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THE CAMPAIGN IN VIRGINIA.

THE GREAT BATTLE.

The Washington papers of yesterday evening publish extracts taken from Richmond papers of the 7th giving Gen. Lee's dispatches and the Confederate version of the great struggle now in progress.

Official Dispatch from Gen. Lee.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY NORTHERN VIRGINIA, May 5, 1864.—Hon. Secretary of War: The enemy crossed the Rapidan yesterday at Ely's and Germanus' fords. Two corps of this army moved to meet him—Ewell by the old turapike and Hill by the plank road.

They arrived this morning in close proximity to the enemy's line of march. A strong attack was made upon Ewell, who repulsed it, capturing many prisoners and four pieces of artillery.

The enemy subsequently concentrated on Gen. Hill, who with Heath's and Wilcox's divisions, successfully resisted repeated and desperate assaults. A large force of cavalry and artillery on our right flank were driven back by Rosser's brigade. By the blessing of God we maintained our position against every effort until night, when the contest closed.

We have to mourn the loss of many brave officers and men. The gallant Brig. General J. M. Jones was killed, and Brig. Gen. Stafford I fear mortally wounded, while leading his command with conspicuous valor.

Signed, R. E. LEE.

The Enquirer of the 7th says that about 1,700 Yankee prisoners have arrived at Orange Court House, and claims that the Confederates were successful in the Friday's fight, and pushed Grant back to near Chancellorsville. Dispatches in the Richmond papers all show that as late as Friday Gen. Lee's headquarters remained at Orange Court House.

The Richmond papers of the 7th contain the following dispatches:

A despatch dated one P. M. yesterday, from Guiney's Depot, on the Fredericksburg road, ten miles this side of Hamilton's Crossings, says that Rosser's brigade repulsed one division of the enemy's cavalry on the extreme left of the Mine Run entrenchments. Thursday afternoon, Rosser lost two men killed and twenty wounded in driving the enemy's cavalry back to their infantry support. Heavy cannonading is heard in the direction of the main army.

The following despatch, dated at Orange Court House, yesterday morning, has been courteously furnished us for publication: "Col. H. Hill, Pay Department:

"We are driving the Yankees at all points this morning. General A. P. Hill and staff are all safe. E. B. HILL."

This despatch is very gratifying, as the enemy had concentrated on General Hill's corps, and, on Thursday evening, made repeated assaults, which were successfully resisted.

Reviewing the whole field with the present lights we have cause of thankfulness to the Supreme Ruler of events for the bright prospect before us and of gratitude to the brave soldiers who are so gallantly resisting the onward march of the hated and barbarous foe.

ORANGE C. H., May 6.—A considerable engagement occurred yesterday about twenty miles below here, near Parker's store, on the plank road, between part of Ewell's corps and the 5th corps of Yankee infantry, including Sykes' regulars. The engagement lasted from 12 o'clock until night. Our troops repulsed the enemy most handsomely, capturing nine hundred and eighty-one privates and forty one commissioned officers, who have arrived here.

General J. M. Jones and Colonel Warren, of the 10th Virginia, were killed, and Gen. Stafford mortally wounded.

ORANGE C. H., May 6.—The attack by the enemy this morning was very violent. They were repulsed in every instance. A strong effort was made to turn our right. We drove them on our left, but they were stubborn on their right, until Longstreet finally forced them to give way. General Longstreet received a severe wound in the shoulder. General Paul Jenkins was mortally wounded. The fighting was principally with musketry, the ground being unsuitable to artillery.

Colonel Brown, of the Virginia artillery, was killed.

The battle was fought near the Wilderness. The enemy have been pushed back to Chancellorsville. Everything looks well. A full account will be sent to-morrow. The Yankee General Wadsworth was killed. Seventeen hundred prisoners have been received here.

The following casualties are reported: Gen. Longstreet painfully wounded in the shoulder; Brig. Gen. Paul Jenkins, of South Carolina, mortally wounded; Col. J. Thompson Brown, of the 1st Virginia artillery, was shot through the head and killed outright; Col. Warren, 8th Virginia; Cols. Miller, Nance, and Garther, of South Carolina, were killed. Gen. Battle's Alabama and Jordan's Georgia brigades suffered severely. Col. Randolph of Virginia, was also killed. Gen. J. M. Jones, of Virginia, killed.

The Enquirer says that Generals Jenkins and Longstreet were wounded by their own men, through mistake. Gen. Walker, of the Stonewall Brigade, and Gen. Gen. H. Stewart, of Maryland, are reported killed, General Renning, wounded.

The Richmond papers state that General Lee has taken from four to five thousand prisoners, including the 9th Penn. Reserves, who were captured in charging through an abatis.

From the letter of McBride, the correspondent of the Washington Chronicle, with the army of the Potomac, we make the following extracts. The letter is dated, headquarters of the Army of the Potomac yesterday, and says: "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 movements since crossing the Rapidan may have seemed erratic to the soldiers, who counted the miles marched over by hundreds. All the battles thus far have been a series of attacks and repulses. Musketry was almost

entirely used. The ground being swampy, artillery was impracticable. Lee very ably eludes a victory, when he withdrew from our front and marched toward 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 the support. The fighting was exceedingly fierce. Gen. Torbett and Gen. Robinson were both wounded, and are now on their way to Washington.

I regret to announce the death of so valuable and efficient an officer as General Sedgwick. He was shot through the head this morning, while superintending the mounting of some heavy guns in an angle the men had just prepared. There was no skirmishing at the time, but an occasional sharpshooter sent a bullet in that direction, which caused the cannonier to wince and dodge. General Sedgwick was near by, with some of his staff, and twitted the man about his nervousness. "Poh! ma," he said, "they can't hit an elephant at that distance." Immediately after, the ball struck him, and the blood began to ooze from his nostrils. He smiled serenely, and fell dead in the arms of his assistant adjutant general.

His body, and Gen. Hays', have been forwarded to Washington.

In these several encounters with the rebels we have lost the present use of over 35,000 men. In Fredericksburg, at this writing, there are over 12,000 of our wounded. Sunday morning they began crawling into the town. Mr. Slaughter, mayor of the city, and Mr. Marye, of the celebrated heights near Fredericksburg, in the full zeal of their patriotic hearts, rallied a few guerrillas and marched 300 of our wounded into the rebel lines.—Major Slaughter and several other prominent citizens are now in the guard house at Fredericksburg. Pantons float on the Rappahannock below Fredericksburg. To Aquia Creek, where the transports lie, is eight miles.—Guerrillas abound throughout the country.

A report gained credence here this (Tuesday) morning, that our cavalry had captured a train of cars near Guiney's Station, sent from Richmond for the rebel wounded. The track was torn up."

WASHINGTON, May 10.—To Major General Dix: Dispatches have been received this evening from Gen. Grant, dated at 11 o'clock yesterday. The enemy made a stand at Spotsylvania Court House. Some hard fighting, but no general battle has yet taken place there.

I deeply regret to announce that Major Gen. Sedgwick was killed in yesterday's engagement at Spotsylvania, being struck by a ball from a sharpshooter. His remains are at Fredericksburg and are expected here to night.

The army is represented to be in excellent condition and with ample supplies. General Robinson and General Morris are wounded.—No other casualties to general officers are reported. General Wright has been placed in command of General Sedgwick's corps.

Gen. Grant did not design to renew the attack to-day, being engaged in replenishing from the supply train so as to leave without them. Signed, E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, May 10, 2. A. M.—General Meade again moved on the enemy, and had a brisk fight at Todd's Tavern, just north of Po