

A deep gloominess
over our
camp on
account of
the death
of
Jackson.
The news took
away from us
I believe because
we were almost
an hour of him.
I thought we
would hit
do not feel
that we are
without a
leader of
I can see
of many days
fact that
will yet
believe in
from the
for many
the army
I suppose
his body for
reports that
of it in
day of
they had
is not so much
short of

days ago I have not yet received an answer, I suppose it is owing to the irregularity of mail between here & Staunton caused by the late raid of Gen Stone man, not from any irregularity at home. In my last I gave you an account of our movements up to Sunday evening. I will give you an account of our operations since that time. Sunday night we slept on the battle field with the wounded & dead of both armies, Monday morning we moved on towards the enemy who was now retreating towards the Rappahannock, we kept on until we came up to him, posted on a strong high hill strengthened by formidable breast works, many of the prisoners who came in that morning said they had another Malvern Hill ready for us. The count here is of such a nature that the attacking party labors under great disadvantages, having to advance through an almost endless forest, which gives the enemy means to throw up breast works at every two or three hundred yards with very little labor, which the attacking party have to carry at the point of the bayonet, there being no means of bringing artillery to bear upon them, except

- morning

When the ford forifications cross the road,
thereby causing us to lose a great many men
whilst the enemy suffer comparatively little.
Owing to this I suppose Gen Lee determined
to force the enemy from his position by strat-
egy, so he commenced throwing up breastworks
around his position, I can not describe the
manner in which this was done unless I
make a rough sketch of the position, which
will thus.

So you see Gen Lee
had him ^{the enemy's} position cut off on both
sides of ^{the ford} Lee's position. The river leaving
only one means of retreat viz across the
Rhopahansock, he could not hold his
old position because Gen Lee could cut
off all provisions sent to him, to keep
from crossing the river Gen Hooker ordered
a movement to take place from Frederickstown
of the Rhopahansock to force Gen Lee's right
at then he (Hooker) could move down the
river to Frederickstown, but Gen Lee was
again too smart for them, he about facing
his right, marched down the river, (the enemy
afraid to follow, for fear Gen Lee's left
would get possession of the ford & his front
also sending a ^(Gen. Early) division in his rear, as soon
as Gen Sedgwick, who had charge of the
Yankee force approaching up the river saw

enclosed you will find \$100 there get me a pair of light boots

That Gen Early was in his rear & Gen Anderson in his front, he commenced retreating towards Fredricksburg & barely escaped being cut off by Gen Early, so Sedgwick escaped though badly punished as Anderson attacked him as he commenced his retreat expecting to drive him back upon Early & so capture all his force. But the Dutchman was too fleet for Early & regained the North bank of the Rappahannock crossing where he came over, as he was crossing, our artillery played havoc with his forces crossed on the frontward. Gen Hooker finding his plans all foiled & retreating getting scarce, determined to recross the river & claim a great victory & try another "On to Richmond" by a safer route & at a more favorable time. So thus ends the ninth book in the "On to Richmond" & The End of another Yankee General - Send me a box if possible as ^{retreat, & a sense of inferiority}

The next morning we were ordered to take up the line of march for Fredricksburg, but as our knapsacks were left some miles in the rear as we went into the fight we were sent back to get them, in doing this we had to pass over the battle field, & who can picture the horrors of that battle field?

Our own dead had been buried & wounded removed, but the Yankee dead & wounded ^{lay} thickly over the field.

Many had not yet had their wounds dressed & lay groaning on the wet ground, praying every passer-by to change their position or give them a drink of water & now as the excitement of the battle was over, our men did all in their power to alleviate their sufferings, thinking not of them as enemies who had come to subjugate us, but as suffering & bleeding mortals.

Their dead lay thick ~~over~~ the ground, some seemed as if they had died without a struggle & without any visible wound, but the small minnie ball had done its work of death, others could hardly be recognised as human bodies, mangled & torn by the solid shot, shell, & grape, & there showed how awful had been their sufferings, with teeth clenched & their hands deeply buried in the earth, they seemed to have suffered agonies before death relieved them of their sufferings. & the poor horses were not spared here lay some torn utterly to pieces by artillery, others with their feet shot off endeavored in vain to get up, our men humanely shot them as they would never get over their wounds.

After getting our knapsacks we marched to this camp which has been called Camp Payton in memory of Gen Payton.