

The Invasion: Rebel Occupancy of Carlisle, 1863

S.K. Donavin

An account of the occupation and shelling of the town of Carlisle by units of the Confederate Army ten days before was printed in the *Carlisle American Volunteer* on July 9, 1863, in the *Carlisle Herald* on the following day, July 10, and in the *Carlisle American* on July 15. The author was S. K. Donavin.

Almost nothing has been learned about him. Simpson K. Donavin may have been a native, or at least a resident, of the western end of Cumberland County, where Simpson and Sallie Donavin owned a lot in Shippensburg in the 1880s. In November 1862 Donavin was appointed a deputy sheriff of the County. In 1867 he was living in Carlisle, where the town directory of that year gave his address as "Corman [Cornman ?] House." In 1882 the Donavins were residents of Delaware, Delaware County, Ohio.

A short abridgement of Donavin's account of the invasion and bombardment of Carlisle was printed in J. G. Strong, *Directory of the Borough of Carlisle, . . . Also, an Account of the Occupation of the Place by the Rebel Army in the Year 1867* (Carlisle, 1867), 3-6. In 1963 Donavin's article was reprinted in facsimile from the *American Volunteer* as a supplement to *Civil War Miscellany* (Cumberland County Historical Society, 1963). The same supplement reproduced from the *Carlisle American* of August 5, 1863, Samuel D. Hillman's "A Few Days of Rebel Rule," originally published in the *Hollidaysburg Register*.

Donavin's account is reprinted here from the *American Volunteer*, with only a few changes and corrections in spelling and punctuation. General Ewell's name, for example, consistently misspelled in the newspaper account, has been as consistently corrected. The *Herald* added two names to Donavin's list of "sufferers": these names are printed here. *The Editor*.

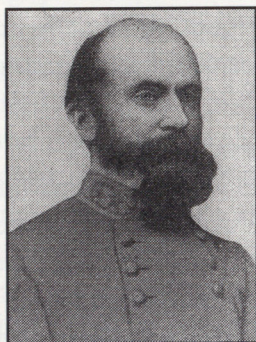
THE INVASION

Rebel Occupancy of Carlisle
Bombardment of the Town
Incidents, &c.

The ten days just past have been the most eventful and interesting in the history of our Valley. An immense rebel army has marched through our midst, wasting our substance, devastating our fields, robbing our granaries and warehouses, searching our dwellings, and visiting on us many other calamities of war. For the purpose of giving a connected and intelligent account of the events, it will be necessary to revert back to the time of the occupation of Hagerstown.

THE FIRST ALARM

Last Monday three weeks [June 15] intelligence was received of the defeat of Milroy at Winchester, and the advance into Maryland of the rebel hordes. The arrival on Wednesday morning [June 17] of the train of Government wagons, and the soldiers who accompanied them increased the excitement, but very little apprehension was felt by this portion of the Valley; most of the community believing that it was a mere raid, such as had been made by Stuart last fall. Measures of precaution, however, were taken by our merchants and tradesmen, who immediately commenced packing their goods, and a number of them sent them to the Eastern cities. After the rebels had visited Chambersburg, and again evacuated that town confidence was restored, and all the merchants with but one or two exceptions, brought back their goods.-This quiet was not destined to be of long duration. The goods were not yet on the shelves, when information was received that the entire rebel army was advancing, Chambersburg was re-occupied, and the advance was threatening Shippensburg. To those not willingly blind, it was evident that it was no longer a mere raid, but on the contrary, the threats so often made by the Southern papers were to assume reality, and the States of Maryland and Pennsylvania were indeed to be made the battle-fields.



GENERAL RICHARD S. EWELL, CSA. AND GENERAL WILLIAM F. SMITH, USA.
Reproduced from Francis T. Miller, *The Photographic History of the Civil War*.
Courtesy of CCHS.

The 8th and 71st regiments of New York Volunteers, who had been stationed at Shippensburg retreated to this place, and steps were immediately taken by General Knipe, the officer in command, which indicated that a stand would be made by our troops.

THE MILITIA TURN OUT

The New York regiments were removed from their camps, and took positions, the 8th on the Walnut Bottom road, and the 71st on the turnpike, about two miles west of town. At this point a barricade was erected across the road, slight defenses thrown up, and rifle pits dug. Everything indicated that resistance would be offered, and as soon as this was understood the militias of our town commenced organizing. Companies were formed by Captains Martin Kuhn, John S. Low, A. Brady Sharp, David Black, and Robert H. Smiley. On Wednesday morning the companies proceeded to the scene of operations on the turnpike. The companies were composed of the best elements of the town, and among the members were several gentlemen over sixty-five years of age. The Revs. Mr. Clerc, pastor of the Episcopal church, and Mr. Phillips, pastor of the German Reformed Church, had shouldered muskets and were in the ranks. A degree of earnestness was exhibited, worthy of all praise and a determination which could not be mistaken. The companies were placed in position, pickets thrown out a mile in advance, and it was fully expected that a fight would take place either during the day or ensuing night. At nightfall every military precaution was taken. The pickets were increased, the lines lengthened and advanced, and the men even ordered to be ready at a moment's warning.

CAPT. BOYD'S CAVALRY

Capt. Boyd, who had under him about two hundred of the New York 2nd Cavalry picketed the road between Carlisle and Shippensburg. He was driven slowly in, and at evening reported the enemy within about four miles of Carlisle. This officer by the boldness and celerity of his movements, his unflagging energy, his tireless devotion to duty, has won an enviable reputation, and merits high regard for his services.

THE RETREAT

About one o'clock at night, Gen. Knipe received information that the enemy were within two miles of his command in overwhelming force. He considered that it would be folly to offer resistance, and issued an order directing the troops to fall back. The New Yorkers received their orders and all the militia, with the exception of Captain Sharp's and Lieut. Marshall's commands. They were in utter ignorance of the real condition of affairs, until after the New York regiments had retreated through town. Lieut. Col. John Lee, learning that the two companies were still on duty, rode to where they were stationed and informed

Capt. Sharp of the condition of affairs.-Before removing either his company or his pickets, Capt. Sharp went to town to learn the particulars of the movement, and finding that the retreat had really taken place, returned to his command and ordered it to town. Then accompanied by the officer of the Guard he visited all the picket stations and withdrew those on duty. Failing to find the pickets of Lieut. Marshall and considering that they had already been removed (which was a mistake, that officer and his command remained on duty all night), he started for town, where he arrived at one o'clock in the morning.

THE SKEDADDLER OF CITIZENS

The information that the rebels were upon us, seriously affected the nerves of some of our citizens. Many of our prominent ones, and many not so prominent, concluded to leave town, and conveyances of all kinds were in great demand. Some unable to procure vehicles, started on foot for Harrisburg and other points. The females, of course, were much alarmed and a scene of confusion and excitement ensued, which we will not attempt to describe. A number of citizens from the upper end of the county, had stopped in and near Carlisle with their stock, and they were soon hurrying on their way, thronging the roads, greatly increasing the confusion and alarm.

A DAY OF QUIET

The residents of our town retired to bed on Thursday night [June 25] under the full conviction that the rebels would occupy the town before morning. But day dawned and the old town was more than usually quiet. Citizens met each other with a smile and talked about the "big scare."-Scouts arrived and asserted positively that there was not a rebel nearer than Leesburg, three miles east of Shippensburg. There was a laugh all around, and the militia discussed the propriety of again going on duty. Friday passed one of the most cheerful days. On Saturday morning [June 27] at an early hour the rebel force was said again to be within a few miles of the town, but it was very difficult to find any one willing to believe the report. There had been too many "scares," and the people were absolutely exhausted with rumors and reports. A degree of unconcern had settled down on them and they were unwilling to listen and give credence to the "cry of wolf," when it was reality. The morning hours passed discussing the truth of the rumors and the people could scarcely believe their senses when it was definitely settled that the rebels were within a quarter of a mile of town. Capt. Boyd's cavalry fell back through the town and announced the fact. The feeling of alarm which had seized on the entire community the night previous was nowhere to be found. There was calmness amounting almost to indifference, and a resigned courage that was more than virtue prevailing everywhere. If it was necessary that the town should be sacrificed, those most interested were willing

to make the offering. If it was essential that this beautiful valley should be offered up to destruction, so as to save the Army of the Potomac, or give its commander time to mass his forces, it would have been offered. Thus was a manly courage exhibited by citizens which will ever reflect credit upon them.

THE ENTRANCE OF THE REBELS

When the rebels neared the town, several citizens proceeded out to meet them, among whom was Col. Wm. M. Penrose, and Robert Allison, Assistant Burgess. In response to questions asked by Gen. Jenkins, commander of the forces, Col. Penrose stated that there was no force in the town, and that no resistance would be made, consequently it would be useless to charge through the streets, which could only have the effect of seriously alarming the women and children. Gen. Jenkins said he had no disposition to do so, and would much rather enter the town as quietly as possible. Accordingly, about eleven o'clock on Saturday morning, the rebel advance entered the town from the west end of Main street. Their horses were at a walk and the general conduct of the soldiers good. They were about four hundred in number, mounted infantry, and every man carried his gun to a position to use it on the instant with his hand on the hammer. They passed down Main street to the juncture of the Trindle Spring and Dillsburg roads, where a portion of them filed to the left

26th U.S. Corps
 June 27th 1863
 To the Commissioners of the County of Cumberland, Md.
 By direction of S. Lee
 Genl. Comdr. You are requested
 to furnish the following
 subsistence for the Corp.
 25000 Lbs Bacon
 100 Sacks Salt
 1500 Bbls Flour
 25 Bbls Potatoes
 25 Bbls Molasses
 5000 Lbs Coffee
 5000 Lbs Sugar
 25 Bbls Rice
 The above supplies will be
 made up & delivered to
 the front of the
 Comd. House
 W. J. Bennett, Major
 26th Corps

GENERAL EWELL'S REQUISITION OF SUPPLIES, June 27, 1863.

Reproduced from a photograph in Cumberland County Historical Society.

and proceeded to the Garrison. The remainder dismounted for a few minutes, when they again took their saddles, returned to the town, and stopped in the public square.

REQUISITIONS

Gen. Jenkins asked for the Borough authorities, and Chief Burgess Andrew Ziegler, Esq., accompanied by several of the members of the Town Council, were conducted to him, when he demanded fifteen hundred rations, to be furnished within one hour and deposited in the market house.-The Burgess and a number of citizens went through the town informing the people of the demand and requesting each family to furnish a proportion. The request had to be complied with, and was done with alacrity, as Jenkins had threatened that on a failure to furnish [,] his men would help themselves. In less than an hour the stalls of the market house were piled with all kinds of eatables, and considerate, hungry secessers were lining themselves with good food. Their horses were picketed along the pavements faring equally well with their masters, the corn having been procured at the crib of Mr. John Noble. After dinner the rebels rode up and down the different streets, visited the Garrison, Gas Works and other places of note, and conducted themselves generally speaking with decorum.

ENTRANCE OF EWELL'S ARMY

At five o'clock in the afternoon the sound of music announced the entrance of Ewell's Corps. It came by way of the Walnut Bottom road, down South Pitt street to Main street, thence to Bedford street and thence to the Garrison. The Band at the head of the column playing "Dixie" as it passed along the streets, and the emotions awakened by the incident were of the most humiliating character. The men of the command presented a sorry appearance. Many were barefooted, others hatless, numbers of them ragged, and all dirty. But they exhibited a cheerfulness which was indicative of great spirit and endurance. They had marched twenty miles on that day, yet none of them appeared to be fagged or tired.-They went along shouting, laughing, and singing "Dixie" and other camp airs. A few by their manner showed insolence, but the rules of discipline were drawn so tight upon them that they could not gratify the latent desire which they no doubt felt, to inflict injuries on those whom [sic] they asserted were the authors of their troubles.

WISHED TO BE LET ALONE

An hour after their arrival the town was filled with officers who thronged the hotels, and rode quietly through the town. The most of them were gentlemen in manners, evidently educated, and carefully guarded against any expression calculated to evince the real bitterness which they felt for our people.

Occasionally one was to be heard who laid aside his restraint and was unmeasured in his abuse of Northern people, their manners, customs and habits. It was only necessary to use the slightest insinuation that they were intruders to elicit a glowing, in some instances eloquent description of the desolation which had swept over parts of the South, and the suffering which their people had undergone. They could not find language base enough to speak of Butler, Milroy and one or two other Union Generals and without exception threatened instant death to either of them, should the fortunes of war throw them into their hands. All asserted that they were tired of the war and were only fighting to be "left alone." They were under the conviction that this campaign would end the contest and spoke exultingly of the certain capture of Hooker's Army. This was to be followed by the fall of Baltimore and Washington, where a harvest of good things were to be gained. With the occupation of the State of Maryland they expected to recruit their forces at least thirty thousand which would make their army invincible, and the march to the city of Brotherly Love, would be a holiday amusement. They expressed the greatest contempt for the Militia, asserting that they would pass through an ocean of them, and nothing would afford them a finer opportunity of replenishing their wardrobe than to meet an army of them.

GEN. EWELL'S HEADQUARTERS THE REQUISITIONS

Gen. Ewell passed through the town to the Carlisle Barracks where he established his headquarters, occupying the dwelling used by Capt. Hastings. His staff numbered over twenty-five, and they occupied the adjacent buildings. Soon after fixing his headquarters he despatched one of his aides to town with a demand to the authorities for supplies, medicines, amputating instruments, &c. This demand was ridiculous in its character. Among the many articles was one for 1500 barrels of flour, when there were not 200 in the town; another for four cases of amputating instruments when there was not one set in the Drug stores. Immense quantities of quinine, chloroform, and other drugs were called for, far beyond the capacity of the Druggists to supply. Prominent citizens were present when the demand was made, and they informed the officer of the utter impossibility to comply with the requisition. The Borough authorities were informed that unless the articles were forthcoming at a certain hour the stores and dwellings of the town would be searched, as the military were confident the demand could be met. The requisition was so outrageous that the authorities determined not to attempt to fill it, knowing the utter impossibility to do so, and feeling certain that in any case, the town would be thoroughly searched.

THE CONDITION OF THE TOWN ON SATURDAY NIGHT

Before dark on Saturday the entire command, which consisted of Rhodes' Division of Ewell's Corps, had passed through the town and encamped in and around the military post. They had but few tents and the soldiers slept on the ground, very few of them had blankets, and in their naked and exposed condition spent the night. Guards were placed on the corners of the principal streets, and during the night excellent order prevailed. The guards would not allow any soldier to pass unless he had a written pass.

GEN. EWELL SENDS HIS CARD

On Saturday evening Gen. Ewell sent his card, with a note, to several families, assuring them that the strictest discipline would be maintained in his command, and that no act of outrage or violence would be committed. He also offered them special protection to allay any fears which they might have. His assurances were fully realized, and while his command were here the citizens felt satisfied that they would be protected.

SUNDAY MORNING-THE SEARCHES [JUNE 28]

The authorities having failed to meet the requisitions, on Sunday morning, squads of soldiers, each accompanied by an officer, appeared on the several streets, and commenced the search. All the stores and warehouses were visited, and such articles as were needed by them were taken. They were not fortunate in gaining very large supplies, and in some instances refused to take things which could have been made of use to them. Nothing was taken from dwellings except such articles as were evidently on storage. The officers commanding the squads were gentlemanly and polite and performed their work in as mild a manner as possible.

THE PILOTERS

There can be no doubt that there were some persons in our midst who acted as pilots, and pointed out where goods and produce were secreted. It would have been utterly impossible for them [the rebels] to have known where the articles were, with such accuracy, unless they received information from some of our own citizens. The squad would move directly to a house where the goods were stored, halt, name the articles, and demand that they should be produced. Some few persons, are known, it is said, who lent themselves to this villainous, dastardly work, and an outraged public will certainly hold them to a strict accountability. They were worse than the rebels.

SUNDAY [JUNE 28]

Several of the Churches were open on Sunday, and services were conducted. The attendance was very small, among which was a few rebels. The day passed quietly and the night also.

MONDAY [JUNE 29]

About ten o'clock on Monday morning our citizens felt much relieved when they learned that an order had been issued for the entire force to leave. The officers and privates who were in town hurried to their camp and it was very evident that some powerful influence was operating on the command. For two days all communication with Harrisburg had been cut off, and our community was in total ignorance in regard to events transpiring anywhere except in our midst. A painful anxiety was felt by all, and the most anxious solicitude manifested to learn what was transpiring on the south side of the mountain. There were a thousand rumors afloat. The very air was heavy with them, and the people with a patience that was a virtue, suffered and waited. The commotion among the rebels subsided about one o'clock, and the question in every one's mouth was "how long will they remain."

JOHNSON'S DIVISION

Johnson's Division of Ewell's Corps, had encamped near Plainfield, on Saturday.-On Monday [June 29] about noon they received marching orders, and were soon under arms. They marched to a point above Stoughstown, where they encamped, and on Tuesday morning they resumed their march and proceeded to Shippensburg where they took the road leading over the mountain by way of Fayetteville. This division committed a great many outrages.-What had been left by Rhodes' Division not through mercy, but from want of information was swept away by this horde.-Every barn yard was visited, and poultry and indeed everything which would furnish a mouthful of food was taken. Cavalry rode through fields of grain ripe for the cycle [sic], and the growing corn was trodden down by acres. The foraging parties were in reality marauders, and destroyed what they could not make use of. We hear of one case where the person of a Miss Wolf, of Frankford, was outraged by one of the scoundrels.

RHODES' DIVISION LEAVE

About three o'clock on Tuesday morning [June 30] the rumbling of wagons announced a movement of the enemy. At that hour the trains of Rhodes' Division commenced to move and a continuous stream of men poured out of town. Brigade after brigade passed until about eight o'clock the main army had disappeared. It took the Baltimore pike, leading to Gettysburg, and the last of the

column passed Mount Holly about eleven o'clock. About two hundred cavalry were left in town doing provost duty, and they remained here until Tuesday night, when they left. Gen. Ewell was stationed at this post some years ago, and while here formed many desirable associations. It was his intention on his arrival here to destroy the barracks, but at the earnest solicitation of some ladies who were formerly his friends he agreed to spare them, and with the exception of the unavoidable litter and filth which attended his occupation of the position, no other damage was done.

CITIZENS PLUNDER THE POST

After Ewell had gone hundreds of persons hurried to the Garrison, to see the condition of affairs. Among the number were a great many lewd and depraved women and men. These latter immediately went to plundering. The Rebels had not disturbed any of the records of the post, but the prostitutes and their friends did not consider anything sacred, and despoiled and ravaged the premises. The blank leaves in the ledgers were torn out, and the paper generally scattered in any direction. Clothing, blankets, and apparel of every kind were carried away. Furniture was destroyed and all kinds of marauding committed.-The place was made thrice more desolate by this advent of thieves.

THE SLAUGHTER FIELDS

The rebels captured during their course down the valley several hundred head of cattle which they brought with them and pastured in a grain field adjoining the post. Some 90 head were killed while they were here, to feed themselves. The slaughter houses were the open fields, and the offal [sic] and hides presented a most offensive scene. Some of the citizens carried away the hides and sold them.

TUESDAY [JUNE 30]

On this morning the people congratulated themselves that they were clear of the enemy. An unusual good feeling prevailed and our town had assumed its wonted appearance, save that the places of business were all closed. As yet there was no communication with Harrisburg. The Rebel pickets thronged both the pike and the Trindle Spring road, although none of them were near Carlisle. About two o'clock P.M., however, a cavalry force, over four hundred in number, made their appearance on the Dillstown road [sic], and soon after entered the town. They were under the command of a Col. Cochran, and it very soon became evident that they were not under the same discipline which characterized those who had been here. They had not been in town half an hour until they were riding wildly through the streets, By some means and at some place they procured liquor, and this exciting drink appeared to madden them. They

tore through the streets, cursing and yelling, and playing the demon, as demons only can play it. The feeling of safety which prevailed while Gen. Ewell's command was here vanished, and the entire community felt the utmost alarm. As twilight approached terror increased. A number of citizens visited Col. Cochran at his encampment near the College and asked that he might restrain his men. He assured them that he would carry out Gen. Ewell's orders, and that no outrage should be committed. This partially quieted the fears of our people, but the disorderly conduct did not entirely cease.

SECOND ARRIVAL OF JENKINS

About eleven o'clock at night Gen. Jenkins' command, which had been doing picket duty between Carlisle and Harrisburg, to cover the movements of Ewell, returned to the town. Their arrival was really hailed with joy. The outrageous conduct of Cochran's men, made the arrival of any other command desirable, and as Jenkins had acted well he was preferable to Cochran.-The result proved that the citizens were right in their estimates. As soon as he learned the conduct of the drunken demons he sent squads of men in search of them, and had them all gathered up.-Quiet was again restored, and the people retired not to sleep, yet in much more peacefulness than they would have done had they remained at the mercy of Cochran's men. During the night this body departed, and morning found the town deserted by them.

WEDNESDAY-THE ARRIVAL OF THE UNION TROOPS [JULY 1]

At sunrise on Wednesday morning Captain Boyd's efficient command entered the town. It was hailed with shouts of joy.-A few minutes only elapsed before the public square was filled with citizens, all anxious to learn news. But there was none. Captain Boyd had been in front of the enemy all the time, and had no other news than that his men were hungry. This announcement sent the people flying to their homes and in a few minutes the market place was filled with eatables. As soon as Captain Boyd had fed his men and horses he started after the enemy. This officer, sleepless and tireless, has merited much of this community. During the day regiment after regiment arrived and took positions on the public square. A battery of artillery also arrived and took position along Hanover street.

ANOTHER ALARM

About three o'clock in the afternoon news was brought to town that the rebels were advancing on the Baltimore pike from Papertown. The soldiers did not appear to pay any attention to this, but the Company of Capt. Sharp under command of Lieut. C. Kuhn, proceeded out the pike about two miles, when they met two citizens of Carlisle, who had come directly from a point within a few miles of

Petersburg, who asserted that there was not a rebel this side of the mountain. The Company then returned to town, and a laugh was had at the scare.

ARRIVAL OF GEN. SMITH

At half past six o'clock Gen. Smith arrived, preceded by three regiments of infantry, and about one hundred cavalry. Lieut. Frank Stanwood, who has been doing invaluable service, and who has been under fire seven times within the past two weeks, with his small command of regulars, was of the force. Gen. Smith was cheered by soldiers and citizens as he entered but paid no attention to the compilments. He proceeded on in his carriage for the purpose of selecting a prominent position for his artillery. Scarcely had the infantry filed into Main street and stacked arms when another alarm was raised, and this time with entire truth.

THE REBELS INDEED

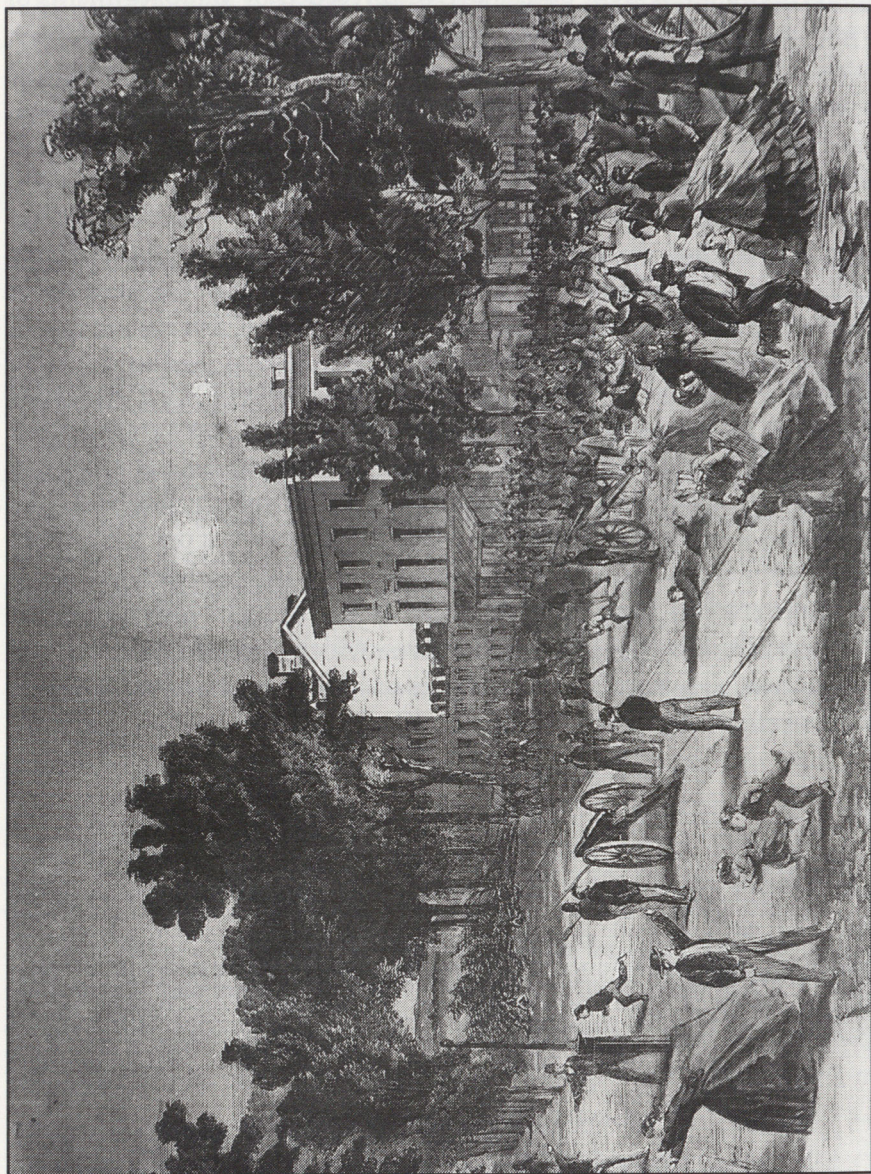
The infantry which had occupied our town during most of the day had failed to throw out any pickets, and the cavalry force under Capt. Boyd were operating in the rear of the main body of the rebels. About seven o'clock a body of cavalry made their appearance at the junction of the Trindle Spring and York roads, and at first it was generally supposed that it was a party of our force. They were within two hundred yards of the town, and sat in their saddles, gazing up the street at the stacked arms of the infantry. It was thought impossible that they could be rebels. The effrontery and boldness which they exhibited was well calculated to create a disbelief. A few minutes only were necessary to convince all that they were rebels indeed.

THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE FIGHT

As soon as their character was determined there was a call to arms, and the infantry flew to their positions. The members of Capt. Low's, Capt. Kuhn's, Lieut. Kuhn's, Capt. Black's, and Capt. Smiley's Companies of the town militia, each man on his own account, hurried to the eastern section of the town, and selecting secure positions, opened a very telling fire on the force, which compelled them to fall back. A portion of our cavalry dashed down Pomfret street, but on crossing the bridge a detachment of the rebels who were secreted in bushes in an adjoining field opened on them and they were compelled to retire.-After a few shots of musketry had been exchanged the

SHELLING THE TOWN

commenced. At this time no demand had been made for surrender. The people not anticipating such a thing-not even knowing that the rebels had cannon-were walking the streets. The first announcement was the whizzing of shells and the terrible report of their explosion. The utmost alarm and consternation



"THE REBELS SHELLING THE NEW YORK MILITIA IN THE MAIN STREET OF CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA," JULY 1, 1863.
Sketch by Thomas Nast in *Harper's Weekly*. Photograph Collection, Cumberland County Historical Society.

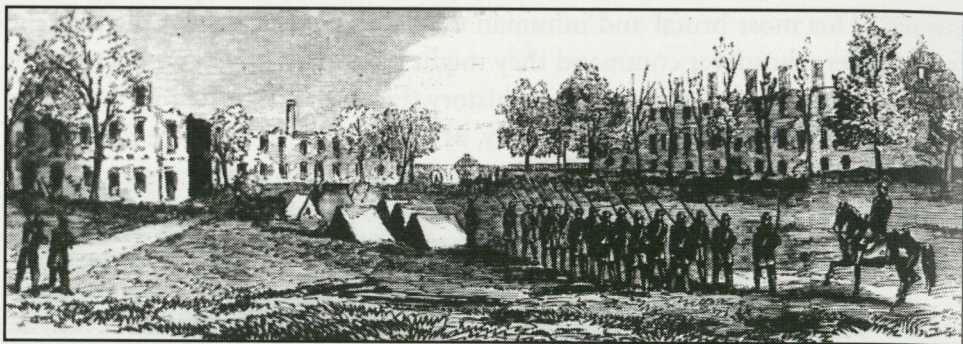
ensued. This most brutal and inhuman action convinced the people that the force under whosoever command they might be, were embued with a spirit of demonism which has no parallel in history. For more than half an hour this bombardment was kept up, and finally, as if not satisfied with the amount of destruction which shell and round shot were doing, and apparently anxious to slaughter women and children, they opened upon the town with grape and canister. Main street was raked with these death dealing missiles.

THE FLAG OF TRUCE

Just about dusk the firing ceased and a rebel officer with a flag of truce entered the town. He was conducted to General Smith's headquarters on Hanover street opposite the Volunteer printing office. He informed Gen. Smith that it was General Fitzhugh Lee's command of cavalry, three thousand strong, and that he was authorized to demand an unconditional surrender of the town. To this Gen. Smith gave a decided refusal, when the rebel officer informed him that the shelling would proceed. To which Gen. Smith replied, "*shell away*"—No time was offered for the removal of the women and children from the town. The purport of the flag of truce was soon spread abroad and a scene of confusion and consternation ensued beyond description.—Families seized with terror rushed from their houses, and in a few moments the streets presented a sad and lamentable picture. Mothers carrying their babes, while their little ones clung around them, weeping and moaning. The sick, scarcely able to walk, borne along by abler friends, old age and infancy side by side, trudging along towards the open country north of the town. It was fully expected that time would be given to remove the women and children, but this was a vain expectation.—Scarcely had the flag of truce had time to reach the rebel command when the

SECOND SHELLING COMMENCED

It was terrific, fiercer, heavier and more devilish than at first. The streets at the time were crowded with those who were fleeing from the scene. But the dastard who commanded the force was not only lost to pity but destitute of humanity, and the shells flew thicker and the grape and canister raked the streets incessantly.—The women and children ran into the dwellings and secreted themselves in the cellars, where they in terror listened to the hellish carnival that was going on.—Those who had succeeded in getting to the country, gathered their little ones around them and, in the mud and wet, through the long, terrible night, waited in the most intense anxiety the cessation of the storm of fury. To add terror to the scene the Rebels fired the board yard near the gas works and soon the flames were leaping up against the lurid sky. The fire communicated to the stable and dwelling connected with the yard and soon they were enveloped in flames. This increased the consternation and those people living in the east-



BURNING OF CARLISLE BARRACKS BY THE CONFEDERATES, JULY 1, 1863.
 Photograph Collection, Cumberland County Historical Society.

ern section of the town fearing that the torch would be applied to their dwellings, and not being aware that our militia still held their positions near the bridge and other points, fled wildly from their dwellings, and amidst the iron rain, hurried into the fields.

THE BURNING OF THE BARRACKS

About ten o'clock the torch was applied to the barracks, simultaneously to each row of buildings, and by eleven o'clock a great sheet of flame spread over the sky in the north east, turning the terrible scene into sublimity. The hungry flames shot their red tongues high into the Heavens, and their mad fury could be heard amidst the roar of the artillery. At this stage of the proceedings a stoical calmness had settled down upon the people. Just when this scene of fire was grandest the artillery ceased, and a flag of truce bearer entered the town, and proceeded to Gen. Smith's headquarters, where he renewed the demand for a surrender. It is said that General Smith's response was more decided than courteous, requested the bearer to inform Gen. Lee that he would see him in a hotter climate first. As soon as the truce bearer returned, the

THIRD SHELLING COMMENCED.

It did not last as long as either of the others, and it is supposed that from a want of ammunition and not of desire, this monster Lee ceased the bombardment. By this inhuman and most brutal act this man Lee has written his name in history a nich [sic] higher than that of Haynan, the Austrian woman whipper. If he should ever fall into the hands of the Union soldiers, as we most devoutly hope he may, let mercy such as he showed be meted out to him. About three o'clock on Thursday morning he fired three shots, and remarked to Mr. Edward Inhoff [Imhoff?], who he had captured in the evening that he "merely

sent them into the town to let them know that he was still about." The fiend with his command then left by way of the Boiling Springs road, thence to Papertown and then across the mountain.

Thus closed the most momentous incident in the history of Carlisle. As if by special Providence not one of our citizens were injured. Some eighteen of the soldiers were wounded but none killed.

THE PRINCIPAL SUFFERERS

The principal sufferers were Messrs. Lyne and Saxton, Hardware dealers; Haverstick and Elliot, druggists; Robt. Moore, Shoe dealer; J. W. Eby, M. Myers and Halbert & Fleming, Grocers; R. C. Woodward, Henderson & Reed and A. Singiser, forwarding merchants. Messrs James and John Bosler, blacksmiths, were absolutely robbed. Their shop was entered and their large and varied stock of tools stolen. Every thing except their bellows and anvil was taken. This is one, if not the most serious of the losses, and these worthy mechanics are ill able to bear it.

[Benj. Foote is also a sufferer in the way of lead, &c. E. Showers lost heavily. *Carlisle Herald*, July 10].

MILROY'S WAGON TRAIN.-Gen. Milroy, commanding in Western Virginia, was attacked last week by the force of rebels now invading this State, and his command cut in two, the troops being on one side and the wagons on the other. Many of the latter were captured. The remainder commenced a retreat from Martinsburg in this direction about noon on Sunday, having eight hours' start of the rebels. They passed through the various towns of the valley, still in advance of the enemy, and arrived in Carlisle on Tuesday morning, and proceeded to Harrisburg. The train is an immense one, consisting of upwards of five hundred wagons, (four horses to the wagon,) and is about three miles in length. They have made the extraordinary march of one hundred and twenty miles in forty-eight hours, having had no sleep during that time, and stopping only to feed the horses. Both horses and drivers bear evidence of the hardships endured on the retreat. Very many of the wagons were driven by contrabands, who rode the wheel horse, while their families sat perched upon the top of the load. Here on one wagon were old white-headed crones, and on another would be little negro children, who had fallen asleep from sheer exhaustion, while the sun beat full on their upturned faces. Over all was thrown a yellow mantle of dust.-Eyebrows, eyelashes, flesh and wool were powdered so thickly as to give

the caravan a most motley and grotesque appearance. The luggage consisted of provisions, knapsacks, haversacks, &c. The entire train is now encamped near Harrisburg. (Carlisle) *American Volunteer*, June 18, 1863.

THE REBEL RAID IN OUR VALLEY

The rebels are again in possession of Chambersburg, where they have been quietly encamped for the last three days! From the best information to be had, their force at Chambersburg consists of some 1500 cavalry under the command of Gen. Jenkins. On Tuesday the scouts sent out from the Carlisle Garrison approached the rebel pickets, a couple miles this side of Chambersburg, and were fired upon, and two of our men taken prisoners. It is believed they had been wounded. Thus far, we learn, no private or other property has been destroyed at Chambersburg. The town was surrendered without resistance, and the rebel commander at once demanded that the stores be opened so that he might supply himself with such articles as he stood in need of. He took blankets, hats, shoes, groceries, &c., and paid for them in Confederate money.

We hear of military movements being made at Harrisburg and elsewhere, but at present we need not refer in detail to them.

It is reported today that another force of rebels-some 10,000 strong-are in possession of Gettysburg. Whether this is really true or false, we cannot tell, but we fear there are grounds for the rumor.

Our citizens have been in a high state of excitement for several days, and many families left town on a doubt quick. This is to be deplored, for we hold that no good male citizen is excusable for leaving the town he lives in when danger threatens it. Let those who are still in town remain here, so that we may meet together in consultation.-If the enemy approach our town in numbers that cannot be successfully resisted, we suppose we will have to surrender, and make the best bargain we can.

During the last two or three days thousands of horses have been removed from our valley, and our country friends appear determined to protect their live stock as far as possible.

"All quiet along the line" when we went to press-Wednesday afternoon. (Carlisle) *American Volunteer*, June 18, 1863.