

Having been in command of a Massachusetts Regiment on the "Retreat" from Chickahominy, while passing Bear Creek, June 29, 1862, I am prepared most fully to concur in the above statement."

EBENEZER W. PIERCE,

Colonel 29th Regiment Infantry.

CAMP NEAR FALMOUTH, Va., February 23, 1863.

COL. BACHELDER.

My Dear Sir:—I have just examined your lithograph of "The Retreat" which was brought into camp by Sargeant Jenkins, I think it splendid and life-like. It's the only view I have ever seen to impress upon home friends the reality and truthfulness of a moving army. I have shown it to quite a number of officers and they are of one opinion, and that is "that it is a splendid picture."

Your friend and obedient servant,

CHARLES E. RAND,

Captain, Co. I, 1st Mass. Vol. Infantry.

Boston, Mass., January 29, 1863.

DEAR SIR:

I take pleasure in certifying to the correctness of your picture representing the troops and trains of the "Army of the Potomac" while passing Savage's Station, June 29, 1862.

The locality is well portrayed. Having been present in com-

mand of my regiment, during the fight at that Station, I can speak as an eye witness of the scene given in your picture.

Of that most memorable and successful retreat, your sketch will form a valuable souvenir.

Very respectfully,

N. LORD, JR.

(Then) Col. Commanding 6th Vermont Infantry.

Mr. Jno. B. BACHELDER.

Boston, Mass., March 26, 1863.

COL. BACHELDER.

Dear Sir:—I have carefully examined your sketches of the battles of "Fair Oaks," and am surprised at the accuracy with which the regiments are placed. Those of Casey's Division I know to be in the exact positions occupied at the commencement of the action. I recognize also many others, shown in places where I know them to have been. The topography of your picture is perfect. Every house, and almost every tree, or other object which could in any way effect the result, is shown. This series of engravings will be a national gain, portraying, as they do, the varied positions and final triumph of the Union troops in one of the hardest fought battles of this war. I am, Colonel,

Yours with respect,

GEORGE H. JOHNSTON,

Captain and A. A. General Naglee's Division.

A series of Views, from the sketches alluded to in the above letters, illustrating the "Battles of Seven Pines and Fair Oaks," will soon be issued.

JNO. B. BACHELDER,

PUBLISHER,

123 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON.

Sold by Subscription. Agents wanted. Good business chance for disabled officers or men who were in that campaign.

To the Adjutant Gen. Maine.

by the Boston Journal that Mr. Thos. M. Thompson of the First Maine Artillery is at home with the loss of both hands.

I can give him useful and profitable employment in selling Bachelder's valuable Historical Engravings.

(over)

We have already a few Agents out
who have lost one arm.

I can arrange with Thompson
so that he can earn a support
honorably and usefully.

If you will please forward to
him a letter I now send to
your care, it may be a great
favor. We can employ several
disabled men who are disposed
to help themselves. Can you
send me any names of such?

Respectfully & Truly
Yours &c.

Albert Ellis
Genl agent

Boston June 3/63

123 Wash St.

Albert Ellis

Boston, June 3, 1863

BACHELDER'S

66 ARMY OF THE POTOMAC. 62

During the "seven days' fight" before Richmond, probably one of the most thrilling, picturesque and interesting spectacles to an observer, was the fording of Bear Creek by the great supply trains of the Army of the Potomac. This occurred one mile east of "Savage Station," on the Williamsburg road, Sunday, June 29, 1862.

At this point the trains from the right and left wing came together, and entered a narrow pass, between the Chickahominy and White Oak Swamp, the only feasible route for the retreat. This fact was well known to the enemy, and a single false move would have jeopardized the safety of this immense train.

Seven thousand wagons came thundering on like an avalanche, and among them were to be seen bodies of cavalry, infantry and artillery, stragglers and camp followers, each individual intent upon his own safety. Hour after hour the tide rolled by, and the booming of cannon, the whistle of screaming shells, and the rattle of musketry admonished the hurrying army that the enemy were making a desperate effort to cut it off from this last avenue of escape; the strict order of military discipline guided the train, and our brave soldiers held the foe at bay until it had passed in safety; not leaving their position until the fall of night closed the scenes of this eventful day.

Such was the subject selected for Bachelder's Great Picture.

Accurate sketches of the locality, and minute notes of the scenes of that day, were made by the successful artist Col. JNO. B. BACHELDER, who, arriving early on the ground, and foreseeing the importance of this position, noted incidents as they occurred, which he has since wrought into a beautiful whole.

It is a picture to be studied. In the foreground, on a bluff, just up from the creek, are to be seen groups of soldiers, some weary, wounded and disheartened; others, determined to make the best of circumstances, having passed the open plateau under the burning sun, and forded the stream, now in the refreshing shade are making their coffee, while officers, ever watchful to admonish them of the danger of delay, are urging them on. On either side, roads have been made through deep cuts in the bank, which unite a few rods further on, and continue to White Oak Swamp. At the right, a battery of artillery, not needed in the engagement now progressing, have been ordered forward to take up a new position.

One of the most exciting features of the picture is where the wagons, having become extricated from the jam beyond, where they have been blocked for hours, dash down the bluff, ford the stream, and with the greatest expedition clear the way for others to follow. Cavalry and infantry thread their way through the labyrinth of teams. The officers of the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments, together with the Provost Guard, are constantly on the alert, dashing from point to point, now halting this team while another is urged on; and as volley after volley greets the ear, and the smoke of battle rolls up in the rear, all feel that their only safety is in strict adherence to military orders.

The following testimonials from prominent officers of the army, who were eye-witnesses of this stirring scene, attest the truth and accuracy of the work.

This beautiful and faithful print has been published by the artist, and is now offered to subscribers at the moderate

PRICES OF

Proof,	\$4.00.	Print,	\$2.00.
(Extra) Colored Proof,	10.00.	Colored Print,	6.00.

BROWZELL GRANGER, Captain U. S.

Mr. J. B. Bachelder, Washington, D. C.

valuable Historical Engravings (over)

LETTERS.

BOSTON, February 5, 1863.

MY DEAR SIR:

Please accept my thanks for the very excellent and interesting photograph of your picture of the army crossing at Bear Creek.

Very truly yours,

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN, *Major-General*.

JNO. B. BACHELDER, Esq., 123 Washington Street, Boston.

HEAD-QUARTERS 2d ARMY CORPS, FALMOUTH, Va., }
April 13, 1863. }

Mr. JNO. B. BACHELDER, 123 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:—I am in the receipt of a photographic copy of your picture representing our army falling back from Fair Oaks and Savage's Station. You have succeeded in getting a faithful picture of those stirring times. The scene is well remembered. Major-General Stoneman, commanding Cavalry Corps, and Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, of General Sumner's Staff, together with members of my Staff pronounce it capital. It represents things as they were. Those stragglers in the foreground, some weary, some wounded, others waiting "to make a little coffee," with officers ordering them forward, while to the right and rear the smoke also tells us what we have not forgotten—the battle.

While you were with the army on the Chickahominy, making sketches of battle scenes, I felt a deep interest in your work, believing with you that those battle-fields would become classic ground. Your sketches were made and corrected with great care; the landscape and the positions of the respective regiments of the different corps were all faithfully executed. The Army of the Potomac, as well as the country, owe you a debt of gratitude.

Very truly yours,

D. N. COUCH, *Major-General*.

HEAD-QUARTERS 3d ARMY CORPS, February 24, 1863.

SIR:

I have been favored by Captain Charles E. Rand, 1st Massachusetts Infantry, with a view of your admirable picture of "The Retreat," which is not less remarkable for its fidelity to the actual scene, than for its merit as a work of art. I remember meeting you on the battle-field of Fair Oaks, where you showed me your sketches of that engagement. They were singularly faithful and graphic, and for these reasons I regarded your labors with much interest as valuable contributions to the history of this war.

You will please place my name among the subscribers to your enterprize and forward the prints to my address in New York.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant,

D. E. SICKLES, *Major-General Vol.*

JNO. B. BACHELDER, Boston.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, March 28, 1863.

Mr. JNO. B. BACHELDER.

Dear Sir:—Allow me to thank you for the very fine photograph of your print, "The Retreat," which reached me yesterday.

I was struck with the faithfulness of its details, and the apparent activity of the parties delineated, to get away from what

was evidently transpiring in their rear—yet with due regard to military regularity.

I hope you will publish the series of sketches you made about "Fair Oaks and Harrison's Landing." The merit of your pictures, as shown me, was their adherence to probability, and also the true topography of the country where the operations of the army took place. The disposition of the troops, at well selected periods of the battles, gives as near as may be a correct impression of the array.

The fancy sketches of terrific charges, &c., which appear in the periodicals and other publications from time to time, cannot in the slightest degree bring back, as will your prints, the vivid reminiscences of those battle-fields to those who participated in them.

I am, sir, yours truly,

WM. H. FRENCH, *Major-General Vol.*

HEAD-QUARTERS 2d BRIGADE, ABERCROMBIE'S DIVISION, }
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, Va., March 25, 1863. }

COL. JNO. B. BACHELDER.

My Dear Sir:—I congratulate you on the successful issue of your valuable picture, "The Retreat." I have examined it with pleasure, and consider the landscape and general handling of the subject remarkably correct. It will not only be interesting but instructive to those who have never seen a moving army, particularly under such exciting circumstances. It will form a valuable souvenir to friends of the soldiers who participated in those trying scenes.

I recollect meeting you daily during the weeks that we were engaged before Richmond, and then remarked the fidelity with which you noted every circumstance which would contribute to the historical value of your pictures. Please consider me a subscriber to your enterprize.

And believe me truly yours,

ROBERT COWDIN, *Brigadier-General Vol.*

HEAD-QUARTERS CALDWELL'S BRIGADE, January 5, 1863.

* * * I met you frequently at Fair Oaks, Va.; where you were so busily engaged in making sketches of the various phases of the battles of "Seven Pines and Fair Oaks." I think those which you showed me by far the most accurate of any I have ever seen.

In the retreat to Harrison's Landing you had peculiarly favorable opportunities for making sketches of those thrilling scenes.

JOHN C. CALDWELL, *Brigadier-General*,

Com'g 1st Brigade, Hancock's Division, Sumner's Corps.

COL. JNO. B. BACHELDER, 123 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

COMMISSARY DEPARTMENT, ARMY OF POTOMAC, }
February 5, 1863. }

COL. BACHELDER.

Sir:—Having been in charge of a supply train in the "Retreat" which forded Bear Creek, at the point indicated in your picture, and having had peculiarly favorable opportunities for observation, I unhesitatingly pronounce it a *truthful representation*, not only in the locality, but in the general appearance of the troops and trains.

BROWNELL GRANGER, *Captain C. S.*