





## WAR NEWS.

### A Disastrous Failure.

"Blow and rally the armies of the Republic, outnumbered and defeated have fallen back from the battle-field to Centerville, from Centerville to Fairfax, from Fairfax to the Potomac. The latest experiments in generalship is the most immediate and disastrous failure. Once more the national army gathered about the national Capital, and the defence of Washington is the strategic signal of the Peninsular advance upon Richmond."

### THE RETREAT.

"I suppose no future hope can be harbored if the details of any accomplished retreat are given to the world. I record, therefore very briefly and incompletely, what I have seen in the three nights and two days just past—nights and days of sleepless activity which can scarcely have brought to any one who shared their gloomy experience a single cheerful thought, or a moment of repose."

"When I left Washington, on Sunday night, although it was known that Pope had been defeated and driven back to Centerville, none, or very few, supposed that he was to abandon that position, famous for its strength, without a fight. A battle was expected next day at the furthest, and no one certainly knew whether there had not been one during the day. I passed through Alexandria and out on the Fairfax Road at seven in the evening. Not half a mile beyond the town I met a train of heavily loaded wagons, and halted a driver. 'Where are you going?' 'Centerville,' at the whole story was told in a word. The army was retreating."

"For the next ten miles the road was filled with the trains of every corps in the army, everywhere crowded and frequently halting. Mingled with the wagons were great numbers of ambulances, and the road was filled with the wounded men. They had been all day on the road a day of confinement, privation, discomfort and torture. Many must have remained all night on the road—many also in the wagons, as conveyances for wounded men, are only one degree worse than ambulances, and at intervals for some miles beyond the bivouac fires of many camps blazed along the road and glimmered in distant fields. Guards for the trains, straggling towards the front, sections of batteries, squadrons of cavalry, and shuttles on toward Fairfax regiments and scattered brigades moving to the rear, and finally the last division of reinforcements marching from the front streamed along the road and wound in and out the endless trains. It was impossible to ride faster than a walk. I reached Fairfax at 11. The town was quiet—only a guard at the further end, none of whose officers knew where headquarters were, where at Centerville, and the rear. So I spent what was left of the night at Fairfax, and rode out next morning to Centerville."

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"The army was not so much disheartened as enraged willing to fight, but not willing to be sacrificed—denouncing with a unanimity which had no exception, the incapacity which had caused their defeat. No one believed that the combined force of the rebels was in front, and as for the battle of Saturday the men, the officers, the Generals who fought it, confess with shame and anger that they were beaten by half their number. The army was not defeated, its commander was out-generaled. He neither knew where his enemy was, nor would suffer himself to be informed. He was warned that the enemy was massing on his left—every soldier knew it, but he disbelieved and denied it. He sent batteries and troops to the right, to the centre, to the rear—everywhere but where they were wanted—then, in a moment found himself surrounded, enveloped, crushed and defeated."

"A BLUNDER—OUBWARDIE." "The enemy seized on the hill as soon as it was abandoned, and having put ten guns in position began shelling the triple column which had advanced half a mile on the road and through the fields. The cavalry regiment—it was the 6th New York—had contrived to get itself on the right, where it could be of no possible use, instead of on the left, toward the enemy, or in the rear, between them and the rear guard of infantry. The blunder was people have of the Government which sanctions such conduct on the part of its representatives? Nor is this the worst view of the case. The moral effect upon the soldiers themselves is even more to be contemplated than the influence of such things on the people hereabout. Our soldiers are not only not quite true to any other class of people; but what man is responsible for his acts committed under the influence of strong drink, and what will be the moral effect on men not naturally bad, but led away by temptation, to be suddenly snatched up by the Provost Guard and set to work, with shovel and pick, on the fortifications along with colored negroes, fugitive slaves and arrested traitors—a punishment regarded in the army pretty much as the chain-gang is in civilized places. The 'Irving Block' is a very large building, four stories in height, is used as a military prison here, and for weeks past has been filled to overflowing, chiefly by soldiers arrested for being found drunk in the streets."

"Within a few weeks past, not less than half a dozen soldiers have been shot, several fatally, while attempting to break guard when intoxicated."

Washington, Sept. 7. The Times correspondent, who has just returned from Poolesville, says:—On Thursday night the rebels commenced to cross with cavalry at or near the mouth of the Monocacy. They brought over 2 regiments of cavalry, and threw over a pontoon bridge and crossed with artillery, which encamped on Roger's farm and threw out pickets towards Poolesville. On Friday, about eleven o'clock, a column commenced to cross of infantry and artillery. They were crossing in three places behind the bridge, the water being up to a man's waist. No resistance was offered to their crossing. Some cavalry who were watching them were attacked and chased to Poolesville. There the houses were closed and the streets blockaded by the citizens. The farmers fired upon our flying cavalry as they passed by the cornfields. About dusk General Lee rode into Poolesville at the head of four regiments of infantry, and guided by a farmer who had been professedly a Union man. Their infantry went off to the left towards Frederick. The rebel Generals Robert Lee, Hill, Stuart and Fitzhugh are with the army. The farmers are bringing in hay and provisions of all kinds, and giving them with flags and tokens of joy."

SUNDAY.—The following has just been received from the upper Potomac, and is believed to be correct. The rebel force in the neighborhood of Darlington and Clarksville is estimated at 20,000, and is composed entirely of cavalry. A body of the enemy, about 15,000 strong, crossed the river last night at White's Ferry, and are supposed to be en route to Frederick. Our forces hold the bridge across Seneca Creek, which was not injured by the rebels on their return from the recent dash on Darlington. It has been estimated that Jackson crossed the Potomac opposite the north mouth of

the Monocacy, and passed along the bank of the stream to Frederick. A rebel picket captured near Clarksville to-day, says that Jackson's force is 45,000. Advice from Gaithersburg, about 24 miles beyond Ball's Bluff, states that the rebel General P. H. Hill arrived there the day before yesterday with 35,000 men from Richmond. The railroad bridge across the Rapidan is repaired, and the rebels expect to have railway communication from Richmond to Warrenton by the end of this week. A division under Gen. Walker has left Gaithersburg for Leesburg. My informant saw Gen. Jackson, 44 pieces of artillery, mostly rifled guns, larger than 11-pounders."

Washington, Sept. 8. Everything is very quiet to-day in Washington. The bodies of troops have all passed on to Northern Maryland, the army trains have at last come to an end, and though thoughtful men believe that an invasion of Maryland is fraught with danger to this city, still there is no alarm. The fact that nothing but the actual capture of this city can produce any great alarm in this district, Washington has its weekly frights, and rumor has had danger so near when it was really the farthest off, that the truth seems to be of less importance than ever. There are thousands who believe that the enemy intend to move to a point between here and Baltimore, cut off his supplies, and eventually capture both cities. This feeling is so prevalent today that the price of provisions in market has rapidly increased, while government has very wisely seized the flour on hand here to prevent panic prices.

Little, if any, perfectly reliable information has been received here, regarding affairs on the Upper Potomac, and in the vicinity of Frederick since yesterday. Accounts are given from time to time by citizens who have left there, or by returning soldiers. They, however, deal in generalities. It is said, for example, that the rebels extended 14 miles from Frederick, toward Hagerstown, the latter being two miles from the former place west. It cannot be ascertained that the rebels have advanced in any force below Frederick Junction. Their future movements are matters of conjecture."

Washington, Sept. 8. A letter to a morning journal dated Rockville, Md., Sept. 7th, says the latest reports of the crossing of the enemy into Maryland and their numbers I learn from a trustworthy source. The gentleman who gave me the particulars says that at least 30,000 rebels crossed at the mouth of the Monocacy on Friday. This is said to be about five or six miles above Poolesville. They captured about 24 of the 1st Mass. Cavalry, the whole of whom were paroled to Col. Fitz Hugh Lee, who sent his compliments by one of the party to Col. Bobby Williams, the Colonel of the regiment. The enemy is reported by this gentleman as moving on Frederick city in large force."

The report of the crossing has been confirmed by another gentleman, who says that the rebels have crossed at the mouth of the Monocacy, and that they were two days in crossing. He further adds that they are supposed to have a force of from 50,000 to 75,000 now in Maryland. At Point of Rocks alone they are reported to have no less than 40,000 under Stonewall Jackson. They crossed into Maryland yesterday, in the vicinity of Leesburg, Va. The same gentleman also informs that last evening the enemy drove in our cavalry pickets at a bridge near Clarksville, where our pickets were reinforced, and drove the rebels back, and occupied their former position."

Persons from Rockville, Md., say that the Confederates were in great force yesterday, and crossed the stream at the mouth of Seneca Creek, from its mouth at the Potomac, 22 miles above Washington, to the public stage road at Middlebrook Mills, a line of some ten miles. Middlebrook is about eight miles west of Rockville on the spur line road between Georgetown and Frederick, and about twenty-three miles from Washington."

## Gen. Stevens' Death.

A correspondent of the Tribune preserves the following incidents:—The army was retreating from Centerville. The battle was fought against a rebel force that had penetrated five miles nearer Washington than our rear, and was moving to strike upon the flank. Gen. Stevens' division, the advance of Reno's corps, was on the left of the road taken by the train, and intercepted the enemy. He saw that the rebels must be beaten back at once, or during the night they would disconcert our wagons, and probably so disconcert our retreat that the last divisions would fall a prey to their main force, he decided to attack immediately, at the same time sending back for support. Having made the dispositions, he led the attack on foot at the head of the 76th (Highlanders). Soon meeting a withering fire, and the Color-Sergeant, Sandy Campbell, a grizzled old Scotchman, being wounded, they faltered. One of the color guards took up the flag, when the General snatched it from him. The wounded Highlander at his feet cried: "For God's sake, General, don't you take the colors; they'll shoot you if you do!" The answer was, "Give me the colors! If they don't follow now they never will!" and he sprang forward crying, "We are all Highlanders; follow Highlanders. Forward!" The Highlanders followed the Scottish chief, but while sweeping forward a ball struck him on his right temple. He died instantly. An hour afterward, when taken up, his hands were still clenched around the flag staff. A moment after seizing the colors, his son, Captain Alexander Stevens, fell wounded, and cried to his father that he was hurt. With but a glance back, that Roman father said, "I can't attend to you now, Hazard. Corporal Thompson, see to my boy."

The moment Fitz Hugh Lee captured Manassas, he telegraphed in the name of Gen. Pope's Chief of Staff to the proper officer in Washington, requesting him to send to the Junction a large supply of shelter tents and harness for artillery horses. The order was promptly filled, and the rebels were soon gladdened by the appearance of a train loaded with what they wanted. Jackson, on his arrival, sent a message to the superintendent of military Railroads, coolly asking him to change the time table on the road for his accommodation."

When the Federal next talk of barbarity let them remember that they have made the medicines necessary to the people of the Southern slave contraband of war, and thus deprived non-combatants, women and children, of the means of regaining health. The modern world presents no record of a greater barbarism."

The 18th of September has been appointed by Jeff. Davis as a day of fasting and prayer, by a proclamation given at Richmond on the 4th instant, inviting the people of the Confederate States to assemble for worship, to render praise to God for the triumph at Richmond and Manassas."

The Washington correspondent of the Boston Traveller says: "We are now on the defensive. We shall be till the first of November—perhaps till mid-winter. It is useless to deny this fact. Whoever states to the contrary prevaricates. It is simply impossible for us to attack the enemy at present. We must wait the discipline of the new troops, which will take a number of weeks."

The Memphis correspondent of the New York Times gives the following account of the Federal troops there:—The saloons are filled with squads of drunken soldiers, the streets are full of riot, and uproar, confusion, insult and outrage, prevail. Soldiers, singly, in pairs and in squads, infest the streets by day and night, shouting, singing, and committing unwarrantable acts on peaceable passengers. Houses are entered, private property taken, persons are knocked down in the streets, and every outrage committed which might be anticipated of men in a conscious of their own strength and rendered vain by intoxication. It is by sanctioning such a condition of affairs that the Government expects to convince the rebels of the propriety of returning to their allegiance. What opinion will these people have of the Government which sanctions such conduct on the part of its representatives? Nor is this the worst view of the case. The moral effect upon the soldiers themselves is even more to be contemplated than the influence of such things on the people hereabout. Our soldiers are not only not quite true to any other class of people; but what man is responsible for his acts committed under the influence of strong drink, and what will be the moral effect on men not naturally bad, but led away by temptation, to be suddenly snatched up by the Provost Guard and set to work, with shovel and pick, on the fortifications along with colored negroes, fugitive slaves and arrested traitors—a punishment regarded in the army pretty much as the chain-gang is in civilized places. The 'Irving Block' is a very large building, four stories in height, is used as a military prison here, and for weeks past has been filled to overflowing, chiefly by soldiers arrested for being found drunk in the streets."

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By the latest news from Europe, we are informed that the revolution commenced by Garibaldi for the annexing of the Pope's dominions to the kingdom of Italy, has been short and inglorious. It was looked on as premature and uncalled for at this time when it was generally supposed that public opinion was gradually tending and ripening towards the consummation of that object, without rushing into a revolution and declaring against the secular power of the Pope. In a skirmish it appears the Italian patriot has been defeated, wounded, and captured, thus closing a hitherto glorious career in rather an obscure manner. Garibaldi was ill-fitted for the calm of a peaceful life—all true revolutionaries are of the same type; they are the Petri of the storm of revolutions, but are out of their natural element in peaceful times—they become morbid with inaction, and ready to rush into any excitement without regard to the end. Those agitators are useful as instruments to gather around them out of the confusion attendant on revolutions the fiery spirits which are ever thrown up to the surface in all popular insurrections, and to this end Victor Emmanuel collected with the daring chieftain of the Italian mob, until his newly created nation had obtained its present solidity; but the necessity of a further appeal to the arbitration of the sword was unpopular with the responsible pillars of the kingdom, and probably would be openly frowned down by the English Government, and it is perhaps better that this last movement of Italy's great Guerrilla has failed."

The disasters which have befallen the Federal army during the last few weeks, have so thoroughly disgusted the Northern journals that unusual groans of disgust and contempt fill their columns—their Generals are openly accused of ineptitude—the last defeat having filled their cup of disappointment. The Americans believe entirely too much in destiny. Their perceptions are so acute as to detect the future here in the petty-faced school-boy, and there are so many "remarkable men" born there that a mistake can hardly be made by elevating any one who has the use of his limbs to offices of grave responsibilities. Warriors and Statesmen are ready-made, and we may add Presidents, and why failure should mark the career of men whose fame was prophetically echoed by the penny-liners who inflated the Washington barometer, has been too much for the sublime faith of the Titans of the Northern press, and consequently a wild rail of mortal and mental anguish is echoing in the precincts of Gotham."

We learn that the idea of a union of all the British American Provinces, was greatly in favor at the meeting of the Intercolonial Convention, now sitting at Montreal. The bait has been dangled out in the view of Horace Greeley, Wendell Phillips, and their mob of impetuous and dreamy followers of Boston education, but only at a sufficient height to disappoint them in obtaining it, until it has started them in the face of the abolition of slavery, erroneously imagined by numerous Canadians to be the mainpring of the conflict, is not in the programme, and suddenly from this troop of yelling abolitionists a strong cry for peace has arisen, seconded by all having feelings tinged with Southern leanings, and following fast on the late events which have transpired on the banks of the Potomac, we have no doubt will help to put an end to a war which, up to this period, has been devoid of glory or prospective profit, Generalship or Cabinet-acumen. The Northern Cabinet may, out of sheer obstinacy, continue the struggle some time longer, but a large peace party is gaining strength in the Federal States. The "mighty dollar" is the most powerful argument in its favor, and one which will not fail to let itself be heard. The failure of the Federal army to obtain either a footing in the South or take Richmond, and being obliged to run to their own fortifications, will bring the Confederate Cabinet and States into a favorable light before public opinion in Europe, and do their credit a world of good—while Federal securities will not be depressed with favor in the money market. By late arrivals from Britain, the Ministers of the country are still strenuous in their advocacy of a neutral position for Great Britain in the struggle between the relatives, while the "Times" urges that the time has now arrived for a truce, and at the same time there are a large class who think that the cause of humanity would be served by stepping in and putting a stop to further effusion of blood; but one thing appears to be certain that through the influence of Great Britain the South and North will be allowed to settle the quarrel unimpeded with, and there is no doubt that the feeling in favor of interfering was far stronger twelve months ago, when the Federal strength was about to be put forth for the purpose of, as their favorite organs said, "wiping the Southern States out," and settling the war at once and paying their attention to Great Britain and Canada, and polishing them off to their high degree of satisfaction, but now the opinion has got strengthened abroad that the South can "lick" them at any time, and will yet be able to dictate their own terms of settlement, and certain we are, judging from late intelligence, the fact of the "trashy whites" at this hour thundering at the gates of Washington warrants such an assumption. This winter will not, however, close the contest—the immense armament in the field by both sides are not reduced enough to bring the struggle to a close, and the late scenes of the bloody drama tend to show that the combatants are only getting to a knowledge of the scenes of war."

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Gen. Pope throws the blame of the disasters in the late campaign in Virginia on the shoulders of Gen. McClellan and Gen. Porter. It is a hard case to make out who is to blame, but it would not be far out of place to distribute the fault indiscriminately on all the Brigade Officers. Gen. McClellan has taken up his quarters in Washington for the winter, unless "Stonewall Jackson" gives him notice to vacate the premises. The reports which reach us from the theatre of war are confused and indistinct. One report states that the immense masses of Confederates are pouring into Maryland, and also that Pennsylvania has been invaded by the audacious Southerners, and created a tremendous excitement there. The newspapers of the North have already marked out partially the fruits of this invasion of the Confederates, part of which consist in attacks on Philadelphia and New York. If "Stonewall" takes the latter place, the first thing he should do is to hang the Editor of the Herald."

Most things have their absurd side—their humbug! Amidst the gigantic war troubles of our neighbors of "bushwood hewn" notoriety, the following is certainly the climax of newspaper puffing. We pick it out from a mass of war items. There is little wonder that the new slang saying, "How's your poor feet?" is in such vogue just now in England. However, the extract must be a mean slander in reference to the northern powers of locomotion, as late events occurring in that part of Virginia amply prove that their understanding in retrograde movements is still under the sun:—

During the recent movements in Virginia many of our troops were injured in the feet by severe marching over rough roads, the shoes of many of them being of poor service. Dr. J. Zacharie, of New York, under authorization of the Medical Department, left the city to-day for the Virginia side of the river, for the purpose of operating on the feet of such as needed his services as chiropodist, that gentleman bringing with him high testimonials as to his professional skill."

We perceive by the "Aylmer Times" that the Ottawa Board of Lumber Manufacturers have published a lecture delivered by a Mr. Perry, said to be one of the editors of the self-appointed organ of the Lumber Trade—the "Union"; in which views in favor of a limited monopoly and antagonistic to the opening up of the country where lumbering operations are carried on, are enunciated. We agree with the "Times" that it would be absurd to suppose for an instant that the settlement of the country is to be held back at the dictation of a few wholesale Lumber Houses, who lay out their improvements in city property, and either take the profits of their business to Britain or purchase property far removed from the field in which they made it, leaving the scenes of their lumbering operations 50 per cent worse for settlement than when it was a virgin forest. The lumber trade is good for a time, but its effects are evanescent and it leaves no marks of solid progress behind it, and we have always observed that the inhabitants of a township had never arrived at prosperity until the lumbering had in a great degree ceased from among them. The most prosperous settlements of Canada are where there is no lumbering carried on. The laws regulating the Lumber Trade are very defective in many respects, and it ought to become a matter of serious enquiry in the department why such houses as the "Glen" Hamilton's, the Trustees of the estate of John Egan, &c., should be enabled to hold up timber limits for upwards of twenty years, in a great measure sealed, and another matter is that we can point out lumber merchants who, by this power of holding numerous limits, have amassed fortunes by speculating in them, whereby, in an indirect manner, they have pocketed large amounts which ought to have gone into the Public Treasury. The Government erects dams and slides and improves streams, and thereby advances in a great ratio the value of limits, which had been partially wrought to keep within the law, on which the limit holder immediately sells out his limit, made valuable by Government money, and pockets a handsome amount without any commercial risk or trouble. The monopoly of territory in a new country, is a gigantic nuisance which calls loudly for a thorough reform; it matters not whether it is through speculators in land or lumber limits. Mr. Perry must be a profound public economist, when he wishes to prevent settlers from going into Pine lands! Why? Keep out settlers from going into pine lands, and we do better them from the remaining unsettled territory of Canada West. Settlement is the first consideration. The greatest benefit to the greatest number" ought to be our motto, and whatever present benefit we may derive from the Lumber Trade, we defy the "Union" to point out where Railroads, or any other roads, or manufactures, or any other solid and material advantages are in existence where Lumber Merchants hold undisputed sway. The "Times" concludes with the following:—

"The interests of the lumberer and the settler are to a certain extent identical; the former is benefitted by having outlets and bay produced near his clearing—and the latter is benefitted by having a good market at his own door; but the lumberers have over-rated their importance, for however wealthy, enterprising and respectable they may be, they ought not to expect any privileges for their trade, which would have a tendency to retard the successful settlement of the country."

By the news from the east of war, in Maryland, we are led to believe that a battle is on hand; excitement throughout Maryland and Pennsylvania is most intense—the success of the Confederate troops during the late campaign in Virginia, has impressed on the Federal Government that there is nothing impossible for General Lee and Stonewall Jackson to accomplish—all is

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