

CW/VFM-140: “Information for the People” Broadside, Pennsylvania

This broadside is reported to have been printed on a field press (portable table-top press allowing amateur printing) “In Camp, In Virginia” due to the wishes of the Pennsylvania Brigade of Birney’s Division. The broadside, constructed of three columns, has two headlines, “Late and Important from the South,” and “The Voice of the Army.”

“Late and Important from the South” is a reprint of an article of the *Richmond Enquirer*, September 7, 1863. Of course, heavy in Southern sentiment, the article comprises more than half the text on the broadside, and is intended to give the readers “an idea of the temper of the Richmond press.” Included in the ‘report’ is a defense of Quantrill’s Raid on Kansas from the *Richmond Examiner*.

“The Voice of the Army,” written on September 4, 1863 gives a unique and direct address to the citizens of Pennsylvania from the members of the Pennsylvania Brigade of Birney’s Division (formed largely out of counties in southwestern Pennsylvania, except the 114th and 68th). The Brigade offers their appeal to Pennsylvania voters to repudiate the Copperheads, support the War effort, and that loyal Pennsylvanians “can best testify their appreciation” of having driven the enemy from Pennsylvania (the Brigade was present at the Battle of Gettysburg) by re-electing Governor Curtin. It is signed in type by approximately 70 officers of the Brigade, including commander Colonel Charles H.T. Collis. Officers who ‘signed’ the broadside represent the 57th, 63rd, 68th, 105th, 144th and 141st Pennsylvania Volunteers. There is no other known copy of this document.

Keywords: Union – Pennsylvania; Newspapers

Location: Civil War Vertical File Manuscripts, Special Collections & College Archives, Musselman Library at Gettysburg College.

See also: [Civil War Sources in Special Collections](#)