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1862-06-01 A.C. Spaulding reports to General Hodsdon about casualties

A. C. Spaulding

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Wagons town Md June 2 1862

Adj Genl. John L. Hodsdon

Augusta Me Dear Sir

A dispatch from Gov Washburn to S. C. Fessenden - M. C. requesting some one to be sent immediately to look after our wounded in the late disastrous retreat from the Valley of the Shenandoah, was handed me by the latter on Friday last with a request that I would undertake the service. I decided at once, after consulting with Ex Gov - now Senator Merrill, to do so - and am at Williamsport, Genl Banks head quarters Yesterday morning - I am happy to be able to state that our loss during this two days fight ^{although severe} is not near as great as; I think, was anticipated - I have no time now for details but will endeavor to make a full & particular Report when I get to Washington & forward to you or the Gov without delay - But appreciating the solicitude naturally felt at our State Capitol for information in regard to the casualties of our Maine troops in the several terrible conflicts which

^{occupied}
took place I will endeavor to give you in short
a general statement of the most important items
connected therewith - Five Companies of the 1st The
Cavalry under Lt. Coln Doughty & the 10th The Infantry
under Coln Beal were engaged & under fire. I
did not see Coln Beal for his Reg^t had been removed
over the River & now occupy Martinsburg - Could
get no detailed Report of his loss, but understood
from Lieut Simpson, that the "missing" had been
reduced (up to yesterday noon) to about seventy,
will allude to the Reg^t again in my Report -

The ^{Battalion of} 1st Cavalry were very much exposed, but
behaved nobly & have done good service. They
suffered severely as a matter of course, but up to
this morning their loss in missing had been reduced
by the return of many who had lost their horses
& otherwise took to the woods; to (66) sixty six as
follows viz

Company A Capt Theist	23	Comp B Capt Kelley	4
" E " Putnam	27	" H " "	0
" M " Brown	22		62
			<hr/> 66

There are but three or four wounded at Williamsport
and these mostly slight wounds. - over

Major Kelley was struck on the right arm
about three inches below the shoulder joint
by a shell which very nearly severed the arm
he fell head foremost to the ground & was
taken up by Lieut Butler & others & carried to
a house near, where he was left with Assistant
surgeon Haley & ⁽³⁾ three men of Comp B. - The Battal-
ion were driven immediately from the place
(Middleton) consequently poor Kelley with the surgeon
& men fell into the enemy's hands as prisoners
& nothing has been heard from them since -
There is a bare possibility that the Major may
be still alive, but I think it very doubtful
Whatever of the missing have been killed
or severely wounded, were of necessity left
in the enemy's hands, so that the ^{number} of our
killed & wounded cannot at present be def-
initely ascertained - I have requested Lt Colm
Doughty should our Army again repossess the
valley of which I have no doubt, to make every
effort to ascertain the fate of Major Kelley
as well as the others of his command who
are now missing - The Battalion lost quite

a large number of their horses the fact so
I did not learn & the Officers & Privates much
of their clothing & equipments. I leave
tomorrow morning in the stage for Frederick
from thence by rail to Washington from
whence you may expect to hear from me again

In haste Very truly your obedient

A. G. Spalding

A. G. Spalding
Hagerstown
June 26th