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THE POSITION.—It will be seen that, according to General McClellan's dispatches nothing happened during Thursday, beyond skirmishing, and that during Thursday night the enemy retired, leaving his dead and wounded on the field. At 8 o'clock on Friday morning, General McClellan did not know whether the enemy had crossed the river, or had made a move into the interior. But at half past ten o'clock he had ascertained that the enemy was crossing the river, and had sent forces under Gen. Pleasanton, in pursuit. General McClellan claims the result as a "complete victory." It is not worth while to be hypercritical upon hurried dispatches from the battle-field, but it certainly seems, at this distance, that it would have been sufficient to have claimed the result of Wednesday as a "victory" merely. It certainly was that, considering that our army held the field, and that the enemy abandoned his dead and wounded, and that, by retiring across the Potomac, he confesses himself to have been repulsed in his attempt to occupy the Cumberland valley. It was not, however, a "complete" victory, the enemy not having been put in rout, and our own army having been so disabled by the battle as not to be able to move on the following day, as we must suppose it to have been, from the fact that it did not.

That the enemy has escaped so tolerably as he appears to have done, is a disappointment to those who had been so accustomed to talk about "bagging" rebel armies, that they have come to regard it as an easy operation. Thus, the result, as compared with the hopes of those who were very sanguine of annihilating the enemy, is a cause of chagrin, rather than of exultation. But if some hopes on our side have not been realized, is it not certain that still more universal hopes on the other side have been completely dashed by this battle of Wednesday?—*Washington Republican.*

GEN. McCLELLAN'S DISPATCHES.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19—8.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. Halleck, General-in-Chief, U. S. A.—But little occurred yesterday except skirmishing.

Last night the enemy abandoned his position, leaving his dead and wounded on the field.

We are again in pursuit.
I do not know whether he is falling back to an interior position or crossing the river.

We may safely claim a complete victory.
GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, Maj. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 19—10.30 a. m.

Gen. H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief U. S. A.—Pleasanton is driving the enemy across the river.

Our victory was complete.
The enemy is driven back into Virginia.
Maryland and Pennsylvania are now safe.
GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, Maj. Gen.

The reports afloat yesterday, about the capture and killing of Gen. Robert E. Lee, the terrible Confederate loss in crossing the river, &c., are said to be all false.

From Europe.

The steamer Borussia from Southampton on the 10th instant, has arrived.

The Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred had arrived at Brussels. The archbishop of Canterbury and the Earl of Harrington were dead.

The news by the steamer Anglo-Saxon had not the slightest effects on Consols, which were quoted at 93½@93¾ for money. A late dispatch says that Montenegro had accepted all the conditions offered by Omar Pasha. On account of the state of siege at Naples the anniversary of Garibaldi's entry into the city will not be celebrated. The press of Lombardy is in favor of granting an amnesty to Garibaldi and his followers. Garibaldi had requested to be allowed to embark on an English vessel, but nothing had been decided in regard to his disposition. His wounds are very serious.

The Cotton market was irregular and dull and 1d. lower than on Friday last. Flour dull and 6d. lower. Wheat quiet, but steady.—Corn dull and unchanged.

Thursday afternoon three soldiers belonging to the 22d Massachusetts regiment went on the farm of a Mr. George Wilson, near Silver Spring, Md., and attempted to steal some of his pigs, but the old gentleman discovering them, expostulated with them, and at last attempted to pull a pig away from them, when he was knocked down and run through the body with a bayonet by one of the party, from the effects of which he died in a short time.

The President has promoted Brigadier Gen. Robert Schenck to be a Major General.

The President of Liberia was still in Amsterdam when last heard from. Unless he gets letters from America to encourage him to visit that country, he will go back to Liberia by the October steamer.

Some time since Gen. Kearney ordered his officers to wear sewed on their caps, a square bit of red flannel, that he might the more easily recognize them. They have determined to adopt this red badge as an honorary distinction, and their new commander, Gen. Stoneman, approves of it. Field and staff officers wear it on the crown of their caps; line officers on the front of their caps; and privates on the right side.

It will be perceived by the tenor of General McClellan's despatches, that there was no armistice on Thursday, as reports telegraphed from Harrisburg authorized the public to believe.

On the night of September 16th, W. M. Tiffey, of Baltimore, and Wm. A. Gutridge and James Jones, of Westmoreland county, Va., were captured by the commander of U. S. steamer Freeborn, for being engaged in running merchandize from Maryland to Virginia, thereby violating the blockade. They were sent to the Old Capitol. The commander of the Racer, of the Potomac Flotilla on the Maryland side, opposite Aquia Creek, made a similar arrest, within a day or two.

A large number of "contrabands," slaves and free negroes, were captured by the Confederates at Harper's Ferry.

Army Operations.

[Army Correspondence of the Associated Press.]
HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Friday Morning, Sept. 19.

Yesterday was occupied in burying the dead and caring for the wounded. The Confederates sent in a flag of truce in the morning asking permission to bury their own dead which was granted. At first the orders were very stringent against holding intercourse with the Confederates, but during the afternoon they were repealed, and the troops on both sides freely intermingled.

At daylight this morning it was found that the enemy had changed their position.—Whether their whole force had crossed the river, or a new position nearer the river taken, is not at present known. Had they remained a general engagement would have been had this morning.

Some portion of the Pennsylvania militia assembled recently for the defence of their State, object to marching into Maryland to defend Pennsylvania there from invasion. No official information of the fact has reached here, we apprehend, though it is doubtless true.

John Lohmann, a farmer who resides near Munson's Hill, left his home on Wednesday morning last, for Alexandria, with a load of hides and tallow for the Government butchers, expecting to return home the same evening.—Nothing, however, has been heard of him up to this time, although diligent inquiries have been made, both along the road and at Alexandria. Mr. L. is a German, and is a perfectly sober and industrious man, and his disappearance is therefore the more singular.

General Casey, commanding provisional brigades, is ordered to concentrate his command on the Virginia side of the river, in a position suitable for continuing the drill, instruction and discipline, with which he is charged.—Gen. Barry, in addition to his duties as inspector of artillery, has been ordered to report to General Banks as chief of artillery of the defences of Washington.

Adjutant General Thomas has left Washington for Annapolis, on business connected with the large number of paroled prisoners now at that station. There is no doubt he will promptly take the initiative measures for their exchange, as he is the commissioner of the United States for that purpose, and has heretofore satisfactorily performed similar service.

Gen. Pope telegraphs from the West that the Indian difficulties in Minnesota are more formidable than he had anticipated. He asks for authority to have two regiments of volunteers mounted, to pursue the Indian war parties.

The report that has gained currency, through the public prints, that Forrest and his Confederate cavalry were captured near Columbus, Tennessee, is incorrect.

General Joseph E. Johnston has been assigned to a Confederate command west of the Mississippi.