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The Michigan Argus

Message of Jeff Davis. The Congress of the Southern Confederacy convened at Richmond on the 20th, and the following is the telegraphic synopsis of Jeff Davis' message:

New Orleans, July 20.

Jeff Davis calls attention to the causes which formed the Confederacy, and says it is now necessary to call attention to such acts as have occurred during the process, and to matters in connection with the public defense. He congratulates Congress on the accession to the Confederacy of the free and equal sovereign States (mentioning several States), and says it was deemed advisable to remove the several departments and archives to Richmond, to which place Congress has already been removed, as the seat of government. After the adjournment of Congress the aggressive movement of the enemy required prompt and energetic action. The accumulation of the enemy's forces on the Potomac, sufficiently demonstrates that his efforts are directed against Virginia, and from no point could measures for her defense and protection be so efficiently directed as from her own capital. The rapid progress of the last few months, has stripped the veil from behind which the policy and purposes of the Lincoln Government were previously concealed, which are now fully revealed.

The message of their President, and the action of their Congress at the present session, confess the intention of subjugating the seceded States by war, the folly of which is equalled only by its wickedness. A war by which it is impossible to attain the proposed result, whilst its dire calamities cannot be avoided, will fall with double severity on themselves. Commencing in March with an affectation of ignorance of the accession of seven States, which organized the Confederate government; persisting in April, in the absurd assumption of the existence of a riot which was to be dispersed by a posse comitatus representation; that these States intended an offensive war, in spite of conclusive evidence to the contrary, furnished, as well by the official action of the President of the United States, evidence that he and his advisers have succeeded in deceiving the people of these States into the belief that the purpose of this government is not peace at home, but conquest abroad, not the defense of our liberties, but the subjugation of the people of the United States. Fortunately for the truth of history, President Lincoln's message minutely details the attempt to reinforce Fort Pickens in violation of the armistice, which he confesses that he had been informed of only by rumors too vague and uncertain to attract attention. The hostile expedition dispatched to supply Fort Sumner is admitted to have been undertaken with the knowledge that its success was impossible. In sending of a notice to the Governor of South Carolina of the intention to use force to accomplish the object, and quoting from the inaugural that there will be no conflict unless these States were the aggressors, he proceeds to declare that his conduct in the past, as well as for the future, was in performance of this promise, which could not be misunderstood.

He charges these States with being the aggressors of the Union, and states that the force cannot misunderstand this unqualified pretense. Lincoln proposes to make the contest sharp and decisive, and confesses that even an increased force is required. These enormous preparations are a distinct avowal that the United States are engaged in a conflict with a great and powerful nation, and they are compelled to abandon the pretense of dispersing rioters, and suppressing insurrection, and are driven to the acknowledgment that the Union is dissolved. They recognize the separate existence of the Confederate States, by the introduction of an embargo and blockade by which all commerce between the two is cut off. They repudiate the foolish idea that the inhabitants of the Confederate States are still citizens of the United States, for they are now waging an indiscriminate war upon them with a savage ferocity unknown in modern civilization.

He compares the present invasion to that of Great Britain in 1781, which was conducted in a more civilized manner. Marked shudders at the outrages committed on defenseless females, who depict their ferocity and malignity, while under the pretext of suppressing insurrection, they make special war on sick women and children, by carefully devised measures to prevent their obtaining medicines necessary for their care. The sacred claims of humanity are respected by all nations, even in the fury of battle by a careful deviation of an attack on hospitals which are now outraged by a Government which pretends the desire to maintain fraternal connections. Such outrages admit of no retaliation unless the actual perpetrators are captured.

Col. Taylor's mission to Washington was to propose an exchange of prisoners taken on the privateer Savannah, and to inform Lincoln of the determined purpose to check all barbarities on prisoners of war by such retaliation, as to effectually put an end to such practices. Lincoln promised to reply, but none has yet been received.

In reference to the peculiar States usually called border or slave States which cannot properly be withheld from them. The hearts of our people are animated by the sentiments towards the inhabitants of these States which found expression in your enactment in refusing to consider them enemies or authorize hostilities against them. A large portion of the people of these States regard us as brothers, and if unrestrained by the actual presence of large armies, and the subjugation of civil authority by the declaration of martial law, they are at least, joyfully uniting with us that they are least with entire unity, opposed to the war waged against us. The daily recurring events fully warrant this assertion. The President of the United States refuses to recognize in those, our late sister States, the right of refraining from an attack upon us, and justifies his refusal by the assertion that the States have no other power than that reserved to them in the Union by the constitution, no one of them having been a State of the Union before the adoption of that instrument.

This new constitutional relation between the States and the General Government, is a fitting refutation to another assertion of the message, and the Executive possesses the power, of suspending the habeas corpus, and of delegating that

power to military commanders at discretion, and both these propositions claim a respect equal to that which is felt for the additional statement in the same paper—it is proper in order to execute the laws. We may well rejoice that we have severed our connection with a Government that thus tramples on all principles of Constitutional liberty, and with a people in whose presence such avowals could be hazarded. The operations in the field will be greatly extended by reason of the policy which heretofore was secretly entertained, but now avowed and acted upon by the United States. The forces hitherto raised have proved ample for the defense of the seven States which originally organized the Confederacy, with the exception of those fortified islands, whose defense is efficiently effected by a preponderating naval force. The enemy has been driven completely from these stations. Now at the expiration of five months from the formation of the government, not a single hostile foot presses against their soil. The force, however, must necessarily prove inadequate to repel the invasion of half a million of men proposed to be raised by our enemies.

The Rebel Army of the Potomac—Gen. Beauregard. Manassas Junction, July 7. This place still continues the headquarters of the army of the Potomac. There are many indications of an intended forward movement of the rebel army to the enemy to an engagement, the work of fortification still continues. By nature, the position is one of the strongest that could have been found in the whole State. About half way between the eastern spur of the Blue Ridge and the Potomac, below Alexandria, it commands the whole country between so perfectly there is scarcely a possibility of its being turned. The right wing stretches off toward the headwaters of the Occoquan, through a wooded country, which is easily made impassable by the falling of trees. The left is a rolling table land, easily commanded by the successive elevations, till you reach a country rough and so rugged that it is a defense itself. The key to the whole position, in fact, is precisely that point which Gen. Beauregard chose for his center, and which he has fortified so strongly that, in the opinion of military men, 5000 men could there hold 20,000 at bay.

The Battle at Bull's Run. Graphic Description of the March, the Battle, and the Retreat.

THE MIDDLETOWN MARCH.

On the night preceding the battle Gen. Cameron visited the camp, reviewed the Third Tyler Brigade, passed a few hours with Gen. McDowell, and then left for Washington, in spirits depressed by no premonition of the disaster which was to befall our arms, and the private grief which would add a deeper sorrow to the feelings which he now experiences. After midnight a carriage was placed at Gen. McDowell's tent, which was to bear him to the scene of action. In order to be ready to move with the army, I went down to the familiar quarters of Lieut. Tompkins, whose company was attached to the General's escort, and there slept an hour while our horses ate the only forage there was to have for a day and a half. At two o'clock we were awakened; the army had commenced to move.

There was moonlight, as I have said; and no moonlight scene ever offered more varying tones to the genius of a great artist. Through the hazy valleys, and on hill slopes, miles apart, were burning the fires at which forty thousand men prepared their midnight meal. In the thousands opening along a dozen lines of view, the fifteenth beacons, horses were harnessing to artillery; white army wagons were in motion with the ambulances—whose black covering, when one thought about it, seemed as appropriate as that of the coffin which accompanies a condemned man to the death before him. All was silent confusion, and an intermingling of silent confusion. But forty thousand soldiers stir as quickly as a dozen, and in fifteen minutes from the commencement of the bustle, every regiment had taken its place, ready to fall into the division to which it was assigned. Gen. McDowell and staff went in the center of Tyler's, the central column. At 2 1/2 A. M. the last soldier had left the extended encampments, except those remaining behind on guard.

The central line appeared to offer the best chances for a survey of the impending action, and in default of any certain knowledge, was accompanied by all the non-combatants whom interest or duty had drawn to the scene. In order to obtain a full review of the night march to the most momentous effort of the campaign, I started at the extreme rear and rapidly passed along to the van of the column. For some time the central and right divisions were unaided, the latter forming off as I have explained, about a mile beyond Centerville. So, leaving camp about a mile below the village, I enjoyed the first spectacle of the day—a scene never to pass from the memory of those who saw it. Here were thousands of our arms going forward to lay down their lives in a common cause. Here was all more than one had read of the solemn paraphernalia of war. These were not the armies of the aliens to us, but with the colors, the officers, every regiment, we were so familiar that those of each had for us their own interest, and a different charm. We knew the men, their discipline, their respective heroes; what corps were most relied on; whose voice was to be that of Hector or Agamemnon in the coming day. How another day would change all this! They were all smiling under the approach of Thursday, and waiting for the opportunity to wipe it out. There was a glowing rivalry between the men of different States. "Old Massachusetts will not be ashamed of us to-night." "Wait till the Ohio boys get at them." "We'll fight for New York to-day," and a hundred similar utterances were shouted from the different ranks. The officers were as glad of the tasks assigned them as their men. I rode a few moments with Lieut. Col. Haggerty, of the Sixty-ninth, who was killed in the former battle, and laughing, said that he felt very warlike for a dead man, and that he was brave for at least one battle more. This brave officer was almost the first victim of the day. The cheerful voice of Meagher, late the Irish, but now the American patriot, rang out more heartily than ever. Then there were Corcoran and Burnside, and Keyes, and Spield, and many another skilled and gallant officer, all pushing forward to the first fray, and in the ranks of the Connecticut and other regiments, were old classmates and fellow-townsmen, with whom it was a privilege to exchange a word on this so different an occasion from any anticipated in those days when all the States were loyal, and the word "disunion" was a portion of an unknown tongue.

Gen. McDowell's carriage halted at the juncture of the two roads, a place most favorable to the quick reception of dispatches from all portions of the field. The column assigned to Col. Hunter here divided from the main body and went on its unknown, perilous journey around the enemy's flank. A mile along—and by this time the white morning twilight gave us a clearer prospect than the fading march—we could look across an open country on the left to the farm-house beyond, whose upper reaches were now stationed, and to the broad-stained valley beyond, whose upper reaches were now to be the arena of a larger conflict. But it was after sunrise when the van of Gen. Tyler's column came to the edge of the wooded hills overlooking those reaches. The sun had risen as splendid as the sun of Austerlitz. Was it an auspicious omen for us, or for the foe? Who could forecast! The scenery was too brilliant and full of nature's own peace, for one to believe in the tumult and carnage just at hand, or that among those green oak forests lurked every engine of destruction which human contrivance has produced, with hosts of an enemy more dangerous and subtle than the wild beasts which had here once made their hiding places. Then, too, it was Sunday morn-

ing. Even in the wilderness the sacred day seems purer and more hushed than any other. It was ours to first jump the stillness of the morning, and beset the clearness of that serene atmosphere with the rattle clangor of the avant messenger that heralded our challenge to a disloyal foe.

THE BATTLE. From the point I mention, where the road slopes down to the protected ravine, we caught the first glimpse of the enemy's line of infantry, were drawn up against the meadow in the extreme distance, resting close upon woods behind them. We could see the reflection of their bayonets, and their regular disposition showed them, an expectant of attack. After a moment's inspection, Gen. Tyler ordered Carlisle to advance with his battery to the front, and here one could not think of anything but Milton's line, "charged to right and left in front of all." The ancient order for the disposition of advances ranks is still in military usage. For the second and third Tyler brigade under Schenck, were at once formed in line of battle, in the woods on either side—the First Ohio, Second Wisconsin, Seventy-ninth, and Sixty-ninth New York Regiments, succeeding each other on the right and the Second Ohio and Second New York being similarly placed on the left, while the artillery came down the road between.

A great 32 pound rifled Parrot gun—the only one of its calibre in our field service—was brought forward, made to bear on the point where we had just seen the enemy (for the bayonets suddenly disappeared in the woods behind), and a shell was fired at 6:15 A. M., which burst in the air; but the report of the piece availed the country, for longes around, to a sense of what the order of the day, the reverboration was tremendous, shaking the hills like the volley of a dozen pebbles, and the roar of the revolving shell indescribable. Throughout the battle that gun, whenever it was fired, seemed to hush and overpower everything. We waited a moment for an answering salute, but receiving none, sent the second shell at a hill-top, two miles off, where we suspected that a battery had been planned by the rebels. The bomb burst like an echo close to the intended point, but still no answer came, and Gen. Tyler ordered Carlisle to cease firing, and bring the rest of his battery to the front of the woods, and our column ready for instant action. It was now about seven o'clock. For half an hour little more was done; then skirmishers were deployed into the forest on each side in order to discover the whereabouts of our nearest foes. Before us lay a rolling and comparatively open country, but with several hills and groves cutting off any extended view. In the western distance on the left we could see the outskirts of Manassas Junction. The woods at whose edge our line of battle had extended half around the open fields in a kind of semi-circle, and it was into the arms of this crescent that our skirmishers advanced. Soon we began to hear random shots exchanged in the thicket on the left, which proved an enemy in that direction. (What can be done against men who, to all the science and discipline of European warfare add more than the meanness and cowardly treachery of the Indians?) We had, all through the day, to hunt for the foe, though the numbers of the rebels were not captured, a negro man, who was led to the General, shaking with fear and anxious to impart such information as he had. Through him we learned that the rebels were quartered among the woods on the right and left, and in the grove in the open country; that they had erected a battery on the distant hill, and had kept him at work for three days assisting to fell trees, so that a clear range of the road we occupied could be obtained.

By this time our scouts reported the enemy in some force on the left. Two or three Ohio skirmishers had been killed. Carlisle's battery was sent to the front of the woods on the right, where it could be brought to play, but where needed. A few shells were thrown into the opposite thicket, and then the Second Ohio and Second New York marched down to route out the enemy. In ten minutes their musketry was heard, and then a heavy cannonade answered. They and without doubt, fallen upon a battery in the bushes. For a quarter of an hour their firing continued, when they came in good order, confirming our surmise. After advancing a furlong they saw the enemy, who exchanged their fire and retired through the forest. Suddenly from a different direction a Yankee voice heard, exclaiming, "Now, you Yankee devils, we've got you where we want you!" and several guns were opened upon them with such effect that they were finally ordered to retire, who they did in perfect order. They came out perfectly indignant at the practice of the rebels, and swearing they would rather fight three times their force in the open field than encounter the deadly mystery of those thickets. No soldiers are willing to have their fighting entirely confined to the point of the bayonet. Every regiment, yesterday, was at times a "forlorn hope."

A few dead and wounded began to be brought in, and the battle of Manassas had commenced. Carlisle's howitzers answered promptly, and a brief but terrific cannonading ensued. In less than half an hour the enemy's guns were silenced, two of Carlisle's howitzers advancing through the woods to gain a closer position. But a fatal error was here made, as I thought, by Gen. Tyler, in not ordering in a division to drive out the four rebel regiments stationed behind the battery, and to seize its eight guns. Through some inexplicable fatuity he seemed to assume that when a battery was silenced it was conquered, and there it remained with its defenders unheard from and unthought of until the latter portion of the day when it formed one of our final defeat. It is actually a fact that while our whole forces were pushed along the right to a co-operation with Hunter's flanking column, and a distance of two miles in advance, this position on the left, close to the scene

of the commencement of the fight, and just in front of all our trains and ammunition wagons—a position chosen by all spectators as the most secure—was, through the day, in five minutes reach of a concealed force of infantry and a battery which had only been "silenced." No force was stationed to guard the rear of our left flank. It was near this very point, and with the assistance of this very infantry, that the enemy's final charge was made, which created such irretrievable confusion and dismay. And after the first few hours no officer could be found in this vicinity to pay any attention to its security. All had gone forward to follow the line of the contest.

Meantime, Richardson, on the extreme left could not content himself with "maintaining his position," for we heard occasional discharges from two of his guns. However, he took no other part in the action than by shelling the forces of the enemy which were sent rapidly from the vicinity to the immediate point of contest. From the hill behind we could see long columns advancing, and at first thought that they were Richardson's men moving on Bull Run, but soon discovered their true character. Indeed from every southward point the enemy's reinforcements began to pour in by thousands. Great clouds of dust arose from the distant roads. A person who ascended a lofty tree could see the continual arrival of the units to the nearest point on the Manassas Railroad with hosts of soldiers, who formed in solid squares and moved swiftly forward to join in the contest. The whistle of the locomotive was plainly audible to those in our advance. It is believed that at least fifty thousand were added during the day to the thirty thousand rebels opposed to us at the outset. It was hard for our noble fellows to withstand these incessant reinforcements, but some of our regiments whipped several corps opposed to them in quick succession, and whenever our forces, fresh or tired, met the enemy in open field they made short work of its opposition.

At 10 1/2 A. M. Hunter was heard from on the extreme right. He had previously sent a courier to General McDowell, reporting that he had safely crossed the Run. The General was lying on the ground, having been ill during the night, but at once mounted his horse and rode on to join the column on which so much depended. From the neighborhood of Sudley Church he saw the enemy's left in battle array, and at once advanced upon them with the Fourteenth New York and the Second Wisconsin regular infantry. Colonel Hunter ordered up the starry Rhoads Rhode Island regiments, one led by that model of the American volunteer—Burnside—the Second New Hampshire, and our own finely disciplined Seventy-first. Gov. Sprague himself directed the movements of the Rhode Island brigade, and was conspicuous throughout the day for gallantry. The enemy were found in heavy numbers opposite this unexcelled division of our army, and greeted it with shell and long volleys of ball and grape. On it went, and a fierce conflict ensued in the northern part of the field. As soon as Hunter was thus discovered to be making his way on the flank Gen. Tyler sent forward the right wing of his column to co-operate, and a grand force was thus brought to bear most effectually on the enemy's left and center.

The famous Irish regiment, 1,600 strong, who have had so much of the hard digging to perform, claimed the honor of a share of the hard fighting, and led the van of Tyler's attack, followed by the Seventy-ninth (Highlanders), and the Sixty-ninth New York, and the Second Wisconsin. It was a brave sight—the rush of the Sixty-ninth into the death struggle! With such cheers as those which won the battles in the Peninsula, with a quick step at first, and then a double-quick, and at last a run, they dashed forward along the edge of the extended forest. Coats and knapsacks were thrown to either side, that nothing might impede their slip, but we knew that no guns would slip from the hands of those determined fellows, even if dying agonies were needed to close them with a firmer grasp. As the line swept along, Meagher galloped toward the head, crying "Come on boys! you've got your chance at last!" I have not since seen him, but hear that he fought magnificently, and is wounded.

Tyler's force thus moved forward for half a mile, describing quite one-fourth of a circle on the right until they met a division of the enemy, and of course a battle was heard, exclaiming, "Now, you Yankee devils, we've got you where we want you!" and several guns were opened upon them with such effect that they were finally ordered to retire, who they did in perfect order. They came out perfectly indignant at the practice of the rebels, and swearing they would rather fight three times their force in the open field than encounter the deadly mystery of those thickets. No soldiers are willing to have their fighting entirely confined to the point of the bayonet. Every regiment, yesterday, was at times a "forlorn hope."

A few dead and wounded began to be brought in, and the battle of Manassas had commenced. Carlisle's howitzers answered promptly, and a brief but terrific cannonading ensued. In less than half an hour the enemy's guns were silenced, two of Carlisle's howitzers advancing through the woods to gain a closer position. But a fatal error was here made, as I thought, by Gen. Tyler, in not ordering in a division to drive out the four rebel regiments stationed behind the battery, and to seize its eight guns. Through some inexplicable fatuity he seemed to assume that when a battery was silenced it was conquered, and there it remained with its defenders unheard from and unthought of until the latter portion of the day when it formed one of our final defeat. It is actually a fact that while our whole forces were pushed along the right to a co-operation with Hunter's flanking column, and a distance of two miles in advance, this position on the left, close to the scene

of the commencement of the fight, and just in front of all our trains and ammunition wagons—a position chosen by all spectators as the most secure—was, through the day, in five minutes reach of a concealed force of infantry and a battery which had only been "silenced." No force was stationed to guard the rear of our left flank. It was near this very point, and with the assistance of this very infantry, that the enemy's final charge was made, which created such irretrievable confusion and dismay. And after the first few hours no officer could be found in this vicinity to pay any attention to its security. All had gone forward to follow the line of the contest.

Meantime, Richardson, on the extreme left could not content himself with "maintaining his position," for we heard occasional discharges from two of his guns. However, he took no other part in the action than by shelling the forces of the enemy which were sent rapidly from the vicinity to the immediate point of contest. From the hill behind we could see long columns advancing, and at first thought that they were Richardson's men moving on Bull Run, but soon discovered their true character. Indeed from every southward point the enemy's reinforcements began to pour in by thousands. Great clouds of dust arose from the distant roads. A person who ascended a lofty tree could see the continual arrival of the units to the nearest point on the Manassas Railroad with hosts of soldiers, who formed in solid squares and moved swiftly forward to join in the contest. The whistle of the locomotive was plainly audible to those in our advance. It is believed that at least fifty thousand were added during the day to the thirty thousand rebels opposed to us at the outset. It was hard for our noble fellows to withstand these incessant reinforcements, but some of our regiments whipped several corps opposed to them in quick succession, and whenever our forces, fresh or tired, met the enemy in open field they made short work of its opposition.

At 10 1/2 A. M. Hunter was heard from on the extreme right. He had previously sent a courier to General McDowell, reporting that he had safely crossed the Run. The General was lying on the ground, having been ill during the night, but at once mounted his horse and rode on to join the column on which so much depended. From the neighborhood of Sudley Church he saw the enemy's left in battle array, and

ler could be found. Where were our officers? Where was the foe? Who knew whether we had won or lost? The question was quickly decided for us. A sudden swoop and a body of cavalry rushed down upon our columns near the bridge. They came from the woods on the left, and infantry poured out behind them. Tyler and his men, with the reserve, were apparently cut off by the quick maneuver. I succeeded in gaining the position I had just left, there witnessed the capture of Carle's battery in the plain, and saw another force of cavalry and infantry pouring into the road at the very spot where the battle commenced, and which the South Carolinians, who named the battery as Carle's, had abandoned. The ambulances and wagons had gradually advanced to this spot, and of course an instantaneous confusion and dismay resulted. Our own infantry broke ranks in the field, plunged into the woods to avoid the road, and got up the hill as best they could, without leaders, every man saving himself in his own way.

THE RETREAT.
By the time I reached the top of the hill, the retreat, the panic, the hideous headlong confusion, were now beyond a hope. I was near the rear of the movement, with the brave Capt. Alexander, who endeavored by the most gallant but unavailable exertions to check the onward tumult. It was difficult to get into the reality, but I was apparently reversed. "What does it mean?" I asked Alexander. "It means defeat," he said. "We are beaten; it is a shameful, a cowardly retreat! Hold up, men! don't let me see infernal orders!" and he rode backwards and forwards, placing his horse across the road and vainly trying to rally the running troops. The teams and wagons confused and dismembered every corps. We were now out off from the advance body by the enemy's infantry, who had rushed on the slope just left by us, surrounded the guns and captured the wagons, and were apparently pressing us against us. "It's no use, Alex," I said, "you must leave with the rest." "I'll be d-d if I will," he said, and the splendid fellow rode back to make his way as best he could. Mantline I saw officers with leaves and eagles on their shoulder straps, Majors and Colonels, who had deserted their commands, pass me galloping as if for dear life. No enemy pursued just then; but I suppose all were afraid that his gun would be trained down the long, narrow avenue, and now the retreating thousands, as a matter of pieces army, and everything else which crowd of officers. Only one officer, so far as my observation extended, seemed to have remembered his duty. Lieut. Col. Spielder, a foreigner attached to a Connecticut regiment, strove against the current for a league. I positively declare that, with the two exceptions mentioned, all efforts made to check the panic before Centerville was reached, were confined to civilians. I saw a man in citizen's dress who had thrown off his coat, seized a musket, and was trying to rally the soldiers who came by at the point of the bayonet. In reply to a request for his name, he said it was W. Lawrence, and I learned that he was the member by that name from Illinois. The Hon. Mr. Kellogg made a similar effort. Both these Congressmen bravely stood their ground till the last moment, and were serviceable at Centerville in assisting the halt there ultimately made. And other civilians did what they could.

But what a scene! and how terrific the onset of that tumultuous retreat. For three miles, hosts of Federal troops—all detached from their regiments, all mingled in one disorderly mass, were fleeing along the road, as if madly rushing toward the rear. Army wagons, sutlers' teams, and private carriages, clogged the passage, tumbling against each other, amid clouds of dust, and sickening sights and sounds. Hacks, containing unskilful spectators of the late fray, were smashed like glass, and the occupants were lost sight of in the debris. Horses, flying wild in the agony, galloped at random forward, joining the stampede. Those on foot who could catch them rode them back as much as to make a quicker time. Wounded men lying along the banks—the few left on the field nor taken to the captured hospitals, appealed with raised hands to those who rode horses, begging to be lifted behind, but few regarded such petitions. Then the artillery, such as was saved, came thundering along, snatching and overpowering everything. The regular cavalry, I record it to their shame, joined in the melee, adding to their errors, for they rode down with their swords, and laid amid the ruins of a caisson, as I passed it. I saw an artillery man running between the ponderous fore and after-wheels of his gun carriage, hanging on with both hands, and vainly striving to jump upon the ordnance. The drivers were spurring the horses; he could not cling much longer, and a more agonizing expression never fixed the features of a drowning man. The carriage bounded from the roughness of a steep hill leading to a creek, he lost his hold, fell, and in an instant was a mangled mass of crushed life out of him. Who ever saw such a sight? Could the retreat at Bordino have exceeded it in confusion and tumult? I think not. It did not slack in the least until Centerville was reached. There the sight of the reserve—Miles' brigade—formed in order on the hill, seemed somewhat to re-assure the van. But still the teams and foot soldiers pushed on, passing their own camps and heading swiftly for the distant Potomac, until for ten miles the road over which the grand army had so lately passed southward, lay with unobscured banners and flushed with surly strength, was covered with the fragments of its retreating forces, shattered and panic-stricken in a single day. From the branch route, the trains attached to Hunter's division had poured into the contagion of the fight, and poured into its fiercest swollen current another turbid freshet of confusion and dismay. Who ever saw a more shameful abandonment of munitions gathered at such a late hour? The teams, and men, and horses, and galloped from the wagons. Others threw their loads to accelerate their flight, and grain, packs and shovels, and provisions of every kind lay trampled in the dust for leagues. Thousands of muskets strewed the road; when some of us succeeded in rallying a body of fugitives, and forming them in a line across the road, hardly one but had thrown away his arms. If the enemy had brought up his artillery and sent it upon the remaining train, and had intercepted our progress with five hundred of his cavalry, he might have captured enough supplies for a weeks feast of thanksgiving. As it was, enough was left behind to tell the story of the panic. The rout of the Federal army seemed complete.

Twenty three regiments have passed through Baltimore since the Bull's Run disaster.

The Charge of the Michigan First.
Correspondence of the Detroit Advertiser.
A military friend, who was on the field of the fight, has furnished me the following account of it:
At 1 o'clock Sunday morning the men of the First Regiment were aroused and cooked their coffee and drank it, with a little hard bread and pork, as they chose to take it. At 2 o'clock, in obedience to Brigade orders, the Regiment was formed and in marching order, together with the Zouaves, the 38th New York, and Arnold's Battery.

From 2 until 6 o'clock the Brigade remained under arms, watching other columns moving along the main and cross roads, which at the latter hour, we moved ahead. At 6:20 we heard the first gun. We moved at a rapid pace until 8 o'clock, when we halted for a few moments' rest. From that time we moved on rapidly until about 12 o'clock, hearing more and more clearly as we advanced, the cannonade from three batteries, and seeing the clouds of dust in the direction of the advancing columns. The dust was very thick; water was very scarce and very muddy, and as we proceeded the sun shone exceedingly hot.

At 12 o'clock we were halted (the Brigade) in a field about a mile and a half to the left of the enemy's left flank, and on the left of his main and strongest position and battery. We must have marched thirteen miles to flank him. We stacked arms and hoped to rest, and send for water. Perhaps ten minutes elapsed, when, with no time for refreshment, we took arms and marched to a field on the left of the road, leading from the field. At the same time the Zouaves and the 38th New York were sent and advanced to the field. The Battery and 1st Michigan drew up and retreated, waiting to cut off the enemy's retreat.

We speculated on the situation of affairs,—were afraid we should see no fighting,—listened to the cannonade and musketry, and through a break in the woods could see long ranks of men advancing and firing; we could not distinguish by glass whether enemies or friends.

A few moments and an orderly on full run brought the order to form and away we went, partly at quick, and mostly in double quick, a mile or more, until we began to take the ground and find the blankets and haversacks strewn by the road. We threw off our blankets. We marched on and formed in line of battle to the left of the field, and listening to the music of the fearful storm, drew breath. A moment and Gen McDowell hailed: "What regiment is that? Who commands? Forward!" We broke into platoons and marched along the slope of a hill by a ravine for some distance, the shot and shell hurling above our heads as much sheltered from the fire as could be; losing then one color bearer and four men. The enemy's fire, which went up the slope of the hill, aligned the ranks in face of fire, and a moment after charged up the summit of the hill against a heavy fire of musketry, and from the battery to a fence which afforded us some cover. The hot fire drove some of the regiment back. Col. Willcox, ably seconded, rallied the men; we reformed the regiment, dressed them closely as parade, and again—"Forward, guide center," and we charged again to the fence, firing, and a moment more and Col. Willcox ordered the fence, and mounted, walked the hill, and with the regiment leaped the fence and charged down the hill, driving the enemy.

Here was the heaviest fire to which we were exposed. Our flank was unprotected, and the enemy's battery on one side and infantry on the other, sheltered by the woods, flanking us, poured upon us such a fire as was never, I believe, equalled or dreamed of. In the woods to the left, also, was a heavy fire, which some of us believed to be our own troops, others of our friends. Some confusion occurred on the main line, and the regiment was made upon the right through the woods. The tremendous fire scattered the men, and singly and in detachments, on the plain, and in shelter of the woods the men fought with a coolness and valor unsurpassed. No living man could remain in order under such a fire; bullets in front, in rear, to left, to right, and shot and shell thundering around.

The officers gradually drew their men together, slowly retreating. Here Withington, Capt. Battersworth, March and Gray fell, and Willcox, Warner and Linn and Graves were wounded. We gathered what we could about the old flag, and walked up out of that fearful fire, up on the hill, and there gathered the men as we could. We tried it for some time with appeals and threats. The men of our regiment, such as came up, rallied; the men of other regiments we could not hope. We finally fell further back, in our own gathering stragglers.

The Story of an Escaped Prisoner.
Correspondence of the Evening Post.
Washington, July 26, 1861.
On Monday night a Michigan soldier, who was taken prisoner at Bull's Run made his escape from Manassas, and yesterday he reached this city. His story is an interesting one. When captured by a Lieutenant-Colonel of one of the Georgia regiments, he was handcuffed, and four Irish Zouaves taken with him were chained and guarded by six men each. One of the Zouaves asked for something to drink, and was informed that he needed to be so stretched in a few days that he would never again be thirsty. The Zouaves were treated with every possible indignity. During the evening some rebel officers as to which of their regiments ran first. The prisoner was appealed to, and deciding in a manner pleasing to his captor, he was allowed certain privileges which he wisely proved to effect his escape. He says the greatest consternation prevailed among the secessionists lest the retreat of our troops was a feint ordered by General Scott, to induce them to advance toward Centerville and thus be cut off; and further that they fully believed that the veteran commander was himself at Centerville, and had entrenched that place, which could have been rendered impregnable with a very little labor. He repeats the story that one of the South Carolina regiments, on approaching the Minnesota men, hoisted the Stars and Stripes and begged them not to fire, which advantage being gained, they instantly raised their rebel flag and poured their bullets upon our brave men and unsuspecting troops. Could anything be more base than this?

The same man says the rebels estimated their loss at 1,800; also that Jeff. Davis arrived on the field at twelve o'clock; that Beauregard commanded in person; that Johnston arrived at ten o'clock with 8,000 men; and that the entire rebel force was not 30,000 men. If this report be true, Beauregard came very near being captured. His coat was taken, and his horse and valise were twice seized, while he took to the woods for safety.

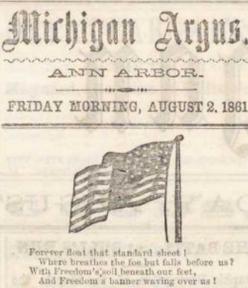
The Fire Zouaves and the Enemy They Fought.
The correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer says:
"The Illinois Zouaves are lions everywhere. If we had a few more regiments like them they would be invaluable. A few moments ago we noticed one passing up the avenue with his arm off just over the shoulder, and as merry as ever. He came in last night who had been taken prisoners and under the guard at Fairfax Court House. Both were wounded, one in the leg and one in the hand, but during the night they watched their opportunity and murdered the guard and escaped."
"A Zouave who had been wounded tells some thrilling adventures. He tells the Mississippians full credit for being perfect devils in battle. At one time, when in close quarters, and a bayonet charge was about being made, the Mississippians came up in terrible array. After discharging a volley of musketry, they threw away their guns, and picked them up with pistols and bowie knives, the latter twenty-two inches to two feet in length. These were strapped to a kind of lasso fastened around the waist, nearly two yards long. Whilst approaching the enemy, at a few paces distant, these were thrown out like harpoons with wonderful precision. Often he saw the awful instrument of death plunge through the bodies of his comrades, and jerked out again to repeat. Closing up, it ended in cutting and slashing, bayoneting and dealing death all around until many on both sides were found transfixed in the agonies of death. A bowie-knife and lasso would be in one hand, and a bloody bayonet in the other. A pistol ball had been sent through the wrist of the Zouave, and a thrust made at him with a bowie-knife by the Mississippians, which missed its aim. This taken advantage of, the Zouave pierced through, and he fell lifeless, and the terrible weapon stuck in blood. It made my very flesh creep to hear his narrative."

GEN. McCLELLAN'S COMMAND.—It will be seen by the subjoined general order that Gen. McClellan's command will include Gen. Mansfield's as well as the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 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WAR DEPT., ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.
Washington, July 25, 1861.
First: There will be added to the Department of the Shenandoah, the counties of Washington and Allegheny, in Maryland, and such other parts of Virginia as may be covered by the army in its operations. And there will be added to the Department of Washington the counties of Prince George's, Montgomery and Frederick. The remainder of Maryland, and all Pennsylvania, and Delaware, will constitute the Department of Pennsylvania headquarters, Baltimore. The department of Washington and the department of Northeastern Virginia will constitute a geographical division under Major General McClellan, U. S. A., headquarters, Washington.

A VETERAN.—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press says that among those who fell at Bull's Run was one old man, whose head was white with age, and whose hair was a rumanance of war. He had been thirty years in the regular service as a private soldier. He had followed the Indians through the overglades of Florida, bivouacked upon the side of the Rocky Mountains, chased the Comanche and the Cherokee through New Mexico, stood before the fire of Buena Vista, charged up the heights of Chapultepec, and followed the victorious flag and country along the frontiers of Mexico and into the halls of the Montezumas. His arm was covered with chevrons, six blue stripes, indicating six consecutive enlistments, and two red battle stripes, typifying Florida and Mexico; and with these simple ensignia he felt prouder than ever did the white-plumed Murat at the head of his gaudy cavalry.

The Hon. Andrew Johnson, the noble old Senator from Tennessee, has accepted the invitation to deliver the annual address at the coming State Fair, to be held in Detroit. We predict that he will be a great success.



OUR CRISIS PARAGRAPHS.
—Gen. Lee, was at Richmond during the Bull's Run fight, with a reserve of 10,000.
—A Virginian informs the Philadelphia Bulletin that the ground beyond Manassas was mined, and that our army would have been destroyed had it advanced.
—Per Contra. Beauregard is reported as conceding that a defeat at Manassas would have ruined the Confederate cause.
—It is charged that Col. Miles who commanded our reserve on the 21st was drunk, and his arrest is announced.
—Gov. Wise has been recalled from his command in Western Virginia by Beauregard. (?)
—It is now said that the President and Secretary of War will in future consult Gen. Scott—instead of politicians.
—The West Point battery lost all the caissons, five pieces, and forty horses, and had five men killed and seven wounded. The guns were disabled before they were abandoned.
—The Sherman battery was brought off without any material loss.
—The Seymour battery was all saved except one rifled 30 pounder.
—The rebels report capturing 63 cannon, 25,000 stand of arms, 1,200 horses, and \$1,000,000 worth of stores, Bosh.
—Also a buggy and epaulettes marked Gen. Scott. More bosh.
—Also that the Union loss was 15,000. Ditto.
—The officers of all regiments in the field, or hereafter accepted, are to be subjected to a thorough examination.
—The Fourteenth Ohio Regiment returned to Toledo from Western Virginia on the 25th—their time having expired.
—Lieut. Maury has "turned up"—engaged in planting batteries for the defense of Richmond.
—The Indiana three months regiments have all returned to Indianapolis to be paid off and discharged. The arrival of 31,000 pounds of gold is reported for that purpose.
—The New York Tribune announces its intention to let Gen. Scott manage the war hereafter. Magnanimous.
—Fletcher Webster's regiment left Boston for Washington on the 25th ult.
—The rebel force at Manassas is variously reported at from 60,000 to 110,000. The best authority puts it 90,000.
—Of the government advance force of 48,000 but 20,000 participated in the engagement.
—The rebels had the advantage both in number and position.
—The time of the Fourth Pennsylvania regiment expired on the day of the battle at Bull's Run, and it turned back upon its comrades, and marched "on Washington." Disgraceful.
—Jeff. Davis reports the Confederate force at Manassas as 15,000.—Modest Jeff.
—Other rebels say the Confederate force was 40,000 and the government forces 80,000. Proportions nearly right, but reversed.
—Secessionists write to their friends in Washington that Monday—the day after the rebel victory at Bull's Run—was a day of mourning rather than rejoicing at Richmond.
—The First Minnesota Regiment reports 69 killed, 97 wounded, and 57 missing. A severe loss.
—Second Lieut. Frank R. Mott, Company I, Second Ohio Regiment is reported as having deserted to the enemy on the Bull's Run battle field.
—A general order has been issued prohibiting the future mustering into service of any soldier who can not speak the English language.
—Eight new regiments have been accepted from Ohio.
—The U. S. steamer South Carolina has captured eleven vessels since she commenced her cruise in the Gulf. The blockade is not a paper one.
—A large committee of New Yorkers has demanded that the President call Gen. Wool into the field.
—Gen. Rosecrans has assumed the command in Western Virginia. He is reported an excellent officer.
—Several of the New York three months regiments have re-enlisted for the war, and among them Col. Corcoran's 60th—the gallant Irishmen (?)
—Minister Harvey is out with a card denying complicity with the rebels and demanding an investigation.
—The President has declined to communicate to Congress the correspondence with foreign powers relative to maritime rights or the rebellion.
—Fletcher Webster's Regiment has joined the command of Gen. Banks, at Harper's Ferry.
—Gov. Moore, of Alabama, declines a re-election. Has had enough.
—One hundred counties of Georgia report 400 majority for the Confederate States Constitution, and 18,000 votes in all.
—The Sixth Wisconsin Regiment passed through Chicago on the 25th en route for the seat of war.
—Gen. Sweeney dispersed 150 rebels at Forsyth, Mo., on the 23d ult., and took possession of the town. He had three men wounded, and reports five rebels killed and several wounded. He found military stores valued at from \$18,000 to \$20,000.
—Messrs. Harris and McGraw who went with a flag of truce to find the body of Col. Cameron were sent to Richmond as prisoners.
—The \$800,000 Connecticut loan has been taken at from par to 5 per cent premium.
—Sherman's battery has been put in working order, and again crossed into Virginia on Monday.
—Col. Wood, of the Brooklyn Regiment, is reported a prisoner at Richmond, badly wounded.
—It is also settled that the brave Col. Corcoran is a prisoner at Richmond.
—Later information reports him dead.
—The rebel claim to have 600 prisoners 42 Federal officers, and among them 12 medical men.
—Capt. Allen, of Massachusetts, who has escaped from Centerville reports that the rebels have 600 prisoners, and that all but the Zouaves are well treated.
—Col. Farham, of the Fire Zouaves is reported doing well; Col. Stearns of the N. Y. 27th has died.
—It is reported that the rebels refuse to bury the Zouaves.
—Also that the captured United States Surgeons are employed in ministering to the wounded.
—Capt. Tompkins, U. S. Cavalry,

captured 20 rebels near Fort Corcoran on Monday. Doubtful.
—A skirmish occurred at Harrisonville, Missouri, on the 25th, between Capt. Williams' command and 300 rebels. Capt. W. lost two men, and the rebels 6. After three rounds the enemy fled.
—By order of Gen. Butler, Hampton was deserted and partially burned on the night of the 27th.

LETTERS FROM WASHINGTON.
CAMP MANASSAS, D. C.,
July 14, 1861.
FRIEND POND:
WASHINGTON! In these perilous times how potent is that name to cheer and encourage the patriot soldier. At our feet stands the remembrance of that name, and the man who bore it unmarred, and made it forever honorable! Even a knave is entitled to the semblance of respect who legitimately owns Washington as a name. In plain view from my tent towers up the unfinished pillar—Washington's monument,—unfinished, like as the love and veneration of the world for him is incomplete, because inexhaustible so long as liberty is the chief aspiration of man.
Our camp is on "Meridian Hill," directly north of the President's House, which is in plain view, one mile distant. The whole city lies in sight before and below me. How grand and majestic it appears in this morning's glorious sunlight. What thronging memories surround me! What startling realities compass me. Within five rods of our tent stands the quaint old mansion built by Commodore Porter about the year 1818, and afterwards purchased by J. Q. Adams, and occupied by him as a country residence during his presidency; now occupied as an army hospital, and soldiers' quarters! How changed the scene. We know not what a day will bring forth—

