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## TERRITORIAL MAILS.

For years, we have been reminding the government at Washington of the disadvantages to the development of the Territory, from cramped, pinched up postal arrangements, and in bye-gone days we have had too much cause for good substantial grumbling on this score. At the present time, as there is a prospect of increased postal facilities, we think some things may be profitably spoken to some post-masters and some mail carriers, so that whatever the government may be inclined to favor us with may not be neutralized by their indifference, ignorance or neglect.

For the purpose of seeing the mail expeditiously served at the offices on his route, and rendering blundering almost impossible, the Post-master here, has, for some time back, sent four mail sacks south instead of one as formerly every Thursday. Co-operating with him in the interest of our subscribers, we have received these sacks on the Wednesday evenings and deposited our subscription papers therein and attached to the sacks leather "tags," with each place of delivery printed thereon. With such aids, ordinary sensible persons need make no blunders in receiving the mails at their respective offices. The mail carrier should know the sack to be delivered, but should he blunder in that simple matter, a Post-master would be simple indeed to let him leave his office door and continue his journey without handing out the proper sack; yet such things we regret to say have transpired. The mail matter that was submerged the other day in American Fork—or one-fourth of it at least should have been delivered at Post offices this side of the Fork only for that blundering to which we have referred.

Another thing. Will the mail carriers and Post-masters on that southern route see that the "tags" are returned with the sacks?

In Utah, as in all new countries, many of the settlements have a variety of names, and very frequently many of the post offices serve more than one settlement. It is our intention very shortly to publish a list of all the post offices in the Territory, and for this purpose we invite all the postmasters to send us, with the name of his office, all the names ever given to the settlement, and the names of the other settlements receiving mail matter at their offices. With such a list in every post office, there would be no excuse for blundering and the list would be serviceable abroad as well as at home. We think we can see considerable assistance to postmasters and good service to the people in such a measure. Postmasters, give this your early attention and you will serve yourselves handsomely for your trouble.

**A NEW OVERLAND AGENT.**—Mr. Rowe having resigned the agency of the Overland Mail route between this city and Carson, for some cause which has not transpired, Maj. Howard Egan has been tendered and accepted the appointment and has entered upon the duties of the important and responsible position. We have never heard any complaints made against Mr. Rowe as an agent, and believe that he has been as efficient as any one who has acted in that capacity, but however energetic he may have been, the new incumbent may be expected to be as persevering as any of his predecessors, and as faithful in the discharge of the duties required.

**COMMENCEMENT OF HARVEST.**—The wheat crop is unusually late in this part of the State this season, but some little has been cut within the last few days in the vicinity of E. T. City. It will, however, be a week or two yet before many fields will be sufficiently ripe for harvesting.

## THE LATE BATTLES BEFORE RICHMOND.

There has as yet been no official report made of the casualties of the great battle or series of battles fought before Richmond, during the week preceeding the 3d of July. The reports, like those of all other conflicts that have taken place within the last six months, are extremely vague as to details, but are sufficiently certain as to the fact that there was more fighting done and more blood shed in those conflicts than in any which had preceded since the commencement of the war.

According to the first published statement, General Hooker advanced with his division on the morning of Wednesday, June 25th, for the purpose of occupying a new position beyond the swamps, near which it was encamped, in front of the enemy's lines, which he succeeded in accomplishing, although he met with a most determined resistance, a battle ensuing which lasted till late in the afternoon, when the Confederates gave way. The result was considered highly important to the health of the soldiers, as the ground occupied was higher and but little more would have to be gained to place the troops entirely beyond the swamps. Gen. Hooker's loss on that day was estimated at about two hundred killed and wounded. The Confederate loss, according to that statement, was estimated at about the same number.

Another dispatch from the battle field, on Thursday, stated that Gen. Hooker's division had been ordered to be in line of battle, on Wednesday morning, with one day's rations in their haversacks; and that the movement was commenced by the 5th Mass., at about eight o'clock, which drove the enemy across an open field, and on being reinforced by Grover's brigade, of which the 5th constituted a part, and the Jersey and Sickels' brigades, the battle became general, and the Confederates were driven out of the swampy woods, which were taken possession of by the Federal troops in the course of the afternoon. The fight was continued after the enemy were driven from the swamp, and volley after volley was exchanged, when the Confederates charged with fixed bayonets towards the 1st and 5th Mass. and the 26th Penn., at double quick, yelling tremendously as they advanced.

The Federal troops were ready to receive them, and a fierce conflict ensued, resulting in the discomfiture of the enemy, who retreated in great disorder about half a mile before the bayonets of their pursuers. The Confederates are represented as having fallen in heaps—more of them having been killed in that charge than in the battle of Fair Oaks. The Federals drove them from their rifle pits which they occupied until reinforcements came.

A report from General McClellan, on the 26th, to the War Department announced that all was quiet along the Chickahominy; but according to subsequent dispatches, about noon on that day, the Confederates made an attack on General Stoneham's division, near Hanover Court House, the extreme right of the Federal lines, and a most desperate conflict ensued, which lasted till evening, when a retreat was ordered and the troops began to fall back. The conflict is reported to have been renewed on Friday, and the enemy continued to advance, and the Federals to give way till Saturday the 28th, in the afternoon, when White House was evacuated, most of the army stores having been put on board the transports, which, with all the gun-boats and shipping on the Pamunky, moved off down the river to West Point.

The cavalry at White House during Saturday, guarded the departure of the trains and the embarkation till four p.m., when the final evacuation took place, and then they moved off and joined Gen. Stoneham, who had been in the vicinity all day. The safety of the trains having been secured, Gen. Stoneham marched off with his force eastwardly in the direction of Yorktown, where he subsequently arrived, and from thence proceeded to Fort Monroe. The presence of the Confederates rendered it impracticable for him to effect a junction with the main body of the Federal army, on the Chickahominy.

The reports, sent forth to the world, concerning the warlike operations, on the right wing of the army of the Potomac, which resulted in the abandonment of all the points there held, and in the clearing of York river and its tributaries of everything moveable in the shape of gun-boats, steam-boats, schoon-

ers, barges and tow-boats, are as various as such statements generally are. The first one announced was to the effect that there was a most determined and severe battle fought on Thursday and Friday, which was claimed by the Federal officers, as a most splendid strategic movement, into which the Confederates had been drawn against their will, and which would result in the fall of Richmond and the capture of the entire Confederate army. The same report stated that the attack was made by the enemy in great force on Thursday the 26th, and that they fought desperately, and although their numbers were ten times greater than that of the division of Gen. McClellan, which was attacked, they were unable to drive them a single rod; that the Federals fought their foes till nine o'clock in the evening, when the division was ordered back, and that Gen. McClellan, who was on the field, expressed himself highly pleased with the result.

A major of Jackson's army, who was taken prisoner on that day, said the Confederate force consisted of sixty-eight thousand men, which accounted, as a correspondent stated, for the murderous fire under which the Federal troops were borne down. Jackson's command, from Shenandoah valley, were a part of the attacking force, and a correspondent stated that, on Thursday, the Penn. reserves drove the attacking regiments of Jackson's army, but, on Friday, they were overpowered by the same troops reinforced by the residue of his command. A regiment of regulars was sent to the assistance of the Penn. troops, but were unable to check the onslaught of the Confederates, and another corps had to be added, all of whom fought bravely, and, although defeated and had to retire, they did not run. The Federal loss was said to be enormous. The 11th Regulars was nearly annihilated and the 14th was most dreadfully decimated.

The number of Federal officers killed and wounded, was stated as unusually large, as compared with the casualties among the rank and file.

The Confederates did not arrive at White House, till 7 o'clock on Saturday evening, three hours after the place was evacuated by Gen. Casey, who was chief in command along the line of the Pamunky. At ten that morning, Col. Ingalls was before Yorktown, with a large fleet of transports, consisting of steamers, schooners and other crafts on the way to Fort Monroe, and at noon on the 30th, there was not, as reported, a single craft afloat above West Point, everything having been cleared out.

One account of the battle sets forth that the enemy made an attempt to break through the Federal right, but failed and after charged on the left with the same result, and then, in the same connection, asserts that the battle raged several hours without any advantage being gained on either side, when the enemy made a desperate effort, and drove the Federal troops back into the low ground between the hill and the bridge, and a panic was almost inevitable, and had not a strong guard been placed on the bridge to prevent, it is intimated, that a general stampede would have resulted. About that time, Meagher's Irish brigade made their appearance, stripped for the fight and yelling hideously, pitched in and drove the enemy back. That fight is said to have taken place on Sunday morning, and, at night, an attack was made along the entire front of Hooker's, Sumner's and Kearney's divisions without any material results.

During the first four days of the fight some fifty guns, it is said, were captured by the enemy, who are represented by a reporter as having twice attacked the Federal lines over their redoubts and rifle pits, while the Federal artillery was mowing them down in a most horrible manner.

Dispatches from flag officer Goldsborough, on the 30th, stated the attack on the right was a desperate affair, in which the Federal loss was great, and that of the enemy not less than five thousand. It was also announced that there had been considerable fighting on the left, and that McClellan had succeeded in passing through White Oak swamp, with forty thousand men, and a thousand pieces of artillery, to secure the advantage of a new position, and had cut through the line of communication to James river. In the two days fight McClellan was reported, before the wires were interdicted from conveying intelligence, to have lost ten thousand men.

Col. Alexander, was subsequently sent by McClellan to James river to select a new base line of operations, which was established, as per report, thirty miles below Richmond, and ten above City Point.

Another account of the battle stated that on Friday, General McClellan ordered Gen. Porter to withdraw from the position he then held to another some distance in the rear, which he effected early in the morning. The enemy followed the Federals, moving slowly, fighting as they retired across the Chickahominy, to the position indicated by the General-in-Chief, where at three o'clock in the afternoon, a general engagement took place, which lasted till seven, when the Confederates drew off, but soon after, having been reinforced, they renewed the attack with great fury. Gen. Porter was reinforced by Slocum's, Meagher's and Palmer's brigades, and after a fierce and most desperate fight, (in which shell, grape and musketry were freely used, with telling effect,) the enemy was repulsed. The Federal forces engaged on Friday are stated at twenty thousand, and those of the enemy at fifty thousand.

On Saturday night and Sunday, according to one statement, the whole left wing, under Heintzelman, Keys and Sumner, fell back along the line of the railroad, and the Wilmington road, and marched to James river. The Confederates crossed the Chickahominy in great force on Sunday the 29th, and reached the railroad, but proceeded no farther on that day, remaining in possession of the ground previously occupied by the Federal forces and the fortifications which they had abandoned. The stores and supplies are reported to have been withdrawn, but with considerable loss. Tremendous fighting was, as per report, going on all the time those movements were progressing, with great loss of life on both sides.

General McClellan is reported to have established his headquarters at Malvern Hill, near Turkey Island Bend, on Monday the last day of June, and on that evening the army commenced throwing up intrenchments as fast as possible.

On the morning of Sunday the 29th, one of the latest accounts from the army of the Potomac states, the divisions of Gens. Sumner and Franklin, which had been left in their entrenchments at Fair Oaks, had instructions to evacuate if practicable and fall back. They had hardly commenced to leave the works before their movements were discovered by the Confederates, who immediately started with their whole force in hot pursuit and their movements were so rapid that the Federal officers had barely time to get their men in position ready to receive the attack before the enemy was upon them. The battle commenced about two in the afternoon and lasted till dark, during which the combatants suffered terribly from the fire of the opposing columns respectively. The result of the battle was favorable to the Federals and the enemy retired from the field.

While the battle on Sunday afternoon was raging, the Confederates burned the railroad bridge across the Chickahominy and a large train was precipitated into the river. After the burning of the bridge, all the commissary and quartermaster stores which could not be removed, belonging to the Federal army, were burned and a large amount of ordnance stores. There were some seven hundred sick and wounded Federal soldiers in a building used for a hospital at the station, who could not be got away and were left to be captured by the enemy.

After the repulse of the Confederates on Sunday evening, the Federal troops engaged in the fight retired during the night to White Oak Swamp bridge, twelve miles from the battle field, near Savage's station. The enemy were after them early on Monday morning, having been reinforced by the troops who had fought the battles on Friday. The Federal forces on Monday were far more numerous than on Sunday, as Gen. Smith's and Mitchell's divisions were at the bridge, and also Heintzelman's corps, and Nagley's brigade, all of which participated in the fight on that day, and, anticipating that the Confederates would follow, the various divisions were arranged so as to give them a warm reception and were in readiness to receive an attack, for which they had not long to wait, for the enemy soon came up and another most desperate and sanguinary conflict ensued, which lasted till sometime in the afternoon, when, in consequence