

Cincinnati Daily Enquirer
transcribed by Walt Busch
30 Sep 1864

**The Latest From Pilot Knob, MO.--
The Enemy in strong force – The
Confederate carrying on a Destructive
Warefare [sic] in Missouri– Terrible
Slaughter of Federals at Centralia,
&c., &c.**

St. Louis, September 29.

Captain Gavin, Assistant Quartermaster of this district, who left Pilot Knob Tuesday morning, with a train of commissary stores, sent away by Gen. Ewing, furnishes some information relative to the situation in the southeast fort at Pilot Knob. It is strongly built and mounts four 62 pounders, and six field pieces, but they are ineffective against the artillery on Shepherd Mountain.

It was believed at headquarters last night that yesterday would settle the enemy's fate. Information from that quarter is looked for with painful anxiety.

The rebels lost fifty killed in their attack on Mineral Point Tuesday night.

Price's headquarters were at Fredericktown on Tuesday.

Gens. Fagin [sic] Marmaduke, Carbe [sic], Shelby and Colonels Williams, Gordon, Comingo and others are his subordinates. He has but a few infantry, which guard long wagon trains.

Nothing yet heard from Gen. Mower.

The raid on Potosi Tuesday night was from a scouting party, who robbed all the stores and conscripted several citizens.

The railroad below Big River has been abandoned, and the rebels reported to have torn a considerable portion of it up. A portion of the rebels have gone to Richmond, Washington county, and it is likely will next be heard from on the southwest branch of the railroad, cutting the communication between here and Rolla.

A large number of veterans arrived here yesterday, and several regiments of the Illinois one hundred days' men have been ordered here.

The particulars of the affair at Centralia have been received. Thirty-four soldiers, most of them discharged veterans, returning home from Atlanta, were shot in cold blood, and their bodies horribly mutilated. Mr. Rolland, the Express agent at Centralia, was also murdered, and three

citizens on the train wounded, and left to burn up with the train which was fired, and started off at full speed.

About an hour after the guerillas left, Major Johnson, with about 150 militia, arrived at Centralia, and started in pursuit. They were ambushed three miles out, and 96 of their number, including Major Johnson, were killed. The militia were raw and badly armed. The guerrillas were commanded by the notorious Bill Anderson.

This is the most atrocious affair since the massacre at Lawrence.

**Further from Missouri – A Reported
Engagement – Ewing Blows up a Magazine and Retreats to Harrison Station – Gen. Smith Retreats to St. Louis, &c., &c.**

St. Louis, Sept. 29. -- The following dispatch was received at headquarters to-night, from Capt. Hills:

Gen. Ewing's Adjutant says at day-light our outposts at Ironton were attacked and forced back to within a half mile of the fort. The enemy made desperate efforts to get possession of Shepherd's Mountain and at 2 P.M. succeeded, driving a battalion of the 14th Iowa into rifle pits, and getting two 6-pounder guns in position on the mountain.

The three mountain slopes overlooking the fort were filled with dismounted cavalry, the south front was threatened by four lines of cavalry, extending across the valley between the fort and Ironton, commanded by General Marmaduke, while a column passed around the base of Shepherd's Mountain and formed at the south. General Cabel [sic] commanded the dismounted cavalry on the slope of Pilot Knob.

The rebel troops thus disposed, a signal of two guns were fired from the mountain, and the assault in force moved on our works. It came up in fine style to the ditches and went back to the mountain in indecent haste, leaving 1,500 killed and wounded. Among the latter is Gen. Cabell, a Lieutenant Colonel, two Captains, and two Lieutenants. Our entire loss was nine killed and sixty wounded.

Yesterday morning we left the fort, and blew up the magazine. Price commanded in person.

Since the reception of the above dispatch I learn General Ewing after blowing up the magazine, evacuated Pilot Knob, brought away his entire command and will reach Harrison station on the southwest branch of the railroad to-night.

There is much rejoicing throughout the city at the escape of Gen. Ewing and his gallant little army. Colonel Fletcher the radical candidate for Governor commands one of the regiments in this command. General Smith evacuated De Soto this morning and brought his forces to

Jefferson Barracks, twelve miles below this city. The entire country below Maramac bridge has been abandoned.

General Smith arrived in the city tonight.

The Unionists along the North Missouri Railroad are intensely excited over the Centralia massacre, and call for the extermination of all rebels and their sympathizers.

The organization of citizens has so far progressed that business will be resumed to-morrow, but stores will be closed daily at three o'clock, to give an opportunity to drill.

The appointment of Gen. Blair to take command of the defenses of this city created great dissatisfaction and much indignation among portions of the citizens. Gen. Rosecrans modified the order, and has since promised to supercede General Blair on arrival of Gen. Pleasanton to this city. Senator B. Gratz Brown has been assigned command of the militia exempts. Volunteering rapidly progressing again. Immense meeting of loyalists at the Court House square to-nights to celebrate Sheridan's victories in the Shenandoah Valley.

General Grant's dispatch announcing an advance on Richmond, which was received to-night, created the wildest enthusiasm and delight.

Rebels infest the entire country south of De Soto. They are living off the country, plundering everybody they meet. They have lists of all Union men in the counties through which they pass, whom it is said, they kill on sight. They conscript all rebel sympathizers, even boys of 15 years.

The city is full of refugees from that section and large numbers are emigrating to Illinois, and other States. About 800 militia are at camp Sheridan ready for service. Troops continue to arrive from Illinois, and other States are giving material strength to the Department.

7 October 1864

Page 2 Column 1

THE NEWS.

The telegraph yesterday noon states that Gen. Ewing and several officers had reached St. Louis, from Pilot Knob. The particulars of his retreat are given, and also that his loss at Harrison Station was 300. Gen. Price is six miles west of Union, where his force numbers about 15,000 cavalry and mounted infantry, and about 5,000 camp followers. It was reported that all movements indicate the design to take Jefferson City, install Thos. Reynolds Governor, and hold the State for the Southern Confederacy.

A heavy force of the Southern army is reported moving South from Dalton. On the 30th ult. [ultimo] there was a fight at Allatoona, at which the Confederates lost heavily.

The telegraph last night gives us additional news from Missouri to that furnished at noon.

[Following paragraphs of this article are not about the conflict in Missouri]

Page 3 Column 3

**The Depredations by the Confederates
in Missouri – The Enemy Crossing
Osage River – General Smith Advancing Westward – Markets, &c.**

St. Louis, October 6. — The rebels burned Osage bridge on the Pacific Railroad, eight miles this side of Jefferson city, yesterday morning. This is the largest bridge on the road. The militia guard ran away without firing a shot. The rebels were using 2 trains captured at Miller's Landing, to transport their artillery force. The rebels' strength is unknown. They are reported crossing the Osage river at Castle Rock, eight or ten miles from Jefferson city, on Tuesday.

General A. J. Smith is advancing Westward from Gray's Summit. The Railroad is being rapidly repaired.

Tobacco is quiet. Cotton receipts are thirty-one bales; no sales. Flour is languid and lower, Superfine \$8 50, and single Extra \$9 50 @ 10 00. Wheat 3 @ 5c. lower; prime \$1 90 @ 1 95, choice \$2 00. Corn and Oats have slightly advanced.

Page 3 Column 4

**Price's Army Attempt to Cross Osage
River – They are Prevented and a
Fight Ensues, &c.**

St. Louis, October 6. – Official advices say Price's main army attempted to cross the Osage River at Castle Rock to-day, but were prevented by our troops, who were stationed on the opposite side, between whom and the rebels fighting had occurred, but with what result is not known.

The recent rains have greatly swollen [sic] the Osage, and Price will probably try to cross at some point higher up.

A report says that several hundred rebels crossed the Missouri river into Montgomery county. This report is unfounded.

Gen. Weaver arrived on a Government train at Convent Point. His movements will soon be announced to the enemy by himself.



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