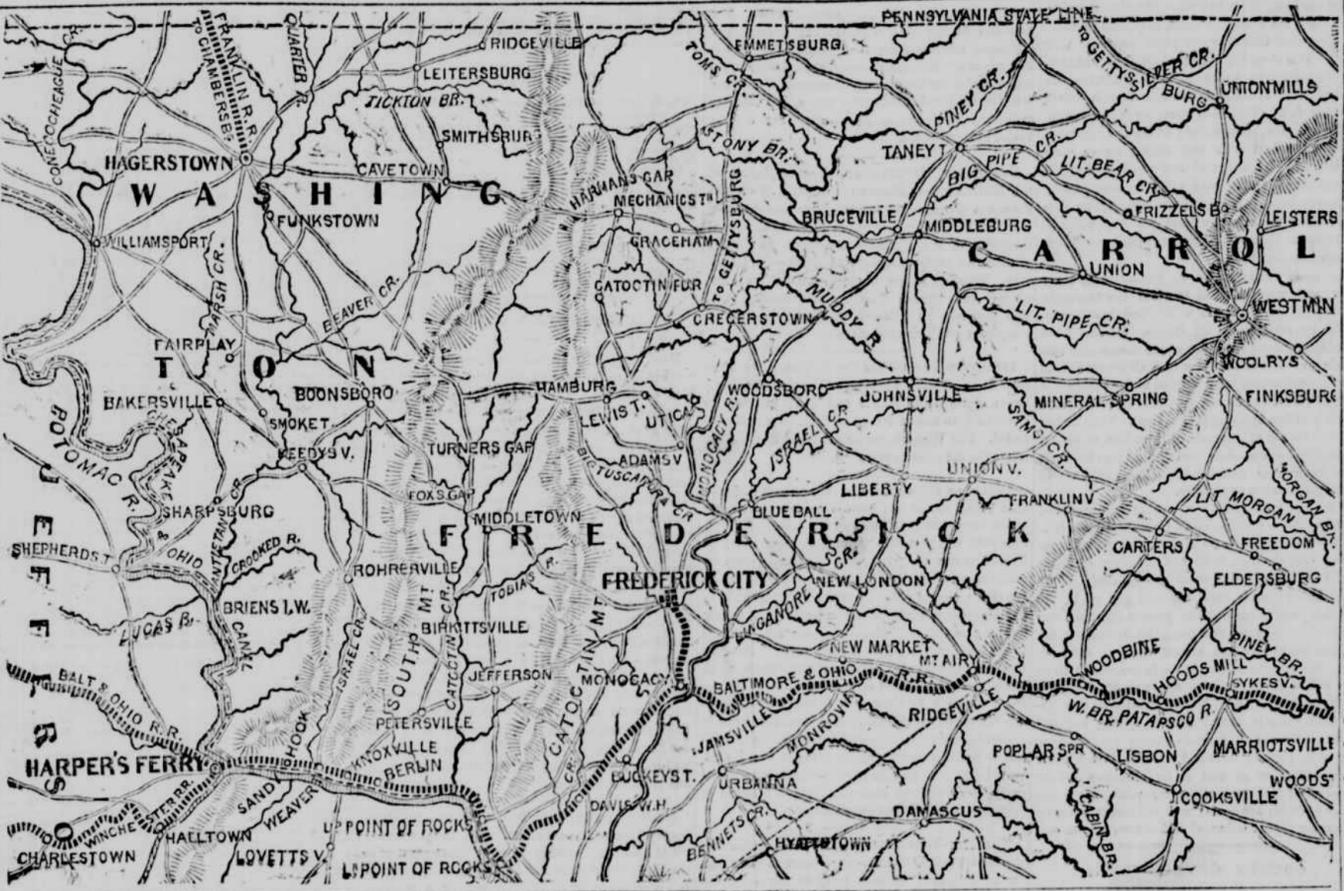


THE WAR FOR THE UNION.
The Great Battle near Sharpsburg.
A Glorious Union Victory
TERRIBLE CARNAGE ON BOTH SIDES.
Canal Bridge near Williamsport Destroyed
REBEL SUPPLIES THUS CUT OFF.
GEN. LONGSTREET WOUNDED AND A PRISONER
GENERAL HILL TAKEN PRISONER.
GEN. HOOKER SLIGHTLY WOUNDED.

New-York Tribune.

VOL. XXII.....No. 6,695. NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1862. PRICE TWO CENTS.

THE IMMEDIATE THEATER OF WAR.



The Very Latest from our Army.
 WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Sept. 17-10 p. m.
 Dispatches from our army up to 5 o'clock this evening have been received. They are somewhat meagre as regards details, but state in general terms that the most terrific battle that ever was fought on this continent has been going on all day near Sharpsburg, the contests being entirely with artillery, and that the enemy has been driven back two miles. The slaughter has been prodigious.
 No facts are given on which an opinion can be based respecting the Rebels future designs. Longstreet is wounded and a prisoner. A bridge over a creek had been destroyed by our forces, so as to isolate one of his wings in an attack upon which our troops were massed.
 No official dispatch up to this hour confirms the report that Harper's Ferry has been recaptured by our troops or abandoned by the enemy, and it is doubtless untrue, notwithstanding paroled prisoners say they saw the enemy skedaddling much faster than they came it.
 If they did so, it was with the design of moving rapidly up to Shepherdstown to re-enforce the army at Sharpsburg, taking with them doubtless the 50 pieces of light artillery which they are said to have captured. Nor is there any official confirmation of the statement that Col. Miles has died of his wounds, though it is believed upon the testimony of paroled prisoners who have come in.

lines, and give account of the conflict which resulted in the surrender of the place.
 It seems to be pretty certain that Col. Miles, and not Gen. Julius White, was the officer who made the surrender. That after he surrendered, he was struck by a fragment of shell and injured in both legs so severely that they had to be amputated, an operation which cost him his life.
 Our loss in killed and wounded is believed to be not much above 50 all told, and in paroled prisoners about 5,000, as we stated last night.
 The soldiers under Col. Miles's command generally unite in the opinion that the surrender was unnecessary. Some of them say that it was inevitable, after the evacuation of Maryland Heights, but that that position was tenable at the time it was abandoned. Great fault is found, not only with Col. Miles and with the Government, which, not content with keeping him in the service, put him in charge of the important post, after conduct at Bull Run, which, to say the least of it, has never been satisfactorily explained. It is presumed, moreover, that the Government thought Col. Miles entirely able to hold the position with the forces under him, or that it would have either withdrawn or re-enforced him as could easily have been done by way of Baltimore before the occupation of Frederick, and by way of Cumberland until last Wednesday and Thursday.
 It is not known whether blame is also attributable to Gen. White, further than that he did not, through a mistaken courtesy, assume a command to which he was entitled by rank, and take the responsibility which devolved upon him. This is the first surrender by the National forces in the East, we believe, since that of Fort Sumter.

A Glorious Victory.
 HARRISBURG, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1862.
 A great battle has been fought, and we are victorious. The carnage on both sides was awful. Gen. Longstreet was wounded and taken prisoner.
 HARRISBURG, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1862—10 p. m.
 Dispatches just received at headquarters from Hagerstown say:
 "We have achieved a glorious victory. Longstreet is not killed, but is wounded and a prisoner. Gen. Hooker was wounded in the foot. No particulars are received."

The Engagement on Wednesday.
 HARRISBURG, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1862.
 In the battle to-day our right wing rested on Sharpsburg and our left this side of Antietam Creek, near Parkersburg. The Rebels are falling back on Harper's Ferry, much worried and dispirited.
 The wounded are arriving at Hagerstown.
 The bridge destroyed by the Union forces was the canal bridge at or near Williamsport. The destruction of this bridge is of great importance, as it impedes the Rebels from bringing up supplies.

Gen. Longstreet Reported Killed.
 HARRISBURG, Pa., Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1862.
 The battle fought yesterday between Sharpsburg and Middletown closed without a definite result.
 No firing has been heard from Hagerstown since 4 o'clock yesterday.
 Stragglers coming into Hagerstown report that Gen. Longstreet had been killed, and that the Rebels had been surrounded.
 The stragglers also say that the ammunition and provisions of the Rebels have run completely out.

Gen. Longstreet Killed and Gen. Hill Taken Prisoner.
 HARRISBURG, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1862.
 This has been an eventful day in Maryland, and at the latest advices everything was favorable.
 The Rebel General Longstreet was killed, and Gen. Hill is a prisoner.

The Rebels Supposed to be Retreating.
 PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1862.
 The Bulletin has the following special dispatch:
 HARRISBURG, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1862.
 At Hagerstown this morning heavy firing was constantly heard in the direction of Sharpsburg, but no definite information from that quarter had been received.
 It is supposed that the Rebels are making a most desperate push to reach Williamsport, and get across the Potomac.
 A Union scout, who left the battle-field at eleven o'clock this morning, had reached Hagerstown.
 He reports that the fighting has been perfectly terrific.
 The Rebels have been desperately hard pressed by our army.
 A force has been detached from the Union army to destroy the Williamsport Bridge, or to block the ferry over the Potomac at that point.
 The Rebels are supposed to be retreating.

Reports from the Battle-Field.
 Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.
 WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1862.
 The report to which we alluded last night, to the effect that Gen. Burnside had recaptured Harper's Ferry, which the enemy had abandoned in such haste as not to parole all his prisoners, still lacks confirmation, and is probably incorrect. Many of the prisoners whom the enemy did parole, however, including the telegraph operators, have arrived within our

Pennsylvania, two weeks ago; looks downcast and seems to consider the rebellion a bad investment. Lammond is of a notorious family here, and is still impetuous and pertinacious; he was in the mob which broke up the Republican "wigwam" in 1850, in this city. He says he passed through Harper's Ferry an hour after its surrender yesterday, and adds, with great apparent satisfaction, that the booty consisted of 3,000 niggers, beside the 14,000 Yankees with Col. Miles. He represents that Stuart's Cavalry came forward to the vicinity of Leesburg, and that he, with a squad of men, was scouting in the direction of Drainesville "to pick up stragglers."
 The Star of this evening contains the following:
 "We believe it is not known here to-day precisely how many men that ill-starred of men, Col. Miles, surrendered to Jackson on the day before yesterday. It is said that he made good his escape, however, and performed the brilliant feat of capturing Longstreet's ammunition train by the way, as we mentioned yesterday. There can be no truth in the current rumor that Gen. McClellan "retook Harper's Ferry in a few hours after Col. Miles surrendered it." Col. Miles' loss, before surrendering, is believed to have been 42. He was wounded just after his surrender by the explosion of a stray shell. The authorities here at noon believed him dead from his wound.
 "At 5 a. m. yesterday, Jackson marched much of his force out of Harper's Ferry on the Winchester road, as though aiming to retreat by that road, either to Winchester or Martinsburg. This movement looks strange to us, for it is singular that he did not hasten by the road to the Antietam Ford to the relief of the main body of the Rebel army. Evidently hastening to leave Harper's Ferry, he left A. P. Hill in command there, doubtless to gather up and carry off the spoils. We should have mentioned that it is believed here that Miles, before surrendering, not only destroyed his ordnance, but also blew up and otherwise destroyed all his ammunition."
 The Star also has the following:
 "We have most interesting information concerning the progress of McClellan's army in pursuit of the main body of the Rebel army under Lee, Longstreet and others. At noon yesterday they were overtaken by our advance division, when they formed in line of battle on the crest of the hill skirting the west bank of Antietam Creek, in the immediate vicinity of Sharpsburg.
 "Shortly afterward more of our troops arrived on the ground, and at 4 p. m. both armies were in battle array, ours on the east side and theirs on the west side of the creek, as explained above. At half past 5 our forces attacked them, and a heavy battle ensued, until by 9 p. m. the Rebel army was believed to have been surrounded almost, and well nigh out of ammunition as well as provisions. Our army rested for the night just where the last of yesterday's fighting left them, and expected to renew the engagement at daylight this morning. This information, we believe, is trustworthy. It comes both by way of Harrisburg and Boonesboro.

The Battle on Sunday.
 From Our Special Correspondent.
 FREDERICK CITY, Tuesday noon, Sept. 16, 1862.
 Another battle yesterday. The Confederates were well beaten on Sunday, and driven from their entrenched position on South Mountain. The battle of Sunday, 14th, was fought one mile to the west of Boonesboro and right on the turnpike road where our artillery was planted. The news from the field yesterday is to the effect that our troops, under Burnside, overtook the retreating Rebels, under Hill and Longstreet, when a dreadful battle took place. It commenced at 12 o'clock yesterday and lasted until 7 p. m.
 Our forces gained a complete victory, and took, according to all accounts, 10,000 to 15,000 prisoners. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee is a prisoner, and Longstreet is killed. A flag of truce was sent out on lines after his body. If it is not true that Fitzhugh is a prisoner, nor that Longstreet is killed, certain it is, beyond a doubt, that the Union army are driving the Confederates before them as the wind drives chaff, and our troops are sending back prisoners in bands of 200 and more. I met a gentleman last night, Mr. Samuel Koode, a resident of Hagerstown, who had just arrived from that town. He left there on Saturday morning. When he left, the Rebels had full possession of the town, but their forces were not large; they consisted of Tombs' brigade, 800 of Stuart's Cavalry, and a battery called the Washington Artillery.
 Mr. Koode informs me that to his certain knowledge, when he left Hagerstown, Jackson, with at least 20,000 men, was at Williamsport, on the Potomac, and ready to cross. The Confederates at Hagerstown may also have escaped to Williams-

port, as it is only six miles south of that place. The Confederates acted the very same way in Hagerstown as they did here; they robbed every boot, shoe, clothing, and army store in the town. In every case where it would be accepted, they gave Confederate money in payment, but most of the storekeepers refused it, considering it to be worse than useless. There were 1,274 barrels of flour and 20 sacks of salt at the railroad depot, which they carried with them. A small squad of Stuart's Cavalry made a raid beyond the Pennsylvania line, which is only five miles beyond Hagerstown. They drove back some cattle and horses, the cattle and horses being loaded down with corn, sheep, calves, and in fact everything they could bring.

Four-fifths of the inhabitants of Hagerstown are sterling Union people, and the other fifth confess that they are so ashamed of the filthy looking crowd which make up the Secesh army, that they repudiate them and are longing to be rid of them. I think their wish has been gratified ere this, and the threatened invasion of Pennsylvania is at an end. Two hundred prisoners, which were captured by Cox's Division of Burnside's Army, were brought in last night; among them are four captains and two lieutenants. About 180 sick Secesh which were left here are in the old German Reformed Church on Church street; the new arrivals were marched into the church-yard behind the same church and a guard placed over them. They made themselves very comfortable and had a good night's sleep on the fine long grass in the yard.

Another batch of 180 arrived here this morning. The whole lot are the most miserable looking dressed men that the eye ever rested on. No words of mine could describe their filthy and disgusting appearance, barefooted, bareheaded, and barebacked. The only way the Captains are known from the crowd is by an arrangement of yellow tape on the shoulder, in imitation of our officers. I was speaking with some of the Captains. They think it was the only mistake their Generals made in bringing them into Maryland. The Captains cursed the Marylanders and called them deceivers. They estimate the force of the Rebel army at 70,000 men. They speak very highly of McClellan; they say he is the only man they Generals are afraid of.

The Provost Marshall is much embarrassed to know where he will confine all the prisoners which have arrived and are reported to be at Middletown and on the road. The men that brought the prisoners in have to remain here to guard them, as he has no men for that duty here. When I think of the 8,000 or 10,000 straggling robbers that line the road-side from here to Rockville, I regret that a force of cavalry is not sent out from Washington to drive them on. Every back street and alley-way in town is crowded with the stragglers that have arrived, all the hotels in town are crowded to excess, churches and schoolhouses are being taken possession of for hospitals.

At Middletown, every house is a hospital, and there are not half enough of surgeons. Surgeons and doctors are wanted very much. I notice Mr. Kane of the Pennsylvania Relief Association has arrived here with a large supply of hospital stores; he was the first on the ground. I understand the Government has placed transportation at his disposal, which, no doubt, accounts for his timely arrival.
 It is almost impossible to get to the battle-field, or even to Middletown; the road is full; such a jam was never seen in Broadway. I am afraid your special messenger will not get in time for the train, as I have seen horsemen who had to return, owing to the impossibility of getting along on the narrow mountain road, which is choked up with ammunition and supply trains. On this account, I send you all we know here concerning the late battles. Certain it is that we have bagged an immense number of the Secesh army, and in every case we have licked them, so far.
 The probability is that the largest portion of their army will be captured. A train of ambulances went out yesterday after the wounded, and though the field is only sixteen miles from here, they are not expected to-day, owing to the crowded condition of the road. The weather to-day is rather warm. In this town, everything is quiet. No sympathy whatsoever has been shown to the Rebel prisoners by any of the inhabitants.

IMPORTANT FROM SOUTH-CAROLINA.
INVESTMENT OF CHARLESTON.
BOMBARDMENT OF FORT SUMTER.
THE FORT SERIOUSLY DAMAGED.
 BOSTON, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1862.
 The reported investment of Charleston by the gunboats has some confirmation by a letter received in this city from on board the U. S. steamer Bibb, which says: "Fort Sumter has already received a preliminary dose of shot and shell, which resulted in serious damage."
 The Governor states that 72,000 men have responded to his call for the defense of the State, and that he expects that the number will be increased to 100,000. These men are being furnished with equipments and moved to the State border as rapidly as possible.
 Gen. Daniel E. Sickles is here, and, after an interview with Gov. Morgan, has succeeded in securing prompt payment of the State bounty to the Volunteers for the Excelsior Brigade.
 The most strenuous exertions will be made by the Governor and the State War Department to secure promptly the filling up of all the regiments of Gen. Sickles' Brigade, in conformity with the earnestly expressed wish of the War Department at Washington.
 Gen. Dick Busted is also here on important business connected with the draft, which will probably be made on the first of next month.
 Pennsylvania State Troops Rushing to the Border.
 PHILADELPHIA, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1862.
 A dispatch from Harrisburg to Gov. Curtin states that the battle at Sharpsburg recommenced early this morning, and raged with the greatest fury up to 9:45 a. m.
 Our latest advices from Harrisburg say that State troops are pushing forward to the border.

Rumors in Baltimore of Rebel Victories—The Body of Gen. Reno.
 From Our Special Correspondent.
 BALTIMORE, Tuesday, Sept. 16-p. m.
 Spite of the cold reception given the ragged Rebels by the majority of the citizens of Frederick County, and the warm greeting received by McClellan, there is still a very strong treasonable feeling in the State, and there is a plenty of it still left in this city.
 On the Corn Exchange this morning, where many "Secesh" do congregate, it was said—and believed by some—that a citizen of Frederick witnessed Sunday's battle from a church steeple, and saw the Yankee soldiers "skedaddling" with the Rebels after them. It is only necessary to state that there is no point in Frederick from which the battle-field, which lies beyond the first range of hills, could be seen. This absurdity did not seem to strike many of the Rebel sympathizers, probably because they wished to believe in the defeat of the Government forces so strongly that they would swallow any statement.
 Either with or without cause, a very strong confidence exists among the Rebels here that McClellan had not on Sunday met the entire Rebel force, and that he would be whipped when he did. They are mysterious about it, but they say that the fight is not over yet.
 The remains of Gen. Reno were to-day placed in an air-tight coffin and transmitted to Boston, where his family resides. A very large number of persons viewed the body during the forenoon.

Gen. Sickles' Excelsior Brigade—Husted Making Arrangements for the Draft.
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THE DETAILS OF SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS.
GREAT DISPARITY OF NUMBERS.
A SURRENDER AT LAST.
EXTENT OF THE UNION LOSS.
Rumor of a Recapture by Gen. Burnside.

From Our Special Correspondent.
 HAGER'S FERRY, Sept. 15, 1862.
 Now that the siege of Harper's Ferry is over, and the Rebels have learned everything about the situation and the forces recently there, by capturing both, a description of the fortifications will not be contraband, and may prove interesting.
 Harper's Ferry is situated in the angle formed by the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers. The town itself is literally buried in the surrounding hills. Stretching across the angle, and forming the base of a triangle, is the ridge known as Bolivar Heights, which, rising quite abruptly from the town, spreads out into a plain, and then rising again, forms a sort of parapet, sloping down to the surrounding country, the level of which is of lower grade than the plain. This formed the front of the position, and was occupied by the 1st Brigade, Col. F. G. d'Ussey (3rd N. Y.) commanding, composed of the 115th New-York, Col. Sanmon, 39th New-York (Garibaldi Guard), Major Hildebrandt, 11th New-York, Col. Segoin, and Capt. Von Schlein's 15th Indiana Battery, and by the 2d Brigade, Col. Trimble (60th Ohio Volunteers) commanding, and composed of the 60th Ohio Volunteers, 9th Vermont, 126th New-York, Col. Sherrill, and the 10th Battery.

The hill rising immediately from the town is designated as Camp Hill, and surrounded by an inner line of intrenchments to fall back upon in the event of being driven from the more advanced position of Bolivar Heights. Here was posted the reserve known as the Fourth Brigade, Col. W. G. Ward, of the New-York 12th, commanding, composed of the 12th New-York, 87th Ohio, Capt. Rigby's Company Artillerists and Co. A, New-York Heavy Artillery, Capt. Graham. There were mounted along the intrenchments some dozen howitzers, under charge of Capt. Rigby's company, and to the left, upon the precipice overhanging the Shenandoah, and commanding the approaches by the Shenandoah road, and also up the Potomac from Sandy Hook, were placed two twelve and two twenty-four pound Parrott guns and howitzers, under charge of Captain Graham. This battery commanded the position on Bolivar Heights, and raked the whole plain, across which troops must approach to the inner intrenchments. It also had range of Maryland Heights and Loudon Heights, and was emphatically a strong position.

On the Maryland side of the Potomac, in the angle formed by the bend of the river, tower Maryland Heights, over 1,500 feet elevation. A little more than half the distance up the mountain was placed the battery which commanded all the other batteries, and the surrounding country for miles around, and was the key to Harper's Ferry. This battery consisted of two 11-inch Dahlgren guns, one 50-pound rifled gun, and two light howitzers, under command of Capt. McGrath. A shot from one of the 11-inch Dahlgrens has been thrown into Halltown, between four and five miles distant, and through a house there located. To support this battery, the 3d Brigade, Col. Ford (33d Ohio), was posted on a plateau to the right of the battery, and low enough to be out of range of the guns. The brigade comprised the 32d Ohio; battalion of 1st Maryland Potomac Home Brigade, Major Steiner; squadron Rhode Island Cavalry, Major Corlies; two companies 1st Maryland Cavalry, Capt. Russell, and the 5th New-York Heavy Artillery, Capt. McGrath.

To prevent surprise or to repel attack up the back side of Maryland Heights, and also to guard the approach to the Ferry around the bend of the Potomac, a force was stationed at and about Sandy Hook, under command of Col. Mansley of the 1st Maryland Regiment, Potomac Home Brigade, consisting of the regiment just named, Capt. Cole's Maryland Cavalry, and part of the 87th Ohio Volunteers. Two cannon were also with the command, served by Capt. Graham's men. Up the Potomac, at Shepherdstown, Col. Downey was stationed with the 3d Maryland Regiment, Potomac Home Brigade. Col. Davis, with the 8th New-York Cavalry, was encamped in town at the old rifle factory. The positions given above are those occupied by the troops prior to and at the commencement of the siege. The changes of position are noted in the detailed account of the incidents. Gen. Julius White brought with him from Martinsburg the brigade composed of the 125th New-York, Col. Willard, 65th Illinois, 2d Pennsylvania, 12th Illinois Cavalry, Col. Voss, and Capt. Phillips' Illinois Battery.

Seated here in camp, prisoners of war, with a Confederate army encamped about us, Confederate batteries frowning upon us, and, owing to a misunderstanding of the terms of capitulation, with a delightful uncertainty before us, I will try to write up the events of the siege and surrender of Harper's Ferry. The ominous silence of the past two nights is now broken by the voices of some of our Garibaldi Guard, singing those delightful part songs and choruses for which the Germans are famous, and to their music I write a story which I wish could have been left unwritten.

In the last letter written (Sept. 11), but which could not be sent, through the interference of Messrs. Secesh with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad west of us, after narrating the current events of the day, our correspondent indulged in surmises as to the Rebel programme, speculations as to "lines of retreat and bases of operations," and appositions as to the whereabouts and doings of the Union armies, all of which were lost to the world by the movements of the Confederate troops.

Going back to that letter only to recall such events as have a bearing upon the connected narrative, it has to be recorded that Col. Downey of the 3d Maryland Potomac Home Brigade, taking with him Capt. Shamberger of the 1st Maryland Cavalry and 19 troopers, made a dash on the morning of the 10th inst. into Boonesboro, having been informed that there were but a few cavalry men there. Instead of a few he rode into a large force of cavalry, infantry

See Ninth Page.

THE CAPTURE OF HARPER'S FERRY.
 Full Particulars by Our Special Reporter.
POSITION OF POINTS OF DEFENSE.
NUMBER OF THE UNION FORCE.
THE ATTACK ON MARYLAND HEIGHTS.
THE DETAILS OF SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENTS.
GREAT DISPARITY OF NUMBERS.
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