

## ARRIVAL OF THE MORNING STAR.

## IMPORTANT FROM NEW ORLEANS.

## CAPTURE OF BRASHEAR CITY.

## Massing of the Rebels Against Our Forces.

## The Promised Assault on Port Hudson.

## BURNING OF THE LAFOURCHE BRIDGE.

## ACTIVITY OF THE REBELS.

## The Killed and Wounded in Duryee's Zouaves,

Ac., Ac., Ac.

The Morning Star, Captain A. D. Perkins, left New Orleans at ten minutes after eight A. M. on the 27th of June, and arrived at her wharf in this city at five P. M. on the 3d of July, making the run in six days and nine hours. The Morning Star brings a full freight of sugar and cotton, \$170,000 in American gold and 230 passengers.

A rumor was current at New Orleans on the morning of her departure that Port Hudson had been taken by Gen. Banks; but this was not confirmed by telegraph at the Balize at a later period of the day.

### Our New Orleans Correspondence.

NEW ORLEANS, June 26, 1863.

*Capture of Brashear City—Our Losses—The Situation—Opening of the United States District Court—Speeches on the Occasion—The Enemy Near Manchac Pass—A Train of Cars "Gobbled"—Port Hudson Matters—Another Assault Promised—The Recaptured Contrabands—Government Plantations and Those Working Them—People of New Orleans and the Present State of Affairs, &c.*

As I feared would be the case when writing my last letter, we have lost Brashear City. The enemy succeeded in capturing it on Monday morning last, and with it all the troops that were there, all the camp equipage, artillery, ammunition, and, in fact, everything—no means being at hand to remove and no time given to destroy the valuable property there stored. The authorities give no information in regard to the number of our forces at that point, and they appear to have instructed every one arriving to say nothing on the subject. An order was issued yesterday by the Provost Marshal General directing the different newspapers of this city to say nothing whatever regarding military movements in this department. This in itself proves that all is not well with us. Were it otherwise, everything going on would be given without hesitation to the public. It is certain, however, that we have lost everything west of the Mississippi river, and have gained nothing as yet east of it. Our troops have fallen back from Lafourche crossing, having first burned the bridge, and I am under the impression that our outposts do not extend beyond Butte Station—twenty miles from the city.

A Herald correspondent is now across the river, and will no doubt return in time to furnish such particulars respecting the recent movements to the westward as the authorities have refused to speak about. It will be very evident to those who have studied this department that we are in a worse condition than ever regarding this State. We do not possess, by many square miles, as much

territory as we did three months ago, and I see no prospect whatever of any change for the better. Our army is dwindling away rapidly from every cause, while that of the enemy is becoming stronger every hour. Although the papers are prohibited from saying anything about military movements, still it does not require anything more than the following extract from the Era's monetary and financial article of this morning to fully understand the situation. It says:—"The total stock of produce from the interior is too limited for operations of any magnitude, and transactions in financial circles are consequently on a very limited scale. The total available stock of sugar in the country is extremely small, and the present prospects for a crop this season are of a most unfavorable character, while the indications are that what little may be produced will be very inferior in quality." The above paragraph speaks volumes, and we better understand by its language the condition of affairs than if a full account had been given of the assaults upon Port Hudson, affairs in the Attakapas country, and a correct list of our losses. It requires almost the use of a microscope now to discover what portion of Louisiana still remains in our possession.

In the face of all this, at the opening of the United States District Court on Wednesday, a dinner was given, at which several distinguished persons made speeches that would lead the world to suppose Louisiana was once more back under the protecting folds of the Stars and Stripes, and that a military force only was required to protect the border from raids by hungry rebels. One gentleman, holding a high official position, said, speaking of the opening of the court, that "He looked upon it as the first step towards the restoration of Louisiana to her ancient rights. He felt that the military power was fast giving way (some truth in that part of the sentence) before the rapid strides now being made towards a resumption of the reins of government by the civil authorities—to the supremacy of the toga over arma once more; and that he rejoiced in the knowledge of the fact." Another gentleman, well known in the judiciary department, said:—"Great events were transpiring around us, and he felt assured—an assurance founded upon his judgment, and not merely based upon his hopes—that the entire State of Louisiana would in a very short time be occupied by our forces, restored to the Union and all her former rights—when chaos and anarchy would have an end." Had these remarks been made three months ago, when all of Louisiana, excepting Port Hudson and its immediate vicinity, and a small portion of the extreme western part of the State, was in our possession, they would have been received with far better grace than at the present time, when the squadron of Admiral Farragut alone holds the enemy in check from advancing beyond the points they have now reached. All this information will be exceedingly unpalatable to many; yet it is all true—every word of it. While everything looked bright before us, when the splendid campaign in Western Louisiana gave every promise, much more so than the mere opening of a United States District Court, that a short time only would be required to reconquer the entire State, your correspondent did not hesitate to say so, and he does not hesitate to say that now everything looks dark and gloomy for our cause in this section of the country, and that he thinks New Orleans will be again in a very short time the base of operations of the army—or rather what is left of it. Smother the news as much as possible; yet enough leaks out among the populace of New Orleans to give them every reason to believe our reverses much worse than they really are. Hence the bad policy of not publishing the true state of the case at once. I saw more evidences yesterday in the streets of this city of the true state of feeling in this community than ever before since I have resided here. The ladies did not hesitate to display their secession colors in every manner; their red, white and red fans and bonnet ornaments were conspicuous in every direction, excepting among those who were in mourning, and the men showed their feelings by crowding the grogshops and talking of large purchases of rope of the proper size, not stating, however, for what purpose it was intended, but leaving that to the imagination.

As a further proof of how near the enemy are in another direction, I give you the following:—For some time past a force of workmen have been engaged in repairing the railroad bridge over Pass Manchac. A locomotive and a few cars have been used for the purpose of running material and conveying the workmen and their tools to and fro. The bridge being about completed, the cars were sent out yesterday to bring back the men; but they never returned, and we are very naturally led to suppose that they, with the party of workmen, have been "gobbled," and are now on their way to Jackson or some other part of Dixie. The bridge has not yet been destroyed by our forces, but I have no doubt it will be, in order to prevent any attempt to cross it in that direction. As far as New Orleans is concerned, it is to-day as secure as ever. No force the enemy could bring to bear would ever be successful in reaching a point nearer the city than they now are. The guns of the fleet command every approach, and General Emory has so disposed his command as to effectually defend every point. The city is to-day as safe as New York or Boston, and must remain so. Its geographical position renders it a place easily defended by a small number of men against an army of large proportions, as it cannot be approached in force except by water, which the enemy have no means whatever of

going. We feel perfectly secure, notwithstanding the people generally have every hope in a few days of once more seeing the secession flag over the City Hall, the Squadron of Admiral Farragut annihilated, and the General Commanding and Admiral on their way to Richmond.

The news from up the river is of the same character as when I last wrote. We hear rumors almost every hour of "forlorn hopes" and desperate fighting; but nothing has occurred of any importance since the assault on the 24th inst. The enemy is hovering in our rear at Port Hudson with small parties of cavalry, annoying us whenever the opportunity offers; but we have no positive evidence of their being in force within striking distance.

The bombardment still continues, and the latest advice state that another assault is to take place between now and Monday evening next. This assault has been promised us every day and night for ten days past. When it occurs we can speak more fully of it. As matters stand, now we consider its coming off exceedingly doubtful. God's authority says that the trouble is with the nine months men. They will not fight, preferring to go home rather than be shot, especially now that their term of enlistment is nearly over. The storming columns heretofore have been three years New York and Western regiments, supported by nine months men; and when the stormers reached the parapet and looked round the supporters were nowhere to be seen. Consequently a "falling back" was considered the most prudent move that could be made in order to save the few remaining of the column from capture or destruction. The river transports now go fully armed, in order to repel any attack by parties along the river bank. We have not heard of any being fired at in the last few days, the enemy having probably concentrated all his force to accomplish fully the capture of Brashear City and the Opelousas Railroad.

All in this department favorable to the success of the Union cause have been wishing, waiting, hoping and expecting for weeks past that reinforcements would arrive. They thought that the government would see the importance of the movement made by General Banks, and send him without delay men enough to overcome every obstacle and hold all the State he had possessed himself of; but they have not yet arrived. Rumor for days past has had twenty thousand additional troops in the river on their way up to Port Hudson; but they have not yet passed the city, except in phantom ships. The knowing ones, they who were posted regarding the available troops, shook their heads; for they could not see where twenty thousand men were to come from, or even half that number. Consequently we made up our minds that we would have to do the best we could with the force we had. I do not believe the rebels intend, or ever did, to try to recover the city of New Orleans; for it has been too good a feeder for them. If information can come to us from Dixie it can be carried from here in the same manner. There is no denying the fact that immense quantities of all descriptions of goods needed by the rebels have been carried to them from this city—far more than would have reached them had the river been blockaded. While this is the case, and the rebels know that nine-tenths of the population are their friends, who will do all in their power to aid the rebel cause by supplies as well as information, they do not care to possess the city, for they know their cause will prosper more without it. This is the expressed opinion of those who understand how matters are in this department.

In the present condition of things, what is to become of the sequestered plantations, those that are being worked by the government, or rented to Northern men desirous of trying their hands at raising cotton and cane? The majority of these places are along the Opelousas Railroad, and on the west bank of the Mississippi river, or in that portion of the State now repossessed by the enemy. On all of these plantations the crops promised a fine yield; but now they will be destroyed or raised for the benefit of our rebel neighbors. Some of the gentlemen who are on the plantations they have rented have not returned to this city since the rebels occupied the country, and we fear they may have met with rough treatment. The Texas troops will not be apt to show them much consideration; for they do not feel kindly disposed toward those who have, as they interpret it, interfered with the rights and property of their friends. Men from the Attakapas country, lately arrived here, state that the most intense hatred exists all through that section towards us, on account of the manner in which their persons and property were treated during the march of our troops through their country. They further state that every man capable of bearing arms has come forward and joined the rebel army, and that they swear vengeance against any of our men that may fall into their hands. What have I stated in all my former letters respecting those persons we have made our enemies? That they are the worst we have, and the above fully proves it to be so. I doubt very much if there is a Union man left in the Attakapas country.

Imagine the sufferings of the poor negroes, those who have been enticed and driven away from their comfortable homes, and promised protection by our forces. Over two thousand of them were retaken when Brashear City was lost, besides the thousands of others who were on the government plantations. All they have ever suffered in their lives before will be but a tithe of what they will have to undergo at the hands of the men who now have them in charge. Better to have left them where we found them, if unable to provide for their safety, than to have the poor creatures placed in the position they now are in. You will understand very readily how exasperated the planters of Western Louisiana are against us when you know that nearly every negro had been taken from them by our army. Then again, they feel that the negroes, in the late attacks upon Port Hudson, killed, beyond doubt, many of their friends, and possibly some relatives. All these things combined render their hatred of us beyond all bounds, and when we again attempt to recover Western Louisiana we will have far more men and much more desperate fighting to encounter than we had in the

last advance, when the people were more or less friendly to us. Had we respected the private property of the people of the country when we passed through it, and not taken everything we could carry, even to the little fancy articles that composed part of the furniture of a gentleman's drawing room, we would have far less enemies than we now have. We cannot expect a man to feel at all friendly towards us, now who has lost everything at our hands, although friendly to our cause at the time of the robbery.

It is all folly to attempt to speculate upon what is to be the result of the present state of affairs. A very few days will decide if Port Hudson is to fall or not. If not, the army will fall back to this point, and will remain here until the heat of summer is over; for it will be impossible to send our men into the swamps of this State until cooler weather gets in. They need resting; many of them are invalids, and should be in a hospital rather than in the field. The nine months men will be going North, and the three years regiments will have to try and fill up their depleted ranks. Four months must elapse before we can hope to resume active operations and take the offensive once more. In that time I hope that fifty thousand men will be assembled here, ready to make our operations short and successful. It is to be hoped that whatever troops are sent here for the campaign of next winter will be men who do not require three months drill before being able to take the field. We want no more nine months men in this department; nothing but soldiers for the war and disciplined troops. Give us these, and our generals will have tools with which they can work in a proper manner, and accomplish results that will be satisfactory to the Northern people. We have had proof enough of the value of nine months men during the past month, and we want no more of them.

JUNE 26—Evening.

There has been nothing from Port Hudson this evening. An officer high in authority informed me that the grand assault would come off to-morrow. If it does the official despatches may be in time for the Morning Star before she crosses the bar. Should I have any information on the subject, the military authorities will not allow me to forward it over the wires in advance of information to the War Department—at least so says Captain Buckley, the Superintendent. Should the assault come off and be successful, it will help dispel the gloom that now hangs over us. Should the reverse be the case, it will add materially to our present low spirits, and, I fear, an evacuation of the upper part of the State.

The fleet anchored off the city is strong in numbers, sufficiently so to lay New Orleans in ashes in a few hours, and then the Admiral is here in person, and he is a host in himself. If the rebels were to attempt an occupation, or if the people were to rise, thinking we have no force here to defend the city, I tremble to think of the loss of life that would occur; for the fleet would open at once without giving any notice whatever. If such should prove the case, they would have no one to blame but themselves; for if they keep quiet no injury will come to them.

#### Our Route Station Correspondence.

ROUTE STATION, June 26, 1863.

*Extraordinary Mixture in the State of Public Affairs—The Rebels Said to be Menacing Brashear City—The Advance on Thibodeaux—Disappearance of the Rebels—Superior Forces Opposed to Us—Burning of the Bridge at Lafourche Crossing—The Rolling Stock in Motion—Prisoners in the Hands of the Rebels—Capture of Brashear City, &c., &c.*

I think the word "mixed," if taken according to its popular definition, is exceedingly applicable to the present condition of affairs in this immediate locality. After our fight at Lafourche last Sunday, knowing the strength of the enemy, we anticipated another attack upon our small force, consisting, as I have before stated, of only about five hundred men, and accordingly we made every preparation for a determined resistance to the rebels.

All Sunday night every man in our camp at Lafourche Crossing lay in wakeful expectation of hearing from the enemy at any moment. It was known that the rebels were menacing Brashear City, and that their forces at Thibodeaux were not less than two thousand. Under these circumstances we hailed the light of Monday morning with a reasonable degree of enthusiasm, believing, as we did, that we were able to cope with any force the enemy might send against us, only give us a fair chance. All day Monday was spent in carefully watching the few roving bands of rebels who rapidly appeared and disappeared, evidently unwilling to attack us, but determined to let us know they were still in our vicinity. In this position affairs remained until Tuesday morning, when, having been reinforced by the Fifteenth Maine, we began to advance on Thibodeaux, which we still supposed to be in the hands of the rebels. We were led to this conclusion from the fact that the enemy had during most of the time up to Monday night kept within sight two pieces of cannon, which we believed to be supported by an infantry force, and which commanded the direct road from our encampment to Thibodeaux. At the time of our advance, however, the rebels and their cannon had disappeared, and we

S. G. Lyon, Co. F.  
John Murray, Co. F.

Jos. Hughes, Co. F.  
Dennis Shea, Co. F.  
Charles Hock, Co. F.

#### *Wounded and Missing.*

Sergeant J. R. P. Edwards, Co. B.  
Corporal James Wiley, Co. B.  
Henry Hamilton, Co. B.  
A. Hoffman, Co. B.  
W. Schramm, Co. D.  
C. G. Collins, Co. D.  
H. McCool, Co. D.  
A. Johnson, Co. D.  
Jno. Monohan, Co. E.  
J. A. D. Plotis, Co. E.

Sergeant Elbert O. Steaves, Co. B, reported a prisoner.

Those under head of "wounded and missing" were furnished by flag of truce, and are reported by the medical director of the enemy's forces to the medical director of the Department of the Gulf.

I have no news of importance to communicate at present. I am, very respectfully,  
C. A. PALMIERI.

Sergeant Major One Hundred and Sixty-fifth Regiment New York Volunteers (Second Zouaves).

### OUR WAR CORRESPONDENCE.

HEAD QUARTERS, 2ND DURYEA ZOUAVES, 165 REG'T,  
PORT HUDSON, LA., JULY 9th 1863.

*Editor of Journal.*—The 2nd Zouaves

have made their name only second to that of their namesakes (lately) in Virginia, hence according to promise I will try to record, unworthily it may be, their deeds of valor since my last. Our much beloved Col. Smith is among those who have gone to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler ere returns. One Lieutenant—Charles R. Carrillo of Co. D. also fell to rise no more upon Port Hudson bloody field where reposes the earthly remains of the State Color Bearer, 4 Color Corporals, 1 Corporal and 10 privates and 1 Drummer; two other Color Corporals were wounded of which one is since dead. The Major, 2 Captains, 1 Lieutenant and 83 non commissioned officers and privates have received wounds of greater or less severity and 13 were taken by the Rebels of whom 9 were wounded. 3 of these escaped by digging under the Guard house and disguising themselves as Rebs, the rest were liberated by the surrender of the place. By a special interposition of Providence the Flag of our Union never fell during the bloody charge of May 27th; its bearer and one Corporal alone of the Color Guard escaping unhurt.

One week after our return from the successful expedition against Pontchatoula where we suffered the small loss of three slightly wounded among whom was Henry E. Tucker, nephew of Howard Pearsall of Jamaica; the Reg't was ordered from Camp Parapet to the Lever Steam Cotton Press in New Orleans, where we laid in comparative inactivity doing garrison duty and escorting exchanged prisoners up the river to the Rebel lines, now ours in front of this place.

While in New Orleans our dress Parades and Street Drills excited much attention, the I Levee being crowded every evening to witness them when the boys would "do" the manual. Bayonet Exercise and Skirmish drill in a manner that would reflect credit both upon themselves and their officers.

A day or two before leaving the Parapet the sons of Queens County and Co. B. in particular and the whole reg't in general were called upon to mourn the loss of one of natures nobleman Sergeant George E. Cogswell, whose earthly remains now repose in Grace Church Yard Jamaica. The fact of his sickness, its cause, his death and the resolutions tendered the family by his officers and brothers in arms has already appeared in your paper I am safe in saying no non commissioned officer in this Department ever had a larger or more grief stricken cortege, than that which followed our friend remains to the Steamer.

On the 19th of May we received marching orders in three hours we were on board the steamer Iberville and under weigh; at the foot of Canal street we took on board the famous 1st Battery Vt. Vol. Artillery, alias, "The Greys Horse Battery," commanded by the gallant Capt. George F. Hebard, who has made his name famous during the bombardment of this place by his untiring industry and indefatigable exertions night and day he was at his post for weeks. On the 20th we landed at Baton Rouge and bivouacked outside of the town for the night, at 7 a. m. of the 21st we were on the road for this place: the column being composed of our Regiment and the 1st Vt. and 4th Mass. Batteries under the command of our Lieut. Colonel acting as Brig. General. At noon we halted on the camping ground left that morning by our advanced commanded by Gen. Dudley, waited three hours for orders, when an escort of, one company of Grierson's famous cavalry bringing vs despatches we again fell in and marched to what was then the extreme front, found that Gen. Dudley had a sharp fight that day with the Rebels in the open field, resulting in driving the enemy into their intrenchments. A small force from another point had succeeded in gaining his rear, whom we encountered, but the Grey Horse speaking to them twice they skedaddled supposing large reinforcements to be coming up.

We laid here two nights and one day and then doubled on our track, joining our own (Sherman's) Division which had come up by another route. On the morning of the 24th the column advanced to within half a mile of the Rebels first parallel, on the enemys extreme right. General Banks having come up the opposite side of the River and crossed above the works extended his Divisions under Grover, Witzell and Augur from the enemys extreme left to the right of our Division, thus completely surrounding the fated place, on the land front and the Gunboats above and below the town taking care of the River side. On the 27th of May the first assault was made, resulting in our gaining a position much nearer the works, when our Brigade received the order to charge, which was to be done with the Regiments in double column on half distance with the Zouaves in the advance and two nine months Regiments supporting us. Ours was the only Regiment that obeyed the command, and in the Brigade on our left the same trouble existed the 6th Mich. advancing alone, after making their way thro' a thick and difficult abatis the Col. reformed the battallion in a ravine and once more started this time on the double quick and if he had not been wounded it is the general impression that our colors would have floated on the parrapet, but it was otherwise ordered for while at the head of his men cheering them on he fell shot through the lungs, he lived about three weeks, dying in the Hospital Hotel Dieu at New Orleans. Sg't Alex. S. Fosdick Right General Guide, the only one of Queens County sons wounded during this siege in our Reg't, was particularly noticed for bravery, he acted as if the whole responsibility of the Batalion was upon him, always at the side of the Colonel, Guidon in hand, cheering on his command, he fell next after the Colonel shot thro' the right leg. The Major and the other officers and men being wounded, and we being unsupported, the Senior Captain took command and ordered the Reg't to retreat which was done in good order. Another general assault was made on the



14th of June, when our Reg't being deployed as skirmishers, and each man able to help himself under cover we only lost 10 wounded.

The 6th Mich. and 2nd Zouaves have done an immense amount of Picket duty, and in every assault or feint have led the advance of their respective Brigades; night after night they have laid in the Rifle Pits and day after day have they been sent out as Sharpshooters. For eight weeks we have not had a change of clothing, but have had to take off our under clothes and wash them and wait for them to dry. We left our knapsacks at Baton Rouge, carrying only our Rubber Blankets and overcoats, supposing Port Hudson would fall in a week. Our orders being to move in light marching order our tents are and have been in New Orleans.

Day before yesterday at noon a National Salute was fired from the Gunboats and Land Batteries in honor of the fall of Vicksburg, which proved to be the death knell of this place for at 12 o'clock noon yesterday July 8th, General Gardner commanding the Rebel forces surrendered to General Banks, (there being no object in his holding out longer) and the Mississippi River was open for trade.

The terms of the surrender have not yet transpired, but it is said to be unconditional. Our gain in prisoners is two Brig. Generals 5,000 men and their Regimental officers.

The nine months men in this Department have been of but little service here or elsewhere, and I am free to say that if they are not better disciplined in other Departments the nine months men are a "fraud upon the Government." It is a by-word here. "Are you a nine months man or a Soldier?"

Of our future I can say nothing, the boys need a good rest and I hope we will get it, we have but 200 "for duty."

Ever Yours,  
ZOUZAUER.

### Army Correspondence.

The following letter was written by a young soldier now in the army of the South-West, to his relatives in this village. We think it is worthy of perusal and will be found interesting:

165th REG'T, N. Y. Vols., (2nd Zouaves),  
19th Army Corps, IN PORT HUDSON,  
July 10th, 1863.

DEAR SISTER: Three cheers for Banks, Grant, Vicksburg, Port Hudson, Stars and Stripes, and every body else. Tuesday, the 7th, we received the glorious tidings of the fall of Vicksburg, and the next day down comes reb. Gibraltar No. 2. to our no small delight; I assure you. One regiment was immediately chosen from each brigade to march in and take possession; our regiment was of course chosen from our brigade. We marched about five miles to Gen. Grover's Head Quarters (commander of our centre) and the next morning (yesterday) our column entered the place. The rebs were drawn up in line exhibiting the most grotesque variety of uniforms ever seen. Here would be one with gold enough on his person to set up B. B. Wood, Jeweler, Jamaica, L. I., while right beside him would appear two large salt sacks with one of the chivalry in them. I need scarcely add that the latter uniforms were in the majority. The scenery around was really picturesque—dead horses and cattle, dismounted cannon and gun carriages strewn around, while the shattered trees and caved-in buildings gave evidence of the efficacy of our artillery. The rebs laid down their arms about 10 A. M., a guard was posted around them, and our flag was hoisted on a large pole on one of the water batteries. A— marched along at the head of his company as large as life, a segar in his mouth and awfully patriotic feelings in his bosom. Our regiment stacked arms in the shade, and the boys scattered around to explore the place and

talk with the rebs. They are a stout, hardy looking set of men, and as rabid secession as can be, they maintain that Uncle Abe can't whip Jeff. if we fight for 20 years. They have had hard times the past four or five days, living on mule meat and corn meal. One of them, a large fine looking fellow, rushed up to me and uttered an expression of surprise. I asked if he knew me. "Why," says he, "on the 14th of June I fired at you twenty times and was certain I killed you." I soon showed him that he was mistaken, and we immediately became very good friends—considering. I also made myself acquainted with a reb. captain who was very intelligent and communicative. He says our present location is much healthier than at New Orleans; there was scarcely any sickness among their men, but they had fared hard for clothing and provisions, still they did not mind it. Some of their troops from Arkansas I admired very much, and in any other cause would rather have them for fighting companions than many of our nine months men. Gen. Banks is going to parole all the men and keep the officers; he has sent one half of his troops on different expeditions, I don't know whether we will go to New Orleans, Texas or Arkansas, or escort the prisoners to Mississippi; at present, of course, things are very unsettled. Steves, Fleming, Napier, Burke and myself are very well, Hendry is detailed on brigade guard, Alexander is getting along finely. The box hasn't arrived yet. Give my love to all the Jamaica folks except the copperheads. I am, &c. A—

### The Battles of Pleasant Hill.

The following letter from one of our Oswego boys, will be read with interest:

HEADQUARTERS 165th REG'T N. Y. V. }  
PLEASANT HILL, La. April 13, 64. }  
MESSRS. EDITORS—

I suppose you would be glad to hear something from Uncle Sam's boys in this benighted region, or otherwise, the tail end of Secessia, which we mean shall follow the hide."

We have had three terrible days fighting here, the 8th, 9th and 10th of April. The first day it was a most shameful defeat, the second day it wasn't a great deal better, but the third day we run the rebels for good. We were in the advance of General Banks' grand army—some 30,000 strong.— Soon after arriving at Grand Ecore, Gen. A. J. Smith, a man beloved and admired by all our troops as a valiant and skilful General, was sent in advance with about 6,000 cavalry, and 2,000 infantry. At Pleasant Hill we met the rebels in strong force under Gen. Dick Taylor, estimated at least 12,000 strong. They charged furiously on our lines at all points. The odds were two to one, so it was impossible for any thing human to stand it. Our Regiment, the 165th, or Second Duryea's Zouaves, lost 50 men in killed and wounded on that day.

We rested on the field that night, and the next morning resumed the fight with more vigor than before. Our loss was considerable in killed, wounded and missing, but still we were able to contest the field with them, hoping for reinforcements to come to our support, and save the remnant of that gallant band; for gallant they were, standing the field against odds of two to one, retreating inch by inch, and leaving every foot of ground covered with our dead and wounded. Peace to their ashes. They fell in a glorious cause. On the second day

the fighting was more severe than the first. Our loss on the second day was 150 men out of five hundred that we went into action with. We can only muster eighty men for duty. Our company went into the engagement 45 men strong; we now muster seven men for duty. The 165th, and New York need never be ashamed of them. We made four charges on the rebels—of these two charges were made by Co. D. alone; there is where our slaughter was most severe.

On the third day we found the banks of the river and our gunboats and transports waiting for us. Our loss altogether was about 3,000 killed, wounded and missing—The rebels captured a few guns, but like the guns Beauregard captured at Shiloh, they were not spiked, but some of them taken back again.

The third days fighting was for our benefit, for the rebels got soundly whipped and lost 1,200 prisoners. Our reinforcements coming up, charged and drove them for miles, and it turned out a decided victory for us. We are now at Grand Ecore, on the Red River, under cover of our gunboats, of which there are a large fleet, all ironclads, under command of Admiral D. D. Porter, one of the bravest and most skillful naval officers this war has produced.

We expect an advance movement every day, and then I hope for to be able to send you the cheering news of victory for Union and Liberty.

Yours, &c., M. D.

### Died.

On Friday, July 31, of wounds received in the attack on Port Hudson, Sergeant Alexander S. Fosdick, of the 165th regiment New York State Volunteers (Second Duryea Zouaves), aged 19 years, 1 month and 20 days.

Once more have we been called to mourn the death of one of the few who left this village for the battle field. On Sunday last was performed the last sad duties for our friend, Serg't. Alexander S. Fosdick, and the crowded church as well as the feeling shown on that occasion testified how much he was respected in life and how deeply his early death is mourned. Scarcely one year ago he, with a few others from this village, responded to his country's call and enlisted in the 165th Reg. N. Y. Vols., (Second Duryea Zouaves), and from that time forward he has nobly discharged his duties as a soldier. In the attack on Port Hudson on the 23rd of May last, he received the wound which after many days of suffering at last caused his death on Friday, July 31st, just as the noble steamer which was bearing him home had reached the port of her destination.

In private life he was esteemed by all who knew him, of an amiable disposition and good moral character; his death is that of a true patriotic soldier, and his name will be inscribed among those who fought, bled and died for Country and for Liberty.

### The Second Fire Zouaves at Gettysburg.

NARROW ESCAPE OF CAPT. JOHN DOWNEY.

Capt. John Downey, of the Second Fire Zouaves, of this city, writes from Gettysburg, 8th instant, as follows:

"I am here with a very severe wound in the thigh, but will start for home to-morrow. The Rebels had me a prisoner for three days, but I managed to get away on the morning of the 5th, having been under the fire of our guns three days. On the 3d I narrowly escaped burning up in a barn where I lay, which our guns set on fire.

I went into the fight with forty-five men and came out with nineteen, the rest having been killed, wounded or missing. Two lieutenants, beside myself, were wounded. Our regiment fought a Mississippi brigade, composed of the Seventeenth, Nineteenth and Twenty-first regiments from that state, led by General Barksdale, who was killed. Our regiment lost altogether about one hundred and sixty, of whom eleven were officers.

MILITARY.—Major Agues, of the 2d Battalion of Duryea Zouaves, reached this city yesterday. This regiment was under the command of Col. Able Smith, well known in this city, and went to New Orleans from New York with our Tenth Regiment last fall. Major Agues was then a Captain. He is one of the noble heroes who did duty at Port Hudson, where the commander of the Zouaves received a fatal wound. The officers of the Tenth Regiment took charge of Major Agues, and their old associations of friendship and good feeling was renewed for the time being. The Zouaves were in the same brigade with the Tenth from the time that the latter left until they returned, and endured many severe hardships together.

Major Springsteed, of the 7th Artillery, has reached this city on a furlough, and is being warmly received by his old friends.

### ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIFTH NEW YORK.

Lieut. Colonel Gouverneur Carr, arm.  
Sergeant Albert O. Stevens, Co. B, arm.  
Wm. Ming, Co. B, neck.  
Peter Wagner, Co. B, side.  
Henry B. Mackey, Co. C, back.  
Corporal Joseph Hughes, Co. F, hand.  
John J. Delany, Co. E, thigh.  
Wm. Smith, Co. F, knee.  
Sergeant J. Lewis Burke, Co. E, shoulder.  
Corporal George A. Burtis, Co. F, arm.  
Lieutenant Andrew Napier, Co. A, leg.  
Bernard O'Donnell, Co. B, shoulder.  
Sergeant Hugh Graham, Co. B, arm.  
George W. Rumbolt, Co. C, face.  
Sergeant J. L. Burke, Co. E.  
Lieutenant D. F. H. Thomas, Co. H.

### THE LATE LT. COL. SMITH.

#### The Action of the Common Council.

A special meeting of the Common Council was held on Friday evening, July 3, at the call of the Mayor, to take action in reference to the death of Lieut. Col. Abel Smith, whose body is expected here hourly.

Present—a quorum of members, Ald. O'Keefe in the chair.

The roll being called, Ald. S. Taylor rose and said:

MR. CHAIRMAN:—I rise to perform a melancholy duty which appropriately devolves upon me.

On the 21st of October, 1861, it was my duty to announce to this Board the death of Colonel Abel Smith, Sr., and ask your approval of the resolutions I then presented.

To-day I am again called upon to perform this sad office as a tribute to his gallant son, Lieut. Col. Abel Smith, Jr., who fell at the battle of Port Hudson, May 14, 1863.

Sir, I knew Col. Abel Smith, Jr., from his very boyhood; and had watched the growing evidence

which he gave of one day being useful to his country.

His early career in the Public School, in my ward is remembered with pride and pleasure by the teachers. He gave evidence while yet a mere boy of a military taste, by his manly carriage and spirited bearing; and long ere he had entered the service, it had been predicted that he would yet be a Major General in our Army.

But, alas! death knows no distinction, like his noble father, he has fallen in the discharge of his duty.

Sir, in the great day of retribution, the blood of the noble dead will rise up in judgment against the men who have dared to raise their unholy hands in rebellion against this Government.

When a mere youth Col. Smith entered the 13th Regiment and rose through several grades. In fact, sir, when but a boy he saw active service in Mexico.

When the sound of Rebellion against Constitutional Government was heard—when traitors dared challenge freemen of the North to deadly combat—he, sir, accepted the challenge, organizing at once a company in the 7th Burgh, which unanimously elected him Captain and which Company was afterward attached to the 3d Regiment N. Y. S. Volunteers.

His bravery on the battle field was not unobserved; ere long he was promoted to a Major. A few months after he was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Regiment of Zouaves then forming, and was acting at the time of his death as Col.

In every station of life he filled his part; he had thoroughly learnt the lesson of a good soldier, implicit obedience to lawful authority, and an unswerving love of truth. Herein, sir, consisted his virtue, here was the secret of his success. He was ambitious but his ambition was lawful.

Ambitious to excel, he had learned that honor and preferment were attainable only by obedience.

Having learnt this lesson himself, he demanded it from those under him. He was a disciplinarian in its strictest sense, and it was this love of discipline that endeared him to his command. He was not one of those who shirked danger, but he was ever ready to participate in the trials, hardships and dangers of his command.

Sir, there may be to-day in the battle field his equal. But I know there are none who promised more, none of whom more was expected, none who will better answer expectations, than our departed Hero would have done.

But Sir I will not linger. No words of mine are adequate to describe him; nor his bravery, his patriotism.

No solace that I can offer can bind up the broken heart of orphan sisters.

I will not intrude upon their sorrow longer than to commend them to the God of the Fatherless and of the afflicted.

I therefore ask the adoption of the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, It has pleased the Almighty Ruler in his wisdom to cut short the career of a young heroic soldier and accomplished officer, Lt. Col. Abel Smith, Jr., of the 5th Regiment Zouaves, who fell at the battle of Port Hudson while gallantly defending the authority of his government against armed traitors and rebels; therefore

Resolved, That this Common Council have heard with feelings of deep regret of the death of Lieut. Col. Abel Smith, Jr., and desire to bear their testimony to the high merit of this accomplished youth and brave hero, and to express their sense of the lasting gratitude which his country owes him for his patriotic services; endearing his memory to our common country, while it reflects credit upon the city of his residence.

Resolved, That we extend to the bereaved family and relatives of the deceased, our deep sympathy in their affliction.

Resolved, That the flag of the City Hall and other public buildings be lowered at half-mast on the day of the funeral, in token of our public bereavement.

Resolved, That this C. C. will attend the funeral of the deceased when notified of the same.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to make suitable arrangements to attend the funeral of the deceased, and that \$100 be appropriated to defray any expenses incurred thereby from any money not otherwise appropriated.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent by the Clerk to the family of the deceased.

Among those who laid down their lives before Port Hudson was John A. D. Plotts, a member of the Second battalion of the Second Regiment of Duryea's Zouaves, which left this city early last spring. Young Plotts was the son of Rev. Conley Plotts, of Williamsport, Pa., and at quite an early age left home to seek his fortune in New-York city. During the engagement before Port Hudson on the 27th of June he was taken prisoner, and on the 2d of July, in company with four or five other prisoners, he dug his way out of prison with a tin pan, swam Thompson's creek, and returned to his old comrades. During his stay in Port Hudson he obtained some very valuable information, which he imparted to Gen. Banks, who, charging him to keep it secret, sent him across the Mississippi to direct the fire of Nimm's battery, which was stationed opposite the city. On the morning of the 8th, as he was on the levee showing the gunners at what point to fire, a shot from the rebel "big gun" struck him and killed him instantly. That afternoon Port Hudson surrendered, and the shot that killed young Plotts was the last one fired from the rebel works. Previous to his enlistment he was connected with this paper, and had won universal respect by the praiseworthy traits which he constantly displayed. Had he been spared until our troops marched triumphantly into Baton Rouge there are not wanting indications that General Banks would have promoted him to a position worthy of his talents and faithfulness. *World, July 31, 1863*

## SAVANNAH.

**Mutiny in the One Hundred and Sixty-fifth New York—Loss of the Savannah War Steamer Leesburg—General Woodford Regulating the Public Schools of Savannah—Repairing the Railroads and Canals of Georgia, &c.**

OUR SAVANNAH CORRESPONDENCE.

SAVANNAH, Ga., June 23, 1865.

### TRouble BETWEEN WHITE AND BLACK TROOPS.

On Wednesday some of the enlisted men of the One Hundred and Sixty-fifth New York Zouaves refused to do duty with the colored troops. It was at first reported that the whole regiment had mutinied, but this was incorrect. The matter was reported to Brevet Brigadier General Woodford, commanding the post, who, with much decision, at once arrested forty-three mutineers. Under orders from Brevet Major General Birge, they were at once sent to Fort Pulaski, to repent, in confinement, on bread and water, their attempt to dictate to the United States how its armies should be composed or troops classified. In justice to the officers of the One Hundred and Sixty-fifth, I must state that they had no knowledge of and gave no approval to the plot, and that they used all their efforts in bringing the real offenders to punishment. The balance of the regiment went to their duty without objection, and no further trouble has occurred or will occur.

*See Reg. Papers of General  
and Sept. 1865 for Arrest, &c.*