

The Watchman.



F. GRAY MEKEK, Editor.

ELLEFONTE, PA.

Friday Morning, May 15, 1863.

What Has Been Accomplished?

Well another battle has been fought, another field filled with the mangled mob violence, and even in this instance, exasperated as the people were at the outrage inflicted upon them through the instrumentality of that filthy Abolition sheet, the Dayton Journal, we will not say it was justifiable. That they had a right to shoot down the miscreants who were setting the courts at defiance, and outraging personal liberty when seizing Mr. Vallandigham, we honestly believe, but their love for their neighbors and friends was no excuse for the destruction of property.

The Journal, like most of the Abolition papers, have, since the commencement of our troubles, advocated mobs and mob laws; it has now tasted the fruits of its own teaching.

Let others of the kind take warning.

Mr. Vallandigham, nor his friends, would have offered no resistance to his arrest by due process of law.

He has told them time and again, that if he was guilty of treason under the Constitution, he was at all times ready to be tried according to that instrument.

But they disregarded all law, usages of law, in this arrest. No charges were preferred; he was not told for what crime he was dragged, in the dead hour of night, from his family and his friends.

The seizure of Mr. Vallandigham is but another act in the drama of despotism, that has been playing upon our country's stage for the past two years—but another step towards the goal of a tyrant's ambition—but a repetition of scenes which we had hoped were no longer to be viewed—but another page in the history of our fallen country—but one leaf more in the record of the reign of Terror, which still will ere long close.

France was held in terror for almost two years, and all Europe gazed with horror on the scenes enacted by these tyrants, who, at length stoned for their crimes, that the Jacobins, now controlling the affairs of our Government, do not deserve the fate of Robespierre, Danton and Marat.

What right, we ask, had the bloody hand, whose inhumanity has made his tracks slippery with the blood of his fellow countrymen, ever since the beginning of this terrible war, to send a pack of hired dogs to drag him from his home, without warrant or cause, one of the best and bravest men in the North? what right, we ask, has brainless Burnside, or any other shoulder strapped fool, to order the arrest of a citizen in a State, when the courts are open and have full sway? Do not the laws of our country make provisions for the punishment of all crime? If so, why was not Mr. Vallandigham arrested according to law? The fact is, he had committed no crime, he had but dared to exercise the right of a freeman, rights, for which the fields of the Revolution were reddened with the blood of our forefathers, and rights for which our blood may yet have to redder other fields.

In times like these it does not become patriots to remain silent—cowards may fear to speak, but brave men should talk, when License is granted to popular passion, and faction run riot and establish power by brute force—when Constitutions and laws are trampled under foot, and the most sacred rights of individuals crushed out. Mr. Vallandigham, right, true, and gallant as he is, as his cause has shown him to be, is nothing more, under the circumstances, than the humblest citizen. The principles above, which he can defend, are the fundamental principles of our liberty. If free discussion, the atmosphere in which they live, is not to be tolerated, then let us indulge no longer in the mockery of a ballot-box. Democrats—

Law loving—law abiding citizens! we must vindicate these sacred principles, if needs be, with our own blood, or take not the gloomy name of liberty upon our cowardly lips. Mr. Vallandigham's case may be our tomorrow, then we are safe! when is the certainty, that we, as citizens of Pennsylvania, will not be dragged from our homes, and impaled in the loathsome cells of pestilential breeding dungeons? where is the security of the Constitution guarantees us in our persons, papers and effects? Can we have it under such brutes as Burnside? I will see that in authority see that we are protected from such pyrrhian tyrants? No! On what power then can we rely? Let your own hearts answer.

If Old Abe is the Government, as the abolitionists continually tell us he is, is not the young Lincoln young Government? And will some of the patriots about Bellfonte tell us how many more Governments we may expect, and what the "wet nurse" bills will be? A beautiful sight to see a nigger wench spank out our Governments! Poor things!

The "Union League," of this place is growing "small by degrees and beautifully less." If members keep withdrawing from it, as they have for the past week or two, it will soon muster a corporal's guard. Old Contortions or the file of gentlemen who say it is not a political organization, cannot induce honest men to patronize it.

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Arrest of Hon. G. L. Vallandigham.

Our readers are all aware of the arrest and imprisonment of that Patriot Statesman, the Hon. C. L. Vallandigham, and have doubtless read of the doings of the mob which assembled, it is said, to take him from the hands of the minions of despotism, who were dragging him from home and friends in the dead hours of night. The intention of the citizens of Dayton, to prevent the arrest of Mr. Vallandigham, in the arbitrary manner in which it was done, is highly commendable, and will receive the commendation of all lovers of the law, and of civil liberty, but when that design was frustrated, to resort, as we are told, they did to mob violence and rioting, is simply placing themselves on a level with the violators of the law, whose acts all good citizens must denounce and deprecate. The readers of the WATCHMAN know that we have always condemned and reproved mobs and mob violence, and even in this instance, exasperated as the people were at the outrage inflicted upon them through the instrumentality of that filthy Abolition sheet, the Dayton Journal, we will not say it was justifiable. That they had a right to shoot down the miscreants who were setting the courts at defiance, and outraging personal liberty when seizing Mr. Vallandigham, we honestly believe, but their love for their neighbors and friends was no excuse for the destruction of property.

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Another Attempt to Suppress the Free Press.

Last Friday we witnessed the gathering and disgraceful proceedings of the mob which assembled in front of the office of the Age, that evening to tear it down and throw it into the street. There was no cause, whatever for the demonstration, except the remarks of a drunken man, who tore down a dispatch which had been placed on the bulletin board swearing it was treason. This man, we may say, was simply a drunken fool, who had a right to shout down the microphones of the Union, the Cincinnati Enquirer, the Daily Commonwealth, and the like, but he was not the only one who had a right to shout down the microphones of the Union, the Cincinnati Enquirer, the Daily Commonwealth, and the like.

It is well known that the friends of the Union, the friends of the Constitution, and the friends of the law, are numerous, and that the enemies of the Union, the friends of the Constitution, and the friends of the law, are few.

All over the West, the Administration seems to be gradually winning the friends of the Union, and the enemies of the Union, the friends of the Constitution, and the friends of the law, are few.

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