

## THE ADVANCE ON FREDERICKSBURGH.

*To the Editor of the Richmond Examiner :*

On Friday morning last the Federal troops, supposed to number between ten and fifteen thousand strong, advanced from the Warrenton Junction, in Fauquier, in the direction of the Rappahannock, some twelve miles distant, evidently with the intention of forcing our troops over the river, and at the same time, by their rapid advance, to prevent the forces under Gen. Stewart from blowing up the railroad bridge across that stream. For more than ten days the gallant General of our cavalry had been scouring the country, and had more than once penetrated within the lines of the hostile forces. He was, accordingly, prepared for their advance on Friday morning, and cautiously fell back toward the Rappahannock River, at the same time presenting a bold front to the enemy.

About noon on that day the Yankees appeared in strong force on the crest of the Railroad hill, about two miles from the station, when our troops, after counter-marching within cannon-shot of the foe, crossed the stream, and set the fine railroad bridge on fire. The enemy at once prepared to give us fight, being confident of his superior strength, and in a short time thereafter erected a two-gun battery, and commenced shelling the little village of Millview, on the northern side of the stream. The two infantry and four cavalry regiments—RADFORD'S, ROBINSON'S, CABELL'S (late FIELDS') and JONES'—were soon deployed on the southern bank, and, being formed in line of battle, presented a noble front to the enemy.

The Yankees no sooner perceived our troops drawn up in line of battle, than they prepared to meet them, by placing another battery in position, and shelling us at a distance of 2,000 yards. They fired at least 100 rounds, and justice requires to say that many of their shell fell with remarkable precision. Strange to say, no damage was done to our troops, although the enemy threw every shot within range, and for more than two hours our gallant cavalry stood exposed without having the privilege of returning a single shot.

Gen. Stewart was always in front, and five or six shells burst very near him, but he bore himself most gallantly, and escaped uninjured. The Baltimore Battery, in Mizer's Brigade, replied to the enemy, but with what effect we cannot state. Had the Yankees crossed over the ford on that day, another Leesburgh victory would have crowned the efforts of the troops under the gallant Ewell. From information obtained since, we hear that SUMNER and BANKS have united their corps, and are now between Warrenton and Winchester and the Rappahannock River in great strength. We do not vouch for the truth of the report. A great battle is evidently at hand, and may take place at any moment. Our brave boys are ready for the fray, and will, we believe, win a glorious victory.

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