

THE GREAT REBELLION.

Affairs in the Vicinity of Washington.

Grand Review of Gen. Fitz John Porter's Division.

Heintzelman's Pickets Advancing Down the Potomac.

The Excelsior Brigade Occupying the Opposite Side.

Critical Situation of the Rebel Steamer Page.

Her Retreat to Aquia Creek Cut Off.

Further Particulars of the Battle Near Leesburgh.

Official Report of the Santa Rosa Fight.

Demoralization of the Rebel Forces in Missouri.

SPECIAL DISPATCH FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Oct. 26. The grand review of Gen. FITZ JOHN PORTER'S Division took place to-day near Hall's Hill, and for a meteorological wonder, it did not rain. Many distinguished citizens and ladies from different parts of the country were present to witness the spectacle. Besides Generals McCLELLAN and FITZ JOHN PORTER, and their respective Staffs, Generals McDowell, Morrell, Martindale, Butterfield, Barry, Stoneman, Keys and Burns, and Colonels Pickett and Averill, with their respective Staffs, and other well known military commanders, were present and participated in the review. The Prince DE JOINVILLE and Dr. RUSSELL, of the London Times, were in prominent positions near Gen. McCLELLAN.

At 10 o'clock the brigades were formed in lines. At 11 o'clock the firing of the artillery announced the arrival of Gen. McCLELLAN and Staff upon the field, accompanied by Gen. PORTER. They rode in front of the lines, from right to left. This being concluded, the troops—infantry, artillery and cavalry—passed in marching review before Gen. McCLELLAN, the bands, in turn, performing the national and other inspiring airs. The marching was repeated in double-quick time, and this feature added much to the spirit of the occasion. The brigades then formed columns of grand divisions in close order, then deployed into files, companies and battalions.

The review was the finest that has yet taken place. The troops were in admirable condition and drill, and as the division has prided itself on its being the most perfect, each regiment, in a spirit of emulation, tried to excel the others. The marching was admirable, and in the evolutions in line the troops exhibited a wonderful promptness and mobility. The firing, too, was such as to secure the commendation of all present. Besides the perfection of the troops, it may be appropriately stated that Gen. FITZ JOHN PORTER, in addition to his qualities as General, is the best-looking man in the service.

AFFAIRS ALONG THE LINES.
Everything has been quiet to-day along the centre of our lines. There is nothing of interest on our right wing, towards Prospect Hill. The military telegraph reports that the rebels make no demonstration near Conrad's or Edwards' Ferries.

All the troops of the right wing will have a grand review, near May-Gen. McCLELLAN'S headquarters, on Tuesday morning, at which the President and Cabinet, Gen. McCLELLAN and Staff, and others, will be present.

SCOUTING AT PLANT HILL.
A scout sent out by Gen. WADSWORTH, early this morning, reached Plant Hill, from which point he had an excellent view of the situation about Fairfax Court-house. No rebel troops were visible, though considerable smoke was rising from a piece of woods back of Fairfax and between it and Germantown. Later, he saw a dozen rebel cavalry approaching, and after coming within a half mile of Plant Hill they wheeled to the left and extended to a hill half a mile northwest, where he discovered a body of infantry, numbering about sixty, which he had not previously noticed. He then returned to our lines.

THE LOWER POTOMAC—DANGEROUS POSITION OF THE PAGE.
The steamer *Reliance* came up from the flotilla last night, bringing up Capt. FOX, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and at 1 o'clock she left the Navy-yard to regain the flotilla.

It is reported that the ice boat, which has a fine battery of four guns, and another steamer run up past the Mathias Point battery in the night, and that they are now between the rebel steamer *Page* and Aquia Creek, with the *Yankee* and *Resolute* lying at Stump Neck, opposite Cockpit Point, and the other steamers below Evansport. The *Page* is in rather a critical situation. She was lying near the captured schooner *Fairfax* yesterday evening, and was supposed to be aground.

On board the flotilla at Indian Head heavy firing was heard yesterday afternoon in a southerly direction.

Two schooners, bound up with stores, ran the blockade last night without receiving a shot.

The Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Mr. FOX, returned from the Lower Potomac to-day, and denies that there are any permanent batteries at

Mathias Point. The *Reliance*, which brought Mr. FOX up, has returned to the flotilla.

A vessel arrived at Alexandria to-day, having been boarded by the rebel steamer *Page*, and allowed to pass up on the assumption that Alexandria is in the Confederate States.

ADVANCING DOWN THE POTOMAC.
Gen. HEINTZELMAN is quietly advancing his pickets along the southern side of the Potomac, while SICKLES goes down on the northern side.

ORDER RELATING TO THE SUBSISTENCE, ETC., OF VOLUNTEERS.
The following order was issued to-day from the Adjutant-General's Office:

First—United States and Disbursing officers will supply subsistence to and subsequent to muster for all volunteer organizations raised under proper authority whether originally granted by the Governors of the loyal States or directly by the War Department.

Second—The attention of officers supplying subsistence to volunteers in process of organization into companies and regiments, both prior to and subsequent to muster, is called to the exorbitant prices demanded and paid.

Rations in kind will hereafter be issued wherever cooking facilities can be furnished to the troops, whether in squads or larger bodies.

If the rations cannot be contracted for at a reasonable rate, subsistence will be procured in bulk and issued to the volunteers.

In no case should the cost of the rations uncooked exceed nine cents, and at most of the points in the Western States it should not exceed fourteen cents.

When cooking facilities cannot be furnished, contracts for the rations cooked may be made at reasonable rates, and the necessity for the same must be clearly stated in the accounts.

When board and lodging are necessary, the price for each soldier should be stated, and the aggregate cost of both must not exceed forty cents per day.

Third—No bands for volunteer regiments will in future be mustered into the service, and vacancies that may hereafter occur will not be filled. All members of the bands now in service, not musicians, will be discharged upon the receipt of this order, by their respective regimental commanders.

THE CONFLICT OF AUTHORITY.
In the Circuit Court this morning the Judges asked the Clerk if there had been any return to the writ issued against Gen. PORTER, the Provost Marshal.

The Clerk answered: "There was none."

District Attorney CARRINGTON, in behalf of Deputy Marshal PHILLIPS, presented a paper with an affidavit of Mr. PHILLIPS, stating that the writ had not been served, because he had been ordered by the President not to serve it, and because the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* had been suspended for the present, by the order of the President, in regard to soldiers in the army of the United States, within the District of Columbia.

Mr. CARRINGTON offered to submit an argument to the Court in behalf of Marshal PHILLIPS, but the Court announced that it did not propose to take any steps against him.

As the return presented a rare question, the Court desired to hold it under advisement, and an adjournment was made until Wednesday morning next.

THE DIPLOMATS AND COL. BAKER'S FUNERAL.
While Lord LYONS was prevented by an accidental circumstance from receiving the invitation to attend the funeral of Col. BAKER in time to avail himself of it, the French Minister similarly excused himself to the Secretary of State, and the Envoy from Prussia says his absence on that occasion was caused by indisposition, for which he expresses his regret.

TO HAVE A BRIGADE.
It is understood that Col. LANSING, of the New-York Seventeenth Volunteers, is to be assigned the command of a brigade. It is a good selection.

APPOINTED A CAPTAIN.
JOSEPH ROBERT PAXTON, of Philadelphia, has been appointed Captain in the Fifteenth Regular Infantry. Mr. PAXTON recently received, also, the appointment of Consul to Bahia, Brazil, but in view of the greater honor now offered him, he will, it is presumed, decline that office.

BRIGADE MARCHING.
Gen. WADSWORTH'S Brigade is daily being marched from six to eight miles, with musket, knapsack, blanket, overcoat, haversack and canteen, to accustom the men to the fatigues of moving in heavy marching order. Yesterday they marched from TAYLOR'S, up the Leesburgh Pike, to a point three miles distant, and then counter-marched to their quarters. The men bear the exercise well, and are daily becoming more able to endure the fatigue of a heavy march.

REBELS IN THE VICINITY.
The houses occupied by the rebel troops, when they were posted near our lines, are found to be defaced by signs of rude inscriptions. They are, in the main, the names of the regiments and companies quartered there, inscriptions not very chaste against the Yankees and the "Lincoln Government," rude figures, &c. The walls of UYRON'S and FERRY'S houses, which are the headquarters respectively of Gen. WADSWORTH and KEYS' Brigades, are thus defaced, and from it the visitor learns that companies from the Second Louisiana, the Second Georgia, Seventh Virginia and First Maryland Regiments had been present near there on picket. A rude picture of a man hanging on a gallows, has written under it "Abraham the First." A rebel flag is represented, on which is a scroll containing the words "Death before Dishonor—Death before Defeat." The full muster-roll of the Independent Grays, First Maryland Regiment, is written in pencil on the wall.

Ninety-one names are recorded, beginning with Capt. JAMES M. HERBERT, and followed by the Lieutenants, GEORGE H. BOOTH, W. K. HOWARD, and NICHOLAS SNOWDEN. Among the privates are the names of JAMES E. HOWARD and CHARLES HOWARD, following each other, and included in a brace, opposite which is written, "Sons of CHARLES HOWARD, Police Commissioner in Fort Lafayette." There is also inscribed after the name of the company, the following: "Sept. 10th, arrived here. It is now the 17th. Fighting every day at long range between our sentinels and the Yankees; killed one day before yesterday." Some rhyming rebel has given vent to his feelings in the following sensible statement and self-evident proposition:

"I will eat when I'm hungry,
I will drink when I'm dry;
I will march till I'm ill,
I will live till I die."

THE MISSISSIPPI RIFLE.
The residence of the Misses SCOTT, about three-quarters of a mile west of Falls Church, is again within our lines. The young ladies profess to be loyal, and they strenuously deny the charge of being a party to the capture of Capt. KELLOGG of the Connecticut Regiment. They say that his ar-

rest was effected without their contrivance or design, and that the Captain's over-gallantry in insisting upon accompanying them home against their caution and without placed him within the power of the rebel pickets, who saw his approach, and hence he was caught. The household consists of Mrs. SCOTT, her two daughters, and some negroes.

LIEUT. ROBEY, OF THE ANDERSON ZOUAVES, KILLED.
As the train from Baltimore to this city, due here at 5:30 Friday evening, was nearing this city, a person was seen on the track by the engineer, but not in sufficient time to enable him to stop the engine before the unfortunate man was struck by the cow-catcher, thrown from the track and severely injured. The train was stopped as soon as possible, and the man was picked up in a state of insensibility, and placed in as comfortable a position on the train as circumstances would allow.

Dr. JONES, Assistant Surgeon of the navy, happened to be on the train, and rendered such assistance as could be rendered in the case. On the arrival of the train in Washington, the injured man was transferred to the Army Infirmary, near the City Hall, and, on examination, showed he had received a serious fracture of the pelvis and other injuries, from which he died in the course of two hours. The papers found upon his person indicated him to be W. R. ROSS, First Lieutenant in the Anderson Zouaves. How he came to be walking on the track at the time is not known.

VISIT TO THE CAMPS.
Yesterday Judge HARRIS and Secretary CAMERON visited several camps in Virginia—among them that of the Iron Hairs Cavalry.

FORT ELSWORTH COMPLETED.
President LINCOLN was to have viewed Fort Elsworth as completed to-day, but was detained in Washington on business. Commander WAINWRIGHT is in command, with four hundred seamen, to man the guns. The battery in the vicinity is under the command of Lieut. ALLEN and eighty seamen. Both positions are considered impregnable.

SECESSIONIST MARYLANDERS CAUGHT.
A good story is told of a stratagem invented by a detachment of one of Gen. SICKLES' regiments, to decoy some Marylanders, who were suspected of being secessionists. Inducements were held out to the suspected persons to proceed at a given time to the Virginia shore, to join the rebel forces. At the appointed time, instead of finding boats of transportation, the rebels found a squad of Union troops, who quietly caught them.

DEPOT WANTED.
The Commissary's Department advertises for 12,000 head of beef cattle, to be delivered as follows: 4,000 at Washington, on or before the 30th of November; 4,000 at Harrisburgh, by the 30th of November; 4,000 at York, Chambersburgh, or Harrisburgh, on or before the 30th day of January. Proposals are to be presented on or before the 15th day of November at 12 o'clock.

A SOLDIER'S FUNERAL.
The funeral of Private ABRAHAM RUSSELL, of Company F, Third Maine Regiment, took place in Alexandria to-day.

Corporal PHILIP CASBY, of the Thirtieth (Troy) Regiment, died yesterday in camp.

AN ALEXANDRIAN WOMAN ARRESTED.
One of the so-called ladies of Alexandria was to-day taken to the Provost Marshal's office, and publicly reprimanded for insulting a Union officer.

IMPORTANT FROM MISSOURI.
DEMORALIZATION OF JEFF. THOMPSON'S REBEL COMMAND.

PLUM KRON, Mo., Saturday, Oct. 26. Col. THOMPSON has returned with his command to Cape Girardeau. Col. KRON now occupies Fredericktown, with a regiment of infantry, a squadron of cavalry, and two pieces of artillery. THOMPSON and his rebel band were pursued twenty-two miles beyond Fredericktown, on the Greenville road, when the chase was abandoned. The rebels are probably now at Greenville, but they are completely demoralized, and will doubtless continue their retreat. The detachment sent out to bury the dead after the battle, reported near two hundred of the rebels killed and left on the field. Our loss was six killed and about forty wounded, one mortally.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.
FORTRESS MONROE, Friday, Oct. 25. Nothing new has occurred in the vicinity of Old Point.

The *Cambridge* is in from the blockade off Beauport, and reports that the *Albatross* lost two men, drowned, in a fruitless attempt to land men west of Beauport.

AFFAIRS IN BALTIMORE.
THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD—MILITARY MOVEMENTS—DURVEY'S ZOUAVES UNDER MARCHING ORDERS, ETC.

BALTIMORE, Friday, Oct. 25, 1861. A short time since the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, were notified by Government, that in case an effectual closing of navigation in the Potomac river should occur, a necessarily increased demand would be made upon the Washington Branch Road, for the transportation of army supplies. That event has taken place; but the Railroad Company having exercised the utmost diligence in accumulating freight cars at this terminus of the road, Government is not likely to be embarrassed much from the insufficiency of supplies, which was to be apprehended by such an event.

The Company have a good road, with single track, running from Locust Point to a junction with their main road in this city, and the stores, steamers, and other vessels, loading with stores and supplies at New-York and other places, have been ordered to this port to discharge at Locust Point, and the freight transported from thence to Washington by railroad. The transports began to arrive to-day, and the Company feel confident they can now supply any demand likely to be made upon them for freight.

Quite an important movement has been made in the vicinity of this city—two or three regiments having departed for Washington. The Durvey Zouaves, who have so long occupied Federal Hill, are under marching orders, and will probably leave in a day or two—leaving behind them an enduring monument of their skill and industry, in the large and efficient fort which now incloses the brow of the hill.

The Seventh Maine Regiment, who have also for some weeks past been engaged in fortifying Fort Hill in the eastern part of the city, took their departure this afternoon for Washington, lamenting the death of the Colonel, THOMAS H. MERRILL, which occurred this morning at a private residence in this city. His death was occasioned by a severe attack of typhoid fever. His wife was with him during his sickness, and was present at his death. An escort of the regiment remained to convey his remains back to his home in Maine. The command is now under Lieut.-Col. SEYMOUR CONNOR. The death of their commander, who was universally beloved, spread a heavy gloom over the regiment. The Third New-York Regiment, which proceeded at once to Washington, is all still to-day with moving regiments.

Yesterday pilots were put on board the fleet commanding the great naval expedition at Fortress Monroe. It is conjectured that the fleet is not destined to a very distant point, as the provisions placed on board are not sufficient for a lengthy expedition.

ARGUS.

IMPORTANT FROM THE UPPER POTOMAC.

Full Particulars of the Disaster of Monday.

Additional Lists of the Killed and Wounded.

The Fearful Odds Against the National Forces.

How Col. Baker was Killed, and Who Killed Him.

SCENES AND INCIDENTS OF THE BATTLE.

From Our Special Correspondent.

POULSVILLE, Thursday, Oct. 24, 1861. I have already sent you a hurried account of the battle of Monday, and some of its incidents. From the statement of those engaged with the enemy, and from personal observation, I am enabled now to furnish you additional particulars of the highest interest.

Company G, California Regiment, crossed at Conrad's Ferry about daylight, but were obstructed in the march along the canal. The only transports were two scows, capable of carrying fifty men each. It took two loads of all these boats, occupying about an hour to get over. The shore where the landing was made was a heavy clay and the rise of the hill very rocky. There was no regular path.

Capt. BIRRAL led his Company into action at 2 1/2 P. M. His position was in the centre of the opening. The enemy were strongly posted in the woods, which in front were very dense. He posted his color guard ten paces in front of the line, and opened upon the enemy in the thicket.

A perfect shower of balls rained from the invisible enemy, whose position could only be known by the smoke of their guns. Their aim was low, striking our boys in their feet and legs. The men made good use of GARRETT'S six and twelve-pounder howitzers, which were placed on the right, and kept up the fire briskly. The original party in charge of the guns was shot away, and Company G, with the assistance of Col. WISZAR and Col. COUSWELL, placed the heaviest gun in position. This was 4 o'clock P. M.

After the fight had progressed some time, Gen. BAKER became evidently convinced that this was a hopeless contest, and addressing Quartermaster Youre, who was acting as his Aid, asked him if there was any means to recross the river, beside the boats on which they had come over. Mr. Youre replied, "There is nothing." The General answered, "Then let us do all we can, and die bravely." Addressing the men he said, "I will not ask you to go where I do not lead." Three cheers greeted the General's remark. He stood with his right hand in the breast of his coat, and was continually in front of his command. He said, "Fire low, boys, and fire steady, keep cool, and don't get excited."

A large force of the enemy were discovered advancing upon a double-quick through an open lane at the left of the ground, when the gun was wheeled in that direction, and fired. As the smoke of the gun blew away, a wide opening was observed in the enemy's ranks. They then made a charge from the front, and the enemy were again driven into the covert, after they had advanced to within five feet of our color.

The firing from the right had now nearly ceased—only an occasional stray shot from persons posted in the trees to pick off the officers. At this juncture, a person, wearing a gray jacket and blue pants, appeared, riding a dark brown horse, and beckoned with his hand to the Union forces, saying, "We are friends; come this way, boys." Firing instantly ceased for two minutes. Gen. BAKER and the Assistant Adjutant-General saying, "Cease firing; you are shooting your own men." The next moment Gen. BAKER said, "Soldiers, there is Johnston on the left; give them a volley."

By this time the enemy had flanked us on the left. The Adjutant-General inquired "Who are you," addressing his inquiry to the flanking party. He was answered, "We are Confederates; you Yankee sons of b—s." This confusion arose from the fact that Gen. BAKER had posted Company A as a skirmishing party on the left. The order was then given in charge, and the Unionists pressed into the woods on the left, but they met an overpowering force and fell back.

A very tall man now stepped from behind a tree, and, with a revolver, fired at Gen. BAKER, with five feet of his person. Six discharges were made, and nearly all the balls entered the General's body. He fell on his back, partly against a tree, and died instantly. The rebel who had shot the General then sprang forward, and was in the act of taking his body or stripping off his sword, when Capt. BIRRAL ran forward, pinned his revolver at his ear and shot him dead.

A heavy volley of musketry followed, which drove the boys back. Acting-Adjutant HAVERTY said, "Soldiers, who will volunteer to rescue the General's body?" Capt. BIRRAL answered the summons, and was followed by Sergt. JAMES CLARK, Lieut. JOHN MERRAS, private STRAIN, and a half dozen others. They raised him up, and bore him from the field. Three or four of the receding party were shot in the act and fell, but succeeded in taking the General's body safely across the river.

Capt. BIRRAL resumed command of his company, and the fight went on half an hour, when the firing ceased. Capt. BIRRAL spoke an encouraging word to the color-bearer, and as Company D had lost their officers, and had no one to lead them, he offered to take command. They followed into the edge of the woods, charging with the bayonet. A strong reinforcement of the enemy, however, arrived at this moment, and drove them back, and they retreated in good order down the hill. Every wounded man was removed from the field, and the commanders were the last to leave.

The retreating soldiers met a boat-load of about 40 men coming over the river, but seeing that the day was lost, they hesitated to land, although they had nearly reached the shore. Some of the party waded in and jumped on board the already heavily-loaded scow, which was capsized about twenty feet from the shore.

A shower of bullets was coming down the hill, and their muskets had already been thrown overboard. Those who more timid swam struck out for the island shore whilst the more timid endeavored to swim back. The larger proportion of the boat's company, however, are believed to have sunk at once. Those who remained on the shore were taken prisoners immediately. Among them were Adj.-Gen. HART and, as is supposed, Col. COUSWELL, of the Tenth Maine Regiment.

Capt. BIRRAL was now concealed some 200 yards to the left, and witnessed the firing of the rebels upon his retreating men—many of whom were shot while swimming, and sank to the bottom. He remained there nearly half an hour, in company with the color-bearer, and Corporal JAMES BLACK, of Company G. They then swam across. Just as they landed, Capt. BIRRAL received some slight wounds in his arm and side.

The firing on the island was just as severe as on the field. The rebels continually fired at the hospital, at the wounded—at persons in the river—into the thicket, where the Union men were supposed to be concealed—and kept up their firing until about 9 o'clock P. M.

No braver men ever confronted an enemy on the field. The rebel officers themselves declared that though we had a much superior force, and asked at one time, "Where are all your men?" On being answered that they were all engaged, he said, "Why, if we had known that, we could have eaten you all up!"

The presence of the two pieces of artillery caused the rebels to think that we had a large reserve. This no doubt protected the fight. At a time when our men were fairly well up, Capt. BIRRAL took off his cap and called for cheers, crying out that reinforcements were in constant check, and looking the rear.

Col. CONWELL, who is supposed to be a prisoner, fought with great courage and gallantry. The command devolved on him after Gen. BAKER fell, and well did he sustain his position.

Col. WISZAR was wounded in the left cheek, but stood his ground, cheering on his men, until his right elbow was shattered. He was then taken to the ground, but he coolly picked it up with his left hand, and was assisted to the rear.

A Captain of the Fifteenth Massachusetts was seen to come down to the river, and offer his gold watch to any one who would assist him to swim across, declaring that he would rather die than be taken prisoner. He was so far from the shore that he jumped in, and, after a brief struggle, sank to the bottom.

Private PETER FARRER, of Company G, thinks he was the last man who swam from the river bank opposite the field of battle. He states that as near as he could judge, from eighty to a hundred soldiers lay wounded and helpless on the bank.

STATEMENT OF CORPORAL PIPER.
Corporal FRANK PIPER, of Company F, First California Regiment, was wounded in the hand, and when he reached the river he plunged in with his clothes on. Five or six men sank beside him; his outcries were terrible. "My God!" "Oh, oh!" "Help!" were heard from all parts of the river. He swam with one hand for fifty yards, and struggled on, he hardly knew how, until he reached the opposite bank.

To go back: Mr. FERRIS remained concealed behind a rock a clump of bushes protecting him from view, until 12 midnight. During this time he saw the enemy's pickets, and heard them challenging our men who struggled, one after another, into their lines. In response to the question "Who goes there?" he often hears the answer, "A friend in distress." These, he supposes, were our men who went in to deliver themselves up. At midnight the enemy called some two or three men, and discharged a deadly volley among the bushes where our men were concealed. Eighteen or twenty men fell killed or wounded. A few moments of quiet followed, and the demand for fifty voices was heard, "Surrender!" They answered, "Don't fire, we surrender." "Fetch that regiment here," was then demanded by a rebel officer, at the same time he commanded our men to "lay down their arms and come out." At this a large number rushed to the river bank and plunged in. "Come back, come back, you Yankee sons of b—s," was the next exclamation, followed by another volley and straggling shots at the men in the water. A large number were heard to give one outcry of distress and sink. The dead and wounded, in large numbers, lay scattered along the shore, and remained there through the night.

Reinforcements to the enemy were arriving at the place all night, shouting and singing as they came. Mr. FERRIS says that Gen. BAKER stood beside his regiment, coolly encouraging them. The men lay flat on the ground for half an hour, the fire of the enemy going over their heads, but a great many rebel sharpshooters were stationed in the trees, and shot the men on the ground and picked off the officers. To clear the woods they charged with the bayonet. The first battalion yielded slightly, but were soon met by another regiment coming up behind, who delivered their fire over the shoulders of the first, while the bayonets were interlocked. They were not over ten yards distant, and out of the hundred and fifty of our men who were shot down, the remainder of the force fell back and lay down on their faces, receiving the volley of the whole regiment.

Gen. BAKER at this time saw an officer, whom he supposed to be JONES, riding a white horse, and asked for a pistol. As a private was in the act of handing him one, he received his death wound and fell. He was then carried forward to obtain his body, but they were met by a dash of our men, in obedience to an officer's command, and a momentary struggle followed to obtain possession of the brave man's body. As a rebel officer stooped to clutch it, he fell, pierced by a bullet, and a bayonet pinned him to the ground. The Adjutant-General, who had run forward, exclaimed, "Handle him tenderly, men, I have lost the best friend I had in the world."

The sun was now quite low, the woods to the west casting their dark shadow over the bloody scene. Overwhelming reinforcements continued in strength on the rebel army, who were well sheltered by the woods and rifle pits. Our men were shot down faster than they could be sent across by the scows. The Commander had fallen in sight of the whole lines, calling a gloom over the struggling ranks; the day was hourly lost. Firing had been going on in an irregular way for two or three hours, while the enemy poured well-directed volleys from full ranks upon our scattered and demoralized forces. The cannon were spiked and thrown down the hill. The wounded, who lay scattered over the encumbered men in every possible way to continue the fight, but it was useless to do so, and the fighting all being over, the rebels were ordered to gain the whole breast of the battle going on above.

In the evening the troops were ordered back, and when parts of two regiments had landed on the Maryland shore, orders came to stop the withdrawal of the troops, as Gen. BAKER'S Division had arrived to sustain us. The same two regiments were accordingly retransported to the Virginia shore during that night. On Tuesday several other regiments went over from that time there was a great show of transport boats crossing the river, and the exception of a small scow-load, none actually crossed over. There was not at any one time over two pieces of artillery on the Virginia side, viz., two 12-pounders, of Col. RAYMOND'S Rhode Island Battery. On Monday three small scow-loads, each carrying fifty men, were sent across.

About noon a canal-boat was got through a sluiceway into the Potomac, and orders were sent to stop all canal-boats passing either way, and appropriate measures such as a net for service. For some time action again. All tin-locks that could be got hold of were seized, greatly to the grief of the Captains who were left boatless, low-limbed and disconsolate. Seven other boats were got into the Potomac on Wednesday, affording preparations for crossing on a regular after another in rapid succession. But the river was now swollen by the heavy rains that were falling, thus increasing the perilousness of the crossings that could not be relied upon. As yet not all the lines that could be found would span the river, and at last, when the last rotten log-hatch had been on, and the two shores were connected, the line parted with the first strain, and the boat had to return.

Men were now set to cutting poles, and mules were brought into requisition to have the boats up the stream along shore, in order to get a good crossing. At noon, however, obstruction in another form arose. A stiff breeze sprung up from the northwest, and rendered all further attempts to cross by these means utterly futile, not to say dangerous.

Meanwhile some sharp skirmishing was had with an advanced body of the enemy's pickets, the firing for a few minutes being very sharp on both sides. In the engagement Gen. LINDSEY was wounded in the leg. Gen. ABRACOMSON, BARKS, GORHAM, COOPER and others were on the field.

This (Thursday) morning, Gen. McCLELLAN arrived about 9 o'clock, and assumed command of operations, or, at least, actively cooperated with the other Generals.

Meanwhile the four thousand and odd troops were left alone on the enemy's shore, there being no possibility of reinforcing them. The banks of the Potomac were lined with troops—barricading on the west grass many of whom were actually suffering for food. Some of them had eaten their own provisions for four days.

The object of all these movements having been accomplished, the plans of the Generals being changed, a final order was issued to have all the troops brought back again. Rumors prevailed that Johnston was advancing from Manassas with fifty thousand or some other fabulous number of men, and that it was deemed prudent to quit the sacred soil for the present. But now they were again confronted with the northwest gale and rapid current.

MOVEMENTS AT EDWARDS' FERRY.
EDWARDS' FERRY, Thursday, Oct. 24, P. M. Having completed the list of the wounded, in the hospitals at Camp Observation and Poolesville, I hastened down here to see what was going on. The frequent firing from this direction indicated that a battle was progressing on the Virginia side opposite to this place. To bring up the narrative of events here, I must go back to Sunday, the day before the action near Conrad's Ferry. During Sunday night, the Second New-York State Militia crossed over the river at this point, for the purpose, as was supposed, of holding the Ferry on the opposite bank of the Potomac. They soon commenced scouting, but met with only a few of the rebels. They captured one Seceessionist who is detained in the guard-house, on the opposite side of the street where I am writing. He is a face-looking man, and no doubt classes himself among the first families.

The First Minnesota followed—seven companies getting over before daylight. The Telescope Sharpshooters, from Massachusetts, who crossed with them, attracted much attention. Three companies of cavalry were the next to cross, taking up an advanced position, where they met the enemy's pickets, and had a brief skirmish. The rebels were soon killed, and the prisoner before mentioned was captured. No general engagement took place, the one man falling back to their favorite covert, the woods where they kept at a safe distance from our sharpshooters. Several of them were reached at a distance of half and three-quarters of a mile.

Reinforcements continued to cross in small detachments, and the belief was that it was the intention to outflank the rebels at Conrad's Ferry. For some time the enemy early in the morning. Persons unaccountable cause, however, but probably on account of the known strength of the rebel forces and batteries between Edwards' and Conrad's Ferries, the passage of troops was stopped, and our men were kept within retreating distance of Edwards' Ferry, leaving Gen. BAKER with his small and tardy reinforcements, to sustain the whole breast of the battle going on above.

In the evening the troops were ordered back, and when parts of two regiments had landed on the Maryland shore, orders came to stop the withdrawal of the troops, as Gen. BAKER'S Division had arrived to sustain us. The same two regiments were accordingly retransported to the Virginia shore during that night. On Tuesday several other regiments went over from that time there was a great show of transport boats crossing the river, and the exception of a small scow-load, none actually crossed over. There was not at any one time over two pieces of artillery on the Virginia side, viz., two 12-pounders, of Col. RAYMOND'S Rhode Island Battery. On Monday three small scow-loads, each carrying fifty men, were sent across.

About noon a canal-boat was got through a sluiceway into the Potomac, and orders were sent to stop all canal-boats passing either way, and appropriate measures such as a net for service. For some time action again. All tin-locks that could be got hold of were seized, greatly to the grief of the Captains who were left boatless, low-limbed and disconsolate. Seven other boats were got into the Potomac on Wednesday, affording preparations for crossing on a regular after another in rapid succession. But the river was now swollen by the heavy rains that were falling, thus increasing the perilousness of the crossings that could not be relied upon.