9-20-1862

Edwin Miller to S. G. Miller (20 September 1862)

Edwin Miller

Susan G. Miller

Camp Mott Richmond Va Sept 20th 62

My Dear Mother

Again I take my seat to reply to the many welcome letters I have received from you of late.

Nothing of interest has occurred here at Richmond since I last wrote to you, the last heard from the main body of our army in Maryland report it still at Fredrick City, since then Gen Jackson has attacked Harpers Ferry together with several thousand prisoners, the official dispatches to this effect have been received but from all we hear it is true without a doubt, I am very glad to hear that the South Western army are moving, they have not done anything of any consequence heretofore I hope during the coming winter they may regain the character they first had, for any time look upon them as a set of no-account runaways instead of brave soldiers I fondly believe that if the campaign there had been conducted as well & successfully as it has been here that the rebels would have sued for peace ere now, All honor to the brave old troops composing the army of the Potomac, braver, better and more

gallant soldiers ever lived, they was the first to leave their homes to fight for liberty many very many have never had the privilege of seeing home or friends since they entered the service, they have though overwhelmed with numbers, time again met the enemy and routed them completely, and today they bravely dare the enemy to meet them on their own ground and nobly offer up their lives for their country's liberty, What a contrast between this and the South Western army, I dislike to tell anybody he is coward, but I must that there are a great many in that body the bravest and best of them would give anything to get away now from the army, here, this I have from many and the best of Authority,

Dick and Mr Thorsen arrived here on last Wednesday, they were two weeks on the road spent a day in Lynchburg and visited some of the young Ladies that we became acquainted when we first came thro' there, they seemed to have had a very pleasant visit at home and do not appear to regret having to come back, they leave in a few days to report in their regiment, they brought the articles you sent us safely, many thanks to you for the nice things you sent us, the coats shirts and other things are very nice,

I am afraid I troubled you too much for somethings that I wrote for, I will not not need any winter clothes this winter as I bought the material for a full Uniform tho the cloth was (guy satinett from England) it cost me $17,50 and the making & trimmings will cost me about $40,00, besides this I have the suit I had last Winter, so it will be as much as I can possibly carry, so I will not want any more clothing from home, Willy Clark left here a few days ago for his regiment, I hated to see him leave but there was no help for it,

I have not heard from Cousin John L. for some time, he was not reported as hurt in the last battles, I am very glad you are having brandy made, it is very high and impossible to get a good article here, I enclose an extra about the capture of Harpers Ferry, published yesterday evening I will write again in a few days, Colonel and George both quite well. Love to all friends & relations,

Goodbye Your Affe Son
Eavin Miller,

RICHMOND WHIG EXTRA.

RICHMOND, SEPTEMBER 19, 1862.

THE CAPTURE OF HARPER'S FERRY!

CONFIRMATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SURRENDER OF TEN THOUSAND YANKEES!

ARTILLERY, AMMUNITION AND STORES!

BATTLE IN MARYLAND—THE CONFEDERATES VICTORIOUS!

FIVE THOUSAND YANKEES KILLED AND WOUNDED!!

We are kindly permitted by Gov. Letcher to publish the following extracts from letters received by him yesterday:

WINCHESTER, Sept. 16.—After the advance of our army to Frederick, and the issuing of the admirable proclamation to the people of Maryland by Lee, a movement took place with our troops, seemingly in the direction of Pennsylvania, but really for an important movement into Virginia. After sending a portion of his troops to occupy and hold the Maryland Heights, Gen. Jackson was directed by Gen. Lee to recross the Potomac at Williamsport, take possession of Martinsburg, and then pass rapidly behind Harper's Ferry, that a capture might be effected of the garrison and stores known to be there. The movement was admirably conducted. Martinsburg fell, with a capture of 150 prisoners and some stores, the most being taken to the Ferry. The investment of Harper's Ferry was effected on Saturday. Sunday morning there was some firing, and it was renewed yesterday morning, and the result the unconditional surrender of the garrison—10,000 men, with all the arms, fifty pieces of artillery, ammunition, one hundred wagons, quartermaster and commissary stores, and many cars, some of which were loaded, and 600 negroes. This important conquest was effected *without the loss of a man on our side*. So much is official. It is reported that the cavalry, 1,000 in number, escaped by Shepherdstown.

It is reported that an engagement took place near Boonsboro'. It is said the enemy were repulsed twice, with a loss of 5,000 in killed and wounded. Our loss was heavy. Our troops fell back towards the Potomac from reasons that can be easily conjectured. Jackson will now recross the Potomac at Harper's Ferry, circumvent the enemy if he has had the temerity to follow our advanced corps, and we shall capture or disperse the whole concern. God grant that this conjecture may be verified. Gen. Garnett is certainly killed. His body arrived here this morning.

FRANCIS H. SMITH.

WINCHESTER, Sept. 16.—A fight took place Sunday at Middletown, Maryland, between a very heavy force of the enemy and Gen. D. H. Hill's division. The loss was great on each side. Hill, however, held his position until the advance of Longstreet arrived, when the enemy fell back. Gen. Garnett was killed. No other officer as yet reported killed or wounded. Yesterday the enemy at Harper's Ferry surrendered to the invincible Jackson at 3 P. M. They consisted of 10,000 infantry. Their cavalry escaped the night before, crossing the river at Shepherdstown. All of the stores left at the Ferry are now on the way here. They were but few, as they were nearly starved out. The force defeated by Hill were on their way to the relief of their friends at the Ferry.

NATH'L B. MEADE,
Editor of Republican.


CONFEDERATE STATES
FIVE CENTS
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CHARLESTON
SEP 27 1862
S.C.
Mrs Hugh R Miller
Pontotoc
Miss