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## THE GREAT BATTLE.

HAGERSTOWN, (via Harrisburg,) Sept. 17.  
—A battle took place to-day between the army of the Potomac and the Confederates. The Federal right wing rested on Sharpsburg, and the left this side of Antietam creek, near Porterstown. The Confederates are said to be falling back to Harper's Ferry. Wounded men are arriving at Hagerstown.

The bridge reported destroyed by the Federal forces was a canal bridge at or near Williamsport. The destruction of this bridge is considered of great importance, as it impedes the Confederates in bringing up their supplies.

HARRISBURG, Sept. 17.—Information from the seat of war received here indicates that this has been an eventful day in Maryland. Gen. Longstreet was reported killed and Hill taken prisoner.

HAGERSTOWN, (VIA Harrisburg,) Sept. 17.  
A great battle has been fought, and the Federals are victorious.

The carnage on both sides has been awful. Gen. Longstreet was wounded and is a prisoner.

HARRISBURG, 10 P. M.—A dispatch has just been received at headquarters from Hagerstown, which says, "We have achieved a glorious victory."

General Longstreet was not killed, but is wounded and a prisoner.

Gen. Hooker was wounded in the foot. No particulars have been received yet.

The battle took place near Centreville, on Catoctin creek.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Wounded officers who arrived here to-night from Western Maryland, say that when they left at 7 o'clock this morning a battle had commenced at Burkittsville, which is about two miles from Centreville.

## FROM THE ARMY.

Our readers are aware that a battle between the forces of General McClellan and of the Confederates was begun on Tuesday afternoon, at about five o'clock, lasting until late at night, without any decisive result. The two armies rested upon the field, and a general engagement was resumed yesterday morning and continued until five o'clock in the afternoon.

The battle, it is understood, was obstinate and bloody, but at its close the advantage, so far as any had been gained, remained with the Union army, giving the promise of final victory.

It is understood that both armies were engaged in their full force—the corps of Gen. Jackson having recrossed the Potomac and joined the army of Gen. Lee.—*Nat. Int. of this morning.*

The Baltimore American of this morning says:—"The fighting on Monday and Tuesday appears to have been principally an artillery engagement at long range, ascertaining the position or driving the Confederates from particular points, whilst the Federal army was being massed and arrayed for more active work. In these operations the Federals are reported to have inflicted considerable loss upon the enemy and taken a number of prisoners. Howell Cobb is reported wounded and a prisoner at a farm-house near the battle-field. General Longstreet is reported killed and General Hill captured. These are, however, only rumors that need confirmation."

## THE WAR IN THE WEST.

The battle at Mumfordsville, Kentucky, was renewed on Tuesday by the Confederates attacking the Federal forces. The battle lasted all day, Gen. Wilder still holding out at last accounts. Both parties had been reinforced since Sunday. Gen. Buell is reported at Dripping Springs, moving north. A fight occurred in Lewis county, on Monday, between some Union citizens and a squad of Confederate cavalry, the latter being defeated with several killed and wounded. The Union loss was two killed and three wounded. Numerous guerilla parties have made their appearance on the Kentucky shore of the Ohio river, below Louisville, and fire upon the passing steamers.

The Federal force occupying Romney, Va., evacuated the place on Friday last, and are now at Cumberland, Maryland. The Confederate cavalry occupied the town soon after the Federal troops left. Col. Mulligan's brigade is at New Creek, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

A fight occurred at Shelbourne, Missouri, on Monday, between a body of Federal troops and a guerilla band. The latter were repulsed with some loss.

The Indians attacked Fort Abercrombie, Minnesota, on the 3d inst., and again on the 6th inst., being repulsed each time with considerable loss. The white loss was small. There is no appearance of a cessation of hostilities, and more troops are called for. It is stated that since the troubles commenced from six to eight hundred men, women and children have been murdered by the Sioux Indians alone.

AN INCIDENT IN THE BATTLE OF SUNDAY.—Cook's Battery took a favorable position for shelling the woods in advance of the division, but had hardly got to work when the Confederates fired a tremendous volley of musketry at the cannoniers. This was repeated several times in quick succession, until at length the cannoniers abandoned their pieces, and ran to the rear leaving four or five of their comrades dead upon the ground. The drivers of the caissons also partook of the panic, and dashed headlong through the ranks of Cox's Division, which was drawn up in line of battle a few yards to the rear. Two companies of a cavalry regiment which were supporting the battery, also galloped through the line of infantry, thus leaving four pieces of artillery (the other two having been detached to another part of the field) to fall into the hands of the Confederates. The event caused temporary and only temporary confusion among the troops. They quickly straightened the line and prepared to resist a demonstration observable on the part of the Confederates to seize the abandoned pieces. The Confederates marched forward to secure their prize, and at the same moment the Twenty-third Ohio and one hundredth Pennsylvania Regiment advanced to repulse them. The Confederates had approached to within about ten feet of the guns when the contest commenced. Each side seemed desperate in its purpose, and the struggle was most exciting. At length the 45th New York came to the rescue and turned the tide of fortune against the Confederates.—*Balt. American.*

## The Cavalry Retreat from Harper's Ferry.

Sunday evening Col. Miles, being ignorant of all that was taking place in the direction of Frederick, gave directions, or liberty rather, to his cavalry, consisting of the Twelfth Illinois, Eighth New York, four companies of the Third Maryland, and a squadron of the First Rhode Island, in all about sixteen hundred, to cut their way out.

They had been in saddle all day, exposed to artillery fire, but at 8 o'clock in the evening, piloted by a man who knew the locality, they ascended Bolivar Heights, crossed the pontoon bridge, took unfrequented roads and circuitous paths among the mountains towards Sharpsburg. The cavalcade was two miles long. At Sharpsburg they were fired upon by the Confederate pickets, who immediately fled on giving the alarm.

Passing Sharpsburg they came upon level lands, but avoided the roads and struck through farms and corn fields towards Hagerstown and crossing the Hagerstown and Williamsport turnpike about three miles out of Williamsport, where the road from Mercersburg joins it. It was about four o'clock in the morning when the head of the column reached the turnpike. They heard a rumbling of approaching wagons: the column was halted, and in the darkness they waited for what might appear. Soon the advance of one division of Longstreet's ammunition train came in sight.

It was stopped, and the drivers and guards asked to surrender. It was done quietly, and the wagons turned up the Mercersburg road. Finding out what the prize in their hands consisted of, the other wagons, one hundred in all, with seventy-three men, were also quietly taken and turned northward. The train passed two miles out of Hagerstown, struck into the Greencastle road, and arrived at Greencastle about ten o'clock. Another account says the wagons were some of those captured from Gen. Pope in Culpeper, and were half loaded.

EXPLOSION AT AN ARSENAL—EIGHTY LIVES LOST.—PITTSBURG, Sept. 16.—A most frightful explosion occurred at the United States Arsenal this afternoon, about two o'clock, in the large frame building known as the laboratory. About 176 boys and girls were employed in the building at the time of the disaster, of which number 75 or 80 were killed! One explosion followed another until the entire building was destroyed. Those who could not escape in time were burned up. The scene was most appalling. Dead bodies lying in heaps as they had fallen, and, in some places where the heat was intense, whitened bones could be seen through the smoke and flames, whilst at other points large masses of blackened flesh were presented to the eye. Up to the present time sixty-three bodies have been taken from the ruins. The cause of the explosion is not known, but admitted by all to have been accidental.

When the body of Col. Fletcher Webster was committed to the tomb at Marshfield, the undertaker, at the request of the family, opened the coffin containing the remains of Daniel Webster. Decay had naturally done its work, but the marked peculiarities of that massive head and face were clearly distinguishable.