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THE BATTLE OF CEDAR MOUNTAIN,
NEAR CULPEPPER.

After Gen. Pope was assigned to the command of that portion of the Federal forces in the field, on the "sacred soil" of the "Old Dominion," commonly called the "Army of Virginia," in contradistinction to the "Army of the Potomac," such was the confidence reposed in him by the President and Secretary of War, and the high opinion entertained of him by the people of the North, as a "fighting general," it was very generally believed that the war in the department of which he was thus made general-in-chief, comprising the Shenandoah valley and that part of the State of Virginia lying east of the Blue Ridge, between the Potomac and York rivers, would soon assume a more active appearance than formerly, and that the divisions of Gens. Banks, McDowell and Fremont, or of his successor, King, combined under such a gallant and successful chieftain, would soon make the Confederate general, Jackson, "wince" and fall back to some position south of Richmond. So great has been the anxiety, particularly since Gen. Pope left Washington a few weeks since for the field, that the people in all parts of the land—Deseret not excepted—have been dissatisfied with the slow operations of the wires in announcing the exploits of the Federal army under his command, and could not patiently wait till their favorite general had reached the field of his hopes and future glory for the announcement of "battles fought and victories won," but few, if any, doubting his success and all seemingly believing that a brilliant record would be made.

Whether the anticipations of the many, in relation to Gen. Pope's success, will be fully realized or not, is, as yet, problematical, as the fortunes of war have ever been and are still attended with considerable uncertainty—a very small and unlooked for occurrence often turning the tide of battle in favor of the weaker party and snatching, from the bravest of generals, laurels deemed permanently placed upon his brow. Should that be the case with Gen. Pope, under existing circumstances, the disappointment of the Government and of the professed Union loving people of the North will be very great; but the probabilities are that, so far as fighting may be concerned, the expectations of all will be fully realized; and that Stonewall Jackson will have something to do to keep the "Army of Virginia" from marching south.

There has one battle been fought between the advancing columns of Gen. Pope's army and the Confederates under Jackson, indicating that neither are wanting in courage and military prowess; and that, when they meet to fight, they will fight "to kill."

There was, according to the published statements, which are not very conflicting as to the main facts, one of the most desperate and bloody battles of the war, fought near Culpepper, on the 9th of August, between Gen. Bank's division of Pope's army, and a superior Confederate force under Jackson, resulting in nothing very decisive, further than the killing and wounding of an unusual number of men, according to the force engaged, neither party yielding the field and both claiming the victory. There had been, as stated, on the day previous to the bloody affray, some skirmishing, between Gen. Bayard's cavalry brigade and the enemy, near the Rapidan river, resulting in a slight loss in killed and wounded, on the Federal side, and the capture by them of a few prisoners.

On the 9th, the skirmishing was renewed and the enemy in force, under Gens. Jackson, Ewell and Nalle, crossed the river, but was kept at bay by Gen. Bayard with four regiments of cavalry, until the arrival of Gen. Banks, who, with his division came up and attacked the enemy's advance, said to be fif-

teen thousand strong, early in the afternoon, six miles south of Culpepper, and a fierce and sanguinary battle ensued. During the fore part of the fight, cannon were only used, but subsequently the infantry became engaged, and there was a most desperate effort made by the commanders of the respective armies to win the field. The right wing of Gen. Bank's division under Gen. Williams, is reported to have suffered most. The Confederate position was in the woods on the side of a mountain and in advancing to attack them, the Federal troops were obliged to move over an open field exposed to the murderous fire of their adversaries which caused some of the regiments to falter and fall back in disorder—no very uncommon thing, when men of war are overcome on fields of strife.

At about six o'clock in the evening, the Confederates advanced suddenly with their whole force and attacked Gen. Banks in front and on both flanks, and brave men fell thick and fast over the entire field on both sides, the slaughter continuing till dark, when the Federal army fell back to the position they occupied at the beginning, out of reach of the enemies guns, according to report. General Banks commanded in person and was on the field in the hottest part of the engagement, encouraging his men and directing their movements. He received, as reported, no injury from the enemy, but during the battle he came in collision with one of his mounted men, who accidentally ran against him with great force, striking him in the side, effecting him so severely that he was unable to keep the field, and the command of his corps devolved on Gen. Williams.

While the battle was progressing, and at about seven in the evening, Gen. Pope arrived on the battle ground, accompanied by General McDowell, with one division of his corps, but the battle is said to have been substantially over, and Gen. Banks had retired to his former position before General Pope, with the reinforcements, reached the engaged field, but the artillery did not cease firing till two o'clock next morning. Gen. Pope, in riding over the field in the evening came so near the enemy's lines at one time, that he was discovered, and a cavalry charge was made, having in view his capture, which came near being successful, and was only prevented by the timely aid of General McDowell's troops, who opened a brisk fire on the enemy, while the General and his staff hurriedly retreated under a cross fire from both sides. Two of his body guard were killed, and Col. Ruggles, chief of his staff, had his horse killed, but Gen. Pope escaped unhurt.

The first report, which was in all probability the most correct, stated that there were not less than three thousand men killed and wounded on each side, including a large percentage of officers. The 5th Conn., 46th Penn., 28th New York and 27th Indiana are mentioned as having suffered most. The Ohio and Indiana regiments were generally badly cut up. There were some prisoners taken by both armies, how many has not been made known. The arrival at Richmond as prisoners of war, of thirty-five commissioned officers, including General Prince, has been announced, with a proportionate number of rank and file; and one train conveyed one hundred and fifty-two Confederate captives to Washington after the battle, but it is not stated whether or not those were all who were taken prisoners, but the presumption is that the number was not large.

There are some little discrepancies in the several statements that have been published in relation to the bloody conflict, which has been named the "battle of Cedar Mountain," and some are more explicit than others. One account states that the Confederates unasked their batteries on the side of the mountain and on the hills where they had been planted and arranged in the form of a crescent, about three miles in extent, commanding General Banks' position, and to the cross fire of which his whole force was exposed some two hours, the Confederate guns outnumbering the Federals at every point, and exceeding them in weight of metal; notwithstanding which, Gen. Banks' batteries replied, gun for gun, till an Enfield battery was opened on his right. He then gave orders to cease firing and charge that death-dealing concern, which duty was assigned to Gen. Crawford's brigade of Gen. Williams' division—the 46th Pennsylvania leading the charge. Behind the battery on the hill side, there was an oak thicket, in which a Confederate force was concealed,

and fired upon the advancing column as soon as it came within range, mowing down the Federal ranks like grass before they could reach the object of assault. After the 46th had been thus roughly handled, the balance of the brigade was ordered up, and subsequently the entire commands of Gens. Williams and Anger, but brigades of Confederates were found at every point, concealed in the ravines of the forest, and ready to meet the assailants wherever they went, and to pour upon them showers of lead. The battle raged fearfully until dark, when the Federal forces were ordered to fall back out of reach of the enemy's guns. The narrator says the Federal infantry was badly cut up, and that in the retreat, two guns were lost, but alleges that the enemy's loss was certainly much greater than that of the Union troops as their columns were frequently riddled by the Federal artillery. He states that the enemy's forces were estimated at twenty thousand, while the Federal, exclusive of cavalry and artillery, did not exceed seven thousand. The number of killed on the Federal side, he averred, was small, and the number of wounded large, but what was remarkable the wounds were generally slight.

From all the statements concerning the battle it is made to appear that both armies were so much exhausted by their efforts on the day of the action that they were unable to renew the conflict on the next day, Sunday, and no efforts were made to bury their dead nor care for the wounded by either party, and they were left lying on the field till Monday. Jackson's army fell back two miles on Sunday and took a position higher up the mountain, giving space enough between his lines and those of General Pope for the latter to have buried the slain, and administered to the wounded and dying, without coming in collision with the enemy, had he been thus disposed, but it seems that no move was made till Monday, to relieve the sufferings of those who were not killed outright on the sanguinary field and they were left to welter in their gore and suffer of thirst beneath the scorching rays of the sun during the whole of Sunday, and at night on Monday some in whom life had not become extinct, had not received any succor from their fellows who escaped from the battle unhurt. It is said to have been an awful and heart-sickening sight.

ITEMS OF WAR NEWS.

The published history of the war continues to be of small volume and not very lucid. There has not much transpired for weeks in relation to the movements of the mighty armies in the field—a few small fights comprising all that has been made known; the operations of guerrillas, however, had not ceased, and up to latest dates they continued to be as active as ever in the work of destruction.

The Confederate batteries near the mouth of the Ogechee river were attacked by four or five Federal gun-boats, on the 29th of July, and according to the Federal account, the fight lasted two hours without injury to the boats, while the enemy suffered severely from the effects of the shells projected by the fleet. The Confederate statement sets forth that the battle lasted several hours, and resulted in the repulse of the gunboats, one of which was thought to be seriously damaged, and that no one was hurt on their side and the batteries were unscathed.

A band of Confederate cavalry is reported to have burned, on the 21st inst., the station-houses at Leighton and Jonesboro, on the Memphis and Charleston railroad. The Confederate mounted force in that region are represented as being very numerous, and from their knowledge of the country have of late considerably annoyed the Federal forces on service there.

Missouri, had up to the 12th inst., been the theatre of much warfare, and bands of guerrillas were marching through the State in various directions, not, however, without efforts having been made to thwart their designs and drive them out of the country, if they could not be killed or captured. On the 3d of August, Quanrell, with a large force, crossed from the south side of the Missouri river, in the upper part of the State, and among other depredations captured a steamer. A force of one hundred men was sent from Leavenworth to capture the party, which was supposed by the commander at that port not to be very numerous. The mistake was not discovered till it was too late, and the troops from Leavenworth had been taken prisoners by the guerrilla chief and his band, said to have been a least fifteen hundred strong. He then marched in the direction of Liberty, with the intention of capturing the place, but whether he did or not, has not been reported, neither has anything been made known concerning his movements from that time till the 11th, when, in connection with Hughes, another guerrilla chieftain, he made a descent upon Independence, which after a hard fought battle of four hours, fell into his hands and was sacked. How many Federal troops were at Independence to oppose the bandits, has not been made to appear, but twenty were reported killed, and the balance surrendered. The particulars of the fight have not transpired, but it is said that the result caused great excitement in the country round about, and great preparations were being made to pursue and capture the marauders. The militia were called out; a large force of infantry, cavalry and artillery was detached from Leavenworth, and the 6th Kansas cavalry was also put in motion to aid in surrounding and preventing the escape of the enemy, who, it was believed, would recross the river into Clay county. What the excitement and the assembling together of so many troops resulted in has not been announced.

On the 7th, Gen. Davidson assumed command at St. Louis, General Merrill having been assigned to the command of the district of North-eastern Missouri which was overrun with guerrillas. The next day General Schofield issued an order directing that the Federal troops in the field should subside themselves upon Secessionists, when practicable, and on Unionists whenever necessary.

It was reported that on the morning of the 6th, Col. McNeill came up with a guerrilla force under Porter, near Kirksville, Adair county, which retreated into the town, where a fight ensued, in which Porter was defeated, with a loss, as at first reported, of about one hundred and fifty men killed and wounded. A subsequent report stated that there were one hundred and twenty-eight killed dead on the field, which were buried by the Federals, and that the entire loss of the enemy was at least three hundred. Another fight between McNeill and Porter came off on the 10th at Stockton, Macon county, in which the guerrillas were also defeated with great loss. At the end of the second fight, it was estimated that of the three thousand men composing Porter's force before the battle at Kirksville, two thousand had either been killed, wounded, made prisoners or deserted their leader, leaving only one thousand, who fled from the field at Stockton, and after those McNeill followed, with a full determination to kill or capture the entire force.

Several other fights with, and exploits of guerrillas in northern and western Missouri are reported, but nothing very definite is stated in relation to the occurrences. The mention of them, however, shows that that part of the State has not been forgotten. The people there deal with each other with savage barbarity to as great an extent as they ever did with the Saints when they sojournd in that land.

Bushwhackers are represented as having been unusually numerous of late in the southwestern part of Missouri, with whom the State forces have had several skirmishes, in most of which the guerrillas are reported to have come off second best.

Reports from Arkansas represent that a detachment of the Wisconsin cavalry regiment, under command of Col. Daniels, numbering about seventy, with a supply train, in crossing the river near Lagrange, had been attacked by a force of twelve hundred Texan Rangers, who destroyed the train, killed seven men and captured the others. Another detachment of ninety men, some fifteen or twenty miles from Helena, had been, as reported, surrounded by Confederate cavalry, and were all killed or captured except two. A provision train of sixty wagons was also captured near the mouth of the St. Francis, about the first of the month, by the Confederates, a few of the men only escaping.

A SUPERIOR ARTICLE.—Mr. Frederick Phister, opposite the Theatre, manufactures wheel-heads of a superior quality, as all will testify who have used them. Whoever buys one from him will get the worth of their money.