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Mr. Stanton's Dispatches.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20, 9.30 A. M.

Major General Dix, New York:

Yesterday, Major General Sheridan attacked Early, fought a great battle, and won a splendid victory. Over twenty-five hundred prisoners were captured, nine battle flags, and five pieces of artillery. The rebel Gens. Gordon and Rhodes were killed, and three other general officers wounded. All the enemy's killed and most of their wounded have fallen into our hands. The details are stated in the following official telegrams received by this department. The department learns with deep regret that we lost Gen. Russell, killed. Gens. Upton, McIntosh, and Chapman are wounded:

HARPER'S FERRY, VA., Sept. 19, 12 noon.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Sheridan moved on the enemy this morning at daylight. Soon after the movement commenced, heavy and continued firing was heard for two hours. It then ceased, apparently receding; was resumed about nine o'clock, and has continued to this hour, twelve M., apparently in the vicinity of Bunker Hill.

JOHN D. STEVENSON, Brig. Gen.

HARPER'S FERRY, September 19.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Just received report from signal officer as follows:

"Continuous firing between Opequan and near Winchester. Very heavy since 10 A. M. Think engagement is general. Line about five miles long. Averill is heavily engaged with enemy near Darksville."

I have sent a party of scouts and couriers to front. Shall report promptly all reliable news.

JNO. D. STEVENSON, Brig. Gen.

HARPER'S FERRY, VA., Sept. 19, 4.30 P. M.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Fighting in the direction of Winchester much heavier. Our forces near Bunker Hill seem to be driving the enemy rapidly.

JOHN D. STEVENSON, Brig. Gen.

HARPER'S FERRY, Sept. 19, 7 P. M.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Just heard from the front. Our cavalry, under Generals Averill and Merritt, engaged Breckinridge's corps at Darksville at daylight, and up to 1 o'clock had driven him beyond Stevenson's Depot, a distance of seven miles, killing and wounding quite a number, and capturing two hundred prisoners from Gordon's division. On centre and left the enemy were driven about three miles beyond the Opequan, into a line of earthworks, our infantry attacking them in position. Since then, as the officer left, he could distinctly hear heavy musketry firing, and continuous and heavy artillery firing as he came in.

We have heard here heavy artillery firing, still continuing to this hour. Every indication is most favorable to us.

JOHN D. STEVENSON, Brig. Gen.

HARPER'S FERRY, Sept. 20, 7.40 A. M.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Just heard from the front. Sheridan has defeated the enemy heavily, killing and wounding five thousand, capturing twenty five hundred prisoners, five pieces of artillery, five battle flags.

The rebel Gens. Gordon and Rhodes were killed, and York wounded.

Our loss is about two thousand.

Gen. Russell, of the 6th corps, was killed.— Gen. McIntosh lost a leg.

The enemy escaped up the valley, under cover of night.

Sheridan is in Winchester.

J. D. STEVENSON, Brig. Gen.

Major General Sheridan transmits to Gen. Grant the following official report, just received by the department:

WINCHESTER, VA., Sept. 19, 7.30 P. M.

Lieutenant General U. S. Grant:

I have the honor to report that I attacked the forces of Gen. Early over the Berryville pike, at the crossing of Opequan Creek, and, after a most stubborn and sanguinary engagement, which lasted from early in the morning until five o'clock in the evening, completely defeated him, driving him through Winchester, and capturing about twenty five hundred prisoners, five pieces of artillery, nine army flags, and most of their wounded.

The rebel Generals Rhodes and Gordon were killed, and three other general officers wounded.

Most of the enemy's wounded, and all of their killed fell into our hands.

Our losses are severe; among them General D. A. Russell, commanding a division in the 6th corps, who was killed by a cannon ball.— Gens. Upton, McIntosh, and Chapman were wounded. I cannot yet tell our losses.

The conduct of the officers and men was most superb; they charged and carried every position taken up by the rebels from Opequan Creek to Winchester. The rebels were strong in numbers, and very obstinate in their fighting.

I desire to mention to the Lieutenant General commanding the army, the gallant conduct of Gens. Wright, Crook, Emory, Torbert, and the officers and men under their command; to them the country is indebted for this handsome victory.

A more detailed report will be forwarded.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Major General Commanding.

Full details of casualties will be given when received by this department.

EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20, 9 P. M.

To Major General Dix, New York:

The following is the latest intelligence received from Gen. Sheridan:

"HARPER'S FERRY, VA., Sept. 20, 8 P. M.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

The body of Gen. Russell has arrived; as soon as embalmed it will be forwarded to New York.

Gen. McIntosh, with a leg amputated, has just come in. He is in good spirits. Several officers from the front report the number of prisoners in excess of three thousand. The number of battle flags captured was fifteen instead of nine. All concur that it was a complete route. Our cavalry started in pursuit at daylight this morning. Sheridan, when last heard from, was at Kearns town.

I sent forward, this morning, ample medical supplies, and full subsistence for the entire army goes forward. If you do not hear from me often, it will be because of the distance we are from the scene of action, and because I send you only such information as I esteem reliable. "JNO. D. STEVENSON, Brig. Gen."

The President has appointed Gen. Sheridan a brigadier in the regular army, and assigned

him to the permanent command of the Middle Military Division. Gen. Grant has ordered the armies under his command to fire a salute of one hundred guns at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning, in honor of Sheridan's great victory.

A dispatch just received from Gen. Sherman at Atlanta says: "Everything continues well with us."

The reports of to-day show that the draft is proceeding quietly in all the States. In most of the districts vigorous efforts are continued to fill the quota by volunteers before the drafted men are mustered in.

EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War.

The steamer Keyport Capt. E. S. Talbert, formerly running between Baltimore and this place, and lately employed in the U. S. government service between Washington and James River, while coming out of the channel at Fortress Monroe, on Monday, ran against an anchor left there by the wreckers, and stove in her bottom. She filled rapidly, and it was found necessary to run her on the flats, where she sank in twelve feet water a few moments after the accident. All on board were saved, and wreckers have been sent to raise her.

The National Intelligencer thinks that the surprise expressed in many quarters at the present course of Mr. Edward Everett might perhaps have been well placed, considering the obloquy with which Mr. Everett has been pursued by the leaders of the party to which he has now lent the use of his name, if it was not known that he had more than three months ago committed himself to the support of Mr. Lincoln.

Extracts from Richmond papers to the 16th instant, are given in the New York papers.— These state that on the 14th Petersburg was shelled, but no damage done; that Grant's left wing still holds the Weldon Railroad, but that it does not give the Confederates much inconvenience; that the negroes at work on the Dutch Gap canal were shelled by the Confederates last Wednesday, with what damage is not known.

Hon. Ben. Wood, in the New York News, of yesterday, says that "he will cast no vote for President upon the 8th of November, unless there be a candidate in the field standing fairly upon the Chicago platform, and the Day News cannot consistently advise its readers to vote in opposition to the principles enunciated by the Chicago Convention. The strength of the peace party will be realized in their absence from the polls."

The steamer M. B. Smith, which reached Beverly, Massachusetts, on Saturday last reports, on the authority of the schooner W. H. Lovett, the destruction, on the 7th instant, of a number of vessels off the banks of Newfoundland, by a Confederate steamer.

Dr. Bowles, of Bowles Springs, Ind., has been arrested by order of Major General Hovey, on the charge of treason.