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EDGAR SNOWDEN, JR.
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WAR NEWS.

Dispatches from Gen. Sigel's headquarters yesterday report that, while the Confederates continue retreating beyond the Rapidan, they have still a large force with guns in position on the south side, supposed to be acting as a cover for the retreat of the main body. Later dispatches state that Gen. Pope's army has moved towards Orange Court House, and that the Confederate rear line is about four miles back of the Rapidan while their main point of defense is Gordonsville. It is reported also that a large Confederate force now occupy the line of the railroad from Louisa to Charlottesville, which with their other movements, indicate that they have formed a new line of defense, and intend to fight a decisive battle at or near Gordonsville.

Richmond papers of the 12th instant publish brief accounts of the recent battle near Culpeper Court House. The Confederates claim to have defeated and driven back the Federal army for five miles, and captured over three hundred prisoners, including twenty-eight officers. The prisoners had arrived in Richmond, and the commissioned officers were placed in close confinement, in accordance with the orders recently issued by the Confederate authorities relative to officers captured belonging to Gen. Pope's army.

Another report of a battle in East Tennessee is received. The engagement took place on Wednesday, the 13th, at the town of Tazewell, near Cumberland Gap, and that the Federal force consisting of three thousand men, after a stout resistance, were completely surrounded by the overwhelming forces of their enemy and compelled to surrender. The dispatch says that the result of this fight give the Confederates the possession of East Tennessee, and that they will next move on Gen. Buell with a superior force.

There is no news from General McClellan's army.

On Thursday night the steamer Keyport arrived at the Washington Navy Yard, bringing up a guard from Gen. Burnside's division, having in custody Mayor Slaughter and fourteen other prominent citizens of Fredericksburg, who are charged with secretly aiding and abetting the Confederates, and giving them information of the movements of the Federal army. They were conveyed to the Old Capitol prison.

Col. Edwin H. Webster, of Harford, has accepted a commission from Gov. Bradford to raise the Seventh Maryland Regiment, and is entering upon his duties with an energy that cannot fail to secure success.

The Richmond Examiner of the 12th inst. says:—"It was confidently asserted on the street corners yesterday that McClellan was evacuating his encampment on James river."

The quota of New Jersey under the draft, is 10,487 men. In the State there are about 70,000 men liable to military duty, so that one in seven will be called upon.

Governor Washburne, of Maine, has received an order from the U. S. War Department to make a draft of 9,699 nine months men. The Governor has asked the authorities at Washington by telegraph, that cities and towns may raise this proportion of the quota by bounties to volunteers, to be received as drafted men, and subject to the rules and regulations of drafted men. It is expected such permission will be granted.

General McCall, who was taken prisoner at the battle of Malvern Hill, reached Baltimore in the Old Point boat yesterday. The other Federal officers captured during the seven days' fighting are to follow immediately.

The order from the U. S. War Department, published to-day, restores General Fremont to the command of a division in the Army of Virginia. The Baltimore American regrets this, and says, Fremont has forfeited public confidence, and the circumstances under which he resigned his last command ought to have insured his dismissal from the army.

It is stated that more than thirty-five thousand men have volunteered in New York under the first call. There is a surplus, above the number required for a regiment, in nearly every district. These will be made the basis of new regiments or companies, under the order of the Governor.

A magnificent ball was given at Saratoga Springs on Tuesday night, and was largely attended. Among the most distinguished patrons of the ball were ex-President and Mrs. Fillmore, Governor and Mrs. Morgan, ex-Governor and Mrs. Hunt, of New York, and ex-Mayor Swann, Mr. and Mrs. Latrobe, Mrs. Gen. O'Donnell, and a number of others from Baltimore, besides a large delegation from Washington and other cities.

The Confederate Gen. Charles S. Winder, who was killed in the late battle near Cedar Mountain, was a native of Talbot county, Md., and about thirty or thirty-two years of age. He was a cousin, (not a nephew) of Gen. John H. Winder, of the Confederate army, commanding in the Henrico district of Virginia. The deceased was a nephew of the late Hon. Edward Lloyd, of Talbot county, Va., and a grandson of ex-Governor Lloyd, deceased, on the mother's side, and a grandson of ex-Governor Levin Winder, of Md., deceased, on the father's side.

The day for beginning the draft of the militia, as designated in Secretary Stanton's order, is Monday, the first day of September ensuing. It will be made between the hours of eight and nine o'clock A. M., and four and five o'clock P. M., and resumed from day to day between the same hours, until completed.

It is said that the Confederate steamer Gen. Kee has been captured near Savannah for an alleged violation of the flag of truce.

It is said that the new postage stamp currency will be delivered by the engravers to the Treasury Department on Tuesday next, and will then be distributed to the depositaries in different parts of the country. No orders should be sent here, but to the nearest depositaries.

Gen. Benham has not been stricken from the rolls as stated, but ordered to report to the chief of the corps of engineers, of which he is a major. It is said that Gen. Turchin has been acquitted by the Court Martial by which he was tried.

Injustice having been done to Capt. Joseph H. Bradley, of the Fifth New York Zouaves, President Lincoln has ordered him to be restored to the service, and of this fact Gov. Morgan will be informed.

A Vicksburg letter says that the streets are beginning to assume their former lively appearance. Refugees are returning to open their places of business, and that all the damages to the city by the Federal shells will be repaired within a month.

Mr. Robert Archibald Dobbin, one of the proprietors of the Baltimore American, died, yesterday afternoon, after a period of much suffering, from disease of the heart, complicated with dropsy. His amiable temperament, bland address and cheerfulness of manner, commended him to the cordial esteem of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.—Mr. Dobbin was in his 56th year, and had been 37 years connected with the American, having in his twentieth year succeeded his father in the proprietorship, who was one of its earliest founders, nearly 70 years since.

The Culpeper correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer says:—"Gen. Banks is so feeble that he has to be carried from one part of the room to the other when wishing to move. The contusion he received upon the battle-field, together with the excessive fatigue of the day, has brought about this condition of affairs."

The Richmond Dispatch of the 12th says:—"An officer who accompanied to this city the soldiers of Pope's command who were captured in the skirmish on Friday, says that he inquired of one of the Yankee officers of the party whether he had read the proclamation of President Davis, and the order of the Adjutant General with reference to the treatment they were to receive. They promptly replied that their business was to obey orders, and not to read the proclamations of Jeff. Davis."

The Quincy, Ill. Herald, of the 12th instant, says:—"An officer of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, who left Macon city, Mo., on Saturday morning, states that 26 Confederate prisoners were shot at Macon city that morning for breaking their parole. By the same authority we learn that twelve other paroled Confederate prisoners will probably suffer a similar fate this morning."

It is feared that the telegraph cable across the Chesapeake Bay has again broken.