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Select Poetry. From the Philadelphia Sunday Mercury. PRESIDENT LINCOLN AND HIS SALARY.

TO ABRAHAM THE FIRST, (REPUUDIATOR.) Quoth Yankee Doodle, right away, I hope you will, without delay,

Now, Ah, betwixt you and me, The reason why I cannot see, Why you, in common honesty,

In after years, when men relate The acts of Abraham the Great— Rail-splitter from the Sucker State,

Awful Butcheries by Negro Soldiers. A correspondent of the St. Louis Republican gives the following account of one of the most horrible outrages ever committed in the country:

Many of our passengers and myself went to the house and saw them. Fortunately two of the family of children were off at school, and the mother and one child four years old went up to Owensboro, Ky., with us on our last trip.

A Traitorous Wish. The Harrisburg Telegraph—an ultra Abolition sheet—makes the following infamous declaration in its edition of Tuesday week, and repeats it, twice over, in order to give it greater emphasis:

"WE WOULD RATHER SEE LEE ADVANCE WITH HIS COHORTS INTO THE HEART OF PENNSYLVANIA THAN WITNESS THE INAUGURATION OF WOODWARD AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE."

"GOVERNOR CURTIN CANNOT SECURE THE SUPPORT OF EITHER HIS OWN PARTY OR HIS OFFICE HOLDERS."—Speech of Alexander Cummings before the Republican State Convention, Aug. 5, 1863.

Why Curtin Cannot and Should Not be Re-elected.

The Pittsburg Daily Gazette, the Republican organ of Western Pennsylvania, in an editorial article week before last, says: "We have already suggested that we would regard the re-nomination of Governor Curtin as a great calamity to the party and to the country, for the double reason that we should expose ourselves to the imminent risk of a defeat, if we did not even show thereby that we had deserved it, and that we should render service very doubtful to either by electing him. We now proceed to assign some of the reasons for that opinion."

It cannot be disputed, we think, that his administration has proved eminently disastrous to the party which brought him into power. That it has been an unfortunate one for the state the present condition of her plundered sinking fund and dilapidated revenues will abundantly attest. It is not clear that it has been wholesome for the country. It is too clear that it has been a damaging one for himself—so damaging that it is more than doubtful whether the Union sentiment, strong as it unquestionably is, would ride over the unfavorable opinion so generally entertained of his integrity and wisdom, notwithstanding the more than charitable reserve of the press, which has flung a mantle over his faults, and perhaps encouraged his friends and himself to believe that the history of his administration will continue a sealed book or be forgotten amid the clangor of arms and the strife of the battle field.

He came into office less than three years ago with a huge majority, and a Legislature of which nearly three-fourths of both branches were, or claimed to be, Republicans. At the end of one session he had thrown all that majority away. Entrusted with the privilege of expending the first appropriation made by the Legislature for the common defence, he gave to his own creatures the power of making contracts, as his private agents, in relation with which they were entirely unfamiliar, to the great injury of the soldier, who was victimized by their unskillfulness or fraud. This fact was found by a committee appointed by himself, under the pressure of a public clamor, which grew out of the treatment of the volunteers who had assembled at Harrisburg. Those being young men who had responded so generously to the first call of their country, were in rags, with shoddy vestments, shoes whose soles were stuffed with shavings, and blankets almost as thin and transparent as a window pane. It was reported and believed that they had been given over to the tender mercies of a few heartless speculators who were then hovering about the capital. The officers at Camp Curtin, justly indignant at what they saw drew up a spirited remonstrance to the Legislature, which was presented to the House, at their instance by one of our own members. It was suggested to him the propriety of an inquiry as to the nature of the contracts made for supplies, and the names of the agents, through whom they were made, and he offered a resolution accordingly. He wished to know and let the public know, whether it was true that sundry individuals then loitering around the capital, who were pointed out by the tongue of rumor, and known to be entirely unfit for the purpose, had been actually commissioned by the Governor, as his agents, to make contracts for the soldiers. One of these individuals was a certain Charles M. Neal, an active ward politician, and Acting Commissioner of Philadelphia who was understood to be an intimate and confidential friend of the Governor. The answer of the Governor ignored the fact of his employment, although the record shows that on the very day preceding or following his message to the House he had endorsed and approved a contract for clothing made by the identical individual with the Frowenfeldts of this city, in that special capacity. On this contract Neal was afterwards indicted here, and it was while that indictment was depending that the Governor felt it necessary in order to appease the public clamor, or divert from his own head, to raise a committee of his own appointment to inquire into his own conduct. That committee proved very unexpectedly a fair one—so fair that it was deemed prudent to withhold its report from the Legislature at the next ensuing session of that body. It found however—although it passed over the Frowenfeldt case because it was depending on the Courts—that the soldiers were in rags. With every disposition to deal gently with the Governor, it condemned his appointments and the mode pursued by the government in making its purchases. It declared that the absence of a strict supervisory power had been the cause of much of the mischief that had befallen the State. It remarked, in observing upon the character of the Governor's agents, that there were not men in Pennsylvania, whose service could have been commanded, and who by education and ability were equal to the occasions that had arisen, and that the appointment by an executive, from personal or partisan motives, of incompetent agents to offices of great responsibility, is at all times, a grave dereliction from duty, never more so than in great public emergencies, when the disasters resulting from the ignorance or incompetence of the agents, for whose appointment he is responsible, will inevitably excite suspicions of fraud, and return home to the Executive in humiliating charges of collusion. And it closed by observing that "they also report in general, as the result of their investigations, that they have found instances of ignorance, of incompetence, of sharp dealing never praise worthy, and here eminently disgraceful, of bad appointments, which, although under the peculiar circumstances of the times to be expected, are none the less to be condemned."

Gen. Washington's Letter of Instruction to Military Commanders.

During the Presidency of Washington occurred the celebrated "Whisky Rebellion." Major General Daniel Morgan, of Revolutionary fame, was sent at the head of an armed force into the infected district. Some disturbances having taken place between the citizens and soldiers, he received from the President the following letter, which (with an apology for its treason) we print for the benefit of those whom it may concern:

PHILADELPHIA, March 27, 1795. DEAR SIR: The interest which you have taken in the safety of John Mitchell, as expressed in your letter of the 16th January last, would be an inducement to go as far in relieving him as public propriety would admit. But the Attorney General having made a report, of which the enclosed is a copy, I think it advisable to postpone the further consideration until the trial shall have taken place.

It has afforded me great pleasure to learn that the general conduct and character of the army has been temperate and indulgent, and that your attention to the quiet and comfort of the Western inhabitants has been well received by them. Still it may be proper, constantly and strongly, to impress upon the army that they are mere agents of civil power! they have no more authority than other citizens; that offenses against the laws are to be examined, not by a military officer, but by a magistrate; that they are not exempt from arrest and indictments for a violation of law; that officers ought to be careful not to give orders which may lead their agents into infractions of law; that no compulsion be used toward the inhabitants in the traffic carrying on between them and the army, that disputes be avoided as much as possible, and be adjusted as quickly as may be without urging them to an extreme; and that the whole country is not considered as within the limits of the camp.

I do not communicate these things to you for any other purpose than that you may weigh them; and, without referring to any instructions from me, adopt the measures necessary for accomplishing the foregoing objects. Your affectionate humble serv't, GEO. WASHINGTON.

From the Falton Democrat. Who will Support Curtin, Who Support Ward? In the last issue of the Republican the editor undertook to give a list of those who would support the respective candidates for Governor in the coming election. His classification was not near full enough, and we take the liberty of adding to it. Among the supporters of Andy Curtin will be found: Every original disunionist in the State, from Thad. Stevens down. Every one who avows that the Union as it was cannot be restored. Every one who asserts that the war can only end in the extinction of slavery. Every one who believes the Constitution to be a "covenant with death and a league with hell."

Every one who believes that Lincoln may violate it at his pleasure. Every one who justifies the arrest, the imprisonment, and the exile of Democratic editors and orators for exercising the plainly guaranteed constitutional rights of free speech. Every one who believes Lincoln may suspend the writ of habeas corpus at his pleasure. Every one who believes he may do away with the sacred right of trial by jury. Every one who believes that the negro race is superior to the white. Every one who believes the negro to be the equal of the white man. Every one who wants to see him admitted to social and political equality, and like Judge Agnew would desire to see the Constitution of Pennsylvania so amended as to give him a right to vote. Every one who believes that the white race would be improved by amalgamation with the black. Every one who believes that this is a war for the freedom of the negro. Every one who believes that it neither can nor ought to end except in the extinction of slavery. Every one who endorses the emancipation policy of the President. Every one who thinks the nation can only be saved by the help of negro soldiers. Every one, in short, who believes in an anti-slavery Constitution, an anti-slavery Bible, an anti-slavery God, and all the foolish and pernicious proclamations of Abraham, the faithful father of the contrabands. Every one who has been engaged in plundering the public treasury, except it may be Simon Cameron. Every shoddy contractor. Every maker of shoes with paper soles. Every manufacturer who is making a fortune out of government contracts. Every greedy scoundrel who thinks he will soon get his paws in. Every "green-back patriot." Every man who is making money out of the war. Every one who has made a fortune out of it. Every one who expects to make a fortune out of it. Every one who holds an office under Lincoln. Every one who holds an office under Curtin. Every Provost Marshal, and all in their employ. Every tax collector and assessor, and, in short, the whole gang of vampires who are fattening on the blood of the people and the treasure of the nation will vote for Andrew G. Curtin. But these, long as the list is, and numerous as they are, are not yet strong enough to carry the coming election.

There is a much larger class who will vote for George W. Woodward. Among these will be found, every man who is loyal to the Constitution; every one who desires to see the Union restored; every one who knows his own rights as a freeman and respects the rights of his fellow citizens; every true friend of liberty, and every hater of despotism; every one who desires to see the majesty of the civil law preserved inviolate; every one who believes that this government was made by white men for white men; every one who is in favor of keeping the negroes in their proper place as an interior and dependent race; every one who has sense enough to see how much our liberties are endangered by the assumptions of arbitrary power by the present administration; every one who condemns the negro war policy of the President and his advisers; in short every conservative thinking man in the State, together with the honest masses who are suffering from the multiplied woes this war has brought upon us, and who desire to see it end speedily, and in a manner honorable and just to all parties. These constitute a vast majority of our population, and they will speak their sentiments in thunder tones at the ensuing election. If we have a free vote we have no fear but that the result will be a glorious triumph. Nothing can prevent this but force or fraud at the polls, and that we do not think our opponents will dare to attempt.

The Position of Brutus J. Clay not Satisfactory to the Abolitionists.

The Abolitionists do not appear to be satisfied with this gentleman, just elected to Congress from the Ashland District as the successor of the Hon. J. J. Crittenden. The Cleveland (O.) Leader, thus denounces him. It says: POSITION OF BRUTUS J. CLAY. "This gentleman just elected to Congress in the Seventh Kentucky District (the late Mr. Crittenden's) is, it seems, one of the peculiar Kentucky Unionists, and, as was his predecessor, Mr. Crittenden, is in favor of the Union, but opposed to the Administration and its measures. These Kentucky Unionists are self-satisfied men. In a letter accepting the nomination, Mr. Clay said 'he was, and always had been, for the preservation of the Constitution and the Union, and for a vigorous prosecution of the war to subdue the rebellion, and if deeded would vote for the necessary measures to carry on the war to the extent of the nation's present resources.' He also declares: "At the same time, I am opposed to the policy of the Administration, as to the abolition of slavery, and the enlisting of slaves as soldiers, and white in the State Legislature I voted for the various resolutions which were passed condemning those measures. "I am not, and have never been, in favor of emancipation, either gradual, immediate, or compensated. "It may be that Mr. Brutus Clay's position is an improvement over that of the late John J. Crittenden's but we are unable to see it. These Kentucky politicians are self-satisfied, self-massacled political enmuchs, whose aid is a negative quality, and therefore invile. They are in favor of the preservation of the Union, but oppose the most vigorous and important measures of the Administration to save it. Can they go further?"

The Army and Negroes in Mississippi. The Vicksburg correspondent of the Chicago Times writes: The return of the army from Jackson was the occasion of a remarkable exodus of negroes. There were few able-bodied young men, for the policy of making soldiers of them has made at least nine out of every ten as anxious to keep out of the way of the Yankees as are many of their masters. But all the old men and women, and young children, in the whole region of country around Jackson—those who have been a burden upon their masters, and will necessarily be dependent upon our charity—accompanied the army, on its return, in large numbers. Every species of vehicle, and an untold number of broken down horses and mules, were pressed into the service by these contrabands en route for Vicksburg. Their effects consisted of a wonderful quantity of old clothing and bedding, and dilapidated furniture, which they seemed to regard as of inestimable value. The transportation, however, was not sufficient for all, and hundreds, carrying as many as possible of the inevitable bundles, trudged along on foot. All seemed animated by a fear that our rear guard would overtake, pass, and leave them behind, and such a straining of energies, and hurrying and bustling, was never before known among the whole black creation. What on earth are we to do with the immense numbers of them coming within our lines? is a problem which the future alone can solve. One thing, however, is certain: No matter how worthless or how incapable of self-support, they cannot be permitted to starve, and whether collected in one locality, or so equally distributed as to give each township in the North its proportion of paupers, they will be supported at the public expense. There is another thing about this negro question which is even more certain than the other proposition: The minds of all of them are filled with the most extravagant ideas of the North. It is to them a country of ease and plenty and happiness, and say and do as you will, as soon as the military blockade is made less stringent, they will swarm upon you like the locusts of the east. Until I came down here, I believed that, even if emancipated, the negroes would remain in the South. I now know better. Not one in ten will remain here. They will go North, if they accomplish the distance on foot. They don't feel safe here, not even those whose owners are dead, and their fears impel them to go North. And then, their extravagant ideas, as bright and glowing, as far as their own ease and happiness is concerned, as the warmest imagination of the Arabian Knights will never permit them to remain in the South after the road to the North is open.

Despotism in Maryland. BALTIMORE, Aug. 8, 1863. To the Editor of the N. Y. News: In the rush of mighty events, we are apt to forget where we are drifting to. We have called ourselves a free people, under a free and beneficent Government. We have boasted that we were not even liable to the despotism of European monarchies, and yet since the commencement of this war there has been attempted and carried into effect, by the Government at Washington and its tools, a despotism the most atrocious the world has ever seen. This has been done so silently and so ingeniously that in many parts of the land it has hardly been observed, and yet so effectually that where it does show itself it defies not only opposition but criticism. There is not a paper, for instance, in this poor, oppressed State, that would dare even to publish what I have written on this page. I desire, therefore, through your columns, to call attention to the unjustifiable and atrocious outrages that are daily practiced by Schenck and his minions on the people of this city and State. Week before last a man's barn was burned down in one of the adjoining counties. The man whose barn was burnt happened to have been the enrolling officer of the district, and Schenck orders that \$3,000 shall be paid by persons residing within 8 miles, most of whom if not all, he does not even charge with knowing anything about how or by whom the barn was burnt, but he learns from the aforesaid enrolling officer that they are, in his opinion, not loyal. Since then, in another county, another barn, belonging to a loyal man, has been burnt. He lays his claim at \$600, and Schenck makes his disloyal neighbors pay the amount. There is not a shadow of evidence that the man did not burn his own barn. Knowing that he could fix his own price, and that his neighbors would have to pay it, was not the temptation considerable? But such cases are every-day occurrences. But my object in writing is to send you the enclosed slip from The Sun, of this city, of a few days since. The facts are stated in every respect as they occurred. Please call attention to them. Let Gen. Schenck beware. He may go too far for even this down-trodden people. A DEMOCRAT.