

LITERATURE. FRANK LESLIE'S ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPER...

THE ADVANCE OF GEN. DOWELL.

The Union Forces at Falmouth, Commanding the City of Fredericksburg.

The Gallant Achievement of General Augur.

Seven Rebel Regiments and Two Batteries Driven from Their Position.

Important Action of the Citizens and City Councils of Fredericksburg.

Willingness to Surrender the City on Condition of Protection to Private Property.

The Councils Declare Their Attachment to the Rebel Cause.

Destruction of Bridges and Valuable Property by the Retiring Rebels.

Brilliant Conduct of the Brooklyn Fourteenth.

Our forces under General Augur still occupy the heights of Falmouth, opposite and commanding the city of Fredericksburg.

On Friday afternoon Lieut. Wood, of Gen. King's staff, Lieut. Campbell, Fourth artillery, and Major Duffe, of the Harris Light Cavalry, crossed the Rappahannock under a flag of truce, and communicated with the municipal authorities of the city, all of whom remain.

The City Council had called a meeting immediately after the appearance of our forces, and appointed a committee consisting of the Mayor, Mr. Slaughter, three members from each Board, and three citizens, to confer with our general relative to the occupation of Fredericksburg and the protection of property.

The Councils at the same time adopted a series of resolutions declaring that the city, since the adoption of the ordinance of secession, had been unanimously in favor of secession, and was still firmly attached to the Southern cause, surrendering only upon conditions of protection to private property.

Arrangements were perfected for a meeting between the committee and General Augur, to be held yesterday afternoon.

From citizens of Fredericksburg, who have crossed over to Falmouth by means of small skiffs, much valuable information has been derived. Most of these affirm that so soon as we take possession of the city, and there is no fear of the return of the rebels, a majority of the remaining citizens will be loyal.

Vast amounts of grain and other forage are stored in the immediate vicinity of Fredericksburg, much of which belonged to the rebel army.

The enemy, besides destroying the bridges, burned the steamers Logan, Virginia and St. Nicholas and twenty schooners loaded with corn. The St. Nicholas will be remodeled, was captured by the "French Lady" and his accomplices in Chesapeake Bay last year.

The river is obstructed below Fredericksburg by sunken vessels, thus preventing the boats from participating in the attack, as was designed.

It is stated by the citizens that the first shell thrown at the rebel cavalry in Fredericksburg killed a horse and mortally wounded his rider, dismounting and severely injuring a large number in the stampede which ensued.

Captain Garr, formerly of the Washington and Aquia creek steamboat line, took the first rebel steamer into Aquia creek since the rebellion last Friday morning.

The landing is used as a depot for supplies, under the charge of Colonel Biddle, of the Ninety-fifth New York regiment, who is also in command of the forces at that station. The wharf depot, tavern and several other buildings were burned by the rebels, but the engine house, built of brick, with iron rafters and tin roof, is unharmed. The wharf is being rapidly repaired. Navigation is unobstructed, the channel not having been filled up as reported.

The railroad to Fredericksburg, with the exception of a mile of the track which has been taken up, and the loss of two bridges, easily reconstructed, is in good order.

The railroad bridge over the Rappahannock will require a considerable length of time to be repaired, as the piers are very high and wide apart. The road was being rebuilt at the time of the evacuation of Aquia creek, the "T" rail being substituted for the old flat rail. The rails torn from the road in the vicinity of the landing were used in constructing roofs for the rebel magazines. The water stations are in perfect order, and a comparatively small outlay will reopen the road in much better condition than before the rebellion. The batteries at Aquia creek are quite extensive, and were well supported by infantry, as is indicated by the abandoned camp. The battery on this wharf was constructed with great skill, and mounted an immense rifled gun. The batteries extend along the brow of the bluff about a mile, and are exceedingly formidable in their appearance. Nothing remains in them save broken camp furniture and decaying stores. At various points in the rear of these batteries, at a distance of two or three miles, earthworks for light artillery and infantry breakworks command many of the approaches to Fredericksburg.

Three weeks since six thousand rebels were encamped in the vicinity of Brooke's Station, six miles from Aquia, and a large body of cavalry have been quartered in that section until the close of last week, a portion of which, it is stated by contrabands, are cut off by our occupation of Fredericksburg.

The country between Aquia creek and the Rappahannock is almost entirely deserted, but one family remaining at Stafford Court House.

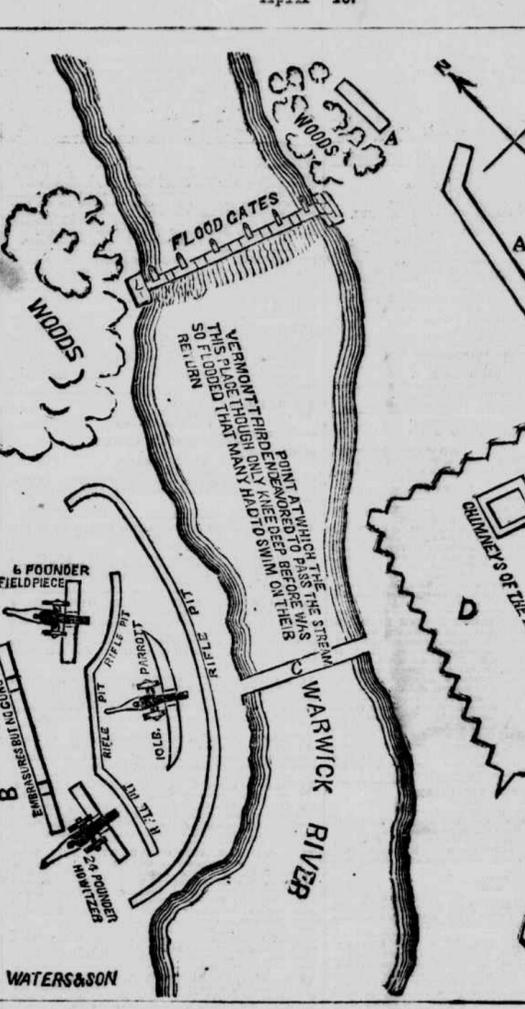
The gallant achievement of General Augur in driving back from a strong position an enemy consisting of three regiments of infantry, four of cavalry and two batteries of artillery, evinces the highest admiration, and has excited no little envy on the part of the other brigades who hoped to participate in the dash upon Fredericksburg.

The brilliant feat of the Brooklyn Fourteenth in keeping up, without struggling, with the cavalry and artillery on a march of twenty-six miles, during the hottest day of the season, and then with but three hours rest, dashing on after the enemy's cavalry for four miles, is the subject of most flattering encomium.

Sketches of General Augur. Brigadier General Christopher Columbus Augur is a native of New York, but was appointed to the Military Academy

THE SIEGE OF YORKTOWN.

Diagram of the Scene of the Engagement on Wednesday, April 16.



NOTES OF REFERENCE. 1-Works thrown up by the Union troops on the night of April 16. 2-Parties of the enemy have been seen at work at this point for several days. 3-Dam upon which the Vermont Fourth and Sixth attempted to pass the stream. 4-Garden, &c., of a house burned by the enemy.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT.

Interception of a Valuable Despatch from Gen. Beauregard.

HOPELESSNESS OF THE REBEL CAUSE.

Beauregard's Call for Reinforcements and Confession of Weakness.

The Rebel Army in the West Terribly Demoralized.

THE REBEL ARMY IN THE WEST TERRIBLY DEMORALIZED.

The latest information from the South is of the utmost importance. Beauregard's army has been terribly demoralized, and, according to his own confession, he has only 35,000 men. The following telegram has been intercepted by General Mitchell, and is a full confession of the hopelessness of the rebel cause in the West. I append it verbatim, leaving you to comment on its importance.

COLUMBIA, April 9, 1862. To General Sherman, Corinth, Miss., Va. All present probabilities are that, whenever the enemy move on this position, he will do so with an overwhelming force of not less than 60,000 men. We can now muster only about 35,000 effectives. You can possibly join us in a few days with about 15,000 more. Can you not be reinforced from Pemberton's army? If defeated here we lose the Mississippi Valley, and probably our cause. Whereas, we could even afford to lose, for a while, Charleston and Savannah for the purpose of defeating Buell's army, which would not only insure us the Valley of the Mississippi but our independence.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

FROM THE MOUNTAIN DEPARTMENT.

The Rebels Fortifying the Crest of the Shenandoah Mountains.

HEADQUARTERS, WHEELING, Va., April 20, 1862. To Hon. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War. Intelligence just received from General Milroy states that the enemy, numbering about 3,500, with two batteries, including two rifled guns, are constructing fortifications upon the crest of the Shenandoah. Reliefs of five hundred men are constantly at work, day and night. The rebel commanding on the eastern slope of the mountain, extending down five miles from the summit. A notorious guerrilla, named Frederick W. Chesning, has been captured by a cavalry company under General Milroy.

J. C. FREMONT, Major General.

The Monitor and the Merrimack.

OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE MOVEMENTS OF THESE VESSELS, BY MAJOR GENERAL JOHN C. FREMONT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WASHINGTON INTELLIGENCER. HEADQUARTERS, MOUNTAIN DEPARTMENT, WHEELING, April 12, 1862. I am instructed by General Fremont to state to you that intelligence has been received from Harper's Ferry that passengers by the Baltimore train report news of the delay home of the Merrimack, that the Monitor sank at Stafford Court House.

The gallant achievement of General Augur in driving back from a strong position an enemy consisting of three regiments of infantry, four of cavalry and two batteries of artillery, evinces the highest admiration, and has excited no little envy on the part of the other brigades who hoped to participate in the dash upon Fredericksburg.

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wounded, will not be permitted. Any one persisting in this will be shot on the spot, and will be found to have out the field, or his regiment, or company, without authority, will be regarded and proclaimed as a coward, and dealt with accordingly. General BEAUREGARD.

THE SIEGE OF YORKTOWN.

Additional Details of the Sharp Fight at Lee's Mills.

STRENGTH OF THE REBEL WORKS.

Fort Monroe, April 19, 1862. Thirty-nine wounded, from Yorktown, arrived to-day, making ninety in all, wounded in the light on the left bank on Thursday. The whole number was thirty-two killed and ninety wounded.

General Magruder's report of the same fight, in the Norfolk papers, gives twenty-five rebels killed, including Colonel McKim, and seventy-five wounded.

Our best success, commencing towards Yorktown, but harn't at it is merely attempts of the enemy to disturb our working parties. With the exception of the attack of the pits on Thursday, they get the worst of all skirmishing.

The work is progressing rapidly, and when the siege does commence it will be the most terrific.

Our Army Correspondence.

Camp in Front of Yorktown, April 17, 1862. The Affairs Near Lee's Mills—Successive Assaults on a Rebel Fort—The Different Modes of Our Troops—Strength of the Rebel Works, &c.

Four batteries of artillery and two regiments of Vermont troops had a sharp engagement yesterday in front of one of the forts which form the chain of defenses outside the interior works at Yorktown. The scene of the engagement was on the estate of Mrs. Garrow, between Lee's Mills and Wino's Mills, on a branch of the Warwick river. At a point on the Warwick road where the enemy had blocked it up with felled timber, and on the right as you go towards Warwick Court House, there opens quite an extensive field, with woods to the right and left and in the rear on the road. In front, at the foot of an artificial descending slope, runs a branch of the Warwick river. The spot, admirably adapted by nature for defense against an attacking force, had been chosen by the enemy for one of the outer works in his line of fortifications across the entire peninsula. At this place the stream had been dammed up between the two mills already mentioned. The water was, at different places, between two and four and a half feet deep, and thirty to forty rods wide. The dam formed a narrow causeway across the water. The ground on either side was marshy. On the opposite bank there was a deep ratio pit of indefinite extent, and above it, on the gradually rising acclivity, larger breakworks, with embrasures for guns, rose to the rear, partly screened by timber. For several days past the enemy had had large numbers of men at work strengthening still further this position, as well as other points on the line. It was determined on our part to drive the working parties away, especially at this point, and prevent them rendering their intrenchments more impregnable. Captain Mott's battery was immediately ready for action, and an adequate number of infantry was ordered to the front to support him. Skirmishes were thrown out in front and to the right and left, while a sufficient force was kept in the rear as reserves. The Rhode Island Battery B, under Captain Bartlett, engaged the rebels further to the right, diverting their attention, while Captain Mott should open on the rebel work to the left. About eight o'clock he ordered up the first section—two ten-pounder Parrotts—under command of Lieut. Fryn, which were placed in a position in a piece of woods to the right of the open field, close by the Warwick road, and within about a thousand yards of the fort. These two pieces immediately opened fire, which was soon returned briskly by the rebels in seven guns at adjacent points. Our shot and shell fell in and around the intrenchments, driving the working party away. The enemy had accurate range of the position, and served their cannon in a handsome manner. A shell from one of their cannon burst directly in front of our ten-pounder Parrotts, knocking a few spokes out of the wheels, and disabling seven out of ten men who were serving the gun. Three men were killed and four wounded by the shot. Captain Mott's men behaved in a gallant manner. After firing about two hours the enemy's guns were silenced, and ours gradually discontinued their fire. All of the enemy who had been seen were scattered, and the only one who was seen to retreat was a deserter. General McClellan, who, with several members of his staff, including the French royal representative, had been on the ground, went forward personally in an exposed position and complimented Captain Mott and his men in a very flattering manner for the alacrity and bravery which they had displayed at this point. The rebels had exchanged the skirmishers; but after the enemy ceased firing hostilities on both sides were discontinued for the hour.

Subsequently it was determined to throw a body of troops into the work and hold the position, which seemed to be vacated by the rebels. Light artillery, company and a few infantry were sent to the front, and Wheeler, Captain Ayres, the senior officer, being in charge of them, wheeled into line in the open field, and immediately opened fire on the rebels. The two tall chimneys which mark the ruins of Mrs. Garrow's house. This resistance had been burned by the rebels, and the two tall chimneys which mark the ruins of Mrs. Garrow's house. This resistance had been burned by the rebels, and the two tall chimneys which mark the ruins of Mrs. Garrow's house.

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