

# VALLEY SPIRIT.

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## ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.

### Letters from Camp Scott.

CAMP SCOTT,  
York, Pa., May 11, 1861.

Editor Valley Spirit:

DEAR SIR:—I will not promise to say much this time as I am on guard and laboring under many inconveniences. I write this on the butt of my musket, something very uncommon to me. When I am better prepared I will tell you more about a soldier's life or way of doing business. I arrived at Camp Scott the evening of the day I left Chambersburg. I found the boys in excellent good spirits and things moving along smoothly; it was some time before I got the things distributed the friends sent by me to the boys; all was in a hurry for a while when I arrived—every one anxious to know whether I had anything for him.

The day I arrived a man belonging to the Cameron Guards was accidentally shot in his left leg. The ball passed through the bottom of the upper Hank, through his leg, and out of the calf. There were three surgeons in the gun besides the ball—all went together. He was immediately removed to the Hospital, where medical aid was administered by Surgeon John S. King; it is thought he will recover.

Our Lieut. Colonel Welch met with an accident on Wednesday, when on Regimental Parade; his horse became frightened and fell, falling on the Colonel's leg and bruising it slightly.

On Friday last the Camp was thrown into a state of excitement on account of a difficulty existing between two of the Pittsburgh men. They drew their weapons on each other, the one a pistol and the other a knife. Both used their weapons with great effect. One shot the other in the hand, at the same time receiving an ugly cut in his abdomen. Neither of them are considered dangerous. The ball passed between the skin and the skull; it was removed. This affair happened in the Guard House. I am on guard myself, at present, and see and hear some hard cases in this institution—the Guard House. They had one man hung up by his hands for making threats against one of the Officers; he was raised some eight or ten inches from the ground. Similar punishments are inflicted daily on some of the boys, but I am glad to say that there has been but one out of the men that left Chambersburg, in that so much talked of Guard House.

There are some one hundred and fifty long cars in York now, waiting to re-load troops. I do not know who are to be moved or where; no person, except the big guns, knows anything as to the movements we are to take, but the boys are under the impression that we are to go to Baltimore. We can't get the orders too soon, for we are tired of camping so long at one place; we are longing to have a change, so matter where we go—just as soon go to Baltimore as Gettysburg, if not sooner. We feel able to go through with our excellent Captains, P. B. Honson and John Dobler, assisted by Lieuts. Stussell and Miles, at our head. We feel proud of our Officers and I am sure they think the world and all of us.

We will not attempt to say what we think of our excellent Colonel, F. S. Stambaugh, for I am sure we would fail to do him justice or to do anything in return that would repay him. He has a ted the part of a man towards all, and all thanks is for him to do so to him. I have no doubt whatever that a man will prove to be as good friends to him as he is to them.

We have about 8,000 troops here at present, among them is Capt. Campbell's company. The Captain fires the salute every morning, and at that moment the boys are on their feet, out and cooking their breakfast, and it would be fine fun for some of the Chambersburg women to see us at it; we go about it in a systematic way we think.

J. S. K.

CAMP SCOTT,  
York, Pa., May 12, 1861.

Editor Valley Spirit:

DEAR SIR:—My previous letter was written on the butt of my musket, this one is written from the house top. You might suppose that my elevated position might produce elevated ideas but you will be mistaken. Soldiers don't have elevated ideas—there is too much water-of-life in their life for that sort of nonsense. I have no idea of a situation in life more than all others, that is reality—downright work, without a bit of romance about it, it is to be sure, but it is not the kind of work that is done in the office or in the shop, it is the kind of work that is done in the field.

The Regiment of Virginia has been organized in the United States, either diplomatically or otherwise.

It would delight you to be here to see the sights, Sunday as it is. It is said that "eggs know no Sabbath." There are a good many other things in a moral sense that it does not know; but I will leave that to the promoters to discuss, or, if their patriotism has not subsided, to wink at morally. This certainly cannot be called the "Lord's Day" here. I would say it is "Gov. Curtin's Day." All the soldiers are now down up in line to receive and be inspected by his Excellency. The Governor, a host of officers from "Camp Curtis," and a large number of those gaily men, the members of the Legislature, arrived at "Camp Scott" today in a special train from Harrisburg. The Governor and suite made their appearance in Camp about 4 o'clock. The object of the Governor in coming here is, so we private are told, to lay before the "Colonels" of the different regiments, the letter of the Secretary of War, in relation to re-enlisting the three months volunteers for three years. We have twelve hours to consider the matter and then we will take a vote on the question. In my next letter I will give you the exact result of the vote in our regiment.

The display today is truly grand and imposing, and one of the most exciting scenes I have ever witnessed. Every body in York and in Camp seem to be wild—Men, women and children are running about in the wildest confusion and exhorting all their energy to obtain a view of the scene. The Gov is standing on the top of his coach and appears to be viewing the spectacle with the highest degree of gratification. The people of York will long remember Sunday, the 12th day of May, 1861!

We have at this Camp five regiments numbering about six thousand men—able bodied, fighting men, who are exceedingly anxious to be doing something better for their country than laying in camp grubbing over their rations. Nobody here knows anything of our future movements, or if they do, they keep it to themselves. We are all impatiently waiting the word "MARCH."

FROM WASHINGTON!  
FROM ANNAPOLIS!  
PROCLAMATION OF THE PRESIDENT.  
INTERESTING FOREIGN NEWS!  
EUROPE AND THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY.  
THE GREAT EASTERN.  
MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS  
FROM OLD POINT COMFORT.  
MOVEMENTS OF U. S. VESSELS.  
SOUTHERN TROOPS CONCENTRATING AT NORFOLK.  
BATTERIES ERECTED BY THE VIRGINIANS.  
BANK SUSPENSION.  
Later from Europe.  
New York, May 12.

The steamer Great Eastern arrived up this morning. She left Melford Haven on the evening of the 1st inst. and had a passage of nine days and thirteen hours to the bar. Capt. Thompson, formerly of the Glasgow is in command. She encountered a tremendous gale on the 5th inst. during which she rolled heavily, though no one went over her lofty side.

The steamer Kangaroo sailed from Liverpool on the 1st inst.

The Commissioners of the Southern Confederacy had reached England.

Mr. Gregory's motion, in the House of Commons, relative to the recognition of the Southern Confederacy had been postponed two weeks.

In answer to the question in the House of Lords on the 29th ult., Lord Woodhouse stated that the Government entertained no right or obligation to interfere in the conflict unhappily commenced in the United States, either diplomatically or otherwise.

The English papers continue to discuss American Affairs; the entire London press except the Times, sympathizing warmly with the loyal States and anticipating an early triumph for the Government.

The London Times claim that there will be serious conflict, if the North is determined to enforce obedience.

American vessels, however, had no interest in any gains to be made by the war.

The Emperor of Ethiopia has been crowned King of Italy.

The President of the Court of Appeals at Madison, Poland, has declared all the persons arrested during the late insurrection guilty.

Nearly all the inhabitants of Perth were present at the funeral of the late president Polansky. All his honors were decorated with a black, the national colors were sung, and patriotic speeches delivered, but no disturbance occurred.

The elections in Portugal resulted in the choice of 61 ministerialists and 16 opposition candidates to the Cortes.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.  
ANNAPOLIS, May 12.

General Butler with 50 men and two pieces of Capt. Varian's battery left here this afternoon, on the propeller J. S. Silver, for an important and local service in the direction of Baltimore.

A false alarm occurred at the Relay House last night. The body of John Murphy, of the Sixty Ninth New York Regiment, who drowned himself on the 10th ult., was picked up by the fishermen two days ago, and carried to Washington to-day by Capt. Kirby for interment.

Murphy became insane, on board the steamer James Alger, from sheer suffering.

A messenger from Governor Hicks to Governor Letcher has returned from Richmond. He says that the Virginians expected 30,000 Confederate troops to arrive there by Thursday last.

The Union men here are indignant at the occupation of Maryland soil by the Virginians.

A sudden movement of the rebels from Harper's Ferry towards the Relay House is feared by many.

The best judges of military affairs expect some sudden movement of rebels, as from the scarcity of provisions, the Virginians troops must soon fight or disperse.

Proclamation by the President.  
WASHINGTON, May 11.

The President has issued a proclamation, setting forth that insurrection exists in the State of Florida, by which the lives, liberty and property of the loyal citizens are endangered, and as it is deemed proper that all needful measures should be taken for the protection of such citizens, and of all officers of the United States in the discharge of their public duties in that State, the President directs the commander of the forces of the United States on the Florida coast to permit no person to exercise any office or authority upon the island of Key West, the Tortugas and Santa Rosa, which may be inconsistent with the laws and Constitution of the United States, authorizing him at the same time, if he shall find it necessary, to suspend there the writ of *habeas corpus*, and to remove from the vicinity of the United States fortresses all dangerous or suspected persons.

News from the South.  
BALTIMORE, May 11.

An arrival from Old Point Comfort brings information that that post is now considered fully prepared to resist any attack that may be made upon it.

The Cumberland, Pawnee, Monticello, Harriet Lane, and Live Yankee were of Fort Mifflin, enforcing the blockade.

The steamer Live Yankee pursued an armed schooner up the York river, but after proceeding a short distance was fired upon by a concealed battery, and compelled to return. The steamer Phil Deloria, Baltimore, Powhatan, and Mount Vernon of the Aquia Creek line, recently seized by the United States, are cruising up and down the Potomac, all heavily armed.

The crew of the steamer Maryland, and four small boats Delight boat hunters, were sent home in care to-day to New York.

The steamer Maryland is preparing to carry trains across to Havre de Grace. Transports will continue to run to Annapolis until the road is ready.

Colonel Anderson passed through here this evening, on his way to New York. Also Mrs. Lincoln and Sims a Draper.

Arrival of Troops at the Capital.  
WASHINGTON, May 10.

Fifteen hundred more troops, comprising a Pennsylvania regiment, five companies of regular infantry just arrived from Texas, and Sherman's Battery, came in from Baltimore this morning. Six companies of Flying Artillery, with thirty a field piece, are now concentrated here.

The strength of the army of protection within the city limits is nearly twenty-five thousand.

The New Jersey regiment went into camp on Meridian Hill this morning.

The Fifteenth Zouaves will probably go into camp this afternoon.

The passage of the federal troops through Baltimore took place in accordance with the programme sent to the Herald yesterday. The fact excites no particular remark here, as nobody is surprised at the result.

Eighteen hundred Ohio-troops, recently accepted at Lancaster, Pa., are now on their way here, and other regiments in Pennsylvania are also moving towards the federal capital.

Col. Baker's California regiment, raised in New York, has been accepted, and orders have been issued to equip them. They will then proceed here at once—Colonel Baker left here last night for New York.

The bridge on the Northern Central Railroad from Baltimore will be completed to-day, and the route through Baltimore to New York will be opened by way of York, Pa., in future. At the same time, the route by Annapolis will still be open.

The bridge between Baltimore and Havre de Grace will be completed on Tuesday next, when travel on that route to New York will be re-opened.

All sorts of wild and extravagant statements are received here about the concentration of troops in Virginia. Nobody believes the reports.

From a private letter received in this city, I learn that Virginia is divided into twenty-two military districts, whose troops are congregating at the present time.

The principal places named are Richmond, Calpepper and Petersburg. Six hundred Louisiana troops arrived from New Orleans on the 5th inst. There is to be a concentration of troops at Fort Powhatan, on James river, and at City Point, on York river.

Prominent men are urging that the fellows who stood the Massachusetts Sixth Regiment in Baltimore should be arrested and punished, that every man in that city known in any way to be a party to the treasonable outrage so recently perpetrated there, should be arrested. If the citizens of Baltimore who claim to be loyal, desire to show themselves so, they will seek the earliest opportunity to bring the traitors to justice.

Information is received from a member of the Legislature, United States Senator, that the rebels have been defeated at Thirty-three counties are already in league.

Missing Union soldiers were delivered yesterday, first day, in all the churches. Dismissed from Union faith were invited to leave.

Reports from Annapolis.  
ANAPOLIS, May 10.

About midnight a squad of some fifty mounted irregulars fired on the picket guard at Camp Butler, across the Severn. The guard returned the fire and about twenty shots were exchanged. The guerrillas regretted that the moment had not dawned and give an indication of themselves. Similar squads are coming about. Their acts are disapproved by the citizens. The eye of Colonel Smith is upon them. A sentinel in the yard was stabbed by a person in citizen's dress.

One million of dollars in specie passed through for Washington yesterday.

The regiments at Annapolis are to be sworn into service to-morrow, by Lieut. H. S. Patison, who is here for that purpose.

The army officers in the service prior to April 1 will wear the coat of blue. The Kill Von Kull, just from Fort Monroe, reports several prizes at Old Point Comfort. A lieutenant of the United States Navy was found on board one of them.

A severe gale, with rain, is prevailing. The corpse of the member of the Seventh regiment, shot by the falling of a stack of arms, passed through this afternoon.

Condition of the Rebels at Harper's Ferry.  
HARRISBURG, May 10.

A letter has been received by an officer of the United States Army from a friend, formerly an officer of our army, but now an officer in the army of the Confederate States, saying that most of the troops of Harper's Ferry are provided with inferior arms; that they are badly provisioned; that the commissariat is mean, and that flour is \$25 per barrel. He thinks the chances of a successful issue in the contest of the Confederate States with the federal government very bad. He is determined, however, to stick by their waning fortunes. He believes that an attack by anything like an adequate amount of federal forces upon Harper's Ferry must be successful. The writer has seen twenty years of service, and is considered an officer of great skill. The letter is dated May 8.

Five thousand troops from Western New York are concentrating at Elmira, and will reach here by regiments. Twenty-seven unattached companies are lying at Camp Curtis. About twenty companies have been accepted for three years' service.

Confident expectation prevails in high circles at this point that a battle will be fought between Richmond and Washington within ten days.

Reports from Baltimore.  
BALTIMORE, May 10.

The special correspondent of the American telegraph from Frederick this morning that the mountains forest on the Maryland side of the Potomac, near Harper's Ferry, were fired last night and much valuable timber destroyed. About 800 Kentuckians and Virginians were camped upon the Maryland shore, and the heights in that vicinity were being fortified. A battery had been placed at Jefferson Hook. Trains have also been laid in pipes for blowing up the bridges and other property at a moment's notice if necessary. The conduct of the Virginians excites indignation among the people of Washington county.

Thirty Baltimoreans passed through Frederick for Harper's Ferry this morning.

The Norfolk line steamer reports that the small steamer William Seiden, which made the connection between Old Point and Norfolk. Thus all communication is broken off.

This morning a wagon, containing a suspicious looking box, and three men, was observed going out on the Frederick road from Baltimore, and the last being commented to General Butler, at the Relay House, he dispatched a scouting party in pursuit who overtook the wagon six miles beyond the Relay House, Illinois. On examination it was found that the box contained Dickerson's steamer gun, which obtained some notoriety here during the anti-slavery meeting the last of the 19th, and which did a few days since the custody of the day's subscription. It was being taken to Harper's Ferry about yesterday. The wagon was taken to the station, and the driver and men were taken to the station, and the wagon was taken to the station.

From an arrival from Old Point Comfort, Sunday, that the rebels have been defeated at Thirty-three counties are already in league.





