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REBEL

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TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 12, 1863.

The Battle of Murfreesborough.

GEN. BRECKINRIDGE'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS BRECKINRIDGE'S DIVISION, January —, 1863.

Major T. B. Roy, A. A. Gen'l:

—SIR—I have the honor to report the operations of this division of Lieut. Gen. Hardee's corps, in the recent battles of Stone river, in front of Murfreesboro.

The character and course of Stone river, and the nature of the ground in front of the town, are well known, and as the report of the General commanding will no doubt be accompanied by a sketch, it is not necessary to describe them here. On the morning of Sunday, the 28th of December, the brigades, moved from their encampment, and took up line of battle about one and a half miles from Murfreesboro, in the following order: Adams' brigade on the right, with its right resting on the Lebanon road and its left extending toward the ford over Stone river, a short distance below the destroyed bridge on the Nashville Turnpike; Preston's on the left of Adams'; Palmer on the left of Preston, and Hanson forming the left of the line, with his left resting on the right bank of the river, near the ford. The right of Major General Withers, of Lieut. Gen. Polk's corps, rested near the left bank of the river, and slightly in advance of Hanson's left. Brig. Gen. Jackson having reported to me with his command, was placed by the direction of the Lieut. Gen. commanding upon the east side of the Lebanon road, on commanding ground, a little in advance of the right of Brig. Gen. Adams. My division formed the front line of the right wing of the army. Maj. Gen. Cleburne's division, drawn up some six hundred yards in rear, formed the second line of the same wing; while the division of Maj. Gen. McCown, under the immediate direction of the General commanding, composed the reserve. My line extended from left to right along the edge of a forest, save an open space of four hundred yards, which was occupied by Wright's battery, of Preston's brigade, with the 20th Tennessee in reserve to support it. An open field eight hundred yards in width, extended along the whole front of the line, and was bounded on the opposite side by a line of forest, similar to that occupied by us. In the opinion of the Lieut. General commanding, (who had twice ridden carefully over the ground with me,) and the general commanding, who had personally inspected the ground, it was the strongest position the nature of the ground would allow. About six hundred yards in front of Hanson's centre was an eminence which it was deemed important to hold. It commanded the ground sloping towards the river in its front, and on its left, and also the plain on the west bank, occupied by Withers' line. Col. Hunt, with the 41st Alabama, the 6th and 7th Kentucky, and Cobb's battery, all of Hanson's brigade, was ordered to take and hold the hill, which he did, repulsing several brisk attacks of the enemy, and losing some excellent officers and men. A few hundred yards to the left and rear of this position a small earth work thrown up, under the direction of Major Graves, my chief of artillery, was held during a part of the operations by Semple's battery of Napoleon guns. On the afternoon of Tuesday, the 30th, I received intelligence from Lieut. Gen. Hardee that the divisions of Cleburne and McCown were to be transferred to the extreme left, and soon after an order came to me, from the General commanding, to hold the hill at all hazards. I immediately moved the remainder of Hanson's brigade to the hill, and strengthened Cobb's battery with a section of Lumsden's battery, and a section from the Washington artillery. At the same time Adams' brigade was moved from the right and formed on the ground originally occupied by Hanson's brigade. Jackson was moved to the west side of the Lebanon road, to connect with the general line of battle. All the ground east of Stone river was now to be held by one division, which, in a single line, did not extend from the ford to the Lebanon road. I did not change my general line, since a position in advance, besides being less favorable in other respects, would have widened considerably the interval between my right and the Lebanon road. The enemy did not again attack the hill with infantry, but our troops there continued to suffer during the operations from heavy shelling.

Our artillery at that position often did good service in diverting the enemy's fire from our attacking lines of infantry, and especially so on Wednesday, 31st, succeeded in breaking several of their formations on the west bank of the river. On the morning of Wednesday the 31st the battle opened on our left. From my front, information came to me from Pegram's cavalry force in advance, that the enemy, having crossed at the ford below, were moving on my position in line of battle. This proved to be incorrect, and it is to be regretted that sufficient care was not taken by the author of the reports to discriminate rumor from fact. About 10½ o'clock, a. m., I received a suggestion through Col. J. Stoddard Johnston, from the General comd'g, to move against the enemy, instead of awaiting his attack. I find that Col. Johnston regarded it as an order, but as I moved at once, it is not material. I preferred to fight on the ground I then occupied, but supposing that the object of the General was to create a diversion in favor of our left, my line, except Hanson's brigade, was put in motion in the direction from which the enemy was supposed to be advancing. We had marched about half a mile when I received, through Col. Johnston, another order from the General comd'g, to send at least one brigade to the support of Lt. Gen. Polk, who was hard pressed, and as I recollect, two if I could spare them. I immediately sent Adams' and Jackson's, and at the same time suspended my movement, and sent forward Capt. Blackburn with several of my escort, and Capt. Coleman and Lieut. Banagh, of my staff, with orders to find and report with certainty, the position and movements of the enemy.

Soon after an order came from the General commanding to continue the movement. The line again advanced, but had not proceeded far when I received an order from the General commanding, through Col. Johnston, repeated by Col. Grenfell, to leave Hanson in position on the hill, and with the remainder of my command, to report at once to Lt. Gen. Polk.

The brigades of Preston and Palmer were immediately moved by the flank towards the ford before referred to, and and the order of the General executed with great rapidity. In the meantime riding forward, to the position occupied by the General commanding and Lt. Gen. Polk, near the west bank of the river, and a little below the ford, I arrived in time to see at a distance the brigades of Jackson and Adams recoiling from a very hot fire of the enemy. I was directed by Lt. Gen. Polk to form my line with its right resting on the river, and its left extending across the open field, crossing the Nashville turnpike, almost at a right angle. While my troops were crossing the river and getting into line, I rode forward with a portion of my staff, assisted by gentlemen of the staff of Gens. Bragg and Polk, to rally and form Adams's brigade, which was falling back chiefly between the turnpike and the river. Jackson, much cut up, had retired further towards our left.

The brigade of Brig. Gen. Adams was rallied and placed in line across the field, behind a low and very imperfect breast work of earth and rails. These brigades did not again enter the action that day (which opened close with the charge of Preston and Palmer.) They had suffered severely in an attack upon superior numbers, very strongly posted, and sustained by numerous and powerful batteries, which had repulsed all preceeding assaults. The list of casualties show the courage and determination of these troops. Gen. Adams having received a wound while gallantly leading his brigade, the command devolved upon Col. R. L. Gibson, who discharged its duties throughout with courage and skill. Preston and Palmer being now in line, Preston on the right, Lt. Gen. Polk directed me to advance across the plain, until I encountered the enemy. The right of my line rested on the river (and from the course of the stream would in advancing rest on or very near it,) while the left touched a skirt of woods, from which the enemy had been driven during the day. At the opposite extremity of the plain a cedar brake extended in front of Palmer's whole line—and two thirds of Preston's line—the remaining space to the river being comparatively open, with commanding swells, and through this ran the railroad and turnpike nearly side by side. It was supposed that the enemy's line was parallel to ours, but the result showed that in advancing our right and his left at the point of contact would form an acute angle.

These two brigades passing over the troops lying behind the rails, moved across the plain in very fine order under the fire of the enemy's artillery. We had advanced but a short distance when Col O'Hara (my acting Adj't. Gen.) called my attention to a new battery in the act of taking position in front of our right, between the turnpike and the river. I immediately sent him back to find some artillery to engage the enemy's battery. He found and placed in position the Washington artillery. About the same time Capt. E. P. Byrne reported his battery to me, and received an order to take the best position he could find, and engage the enemy. He succeeded in opening on them after our line had passed forward. A number of officers and men were killed along the whole line, but in this charge the chief loss fell upon Preston's right and centre. His casualties amounted to one hundred and fifty five. The 20th Tennessee, after driving the enemy on the right of the turnpike, and taking 25 prisoners, was compelled to fall back before a very heavy artillery and musketry fire, Col. Smith, commanding, being severely wounded, but it kept the prisoners and soon rejoined the command. The 4th Florida and 60th North Carolina encountered serious difficulty at a burnt house (Cowan's) on the left of the turnpike, from fences and other obstacles, and were for a little while thrown into some confusion. Here for several minutes they were exposed to a destructive and partially enfilading fire at short range of artillery and infantry. But they were soon rallied by their gallant brigade commander, and rushing with cheers across the intervening space, entered the cedar glade. The enemy had retired from the cedars and was in position in a field to the front and right. By changing the front of the command slightly forward, to the right, my line was brought parallel to that of the enemy, and was formed near the edge of the cedars. About this time meeting Lt. Gen. Hardee, we went together to the edge of the field to examine the position of the enemy, and found him strongly posted in two lines of battle, supported by numerous batteries. One of his lines had the protection of the railroad cut, forming an excellent breastwork. We had no artillery, the nature of the ground forbidding its use. It was deemed reckless to attack with the force present. Night was now approaching. Presently the remainder of Lt. Gen. Hardee's corps came up on the left, and with McCown's command, and a part of Cheatham's prolonged the line of battle in that direction. Adams' brigade also appeared, and formed on the right of Preston's. The troops bivouacked in position. The commanding General expecting an attack upon his right the next morning, ordered me during the night to recross the river with Palmer's brigade. Before daylight Thursday morning Palmer was in position on the right of Hanson. No general engagement occured on this day, the troops generally being employed in replenishing the ammunition, cooking rations and obtaining some repose. On Friday the 2d of January, being desirous to ascertain if the enemy was establishing himself on the east bank of the river, Lt. Col. Buckner and Maj. Graves, with Capt. Byrnes' battery and a portion of the Washington artillery, under Lt. D. C. Vaught, went forward to our line of skirmishers, towards the right and engaged those of the enemy who had advanced, perhaps a thousand yards from the east bank of the river. They soon revealed a strong line of skirmishers, which was driven back a considerable distance by our sharpshooters and artillery, the latter firing several houses in the fields in which the enemy had taken shelter. At the same time, accompanied by Major Pickett of Lt. Gen. Hardee's staff, and by Maj. Wilson, Col. O'Hara, and Lt. Breckinridge, of my own, I proceeded towards the left of our line of skirmishers, which passed through a thick wood, about 500 yards in front of Hanson's position and extended to the river. Directing Capt. Basche, of the 9th, and Capt. Steel, of the 4th Kentucky, to drive back the enemy's skirmishers, we were enabled to see that he was occupying, with infantry and artillery, the crest of a gentle slope on the east bank of the river. The course of the crest formed a little less than a right-angle with Hanson's line, from which, the centre of the position, I was afterwards ordered to attack, was distant about 1600 yards, it extended along ground partly open and part woodland. While we were endeavoring to ascertain the force of the enemy and the relation of the ground on the east to that on the west bank of the river, I received an order from the commanding General to report to him in person. I found him on the west bank, near the ford below the bridge, and received from him an order to form my division in two lines, and take the crest I have just described with the infantry. After doing this, I was to bring up the artillery and establish it on the crest so as at once to hold it, and enfilade the enemy's lines on the other side of the river. Pegram and Wharton, who, with some cavalry and a battery, were beyond the point where my right would rest, when the new line of battle should be formed, were directed, as the General informed me to protect my right and co operate in the attack. Capt. Robertson was ordered to report to me with his own and Semple's batteries of Napoleon guns. Captain Wright, who, with his battery, had been detached some days before, was ordered to join his brigade (Preston's). The brigades of Adams and Preston, which were left on the west side of the river on Wednesday night, had been ordered to rejoin me. At the moment of my advance, our artillery in the centre and on the left was to open on the enemy—one gun from our centre was the signal for the attack. The commanding General desired that the movement should be made with the least possible delay. It was now 2½ o'clock, p. m. Two of the brigades had to march two miles, the other two about one mile. Brig. Gen. Pillow having reported for duty was assigned by the commanding General to Palmer's brigade, and that fine officer resumed command of his regiment, and was three times wounded in the ensuing engagement. The 5th Kentucky and Cobb's battery, under the command of Col. Hunt, were left to hold the hill so often referred to. The division, after deducting the losses of Wednesday, the troops left on the hill, and companies on special service, consisted of some forty five hundred men.

It was drawn up in two lines, the first in a narrow skirt of woods, the second two hundred yards in rear. Pillow and Hanson formed the first line. Pillow on the right. Preston supported Pillow, and Adams' brigade, commanded by Col Gibson, supported Hanson.

The artillery was placed in rear of the second line, under orders to move with it, and occupy the summit of the slope, as soon as the infantry could reach the enemy. Feeling anxious about my right, I sent two staff officers in succession to command it with Pegram and Wharton, but received no intelligence up to the moment of assault.

The interval between my first and the troops on the hill was already too great, but I had a battery to watch it, with a small infantry support. There was nothing to prevent the enemy from observing nearly all our movements and preparations. To reach him it was necessary to cross an open space six or seven hundred yards in width, with no entanglement. The river was several hundred yards in rear of his position, but deserted from it considerably as it flowed toward his left. I had been informed by the commanding general that he would be ready to advance at 4 o'clock and precisely at that hour the signal gun was heard from our centre. Instantly the troops moved forward at a quick step, and in admirable order. The first line had bayonets fixed, with orders to deliver one volley and then use the bayonet. The fire of the enemy's artillery on the right and in the rear commenced as soon as the troops entered the open ground.

When less than half the distance across the field the quick eye of Col. O'Hara discovered a force extending considerably beyond our right. I immediately directed Major Graves to move a battery to our right, and open on them. He at once advanced Wright's battery, and effectually checked their movement. Before our line reached the enemy's position, his artillery fire had become heavy, accurate and destructive. Many officers and men fell before we closed with their infantry, yet our brave fellows pushed forward with the utmost determination, and, after a brief but bloody conflict, routed both of the opposing lines, took four hundred prisoners and several flags, and drove their artillery and the great body of their infantry across the river. Many were killed at the water's edge. Their artillery took time by the forelock in crossing the stream. A few of our men, in their ardor, actually crossed over before they could be prevented, most of whom subsequently moving up under the west bank recrossed at a ford, three quarters of a mile above. The second line had halted when the first engaged the enemy's infantry and I did not order it forward. But very soon the casualties in the first line, the fact that the artillery on the opposite bank was more fatal to the second line than the first, and the eagerness of the troops impelled them forward, all at the decisive moment, when the opposing infantry was routed, the two lines had mingled into one—the only practicable one, the advantage of which was that at several periods the ranks were deeper than is allowed by a proper military formation. A strong force of the enemy beyond our extreme right yet remained on the east side of the river. Presently a new line of battle appeared on the west bank, directly opposite our troops, and opened fire, while at the same time large masses crossed in front of our right, and advanced to the attack. We were compelled to fall back.

As soon as our infantry had won the ridge, Major Graves advanced the artillery of the division and opened fire, at the same time Capt. Robertson threw forward Semple's battery to our right, which did excellent service. He did not advance his own battery, (which was to have taken position on our left) supposing that that part of the field had not been cleared of the enemy's infantry.

All hope of success was lost, since the enemy had been driven across the river, yet I regarded it as certain that the battery was to be brought forward. It would have been a vain contest. It now appeared to us the ground we had won was commanded by the enemy's batteries, within easy range on better ground upon the other side of the river. I know not how many guns he had. He had enough to sweep the whole position from the front, the left and the right, and to render it wholly untenable by our force present of artillery and infantry. The infantry after passing the crest and descending the slope towards the river were in some measure protected, and suffered less at the period of the action than the artillery. We lost three guns nearly all the horses being killed, and not having the time or men to draw them off by hand. One was lost because there was but one boy left (Corporal Wright of Wright's battery,) to remove the piece and his strength was unequal to it. The command fell back in some disorder, but without the slightest appearance of panic, and reformed behind Robertson's battery in the narrow skirt of timber from which we emerged to the assault. The enemy did not advance beyond the position in which he received our attack. My skirmishers continued to occupy part of the field on which we advanced until the army retired from Murfreesboro'. The action lasted about one hour and twenty minutes. As our lines advanced to the attack several rounds of artillery were heard from our centre, apparently directed against the enemy on the west bank of the river. About twilight Brig. Gen. Anderson reported to me with his brigade, and remained in position with me until the army retired. I took up line of pickets for the night a little in rear of the field over which we advanced to the assault, and Capt. Robertson at my request disposed the artillery in the positions indicated for it. Many of the reports do not discriminate between the losses of Wednesday and Friday. The total loss in my division, exclusive of Jackson's command, is 2140 of which I think 1500 occured on Friday. The loss of the enemy on this day was I think greater than our own, since he suffered in immense slaughter between the ridge and the river.

I cannot forbear expressing my admiration for the courage and constancy of the troops, exhibited even after it became apparent that the main object could not be accomplished.

Beyond the general good conduct a number of enlisted men showed at different periods of the action the most heroic bravery. I respectfully suggest that authority be given to select a certain number of the most distinguished in each brigade to be recommended to the President for promotion. I cannot enumerate the brave officers who fell, nor the living who nobly did their duty; yet I may be permitted to lament, in common with the army, the premature death, of Brig. Gen. Hanson, who received a mortal wound at the moment the enemy began to give way. Endeared to his friends by his private virtues and to his command by the vigilance with which he guarded its interest and honor, he was by the universal testimony of his military associates one of the most efficient officers that adorned the service of the Confederate states. Upon his fall the command devolved upon Col. Trabue, who, in another organization, had led and ably commanded most of the regiments composing the brigade. I cannot close without expressing my obligations to the gentlemen of my staff. They require no formal acknowledgment. I can never forget that during all the operations they were ever prompt and energetic by night and day in conveying orders, conducting to their positions regiments and brigades, rallying troops on the field, and indeed in the discharge of every duty. It gives me pleasure to name Lt. Col. Buckner, A. A. General, who was absent on leave but returned upon the first rumor of battle—Col. O'Hara Acting Adjutant General—Lieut. Breckinridge, aid de camp—Major Graves, Chief of Artillery (twice wounded and his horse shot under him)—Capt. Semple Ord. officer—Major Wilson Asst. Insp'r Gen. (horse shot)—Lt. Dargan (severely wounded)—Capt. Martin and Coleman of my volunteer staff were active and efficient. The former had his horse killed under him. Mr. Henry and Pendleton, Civil officers and Medical inspectors were unremitting in attention to the wounded. Dr. Stanhope Breckinridge, Asst. Surgeon, accompanied by Headquarters, passed his duties through the fire of Wednesday. Mr. Buckner and R. Zantzinger of Kentucky, attached themselves to me for the occasion, and were active and efficient. Capt. Blackburn, commanding my escort, ever cool and vigilant, rendered essential service, and made usual bold reconnoissances. Corporal Chenford, of the escort, acting as my orderly in which capacity he displayed much gallantry and intelligence. The army retired before day-break on the morning of the 4th of January. My division moving on the Manchester road was the rear of Hardee's corps. The 9th Ky., 41st Ala., and Cobb's battery all under the command of Col. Hunt formed a special rear guard. The enemy did not follow us. My acknowledgements are due to Col. J. Stoddard Johnston, Lieut. Col. Brent and Lieut. Colonel of Gen. Bragg's staff and to Major Pickett of Lieut Gen. Hardee's staff, for services on Friday the 2d day of January.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Major General C. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
MOBILE, May 4, 1863.

To the Citizens and Residents of Mobile and South Alabama:

The call I made upon you in December last to organize for purposes of local defence has been but imperfectly responded to. Since that period, strong and extensive fortifications have been constructed, which would enable the citizens alone, with but slight assistance from the Army, to hold Mobile against a formidable attack. I now call upon you again to organize into companies, battalions and regiments. Positions in the works will be assigned you. Your duties will be limited to the defence of your own homes. Without an organization in advance of an attack you can do nothing, unless to excite the fears of the women and children who have a right to look to you for protection. Many of you have deferred your organization because, in your opinion, "the time had not come." I hope you will agree with me that "the time has now come." If you were now organized Mobile might rest secure in her strength. A prompt response to this call will and render her secure. Delay will endanger your homes, and expose those who are most dear to you to the insults of an enemy whose history has never shown them capable of a generous or magnanimous act. Imitate your brothers of Charleston and Savannah, of South Carolina and Georgia. At the signal of danger in those cities, the youth of sixteen and the veteran of eighty alike responded to the call. Will you permit it to be recorded in history that you are less patriotic than the citizens of your sister cities? If any citizen or resident of Mobile still thinks that the time has not come for him to make preparations to defend his home, let him make arrangements at once for leaving the city when danger arrives. No man who is able to bear arms will then be permitted to remain unless he belongs to a military organization.

Men of South Alabama, Mobile is one of the frontiers which covers your own homes. Organize yourselves into companies to aid her patriotic citizens in her defence. Citizens of Alabama, if you but discharge the duty which your noble women and your country have a right to expect, I can assure you of the safety of this important point. But as you friend, let me entreat you not to sleep in security when vigilance and organization should be your motto. Report the condition of companies immediately to Brigadier Gen. Slaughter, who is hereby charged with the organization.

S. B. BUCKNER,
Major General Commanding.

THE SITUATION IN MISSOURI.—Telegrams are occasionally received from the West, giving some account of an invasion of Southeast Missouri; but their meagreness renders it impossible to gather from them any definite idea of the situation. A St. Louis correspondent of the New York World avers that the particulars of the invasion are as follows:

The rebel General Marmaduke, the successor and imitator of the redoubtable Jeff. Thompson, has made his way up from Pacahontas to Patterson, Mo., with about two thousand horsemen. On reaching Patterson, our forces under Co. Stuart, consisting of four hundred Missouri cavalry, retreated before them. The rebels attempted to flank them, succeeding only, however, in getting hold of the rear guard under Major McDonnell. In the running fight which occurred we have had some thirty or forty men disabled and the enemy about the same loss.

The rebels do not seem to have followed on to Pilot Knob, but turned in their course in the direction of Cape Girardeau. Gen. McNeil—the same whom Jeff Davis demanded should be given up for shooting guerrillas—is down in that region, and the enemy is thus between him and his base. Fears are entertained for his safety, as the rebels will no doubt fight desperately for his capture, and be desperately to resist it.

BILLS VETOED.—It is the custom of Congress to waste much time in the early part of their sessions with unprofitable talk, and then, at the last moment, to hurry bills through and throw a sheaf of them upon the President for signature.

But it is the custom of the President to require so much time as will enable him, at least to read bills before signing them. He has duties and responsibilities as well as Congress.

The result is, that at least four bills passed by both Houses in their last hours, have been left unsigned, and thus fall entirely to the ground. One provided for the conscription of citizens of the United States adjoining to the Confederate States; another organizing a general staff; another establishing the ordnance department, and the fourth relating to the public printing. If these bills are ever to become a law, they must be passed again by both Houses in the next session.

Special Dispatch to the Charleston Mercury.

RICHMOND, May 6.—The wounded are coming in. The victory is decisive and promising of further results. The South Carolina troops suffered chiefly by wounds; but a small proportion of them were killed or mortally wounded. Colonel Perrin, of Orr's regiment, and Lieutenant Pinckney Seabrook are universally reported killed. Gen. McGowan was slightly wounded, and Capt. Cuthbert badly. Capt. A. C Haskell was painfully wounded in the foot. Col. Edwards slightly. Also Col. Miller. I shall sift out the rumors and keep you advised.

R. W. BARNWELL.

TELEGRAPHIC.

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCHES.]

Gen. Lee's Congratulatory Order

LATEST FROM THE FIELD OF BATTLE!

TEN THOUSAND PRISONERS!!

Banksdale Reoccupies Fredericksburg!!

BOTH ARMIES RESUME OLD POSITIONS.

RICHMOND, April 8th.—Passengers report all quiet at Fredericksburg to day. Several ambulance trains arrived and more behind. Crowds of ladies were at the depot dispensing refreshments. The weather is damp and chilly. Reports are current that the Herald of late date received, concedes the defeat of Hooker, and is now the cause of great excitement in New York. A gunboat came to the Whitehouse yesterday and remained a short time.

HEADQ'RS ARMY NORTHERN VA., May 7th, 1863.

With heartfelt gratification, the General Commanding expresses to the army his sense of the heroic conduct displayed by officers and men during the arduous operations in which they have just been engaged. Under trying vicissitudes of heat and storm you attacked the enemy, strongly entrenched in the depth of a tangled wilderness, and again on the hills of Fredericksburg 18 miles distant, and by that valor, triumphant on so many fields, forced him once more to seek safety beyond the Rappahannock. While a glorious victory entitles you to the praise and gratitude of the nation, we are respectfully called upon to return grateful thanks to the only Giver of victory, for the signal deliverance He has wrought. It is therefore earnestly recommended that the troops unite on Sunday next in ascribing to the Lord of Hosts the glory due His name. Let us not forget, in our rejoicings, the brave soldiers who have fallen in defense of our country, and while we mourn their loss let us resolve to emulate their noble example. The army and country alike lament the absence for a time of one to whose bravery, energy and skill we are so much indebted for our success. The following is the letter from the President of the Confederat States, communicated to the army as an expression of his appreciation of your services: "I have received your dispatch and reverently unite with you in giving praise to God for the success with which he has crowned our arms—and in the name of the people offer cordial thanks to yourself and the troops under your command for this additional unprecedently great victory your army has achieved. In the universal rejoicing produced by this happy result, is mingled general regret that so many of the good and brave are numbered among the killed and wounded."

[Signed] R. E. LEE.

RICHMOND, May 8.—Trains have resumed their regular trips to and from Fredericksburg. Five arrived last night with the wounded. A storm occurred at Petersburg last Wednesday, is said to be the severest for 12 months. We captured about ten thousand prisoners in all, many valuable horses and wagons, and a large quantity of ammunition and small arms. All quiet at Fredericksburg—Barksdale's reoccupying the town. The enemy is opposite, as before the battle. Col. Griffin was not killed but captured. Sickles was reported killed.

RICHMOND, May 9.—Stoneman's (Federal) cavalry broke up camp on Thursday, and started for the upper Rappahannock. After stealing all the horses they could find, they cut the throats of two hundred of their own which were worn down.

Imboden has destroyed the great Cheat River viaduct, on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, built at an enormous cost and regarded as one of the greatest triumphs of modern science.

The Washington Chronicle of the 4th publishes an order from Hooker dated the 30th, expressing his heartfelt satisfaction that operations during the past three days had determined that the enemy must either ingloriously fly or come out from behind his defences and give us battle on our own ground, where certain destruction awaits him. The Chronicle says never a word about the defeat of the Yankee army at Chancellorsville.

Lincoln has issued a draft for 500,000 men, and says that this call upon the nation in this great emergency should reach every heart.

JACKSON, MISS., May 8.—The special correspondent of the Appeal at Senatobia, has the Chicago Times of the 29. It says that the rebel raiding party on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, had been increased to 4,000; that Col. Mulligan had been attacked and overwhelmed at Falmount station, but withholds the federal loss.

Northern advices from Tennessee, state that six divisions of Bragg's army had moved to Shelbyville, and that Breckinridge's forces were close at hand.

New Advertisements.

EXTRACT.]

HEADQ'RS VOL. & CON. BUREAU A. T.,
Huntsville, Ala., May 4, 1863.

SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 224

1. All officers of the following regiments, are relieved from duty in this Bureau and will immediately join their commands: 22d, 25th, 26th, 28th and 31st Alabama regiments, 24th, 27th, 29th and 30th Mississippi regiments.

All officers thus relieved will report the result of their labors to these Headquarters.

By command of

Brig. Gen. PILLOW,
Chief of Bureau.

JNO. C. BURCH,
A. A. C. [may10 2w]

—Atlanta Commonwealth, Memphis Appeal (Jackson) and Montgomery Mail, copy and forward account to Maj. M. Cheatham, Asst. Q. M. at this place.

MASONIC NOTICE.—Regular communication of Hamilton Chapter No. 49, on Tuesday evening 12th inst., at 7½ o'clock.

may10-2t R. A. ANDERSON, Sec'y.

FOR SALE.—A splendid Beam Engine of 80 horse power with boilers, heaters, pipes &c., complete, all nearly new and suitable for any purpose for which steam power is required.

H. M. ANDERSON & Co.
may9-1w Rome, Ga.

FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR A SUBSTITUTE!—Particulars given at the Rebel office.
may9-2t*

A SUBSTITUTE—Can be had on payment of $6,000 to a man who is exempt from military duty. He prefers the cavalry service. Apply within one week to G. F., Shelbyville, Tennessee.
may9-3t*

WANTED.—An able bodied substitute over forty five years old. For further particulars apply at this office. [may9-3t*]

JUST RECEIVED AND FOR SALE.—Soda by the keg; mush, white and stock Peas, wholesale and retail.

P. MARSH,
apr29-1w* Opposite Central Hotel.