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PROPRIETORS AND EDITORS.

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WHEELING, WEST VA.

Wednesday Morning, September 20.

MEMBERS: HUBBARD AND GRANT speak at  
Wellburg to-day.

We publish on our first page a sensible  
and interesting article on the Commercial  
Situation.

Our year government Certificates sold  
yesterday at 9 1/2. Cleveland and Pitts-  
burgh at 11 1/2 and Port Wayne at 10 1/2.

No stock in the market would be as sen-  
sitive to the news yesterday as McClellan's  
stock. It's a kind of stock in which those  
promises to be a heavy "short" interest  
about November.

SECRETARY STANTON did the handsome  
thing yesterday in sending a prompt of-  
ficial dispatch to the loyal Mayor of our  
loyal city announcing the glorious victory in  
the Valley.

The Secretary's heart is in his work,  
brimful and running over.

The gold market did not give down yester-  
day to the extent anticipated on the  
streets after the news from the valley.  
Must "people" looked to see it drop down  
close to 200, and many were the inquiries  
as to the quotations. The tolerable firm-  
ness is partially explained in our dispatches.  
The withdrawal of large balances from the  
Bank of England in consequence of the  
unsettled state of Europe, as well as the  
heavy shipments to India for cotton, have  
so raised the rate of British discount as to  
create a demand for gold on this side of the  
Atlantic. Notwithstanding this demand,  
however, it closed heavy yesterday, and  
its legs are as weak as those of a drunken  
man.

The general markets show continued  
feverishness.

The victory of Sheridan over the rebels  
in the Valley changes as well as simplifies  
the campaign. It is impossible as yet to  
tell how determinate in its character the  
result is. If the rebels are routed and  
fleeing and demoralized, Sheridan doubtless  
will push on up the Valley and strike  
at once for Lynchburg. If Early is able to  
keep his army together and make a saving  
retreat by holding his pursuers in check,  
we will still have work to do in the Valley.

Early is badly crippled, but is probably  
able to defend himself, and in this condition  
the nearer he can get to Richmond and his  
base the better he is off. His policy is to  
get Sheridan away from his convenient base  
provided at the same time he can hold him  
off from attack. But we hope that Sheri-  
dan is strong enough to push on and force  
the fighting. It would be indeed, glorious if  
this should prove to be the case. In that  
event Early must retreat to Lee. Lee cannot  
help him where he is, having his hands full  
with Grant. The consequences of such a  
retreat it is impossible to estimate. It  
would give us Stanton and the Virginia  
Central road, and Lynchburg and the Vir-  
ginia and Tennessee road. Lynchburg is  
only second to Richmond itself in the eyes  
of the rebels. To take it now would be in  
their ears the click that precedes the crack  
of doom.

Sheridan has a large and splendid cav-  
alry force. It is well known that great at-  
tention was given to this arm of his com-  
mand, at the time of its organization. He  
was assigned an unusual proportion of cav-  
alry. The design is now apparent. Grant  
doubtless had in view the present battle,  
and his wish was to make it as fatal as  
possible to the rebels, by enabling Sheri-  
dan to pursue and harass and cut them up,  
giving them no rest on their retreat, and,  
if possible, to disperse and utterly stampede  
them. Secretary Stanton reports a  
vigorous pursuit as going on, the result  
of which we shall probably hear to-day.

We may depend that Grant, who has lately  
been on the spot and set this ball in mo-  
tion, knows the value of an opportunity,  
and we have the fullest confidence that his  
instructions are to pursue and smite the  
stricken rebels to the last point of endur-  
ance.

YESTERDAY'S news gave cause of rejoic-  
ing to every loyal heart. No one could  
help seeing in it what is called in the ex-  
pressive parlance of the street a decided  
"lick ahead." Sheridan's victory is no  
small affair. His own army is large and  
and so is that of Early. The public  
have not as a general thing correctly  
estimated their numbers. We doubt if  
the two armies felt short of one hundred  
thousand men. A victory between such  
numbers is always important. It is espe-  
cially so in the valley. We gain in every  
way and the rebels lose correspondingly.  
We gain the Baltimore road; also the  
troops of the Middle Department to be  
used elsewhere; also the peace and quiet  
of the state of Maryland and the safety of  
Washington, and more than all we gain  
the long link that belonged to Grant's cam-  
paign when he crossed the Rapidan.

The rebels lose the Valley, always con-  
sidered vital to their occupancy of Vir-  
ginia. They lose its immense supplies,  
and also all the easy facilities which for  
three years it has presented for diversions.  
These losses are heavy disasters, and they  
will fall with the weight of lead upon the  
minds of the rebel leaders in Richmond.  
We may depend that they will make an  
effort to hold the upper portion of it, some  
such effort as they have made to regain  
the Weldon road.

"The beginning of the end" is the exact  
phase that just now applies to the status  
of the rebellion.

The much talked of invasion policy of  
the rebels has probably ended forever in  
Early's defeat. As long as he was able to  
maintain himself at Martinsburg and Win-  
chester, and thus threaten Maryland and  
the National Capital, his army was a great  
bug-a-boo to the loyal frontier—indeed to  
the whole North—and the Pennsylvanians  
especially lay down and rose up under con-  
fidential apprehension. But the border is  
now clear—more effectually so we think  
than it ever has been since the rebels first  
occupied Winchester under Joe Johnson in  
the Spring of 1861. It will require the  
best talent of Lee and Davis to maintain  
themselves as far north as Richmond. If  
they succeed in saving their organization in  
Virginia, they will have established mili-  
tary reputations even more undeniable than  
those now accorded to them.

Gen. Hooker said: "I do not hesitate to  
say that the failure of the Peninsular cam-  
paign is to be attributed to the want of  
generals of the part of our commander."  
General Casey testifies that after Fair  
Oaks, "if Gen. McClellan had possessed the  
energetic qualities of a great General, we  
should have taken Richmond."

When, after the victory at Malvern Hill,  
won while McClellan was on board the  
gunboat, the order to retreat to Harrison's  
Landing was received, General Kearney  
said: "I, Philip Kearney, an old officer,  
enter my solemn protest against this order  
for retreat; we ought, instead of retreat-  
ing, to follow up the enemy and take  
Richmond. And in full view of all the  
responsibility of such a declaration, I say  
to you all, such an order can only be prompt-  
ed by cowardice or treason."

Our West Virginia Boys and the  
Election.

One of our Wheeling boys in the First  
West Virginia regiment, in writing to a  
friend and former comrade here, expresses  
himself thus as regards politics in the  
army:

"How is it with McClellan and 'peace-  
on-any-terms' in Wheeling? I hope none  
of my friends are guilty of supporting him.  
The regime is a unit for Old Abe, eman-  
cipation and the war. They are too sensi-  
ble to vote otherwise. The poor, pitiful  
appeals made by the Peace Convention for  
their votes has no effect whatever upon  
them. All they want is for you at home  
to do your duty. Send us recruits quickly  
and fill up our ranks, and we will procure  
peace, not by voting, for the Chickadee  
hero, but by ball and powder, and by vot-  
ing for Lincoln and Johnson."

A West Virginia Reminiscence Con-  
nected with Gen. Rosecrans.

Correspondence of the Cincinnati Gazette.

St. Louis, Sept. 12.

The New York Tribune of the 3d has an  
article devoted to the Richmond Whig of  
June, 1862, which is such an outrage upon  
truth and the patriotic character of Major  
General Rosecrans, that it would be crimi-  
nal not to brand the falsehood. Here it is:  
"After the battle of Rich Mountain both  
McClellan and Rosecrans declared to Con-  
federate officers who were prisoners of war,  
that they would much rather be leading an  
army against Massachusetts than Virginia."  
This can be proved by an officer of the  
highest authority, if denied. This boasted  
soldier and gentleman of the North is as much  
a hireling and adventurer as any Hessian in  
his ranks. If he has any conscience, it re-  
bukes him daily for the base work in which  
he is employed. When to the pangs of re-  
morse is added the shame of defeat, his  
condition will be such as even an enemy  
may pity."

It will be seen that the article is am-  
biguous in its remarks, as it does not in-  
dicate which of the Generals it means to  
brand as "hireling and adventurer;" but  
as it is calculated to injure the spotless  
name of the hero of Rich Mountain, not  
because the Whig says so, but because the  
Tribune repeats it, the correspondent took  
the pains to send an address to the people  
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