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Confederate account of the Battle of Gettysburg—General Lee falls back in good order to Hagerstown—Maryland not to be abandoned.

A wounded officer of Wright's Brigade, who arrived at Richmond Thursday evening, gives some interesting particulars of the battle of Gettysburg, which entirely changes the face of the news published from the northern sources. He left Gettysburg at 11 o'clock on Saturday morning. From his statement the Dispatch gathers the following particulars:

In the fight of Wednesday and Thursday we whipped the enemy badly. On Friday our fight again commenced, being entirely new to our army, which was composed of Longstreet's corps and two divisions of Gen. A. P. Hill's corps. Neither the right nor left wing were seriously engaged. We drove the enemy back for miles to the heights, where we had fortified. In driving them this force we broke through two of their lines of battle formed to receive the onset of our troops, and finally charged them to the heights. Here our men were ordered to charge the heights and the order being executed resulted in our repulse.

On Friday night our wagon trains were ordered to fall back, and commenced going to the rear. It is supposed that our army fell back from want of provisions. There was no scarcity of ammunition, for there were many trains of ordnance out of which not a single cartridge or shell had been taken. Some of them had been attacked by the enemy, but Impuden's cavalry successfully drove them off. Those of our men who were slightly wounded and could walk were sent off Saturday about noon. Those who were severely wounded were left in hospitals near the battle field.

In the fights of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, Gen. Lee took about 10,000 prisoners, who were promptly sent to the rear, and who, our informant thinks, will reach Virginia safely. During the same time we lost about 11,000 killed and wounded—making our loss 15,000 in all. The battle was the most furious that has taken place in this country, and the losses of the enemy in killed and wounded must exceed ours. In the charge upon them which drove them five miles, their loss, while flying before our troops, was enormous. Wright's brigade suffered severely. One of the regiments which went into action with a Colonel, Lieut. Colonel, and five or six Captains, came in charge of a Second Lieutenant, the ranking officers having been either killed or wounded.

Our informant says that our army fell back with the greatest deliberation and order—to use his expression—"splendidly." There was no demoralization. None of the officers have any idea that Gen. Lee intends to recross the Potomac, nor has that intention been even hinted at by the officers commanding corps. It was generally and distinctly understood that the falling back was caused by the difficulty in obtaining provisions through so long a line of communication as that from Gettysburg to Williamsport, and no one in the army believed that it was intended to evacuate Maryland. The men were in good spirits, and ready for another fight with the enemy.

The Potomac, when our informant crossed was very high. It is proper to state that the officer from whom the above information was obtained was a very intelligent, cool, and disinterested person, and one not likely to exaggerate any fact which he might have learned.

We last night conversed with two wounded soldiers of Pickett's division, who left Gettysburg at 12 o'clock on Saturday. They report that Pickett's division was with Longstreet in the center, on Friday and participated in the charge upon the heights. The charge resulted in a repulse, but nothing else. The enemy did not leave his fortified heights to try a battle in the field again that day. Our two informants, who were wounded, went back to their tents on the same ground they had occupied the night before, and the next day at noon were sent off to Martinsburg. They report the loss in the division as very heavy. The 1st Va., in Kemper's brigade, and the 14th Va., in Armistead's brigade, suffered heavily. Col. J. Gregory Hodges of the latter regiment, one of the best and bravest officers of the Army, was reported by our informant to be killed or severely wounded. The 5th Va., also in Armistead's brigade, suffered heavily. The Captains of companies H, and K, (names not recollecting) are reported killed. They say that in the falling back of our army there was no straggling, and that it was done in excellent

order. Skirmishing was going on when they left at noon Saturday.

We were informed, upon our arrival at Richmond from Washington yesterday evening, who left the latter city on Sunday night. He reports that the news received there up to that time was decidedly unfavorable to the Federal arms and that a deep and manifest feeling of despondency pervaded the whole community in consequence of the intelligence. Efforts were made to prevent the information received by the authorities from going to the public. Little confidence was felt in the ability of Meade's army to prevent Lee's advance on that city when he should attempt it, and much anxiety was felt for the safety of the city. No security was felt against its fall.

It was rumored during the afternoon of yesterday that a despatch had been received by the President from Gen. Lee, stating that his army in good order had been received by him. It is stated, however, that a despatch was received, (by whom we could not learn) from the commandant of the Post at Martinsburg, stating that the army had reached Hagerstown, with a large number of prisoners, and that our forces were entrenching themselves on the hills around the town.

A gentleman who lived all the early part of his life in Gettysburg makes the following statement, from which it will be seen how difficult it is to surround or cut off Gen. Lee:

Gettysburg lies Northeast of Baltimore 72 miles, 80 from Washington on the road through Frederick, which is Southeast from it a distance of 32 miles. There is a chain of mountains lying on the West and within 8 miles of Gettysburg on the West extending South through Frederick county. If Gen. Lee fell back towards the Potomac he had the advantage of these mountains, as a pursuing army would have to go around them southward through Frederick, or else be exposed to the narrow passes of these mountains.

GEN. BRAGG'S RETROGRADE MOVEMENT.

The Atlanta Intelligencer has a letter from Chattanooga, dated July 5th, from which we make the following interesting extracts:

Once again we have abandoned Middle Tennessee and North Alabama to the ravages of the infidel Abolitionists, leaving our poor people unprotected on their little farms, and forcing the women and children to and around Huntsville, as well as in the towns north of the Tennessee river, to flee from their homes. Hundreds of refugees had taken up an asylum at Huntsville, as well as at Winchester and Fayetteville, in Tennessee. All have flown. Our army is at Bridgeport, upon the north bank of the Tennessee. All the rolling stock of the Memphis & Charleston road at Huntsville, and the Decatur & Nashville road, running to Polaski and Columbia, has been safely removed, through the energy of the intrepid Col. Sam Talcott. The rolling stock and other property on the Nashville and Chattanooga road, though the last train did not leave Shelbyville until the enemy entered that town, was also brought out by the skill and enterprise of its worthy Superintendent E. W. Cole.

The retrograde movement of Gen. Bragg in falling back to the line of the Tennessee river, has saved the army and the country. Whatever may have been the errors of Gen. Bragg in his other campaigns, the skill and judgment exercised in this movement cannot be questioned for a moment. It is amusing, however, to see the number of wisacre editors who have just discovered that they had always been of the opinion that the Tennessee should have been the base of our line of operations; while there are others who attempted to sustain Gen. Bragg's Kentucky campaign, who now bitterly denounce him for making a most masterly strategical movement. This shows how few men are capable of forming unbiased opinions.

That we have been compelled to make a temporary abandonment of Middle Tennessee and North Alabama, cannot be denied. That great distress, heart-aches and loss of crops have attended the movement is true; but that our falling back to the Tennessee has been accompanied by terrible and disastrous consequences to the country is false. The only object Gen. Bragg had in holding his advance position was to keep back the enemy until we should be able to gather the crops in that section of country, and until Gen. Johnston and Lee should attain their ends. For over a month Gen. Bragg, with his little army, had held the enemy in check, making a show of forces by advancing and driving the enemy into his fortifications, when he knew at the same time it was not possible to make an effective defense. Our first advance when Gen. Johnston was in command of the army, was really made with the purpose of crushing Rosecrans, but after Johnston left, Gen. Bragg's only object was to hold the enemy in check without risking a battle. When the enemy, therefore, made a general advance to test our strength, and then a crushing force on our right to flank us and gain our rear, there was no alternative left but for us to fall back. To have risked a battle under such circumstances, when we were but keeping up a show of forces, would have been madness, and would have lost us not only the army, but all Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama, with Mississippi to boot. For then, what could have stopped Rosecrans from joining Grant and the whole country from being overrun by raids? General

Bragg has, therefore, not only saved his army but the whole country, and he now occupies a position from which he can easily strike back the most perfect good order and discipline has been preserved, and all the wagons of the whole army were brought safely except two or three which were lost from breaking down. Our troops are in fine condition and spirits, while perfect confidence prevails. All future movements of General Bragg's army are involved in mystery which time only can develop.

On Thursday and Friday last, Wheeler's and Forest's cavalry, which guarded our rear because warmly engaged with the enemy's superior forces, and lost heavily, after some very hard fighting, holding the enemy in check, and whose loss was far greater than ours. I regret to learn the death of Col. Webb of Alabama, commanding a brigade of Wheeler's cavalry, who fell while gallantly leading a charge at the head of his brigade. A portion of Hardee's Corps was also engaged, but I have not learned of any casualties.

A courier from Rosecrans to Gen. McCook, with despatches, was captured at Tallahoma. McCook commands the right of Rosecrans' army, Thomas the centre, and Tom Crittenden the left. A Gen. Jenkins commands a reserve corps. Rosecrans' total force is estimated at 20,000 mounted men including regular cavalry, with a very heavy force of artillery.

Exaggeration is a popular vice. It is never indulged so freely as after a battle. The great fight at Gettysburg has furnished material for the usual exaggeration. The most profane exophors are employed by the Southern telegraph and the Northern press to signify the simple facts, that a great many people were shot within a space of six miles, near Gettysburg, and that nobody has counted them; that many more were taken prisoners by the two armies, and the reporters are perfectly ignorant of their numbers. If we attempt the estimation of the loss in combat, from the few data furnished by persons in position to have, if they choose to use, the means of ascertaining the casualties sustained, the numbers dwindle singularly. What then, is the meaning of those individuals connected with the army, who write home after every battle, that this or that brigade or division—always theirs—went into the fight two thousand or five thousand, and came out with four hundred, or fifteen hundred? Did all the loss then, fall on two or three brigades or divisions? It is not necessary to admit the supposition, nor yet to question the accuracy of such statements. The chief cause, in such cases, consists of stragglers. In plain words, many more run (a little way) from every battle and every fighting army, than are troubled with wounds or bruises. When, for instance, the commander of a Minnesota regiment writes home that he had 2,100 men at muster roll on Friday morning, and did not need 300 rations for his troops next day, it is to be understood that Minnesota's fleet of foot.

If we put aside the generalities and imaginations of the ignorant, and look only at what we really know of the loss at Gettysburg, the information is the bulletin furnished by the Federal Surgeon General. He says he has under his control in the neighborhood of the battle field something over 12,000 Federal wounded, and 3,000 Confederate wounded prisoners.

Counting one killed for four wounded, these 12,000 wounded make suppose 3,000 Federal dead. Total Federal loss in casualties at Gettysburg so far as known, 15,000.—There may be, and probably is, a large class of wounded men who have not come under this official's control, which may swell the loss to 18 or 20,000; but, on this evidence, which is all that is attainable, we know only that the first number of the enemy have been put hors de combat by the use of arms at Gettysburg.

Relative to the Confederate loss we have not even these slight indices. We have only unauthorized statements, which have the air of probability. The Yankees say that 3000 of their prisoners are the severely wounded above mentioned. From various sources we hear that 5000 wounded came with Lee to the Potomac—total 8000. Making the same allowance for the dead, the entire Confederate loss in killed and wounded may be supposed 10,000.

As to the loss in prisoners on either side, which might appear to be the soonest ascertained, it is impossible now to form the most vague idea, on account of the tremendous lying that has been done by both parties in regard to it. The Yankees swear that they had 6,000 prisoners, counted, and on their way to Baltimore. But we also learn that only 2,000 ever got there. The telegrams from Martinsburg told of 40,000 captured Yankees in Lee's hands. They have grown beautifully less every day. First they shrunk to 16,000—then to 13,000. Four thousand five hundred were certainly dismissed on parole while the battle was in progress, and were immediately put back into the army, by a proclamation of the Federal Government, denying the right of a General to dismiss his prisoners in that style, and declaring that no paroles will be recognized save those given through the proper channels. This sudden discovery was doubtless regarded at Washington as a clever Yankee trick; but the surrender of Vicksburg was not then known there. We have little reason now to complain of their new rule—for it will enable the garrison at Vicksburg to return forthwith to service.

The consequence of the battle are also still in doubt. It was a battle in which the Confederates had their own advantages. They remained a day unmolested on the ground, and threatened in complete condition and order. So far as the fighting went, all that the Federal army did was to prevent its own annihilation. The Confederates were repulsed, but cannot, at present, with justice or candour be said to have suffered defeat. It may hereafter be said with reason, if the offensive campaign ends with this battle; because it will be thought by the world that the accomplishment of General Lee's intentions in Pennsylvania was prevented by the resistance made at Gettysburg. This point, however, is not yet decided. General Lee holds an impregnable position on the other side of the Potomac at this time, and yet given not the slightest indication that he has renounced the campaign. The moral effect is, at the moment, in favour of the North; but it is so from causes wholly independent of the action itself. The troops of the United States have suffered acknowledged and most disgraceful defeat by the army of Northern Virginia during an entire twelve months—Richmond, Manassas, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville—the four seasons! They were not entirely beaten at Gettysburg, and the unaccounted result has raised the spirits of that country to the point of frenzy. We were not entirely victorious at Gettysburg, and the South is impatient at the contradiction to its usual fortune. Southern men of constitutional despondence are unduly depressed at the whole North's extravagantly elated. But can they reconcile their momentary melancholy to common sense? What is lost even if the offensive campaign should be given over for the summer? We are not worse off than before it began, nor is the North a whit stronger. It will soon be a weaker and a sadder North, for it will presently have to count the cost of invasion, brief though it may be.—Rich. Examiner.

Who wants to follow a Gallant Leader?

Dr. A. M. Nesbit, of Salisbury, is authorized to raise a regiment for home service for six months. See his card in another column. Dr. N. has been in his country's service since the beginning of the war, daily ministering to the sick and wounded, and wishes to lead a regiment of his countrymen against the vandal foe. The homes and families of those now far away battling for us at home, demand the protection their efforts are directed towards securing for us. Shall they have it? No call has yet been made in vain upon Old North Carolina, and this one will be responded to. We know Dr. Nesbit well, and we esteem him the very man to take proper care of his men, and to lead them upon the foe as far as he who aims at the farthest. Dr. N.'s energy will enable him to raise his contemplated force if possible, and we advise all who would shun a draft to report to him at once, at Salisbury.—Who wants to follow a gallant leader will follow Dr. Nesbit.—State Journal.

Milliken's Bend.

A letter published in the Fayetteville Observer from Wilmington, gives the following item concerning the blockade running business: "The blockade running business has developed a new feature. A steamer has arrived here which is reported to have sailed from New York and merely touched at Nassau on her way to Wilmington, with an unbroken cargo of Yankee goods, supposed to be on joint account of parties in New York and Wilmington. This is a bold adventure, but it is not likely to be a successful one, if the facts be susceptible of proof, for a military guard has been stationed on board to prevent the removal of vessel or cargo."

Tornado.

On Wednesday night last, a tornado, about one-fourth of a mile wide, passed over a portion of Campbell county, Ga., doing much damage to fruit and forest trees, fences, out buildings, &c. Near Sandtown, it blew down the two story house of Mrs. Sarah Beall, instantly killing Jesse M. Butt, an old and highly respectable citizen. It also severely injured Mrs. Spence, a daughter of Mrs. Beall, and niece of Mr. Butt. The residence of a neighbor, named Ardenhold, was also blown down, but no one was injured.

Keep out of bad company, for the chance is, that when the devil fires into a flock, he will hit somebody.

The Future Terms of Peace Between the United States and the Confederate States.

The New York Catholic Record has a very long article on the present aspect of the war. It thinks it requires no prophetic vision to foresee the result of the present conflict. "That it will," says the Record, "terminate in the complete independence of the Southern Confederacy, there can, we think, be no doubt in the mind of any rational man." The old story of the overwhelming resources of the North, in men and money, is dissected by the Record. "These overwhelming resources have been brought into play. An army of 1,500,000 men has been thrown against 700,000 men, and yet has not overwhelmed them. In whose millions have been spent by the North where only thousands have been incurred by the South. This is, so far, the result of the overwhelming resources, and that result will not be altered by this war. The Record, thus hopeless of subjugation, turns its attention to the terms of peace, and gives the following conditions:

I. A convention of the Northern States must be held, to take into consideration the new condition in which they are now placed, and to devise means for their reorganization or reconfederation under the new Constitution. This convention, if held, will be composed of delegates from each State, whose basis of representation will be fixed, not by States, but by the proportion of population. Each State, however, being sovereign, will have the power to ratify or reject the Constitution proposed and adopted in the convention. In this respect their action will not differ from that of the States which adopted the old Constitution and formed the Union which has been overturned by the Abolition Administration. In the convention we have, no doubt the sovereignty of the States will be guarded with the same jealous care that marked their action in the convention to which the present Constitution owes its origin.

II. The vast debt which has been accumulated by the present mad, fanatical and suicidal war, will, as a matter of imperative necessity, be repudiated. In stating this fact we do not seek to justify the principle of repudiation, which is alike dishonorable in a nation or an individual. We speak of such a policy now as among the inevitable consequences of the lamentable condition in which the North finds itself, after an Abolition crusade of over two years. The debt of the North may now be estimated at about two thousand five hundred millions of dollars, and the interest on this at 7 per cent would be about one hundred and eighty millions, which is larger than the interest on the national debt of England. When it is remembered that the English national debt was the growth of centuries, while ours has been created by a two years' war, the restiveness and impatience of the American people, under such a load, will be fully understood and appreciated. We do not believe they will stand it, and we entertain no doubt whatever that they will seek relief in repudiation.

III. The people having had, through the policy of the present administration, a pretty fair experience of a military despotism, will instruct their delegates to the aforesaid Convention to insist upon the inviolability of States rights, the sovereignty of the States, the liberty of the press, the freedom of speech, habeas corpus, and all the rights guaranteed by the present Constitution. Upon these important points they will be so explicit and so circumspect as to leave no possible grounds for apprehension in the future.

IV. Admitting the existence of two Confederacies within the limits of old Union, the Government established under the new Constitution will have to deal with the important question of boundaries, customs, river navigation, and the general relations that may spring up between the two Confederacies. It is essential that these relations should not be complicated; that they should, in fact, be simple and so easily understood as to avoid the possibility of future collisions. We trust that there will be entire free trade between the two republics, so as to render border custom houses entirely unnecessary. The navigation of the Mississippi will, and must be free to the Gulf of Mexico; any other arrangement will be insidiously productive of future wars.

V. As friendly relations between the two Confederacies are essential to the welfare and the future prosperity of both, it should be the policy of the Northern, as we trust it will be of the Southern, to discourage and frown down every attempt to create hostile, and bitter feelings between their respective Governments and peoples. As for the North, its commercial and profit seeking people will be among the first to obliterate the past, and to sink its unpleasant memories in the gulf of oblivion. It must be acknowledged that the Northern people are, to a great extent, like the English, "a nation of shopkeepers," and that the present war has been waged as much to retain the custom of the South as to maintain the Union. Now, we venture to say that none will be more anxious or more earnest to exhibit their friendly feelings toward the South than the very people who have been and are still so rampant for a vigorous prosecution of the war—nay, we not only believe this, but we believe also that they will be the greatest sufferers of the South; that they will be profuse in their professions of good will and friendly feeling; that they will flatter and toast our Southern brethren at the future banquets that will be given to them in Northern cities; that they will never tire of speaking or writing of a common origin, a common ancestry, a common language, and all those other things which we have been accustomed to hear at convivial assemblies of Americans and Englishmen. All this we shall, most probably, see within a very few years, in this our own day and generation.

VI. We have referred to the convention of the Northern States as among the inevitable consequences of this war, and the condition to which the North has been reduced. It is possible, but we do not regard it as probable, that the North shall witness another Presidential election before that convention shall have taken