

In the words of another comp – “It is now known that the battle of BRun comes near being a Union victory: that it was one of the best planned conflicts of the Rebellion and was to the great portion of the Union soldiers a [?] discreditable affair. But for many months the country believed that our entire army had fled in most disgraceful rout.

No Northern man could bear to hear Bull Run spoken of: it was our sore spot and *[tormention it was to touch no]* on the run. Bull Run we now know was not in its ultimate results a calamity – we now realize that success at the beginning of the war would have left slavery substantially undisturbed. If not more strongly entrenched, and by the [?] that followed that battle a great & free people cannot be [?] or dismayed by the panic or the folly of the few or by the misfortune or mistakes of all.