

FROM WASHINGTON.

The Reported Disagreements Among Our Generals.

THE CASE OF MAJOR-GEN. PORTER.

CONFISCATION OF A TRAITOR'S PROPERTY.

THE SHALLOWNESS OF BRITISH NEUTRALITY.

THE CASE OF GENERAL McDOWELL.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Nov. 15, 1862. THE REPORTED DISAGREEMENTS AMONG OUR GENERALS. There is no foundation for the insinuation that Gen. Hooker and other commanders in service under Gen. Burnside are at variance with him or among themselves. It is as untrue as the assertion of the same journal that Gen. Halleck and Burnside are not at all on the same terms.

THE CASE OF MAJOR-GEN. PORTER. The Military Commission charged with the duty of investigating the case of Gen. Fitz John Porter, will consist of Major-Gen. Hunter, presiding, and Brig.-Genes. Garfield, Buford, Prentiss and Morris, and Capt. Gains, late of Gen. Sigel's staff, as Judge Advocate. The Court holds its first session to-morrow. It is understood that Gen. Porter has secured the services of the Hon. Charles Eames, of this city, as his amicus curiae.

CONFISCATION OF A TRAITOR'S PROPERTY. The property of Timothy Shugurus, in this city, valued at between \$4,000 and \$5,000, has been confiscated by the Provost Marshal. Mr. Shugurus is now in Dixie.

GEN. WADSWORTH. Gen. Wadsworth goes north to-morrow on a short leave of absence.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The Sanitary Commission is holding its tenth session here; yesterday and to-day were mainly occupied with the reading of reports concerning the condition of the Eastern army, which showed a marked improvement in respect of the medical department, except as regards the ambulance system and transportation. Touching these two points a Committee from the Commission waited upon Gen. Halleck and Meigs this evening.

MEDICAL OFFICERS FOR GEN. BANKS'S COMMAND.

Fifteen medical officers were sent to Gen. Banks's command to-day.

THE INCREASED RATE OF RAILROAD FARE.

The Secretary of War has decided that, under the tax-law, Railroad Companies have a right to add 3 per cent to their charges for transportation of passengers, under their agreement with the War Department, thus increasing the rate from 2 cents to 2 1/2 cents per mile. Quartermaster Gen. Meigs has issued a circular embodying this decision, and directing that all accounts for the transportation of troops since Sept. 1, shall be settled accordingly.

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS IN HOSPITAL.

The following deaths of soldiers have occurred here since our last publication: John Frazee, D. 12 U. S. Inf. 13 Mich. Wm. Metcalf, 10 U. S. Inf. 13 Mich. Asst. J. Wilson, B. 23 N. Y. Art. 12 U. S. I. 13 Mich. J. W. C. Fisher, G. 13 U. S. Inf. 13 Mich. Wm. McLaughlin, 10 U. S. Inf. 13 Mich. Zephaniah Parsons, 10 U. S. Inf. 13 Mich. John G. Downing, 13 U. S. Inf. 13 Mich. Jas. Conroy, P. 31 Pa. 13 Mich. Luther Hendricks, A. C. 9 Vt. 13 Mich. G. A. Lee, G. 49 N. Y. 13 Mich.

THE SHALLOWNESS OF BRITISH NEUTRALITY.

An illustration of the shallowness of the pretense of British neutrality will be found in the following notice, discovered on board the last prize which arrived at New-York, viz: the schooner Water Witch, which was captured while attempting to run the blockade. Berdelys and McDowell are the leading merchants at Kingston, Jamaica, and seem to take it for granted it is the duty of a Commodore in the British Navy to give information and advice to facilitate the delivery of cargoes of merchandise in the blockaded ports of the South.

"To Capt. King of the Water Witch. My DEAR SIR: I send you herewith a note for Commodore Dunlop, and hope you may get some useful information from him. Your messenger takes the demijohn of rum again. Wish you a speedy and prosperous voyage."

"TO COMMODORE DENNIS. C. B. Esq., Port Royal."

"DEAR SIR: Capt. Thomas King of the British schooner Water Witch, is about to proceed with a cargo of merchandise in his vessel to a port in the Southern States of America, and being anxious to get advice from you for his guidance, we take the liberty of giving him this introduction, and will feel obliged for such counsel as you can give him under the circumstances."

"We are, Sir, your obedient servant."

"BARDLAYS AND McDOWELL."

THE CASE OF GEN. McDOWELL.

The Court of Inquiry ordered to assemble in Washington on the 27th of October, has been dissolved. At the request of Major-Gen. McDowell a Court of Inquiry is ordered to assemble here at 11 o'clock to-morrow, to inquire into certain charges made against him. Ex-Governor Dennison and other witnesses summoned, are expected to be present. Detail for the Court: Major-Gen. Cadwalader and Brig.-Genes. Martindale and Van Allen, and Lieut.-Col. Louis H. Pelouze, Judge Advocate and Recorder.

PROMOTED.

First Lieutenant McIntosh of the 5th Regular Cavalry, has been appointed Colonel of the 31 Pennsylvania Cavalry, vice Col. Averill also promoted.

BRIG.-GEN. GORMAN.

Brig.-Gen. Gorman, ordered recently to report at St. Louis, will doubtless be assigned to duty on reaching that point, either under Gen. Curtis or Gen. Rosecrans.

STONEWALL JACKSON FALLING BACK.

Stone-wall Jackson from Harper's Ferry presents Stonewall Jackson as falling back. This means that he is hesitating to join Lee's main army with his command.

SELLING OR PEDDLING FROM BOATS.

It has been decided by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, that persons selling or peddling from boats or vessels must take out a license as dealers, either wholesale or retail, as the case may be. The license must state that the party is authorized to sell from such boat or vessel.

RETIRED.

The President has directed the name of Lieut.-Col. Timothy P. Andrews, Deputy Paymaster-General, be placed upon the list of retired officers. This is in accordance with the request of that gentleman himself, he having been more than forty years in active service.

M'CLELLAN'S STAFF OFFICERS RELEASED.

It is generally understood that Lieut.-Col. Colburn and Capt. Duane, late of McClellan's staff, are released from arrest and ordered to duty.

New-York Tribune.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1862.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

FROM GEN. BURNSIDE'S ARMY.

On the March—The Skirmish of the 15th—The Late Lieut. Edward Melvin—Wasted Virginia—List of Casualties.

From Our Own Correspondent.

ON THE FRONT. NEAR WASHINGTON, Nov. 15, 1862. Onward is still the order of the day, we have, as our part of the great movement now going forward, come to this place to-day from our last night's camp near Fayetteville. (In speaking of "we" and "our," I refer to the movements of the Ninth Army Corps, under Gen. Wilcox, to which I am, protent, attached.)

An attack of the enemy upon the baggage train of the 1st and 2d brigades (Gen. Nagles and Ferrero) of Sturge's Division, yesterday forenoon, which resulted in the death of Lieut. Howard Melvin, of Durell's Battery, and which came very near resulting in the destruction or capture of a portion of the train, has been already partially described to you by another correspondent. Being personally in the midst of the engagement, from its commencement to its close, I have waited till now to gather together all the particulars of a rather warm skirmish, which at one time threatened to become a really serious affair.

The First and Second Brigades broke camp at about 7 o'clock a. m. yesterday, to move from the camp at White Sulphur Springs to the neighborhood of Fayetteville, and still occupied by Gen. Doubleday's Franklin's corps. There was a choice of two roads, one of which led back from the Rapidan neck, and was therefore safe from the shot and shell of the enemy, while the other, the direct route and considerably more convenient for the transportation of the wagon train, passed the Spring and the ruined hotel mentioned in my last letter, and, approaching the river, turned to the left at a sharp angle in plain view of an old but a trifling distance from the large mansion upon a hillside on the other bank of the stream, now rendered the site of a fortification, and the capture of Lieut.-Col. Carruth and Adjutant Waters of the 30th Massachusetts regiment, an account of which I have already sent you.

The road as it approaches the river, exposes a column of troops or train of wagons passing over it to a dangerous enfilading fire from the hill, where the house is situated, and after the train is made, troops and trains moving away to the left, are in range from the hill for some distance, till they are finally protected by hills, rising upon either side of the river, behind which the road winds.

The two brigades had been for some time in motion, and a portion of the train, under the command of Capt. Plato, Division Quartermaster, had passed the dangerous turn in the road, when our cavalry were seen skirmishing with the Rebels in the neighborhood of the house on the opposite hill.

Finally, our cavalry seeing the departure of the train, and seeing the heavy train of wagons near the river at the point where the ruins of the bridge crossing the stream was guarded by the 30th Massachusetts Regiment.

At the same moment the Rebel cavalry emerged from the wood in the rear of the house, formed in a square, and, directing two pieces of artillery, which were pointed by the long range of the mountain, and a twenty pound rifle shell from a Parrott gun came whizzing along over the line of wagons approaching the river, exploding in unpleasant proximity to the train.

Capt. Durell, Battery A, 10th Pennsylvania Artillery, immediately took up position, and opened as soon as possible, firing at the Rebels, who were close to the engine, and in two or three minutes the Rebels were scattered, and the train was again moving on.

The Rebels now got five guns in position, three of them being twenty-pound Parrotts, and a half of shot and shell flew over the heads of the train, the Rebels having got beyond range.

Capt. Plato, seeing the danger to which his wagon train was exposed, and seeing the heavy train of wagons, turned back that portion which had not reached the turn, and they moved to their destination over the more difficult but less dangerous road.

Capt. Durell's Battery, occupying an exceedingly exposed position, without for something like an hour, and after the heavy train of wagons had passed, Early in the fight Lieut. Howard Melvin was struck by a shell, which carried away his arm, side, and hip, laying open his entrails and causing one of the most fearful wounds ever recorded.

The brave and unfortunate young man lay in most horrible agony, raving from pain a great portion of the time, from the moment of receiving his wound to the moment of his death, which occurred at 11 o'clock. He was in the hands of the enemy, and heaved from his sufferings by death. He said to a friend, as he lay writhing in agony, that he was not afraid to die; he only wished that death might come soon to rid him of the dreadful pain he suffered.

The deceased was from Reading, Pennsylvania, and had been in service since the opening of the war, having served with Capt. Durell in the three months' volunteers. It is regrettable, but the present Durell's Battery was sent into the service of the United States, and has since been constantly employed. All who have come in contact with Lieut. Melvin pronounce him a young man of remarkable promise and most excellent qualities, social and otherwise, and one who would have made a noteworthy mark in the world had he been spared. He is universally lamented in this corps, with which he had been connected since the first of August, and Capt. Durell mourns in him his best and most trustworthy officer, which is saying nothing derogatory to the other brave men in his command.

While Capt. Plato—return to the attack—was turning back that portion of his train which had not yet reached the turn in the road, he observed a squadron of our cavalry crossing the river in retreat, having the bridge to be defended only by the 30th Massachusetts Regiment, in case of an attempt on the part of the enemy to cross and attack us in the rear. He immediately rode up to the officer in command and ordered him back. "By whose authority?" inquired the officer. "By authority of Gen. Sturge," replied Capt. Plato. "But there will be a shell here in a moment!" said the officer. "I know that," replied Capt. Plato, "and 'tis for that reason I've ordered you back." The next morning the expected shell—the first one of the fight—passed over the train, and a short time afterward occurred the very charge anticipated by Capt. Plato, which was successfully met and repulsed by our infantry and cavalry at the bridge.

The long string of heavy wagons—many of them filled with ammunition—which passed the turn, now found themselves slowly and laboriously crossing a boggy meadow, filled with mud-holes and ditches.

Over their heads—the hill upon which our batteries were planted partially protecting them—flew the Rebel missiles, many of them bursting directly over the train. Some wagons were struck, though generally the enemy fired too high. One driver was hit by a shell, which fractured his right leg and disabled two mules. One ammunition-wagon had the tail-board broken out by a shell, which fortunately did not explode.

Two wagons laden with oats were disabled, their contents being saved and the wagons burned, to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy. A horse was left behind, used up and worthless for the time, which I had the "melancholy pleasure" of shooting for the same purpose. With these exceptions the entire train was got off in safety, having been extricated from an exceedingly unpleasant predicament.

The 2d Brigade, Gen. Ferrero, being nearest the train, had meanwhile been ordered back to its position. Gen. Getty, of the 3d Division, followed closely by Gen. Burns of the 1st, arrived on the ground at about 9 o'clock, and by 10 o'clock took up a commanding position on the hill above the ruined hotel, and opened on the enemy with his six 24-pound Parrotts, silencing their guns in about half an hour. One of his shells, I am glad to say, entered the house where Conant had been betrayed, and beside which the Rebel battery was planted. It is singular that last August he occupied the same position with his battery and fought the Rebels over the same ground. At the last accounts we heard from

the Springs, Gen. Burns still occupied them and there was no enemy in sight.

It was a little singular that Gen. Sturge had not been informed that Gen. Doubleday was at Fayetteville, and, upon our hearing drums in that direction, we marched in some expectation of meeting the enemy in our front.

The great plan of the campaign is slowly developing itself, but the officers who form the cog-wheels and minor portions of the machinery of the war hardly know from day to day what they are doing their part to work.

How soon the great battle will occur depends, probably, quite as much on Lee as on Burnside. Meanwhile, our officers are all vigorously obeying instructions. Our men are in the best of health and spirits, and it seemingly only depends on a fair sky and good roads to insure a speedy and successful trial of the strength, on Virginia soil, between the Government and the Rebellion.

And how the inhabitants must sigh for that event to occur! How has scorched the land. It is a desert. There can be no more happy homes while hostile armies march and counter-march. The soldiers eat up the food, burn the fences, trample down the fields. Tens of thousands of camp-fires make the nights bright. Dead carcasses and the mangled officials of camps poison the streams. Insolent men plunder the dwellings under the pretense of guarding them. All the fearful evils and wickedness that are the natural children of unnatural war spoil the whole land, and render it unendurable to its once happy people.

And all this because the foolish citizens of Virginia voted for Secession. Their children's children will regret the folly that induced so rash and wicked a step. Meanwhile, let us end the war by a crushing blow, and thus let its originators be properly dealt with.

Below are the casualties in the fight of Saturday: Killed—Junior First Lieut. Howard Melvin, Durell's Battery A, 10th Pennsylvania Artillery. Wounded—Private Henry Ives of the same battery, arm badly shattered, and a man of the field; this man was an Abolition man, constant foe by piece of shell; Private Charles K. Darling, 6th New-Hampshire Volunteers, wagoner, leg fractured below the knee by shell.

I should have stated earlier in this letter that the conduct of the drivers in the wagon-train when exposed to a very hot fire, was most excellent. They were aware of the order to shoot any man who should hit his saddle or seat. They all kept their places.

The Reports of Officers Resigning—Confidence of Gen. Burnside in His Generals—The Advance Forward Fredericksburg—The Idea in Good Spirits—Enthusiastic Reception of Gen. Burnside.

From Our Special Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16, 1862. HEADQUARTERS GEN. FRANKLIN'S CORPS. Gen. Franklin, instead of having resigned upon the removal of McClellan, now has the place of honor next to Gen. Burnside. Day before yesterday, he was assigned to the command of two corps—his own original one and that of Gen. Reynolds. Gen. Wm. F. Smith, who commanded a division under Gen. Franklin, has the command of the Sixth Corps, and Gen. Howe, who commanded a brigade in the division of Gen. Newton, has command of Gen. Smith's old division. These promotions seem to meet the approval of all the officers, and give the lie to all those who said the above-named Generals had tendered their resignations, and would not serve their country unless some particular man let them to leave.

Gen. Franklin's headquarters adjoin those of Gen. Burnside, and they are almost constantly in consultation while on the march or in their tents.

We have marched to-day from the immediate vicinity of Warrenton, and are now encamped on Cedar Run, a little stream emptying into the Occoquan. Our forces are toward Fredericksburg, and two days marching like the present one will bring us to the delightful valley of the Rappahannock.

Our soldiers stand from 12 to 15 miles a day, with nearly 50 pounds of baggage upon their backs, much more cheerfully than they thought they would. I passed along the entire line this morning, and found them all in a joyous mood. To-day being the Sabbath, many of them were singing the old familiar psalms and hymns they were wont to hear in their village churches among the hills of New-England; others were chanting "Old John Brown, and 'Marching on," to the inspiration of his music. Still, others, whose early life was spent in the streets and by the wayside of New-York, were humming tunes more appropriate to another day of the week than the one upon which we were compelled to march.

But all were entertaining themselves in one way or the other. Soldiers are very fond of pets. In the absence of mothers, sisters, and young ladies, to lavish their affections upon, they steal all the pretty kittens and dogs they can find in the road, and treat them with the utmost kindness, and, indeed, many with a pretty Maltese kitten sitting on the top of his knapsack, which he told me he had brought all the way from the Peninsula. It was fat and sleek, and would perform a great many tricks which he had taught it. That soldier will fight all the better for having even a kitten to pet and talk to.

As Gen. Burnside passed along the line this morning, he saw the new line of the soldiers, and he said in the heartiest cheers I have ever heard. His superb figure and splendid horsemanship alone would elicit applause from almost any one. There is not an army in the world that can furnish two manlier looking Generals than Burnside and Hooker. R. P.

Important from Gloucester Point, Va.—The Pickets of the 10th Pennsylvania Attacked—Several of them Wounded and Captured.

Special Dispatch to The Philadelphia Press.

GLOUCESTER POINT, VA., Nov. 17, 1862. In consequence of a forward movement I have merely time to inform you that an outpost picket force of ten men, belonging to the 10th Pennsylvania Regiment, Col. Davis commanding, stationed at this place, were attacked about 3 o'clock this morning by 50 Rebel cavalrymen. Our pickets heard the Rebels coming, but they supposed that it was a party of our own cavalry, who had gone out on a reconnaissance, some hours before, returning, and therefore they did not fire upon them. The consequence was that our men did not see their mistake until the Rebels were fairly upon them and had discharged their pieces at them.

Private Peter Baltz was killed, and Privates H. Trumbauer, George Geary, and N. A. Heller, were wounded, the latter mortally. Sergeants Lethbrary and Levi Rosenberg were taken prisoners, one that our men did not see their mistake until the Rebels were fairly upon them and had discharged their pieces at them.

An expedition was sent out by Col. Davis to capture the Rebels, but they have just returned unsuccessful. They, however, captured 17 mounted men and an important mail at Gloucester Court-House, 17 miles distant from this place.

THE WAR IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.

The Successful Expedition by a portion of the Irish Brigade through Greenland Gap.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Nov. 13, 1862.

The following is the official report of the expedition made some time since through Greenland Gap: HEADQUARTERS, IRISH BRIGADE, CAMP JESSE, WEST VIRGINIA, Va., Oct. 30, 1862. CAPTAIN JOHN BOWEN, Assistant Adjutant General. CAPTAIN JOHN BOWEN, Assistant Adjutant General, and in pursuance of orders from Brigade Headquarters, I left this camp at 5:30 o'clock p. m., in command of Company A, Lieut. Hart, Company C, Capt. Young, Company D, Capt. West, Kingold's Pennsylvania Cavalry, numbering 150 men, and one section of Rourke's Battery, commanded by Capt. John Rourke.

I arrived with my command at Greenland Gap (21 miles) at 11 o'clock p. m., where I was informed that the enemy, Stuart's cavalry, 400 strong, with

about 200 head of cattle, crossed the mountain near Greenland at 2 o'clock that afternoon.

We then immediately advanced in pursuit, through the Gap, along the Ridgeville road, determined if possible, to intercept them before they reached the crossing of that road, five miles from Petersburg.

When we arrived within three miles of the crossing, I halted the detachment and sent forward Lieut. Hart and ten of his men to ascertain whether the enemy had passed the crossing, and he ascertained from a trustworthy source that the enemy, consisting of from 300 to 500 of Stuart's cavalry, Lee's brigade, were encamped within two miles, back of the other road.

At daylight we advanced upon the enemy, and when within several hundred yards, I ordered Capt. Rourke to the front with his guns, with a few well-directed shells and shot, fired by Capt. Rourke in person, threw the enemy into confusion, and caused them to fly into the woods.

I then ordered the cavalry to charge, which order was promptly and gallantly executed, particularly by Company A, Lieut. Hart. After sixteen of the enemy were captured, being unable to find any more of the enemy, I ordered the cattle to be collected and driven with the greatest possible dispatch toward our own camp, especially as I was apprehensive of an attack by Imboden, who was reported with a force of 100 men at Petersburg, only five miles distant.

I am glad to inform you our loss was none, while that of the enemy is known to have been at least three killed. Sixteen men were taken prisoners, 19 horses captured, and 150 head of cattle.

I have been informed by one of the prisoners that the enemy's force consisted of two picked men from each company of Lee's brigade, Stuart's cavalry.

The success of the expedition is owing to the rapidity of our movements, having advanced some 35 miles during the night, and to the excellent and active cooperation of the officers and men composing the detachment.

Lieut. John A. Ayers of my regiment, Acting Adjutant of the detachment, rendered me valuable and efficient aid.

The report is respectfully submitted. I am, Captain, very respectfully yours, JAMES G. FOSTER, Major-General commanding.

STONEWALL JACKSON NOT ADVANCING ON CUMBERLAND.—We have the best reason for believing that the apprehension of a raid by Stonewall Jackson on Cumberland and New-Creek is without real foundation. A highly intelligent gentleman, with a reputation for obtaining correct information, and who made it a part of his business to do so, has just come through from Baltimore to Hancock. He has notified himself from evidences obtained along the route, that Jackson's main army is stationed at Stephenson's Depot, four miles north-east of Winchester, on the Winchester and Potomac Railroad. His men are destitute of food, and it is believed by him that he is in a very precarious position, even if he attempts to make an enterprise as the movement apprehended. He certainly could not perform it unless the weather should remain remarkably mild, and would hardly risk such a contingency.

Washington Intelligence, Nov. 17.

THE WAR IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Gen. Foster's Report of His Expedition through the Eastern Counties of the State.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Nov. 13, 1862.

The following dispatches have been received at the headquarters of the army: HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA, NEWBERRY, Nov. 12, 1862. Major-General H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief, Wash. D. C.

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that agreeable to my letter of the 30th ult., informing you of my intention to make an expedition through the eastern counties of this State, and stating the object of the move, I left this post on the 31st ult. and have just returned to this post on the 12th inst., and have the honor to inform you that although the original plan for the capture of the three regiments forming the 1st division was, owing to the condition of the roads, frustrated, the expedition will be of great service to our cause in this department.

The first brigade, under command of Col. T. J. Casper, together with the artillery, cavalry, and wagon train were marched from this front across the country to Washington; the balance of my force, including the second brigade, Col. Stevenson, and the third brigade, Col. Lee, were embarked on transports, and landed at Washington, where they were joined by Col. Amory's command on Saturday evening, the 24th inst.

Sunday, the 24th, all the forces, including artillery, left Washington, under my command for Cumberland. On the evening of the same day we encountered the enemy posted in a strong position at a small creek, called Little Creek. I immediately ordered Col. Stevenson, commanding the 2d Brigade, who was then in the advance, to make all haste in driving them from the opposite side of the creek, and to occupy the position.

The engagement lasted one hour, when the enemy, being driven from their rifle-pits by Belger's Rhode Island Battery, he retired to Rawl's Mills, one mile farther on, where they made another stand in a recently constructed field-work. Belger's Battery and two batteries of the 3d New York Artillery were immediately ordered into position, and after a slight delay of half an hour, succeeded in driving the enemy from their works, and across a bridge, which they burned.

Last night, while the pioneers built the burnt bridge, the forces bivouacked on the field, and proceeded the next morning to Williamson, where we arrived about noon. We started from there, after a short rest, in pursuit of the enemy, bivouacking about five miles from that place. On the following day we reached and occupied the fortifications at Rainbow Forks, three miles below Hamilton, and then pushed on to Hamilton.

There we expected to find some iron-ore boats, and to be in the process of construction at Hamilton, but discovered nothing of the kind. On the 6th, we left Hamilton, in pursuit of the enemy, toward Barbours, and encamped on the same night within ten miles of that place.

My intention to pursue the enemy to Turbot, but the exhausted condition of my men, most of whom had been sick during the last two months, and had not yet recovered their strength, and the provisions being entirely exhausted, so that I had to subsist the command by foraging, as well as the fact that the enemy were being largely reinforced by rail, changed my plans, and on the following morning, the 7th inst., I counter-marched the column, reaching Hamilton the same night, where we remained till the next morning, when we marched for Williamson in the midst of a severe snow storm. At Williamson we remained a day, in order to give the men an opportunity to rest. At daylight the next day, the 10th inst., we started for Plymouth, where we arrived that night. The following day the troops were all re-marched at Newberry.

During the engagement at Rawl's Mills and at Hamilton, we captured five prisoners, who were paroled at Williamson. The loss on our side consisted of six killed and eight wounded.

The expedition was instrumental in saving the town and forces at Plymouth from destruction and capture by the enemy, and upon my arrival at the place, that the enemy's forces, while lying in the vicinity, beside being engaged in foraging, had reconstructed a bridge over the creek, three miles outside the town, for the transportation of their artillery to the opposite bank.

I also learned from information gathered on the spot that an immediate attack was to have been made on the place, but upon hearing of my advance upon Washington, and seeing the danger of their capture, they beat a precipitate and hasty retreat.

The navy, under command of Commander Davenport, a sailor officer, cooperated heartily with me during the whole time, by sending five gunboats to Hamilton, and three placing four boat howitzers, with their crews, at my disposal.

I desire to mention particularly the efficient conduct of Col. Stevenson, commanding the Second Brigade, and Col. Potter of the 1st North Carolina Union Volunteers.

I recommend that Col. Stevenson, for his efficient services on this march, and in the affair at Little

Creek and Rawl's Mills, as well as previous services at the battles of Roanoke and Newbern, be promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General, to date from Nov. 3, 1862.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant, J. G. FOSTER, Major-General commanding.

ARMY OF THE OHIO.

Department of the Cumberland—Major-General Rosecrans Commanding—The News-Spy Stories—The Enemy—He covers his real Designs—He appears to Wait for us at Murfreesboro—His real Intention—Col. John Kennet abroad with Cavalry—Rebel Women of Nashville—Discipline, &c.

From Our Special Correspondent.

THE TRIBUNE is punctiliously posted in the substantial features of news by telegraph. Mere sensational matter is discarded because it is unjust to the public as well as to the character of the newspaper to report that which has no sound basis as genuine information. If you consider it smart to send false or absurd rumors by telegraph please employ a first-class Herald or Chicago Times correspondent for that purpose. I have a bushel measure of statements touching the movements of the enemy, all of which would be valuable to The Herald, but none of which, if published, would add to the character of The Tribune for publicity. Let us look at a few:

I saw a fellow to-day, for instance, who had just arrived from Murfreesboro, chock full of interesting news from the enemy. If The Herald people got hold of him, you may wager a peck of nickels that that "great newspaper" received a saturating dose of the sensational. He is in prison now, accused as a spy, because he had delivered a specimen of his kind to a mercenary dealer. He said he had just arrived from Chattanooga via Murfreesboro and Lawrence. He did not need a pass to get away from the former place, but he was obliged to steal through the pickets of the latter to get to Nashville to see his family. He had left Chattanooga only last Saturday, and had traveled by rail to Murfreesboro. At Chattanooga, he said, the Rebels were full of oranges and ordinance stores of all kinds, and the Rebels were manufacturing some 35-pounders and great numbers of light field guns.

Prodigious quantities of subsistence stores were accumulating everywhere. But the enemy were not falling back to Chattanooga. On the contrary, they were moving forward from every point toward Murfreesboro, intending to give us a fight right there. They had fortified that place, and were adding to its strength daily. Siege-guns and been mounted, and field-artillery was coming forward. The enemy were confident they could make sufficient force to overwhelm all the men Gen. Rosecrans could bring against them. They were not running much store to the rear by rail, but were using all their available rolling stock to transport troops to Murfreesboro.

It is said that the enemy were very much like Forrest, who was a nigger-trader, before he became a warrior. The fellow went on to say that he eluded the pickets, and walked to Nashville. It appears he did not elude the secret-service department of this army. I could contribute much more of the same sort of stuff, but it would be useless labor.

The real state of the case is this: The enemy have accumulated large quantities of subsistence stores at Murfreesboro and other points this side of the Tennessee river, and they are keeping a strong force in front to enable them to run it down South. They are obviously endeavoring to create an impression that they intend to stand at Murfreesboro, in order to cover their real object. They have projected a fine railroad, and it is a great object, back of the road between Louisville and Nashville, and between the latter point and Murfreesboro. We are halted because the crippled condition of the railway line renders it impossible to accumulate stores enough to insure continuous supplies after Nashville shall have been left in the rear. We know as well as the Rebels do that they intend to run us down even as they accomplish their object. Although they are repairing the railroad bridge at Bridgeport across the Tennessee River, it is obvious that their object is not to stand. They reckon quite substantially, too, that a big army like ours can't be moved effectively without regular supplies. As they have cleaned out the country, they know we have got to rely upon the North.

But they are very much hurried. They know Rosecrans won't wait as long as some Generals do. Therefore, they must make the railway useful while they have time. If they get all their stores across the Tennessee before the winter frosts, they will be permitted to act upon all such calculations. They will be seriously annoyed, if, for their annoyances have already become, Col. John Kennet, commanding the cavalry, moved to Hartsville in obedience of orders to prevent the removal of large magazines of forage and supplies, and he reports success. Yesterday he sent a dispatch to headquarters confirming the foregoing reports and inferences, adding that Bragg's wagon train and that large quantity of flour, bacon, and salt are being shipped from Murfreesboro. At one point, Col. Kennet captured 200 barrels of flour, and 400 of salt. On the 10th inst. he got 400 sacks of corn at Trussell's Ford, four miles from Hartsville, 2,000 sacks of wheat, 40 barrels of salt, large quantities of bacon, &c. Other captures of importance too numerous to mention were also made. He had disturbed sundry parties of Rebel