THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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GRANT!

The Herald Special Army Despatches.

DETAILS OF THE FIGHTING.

Gen. Grant in Communication with the White House.

NEWS FROM RICHMOND

REBEL OPINION OF GEN. GRANT.

The Union Forces at Mechanicsville,

&c., &c., &c.

Secretary Stanton to General Dix.

WASHINGTON, June 1—7:30 A. M.

Major General DIX:—

We have no intelligence this morning from General Grant later than yesterday at six A. M.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

The Fortress Monroe Despatches.

FORTRESS MONROE, May 31, 1864.

Lieutenant General Grant's communication with the White House is complete, and all works well.

Richmond papers of Monday, the 30th, have been received here. They have changed their views with regard to the military ability of General Grant, and say that they have been underrating him. They say that he is smarter than they had dreamed of, and manifest some fears in regard to the safety of Lee, or rather as to his success in repelling the Yankee army.

A messenger from General Grant reports that on Monday our army had reached Mechanicsville.

General Sheridan had routed the enemy's cavalry at all points and captured many prisoners.

Heavy cannonading was heard in the direction of Mechanicsville.

FORTRESS MONROE, May 31—4 P. M.

The steamer C. W. Thomas, with a bearer of despatches from General Grant, has arrived from the White House.

A portion of General Grant's forces arrived at Mechanicsville yesterday morning, and had not encountered the enemy in force up to that time.

THE HERALD DESPATCHES.

Mr. S. Cadwallader's Despatches.

HANOVERTOWN, SEVENTEEN MILES WEST OF WHITE HOUSE, AND TWENTY MILES NORTH OF RICHMOND, May 29—9 P. M.

HANOVER JUNCTION—HANOVERTOWN—HANOVER COURT HOUSE.

Lest mistakes may have occurred in former despatches concerning the location and movements of the army at different periods, by confounding Hanover Junction, Hanover Court House and Hanovertown, or considering them identical, I give the location of each. Hanover Junction is the crossing of the Richmond and Potomac Railroad, running from Richmond to Aquia creek, via Fredericksburg, and the Virginia Central Railroad, running from Richmond through Gordonsville, to the westward. It is just south of the North Anna river, and about eight miles above the confluence of the North and South Anna. Hanover Court House is, as its name implies, the shire town of Hanover county, and lies nearly two miles from the Pamunkey river and eight or ten miles below the Junction. Hanovertown is on the Pamunkey river, ten miles southeast of the Court House, sixteen miles above White House and twenty from Richmond.

CROSSING THE PAMUNKEY.

The cavalry under General Sheridan crossed the Pamunkey and occupied Hanovertown two days, after skirmishing with the enemy's pickets and driving them from the vicinity. The infantry came up last night and effected a crossing with a part of their force at the same place. The main portion of the army encamped in the vicinity of Mehixon church, however, a few miles to the rear, having made a march of from twenty-two to twenty five miles during the day to reach that point. This morning at daylight the different corps were in motion again on the roads to the different crossings. Warren's passed the Pamunkey at this point. Burnside is following in his rear, I believe, and will have his entire corps on this side early to-morrow. Hancock took a more westerly road, struck the river two miles above Hanovertown, and laid a pontoon in front of Nelson's plantation. His corps was over early in the afternoon, and the bridge and road clear for trains and other troops in the rear. Wright's corps was understood to have orders to follow Hancock's, and Burnside's Warren's; but changes are so frequently made in marching orders, in consequence of unforeseen conditions of roads and fords, that no civilians, excepting those who accompany corps, have much assurance of their position.

PUSHING AHEAD—SKIRMISHING.

As fast as divisions were crossed they were pushed ahead to defensible positions south of the river. The cavalry have been almost constantly skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry since crossing the river, although no general engagement has been brought on or threatened. This afternoon the firing increased, and the sound of artillery three or four miles to the southwest announced the presence of the rebels in increased force. The details of the engagement have not been received from the front up to the hour of writing; but a severe fight was kept up for several hours, with heavy loss on both sides, considering the number of troops actually in battle. Sheridan's cavalry came on the rebel cavalry and infantry at the crossing of the Mechanicsville and Hanover road, and promptly attacked them, gaining ground at first. The contest was only closed by darkness, and is likely to commence with daylight again. No names of killed or wounded can be obtained to night, or estimates of loss. Gregg's and Torbert's cavalry divisions are the only ones engaged. Wilson's is in the rear, covering the movement of Burnside's corps.

Our infantry is expected to be in position to relieve the cavalry by morning, and a great battle is not impossible on to-morrow, though generally thought improbable.

THE PAMUNKEY

here is narrow, tortuous, deep, rapid and turgid. It can not be pronounced unfordable, but is practically so, owing to depth, rapidity and ugly banks and bottom. The plantations on both banks are large, fine looking, and generally planted in corn.

EIGHT O'CLOCK, A. M., May 29.

THE CAVALRY FIGHT

of yesterday proves to have been more obstinate and sanguinary than was believed at dark. Sheridan has lost fully fifty officers in killed and wounded and missing, and from three to four hundred men. No attack has been made this morning. We are establishing our lines and preparing for heavy work. Many believe Lee is bringing up his Richmond reserves, and will attack us here. We are prepared.

WHITE HOUSE AS A BASE.

An escort sent to White House yesterday evening has not returned; but there can be no doubt of that being our future base, and that a portion or all of Butler's forces will join us there to-morrow.

HANOVERTOWN, May 29—3 P. M.

OUR TROOPS ADVANCED.

The day has virtually been one of rest and recuperation, although a part of the army has been moving to newly assigned positions on this side of the Pamunkey, for the double purpose of learning the disposition Lee has made of his army, and of preparing for future offensive operations. Warren's corps crossed at this place yesterday. Burnside came up and crossed during the night. Both are now some distance from the river, on advantageous ground, and are prepared for marching or fighting, as the enemy elects. Hancock's corps crossed early yesterday two miles above, and Wright's followed immediately. Both were prepared for battle last evening, and the indications then were that the enemy might think it to his advantage to attack us, and bring on an engagement at daylight. This was not done, however, and nothing denoted his immediate presence through the day.

A RECONNOISSANCE.

At noon a column, made up of one regiment from each division in the Fifth corps, was sent out as a reconnoissance in force, but encountered no rebel troops till nearly night. At the same time the Second corps was advanced a considerable distance, and found no enemy in its front. The Sixth corps was pushed out toward Hanover Court House rapidly, without meeting any opposition, and its advance now occupies that place. The result of the day's reconnoissances is that Lee is in force at Tolopatomoy creek, seven or eight miles south of this, and that our next battle threatens to be fought on or near the old Mechanicsville battle ground. The precise disposition of his troops was not learned; but it is certainly known that he has withdrawn them beyond that creek. This lessens the distance between us and Richmond materially. Before the setting of another sun our troops will confront him there.

CONTRACTION OF THE UNION LINES.

Our lines are slowly contracting on the ill-fated city, and before the close of another Sabbath day its streets will echo the sound of our belching cannon. Its utter destruction is almost certain, if it be taken by assault.

THE REBEL ORGANS—GENERAL PEMBERTON.

The Richmond *Examiner* of the 28th speaks boastfully of the failure of Grant's campaign, while the thunder of our cannon must have been within hearing of its office. It alludes again to General Pemberton, of Vicksburg notoriety, holding a high command in the city, and more than intimates there would be another surrender on the Fourth of July, if none but such as he commanded its defences. It is a remarkable and significant fact that Lieutenant General Pemberton has recently resigned his high rank in the rebel army, and is now a plain lieutenant colonel of artillery, commanding in the defences of Richmond. But one construction is put upon it. *He is a Northern man, and desires to place himself within the pale of the President's amnesty proclamation, which denies pardon and forgiveness to all rebels above the rank of colonel.* This will raise another storm about his ears when understood by the Southern people, and add, if possible, to the suspicion and distrust now entertained of him in all ranks of society.

IN THE FIELD, May 30—8 A. M.

ADVANCING.

The different corps headquarters were moved further towards the front yesterday, and this morning General Grant and General Meade move theirs also. No firing was heard this morning in any direction until within five minutes. Since then the sullen booming of an occasional cannon on the right indicates the presence of an enemy. No general engagement is anticipated to-day, I believe; but the situation of the two armies is such that one may be brought on at any time

Our trains are running to White House and Yorktown, and these points will hereafter be our base.

MAY 30—4 P. M.

THE FIGHT OF MONDAY.

The cannonading heard this morning proves to have been on Hancock's front, where respectable skirmishing has been kept up nearly the whole day. It was no part of the general plan to advance this portion of the line until the other corps were properly posted; consequently the firing and fighting have been of a desultory character. Such entire quiet has pervaded all other portions of our front that one could almost doubt the presence of a powerful foe.

MOVEMENTS.

But our dispositions for battle have been going forward all day. Troops have been marching and countermarching through the narrow country roads from early dawn to the present hour; headquarters, supply and ammunition trains have been moved to their proper places; the immense herds of cattle that follow in the rear of the army to furnish its daily supply of fresh beef have been driven to fresh grazing grounds in the most sheltered positions possible; the miles and miles of guarded wagon trains that started from Port Royal to the Army of the Potomac have been hurried across the Pamunkey and moved to the east flank and rear; and the cavalry that two days ago held the enemy in check on our front until the main body of the army effected a crossing of the river has been moved on our flanks, and is ready; and everything denotes to the accustomed eye a preparation on the grandest scale for a contest bloody and awful.

OUR PRESENT LINE OF BATTLE

is formed with Wright's corps on the extreme right, extending westward nearly to Hanover Court House; Hancock's on the right centre, on the Shady Grove road; Warren's on the left centre, on the Mechanicsville road, and Burnside's on the extreme left. The cavalry were withdrawn from the front yesterday, and moved out on the left flank this morning. Wilson's cavalry was covering the rear, but is probably now on the right flank. The enemy is apparently in force close in front, on both sides of the Tolopatomoy creek, in a strong position. Should Burnside and Warren cross below it would cause him another retreat.

THE REBEL VIEW OF AFFAIRS.

The Richmond papers of the latest date maintain their blustering, defiant tone. They insist on considering the present campaign a failure, and to affect to mock at the idea of Lee having suffered reverses, or of Richmond being in danger. To their comprehension it seems no victory for Grant to have outmanœuvered and outfought their ablest living general. To them Lee's retreat from the strongest natural and artificial positions in the country is nothing but "strategy, my boy, strategy," and Grant's advance to within ten miles of the capital the greatest failure of the war. They are happy in being able to draw consolation from such sorrowful sources, and certainly no living people but themselves could do so in instances like these.

FACTS ARE STUBBORN THINGS.

But, whatever the leaders and press of the South may assert, a few indisputable facts stand prominently forth as the result of this campaign. In the face of all obstacles, and in the very teeth of their army, General Grant has moved steadily onward from the Rapidan until his outposts are now within ten miles of Richmond. In spite of all pretended victories, Lee's army has continually retreated before him. Notwithstanding the noisy vaunting of the prowess and pluck of the troops now composing Lee's army, and the asserted cowardice and demoralization of ours, General Lee has not and dare not trust his troops in open field fight, and stake all on the gage of battle. A salutary lesson was taught him in the Wilderness, and repeated at Spottsylvania. Until then Lee seemed unwilling to admit the fighting superiority of this army. Since then his every movement has betrayed its consciousness. But for this our repeated flank movements might have been dangerous. But for his distrust of his troops in an open encounter, he could have attacked us to advantage many times. Nothing was ever more clearly proven than that his army is decidedly inferior to ours in pluck and endurance, and that no one knows it better than the rebel general commanding.

Mr. N. Davidson's Despatches.

HEADQUARTERS, CAVALRY CORPS, May 29, 1864.

THE BATTLE OF HAWES' SHOP.

General Sheridan having rejoined the army on Wednesday with his corps, rested one night at the rear, took some supplies, and, under orders from General Meade, proceeded to the front to cover the contemplated flank movement. General Wilson moved to the extreme right as far as the North Anna river where he made a demonstration by shelling a force of the enemy over on the other side.

Major General Sheridan, with Gregg's and Torbert's divisions, moved to the left, towards Dabney's ferry, on the Pamunkey. He was followed during the night by the whole infantry force of the army. Yesterday morning, the Pamunkey having been crossed, General Davies' brigade, of Gregg's division, was ordered to advance two or three miles to Hawes' store and encamp.

UNEXPECTED MEETING.

It was not supposed that any force of the enemy would be found there, and General Davies sent out a battalion to patrol the roads and establish pickets. It had not proceeded far, however, before it received a volley from the rebel cavalry, which soon proved to be there in great numbers, and in a very short space of time Davies' brigade was nearly all engaged.

GALLANTRY OF GENERAL DAVIES.

The fight began at about eleven in the morning, and was continued with great desperation for some hours by the whole of Gregg's command. Davies had the hottest point of the line, being supported by Colonel Gregg's brigade of the same division. The whole rebel cavalry force was there, strengthened by the South Carolina brigade of mounted infantry, which has recently joined it to "show Virginia cavalry how to fight," as prisoners say.

The First New Jersey, Colonel Kester; First Massachusetts, Sixth Ohio, Colonel Stedman, and Fourth, Thirteenth and Sixteenth Pennsylvania held them at bay during all this while, and fought like tigers. The enemy, as usual, had selected a fine position in the woods, with his artillery so posted as to command the road. General Davies and his staff were everywhere on the alert, animating the men and so disposing the forces as to strengthen the weakest positions of the line.

NARROW ESCAPE OF GENERAL DAVIES.

As they were riding along the line a volley was poured into them. One ball struck the General's sabre scabbard and was divided—the pieces falling to the earth without injuring man or horse. Another shot took off a portion of the horse's tail. Another killed the gallant Lieutenant W. W. Wardell, of the First Massachusetts, who was serving upon the staff of General Davies. He was much esteemed in the brigade for his bravery and his gentlemanly qualities and officer-like conduct generally. Two men and several horses of the party were also wounded by this same volley.

About this time—two o'clock—the strife had become most deadly. We were losing most fearfully, a large proportion being officers. Of the First New Jersey, the brave Captain W. R. Robbins and five other officers in his battalion were wounded. A musket ball passed through Robbins' shoulder, making a painful, but not dangerous wound. Colonel Kester had his horse shot. Captain Beekman lost the two middle fingers of the right hand. Lieutenants Bellis and Dye were killed. Captains Brocks and Maulsbury and Lieutenants Stewart, Shaw, Cox, Wynkoop and Craig were wounded, the latter slightly in the breast. In the Sixth Ohio, Major Delos B. Northway was killed, and Lieutenants Miller and Thomas wounded. Captain Wm. A. Snyder, of the Tenth New York, was wounded in the hand, and Lieutenant James S. Reynolds in the leg, amputation being necessary in the latter case. Lieutenant S. Greenly, of the First Pennsylvania, was killed, and Captain Craft and Lieutenants Kennedy, Lawshe, Buxton and Lucas, wounded.

MARTIN'S BATTERY

was hotly engaged, although the ground was not favorable for the working of our guns with effect. Captain Martin lost six men, two being killed, and six horses. One wheel of one of his pieces was also demolished. Our guns were served in the best possible manner.

COLONEL GREGG'S LOSSES.

Of Colonel Gregg's brigade the Thirteenth and Sixteenth Pennsylvania suffered most. Captains James C. Robinson and A. F. Swan and Lieutenant S. A. Roberts, of the Sixteenth, were wounded, and of the Thirteenth Captain John Kline was killed and Captain P. Kane and Lieutenants Stever and McDonald wounded. Lieutenant Bowen, of the Fourth Pennsylvania, was wounded. This brigade is one of the best, and that portion of it engaged fought splendidly.

General Gregg has, if possible, won new laurels in his management of this action.

TORBERT'S DIVISION.

As the fight waxed hottest, between two and three o'clock, Custers brigade of Michiganders was ordered in to assist Davies' and Gregg' brigades, who already had the enemy weakening in putting him to rout. This command is completely armed with Spencer rifles (seven-shooters), and the enemy would rather see the devil coming at them than these. As Custer marched up the road and dismounted his men Davies opened a gap in his line to make way for the Michigan brigade. The line was immediately joined and a furious assault commenced. It was just in the nick of time, for at the same moment a brigade of fresh troops reinforced the enemy. But nothing could withstand the terrible volume of iron hail which our boys now poured into their ranks. Back they went, South Carolinians and all, for a mile and a half, with fearful loss. At five o'clock the battle was ended, and we had the field. Three of our brigades had whipped their whole corps. The Provost Marshal counted one hundred and twenty-six dead rebels in a small space just in Davies' front, but these could not have embraced half their dead. There were loads upon loads of their wounded carried from the field, and our hospital contains about forty of their men mortally or severely wounded.

General Custer exhibited his usual daring and impetuosity. His horse was shot—being the seventh he has had hit during the war—but he escaped unhurt. Captain Green, his Acting Assistant General, was equally fortunate, having been hit on the head by a spent ball, which fell harmless to the earth. Lieutenant Charles Christiancy, Aid-de-Camp to General Custer, was wounded in two places, and had his horse shot. He is well in hospital. Three of the General's staff also had their horses hit.

This was unquestionably the sharpest cavalry fight of the war—the hottest fire of musketry and shell. The enemy had long "Tower" musket against our carbines. Their guns were admirably served, and the shells flew over among our reserves, making it frightfully hot for the aids from the general corps headquarters to pass through in carrying orders. It is hardly necessary to say that all the staff officers behaved with their usual gallantry in this little fight.

Our losses in Gregg's division sum up as follows:—

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Officers	5	25	—	30
Men	28	179	13	220
Total	33	204	13	250

The losses in Custer's brigade, First division, are as follows:—

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Officers	—	6	—	6
Men	15	82	2	109
Total	25	88	2	115
Total loss				365

We have taken about one hundred prisoners.

To say anything of General Sheridan in conducting this affair seems superfluous. He appears to keep himself so thoroughly informed as to know just how many men to send in to win a fight, or else he is endowed with intuitive judgment in this respect—for he always wins.

HEADQUARTERS, CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, May 30, 1864.

THE CAVALRY FIGHT.

At half-past two P. M. to-day firing was heard on our advance picket line manned by Colonel Deven's brigade. We were on the south bank of the Pamunkey, and near Newcastle ferry. Colonel Deven's brigade, of Torbert's division, at once engaged the enemy, and General Torbert and staff immediately went to the front. Merritt's brigade soon followed, and afterwards Custer's, with their seven shooters. They soon cleaned out the rebels and drove them back three miles, with a loss of sixty-three men in killed and wounded. Among them were Captain Loper, of the Sixth Pennsylvania, and Captain Tice, of the Seventeenth Pennsylvania, wounded, and Lieutenant Augier, quartermaster of the Seventeenth Pennsylvania, and Lieutenant Martin, adjutant of the Sixth Pennsylvania, killed. Some fifteen rebels, three or four of them officers, were brought in wounded. They were South Carolinians, and say they think we fight well. I will send lists of killed and wounded next opportunity. All fought splendidly.

Mr. J. C. Fitzpatrick's Despatches.

NINTH ARMY CORPS, HANOVERTOWN, ON THE PAMUNKEY, VA., May 29—A. M.

BURNSIDE'S MOVEMENTS.

We broke camp Friday morning on the banks of the North Anna, and reached here last night. Our corps brought up the rear of the column. The rear of the corps was brought up by Col. Leisure's brigade, of General Crittenden's division, who had some sharp skirmishing with the rebel pickets, in which Captain Stevenson, of Company E, Second New York Mounted Rifles, was wounded in the leg. Our pioneers destroyed the raft or bridge on which the troops had effected the crossing of the stream in the advance of Wednesday last, and the brigade took position on the hills on the north side until the main body, trains and ambulances were safely away. For a time it was feared that the brigade would be unable to leave before nightfall, as they were obliged in going back from the hills to cross an open plain which was perfectly commanded by the rebels. The latter, however, soon withdrew all but a cavalry picket, and the brigade came away.

Our corps is in motion again as I write—seven A. M.

NINTH ARMY CORPS, NEAR HANOVERTOWN, VA., May 29—3 P. M.

Our corps hold the extreme left of the line. This morning we advanced in line of battle, and our skirmishers are now about three miles beyond and south of Hanovertown. No enemy has as yet been encountered.

We have news of Lieutenant Colonel Chandler, of the Fifty-seventh Massachusetts, through a prisoner captured yesterday, who says that he was killed and buried on the battle field of the North Anna.

Mr. Francis C. Long's Despatch.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, NEAR HANOVERTOWN, ON THE PAMUNKEY, May 28, 1864.

THE COUNTRY.

The country through which our columns have marched to-day is a fine one, and not to be surpassed in Virginia. The soil is quite fertile and the scenery really delightful. The face of the country in the vicinity of the Pamunkey is gently undulating and covered to a considerable extent with heavy timber. Broad fields of wheat at times greet the eye, stretching away on every hand as far as the sight can reach. Fields of clover in full bloom furnished forage for our hungry and jaded horses as well as delighted our senses with redolent perfume.

RELICS OF THE LATE CAVALRY EXPEDITION.

The carriage road running from Chesterfield Station to Concord Church and from Concord Church to Hanovertown is literally strewed with the carcasses of horses killed during the late cavalry raid by General Sheridan. They have been lying about for two weeks, and many of them are in an advanced stage of putrefaction, and every breath of air is laden with nose offending exhalations arising from them. Scarcely a respiration of pure air has our soldiers breathed during this long and weary march. The heat, the dust and the sickening stench emanating from decomposing animal matter are each great nuisances, but combined they become almost intolerable.

THE RESIDENCES AND THEIR OCCUPANTS.

The country through which we have passed shows every indication of having been settled by a wealthy agricultural population. Some of the residences are almost palaces in point of architectural beauty, looking as if their owners had lived in a most blissful state of Oriental luxury, indolence and ignorance. But few men, save the old and decrepit, are to be found at home; those that are not in the army have straddled to some place of safety, leaving the women and children to protect themselves. *A notable instance, indeed, of Southern affection and chivalry!* The strong minded rebel women we encounter appear anything but frightened at our sudden advent among them. Yet they evince a considerable astonishment as the unceremonious manner Yankee soldiers have of mustering ducks, turkeys, chickens, pigs, &c., out of the rebel service. The women seem abundantly endowed with genuine rebel obduracy, openly avow their hostility to Yankees and Yankee institutions, and entertain us with the rather comforting assurance that our journey towards Richmond will be a vain one.

THE ENEMY,

at the time the army moved from the North Anna, was moving in a strong column on our right to flank us and break our line of communication with Fredericksburg. Advantage was taken of this movement by General Grant to move away quietly to the left, and Lee found nothing but our deserted camps to repay him for his trouble. Had he suspected such a movement from Grant he would have caused us some serious trouble in crossing the Pamunkey, for the ground is such that he could have planted his batteries with great advantage, and possibly delayed our passage of the river to an indefinite period, both at Hanover and Huntley's ferries.

A SHARP CAVALRY FIGHT

occurred about three miles from Hanovertown this afternoon (the 28th), between General Custer's brigade and a body of Butler's South Carolina cavalry. The affair lasted about three hours, and the enemy was driven back some distance, with a considerable loss.

The rebels opened on our men with a terrible fire of grape and canister from batteries hidden in the dense woods. Our loss will not fall short of three hundred in killed and wounded.

Doubtless a demonstration will be made to-morrow to check our advance, in order to gain time, if for no other purpose. It is a fact patent to every one in this army that our troops during the present campaign are moved with quite as much rapidity as Lee's; and if he retreats to Richmond our advance will be in uncomfortably close proximity to his rear long ere he can take refuge behind his earthworks in the vicinity of Mechanicsville. We are now on the Peninsula, about midway between Hanover Court House and Newcastle.

OUR BASE.

A new line of communication was opened with Washington yesterday, via West Point, on the York river, at the junction of the Matapony and Pamunkey rivers. A heavy supply train is on the way here from that point.

Mr. L. A. Hendrick's Despatch.

HEADQUARTERS, FIFTH ARMY CORPS, ACROSS THE PAMUNKEY, May 28—9 P. M.

ON PENINSULA.

Amid alternate sand and mud and perpetual marshes, the Army of the Potomac is with you once again. At noon the Fifth corps had all crossed the Pamunkey, at Dabney ferry, a point eighteen miles above the White House, and some distance from Richmond. We met with no resistance; but as we crossed, and at intervals all the afternoon, have heard ahead cannonading, supposed to come from General Sheridan's cavalry column in advance. Our headquarters are at the Brockenbough residence, a mile from the river, and about us are encamped the troops of the corps.

FORCED MARCHES.

The past two days has been very severe on the soldiers. Nearly two entire days and all one night they have marched consecutively. Notwithstanding the length and severity of the marches, there has been but very little straggling. Nothing occurred on the road, except the usual incidents of marching and meeting no enemy. General Warren captured two rebels personally while indulging in a little outside scouting with two orderlies. This is the extent of our captures, unless about a dozen picked up contrabands come under this head. Our route lay principally through byroads, but with churches at frequent intervals and occasional plantations, under good cultivation. But the roughness of army campaigning is not confined to the rank and file alone.

GENERAL WARREN AND STAFF,

owing to the non arrival of headquarters wagons, had to pass last night supperless and blanketless. I followed the example of the rest, and made my bed out of my horseblanket and saddle. But want of supper was the principal deprivation.

CLAY'S BIRTHPLACE.

Two miles from where we are encamped is Studley, the well-known birthplace of Henry Clay. The old graveyard and monumental stones commemorative of the decease and interment of his father, mother, brothers and sisters have been undisturbed thus far in the war.

THE WEATHER.

A rain storm has just set in, and the elements give indication of an old fashioned Peninsular storm. But there is no trusting zodiacal signs in this region. To-day's slight of storm may be succeeded by a morning of golden sunshine. And, again, the peaceful quiet of to-night may be followed by a morrow of bloodiest battle. Meantime a band of music is playing. On the plains and through the woods where our brave soldiers are now resting after their recent march the still night air bears the delicious melody of their music.

Music, bid thy minstrels play
No tunes of grief or sorrow;
Let them cheer the living brave to-day—
They may wail the dead to-morrow.

REMINISCENCES.

It seems strange that to-night we should be on the Peninsula. Strange memories of the past are revived—memories of McClellan and haltings and pickaxes, spades and changes of base, and final and ignominious retreat. It is different now. Another commander leads us—one who makes no haltings, who cares not for picks and spades, who moves the army with no regard to base lines, who knows no such word as retreat.

THE WOUNDED.

I have just learned that about one hundred and fifty of our cavalry, wounded to-day, have just been brought in and consigned to the care of Dr. Milton, Medical Director of this corps. A detachment of corps surgeons, under Dr. Winne, and medical supplies have been furnished to dress their wounds. Particulars of this cavalry engagement will, of course, be furnished by the HERALD correspondents with this branch of the service. I understand that our cavalry drove the enemy's cavalry back to their infantry supports, and then fell back themselves.

Our Army Correspondence.

OLD TAVERN CHURCH, VA., May 30, 1864.

We have again flanked the enemy. Our forces were withdrawn from the north side of the North Anna river last Thursday and Friday.

General Sheridan, with Generals Torbett's and Gregg's divisions of cavalry, marched all night, and on Thursday morning the fords on the Pamunkey were in our possession.

At Dabney's ferry Baker's North Carolina brigade opposed our advance and resisted when we laid our pontoon bridge. Custer's and Devins' brigades drove them off to Hanover Court House, killing many and capturing a large number of prisoners.

The Sixth corps was soon at our heels. Then came the Second, Eighth and Ninth. Lee was doomed to disappointment. His elaborate fortifications would not serve him. Grant was on his right flank, and he must away to Richmond.

Saturday morning Gregg's division of cavalry was fired into near Hawes' shop. Davies' brigade was in the advance. The woods seemed alive with rebels, and they soon began to resound with the sharp volleys of our carbines. In a short time Davies' entire brigade was fighting in earnest. Colonel Gregg was ordered to Davies' support, and the remainder of the division was hotly engaged. Fitz Hugh Lee commanded in person. His cavalry corps was all fighting, assisted by a brigade of mounted fire-eaters from South Carolina, commanded by Colonel Butler. These men had just arrived from the seaboard, and admit the warmth of the reception which our troops gave them. Conspicuous in the battle were the Fourth and Sixteenth Pennsylvania, First New Jersey, Sixth Ohio and First Massachusetts. For a long time these men held Fitz Hugh Lee back. All the cavalry engaged behaved with valor.

We found the rebels strongly intrenched in the woods, with heavy guns in position; but, with every advantage upon their side, they were badly beaten, flying from the field in great confusion, leaving their dead and wounded in our hands, and over one hundred prisoners.

Gregg maintained the contest from noon till two P. M., when Custer came up, formed his squadron into line, and charged their works. Gregg's command advanced at the same time with a cheer. Many a brave fellow fell in this daring assault.

The works were ours. Not an armed rebel could be found for three miles.

The Thirteenth and Sixteenth Pennsylvania, and the Fifth and Seventh Michigan suffered a heavy loss. Captains Robbins and Swan, of the Sixteenth, were wounded. Of the Tenth Pennsylvania, Captain John Kline was killed, and Captain P. Kane, Lieutenants Stein and McDonald were wounded; also, Lieutenant Bowen, of the Fourth Pennsylvania. Too much credit cannot be given to this brigade which fought with unprecedented calmness amid that storm of grape and canister.

Our loss will amount to three hundred and fifty killed, wounded and missing. The rebels used grape and canister profusely.

Our infantry was all up that evening. Long and strong lines of fortifications were erected. If Lee crossed our path we were prepared. He did not.

Next morning the newly made breastworks were abandoned. The column moved on towards Richmond.

Monday, MAY 30, Major Dorland had two squadrons of the Seventeenth Pennsylvania cavalry on picket. He held the road leading from Cold Harbor to Old Church Tavern. About noon his pickets were driven in. The enemy appeared in heavy force. Colonel Devins sent the Ninth and Sixth New York to reinforce Major Dorland.

A heavy engagement ensued. John Auglin, Quartermaster of the Seventeenth Pennsylvania, was killed, while fighting in the skirmish line.

General Merritt soon arrived with his brigade, trained a battery of brass napoleons on the rebels, and opened fire. The Sixth Pennsylvania was sent in on the left of the line and charged the rebel flank. Captain Leiper was wounded and Lieut. Martin killed.

Custer next entered. A general charge was ordered, and the rebels were swept from sight. They fled, leaving a large number of dead and wounded on the field.

Lieut. Blunt, Sixth New York, and Capt. Tice, Seventeenth Pennsylvania, were wounded, and Charles W. Hofmier, Sixth Pennsylvania, and Thomas Whalley, of the same regiment, were killed.

Stuart came through this road two years ago. Fitz Hugh Lee was thus baffled and foiled in his attempt to stop our communication with the White House.

Our advance is near Mechanicsville. On the left Warren was using his cannon freely all day. He drove in the rebel pickets about four miles.

Lee's army occupy the trenches about Meadow and Bottom bridges.

This day communication with the White House was opened. The Pamunkey is full of transports and gunboats.

We expect General Smith to join us with his command in two days.

Hancock made a mighty effort last night, about dusk, to relieve Warren, who had been slightly pressed during the afternoon.

Our loss is very trifling.

The siege of Richmond has begun.

An Attack on Our Trains by Guerillas.

WASHINGTON, June 1, 1864.

A letter from Port Royal, Va., states that several days ago our trains were attacked near that place by a gang of Mosby's men, who captured eighteen of our men but failed to steal any of our wagons, the guard having been reinforced.

Aid for the Wounded.

WASHINGTON, June 1, 1864.

The steamboat Mary F. Rapley, chartered by the United States Sanitary Commission, left for White House this morning with another load of sanitary stores and a corps of relief agents.

THE CASUALTIES.

List of Officers Wounded.

Captain W. S. Craft, H, 1st Pa. cavalry, leg, severely.
Lieut. W. P. Kennedy, K, 1st Pa. cavalry, neck, severely.
Captain G. V. Beekman, I, 1st N. J., hand, severely.
Captain W. R. Robins, G, 1st N. J., hand, severely.
Lieut. William Wynkoop, A, 1st N. J., left foot, slightly.
Captain Joseph Brooks, 1st N. J., abdomen, severely.
First Lieut. Thos. T. Cox, M, ankle and shoulder, severely.
Lieut. F. Y. McDonald, D, 13th Pa., neck, severely.
Captain P. Kane, E, 13th Pa., leg, severely.
Lieut. W. A. Waterman, E, 1st Mich., head, slightly.
Lieut. J. R. Miller, C, 6th Ohio, knee, slightly.
Lieut. W. L. Thomas, C, 6th Ohio, thigh, severely.
Lieut. Philip Mothersill, A, 5th Mich., groin, severely.
Lieut. James Christian, A. D. C. of Gen. Custar, arm.
Lieut. F. W. Bowan, L, 1st Pa., leg, amputated.
Captain Geo. R. Maxwell, E, 1st Mich., arm, severely.
Lieut. E. L. Brewer, G, 5th Mich., shoulder, severely.
Lieut. Chas. J. Osborne, Adj't, 5th Mich., hand, severely.
Captain James Robinson, G, 16th Pa., arm, severely.

List of Wounded Cavalrymen at the Battle of May 29.

Corp. T. C. Crampton, I, 6th Michigan, thigh, seriously.
W. E. McSharrey, E, 13th Pennsylvania, groin, severely.
C. Orth, B, 13th Pennsylvania, back, severely.
Henry Enes, D, 13th Pennsylvania, head, slightly.
Corp. Dan Coder, F, 16th Pennsylvania, thigh, severely.
Sergt. A. N. Buck, 7th Michigan, hand, slightly.
D. E. Sickles, D, 16th Pennsylvania, jaw, severely.
Jas. McLaughlin, H, 1st New Jersey, arm, severely.
G. R. Ball, D, 5th Michigan, arm, slightly.
W. Seacord, M, 16th New York, both thighs, severely.
Jet. Wheeler, D, 1st New Jersey, right shoulder.
Dan. Biglow, A, 6th Ohio, left leg, slightly.
G. Northway, A, 6th Ohio, right hand, slightly.
J. M. Overton, A, 5th Michigan, thigh, slightly.
G. R. Cook, C, 16th Pennsylvania, thigh and leg, slightly.
Alf. Brennan, L, 1st New Jersey, thigh, slightly.
H. Allen, C, 7th Michigan, thigh, slightly.
J. Shafer, H, 1st New Jersey, leg slightly.
Corp. John Thones, A, 5th Michigan, hand, slightly.
John R. McNulty, H, 1st New Jersey, hand, slightly.
Arthur Cook, A, 1st New Jersey, neck, slightly.
W. Rutten, I, 1st New Jersey, neck, slightly.
Morgan Jones, K, 16th Pennsylvania, foot, slightly.
J. S. Baldwin, K, 16th Pennsylvania, foot, severely.
Simon Francis, B, 10th New York, leg, severely.
Thos. Irwin, F, 16th Pennsylvania, shoulder, slightly.
A. Stuart, G, 1st New Jersey, lung, severely.
Capt. M. Maulsbury, 1st New Jersey, lung, severely.
Lieut. W. Meshane, 1st New Jersey, breast, severely.
Hiram Ingall, 6th Ohio, thigh, severely.
Jacob Brestle, 1st Pennsylvania, shoulder, slightly.
Horace Ornsby, 16th Pennsylvania, jaw, severely.
Edward Miner, L, 1st New Jersey, groin, flesh.
Capt. R. F. Swann, 16th Pennsylvania, elbow, flesh.
Edward Wilcox, D, 1st New Jersey, hip, severely.
Lieut S. A. Roberts, I, 16th Pennsylvania, hip, severely.
R. Pagett, 6th New York battery, leg, slightly.
M. Warner, I, 10th New York, thigh, slightly.
D. McGuggin.
Sergt. H. McNulty, I, 1st Pennsylvania, leg, flesh.
Wm. Young, F, 10th New York, hip, flesh.
Sergt. Michael Long, 1st Massachusetts, foot, amputated.
G. W. Oller, D, 13th Pennsylvania, right arm, slightly.
W. E. Maxwell, D, 13th Pennsylvania, arm, severely.
Sergt. S. Walton, A, 1st New Jersey, scalp, slightly.
R. W. Device, I, 1st Pennsylvania, arm, slightly.
Corp. H. H. Faulkner, A, 16th Pennsylvania, arm, slightly.
Sergt. M. M. Logan, M, 16th Pennsylvania, arm, slightly.
Sergt. John Robinson, F, 10th New York, cheek, severely.
Sergt. H. Kuhirhan, L, 1st New Jersey, arm, severely.
Frank Moore, C, 10th Pennsylvania, right shoulder, severely.
Jas. Clark, B, 1st New Jersey, arm, severely.
Sergt. J. Reeves, G, 6th Ohio, arm, severely.
S. E. Smith, D, 6th Ohio, back, severely.
H. McWethy, B, 5th Michigan, side, slightly.
H. D. Rager, F, 13th Pennsylvania, shoulder, slightly.
Ed. Rush, D, 1st New Jersey, shoulder, slightly.
Sergt. H. Y. Beans, A, 1st New Jersey, neck, severely.
Sergt. Seldon Norton, H, 6th Michigan, neck, severely.
Sergt. J. L. Miller, C, 7th Michigan, groin, severely.
Sergt. J. E. Sumner, E, 5th Michigan, thigh, severely.
Corp. O. A. Woodworth, S, 6th Ohio, arm, severely.
J. Decker, C, 1st Pennsylvania, shoulder, severely.
R. Burns, F, 1st New Jersey, thigh, slightly.
A. Strafford, D, 6th Michigan, breast, severely.
F. Huston, K, 6th Michigan, leg, severely.
Sergt. G. H. Wighton, L, 6th Michigan, thigh, severely.
E. H. Harvey, A, 7th Michigan, thigh, slightly.
Corp. J. A. Sager, A, 6th Michigan, arm, slightly.
John J. Potter, G, 10th New York, thigh, slightly.
John Taylor, D, 2d Ohio, arm, slightly.
Peter Ames, K,