candle light. Soon the army and its train were on the road to Centreville; it being supposed the enemy would attempt to reach that point before us.

An hour after sunrise, the railroad bridge over the Rappahannock was in flames, though burning slowly. The redoubts built for the defence of Rappahannock Station loomed up in the smoke gloomy and deserted – except upon the north side, where a few cavalry men remained to watch for the advent of the enemy. None showed themselves however; but a score or two of stragglers came up, and had to ford the

stream, the bridge being too far gone to be passable. Previous to its being set on fire, an Orderly lost his horse on it – the animal taking fright at the rushing water falling over the dam, leaped into the river, and was killed, the rider narrowly escaping by dropping from the saddle on the bridge.

The destruction of the bridge being completed, thus rendering the railroad useless as a means of supply to the rebel army, the army continued to fall back, burning up the buildings at Bristoe Station, en passant. Take it altogether, this was one of the best managed movements the army ever made. Nothing was left behind but a few broken-down horses, and many of these were taken in tow by the infantry stragglers, who would pack knapsacks and guns on their sore backs, and bring them along.

That night the headquarters of the army camped near Cattlett's Station, almost on the same ground that Pope's headquarters occupied last year when the rebel cavalry captured it.

Between Catlett's and Bristoe Stations the trains – covered by the army – were parked for the night. Stuart, with a portion of his cavalry tried very hard to find some portion of it. Indeed, a prisoner, captured next morning, stated that they came within half a mile of headquarters, and put a battery in position not more than two miles away from us. But no attack was made; and about 3 ½ o'clock, a drum was beaten to arouse the officers of the Staff. At sunrise a hasty breakfast was accomplished, the wagons packed again, and the train hauled out. It seemed evident that the rebels were marching our parallel lines with our army, with the intention of attacking us in flank, and, if possible, of capturing the train. To prevent such an accident, the baggage and supply trains were sent to Fairfax Station by the way of Brentsville and Wolf Run Shoals. This train was about forty miles in length; making due allowance for intervals, the first wagon would have to accomplish a fifty miles march before the last one could start.

The army – marching by way of the railroad – was accompanied by the ammunition and ambulance trains. These came along two abreast, where practicable.

Whilst Gen. Meade and his staff were awaiting the movements of the army, firing in the rear commenced. A frantic reporter galloped in and brought news of an attack on Gregg's train; repulsed, with some casualties – among them the loss of a Colonel, mortally wounded and left on the ground.

Gen. Warren, in command of the Second Corps, brought up the rear, and covered the train from attack in that direction. Gen. Buford, with his cavalry, held the country on the right flank. Not far from Wolf Run Shoals some guerrillas attacked the head of the Quartermaster's depot train – Capt. Pierce's train. These were easily driven off, and, except the stampeding of about a dozen or fifteen horses, no harm was done. But about 2 o'clock a more determined attack was made near Bristoe Station. Just as the Fifth Corps was leaving Broad Run a battery was opened upon the rear of the column, between it and the Second Corps. Shells burst in the neighborhood of the train, which was not long in getting out of danger. Then it became evident a movement was being made to cut off the Second Corps. Heath's division of the rebel army, posted on some heights, in a commanding position, made a determined artillery attack on the flank of the Second Division as it came into range. This, and the Third division soon became engaged in quite a desperate conflict with the enemy – the First Division being away with the trains. The rebels soon discovered how great a mistake they had made in attacking General Warren, who not only repulsed them, but turning on them in his turn, captured five of their guns and 450 prisoners, pushing Heath's division back for more than a mile. Here Warren massed his troops, under the cover of the railroad embankment, and the fighting became what is entitled an artillery duel, accompanied by a sharp fire along the line of skirmishers. Till after dusk the batteries continued their fire – the guns exploding and shells bursting with a wicked flash, in the smoke which hung over the field, adding much to the horror of the scene. If the Fifth Corps had been marched back in time, they could have come up in the rear of Heath and caused the surrender of the better part of the corps.

It seems, however, to be the idea that Warren would fall back upon Manassas, and on those plains the Fifth Corps formed – a portion of its artillery taking position in the old rebel earthworks. Dust and smoke toward the northwest seemed to indicate the march of other forces, which might attack the flank on the left of the line of march near Bull Run. This afterwards proved to be Kilpatrick's cavalry and the Regular brigade, skirmishing and reconnoitering on and near the Warrenton Pike. The column of the Fifth Corps turned, a short time before sunset, and retraced its steps to Bristoe – a needless march, for the Second Corps proved abundantly able to take care of itself, and relic as soon as the trains were out of danger – which was done, after the wounded had been picked up and the dead buried. By daylight, after a wearisome march, almost all of the army had crossed Bull Run, and had taken up the old position at Centreville – which point it was supposed to be General Lee's hope to reach before us.

The immense train traveled all night, and with few casualties crossed Wolf Run Shoals. One or two wagons broke down, and some sutlers lost their transportation. Where accidents of this nature occur. It

is usual to unhitch the horses and burn up the wagon, so that the enemy may not be gainers by the accident. How many stragglers may have been picked up, it is impossible to say – probably one or two hundred. The army has improved much in that particular, although it is an evil that cannot be entirely prevented.

Wednesday night the First Maine Cavalry bivouacked at Manassas, after an exciting reconnaissance out as far as Sperryville. Tuesday night they approached Warrenton, and saw a large quantity of camp fires. The general impression was that a portion of our army was encamped at that place. This opinion the Colonel did not share, and one of the officers accompanied the advance guard to see who was there. They met no sentinels, and came right into a cavalry camp. Here the officer endeavored to rouse some of the men. Succeeding in getting an answer but of one of them to the question of “What regiment is this?” “the Twelfth,” said the man. “Twelfth what?” “Twelfth Virginia, you ___ fool; what did you suppose it was!” The officer left, quite satisfied, and as he was going off, received an order to halt, which, it is useless to say, he did not attend. The Colonel at once led the regiment out of the road into a field, and the maneuver was only just accomplished, when a regiment of the enemy charged down the road. The First Maine, however, got off unobserved, Their scout was a valuable one, as it established the fact that no force of the enemy was moving in the valley.

To day (Thursday) the army holds a strong line, of which Centreville is the key, and here we await developments of Lee’s intentions. Some firing has occurred on the extreme left, said to be Buford; and while finishing this letter, a brisk cannonade to the southwest seems to indicate an attack of the rebels upon the Third Corps. Lee must do something, and that soon, as it will be very hard for him to maintain his communications and get supplies in his present position. The bridge over the Rappahannock will take a week to build.

2 November 1863 – National Intelligencer Rational of Recent Military Movements in Virginia

Correspondence of the New York Herald
Baltimore, October 27, 1863

The mystery in regard to Gen. Lee’s recent movement towards Washington is at last cleared up by the intelligence which I have received this morning.

It appears by the facts which have thus come to light that the whole movement on the part of Gen. Lee was a feint, intended to distract the attention of the Government from certain important and real movements of the rebel forces in another direction, and that, acting under orders from Washington, our gallant Army of the Potomac, with all the troops at Baltimore and Washington at their back, retired from the Rappahannock to the capital before a rebel force vastly inferior to their own. It will be remembered that Gen. Lee’s demonstrations against our army began about the 10th instant. On that day our forces, which had been previously holding the line of the Rapid-Ann River, on its north side, from above Cedar Mountain to its mouth, retired to Culpeper after a severe and gallant skirmish with the enemy on the south side of Robinson River. Up to that day it was observed that the enemy had been massing their forces at Madison, and it was thought that they moved northwards; and from that day till the 18th or 19th our army moved steadily in its retrograde course towards Washington, followed closely, it was supposed, by the whole rebel army. But that was a mistake.

At every point where our army halted and turned upon their pursuers the latter were found to be in inferior force and were easily vanquished. The battle at Bristow Station is only one illustration of this fact. Had Gen. Meade been allowed to halt and mass his whole army on the heights of Centreville on the 15th, and to remain there in line of battle on the 16th and 17th as he wished to do, the weakness of Gen. Lee’s army would have been exposed. For in that admirable defensive position, equal in every respect to that of the Cemetery Hill at Gettysburg, the rebels would not have dared to attack him. The alleged attempt of Gen. Lee to get in Gen. Meade’s rear by way of Chantilly and Fairfax on the 16th, about which so much noise was made in the papers, was only a stratagem, and a very “weak invention of the enemy” at that, as General Meade ascertained by the proper military means. The troops then at Washington could easily have kept open the communication between Centreville and the capital; but, under real apprehensions for the safety of the latter and entirely groundless ones for the safety of the Army of the Potomac, the General – in – Chief and the War Department ordered Gen. Meade, on the 16th or 17th, to withdraw the army, not indeed within the immediate defences of Washington, but to a line that amounted in a military sense to the same thing. And thus matters remained until the 19th. On that day and the 20th the reconnaissance’s sent out in all directions proved that the main body of the enemy was not at Centreville, nor at Manassas, nor at Aldie, nor at any point east of Bull Run Mountains. On the 20th Gen. Lee’s army was at Warrenton and on the

21stour troops, in pursuit of the rebel forces, entered that place without opposition. The rebel forces, under Gen. Lee, had crossed Hedgeman's river, (a branch of the Rappahannock,) at Sulphur Springs, only a few hours before.

But all these maneuvers extending from the 10th to the 20th instant, had given Gen. Lee ten days in which to execute the real movement alluded to above. The mass of Gen. Lee's army, assembled at Madison previous to the 10th instant, did not move northwards from that place. As soon as the Union army retired to Culpeper the bulk of Gen. Lee's forces moved back rapidly to Orange Court House, and from thence were transported by railroad to Abington, in the southwestern part of Virginia, by way of Gordonsville and Lynchburg, in order to operate, first, against Burnside, east of Knoxville, and secondly, in conjunction with Gen. Bragg, against the Union forces at Chattanooga. The number of troops thus sent away from Gen. Lee's army amounted, according to my information, to three divisions of ten thousand men in each. They probably arrived at Abington about the 15th or 18th instant, where they joined the fifteen thousand troops already there under Gen Jones. The whole force of forty-five thousand troops then probably advanced against Burnside's outposts at Bristol about the 20th instant, and the result of that conflict we shall no doubt hear in a few days. The loss of these three divisions from his already depleted army reduced Gen. Lee's forces to about fifty thousand men, and it was with this force that he compelled Gen. Meade to retreat to Washington.

I learn also that this movement of rebel troops from Virginia to the West is made under the personal supervisions of Jeff Davis, and that it included every available soldier in Virginia that can be spared. In order to do this Richmond, and that the force along the railroad between that city and Wilmington has been reduced to ten thousand men. It is therefore evident that the rebels have decided to hazard the whole event of the war upon the campaign now in progress at Chattanooga. But in doing this they have left their capital undefended, and this affords us therefore, a splendid opportunity to capture Richmond and end the war; for when Richmond falls Charleston will speedily follow. But the only way to take Richmond is a campaign by way of the Peninsula. If Gen. Meade's army, instead of being sent, as it is now sent, on a wild goose chase to the Rappahannock, had been embarked last Sunday at Alexandria for Fortress Monroe, we would hear no more of Gen. Lee's army being near Washington. A week ago the Administration papers endeavored to excuse Meade's retreat to Washington by saying that "while our army operates on the Rappahannock we have seventy miles of railroad to guard, requiring an army of itself, to say nothing of the difficulty of transporting army supplies so great a distance over a single track of wretched railroad." Yet the War Department has now ordered Gen. Meade to make still another overland campaign against Richmond

2 November 1863 – Charleston S.C. Mercury

Letter from Richmond – Correspondence of the Mercury

Skirmishing excepted, the Army of Northern Virginia is quiet. A. P. Hill is said to have reconnoitered the position at Bristow in person, and ordered up the two brigades which were so cut to pieces. Whether the brigade commander threw out skirmishers is not known. Our army was paralyzed by the sudden, bloody repulse.

People just from Williamsburg say that there are all the usual premonitory symptoms of a raid from that direction – such as stringent regulations about leaving or entering town, etc.

3 November 1863 – Charleston S.C. Mercury

A Yankee View of the Late Campaign of General Lee

The New York Times has a letter giving a history of the recent campaign of Gen. Lee, and the light in which the Yankees view it. It is more connected and intelligible than any we have yet seen published. After Meade had ascertained to his satisfaction on that Gen. Lee was endeavoring to flank him, there commenced.

On Tuesday both armies were pushing forward as fast as they could, parallel to each other, and separated by but half a dozen miles or less.

The rebels passed through Warrenton, and citizens here tell me that they occupied the whole of Tuesday in doing this, their trains being extremely long.

We passed some miles to the right, crossing Cedar Run, at a place named Auburn, five miles due east of Warrenton.

At Warrenton Gen. Lee formed the bold design of sending one of his corps (Hill's), by a rapid detour, to seize the heights of Centreville, while his other (Ewell's) should fall upon our flank and rear.

It was Wednesday morning, when our whole army passed Cedar Run, at Auburn, General Warren's Corps (Second) bringing up the rear. To this commander was assigned the duty of covering the trains of the army, which were much delayed in the crossing by the pontoons.

The Occasion was now an extremely critical one. Ewell had begun pressing severely on our rear, and already on Wednesday morning, at Auburn, the rear guard became engaged with a portion of his forces. A double necessity was upon Gen. Meade; first, he must move with extreme celerity to reach Centreville in advance of Hill, who had the start of him, and was on the shorter line, secondly, he must keep back the enemy from his trains in the rear.

Hill's corps had reached Bristow about simultaneously with Warren – in fact, had got ahead of him sufficiently to form a line of battle, which he did perpendicular to the railroad.

The position was the most perilous one in which a column can be placed – marching by the flank and met by the enemy in line of battle. Gen. Warren was equal to the emergency. The troops were brought up at a run – the first division (Caldwell's) having come up thus for a mile and a half laden with eight day's rations.

The troops which had been marching on the left of the railroad were brought quickly over to the right, and Gen. Warren, seeing that the enemy had neglected to occupy the cut and embankment of the railroad, on the instant jumped his men, unseen into it. More prudence on the part of the rebel commander, or less sagacity on the part of the Union commander, would have proved the destruction of that corps.

The rest of the army had all gone ahead. The 1st corps (Newton's had already reached Manassas. The last one but Warren's – namely, the 5th, (Sikes) – passed beyond Bristow simultaneously with Warren's coming up, and just as he got engaged with the enemy he received from Sykes the comforting intelligence that he "was moving off slowly and in good order."

General Warren had formed his troops under cover of the cut and embankment of the railroad, constituting ready made breastworks. On the left he placed a defensive erotchet. Down rushed the enemy, charging on this flank, when suddenly the troops under cover rose up, and at close range poured volley after volley of deadly fire into the advancing and presently retreating rebels.

After twenty minutes fight the enemy were glad to make off, leaving a thousand dead and wounded and five hundred prisoners in our hands. It was well that night came on as it did, for just as the sun set Ewell, who had been following in Warren's rear, came up, but had only time to form line of battle when the darkness interrupted further operations and the rear guard was able to pass on and join the main body of the army.

The repulse at Bristow completely disconcerted Lee's plans, so far as they embraced the view of getting on the communications of Gen. Meade or reaching Centreville before him. Lee had no longer with him that unmatched executive officer, Stonewall Jackson, unequalled at a rapid march. Hill proved slow and feeble, and instead of striking the head of the Union column he struck its rear, and got badly handled in consequence.

From this moment Lee abandoned all purpose of giving battle and never advanced the main body of his army much beyond Bristow. Detachments were, however, sent to follow up the Union force and make demonstrations. On Friday, at 11 o'clock a.m., the enemy appeared in front of Blackburn's and Mitchell's Ford's, and made a vicious attack on our skirmishers, but were promptly driven back. Stuart's cavalry, meanwhile, was sent by a detour round northward and westward, but, being checked and repulsed in all their efforts, they gave up the attempt. The rebel army was now set to work to destroy the railroad, and the effectual manner in which they did their work has already been mentioned. Thursday, Friday and Saturday seems to have been employed in this manner, and then Lee began his retrograde movement- the rebel army passing through Greenwich on Sunday, and Warrenton on Monday, and thence down across the Rappahannock, their rear covered by the cavalry.

In the meanwhile, the Union army lay at Blackburn's Ford, Bull Run, Chantilly and Centreville, awaiting the development of the enemy's plans. Headquarters were on the old Bull Run battlefield itself, by the woods through which the regulars made their charge.

On Monday, the 19th the forward movement was begun – the army crossing Bull Run in pontoons. The 2nd corps took the road towards Auburn, the 6th towards Warrenton, the 3rd toward Catlett's the 1st and 5th towards New Baltimore. Tuesday, 20th, found the enemy on the line indicated – the line of Cedar Run.

It had been expected and hoped that we should meet the enemy, but they were far ahead, and nothing but small cavalry parties appeared. On Wednesday, our cavalry returning gave the intelligence that the rebels were all across the Rappahannock and the Rapidan. In this situation pursuit was, of course, hopeless, and has for the present been given up.

As to the imputation that Gen. Meade was, during the retrograde movement, trying to get away from Lee, and maneuvering throughout to avoid a battle, it is utterly false. He tried repeatedly to get battle, and would have fought the rebels at Sperryville, at Winchester, at Centreville, or anywhere else in which he could have brought his army into position, had not the wily strategy of Lee, and his own exceedingly defective information as to the position of the enemy, balked his designs and desires. Referring last night, as we sat around the camp fire, to his disappointment at not having been able to get battle out of Lee, he said to report literally his own pungent expression, that it "was like pulling out his eyeteeth not to have had a fight." Whether a man of a different stamp would not have been able to compel a battle. I know not; but Meade was not only willing but eager to bring such a result about, and did all that he could in this view.

4 November 1863 – Charleston S. C. Mercury Telegraphic News

News from Richmond

Richmond, November 3 – Trustworthy intelligence received this evening confirms the reported landing of a large body of the enemy at Newport News. The War Department has received no later news from Bragg's army. There is nothing new from the Rappahannock to-night.

News from the United States

Petersburg, November 3 – We have Northern dates of the 30th instant. The news is unimportant. The Yankees are running trains on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, as far as Catlett's Station, eighteen miles this side of Manassas. The road, it is said, will in a few days be repaired, so as to communicate with the advance corps of Meade's army. Guerillas continue to harass Meade's rear and flanks, doing much mischief. On Wednesday the rebels captured 24 wagons near Gainesville. It was thought that the rebels would, in the end, be forced into a general engagement.

From Chattanooga it is reported that the rebels have been driven from the ridge of mountains on the south side of the Tennessee River, and that communication would be re-established immediately between Chattanooga and Bridgeport.

President Lincoln has formally received Senor Romero, the Minister of the Juarez Government, thus ignoring the new Franco-Mexican Empire.

A United States steamer cruising along the British Islands was ordered away from the ports of Prince Edward Island.

5 November 1863 – National Intelligencer The Seventh Maryland Regiment Bristow Station, Virginia

The following extract of a letter from the camp of the Seventh Regiment of Maryland, dated at Bristow Station (Va.) on the 31st ultimo, doubtless gives a true statement of a skirmish in which that regiment was engaged on the 19th, near Thoroughfare Gap, and which has been greatly exaggerated:

"On the arrival of the First Corps at Haymarket, on the 19th of October, the Seventh Maryland Regiment was detailed for picket, and the posts had scarcely been established when a brigade of Federal cavalry – retreating before a strong column of the enemy – came within our lines from the direction of Buckland Mills. The rebel force – as appears from a dispatch of Gen. Lee to Gen. Cooper – consisted of the united cavalry commands of Stuart and Fitz Lee. The brigade of which they were in pursuit was commanded by Gen. Davies, who had been pushed forward by Gen. Kilpatrick to Buckland Mills, and had there encountered a force so superior to his own, both in numbers and position, that he was for a time in imminent danger of losing his whole command, and was obliged to fall back rapidly upon the infantry support at Haymarket. The rebel advance was promptly checked by a brisk fire from the three companies of the Seventh Maryland Regiment, which were picketing the road upon which they were approaching. These three companies, under the immediate command of Col. Webster, supported by such of our own cavalry as rallied after passing within the line, together with the battery of horse artillery attached to Davies' brigade, held the entire rebel force in check fighting and falling back deliberately, until the First Maryland Regiment, under the command of Lieut. Col. Wilson, was advanced to their support, and put an end to the contest. The exact loss of the Seventh Maryland Regiment in this affair was one man killed, five wounded, one officer (Lieut. Hagan) and fifteen men captured. From the very open nature of the country and the facilities it afforded for the operations of cavalry, and from the enormous disparity of force, there is no doubt the loss would have been much greater but for the skillful handling of his men on the part of Col. Webster, seconded by the coolness and confidence of the men and their officers. The engagement

commenced about an hour before sundown, and continued until about 8 P. M. There was no 'surprise,' as has been falsely stated in some newspapers; on the contrary, there was ample notice of the approach of an enemy, and every disposition made to receive him, as he found to his cost when he came within range."

6 November 1863 – Charleston S.C. Mercury

3 November 1863 – Richmond Examiner

13 November 1863 – National Intelligencer

General Lee's Official Report of his Recent Operations

Headquarters Army Northern Virginia

October 23, 1863

General S. Cooper A. and I. General:

General: In advance of a detailed report, I have the honor to submit, for the information of the Department, the following outline of the recent operations of this army.

With the design of bringing on an engagement with the Federal Army, which was encamped around Culpeper Court House, extending thence to the Rapidan, this army crossed that river on the 9th inst, and advanced by way of Madison Court House. Our progress was necessarily slow, as the march was by circuitous and concealed roads, in order to avoid the observation of the enemy.

Gen. Fitz Lee, with cavalry division and a detachment of infantry, remained to hold our lines south of the Rapidan; Gen Stuart, with Hampton's division, moved on the right of the column. With a portion of his command he attacked the advance of the enemy near James City on the 10th and drove them back towards Culpeper. Our main body arrived near that place on the 11th inst, and discovered that the enemy had retreated towards the Rappahannock, ruining or destroying his stores. We were compelled to halt for the rest of the day to provide for the troops, but the cavalry, under Gen. Stuart, continued to press the enemy's rear guard towards the Rappahannock. A large force of Federal cavalry, in the meantime, had crossed the Rapidan after our movement begun, but was repulsed by General Fitz Lee, and pursued towards Brandy Station.

Near that place the commands of Stuart and Lee united, on the afternoon of the 11th, and after a severe engagement drove the enemy's cavalry across the Rappahannock, with heavy loss.

On the morning of the 12th, the army marched in two columns, with the design of reaching the Orange and Alexandria Railroad north of the river and interrupting the retreat of the enemy.

After a skirmish with some of the Federal cavalry at Jeffersonton, we reached the Rappahannock at Warrenton Springs, in the afternoon, where the passage of the river was disputed by cavalry and artillery. The enemy was quickly driven off by a detachment of our cavalry, aided by a small force of infantry and a battery. Early next morning, 13th, the march was resumed, and the columns re-united at Warrenton in the afternoon, when another halt was made to supply the troops with provisions. The enemy fell back rapidly along the line of the railroad, and early on the 14th the pursuit was continued, a portion of the army moving by way of New Baltimore towards Bristow Station, and the rest, accompanied by the main body of the cavalry, proceeding to the same point by Auburn Mills and Greenwich. Near the former place a skirmish took place between General Ewell's advance and the rear guard of the enemy, which was forced back and rapidly pursued.

The retreat of the enemy was conducted by several direct parallel roads, while our troops were compelled to march by different and circuited routes. We were consequently unable to intercept him. General Hill arrived first at Bristow Station, where his advance, consisting of two brigades, became engaged with a force largely superior in numbers, posted behind the railroad embankment. The particulars of the action have not been officially reported, but the brigades were repulsed with some loss, and five pieces of artillery, with a number of prisoners, captured. Before the rest of the troops could be brought up, and the position of the enemy ascertained, he retreated across Broad Run. The next morning he was reported to be fortifying beyond Bull Run, extending his line towards the Little River Turnpike.

The vicinity of the entrenchments around Washington & Alexandria rendered it useless to turn his new position, as it was apparent that he could readily retire to them, and would decline an engagement unless attacked in his fortifications. A further advance was therefore, deemed unnecessary, and, after destroying the railroad from Cub Run southwardly to the Rappahannock, the army returned on the 18th to the line of that river, leaving the cavalry in the enemy's front.

The cavalry of the latter advanced on the following day, and some skirmishing occurred at Buckland. General Stuart, with Hampton's division, retired slowly towards Warrenton, in order to draw the enemy in that direction, thus exposing his flank and rear to General Lee, who moved from Auburn and

attacked him near Buckland. As soon as General Stuart heard the sound of Lee's guns he turned upon the enemy, who after a stubborn resistance, broke and fled in confusion, pursued by General Stuart nearly to Haymarket, and by General Lee to Gainesville. Here the Federal infantry was encountered, and after capturing a number of them during the night, the cavalry slowly retired before their advance on the following day. When the movement of the army from the Rapidan commenced, General Imboden was instructed to advance down the Valley, and guard the gaps of the mountains on our left, This duty was well performed by that officer, and on the 18th instant he marched upon Charlestown, and succeeded, by a well concerted plan, in surrounding the place and capturing nearly the whole force stationed there, with all their stores and transportation; only a few escaped to Harpers Ferry. The enemy advanced from that place in superior numbers to attack General Imboden, who retired, bringing off his prisoners and captured property, his command suffering very little loss, and inflicting some damage upon the pursuing column. In the course of these operations two thousand four hundred and thirty-six prisoners were captured (2,436), including forty-one commissioned officers. Of the above, four hundred and thirty-four (434) were taken by General Imboden.

A more complete account, with the statement of our loss in killed, wounded and prisoners, will be forwarded as soon as the necessary official reports have been received.

Very respectfully, your ob'd servant

R. E. Lee, General

[Official:] John Withers, A. A. General.

Buckland, Va., October 20, 1863

General: After offering some considerable resistance to the advance of the enemy at this point yesterday, in accordance with the suggestions of Major-General Lee, I retired with Hampton's division slowly before the enemy, until within two miles and a half of Warrenton, in order that Major-General Lee, coming from Auburn, might have an opportunity to attack the enemy in flank and rear. The plan proved successful. The enemy followed slowly and cautiously after Hampton's division, when, on hearing Major – General Lee's guns on their flank, I pressed upon them vigorously in front. They at first resisted my attack stubbornly; but once broken, the rout was complete. I pursued them from within three miles of Warrenton to Buckland, the horses at full speed the whole distance, the enemy retreating in great confusion.

Major-General Lee had attacked them in flank just below Buckland. We captured about 200 prisoners, 8 wagons and ambulances, arms, horses and equipments. The rout was the most complete that any cavalry has ever suffered during the war.

Crossing at Buckland, General Fitz Lee pushed down the pike towards Gainesville, while I, with the few men of Gordon's and Rosser's brigades, who could be collected after our unusually long chase, moved around to our left and pressed down towards Haymarket. Here I encountered, besides a large cavalry force, the first army corps, who retired a short distance beyond Haymarket on the Carolina Road. I attacked their infantry pickets by moonlight, and scattered them over the fields, capturing many. Gen Lee pressed down to within a short distance of Gainesville, when he encountered their infantry, and captured prisoners from the first army corps on that road also. The pursuit was continued until after dark. The cavalry force was commanded by Kilpatrick, and composed of ten regiments.

Most respectfully,

J. E. B. Stuart

[Official:] John Withers, Ass't Adj's General

6 November 1863 – New Orleans Daily Picayune

Additional by the Creole

The Guerrillas in Front

From the special dispatches to the New York papers we learn the following, says the Times' correspondent of 28th ult., from Washington:

Guerrillas and bushwhackers are exceedingly bold and their operations extend in every direction. Every day they make some demonstration on our line of communication, and it is even unsafe for our men to venture out of sight of camp. On Sunday evening a gang of bushwhackers dashed upon one of our trains between Warrenton and New Baltimore and captured an ambulance and wagon belonging to the Provost Marshal's Department.

Says the World's:

The guerrillas are in full force between Gainesville and Warrenton. Last night they attacked a train of wagons belonging to the artillery reserves. The wagons had been to Gainesville for supplies, and on the road between Little Baltimore and Warrenton they were attacked by an armed party of mounted guerrillas. It happened that Capt. Chervin, of the 2d New Hampshire, was on his way to Warrenton with a considerable number of prisoners (deserters) that he was taking back to their respective regiments. On receiving information that the train was attacked he ordered his men to the front, the prisoners, much to their credit, joining heartily with the guards, and the rebels, hearing the advance troops, hurried away into the woods. They took with them about a hundred and fifty mules. The train consisted of forty wagons, and but for the timely arrival of Capt. C. and the praiseworthy conduct of the prisoners, would eventually have been destroyed. Not a prisoner attempted to escape, and Capt. Chervin took the whole of his charge safely through, arriving in Warrenton at 3 P.M.

Last night, between 8 and 9 o'clock, ten or twelve teams belonging to the reserved artillery were captured by some 150 guerrillas, when two miles from Warrenton, whither they were proceeding. When first hailed the guerrillas represented themselves as attached to the 13th Pennsylvania Cavalry. But they soon after ordered the teams to halt, and stole the mules, a third of which were subsequently recaptured.

Gen. Meade's headquarters are still at Warrenton. This afternoon about 4 o'clock another band of rebels came within half a mile of Burke's Station, fourteen miles from Alexandria, and captured twenty-five or thirty mules, used for hauling wood, together with a wagon master and several negroes. They ordered the wagon master to take them to where the guard were, but one of the negroes made his escape, hurried to the guard and informed them of their danger, and they prepared to give the foe a warm reception. The guerrillas, evidently supposing that they would make an easy conquest, as they had been informed by the wagon master that the guard numbered only six men, when in fact there were thirty, approached with boldness, but were suddenly driven off by a volley of musketry. Most of these guerrillas were armed with pistols. There were only a few carbines among them.

14 November 1863 – Charleston SC Mercury Notes of the Cavalry Campaign of October 1863 Camp – Cavalry, Army of Northern Virginia

The late campaign is interesting from a cavalry point of view. We had the Yankees on what is called "a big drive." Some of the incidents of the campaign may be interesting.

One division of the cavalry corps, under General Fitz Lee, was left on the Rapidan, to watch the enemy below, while General Stuart advanced with Hampton's division to protect the flank of the army, then moving toward Madison Court House, from observation. This division consisted of the brigades of Gordon, Young, and Jones; Colonel Funsten commanding the latter.

At Thoroughfare Mountain General Gordon, whose brigade led the advance, encountered a regiment of infantry, and attacked with his habitual gallantry and skill. A brisk action ensued between the opposing sharpshooters, the enemy giving way from the first. Just as they were breaking, Young's Brigade, which General Stuart had taken round to the left, came down in a thundering charge on the flank of the Federals, and dispersed, killed or captured nearly the entire party of about four hundred infantry and three hundred cavalry. The two brigades then pushed on, drove the enemy from the little town of James City, and our artillery opened on the Yankee batteries and cavalry, keeping up a brisk cannonade. The sharpshooters were also hotly engaged – the enemy's whole force of cavalry with French's Division of infantry remaining in our front, drawn up in heavy line of battle on a rising ground. It was no part of our plan to bring on an engagement, as General Stuart's design was to keep the enemy's cavalry off our flank; and no advance was made. On the following morning the Federals had fallen back, and we pursued them, coming up with their cavalry below Griffinburg. Here we flanked an infantry regiment, which double-quickened to escape, and received, in so doing, the full benefit of our sharpshooters fire. At the same moment, Lieut. Baylor, with a single company of cavalry, charged and broke them. A deep ditch alone prevented the cavalry from dashing in and sabreing them. They were not thirty yards off; and, with one more volley into the cavalry (which strange to say, did not hurt man or horse), took to their heels and escaped, for the most part in the woods. This was the second time, in two days that the cavalry had charged and broken infantry.

Passing the large abandoned camps where the enemy had evidently intended to go into winter quarters, to judge from the elaborate board cabins and every arrangement for permanent comfort, we pushed on to Culpeper Court House after the flying enemy. They posted a battery at Mr. George's below the town, but a flank movement to the left made them quickly withdraw it; and then, *sauve qui peut* was the order of the day with them. General Stuart pushed after them riding ahead of his command, and was heard

to say: "Oh! If Fitz Lee was only up!" Almost as he spoke the boom of artillery was heard from the direction of Stevensburg, and Fitz Lee who has a faculty of always "turning up" at the right moment, attacked the retreating enemy's flank. He had driven Buford's command from the neighborhood of Rapidan Station, on the Rapidan, on before him; and now came up, flushed with victory, just in time to report to General Stuart, and make the rout of the enemy complete. A hard and desperate fight ensued – one of the most fiercely contested combats of the war. The enemy had two brigades of infantry to back their heavy force of cavalry; but our infantry was far away, making the flank movement to intercept Meade. The Confederate cavalry, therefore, had everything their own way, and they finished "the big drive" all by themselves. At nightfall the Federals were driven with heavy loss back to and then beyond the river, and our weary but triumphant boys desisted from the long pursuit.

On the next day (Monday) Gen. Stuart flanked up to Jeffersonton, where the enemy made a brief but hot fight, taking refuge in the church and stone houses. They were speedily driven out, however, and our troops pushed on to Warrenton Springs. Here another fight occurred – cavalry and infantry – sharpshooters of our army attacking. A gallant charge was made towards the bridge by the cavalry, but finding that some of the planks were torn up, they wheeled and dashed through the ford, driving the enemy before them. This little affair was witnessed by the infantry, and I hear that they were enthusiastic about the cavalry. The fact is, however, not that the cavalry did any harder fighting here than on a thousand other occasions, but that the infantry happened to see them at it. It is fortunate for the service, nevertheless, that this little affair was witnessed. It has tended to remove the groundless and absurd prejudice of the infantry against the cavalry arm of the service.

That night General Stuart pushed on to Warrenton. He had guarded the flank of the army, driven off the enemy's forces everywhere, and performed invaluable service. On the next day the army pushed on, the cavalry now in advance. In the afternoon General Stuart took two brigades and several batteries, and set out for Catlett's Station to harass the enemy's flank and rear. – Having passed Auburn, he at once discovered that he was between the advancing columns of the enemy. Enormous lines of infantry, cavalry, artillery and baggage wagons were passing on both sides of him, and, to have attacked them would have resulted in heavy loss. Nothing was left but to "lay low," in camp parlance; and orders were accordingly issued that no sound should be uttered throughout the command. This novel incident in the career of the gallant Stuart has been so repeatedly described in the papers that I will not further dwell upon it. Suffice it to say, that in spite of the sounds hissing from the throats of indecent donkeys, in spite of rattling artillery chains and neighing horses, the band of Southern cavaliers was not discovered; and at daybreak the rear guard of the enemy were seen in the camp cooking their breakfasts, not a quarter of a mile distant. General Stuart had sent several scouts on foot through the enemy's lines to announce his situation to General Lee, and urge the good results which would attend on attack on the enemy's left flank while he attacked on the right. The scouts disguising themselves as Federal infantry, got through the line and reported the "situation," and at dawn General Rhodes opened on the enemy, as suggested. At the same moment, General Stuart, who had gotten his artillery into position, hurried his thunders on them from an opposite direction, and the ball was opened in the liveliest way imaginable. The enemy formed and for a time resisted, but soon fell back, and our cavalry pushed on in pursuit, General Ewell following with his infantry.

Gen. Fitz Lee's division of cavalry had gone round by New Baltimore and Buckland, and reached Bristoe on the evening of the fight there, just as it was over. Gen. Stuart came up at the same time, and taking command of the corps, advanced on the next morning to Manassas. Fitz Lee attacked the enemy at Blackburn's Ford – the scene of the battle of July 18, 1861 – and drove them off, after an artillery and sharpshooters fight of an hour or two. General Stuart, with the other division, then proceeded toward Yates Ford below to cut off their wagon train, and coming up with the enemy, had a brief but severe fight with them – which terminated in their retreat across Bull Run. They had hurried off their trains, however, and no part of Meade's baggage fell into our hands.

The entire command bivouacked that night in the waste and desolate country around Manassas, where, there is neither sustenance for man nor beast. On the next morning, leaving Gen. Fitz Lee at Manassas to watch the movements of the enemy in front. Gen. Stuart, with Hampton's division, set out to make an expedition to their rear. At Groveton he encountered a heavy picket, which was driven away after some sharp fighting – and then proceeding more to the left by Gainesville, he crossed the Catharpin & Little Rivers, struck into the turnpike below Aldie, and proceeded to the rear of Frying Pan, where a regiment of infantry was encountered and attacked. Desultory skirmishing consumed some hours, when, having ascertained that the 6th corps was encamped there, and industriously entrenching to defend itself from Gen. Lee's army (then retiring from Warrenton towards the Rappahannock), Gen. Stuart withdrew,

and marched back, without pursuit or molestation by the badly frightened enemy. This expedition induced the enemy to retire his whole force from Centreville to Fairfax Court House, under the impression that General Lee had gotten into the rear, and was about to attack him! This may be called one of the best practical (cavalry) jokes of the war,

As our cavalry fell back from Gainesville, on the next day, the great "Buckland Races" took place. Gen. Kilpatrick came down from Bull Run as furious as a wild boar at finding that the circumventing force which appeared at Frying Pan was only a portion of Stuart's cavalry. He declared to a citizen, at whose house he stopped, that "Stuart had been boasting of driving him from Culpeper, and now he was going to drive Stuart." He was about to sit down to an excellent dinner, as he made the observation, when, suddenly, the sound of artillery attracted his attention, and he was obliged to get (dinnerless) into the saddle. General Stuart had played him one of those tricks which are dangerous. He had arranged with General Fitz Lee, whose division was still toward Manassas, to come up on the enemy's flank and rear, as they pursued, and, when he was ready, fire a gun as a signal. At the signal, he (Stuart) would face about and attack. Everything took place as it was planned. The signal roared, and General Stuart, who, until then, had been retiring before the enemy toward New Baltimore, faced around, and charged. At the same moment Fitz Lee came up on the enemy's flank, and the "Buckland Races" took place. Poor Kilpatrick was completely ruined. His command was killed, captured, or dispersed. When last heard from, he was at Alexandria, where he is supposed to have opened a recruiting office for the enlistment of his command. To add to his misery, the Confederates eave caught his race horse. General K. is fond of racing, and had a thoroughbred mare called "Lively," which he ran on every occasion. The other day "Lively," which he ran on every occasion. The other day "Lively" flew the track, and took to the woods, where some of Mosby's men took possession of her. Two soldiers were sent after her; and these, too were gobbled up.

It would thus appear that the campaign taken altogether, has been unfavorable to Gen. Kilpatrick. Driven out of Culpeper, ruined at Buckland's, the loss of his favorite mare must appear to him the "unkindest cut of all."

At Buckland's Gen. Stuart captured a number of wagons and mules, and the headquarter baggage of Gen. Carter; his papers, clothes, everything. The papers reveal many interesting facts connected with their cavalry, and show a heavy loss in the recent engagement at Jack's Shop, James City, etc.

A few unimportant skirmishes followed the "Buckland Races," but that amusing occurrence may be regarded as the termination of the cavalry campaign.

I think you will agree with me that the cavalry have "done well for the Republic" in this campaign. They have met and fought the enemy all along the roads from the Rapidan to the Rappahannock, advancing on the Federals by two routes. They guarded the flank of General Lee as he marched to intercept Meade, doing the work so perfectly that the Federal General never at anytime could ascertain a single fact in relation to Lee's movements. They drove the enemy, after a fierce and final struggle at Brandy, clear across the Rappahannock. They did the same on the next day at Warrenton Springs. They damaged the retreating columns seriously, to say the least, at Auburn. They drove them across Bull Run, and took possession of the fords in front of Centreville. They penetrated to the enemy's rear at Frying Pan, and made them fall back from Centreville to Fairfax Court House and entrench under the impression that the "Rebel Army" was in their rear. They got Kilpatrick "between two fires" at Buckland's, and broke to pieces his entire command – killing, capturing or driving back on their heavy infantry reserves, the best cavalry in the whole Federal service. They effected these results, besides furnishing General Lee with thorough and reliable information of every movement and design on the part of the enemy.

And yet, these services of the cavalry have not been more important than upon other occasions. The high reputation for courage and efficiency which they have received, has not been the result of better generalship on the part of the commander, or greater gallantry on the part of the men. It has all resulted from a circumstance already alluded to. The infantry of the army were held in reserve, and had an opportunity to see the cavalry at work and observe the results. I am disposed to think that some of the most intelligent and candid men in the infantry honestly adopted the old prejudice, and believe that the cavalry did all of the straggling and none of the fighting. Far from the field of cavalry operations, which are generally off on the flanks of the army, or in the rear or the front, these honest and sensible men repeated the sneers handed from regiment to regiment, and ended by believing every calumny which was circulated. This is the only explanation I can think of for the naïve and enthusiastic applause which greeted the charge at Warrenton Springs. A gallant and dashing little affair, it is true; but only one of a thousand such which occur on every expedition of the cavalry. The infantry broke out into rapturous plaudits on that occasion, and evidently thought that such things rarely occurred – that the cavalry had "turned over a new leaf."

I repeat that the misfortune has been heretofore, that the brave boys of the infantry did not see their comrades of the cavalry at work; and not finding them prominent in the middle of the big battles, believed they preferred the rear, and did no fighting. It is fortunate that this hallucination is exploded. The gallant blood of noble hearts which flows in every cavalry fight cries loud against this cruel c-umey. While the infantry are resting after their tolls, the cavalry are fight – and it would astound some of those who have been in the habit of repeating the sneers alluded to, if they could know how much precious blood – of field officers, company officers, and noble men in the ranks – is shed in almost every skirmish which occur upon the outposts. But, enough. I am glad the infantry have seen the cavalry at work.

20 November 1863 – New Orleans Daily Picayune

The Old Bull Run Battlefield

The following is from a late Washington letter:

On Monday night I rested with a part of the Army that pitched their tents for the night on the section of the old Bull Run battle-field adjacent to the Warrenton Pike. Bullets are picked up and exhibited by the handful, and soldiers who participated in the fray are comparing at the same time their gathered mementoes and their personal recollections of the bloody field. In the long, luxuriant grass one strikes his foot against skulls and bones, mingled with the deadly missiles that brought them to the earth. Hollow skulls lie contiguous to hemispheres of exploded shells. The shallow graves rise here and there above the grass, sometimes in rows, sometimes alone, or scattered at irregular intervals. Through the thin layer of soil one sees the protruding ribs whence the rain has washed their covering, a foot or an arm reaching out beyond its earthen bed; and once I saw one of these long sleepers covered snugly up to the chin, but with the entire face exposed and turned up to the passer by; one could imagine him a soldier lying on the field wrapped up in his blanket, but the blanket was of clay and the face was fleshless and eyeless.

In one case a foot protruded, with the flesh still partially preserved; in another an entire skeleton lay exposed upon the surface, with-out any covering whatever. The tatters of what had been his uniform showed that he had been a cavalryman. The flesh was decomposed; but the tanned and shriveled skin still incased the bony framework of the body, and even the finger nails were in their places. The ligaments that fasten the joints must have been preserved, for he was lifted by the belt which was still around the waist, and not a bone fell out of its place. When found he lay in the attitude of calm repose, like one who had fallen asleep from weariness. This was in the camp of the 9th Massachusetts Regiment. He was buried, as were more that night, who had waited a long fourteen months for their funeral rites. In fact the different pioneer corps were engaged some time in paying this last tribute to the gallant dead.

The Pennsylvania Reserves bivouacked for the night on the ground where they themselves were engaged in deadly strife in the battle of fourteen months ago, and the skulls and bones of some of their former companions in arms lay around within the light of their camp fires. It may even have happened that men pitched their tents over the grave of a lost comrade, and again unwittingly rested under the same shelter with one who had often before shared their couch on the tented field. A soldier of the 1st Regiment struck his foot against a cartridge-box, near his tent, and, picking it up, read on it the name of an old associate who had been among the missing, and whose death was only known from his prolonged absence. His resting place had at length been found.

23 November 1863 – Alexandria Gazette

From the Army of the Potomac

Correspondence of the New York Tribune

Washington, Monday, Nov. 9. – No considerable opposition was offered to the onward march of the Army of the Potomac yesterday, the Confederates having fallen back, and placed the Rapidan between them and the advancing columns. A brigade of Buford's cavalry encountered a brigade of Confederate cavalry at Waterloo Bridge yesterday morning, and, after a short fight, drove them across the river. – Having orders to proceed in another direction, the pursuit was not followed up.

Last night Buford's cavalry occupied Culpepper, and the main body of the army was in the vicinity of Brandy Station. To-day the advance has pushed on, and is at the Rapidan. The Confederates are on the south side of the river, in their old intrenchments. The Federal forces were rapidly moving upon the different fords of the Rapidan. If any determined resistance is to be made, it will probably be in disputing the passage of this river.

Meanwhile it is reported that a movement is being made by another column in a more southerly direction, and the reports of Kilpatrick's being in possession of the heights back of Fredericksburg are

reiterated. It is farther more stated that Gen. Lee is not with the forces in front of Meade, but that Gens. A. P. Hill and Ewell are in command. Lee is reported to have gone to Chattanooga.

The prisoners taken make the usual brags of how Meade will soon be whipped, and give out mysterious hints as to his being drawn into a trap. The North Carolina troops captured declare that they will not again take up arms. The North Carolinians and the Louisiana Tigers had a fight in the cars, on their way to town, upon this topic, the former boldly saying they were heartily sick of the war, and did not wish to be exchanged. The latter called them "poltroons," and at length the two parties came to blows.

The guerrillas again become active along the Orange and Alexandria Road. Last night they fired the large piles of wood between Manassas Junction and Fairfax Court House, accumulated by the Company during the year at great expense. One pile containing several thousand cords was burning this morning without any prospects of its being saved.

Correspondence of the New York Times

The army is completely surrounded by guerrillas and bushwhackers are fairly swarming within its lines. No two or three men can go out of sight of any camp without running the risk of either being shot or captured, because of marauding squads of the enemy everywhere to be found, the pickets having ceased to afford the usual protection to persons even while passing from a depot of supplies to camp, or from one camp to another. – To such an extent is this species of warfare carried on, that no officer, with the bump of caution at all developed, thinks of going beyond the immediate limits of a camp without a strong guard to accompany him, and the more reckless who venture out alone or with only one or two companions are considered extremely fortunate if they return in safety. – Yesterday morning Lieut. Hedges, of the Second New York cavalry Acting Commissary of Gen. Kilpatrick's cavalry division, while riding, accompanied by a single Orderly from Catlett's Station, to a point three miles distant was shot at and seriously if not mortally wounded. This occurred almost within sight of Gen. Pleasanton's Headquarters and within a mile of the Headquarters of Gen. Meade. Lt. Hedges was so seriously wounded that he could not be moved in an ambulance, and Lieut. Col. Austin, of Gen. Pleasanton's Staff had him brought in on a stretcher. Three men were taken prisoners at about the same time from the train Lieut Hedges had in charge. On Wednesday Capt. Page, Assistant Quartermaster at headquarters, sent Sergeant Terry on some business to a point near Centreville. He succeeded in reaching the vicinity of Bull Run without difficulty, when he was stopped by a citizen, who told him there were twenty or more of the enemy concealed in a piece of woods through which the road passed he was then on. Making a flank movement to avoid them, Sergeant Terry met a Lieutenant and Sergeant of the First Michigan cavalry, to whom he communicated the information he had just received and the parted. While still in sight the guerrillas, fired killing the Lieutenant and wounding the Sergeant with him. Sergeant Terry, who is an experienced soldier succeeded in avoiding the enemy, and reached camp last night in safety, though he saw several squads of bushwhackers at different points. Not a day passes but what officers or privates are shot, fired at or chased within the lines proper of this army.

The Washington Star says there are fifteen thousand prostitutes in the city of Washington, and the number of their pimps and retainers are legion.

25 December 1863 – New York Times

News of the Day – The Rebellion

Richmond papers of the 21st instant admit the defeat of Gen. Lee at Bristoe Station by General Warren, and say that their loss was about one thousand in killed and wounded. Rebel Generals Cook, Posey, and Kirkland were among their wounded. Lieut. Gen. D. H. Hill has been removed from his command in the rebel Army of the Tennessee. Gen Polk charges him with the cause of his failure to carry out Bragg's orders in the battle of Chickamauga.

22 January 1864 - Alexandria Gazette

General Lee's Family

The Richmond correspondent of the Mobile Register says: "The introduction of a resolution in the House relative to the commutation of officers re-siding in the city is of some importance, when we consider that a multitude of little captains, majors, surgeons and assistant surgeons, snugly ensconced here, far from all danger and exposure, are getting from three to four, and even five hundred dollars a month, while General Lee, constantly exposed to the casualties of battle and camp life, gets only the pay of a brigadier, with the addition of \$100 a month as commander of a department – not enough to support his family, now living in two rented rooms, in the plainest way, to say nothing of himself, especially if, he keeps, as Beauregard did at Manassas, a general free table for everybody. How creditable to Lee, under these

circumstances, is the refusal of a house tendered him by the city of Richmond. I am told that as soon as he got wind of the movement, he went to Mr. Sanders, the president of the common council, and told him that his family was living comfortably enough, and that if the city had money to spare, it had much better be given to the soldiers, or to their widows and orphans.

**20 October 1864 – Alexandria Gazette
From the Washington Star**

“From Manassas to White Plains the Quartermaster’s men have cut down all the timber on both sides of the railroad for a distance of half a mile and destroyed everything that would afford the least shelter for guerillas. The work is progressing, and on Monday evening the most advanced workmen were at a point about two miles above White Plains. – The Quartermasters men commenced their work at Manassas and cut towards White Plains. The timber between Manassas and Alexandria has not been cut as yet, but it is expected that Pennsylvania troops who are stationed there will complete the work.

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