

Alexandria Gazette 24 Apr 1873

MANASSAS – This place has been one of the most thriving, since the war, in this part of Virginia. At the close of the war there was scarcely a tenement of any kind left, except the brick mansion of Mr. Weir, which was in turn used as headquarters by both General Beauregard and General Sickles. The town now has between seventy and eighty buildings, some of which are very fine. Church privileges are good; the schools also; a good printing office here; with plenty of mechanic shops, and merchant stores, one steam mill; all presenting an air of prosperity in the midst of a truly fine and fertile farming country. There are two abundant quarries here of excellent red stone, for building &c., are a source of much gain to the owners, and an attraction to the place. There are some fine gardens here.

There are magnificent and charming views of mountain and valley scenery, including the Bull Run range. In sight of here are the early Bull Run Battlefields; many of the fortifications are yet standing, the most prominent being Fort Beauregard and Bunker Hill, close by.

The location is an exceedingly healthy one, and the land is of the best quality. Many people from several eastern, northern and western states have settled and made fine homes in this town and surrounding country, and there are many signs of progress and enjoyment.

In sight of the village is the farm of Major McLean, on which took place the first day's fight of the Bull Run Battle. He soon moved to Appomattox; and there, at his house, the terms of capitulation of Lee to Grant took place; so that he claims that the beginning and ending of the war took place at his two homes, in two counties.

This is a good fruit region, and I suggest that growers do their best to get up a good show for the Boston meeting of the National Pomological Society, and send to the Potomac fruit growers to prepare.

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