

**MR. STANTON'S DISPATCH.**

WASHINGTON, June 15 - 7 a. m. - To Major General Dix, New York: The movement of the Army of the Potomac to the south side of Richmond, across the Chickahominy river and James river, has progressed far enough to admit of the publication of some general facts without danger of premature disclosure.

After several days' preliminary preparations, the movement commenced Sunday night. The 18th corps, under command of Gen. Smith, marched to the White House, and there embarked on transports for Bermuda Landing. Wright's corps and Burnside's moved to Jones' Bridge, where they crossed the Chickahominy, and marched thence to Charles City, on the James river.

Hancock's and Warren's corps crossed the Chickahominy at Long Bridge, and marched thence to Wilcox, on the James River.

The James river was to be crossed by the army at Powhattan Point.

A dispatch from Gen. Grant, dated Monday evening, half-past 5 o'clock, headquarters, Wilcox's Landing, says that the advance of our troops had reached that place, and would commence crossing the James river to-morrow (Tuesday), and that Smith's corps would commence arriving at City Point that night; that no fighting was reported during the movement, except a little cavalry skirmishing yesterday.

Tuesday p. m., at one o'clock, Gen. Grant was at Bermuda Landing.

In a dispatch from him dated there of that date, he says:

Our forces will commence crossing James river to-day. The enemy show no signs of yet having brought troops to the south side of Richmond.

Our movement from Cold Harbor to the James river has been made with great celerity, and so far without loss or accident.

An official dispatch, dated at General Butler's headquarters, 2.20 p. m., says that Smith's corps was coming in, 5,000 having already landed.

A dispatch from General Sherman's headquarters, dated at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, near Kenesewa, states that the General is in front, advancing his lines on Kenesewa.

Another unofficial dispatch dated at 9 o'clock last night reports some advance to-day, that Thomas has gained ground, and that one rebel brigade is nearly surrounded. It further states that the rebel Gen. Polk was killed to-day and his body sent to Marietta.

In another part of General Sherman's East Mississippi division, our forces have not met with the success that has attended competent commanders.

General Washburne at Memphis reports that the expedition consisting of 3,000 cavalry, 5,000 infantry, and 16 pieces of artillery, sent out from there under command of Gen. Sturgis, encountered a large Rebel force on the 10th instant under command of Forrest at Gun-town, on the railroad running south from Corinth, and after a severe fight, in which our loss in killed and wounded was heavy, our troops were worsted, that at the latest accounts Sturgis was at Colliersville retreating towards Memphis. He further states that with the troops that had lately arrived, Memphis is safe.

Gen. Sherman having received news of Sturgis's defeat reports that he has already made arrangements to repair the disaster and placed Gen. A. J. Smith in command, who will resume the offensive immediately.

No other military intelligence has been received by this Department since my last telegram.

EDWIN M. STANTON,  
Secretary of War.

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