THE PASSING WAGON TRAIN

This historic bridge crossed Antietam Creek on the turnpike leading from Boonesboro to Sharpsburg. It is one of the memorable spots in the history of the war. The photograph was taken soon after the battle of Antietam; the overturned stone wall and shattered fences, together with the appearance of the adjacent ground, are mute witnesses of the conflict that raged about it on the night of September 16, 1862, when the cavalry of the Army of the Potomac captured and held it until the arrival of the infantry. The fire of the Federal artillery from the ridges near the bridge enabled the disordered Union lines to recover in time to check the ferocious assaults of the Confederates.