

THE ACTS, ORDERS, AND RESOLVES PASSED, AND PUBLIC TREATIES ENTERED INTO, BY THE FIRST SESSION OF THE THIRTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, ARE PUBLISHED IN THIS PAPER, BY AUTHORITY.

The Great Battle. Its Momentous Importance.

The annals of the world record no contest comparable in magnitude and importance with that now raging beyond the Rapid Ann. The immense numbers engaged, the terrible courage and tenacity exhibited by the contestants, and the acknowledged eminence of the two great chieftains in command, alone give to this prolonged and dreadful struggle of human strength an intensity of interest which attaches to no other contest in the world's great drama.

The terrible enginery of modern warfare belches out carnage and death like a tempest, and the thunder of the guns rolls over the whole nation, standing breathless and expectant. Human limbs and human life are swept before the awful storm. Yet with a matchless daring and a heroism hardly to be hoped for in weak human nature, men stand up to the stern work of duty without flinching at the dreadful trial. We repeat, that viewed simply as a spectacle of human powers in mortal collision, nothing in history surpasses the scenes of that battle field in the thick jungles of the Wilderness. It finds no parallel but in those tremendous wars of the elements which impress upon men the reality of Omnipotent power.

But this grand series of battles, is not a mere pageant of man's physical power, nor of his physical or moral endurance. It is, to appearance, the great culminating struggle of our civil war, and as such it has a higher significance, and involves more important issues. It is in view of the grand consequences which hang upon its result, that patriots watch this contest with bated breath—and pray for success to our arms. In the balance hangs life or death to the nation—a glorious Union cemented anew, and with the elements of former weakness thrown out, or a disrupted nation, distracted, weakened, and compelled to admit an inherent want of power for its own preservation—a nation, one in prestige, in resources, in purpose, in power, able to command or to compel the respect of the world, or a people split into two, (perchance into a dozen) weakened nationalities, rival and hostile, and consuming upon each other those energies which ought to be devoted to the common advancement and prosperity.

On this great struggle apparently hangs the great problem, so often submitted to the test of experiment, and never so hopefully as in our own land, of the success or failure of self government, the possibility of a Republic.—On this struggle seems to hang the great issue of the triumph of liberty or despotism throughout the world; and if we may judge of the human instrumentalities apparently most favorable to the final triumph of Christianity (we say it with reverence) to our limited vision the very prevalence of Christ's Kingdom on the earth, with all its glorious accompaniments, seems remotely to hang upon the results which we now await with intense anxiety.

If a rebellion founded upon despotism with most absolute form as a corner-stone, is to prevail against a government of liberty which has as its foundation, freedom of conscience and of will, if a struggle in which the antagonists are light and truth and freedom against darkness and error and enslavement of body and mind, is to be decided in favor of the darkness, where is the hope of mankind?—Our faith in the Great Arbitrator of events is strong that in such a contest the event cannot be doubtful.

It is because, in the narrow scope of man's vision, consequences so portentous as those we have indicated seem to loom up, and to overshadow this battle with an awful importance, as the great judgment day when irreversible decrees are about to be written upon nations, that we ask our readers to give their whole souls to the struggle before them.—They cannot, perchance, raise an arm in the fight, but if they are alive to its unspeakable importance, they can give to the righteous cause the support of their deepest sympathy, and their earnest prayers to Him who rules the Nations, and who can scatter our enemies by a single breathing of His power.

Brig. General STEVENSON was killed in the battle of Spotsylvania Court House on the 10th inst. He came out in the Burnside Expedition as Colonel of the Mass. 24th regiment, and won his star on the battlefields of North Carolina. From here he went to South Carolina, and thence to the Army of the Potomac. He was an honorable and obnoxious man, kind-hearted and generous to a fault, and won a strong hold upon the affections of his associates.

GRAND SUCCESSES OF HANCOCK.

WASHINGTON, May 13, 2.30 P. M. To Major General Dix:—A dispatch from General Grant has just been received, dated near Spotsylvania Court-house, May 12th, 6.30 P. M., which is as follows:—

"The eighth day of battle closes leaving between three and four thousand prisoners in our hands for the day's work, including two general officers and thirty pieces of artillery. The enemy are obstinate, and seem to have found the last ditch. We have lost no organization, not even a company, while we have destroyed and captured one division. (Johnson's) one brigade. (Dobb's) and one regiment entire of the enemy."

(Signed) E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

OFFICIAL.

WASHINGTON, May 13, 5.30 A. M.—Major General Dix:—Official dispatches have just been received at this department, dated yesterday, at 8 o'clock A. M., at the battle-field near Spotsylvania Court-house.

They state that during the night General Hancock marched from his previous position on our right, and occupied the ground between Wright and Burnside.

At daylight he attacked with his usual impetuosity, forcing the first, and then the second line of the enemy's works, capturing the whole of Edward Johnson's division and a part of Early's, together with Major General Johnson (Edward Johnson), brig. General Johnson, Gen. Stewart and from 30 to 40 cannon.

The number of prisoners is not given, but it is to be counted by thousands. Burnside, on the extreme left, opened at the same time with Hancock, and advanced with comparatively little opposition. His right formed junction with Hancock and his left is now actively engaged. Wright's troops attacked at 7.15, and are now at work.

Warren is demonstrating to hold the enemy in front of his works. The rebel works at that point are exceedingly strong.

A dispatch has been received from General Butler, dated in the field, near Chester Station, Va., May 12th, 3.30 P. M.

It states that he is now pressing the enemy near Fort Darling, and had before him all the troops from North Carolina and South Carolina that have got up.

Beauregard's courier was captured this morning, going to General Hope, in command of Drury's Bluff.

He had a dispatch stating that Beauregard would join him as soon as the troops were up. Gillmore holds the entrenchments, while Smith demonstrates upon Drury and the enemy's lines.

Gen. Kurtz with his cavalry, has been sent out the Danville Railroad, near Appomattox Station, and can, perhaps, advance on the James river.

We have had no telegraphic communication with Gen. Sherman since Wednesday. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

FROM GENERAL BUTLER.

BALTIMORE, May 13.—The steamer Hero, with 200 sick and wounded, has just arrived from Bermuda Hundred.

A dispatch dated Fort Monroe, May 12, says there was no fighting yesterday (Wednesday), our forces being engaged in throwing up intrenchments.

Gen. Butler is intrenching from the Appomattox to the James River, a distance of six miles. Beauregard was reinforced during Tuesday night by two brigades from Lee's army, as near as can be ascertained. This seems improbable, unless Lee be really retreating from his present position.

The James river was obstructed yesterday afternoon by our forces, near Turkey Bend, by sinking a number of schooners and barges. This effectually blockades the rebel iron-clads. Our whole force moved at 4 A. M. to-day, and probably are now engaging the enemy.

It would be well to give publicity to the fact that no citizen is permitted to come into this department without a special pass from the Secretary of War.

One hundred and seventy-five rebel prisoners, including three officers, were brought here last night, and will be forwarded to Point Lookout to-day.

The Enemy Report Lee Wounded. BERMUDA HUNDRED, May 12, 9 P. M. A teamster was shot dead this morning by a guerrilla, three miles from Bermuda Hundred.

At daylight the rear guard advanced and at 8 A. M. Gen. Butler and staff left their old headquarters, and at 10 A. M. the whole force moved in the direction of the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. At 12 M. the enemy were discovered intrenched, and the 10th New Hampshire charged and drove the enemy from their intrenchments. Skirmishing occurred all the afternoon on our right, but no general engagement. A number of rebels were captured, including one colonel. There was no fighting on our left. Officers and men are in good spirits.

The Petersburg Express, of the 11th, says that Gen. Lee was in Richmond, wounded. The telegraph line between Petersburg and Richmond was cut several days ago, as well as the railroad.

General Ingalls' Dispatch.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—The Extra Star says the following dispatch has been received from General Rufus Ingalls, Chief Quartermaster of the Army of the Potomac. It brings positive information from the front as late as yesterday.

"We made a ten-strike to-day. Hancock went in at daylight. He has taken over 4,000 prisoners and 25 guns, and is still fighting. Everybody is fighting, and have been for eight days."

"We shall have them in the top, though it may take a day or two more. They fight like devils. Our losses are heavy—cannot say how many. Hancock captured General Ned Johnson and two other generals, besides lots of lower grade."

"The old republic is firm—bet your pile on it. Grant is a giant and hero in war. But all our generals are gallant, and our men—the world never had better. Yours, in haste."

PAY OF SOLDIERS.—The U. S. House of Representatives has unanimously passed the bill increasing the pay of soldiers. By the bill, after the first of May, the private soldiers will receive \$16, corporals \$18, sergeants \$20, orderly sergeants \$24, and sergeant majors \$26 per month. Paymaster's clerks will receive \$1200 per year. The ration of 1861 is restored.

Work has been resumed on the Pittsburg and Steubenville railroad bridge spanning the Ohio river at Steubenville.

THE PETERSBURG EXPEDITION.

Movements South of Richmond.

General Butler in his operations South of the rebel capital has under his command a large and well disciplined body of troops, and among his officers are Generals W. F. Smith, Brooks and Gillmore. He appears to have landed his men at City Point, on the James river, meeting with some opposition, which he overcame. He then marched his troops to a point called Bermuda Landing, a position commanding the peninsula lying between the James and Appomattox rivers, which he fortified strongly, so as to make it capable of defence against any attack, and at the same time a base of operations against Petersburg. On Saturday the 7th, General Butler sent out a strong expedition under General Brooks, consisting of five brigades and a battery, with some cavalry, which pushed rapidly forward to the Petersburg and Richmond railroad. In doing so the road was found well defended by a heavy rebel force, and a battle ensued, lasting several hours, but ending in the defeat and retreat of the enemy. General Brooks lost in the fight about two hundred and fifty men killed and wounded.

General Brooks destroyed by fire the railroad bridge crossing one of the tributaries of the Appomattox river within about seven miles of Petersburg, (between Petersburg and Richmond,) as well as the railroad tract for some distance connecting with it. The enemy then returned to the charge, and having done his work, General Brooks retreated. Another body of troops was sent out under General Heckman, by another road, and had some fighting, which resulted in his driving the rebels back three miles, and holding possession of the railroad between Petersburg and Richmond. General Butler says in his official dispatch, in addition to the above, that seventeen hundred of his colored cavalry had reached his brigade, and that he had also and fording the Chickahominy. At the same time General Kurtz, with three thousand cavalry from Suffolk, landed the Blackwater and burned the railroad bridge at Stony creek, below Petersburg, cutting in twain Beauregard's forces at that point. Beauregard himself, with a portion of his command, was left South of the bridge, and the rest of his troops, under Hill, retreated to Petersburg. General Butler then attacked and beat Hill.

We have a report that Butler had marched against Richmond, which is not improbable if he found Beauregard inclined to make fight south of that city. There are no troops of any account in the rebel capital, and having a divided and distracted Beauregard's forces he might be successful in a dash upon Richmond.

BERMUDA HUNDRED, May 10.—Fighting commenced yesterday at noon, and was continued till night, between General Heckman's brigade and several other brigades under General Smith, and the rebel General Beauregard commanding in person. During the fight our forces drove the enemy back three miles, nearly into Petersburg.

We hold the railroad between Richmond and Petersburg. General Kurtz' cavalry command has succeeded in destroying some portion of the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad at Hickford, capturing many rebel prisoners. Twenty of them go to Fort Monroe to-day, including the Captains and Lieutenants.

The James River Movement. Skirmish on Friday Night.—It is reported on Saturday—Beauregard Commanded the Rebels.—Dash upon the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, and a Mile of it Torn Up.—Great Strength of Butler's Position.

HEADQUARTERS GEN. BUTLER, May 7, 1864. The skirmish of last night was more serious than indicated in my last letter. General Smith directed General Heckman to advance with his brigade to find out what force and position the enemy had in front of his lines on the left. Gen. Heckman pushed forward, driving in their pickets, and skirmishing along the lines, pushing the rebels back to the Port Waltham Railroad. Here the rebels had taken advantage of an embankment, and our forces were received with a volley. Gen. Heckman was wounded in the little finger of his right hand by a minnie ball, which passed through his coat, trousers, saddle flap, and killed his horse. General H. opened on them with two pieces of artillery. This the rebels thought unfair, as they had no cannon, and ordered us to open on them with rifles, till to-morrow, and then we will get our guns up.

The object being simply a reconnaissance, and General H. being instructed on no account to bring on a general engagement, as the right of our line had not got into position, he withdrew his brigade. The rebels charged after him, but were handsomely repulsed. He soon encountered the enemy in a having right killed and forty wounded. It was ascertained that there was quite a force there, at least two brigades. During last night trains were heard running up, and this morning General Heckman again advanced down the same road, but he did not succeed in penetrating so far. He met the rebels in a stronger position, and after a short fight, sent back word that he thought he could hold it. The rest of the battery was sent out, and firing ceased soon after.

The wounds of the men hurt the day before were caused by rifle balls. To-day wounds caused by shells were plentiful. General Beauregard was in command of the rebel forces, and at 10 o'clock, 20,000, with which he came up from Weldon. Prisoners belonging to South Carolina and Virginia regiments, and to the Washington battery, were captured. Meanwhile, General Brooks, commanding 1st division, 18th corps, with three brigades, marched down the road leading to the Richmond and Petersburg road. He soon encountered the enemy in force, and a severe fight ensued, lasting with intervals up to 6 o'clock, P. M. These movements were made to cover a third which had for its object the cutting of the Richmond and Petersburg road. For this purpose a brigade of the 16th corps, under Colonel Burton, pushed rapidly across the country, and succeeded in reaching the railroad, and cutting up about a mile of it. Colonel Burton then fell back. At sunset, Generals Heckman and Brooks were holding the position to which they had advanced.

The position taken by General Butler is one of great natural strength, extending from the Appomattox, near Fort Waltham on the left, to an opposite point on the James, embracing the whole peninsula formed by the two rivers. In front of the left an impassable ravine runs down to the Appomattox, crossed only at one point by the road along that river. In front of the height is a dense forest. Beyond the whole a swamp stretches along opposite the centre. The position is an excellent one for defence, and the entrenchments now being done renders it a dangerous place to attack. The gunboats on the James and Appomattox protect the flanks.

The line is only two and a half miles in length. Across the Appomattox we hold City Point, by another short line across the Point. This position is also protected by the gunboats. Great confidence is felt by General Butler and his general officers as to their ability to hold the position against any force which can be brought to attack it.

From City Point. IN THE FIELD, Monday, May 9, 1864. This command is now well on its way toward Petersburg, and is in high spirits to-night. As I announced in my letters yesterday, there was a simultaneous movement of a very large force of our troops at daylight this morning, for the purpose of effectually disabling the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, over which Lee receives the bulk of his subsistence supplies. It was expected that the enemy would make a desperate fight to retain possession of a route of such vital importance to their army, but to our surprise, the prize fell into our hands without an offer of resistance.

The fact is, that our appearance here was a staggering surprise to the enemy. All the available troops in this locality had been previously sent to reinforce Lee, and there was nothing to oppose us but militia. The plan of sending a large force of cavalry, under Kurtz to cut the railroad further South, at Hickford, as we have ascertained to-day,

having proved a decisive success, Beauregard, who had been hurriedly called from Charleston in the emergency, found himself unable to bring up his troops, or more than a small part of them, and the rebels had no alternative but a retreat.

The rebel army, we are told has been driven to Spotsylvania Court house, and Lee has no hope of making a stand on the North side of Richmond, unless Beauregard can manage to reinforce him.—This is a language Gen. Butler will make impossible, and in view of everything, we think we have cause to be exultant.

Forming on the battle-field of Saturday, our army moved forward this morning promptly at day-break, with General Smith's corps on the left, and Gen. Gillmore's on the right. The troops moved in a column, cautiously facing the opposing column, the trunk woods which characterize the country, a large brigade of Brig. Gen. Heckman, of Weitzel's division—an organization consisting of the Ninth New Jersey regiment, and the twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth and twenty-seventh Massachusetts. True to their splendid reputation as fighters, this brigade fiercely attacked the enemy, driving them from their works by a charge, and compelling them to abandon, in their precipitate flight, all their dead and wounded. At other points of our line, a desultory fire of artillery was kept up all the afternoon, and at dark the skirmishers on either side, and sharpshooters were vigorously shooting from the opposing banks of Swift creek. We expect the rebels to make a stand with all the troops they can command at this deep and swift stream, and if Gen. Butler should determine to advance upon Petersburg, there will probably be hard fighting to-morrow morning. Our losses to-day have not been very large, and the enemy has been severely punished.

Waifs.

The Goldsboro State Journal, of the 2d inst., informs us, that "twenty two hundred white Yankee prisoners from Plymouth," were expected in that place on their way to Americus, Georgia. The whole number of Gen. Wessells' command scarcely exceeded 1600 men. Americus is a healthy location, and if the rebels do not preconcertedly starve them, we have no doubt, but that we shall soon have the pleasure of again greeting them as exchanged prisoners.

Immediately on the evacuation of Washington, N. C., the rebel commander, Gen. Hoke, alive to the importance of the fisheries on that river and sound, telegraphed to a gentleman in Raleigh to come to Washington, and take charge of the immense fishing interests. This is a very important consideration, for by it, undoubtedly, many hundreds of barrels of fish will be obtained. This is to be regretted as a military necessity, and the evacuation of Washington, made necessary by preceding events, has thus opened a mine of wealth to the rebels. We hope that ere long it may be wrested from their grasp.

"Our cousins over the borders," under Gen. Hoke, who paid us a visit few days since, were heard from on the 13th. They were in Virginia, and came in contact with the 8d N. Y. cavalry, who were under Gen. Kurtz, and who was on an expedition from Suffolk to Petersburg, to join Gen. Butler. It is needless to say, that if Hoke did not immediately run, that the 3d had what they invariably call "fun," to their fullest extent.

STRAWBERRIES.—It was our good fortune, last Saturday, to partake of a dish of nice ripe strawberries, grown in the open air this spring. We had to roll each berry in a greenback, however. The producers of strawberries must make money, judging by the price asked for them.

In the Raleigh Confederate of the 4th inst., we have counted over eight hundred casualties, in only one brigade, of the rebels at the battle of Plymouth. That brigade was Hoke's North Carolina brigade. We learn that the rebels hold Plymouth now with only two regiments, the 17th and 46th N. C.

On Friday afternoon, the 6th inst., the gun boat Shawheen, formerly engaged in the bully old Burnside Expedition, was blown up about four miles above City Point, in the James river. A land battery discharged a volley into her boiler causing a terrific explosion. An officer who floated off on a piece of the wreck drew his pistol and shot one of the rebel gunners.

Capt. Bulkley of the new steamer Carolina, which arrived at Morehead on Sunday last, will please accept our thanks for a full file of New York papers. This is the Carolina's first trip and it was made in excellent time. Geo. W. Dill is the agent at Morehead.

SHIPWRECK.—On the morning of the 13th, at 8 o'clock, the brig R. W. Allen, of Dennis, went ashore, and was wrecked a half a mile north of Cape Hatteras Light. She was from Havana, bound for New York, loaded with sugar, molasses and pineapples. Vessel and cargo are a total loss. Crew saved. She struck on Diamond Shoal, lost her rudder, and was drove ashore.

Mr. U. H. RICH, formerly Local Treasury Agent of Little Washington, has been appointed Local Special Agent for New Berne. This appointment will give great satisfaction to the many friends of Mr. Rich in this State.

In lowering the soil around Notre Dame, at Paris, remains of Roman houses were found, and the outline of the foundations of an old church, which centuries ago stood here, dedicated to St. Christopher, as well as the plan of another church near by, dedicated to St. Stephen. Several marble columns, with fine Corinthian capitals, have also been unearthed.

The Chicago Post says the women of Utah have recently altered the orthography of their creed. They now spell it *Mormons*.

A man in Cleveland, Ohio, fell asleep at church a Sunday or two ago, and woke just as the Minister began to read in a loud voice the lesson of Scripture which begins "Surely there is a vein for the silver, and a place for gold where they find it." Jumping to his feet in great excitement, the merchant stretched his arm and shook his book to the astonished minister, exclaiming "I'll take five hundred shares!"

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Battles on the Rapid Ann.

From a careful review of all the various and conflicting accounts, Union and rebel, of the late operations of the two great armies, we are enabled to gather some views which place the events in a different light as regards details, though not as affecting the general result. The rebels claim to have captured nearly two thousand prisoners and four guns. On the other hand, we have taken thirty-five hundred prisoners. Our total loss in killed, wounded and prisoners is given unofficially at twelve thousand, which, from the information before us, must be made up of eight thousand and wounded, two thousand killed, and two thousand captured. Of the rebel loss, beyond rough estimate at ten thousand killed and wounded, and 3,500 prisoners, we have no information.

It turns out after all that we charged home upon the rebels in their thickets, and Lee himself, as well as the rebel correspondents, admit that it was done desperately. They claim that we were the assaulting party, and that they repulsed us with difficulty and loss; but the truth seems to be that both sides charged alternately, and that the fortunes of the day wavered from side to side with these charges. Hancock led the most successful of our assaults, and drove the enemy several miles. In another charge the heroic Wadsworth was killed while leading on his column. In like manner the rebel general suffered heavily. Longstreet being severely wounded in the shoulder in a charge in which Jennings was killed, while in another charge Jones was killed and Stafford mortally wounded. It seems that the decisive movement which compelled Lee to retreat occurred on Saturday, the 7th. Previously the fighting was without practical result. Each side was well intrenched, and our position was too strong to be taken, as the rebels ascertained to their cost by their charges. But on Saturday Grant advanced a strong body of cavalry, supported by the whole of Burnside's corps, to Chancellorsville, completely outflanking Lee, and cutting him off from Fredericksburg. The rebel chief at once retreated as fast as his army could go, followed by our whole army, with Hancock's Corps leading the van; and so ended this bloody struggle.

But it appears that Lee, calculating from former experiences of the inactivity of our army after a battle, did not move so fast as he could, for Hancock overtook him at Todd's Tavern, just north of the Potomac, in Spotsylvania county, where a fight ensued, and the rebels turned a bay forward Hancock back. Burnside's corps, however, came up, and the battle was renewed there on Sunday, and resulted in the enemy being driven to the river, after a stubborn resistance protracted throughout the day. The reports go on to say that Lee continued his retreat towards Richmond in the direction of the North Annapolis River. It is to be hoped that Butler will assault Richmond in earnest before Lee can reach it, and certainly Grant will detain the rebel army long enough in its retreat to enable him to do so, and he will do it.

The loyal public generally throughout the country will learn with regret the death of the brave General Sedgwick, in the action at Spotsylvania Court-house, on Monday. He was killed by a rebel sharp shooter. This brave officer has served with distinction in all the campaigns made by the army of the Potomac. He captured Fredericksburg when Hooker fought at Chancellorsville. There was no more reliable or useful officer in that army than Sedgwick.

The Enemy Falling Back to Hanover Junction.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF POTOMAC, Tuesday, May 10.

[Special Despatch to the Daily Chronicle.] The Army of the Potomac has had a portion of a day to recuperate. Indications are that the rebels will fall back to their formidable fortifications near Hanover Junction. To-day Gen. Burnside began the attack on the left with great fury, and an encouraging degree of success. He had a fight the day before, in which, to use his own words, he "whipped old Longstreet."

A courier came in from General Butler yesterday. About 15,000 cavalry, under General Sheridan, started soon after. They will engage the rebel cavalry, circumnavigate Lee's army, and join Butler. Our army could not be in a more cheerful condition. Every man is sanguine of success, and they count the days when they shall in triumph enter the rebel metropolis. The rebels, on the contrary, have lost all their old buoyancy, and seldom indulge in their peculiar shrill and demoralizing yells. They fight with sullen brows, like men who find even hope for asking them.

General Lee lately issued an order in relation to supplies, in which he said communication with Richmond was cut off, and it was impossible to furnish the men with stores. Hill's corps had no rations issued for three days. General Lee joined upon his men the necessity of capturing supplies from the Yankees. Up to this moment they have failed to capture a single wagon. The roads are in excellent travelling order, but very dusty. I have failed to see a single wagon abandoned.

Lee withdrew from our front and marched towards Richmond. Our army moved with them along parallel roads, coming in deadly contact with them at Todd's Tavern, near Spotsylvania Court House. General Torbett's division of cavalry whipped the rebel cavalry near this place, and drove them from Spotsylvania Court House. But, reinforced with infantry, they drove our cavalry a short distance—the Maryland brigade, 4th division, 6th corps, coming to their support. The fighting was exceedingly fierce. Gen. Torbett and Gen. Robinson were both wounded, and are now on their way to Washington.

A report gained credence here this (Tuesday) morning, that our cavalry had captured a train of ours near Guinea's Station, sent from Richmond for the rebel wounded. The train was there up to the moment across the Rapid in the most brilliant and daring in the annals of the war. Nothing could be more dangerous than a flank movement by our army while Lee was in front with his long heavy lines. It was daring and successful. Every officer and soldier is sanguine. The utmost confidence is reposed in Grant and Meade.

Gen. Sheridan's Operations.

The following is Gen. Sheridan's official report: HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, May 10.—Major General Meade, Headquarters, Army of Potomac: General: I turned the enemy's right and got into their rear. Did not meet sufficient cavalry to meet me. Destroyed from eight to ten miles of Chesapeake and Potomac railroads, three trains, and a very large amount of supplies. The enemy were making a depot of supplies at Beaver Dam. Since I got into their rear there has been great excitement among the inhabitants and with the army. The citizens report that Lee is beaten. Their cavalry have attempted to annoy my rear and flank, but have been run off. I expect to fight their cavalry beyond South Anna river. Have recaptured five hundred of our men—two colonels.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, P. M. SHERIDAN, Major General Comd'g.