



CUMBERLAND VALLEY RAIL TRAIL



Cumberland Valley Railroad and the Battle of Antietam

Confederate Invasion: Union forces stopped the Confederate invasion of Maryland at the Battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862, still the bloodiest day in American history. With the initial news of the Confederate Army's movement, Pennsylvania Governor Andrew Curtin declared a state of emergency and issued a call for the enlistment of 50,000 state troops to meet at Harrisburg. The task of transporting troops and military supplies from Harrisburg to northern Maryland fell especially hard on the limited resources and single track of the Cumberland Valley Railroad (CVRR).

THE INVASION OF MARYLAND.
Pennsylvania Still in Danger.
THE OCCUPATION OF FREDERICK.
Particulars of the Rebels' March.
Their Army in a Ragged Condition.
Another Rebel Army for Pennsylvania.
Their Object to Seize the Northern Central Railroad.
AFFAIRS ON THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD.

Press
(Philadelphia, PA, September 9, 1862)

Pennsylvania Telegraphy
(Harrisburg, PA, September 15, 1862)

From the *Valley Spirit* newspaper
(Chambersburg, PA, September 10, 1862):

To the Rescue – Freeman of Franklin County

The darkest hour of our Country's history is upon us. . . . The invading hosts of the enemy have pressed the soil of Maryland, and our own beautiful valley may at any hour become the victim of a similar invasion.

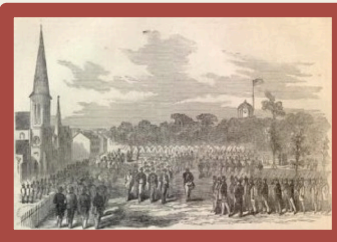
CVRR continues in service of the Union: The end of this Confederate threat did not end the military work of the CVRR. After the Battle of Antietam many of the state militia troops who had

been taken south for the fight returned north to their homes via the Cumberland Valley Railroad. Thereafter, the Union Army continued to use the CVRR heavily for servicing a supply depot established in Hagerstown, MD.

BY TELEGRAPH.
GLORIOUS NEWS
FREDERICK CITY RECAPTURED.
Generals McClellan and Burnside in the City.
Enthusiastic Reception of the Union Army.
SKIRMISHES WITH THE REBELS.
Capture of 100 Ammunition and Subsistence Wagons.
150 PRISONERS TAKEN.
Baltimore, Sept. 14.
The reported information with regard to attack the Northern Central R. R. is unfounded. Cannonading at Harper's Ferry all day ceased at four o'clock. We have not heard the result. Gen. Burnside passed through Frederick early on Saturday morning, and the whole army pushed on after the enemy by every road. The people turned out to welcome Burnside with the wildest enthusiasm, men, women and children; and when Gen. McClellan came the people blockaded up the streets so that it was difficult for him to reach his headquarters. The scene is described as most grand, waving flags and handkerchiefs, and even women

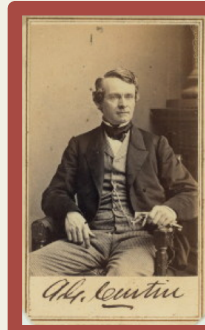
they will endeavor to retreat into Virginia by way of Williamsport.
This morning an engagement took place on the foot of the mountains on the road to Sandy Hook between rebels consisting of two thousand cavalry and three batteries. A portion of the enemy went to Hagerstown while Jackson took the left hand road towards Harper's Ferry. The rebels left four hundred and fifty of their sick in Frederick. About forty prisoners were taken last night and this morning between this city and the mountains.

THE VERY LATEST.
Enthusiastic Reception of Gen. McClellan by the Union Army.
DESTRUCTION OF THE UNION NEWS-PAPER OFFICES BY THE REBELS.
The Ladies Compelled to Conceal Their American Flags.
PARTICULARS OF THE FIGHT YESTERDAY
The Rebels Driven from Middletown.
No Fear of an Invasion of Pennsylvania.
Attack on the Rebels on the Road to Hagerstown.
FORTY PRISONERS CAPTURED.
PURSUIT OF THE REBELS TO HARPER'S FERRY.



Pennsylvania's railroads played a major role in the successful effort to turn back the Confederate incursion at Antietam and thereafter. *Harper's Magazine* documented the *Arrival of Troops* at the railway depot in Harrisburg, PA, (left) and the impromptu camp set up on the nearby capitol grounds (right) in its October 4, 1862 edition.

Image credit: Archives and Special Collections, Dickinson College



Pennsylvania Governor Andrew Curtin studied law at Dickinson College, was a close friend and confidant of Abraham Lincoln, and took a very active role in the defense of the state.

Image credit: Library of Congress

cumberland valley TRAIL CONNECTIONS

penNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

APPALACHIAN TRAIL COOPERATIVE

SOUTH MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP