

The Michigan Argus

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The following beautiful lines we find in a recent number of the Springfield Republican. They are by the author of "Over the River."

"Kiss Me, Mother, and let me go. Have you heard the news that I heard to day? The sky is darker again, they say, And breakers threaten the good old ship. Our country calls on her sons again, To strike, in her name, at a distant foe; She asks for six hundred thousand men, And I would be one, mother, let me go."

The love of country was born with me, I remember how my young heart would thrill And sit on my granddaddy's knee And listen to the story ofunker King. Laid out there in a rich red field; My granddaddy tells that fight, you know— You'll have me shame the brave old boys. Nay, kiss me, mother, and let me go.

Our flag, the flag of our beloved pride, With its stars and stripes, and its field of blue, Is mottled, insulted, torn down, defiled, And trampled upon the rebel creed. And England and France look on and sneer, "Ha, queen of the earth, thou art fallen low!" Earth's down-trodden millions weep and fear; So kiss me, mother, and let me go.

Under the burning Southern skies, Our brethren languish in heart-ache pain, They turn to us with pleading eyes; O, mother, say, shall they turn in vain? Their ranks are thinning from want of men, Will they let them die, one by one? Shall we let them die, one by one? Nay, kiss me, mother, and let me go.

Can you selfishly cling to your household joys, Refusing the smallest tithe to yield, While thousands of mothers are sending boys To fight for you in the field? Can you see your country call in vain, And restrain my arm from the needful blow? Not a thought your heart should break with pain, You will kiss me, bless me, and bid me go. N. A. W. P.

From the Ohio State Journal. Scenes in the Examining Surgeon's Office. Some rich scenes are daily transpiring in the office of Dr. Hamilton, the Surgeon appointed for examining all applicants for exemption from the draft. Yesterday a lame, limping specimen (they all limp) of about thirty, rejoicing in the possession of a personal estate of about one hundred and eighty pounds avoirdupois came to the Doctor and claimed exemption papers.

"On what grounds?" asked the Doctor. "I have a lame foot," said the applicant, as he went limping to a seat. "You seem to be very lame, indeed," remarked the Doctor in sympathizing tones, "Let me examine the foot."

"Is it really necessary that my foot should be examined, Doctor?" asked applicant. "Certainly," said the Doctor; "how else could I certify to its unsoundness?"

After some hesitation and stooping were removed and a foot about fourteen inches long fully exposed. After some scrutiny the Doctor inquired, "Where is the wound?"

"Here it is," said applicant, "it has been cut with an axe."

"Yes, I see it has," replied the Doctor; "but it is entirely healed and perfectly sound. I cannot certify to your exemption for that cause."

Applicant heaved a sigh of dismay, and seemed absorbed in some sorrowful reflection as he replaced his sock and shoe. This done he stamped his foot down upon the floor in a manner that signified his obliviousness of the great pain that had just before caused him to stoop and expose his foot to his former quarters. Then looking up, he said to the Doctor, "Doctor, if this lame foot won't answer, I have another all sufficient reason, one that you can't refuse me exemption for."

"What is it?" asked the doctor. "Why, the fact is, doctor, I have not got good sense—I am an idiot," solemnly replied the applicant.

"Ah!" said the doctor, "What proof have you of that, what evidence can you bring?"

"I'm conclusive," said applicant. "Why, see, I told for James' *Deacon's*. And if that ain't proof of a man's being a d—d idiot, I don't know how idioity could be proven."

The Doctor gravely admitted the sufficiency of the proof, but mildly suggested that the applicant had fully recovered from the condition of mental imbecility that prompted him to an act so idiotic. The applicant seemed struck with the idea, took his departure, and the last we heard of him he was looking for a fighting Colonel to enlist under.

Another man went into the office wheezing and coughing (they all wheeze and cough) asking for a certificate of exemption. "On what ground?" again asked the doctor.

"Why, you see, doctor, my breathing is very bad; I am badly wind broken; I cannot run any distance at all, without getting out of breath."

"You are just the kind of a man we want for a soldier," said the doctor. "We want soldiers that can't run."

"Easiest applicant," and the last we saw of him he was going at 2 1/2 on a full run, hunting for a substitute.

Another made his appearance with eyes red and swollen, claiming exemption on the ground that he couldn't see to shoot.

"Yes," said the sympathizing doctor. (The doctor is always a sympathizer, whereby he gets at the truth.) "Your eyes are considerably inflamed, let me examine them." He examines them and asks "what caused this trouble with your eyes?"

"I got a fly in one of them, and the other eye got sore," said the applicant. "How long since this happened?" asked the doctor.

"About three years ago, and have been getting worse ever since," replied applicant.

"H—m," mused the doctor; then he said "with an acute inflammation like this, the wonder is that you don't lose your eyesight before this time. But I see your eye sight is not impaired by inflammation about them. And I can assure you that for the present irritation the stroke of a grape-shot, and life in the open air of the very best remedies you could apply. I would advise you to enlist."

Applicant disappears; he is met at the corner by a friend to whom he mutters "I tell you Joe, that fly and time must never." And he goes

"I dug a hole in the sand to keep warm in. We buried the dead and left a separate grave, which was scraped out by our hands and pieces of board."

"Next morning we traveled inland. About five miles off we reached a spring; here we rested. Some of our party then started across the mountains to reach Manzanilla; others, including myself, were to remain until assistance reached us. We had nothing to eat. That afternoon, and after our friends had left us, the St. Louis came along and took us on board."

Col. Brodhead vs Gen. McDowell. The following is an accurate copy of the letter written by Col. Brodhead in his last moments by his brother and sister.

DEAR BROTHER AND SISTERS.—I am now passing from earth, but send you love from my dying couch. For all your love and kindness you will be rewarded.

I have fought manfully, and now I die fearlessly. I am one of the victims of Pope's imbecility and McDowell's treason.

Tell the President would he save the country he must not give our hallowed flag into his hands.

The old flag will triumph yet—I die bravely, and my blood, polluted by imbecility and treason, will show a duty to your country. Write before the force evacuating the Peninsula could be united with it. I remained at Cedar Mountain, and still threaten to cross the Rapidan, until the 17th of August, by which time Gen. Robert Lee had assembled in my rear, 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 this 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 reach and effect a junction with me, was very weak, as it could be crossed at almost any point above the railroad bridge by two or three companies of Lee's proposed movement against me. The enemy immediately appeared in my front at Rappahannock Station, and attempted to pass the river at this bridge, and the numerous fords above and below, but without success.

Washington, Sept. 6. To His Excellency the President: I have been informed that you have seen a note in pencil, written by the Colonel of cavalry mortally wounded in the recent battle, stating, among other things, that he was dying a victim to McDowell's treachery, and that his last request was that his note should be shown to you. That the Colonel believed this charge, and felt that his last act on earth was a great public service, that can be no question. This solemn accusation from the grave of a gallant officer who died for his country, is entitled to great consideration, and I feel called upon to meet it as well as possible, and to charge from one now no longer able to support it can be met.

I therefore beg you to please cause a court to be instituted for its investigation, and in the absence of any knowledge whatever as to the particular act or acts, time or place, or general conduct the deceased may have had in view, I have to ask that the inquiry be without limitation, and be upon any point and upon every subject which may in any way be supposed to have led to this belief; that it may be directed to my whole conduct as a general officer, either under another, or in a subordinate command; whether on matters of administration or command; to my correspondence with any of the enemy's commanders, or with any one within the enemy's lines; to my conduct, or the policy pursued by me toward the inhabitants of the country occupied by our troops, with reference to themselves or property; and further to any imputations of indirect treachery or disloyalty to the nation or any individual, whether like myself an important trust; a subordinate of those placed over me, given them hearty, and to the best of my capacity, all the support in my power, and whether I have or have not failed through unworthy or personal motives to go to the aid of, or send reinforcements to, my brother commanders.

That this subject of my alleged treachery or disloyalty will be fully inquired into, I beg that all officers soldiers, or civilians, who know, or think they know, of any act of mine, liable to the charge in question, be allowed and invited to send me a statement of the facts, and I also beg that the proceedings of the Court may be open and free to the press from day to day.

I have the honor to be, Very respectfully, Your obedient servant, JOHN W. McDOWELL, Com'g 3d Army Corps Army of Virginia.

The Horse of all Work. It is a difficult thing to determine exactly what should be considered a perfect horse—for the perfection of an domestic animal consists in his adaptation to the service required of it—be it ox, cow, or sheep, swine or horse. The English hunter is as near the type of a perfect horse of all work as can be found. It is particularly necessary for farmers who breed horses to study their points, particularly with reference to sires. A breeding horse should be sound in all respects, except blemishes caused by accidents or violence, or by sickness which was neither inherited nor can be transmitted. A good horse is moderately short backed, and low set; round barrelled and ribbed up; rather high in the withers; having moderately sloping shoulders; a broad chest, firm and muscular crest, a head well set on, lean and bony, with a clear, bright medium sized, intelligent eye, and open, thin, broad nostril, clean muzzle, and small ears; his rump should be straight, broad and full; his loins broad; legs about the knee or hock long and muscular. All important muscles of the extremities are located above these points, and below them tendons hard and free from soft spots and excrescences; the leg bones large, flat and smooth; the pasterns not too deep or oblique; hoofs h-r-d, clean, long, (not flat) round (on the ground) and good sized. The knees and hocks should be broad and bony, the quarters large broad and muscular, square when seen from the rear, the shanks from the hock to the pastern short, hard and clean. A horse can hardly have too large and broad chest, two straight, a back from withers to croup, or too thin and delicate neck near the head.

The distance was only nine miles, and he received the dispatch at 9 o'clock, but did not reach the ground until 10 o'clock next morning. He can probably explain better than I can the reason of his delay.

Fortunately Hooker had handed the Army several times the evening before, and the movement of McDowell's army 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 through 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 11th McDowell's advance (Gibson's brigade) met the force of Jackson retreating 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.

Signal 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 on the south. I also instructed Fitz John Porter with his own corps, and King's division of Fitz John Porter's army, to move to the rear of McDowell's position, and to be ready to move to the front at daylight in the morning. 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 this junction, as we might be obliged to retire behind Bull Run that night for subsistence, if nothing else.

Heintzelman marched early from Centreville toward Gainesville, closely followed by Reno. Meantime, shortly after day, McDowell's corps had been engaged with the enemy, and 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, previously in rear of Porter, bringing his whole corps on the field in the afternoon, and taking a contrary part in that day's operations. To my surprise, and disappointment, I received, late in the afternoon, from Porter, a note saying that his corps 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 any 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 toward Manassas, and he remained, as he afterward informed me, where he was, until the afternoon of Friday, when he was ordered to move to the rear of McDowell's position, and to be ready to move to the front at daylight in the morning. 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 this junction, as we might be obliged to retire behind Bull Run that night for subsistence, if nothing else.

On Tuesday afternoon, to retire to the entrenchments near Washington, which was accordingly done 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 operations 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 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 the 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 of the Potomac have quailed in the presence of the enemy's efforts of a war 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 Generals McDowell, Kearney, Reno, Heintzelman, Hooker, and Banks, 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.

A NEPHEW OF SIDDELL WOUNDED ON THE FEDERAL SIDE.—A nephew of John Sidell graduated from West Point about six weeks since, and was assigned to duty upon the staff of Brigadier General Reno, of the Union army. In the battle of Saturday last he was badly wounded and left for dead upon the field. The rebels stripped him of his gold watch and valuables, and left him to die. He crawled to the Union lines, where his mother found him and brought him to Washington. He will probably recover.

The Great Eastern, which arrived Wednesday brought over passengers.

Gen. Lee's Proclamation to the People of Maryland.

Baltimore Sept. 11.

Gen. Lee has issued the following proclamation:

To the Headquarters Army of Virginia, near Fredericksburg, Sept. 8.

It is right you should know the purpose that has brought the army under my command within the limits of your State. So far as that purpose concerns yourselves, the people of the Confederate States have long watched with the deepest sympathy the wrongs and wrongs that have been inflicted upon the citizens of the South by the strongest social, political and commercial ties, and reduced to the condition of a conquered province under the presence of supporting the constitution, but in violation of its most valued provision; your citizens have been arrested and imprisoned upon no charge and contrary to all forms of law; a faithful and manly protest against this outrage Marylanders, venerable and illustrious Marylanders, in better days, no citizen at peace, in better days, was treated with scorn and contempt. The government of your chief city has been usurped by armed strangers; your Legislature has been dissolved by the unlawful arrest of its members; freedom of the press and speech has been suppressed; words have been declared offences by an arbitrary decree of the Federal Executive, and citizens ordered to be tried by military commission for what they may dare to speak.

Believing that the people of Maryland possess a spirit free to fly to the support of a government, the people of the South have long wished to aid them in throwing of this foreign yoke to enable you again to enjoy the inalienable rights of freemen and restore the independence and sovereignty of your State. In obedience to this wish our army has come to assist you with the power of its arms in regaining the rights of which you have been unjustly despoiled.

Believing that the people of Maryland possess a spirit free to fly to the support of a government, the people of the South have long wished to aid them in throwing of this foreign yoke to enable you again to enjoy the inalienable rights of freemen and restore the independence and sovereignty of your State. In obedience to this wish our army has come to assist you with the power of its arms in regaining the rights of which you have been unjustly despoiled.

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A Very Significant Article.

From the Western Railroad Gazette.

Intelligence has been received from various sources that the enemy has succeeded in evading or forcing the lines of the Confederates between Manassas and Washington, and reached Arlington Heights with the intention of this morning to attack the city.

But if it is indeed true, we hope that our feet themselves will be disappointed in their expectations of a siege of Washington. The chief prize of the late victories is not the possession of that city, but the opportunity which they would seem to afford for the commencement of an offensive campaign in the enemy's country.

Reason indicates that the aim and object of the Confederacy at this stage of the war is, or should be, a transfer of hostilities to the enemy's soil. It is in a matter of necessity that we should do so.

Deserted as it is by the majority of its inhabitants, it is not easily perceived how the scattered remainder of its population hope to escape starvation during the coming winter; and all the maintenance of an army of one hundred and fifty thousand men there, dependent on a single-track railroad, when the winter has rendered the other highways impassable, will be an experiment not less dangerous than costly.

Even if that difficulty could be overcome, it is evident that our army cannot waste its time in protracted operations for the possession of a frontier city, unless it desires to lose the only opportunity to make a real approach to the end of the war that we have had since the beginning of it.

War is a game of chance, and there are unaccountable runs of good and bad luck. In the latter part of last winter, and in the beginning of the spring, we had our season of evil fortune. Mishap followed mishap, loss followed loss, and disaster pursued disaster in a melancholy array, so long and unbroken that the Confederacy could realize the sensations of Macbeth, when he asked: "Shall thy line stretch out to crack of doom?"

The tables are now turned; the cards run the other way. The North has seen its dismal season; while the winter of our discontent is turned to glorious summer. Splendidly victorious in Virginia, our first organized advance into Kentucky is also marked by a success even more brilliant than that of last fall.

Wonderful!—The N. Y. Evening Post tells a large story of the freaks of lightning in France. A young girl was struck by lightning and changed into a boy. Whereupon a Western paper remarks: "The very thing wanted in this vicinity. Our women are anxious to be boys, but under existing circumstances the government will not receive them."

From the Western Railroad Gazette.

The City of Ann Arbor and the State University of Michigan.

The city of Ann Arbor on the line of the Michigan Central R. R., some forty miles from Detroit, is the site of one of the noblest educational institutions of the United States, yet few who travel that road, even when unburdened by business cares, deem the place worthy of a visit.

The people of the State of Michigan, instead of wasting their noble appropriation from the General Government, by dividing it among the various religious sects, thereby creating a number of minor colleges throughout the State, wisely resolved upon the endowment of one University, comprehensive in its course of study and liberal in its character.

The buildings are large and commodious, situated in the centre of a large campus, and comprise a literary department, a law department, one of medicine, one of practical and applied chemistry, and one of practical astronomy, each with the paraphernalia and appointments requisite for thorough instruction.

The expense for any one course at this institution are but slight, being but five dollars per year with a matriculation fee of ten dollars (paid but once), in addition to the ordinary expenses of board, etc. The institution has an annual income of some \$40,000, mainly derived from the interest of certain funds accruing from the sale of the lands of two townships granted by the United States Government for the endowment of a State College.

Mr. Thomas arrived from Mansfieldville this evening. He was present during the battle. The rebels under Gen. Duncan numbered from five to seven thousand, including cavalry, artillery, and infantry. The rebels made their attack from both sides of the river, and held it until they were repulsed.

The rebels under Gen. Duncan attacked our forces at Green River, near Mansfieldville, about three o'clock this morning. The fight lasted till 11 A. M. Our men fought bravely, firing the last shot.

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Michigan Argus.

ANN ARBOR.

Friday Morning, Sept. 19.



DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

The committee having, on the 29th day of August, 1862, invited the republican organization to suspend party nominations in the coming election in this State, and to unite with the democracy in the nomination of a ticket, which invitation was rejected, and being still anxious and willing to co-operate with all men, without regard to former political convictions, who agree in maintaining the government in the war against the rebellion with all the power of a loyal people, to maintain the constitution, preserve the Union in its full integrity, and the enforcement of the laws, do hereby call a convention of all persons, in the State of Michigan, who are willing to act on these principles, to meet in the city of Detroit, on the eighth day of October next, at 11 o'clock A. M., to nominate officers to be elected at the coming election, and the transaction of such business as the convention may deem expedient.

Each Representative District of the State will be entitled to three delegates in the convention.

S. D. EDWARDS, Chairman Democratic State Central Committee. E. KAYSER, Secretary.

Democratic Congressional District Convention.

Democratic delegates from the several Counties constituting the Third Congressional District, will meet in Convention at the city of Jackson, on Thursday, the 9th day of October next, at 1 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Representative in Congress.

Each county will be entitled to the following representation: Washington, 12; Jackson, 9; Calhoun, 9; Ingham, 6; Eaton, 6.

C. H. BOUFON, A. C. BLODGETT, O. M. BARNES, L. G. NOYES, M. S. BRACKETT.

Battles in Maryland.

Beginning Sunday last there has been a continued series of battles in Maryland, all of which have resulted in signal victory to the Federal Army.

Lieut. M. A. PARKS, of Ypsalanti, of the "Old Michigan First," has been appointed Quartermaster of the Twenty-sixth Michigan Infantry, now in camp at Jackson.

Parson KNOWLSON will deliver the address at the State Fair, next week, from the grand stand, at 3 o'clock P. M., of Thursday.

The Fourth Michigan Cavalry, Col. MINTY, fully armed, equipped, and mounted, will be reviewed on the grounds during one of the days of the Fair.

The rebels have skedaddled from in front of Cincinnati, and affairs in Kentucky wear a cheering aspect. We look for Union victories in that quarter.

The Army Corps. Washington, Sept. 16. In accordance with an order recently issued by the President, the several army corps will now stand as follows:

First Corps, Hooker; Second, Sumner; Third, Heintzelman; Fourth, Keyes; Fifth, F. J. Porter; Sixth, Franklin; Seventh, Dix; Eighth, Wool; Ninth, Burnside; Tenth, Mitchell; Eleventh, Burnside; Twelfth, Sigel.

Confiscation at St. Louis. St. Louis, Sept. 14. In compliance with orders from the Secretary of War Gen. Schofield, the Provost Marshal of the District of Missouri, proceeds without delay to carry into effect the Confiscation Act, so far as the provisions of said act are subject to be carried into effect by the military authorities of the United States in the district. The property liable to confiscation in the district is estimated at \$50,000,000.

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How to Make Bandages.—Bandages should be made from cotton which has been washed, and old cotton which will bear a hard pull will answer the purpose. They should be from three to six inches in width and from four to ten yards in length. They should be pieced by lapping one end over the other and sewing the pieces securely; the edges need not be turned in. No selvages or hard seams should be allowed on them.

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The SUNKEN VESSELS IN HAMPTON ROADS.—Capt. F. E. Wells with 20 divers, 300 men and four whale ships, arrived at Fortress Monroe on the 7th, for the purpose of raising the sunken vessels at Hampton, Newport News and James River. Their contract compels them to raise the Cumberland wharf, but Capt. Wells intends to raise the Merrimac whole if possible.

The CHEESEPARK CANAL DESTROYED.—The rebels have destroyed the Cheese-park Canal for thirty miles above Seneca Dam, by blowing up all the culverts and dams and letting the water out.

APPOINTMENT.—Major General Wallace has appointed Thomas Buchanan Read, the poet and painter, an Aide-de-Camp to his staff.

Union Convention.

A preliminary Union Convention was held at Jackson on Tuesday, and a large number of counties represented by the one of the best men in the State. The convention resulted in calling a State Convention to be held at Jackson, October 24, to nominate a ticket for State officers without distinction of party.

Official notice is given that men enlisting in the old regiments will receive the month's advance pay, \$13, with an advance of \$25 on the \$100 bounty. In addition we believe there is an existing bounty of \$4, making in all \$12 advance to each recruit. Besides local bounties are being paid in nearly all the cities of the State.

Gen. WILCOX has returned to active service, and has been placed in command of the division of the late Gen. STEVENS, First Division, Ninth Army Corps. The Corps is commanded by Gen. BURNSIDE, who was a class-mate of Gen. WILCOX. The Eighth, Seventeenth, and Twentieth Michigan Regiments are under the gallant WILCOX. Good.

The Twenty-fourth Michigan Infantry, Col. MORROW, has been assigned to the brigade of Gen. WOODBURY, HOOKER'S DIVISION, HEINTZELMAN'S CORPS, and probably participated in the recent battle near Middletown, Maryland.

The Nineteenth Michigan Infantry, Col. HENRY C. GILBERT, broke camp at Dowagiac on Sunday morning last, and left for Cincinnati, via Michigan City, Lafayette, etc. It is said to be a fine regiment.

The Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, Col. A. A. STEVENS, left Ionia on Friday last, en route for Cincinnati, taking the Friday evening boats in Detroit. The regiment is highly spoken of.

The Twenty-third Michigan Infantry, Col. M. W. CHAPIN, left the regimental rendezvous at Saginaw yesterday, en route for the seat of war. The regiment is armed with the Austrian rifle, and the men exhibit quite a proficiency of drill.

Lieut. M. A. PARKS, of Ypsalanti, of the "Old Michigan First," has been appointed Quartermaster of the Twenty-sixth Michigan Infantry, now in camp at Jackson. We congratulate both Lieut. P. and the regiment on their mutual good fortune.

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Great Battles in Maryland.

McCLELLAN VICTORIOUS.

The Rebels hunting the "last Ditch."

Howell Cobb and Longstreet taken Prisoners.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac. Three miles beyond Middletown, Sept. 14-24 9 A. M. H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief. After a very severe engagement, the corps of Gen. Hooker and Gen. Reno have carried the heights commanding Hagerstown road by storm. The troops behaved magnificently. They never behaved better. Gen. Franklin has been fully engaged on the extreme left. I do not know the result, except that the firing indicates progress on his part.

The action continued till after dark and terminated in leaving us in possession of the crest. It has been a glorious victory. I cannot tell whether the enemy will retreat during the night, or appear in increased force in the morning. I regret to add, that the gallant and able Gen. RENO is killed.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac. Sept. 15-8 A. M. To H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief: I have just learned from Gen. Hooker in the advance, who states that the information is perfectly reliable, that the enemy is making for the river in a perfect panic, and Gen. Lee started last night, and he has the most admit that they had been shockingly whipped. I am hurrying everything forward to endeavor to press their retreat to the utmost.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac. Sept. 15-9 A. M. I am happy to inform you that Gen. Franklin's success on the left wing was as complete as that on the center and right, and resulted in his getting possession of the Gap after a severe engagement in all parts of the line.

The troops, old and new, behaved with the utmost steadiness and gallantry, carrying, with but little assistance from our own artillery and infantry. I do not consider our loss very severe.

The corps of Gen. D. H. Hill and Longstreet were engaged with our right. We have taken a considerable number of prisoners. The enemy disappeared during the night. Our troops are now advancing in pursuit, and do not know where he next will be found.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac. Sept. 15-10 A. M. To H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief: Information this moment received completely confirms the rout and demoralization of the rebel army. Gen. Lee is reported wounded and Garland killed.

General Hooker alone has over 1,000 more prisoners, 700 having been sent to Frederick. It is reported that Lee gives his loss as 15,000. We are following as rapidly as the men can move.

Washington, Sept. 15th. The Star states that at 9 A. M. to day, the engagement at Burnside's position had not been renewed. He was then in undisputed possession of the advantageous position on the mountain, from which he drove the enemy the night before.

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Washington, Sept. 15.

An officer slightly wounded in the battle yesterday, who arrived here late to night, represents that the fight took place three or four miles west of Middletown, at the foot of the first mountain going west. The enemy was strongly posted but our men, with the most determined courage, drove them up the mountain, through a strip of woods, cornfields, and open ground.

The rebels made occasional stands behind walls and fences, but were driven into the valley of the mountain and over into the top, when it being night our troops were called for further pursuit. Not one of our men faltered.

This point of contest was maintained by our troops of the center. Two Colonels were among the slain rebels found on the field this P. M. The battles were fought principally with infantry on our side, it being impracticable to bring artillery into all play. Gibbons, however, with much toil, succeeded in getting a battery upon the mountain to the right of the infantry and did execution. A captured rebel Lieutenant said it was their intention to mass all their forces to-day. Hatch is represented as having been wounded in the leg.

Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 15. Stragglers from the rebel army are scattered all along the road to Williamsport, where the enemy is no doubt crossing. Citizens who left Chambersburg and other places in the valley are returning to their homes.

General Stoneham has been assigned to the command of Kearney's division. Boonesboro, Sept. 15. The battle of South Mountain was fought yesterday, resulting in a complete victory to the Army of the Potomac.

The battle-field was located in a gorge of the mountain on a turnpike road between Middletown and Boonesboro. About 12 o'clock Reno was ordered to ascend the mountain on the left and make an attack on the enemy's flank.

At 2 o'clock Reno's troops got into action. The battle of musketry for half an hour was terrible, when the enemy gave way, leaving our men in possession of that portion of the ridge.

The loss on both sides was considerable. We had not a General or field officer injured at this point excepting Reno, who was killed by a Minie ball passing through his body.

Hooker, commanding McDowell's corps and Pennsylvania reserves, occupied the mountain on the right for the purpose of making an attack on the rebel's left. He got his troops in position, and moved down upon the center of the mountain.

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Dispatches just received at headquarters say Jackson has recrossed the Potomac and McClellan has engaged him with tremendous force this side of Sharpsburg, ten miles from that place.

The whole rebel army in Maryland will be annihilated or captured this night. No rebels can be found about Hagerstown and Williamsport, and some two miles on the other side of the Potomac.

The following is to the Baltimore America: Intelligence from the front this morning is of the most cheering character, notwithstanding bad news from Harper's Ferry. General McClellan was pursuing them with a vigor most destructive to the enemy.

Gen. McClellan pursued the enemy on Monday morning with his reserves and a large body of fresh troops. The enemy took the road towards the river at Harper's Ferry and Shepherdstown, and he was pursuing and shelling their retreat with great loss.

The battles and advantages obtained Monday are thought to be superior in importance to those of Sunday. Drayton's South Carolina Brigade is entirely gone, either killed, wounded or prisoners. The 11th Michigan, a new regiment, done up this brigade, first with bullets and finally with bayonets. Howell Cobb is wounded and taken prisoner.

Gen. McClellan was pushing on them last evening closely, and had already sent to the rear 8,000 prisoners and four batteries.

Desperate Fight in Western Virginia. GALLIPOLIS, Sept. 14. On Wednesday, a column of the enemy, 5,000 strong, said to be under the command of General Loving—the first notice of whom was in our rear, between Fayette and Gauley—made an attack on our forces encamped at Fayette, consisting of the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-seventh Ohio regiments, numbering about 1,200 men.

The battle was a desperate fight, lasting till dark. Our forces out there way through, reaching Gauley during the night, having lost about 100 killed and wounded, mostly of the Thirty-fourth Ohio.

In the meantime another column of the enemy approached Gauley bridge, on the Lewisburg road, under Cerro Gorrio Williams, cutting off the Forty seventh Ohio, and one company of the Second Virginia Cavalry, who were at Somersville. Nothing has since been heard of them.

Under these circumstances, Colonel Lightburn's flank and rear being threatened by an overwhelming force, he was compelled to evacuate Gauley, which he successfully accomplished on the morning of the 11th, after destroying all the government property he was unable to bring away.

He accordingly moved down the Kanawha in two columns, one on each side of the river, reaching Camp Platt on the 12th evening of the 12th, and encamped the whole way. Here he massed his troops on the north bank of the Kanawha, but, being hard pressed by the enemy, retreated during the night, reaching Elk River, just below Charleston, on Saturday morning.

He made another stand on the lower bank of Elk River, and a desperate battle ensued, lasting from 10 o'clock A. M. till dark. Our forces shelled and destroyed Charleston, two houses only being left standing. The result of the fight is unknown, nothing having been heard from Colonel Lightburn since 6 P. M., Saturday. Up to that time our troops held their ground, and were punishing the enemy severely. We understand that our troops completely destroyed all the salt works.

Colonel Lightburn brought an immense train of 600 loaded wagons safely to Elk River. The retreat to Elk River was conducted in good order.

Great anxiety is felt for the safety of our troops on the west of Point Pleasant and Gallipolis. The militia is flocking here from this and the surrounding counties. The border is in great danger. The enemy's force is represented as being 100,000 strong, with a proportionate force of artillery.

Col. Lightburn's advance reached Ripley, Virginia, near the Ohio River, at 10 o'clock last night. Passengers on the Marietta and Cincinnati train west, this morning, report heavy cannonading in the direction of Ravenswood, on the Ohio.

The Battle at Middletown. Special Dispatch to the Cincinnati Com. WASHINGTON, Sept. 15. To-day has been one of the most exciting in the history of Washington. Loyalty and excitement everywhere were depressed. Bull Run has been avenged, and the strength and dignity of the American flag asserted in this most glorious and decisive victory of the war.

It is said that Secretary Stanton stated this afternoon that we had taken fifteen thousand prisoners, and that McClellan was closely pursuing the demoralized and routed army of the enemy.

Yesterday (Sunday morning, about 8 A. M.) Gen. McClellan's army came fairly up with the enemy, posted on the east of the South Blue Ridge Mountains, and stretching on a line from north to south from a point immediately opposite Middletown and Jefferson, both of which villages are eight or ten miles from Hagerstown, and Jefferson on the direct road to Harper's Ferry. Our right command was by Burnside, rested on Middletown, and our left, under Franklin, on Jefferson. A general engagement immediately commenced, General McClellan necessarily attacking the enemy in the very advantageous position.

The battle was obstinately contested until nearly 9 P. M., by which time the enemy had been gradually driven up the South Mountain, over its top, into the valley, or along the mountain sides below. We held the top of the mountain on Burnside's line throughout the night, and gained a signal and important victory for the time being, though in so doing we have to mourn the loss of the brave and gallant Reno, who was killed.

Jackson's Orders Found. A special to the Cincinnati Commercial from Washington, on Sunday says: "A gentleman who I find Frederick this morning states that a portfolio, containing official orders from Jackson, had been found, in which were duplicate directions for one column of the rebel army to move to Williamsport, and the other to Middleport. The first column was directed to hold its position at all hazards until the arrival of expected reinforcements from Richmond."

The Indian Outbreak.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.

The following dispatches have been received at the headquarters of the army: HEADQUARTERS, Ft. RIPLEY, MISS., August 26, 1862. To Gen. Halleck, Commander-in-Chief: I have the honor to report that this post was assaulted by a large force of Sioux Indians on the 20th inst.

A small remnant of company B, 6th Regiment of Union Volunteers, and the Ronville Rangers, a company just organized for one of the regiments of this State, were the only troops I had under my command for its defense, and nobly did they do their duty. Finding that they could not effect a lodgment, which was prevented in a great measure by the superior fire of artillery, under charge of Ordnance Sergeant J. J. Jones, U. S. A., which compelled them to evacuate the ravine, by which this post is surrounded, they withdrew their forces, and the gallant little garrison rested on their arms, ready for any attack during the night.

Several people, remnants of once thriving families, arrived at the post in the most miserable condition, some wounded and severely burned, having made their escape from burning dwellings which had been destroyed by the Indians. The people in the vicinity fled to this post and were organized and armed as far as practicable to aid in its defense.

On the 2d inst., the Indians returned with a much larger force, and attacked us on all sides, but the most determined attacks were on the east and west corners of the Fort, which are in the vicinity of the ravines. The west corner was also covered by stables and log buildings which afforded the Indians great protection and in order to protect the garrison, I ordered them to be destroyed. Some were fired by artillery and the balance by the Ronville Rangers under the command of Lieut. J. Gorman to whom and the men under his command great credit is due for their gallant conduct.

