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THE FIRST FIGHT OF THE DAY.

On Sunday, September 14, a portion of General Burnside's corps, about seven thousand in all, engaged the rebels on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge, where it is crossed by the old national road to Hagerstown, about five miles west of Middletown, and drove them over the mountain.

Major General Reno, who commanded on the field, was mortally wounded in the fight, and died on the stretcher while being taken to the rear. As he was not actually in the front of battle when hit, it was deemed a random shot.

From Middletown the national road runs in a westerly direction through a rough country, and strikes the abrupt rise of the mountain at a little more than three miles from the town. There it becomes very steep and rocky. In places the hill rises considerably above the level of the plain, and is so high that a road is high and rough as the country is at this point, it is not a plain, and near the summit of the mountain, at a point where the sides of the road are considerably higher than the road itself, a good stone wall runs across the road to the right hand, at right angles, and crosses the field to a wood. A short distance beyond a lane leaves the road from the left hand side, also at a right angle; and on either side of this lane was a low stone wall, with one rail above it. This spot, intersected by the road and the three stone walls, was the scene of the battle.

From an early hour in the day two heavy batteries on a ridge below the town, on the various parts of the mountain side, where the rebels were supposed to be, and at about nine A. M. a portion of General Reno's division went forward as skirmishers and drove the rebels from all the lower parts of the mountain. This was followed by a very considerable artillery duel, in which the rebels were killed and had some guns completely silenced.

At about two P. M. General Burnside's brigade—the Twenty-third and Thirty-sixth Ohio regiments—was sent forward up the mountain, and deployed in the rough ground to the right of the road, while the Forty-fifth Pennsylvania was deployed to the left of it. At some distance to the left of the Forty-fifth the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania was formed. At the same time the rebels had now advanced the stone walls we have described, while behind the two walls to the left of the road they had positioned their guns, which played upon our men as they advanced with great effect.

Nothing daunted, our brave fellows pushed forward up the hill and over the difficult ground in the most gallant style. To the left of the road the Forty-fifth Pennsylvania, General Reno's corps, were engaged in the most desperate fighting, and were driven back by Col. Reno's corps, which was reinforced in command on the field and held the point all night.

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the rebels acknowledge that they have been badly beaten in all the recent engagements, except at Harper's Ferry, and find that the invading of Maryland is a disastrous undertaking. They are retreating as rapidly as possible to the Virginia line, and General McClellan's army is in full pursuit. All that they are fighting for now is to get away and across the river.

Announcing was heard yesterday, but no reports of fights have been received here up to noon today.

The entire Union force who were captured at Harper's Ferry have been arriving and passing through the town today. They are ordered to encamp near the Monocacy bridge, about three miles from the town. They are looking well, and are greatly chagrined at the surrender of Harper's Ferry, which they consider entirely unnecessary.

The fighting yesterday was only artillery fighting, between a rebel battery of about a dozen guns and the Union batteries. About nine o'clock A. M. the enemy commenced shelling the road near Sharpsburg. A train of wagons was on the road, and behind it and beside the road were massed the corps of General Willcox, formerly Reno's, and a division of General Sumner's corps. The shelling was rapid and severe, and the shells fell and exploded among the train, upsetting a number of wagons. As soon as possible the train was withdrawn out of range. The men were partially sheltered by a ravine. The men were killed and wounded.

In a few minutes two of our batteries opened upon the enemy from the brow of a hill near by, and an artillery duel ensued which lasted for about half an hour, when the guns of the enemy were silenced and withdrawn from the top of the hill.

About half-past eleven they commenced firing again from the same position. At this time our wagon train and ambulances had been taken out of range, and the men were in a better position, and were sheltered more than during the first attack.

In addition to the batteries first engaged on our side another battery had been placed upon an adjoining hill, which was very effective. A second artillery duel took place, which continued for about an hour, when the enemy's battery was again withdrawn, and they appeared to be moving off towards the river. Clouds of dust could be seen in the distance, and there was every evidence of large numbers of infantry moving off.

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THE SECOND FIGHT OF THE DAY.

The fight took place at Crumpton's Pass, on the Catawba Mountain, about five miles south of the scene of General Burnside's victory, and near the town of Burkittsville.

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