THE ROUGE REVOLT

Bloody Battles Around Paris on Monday and Yesterday.

Official Reports of Victory from the Versailles Authorities.

Terrible Slaughter of Insurgents.

Counter Claims of Success by the Communists.

Fierce and Prolonged Struggle West of Paris.

SEVERE ARTILLERY DUELS.

Gustave Flourens and General Duval Killed.

The Redoubt of Chatillon Captured by the Government Forces.

GENERAL HENRY A PRISONER.

Thousands of Communists Killed and Wounded.

A Disorderly Flight Into Paris—The City Surrounded.

THE GOVERNMENT REPORTS

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Proclamation of M. Thiers—Announcement of Victory—Details of the Conflict—Clemency Promised.

VERSAILLES, April 4, 1871.

M. Thiers has issued a proclamation addressed to the prefects of departments, which I forward for the use of the HERALD. It is worded as follows:—

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VICTORY.

On Monday the insurgent masses attacked our forces simultaneously at Nanterre, Rueil, Bougival, Besons, Chaton and Croissy. Fort Mont Valerien, at daybreak, began to cannonade the insurgents, who were at first sheltered by the villages of Nanterre, Rueil and Bougival. They subsequently attacked the government forces, by whom they were repulsed.

FLIGHT INTO PARIS.

General Vinoy with the cavalry was by this time in a position threatening to outflank the insurgents, and they fled in a complete rout, leaving many of their dead and wounded in the hands of the government troops.

CLEMENCY.

M. Thiers says:—"The government will exercise clemency towards all who have been blindly misled, but will punish with severity the ringleaders. The insurrection is impotent."

Advance of the Insurgents—The Troops Faithful—The Attack—Rebel Leaders to be Harshly Dealt With.

LONDON, April 4, 1871.

I am enabled to report the following intelligence, which has been officially promulgated by the French government, of military operations around Paris:—

ADVANCE OF THE INSURGENTS.

Yesterday two corps of the insurgents advanced toward Versailles, one via Meudon and Chatillon, and the other by the way of Reuil. Both were routed with heavy loss, and Flourens was killed.

THE TROOPS FAITHFUL.

The troops, whose expected defecation constituted the hopes of the insurgents, behaved nobly. The insurgents in forts Vanvres and Issy fired on the troops to-day.

AN ATTACK.

The government troops have just attacked the insurgents, and speedy and complete success is anticipated.

REBEL LEADERS TO BE HARSHLY DEALT WITH.

In the Assembly to-day M. Thiers, in some remarks upon the state of affairs, said the government would deal harshly with the ringleaders of the insurrection, but leniently with their dupes. The sentiment was received with applause.

The rentes are advancing.

THE FIGHTING YESTERDAY.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Circular from M. Picard—The Redoubt at Chatillon Captured—Duval Shot—The Troops Exasperated—Paris Surrounded—Marseilles Quiet.

VERSAILLES, April 4, 1871.

The following news is forwarded for the NEW YORK HERALD:—

CIRCULAR FROM M. PICARD.

A circular issued to-day from M. Picard to the Prefects of departments announces the victory of the Assemblyists in the conflicts before Paris.

THE REDOUBT AT CHATILLON CAPTURED.

The redoubt at Chatillon, held by the insurgents, was captured this morning by the forces of the government, with two thousand prisoners, including General Henry.

DUVAL SHOT.

General Duval, the commander-in-chief of the insurgent National Guards, is reported to have been shot in the struggle at the redoubt of Chatillon.

NO FIGHTING ELSEWHERE.

No fighting has occurred to-day on any other part of the line.

EXASPERATED.

The troops are becoming more than ever exasperated at the resistance shown by the insurgents.

PARIS SURROUNDED.

It is announced unofficially that the Army of Versailles surrounds Paris, and that order elsewhere in France is established.

MARSEILLES PACIFIED.

A despatch from Marseilles says order has been restored, and that the troops have entered the town.

DETAILS OF MONDAY'S BATTLE

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Commencement of the Great Battle—Its Result thus Far—Desperate Situation of the Insurgents—Absurd Rumors—Demoralization—Insurgent Cowardice—General Henry Killed.

LONDON, April 4, 1871.

I forward the following intelligence for publication in the HERALD:—

THE GREAT STRUGGLE COMMENCED.

The London *Times* special says a great battle was commenced at six in the morning by the Nationals under the command of Bergeret, who, at ten o'clock, asked for reinforcements from Paris.

INSURGENT ENTHUSIASM.

There was much animation in the bivouacs of the Nationals on Sunday night, the men singing the Marseillaise and the chant *Depart à Versailles*.

RESULT OF THE BATTLE.

The *Times'* correspondent believes that the battle, which was on a large scale, has proved disastrous to the Communists. The unexpected cannonade of Valerien threw the Nationals into confusion, and it is asserted that the following is now the situation:—

A DESPERATE SITUATION.

Bergeret, with 15,000 men, was completely cut off; then Flourens was purposely permitted to effect a junction with him, and Flourens and Bergeret, with 35,000 men, must surrender or fight at the greatest disadvantage.

AN ABSURD RUMOR.

The London *Times'* correspondent says there is an improbable version of the affair to the effect that Flourens has reached Versailles.

COMMUNISTS DEMORALIZED.

The Communists are demoralized, and, it is believed, have been betrayed. The gendarmerie treat all prisoners unmercifully.

COWARDICE OF THE INSURGENTS.

The London *Daily News* despatches confirm the rout of the insurgents, who proved great blustering cowards, who expected that Valerien would fraternize with them.

PRISONERS SHOT.

The Pontifical Zouaves shot all prisoners instantly.

GENERAL HENRY KILLED.

The *Telegraph's* correspondent reports that he saw General Henry killed by a shell from Mont Valerien, and that Bergeret's carriage and horses were destroyed in the same manner. The men were thrown into panic-stricken rout.

COMMUNIST ACCOUNTS.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

A Claim of Victory—Positions Conquered and Maintained—Appeal to the People—Ministerial Appointments—Elections Postponed.

LONDON, April 4, 1871.

A despatch from Paris dated to-day (April 4) has just been received, and I forward its contents for the information of the HERALD.

A CLAIM OF VICTORY.

The Communists claim that in the battles of yesterday they won a victory.

POSITIONS CONQUERED AND MAINTAINED.

The *Cri du Peuple* announces that the Nationals have maintained the positions which they conquered yesterday at Le Bas Meudon, Bougival and before Fort d'Issy.

APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE.

The Communal delegation from the First arrondissement of Paris have appealed to the people to unite and repel the common danger.

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS.

General Cluseret has been appointed to the charge of the Ministry of War and MM. Banchet and Gerome to the offices of delegates to the Ministry of Justice.

ELECTIONS POSTPONED.

The supplementary Communal elections have been postponed.

THE MARCH ON VERSAILLES.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Severe Cannonade from Valerien—What was Believed—The Advance on Versailles—An Artillery Fire—The Column Cut Off—Fierce Artillery Duel—A Repulse—Junction of Flourens with Bergeret—Full Details of the Struggle.

LONDON, April 4, 1871.

The following despatches, giving interesting details of the situation in and about Paris, are forwarded for publication in the NEW YORK HERALD:—

SEVERE CANNONADE FROM VALERIEN.

PARIS, April 3—12:15 P. M.—A cannonade is proceeding from Fort Mont Valerien at the rate of two shots per minute. There is also a sharp musketry fire towards Meudon. It is reported that the Nationals have suffered severely from the fire of Valerien, but nothing precise is obtainable.

WHAT WAS BELIEVED.

It is said the committee believed Valerien would not fire on the Nationals, who occupy Forts Vanvres, Issy and Montrouge in force.

TRAINS STOPPED—RUMORS.

The Versailles train was stopped to-day at Clamart and forced to return. Contradictory rumors are flying and the gates are shut.

THE ADVANCE ON VERSAILLES.

PARIS, April 3—6 P. M.—One hundred thousand Nationals, in three corps, with 200 guns, marched out of Paris this morning via Montrouge, Issy and Rueil, all destined to Versailles.

ARTILLERY FIRE FROM THE GOVERNMENT FORCES.

Fort Mont Valerien fired all day upon Rueil, and flying batteries at Meudon cannonaded the Nationals debouching from Issy on the Versailles road. Valerien cannonaded the rear guard of the Nationals entering the valley between Puteaux and Buzenval.

THE COLUMN CUT OFF.

Some detachments are retreating in a disorderly condition. There is nothing certain respecting the force that passed Valerien, but various conflicting versions are given. One report says they are surrounded, while another declares they effected a junction and turned Meudon, where a majority of the Versailles army is concentrated.

FIERCE ARTILLERY DUEL.

During the operations on the right there was a fierce engagement between the artillery of Meudon and the Parisian artillery.

THE COMMUNE LEADERS—A PRISONER.

Several members of the Commune, wearing red sashes, led the battalions. It is said a superior Versailles officer has been taken prisoner.

A REPULSE.

The *Moniteur* says the Zouaves repulsed the Nationals in an attack on Castle Meudon and that the National loss was heavy.

JUNCTION OF FLOURENS AND BERGERET.

Colonel Bourgoin telegraphs to the Commune at a quarter-past eleven A. M. that Bergeret and Flourens have formed a junction and march on Versailles, and that success was certain. Another despatch says:—At two o'clock in the afternoon Duval and Flourens formed a junction at Courbevoie.

THE FIRE OF VALERIEN PASSED.

They were cannonaded by Valérien, but the men were well sheltered. A concerted and successful movement was made, by which they passed the line of fire of Valérien and marched on Versailles. Bergeret had two horses killed.

COMMUNICATION CUT.

Communication with the outside world is cut off, and only peasants bringing provisions are admitted to Paris.

HENRY KILLED.

It is said that General Henry, commander of the Montrouge Nationals, is dead.

PATRIOTIC COMMUNISTS.

Floquet and Lockroy have resigned their seats in the Assembly, and remain to share the sufferings of Paris.

ASSY'S ARREST REPORTED.

It is reported that M. Assy has been arrested by order of the Commune. It is also stated that the Commune will adopt the families of the fallen Nationals.

GENERAL REPORTS.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

The Peace Negotiations—No Part of the War Indemnity Paid.

LONDON, April 4, 1871.

I am enabled to report the following for the information of the NEW YORK HERALD:—

THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

A despatch from Brussels, dated to-day, says that the German and French plenipotentiaries held another meeting to-day.

NO PART OF THE INDEMNITY PAID.

A Berlin telegram states that it is positively denied that the French have, as yet, paid anything of the indemnity accorded to Germany by the preliminary peace convention, and as explicitly stated that, on the contrary, France in addition still owes forty-eight millions of francs for the provisioning of German troops.

FRANCE AND AMERICA.

A United States Relief Ship Near the French Shore.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, April 4, 1871.

I have received telegrams from Plymouth which inform me, for the service of the HERALD, that the United States steamer Worcester, from Boston, with a cargo of provisions for the relief of the suffering people of France, has arrived at that port, and will proceed at once to a French harbor to deliver her much needed freight.

ENGLAND.

Parliamentary Progress—Postal Reform—Peace Negotiations at Brussels—The Commons Adjourned for Easter.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, April 4, 1871.

Continuing my report of the proceedings of Parliament, by cable, for the HERALD, I have to state that after the transmission of my despatches from the House of Commons last night, and at an early hour this morning, various bills of merely local interest were considered during the remainder of the sitting to a few moments before the adjournment.

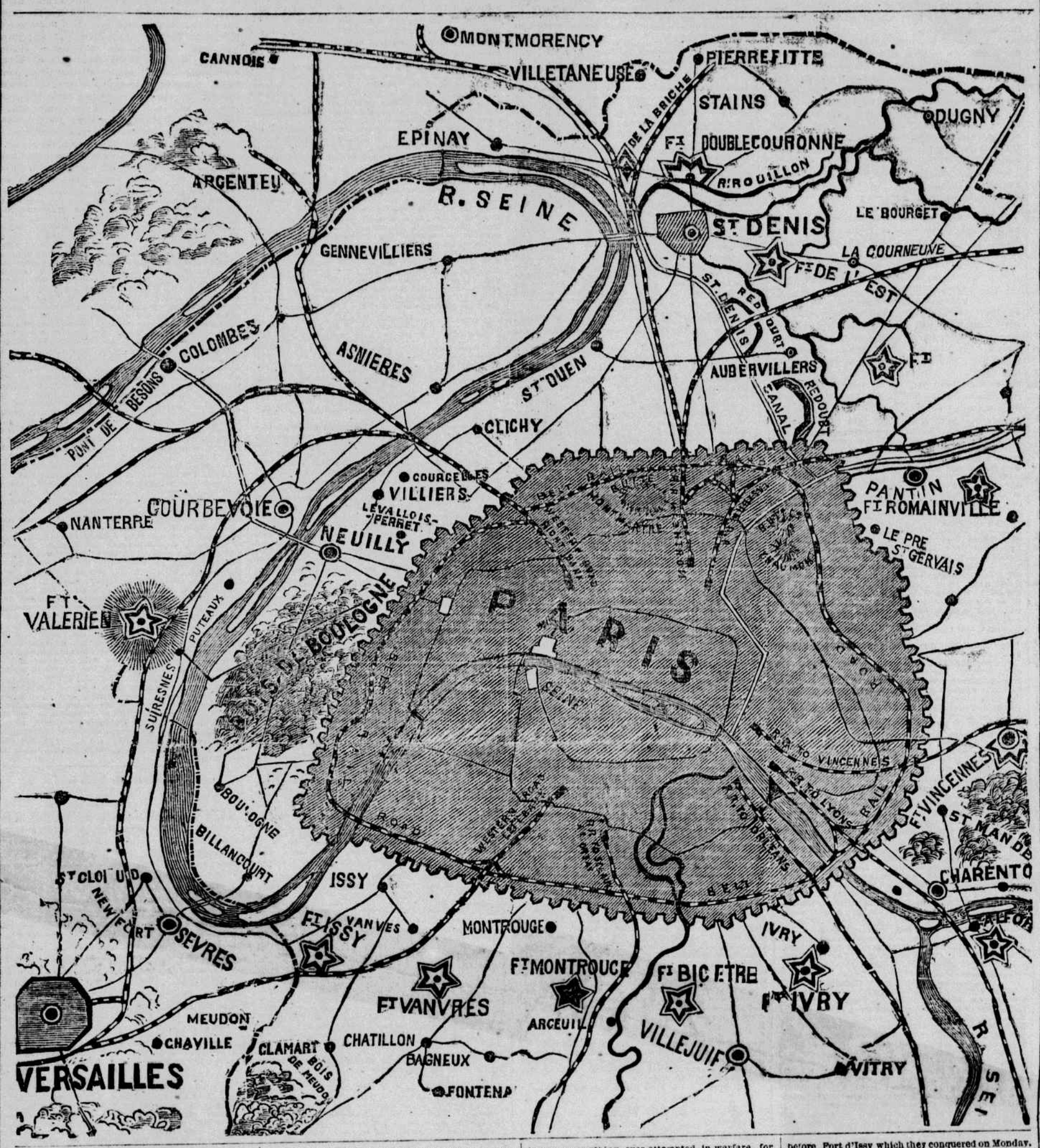
The HERALD despatches from the House of Commons to-day announce that during the session this evening Mr. Seely, member for Lincoln, gave notice that on the 2d of May he should move "for a reduction of the transatlantic postage to one penny."

Viscount Enfield, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a question, said "the government was informed as to the progress of negotiations in the peace conference at Brussels, but declined to give any information on the subject at present."

After a brief debate upon matters of local interest, the House adjourned for the enjoyment of the Easter holidays until the 17th inst.

BATTLE FIELDS OF THE ROUGE REBELLION.

The Scene of Slaughter Around Paris—Locations of the Battle Fields of Monday and Tuesday—Line Held by the Government Forces—Situations of Nanterre, Besons, Chatillon, Meudon and Other Points.



THE BATTLE FIELDS AROUND PARIS.

The Fighting on the West.

The proclamation of M. Thiers to the prefects of departments, announcing the defeat of the insurgents on Monday, makes clear the military movements from Paris. M. Thiers reports that the Communists attacked the government forces simultaneously at Nanterre, Rueil, Besons, Bougival, Chatou and Croissy. All these places are situated west of Paris, and are further from the city than previous despatches had indicated as the location of the battle field. On the map given above two of these towns are designated; one of them—Nanterre—is a place of some size. It lies about one and a half mile northwest of Fort Mont Valerien, on the road from Neuilly to St. Germain. The other place—Besons—is situated on the right bank of the Seine, opposite Pont de Besons, which is given in the map, also on the road from Neuilly. Besons is three and a half miles north of Fort Mont Valérien. The roads from Besons and Nanterre meet west-northwest of Neuilly, about three-quarters of a mile from that town, whence it continues into Paris.

Bearing in mind that the course of the Seine forms another peninsula, with its point nearly opposite Fort Mont Valérien, it will be easy to locate the other towns not given in the map. Rueil lies a short distance south of Nanterre and directly west of Fort Mont Valérien. Chatou and Croissy are situated on the right bank of the Seine, the former four and the latter five miles below Besons, Croissy being necessarily south of Chatou. Bougival is located on the point of the peninsula referred to, on the left bank of the river, about eight miles north of Versailles.

It will thus be seen that the line of the government forces followed the course of the Seine pretty closely. Although three of the places mentioned—Besons, Chatou and Croissy—are situated on the right bank of the river, it is certain that no fighting took place on that side. Marshal MacMahon's forces must, therefore, have held positions on the left bank, covering the bridges named as those towns.

According to our despatches the insurgents must have marched from Neuilly, flanking Fort Mont Valérien on the north, pushing northward toward Besons and southward toward the other places named, getting on the rear of Valérien by way Rueil. It would thus appear as if their object was to make a flank advance upon Versailles, and to endeavor to get between the city and the government forces stretched out from Besons to Bougival. The movement was as insane as anything ever attempted in warfare, for the reason that the guns of Fort Mont Valérien must have sweep everything from Besons and Bougival at long range to Rueil and Nanterre at easy distance. The villages could not have afforded shelter to the insurgents for any length of time, as they are all commanded by the guns of the fort.

While the insurgent leaders exhibited something worse than stupidity in advancing along the line indicated, it is evident that their forces must have displayed no little courage in penetrating as far south as Bougival, exposed to the merciless fire of the fort. It is not improbable that the column which attacked Bougival moved south of Valérien, between the fort and St. Cloud, although St. Cloud was and still is held by the government forces, and such a line of advance would necessarily have exposed the insurgents to a fearful fire on both their flanks.

The Fighting South of Paris.

The fighting near Paris was not confined to the west side of the city. A large force of insurgents seem to have been massed southwest of Paris, covered by the guns of Fort d'Issy and directly on the road to Versailles. The *Cri du Peuple* (Communist newspaper) announces that the insurgents maintained the positions at Le Bas Meudon, Bougival and before Fort d'Issy which they conquered on Monday. This announcement implies that there was severe fighting southwest of Paris which is not referred to at all in the proclamations of M. Thiers.

There must also have been fighting directly south of Paris yesterday (Tuesday), as a Versailles despatch reports that the redoubt at Chatillon, held by the Communists, was captured in the morning, together with a large number of insurgents, including General Henry.

All the points mentioned above will be seen on the map. Le Bas Meudon is virtually a part of the town of that name, from which it is separated, on the west, by a distance of less than half a mile. Chatillon is given on the map. It lies south of Paris, opposite Fort Montrouge.

LENGTH OF THE BATTLEFIELD.

Beginning at Besons and continuing to Bougival, the battlefield west of Paris must have covered a line of not less than six miles in length. On the southwest and South, beginning at a point south of Sevres and continuing to Chatillon, the line must have been of about the same length. This would leave the space between the points of the two peninsulas unoccupied—or, rather, not the scene of conflicts. If the line of battle was continuous from Besons to Chatillon it would form the section of an oval circle over sixteen miles long.