

The Watchman

P. GAY MEEK, Editor. BELLEFONTE, PA.

Friday Morning, Dec. 18, 1863.

The Proclamation.

At first glance, the Proclamation of the President, appended to his third annual message, would seem almost fair; and no doubt many will be misled into supporting it. Let us examine one or two of its main features, and see if any man can sustain such a project without an utter disregard for the very first principles of republican government.

In the first place, Mr. Lincoln appears to be particularly partial to the word "loyal," which he uses repeatedly, implying it as well to States as to individuals. The fact of his using such a word proves that he is either ignorant of the laws of his language, or believes our institutions to be subverted. No American citizen can be loyal; for loyalty implies the existence of some superior to whom allegiance is due, and we acknowledge no superior save only the God of Heaven. The people in this country are sovereigns, and cannot, therefore, be subjects. They know nothing of the meaning of the term "loyal," and never, in the whole history of our Government, has it been used until the present administration came into power. According to the construction of our language, there must be some superior before there can be loyalty; we acknowledge no superior, and cannot, therefore, be loyal. But should we enter upon an interminable task if we attempted a criticism of all the blunders Mr. Lincoln makes in the use of language. We have only mentioned this because we do not believe it to be a blunder—we believe that the leaders of Abolitionism use the term designating, and with the purpose of impressing upon the minds of the people the fact that heretofore they are to have a self-constituted superior, to whom loyalty is due and for whom it will be exacted. The phrase "loyal State governments" is used in almost every clause of the proclamation, and yet such a thing never existed, under the Constitution of the United States, as a "loyal State government." In the name of Heaven, what superior have the States of this Union to whom they can be loyal? It certainly cannot be Mr. Lincoln himself, for justice were done and the wishes of the people carried out, the States, by their Senators, would long since have impeached him, and confined him in prison, for delinquency to the only sovereign Americans know—the people, whose servant he is. The State governments have not been overthrown, except in Maryland, Virginia, and other States where the people have taken under the iron hand of despotism. In the South, the sovereign States have broken the compact which bound them to their equals of the North, and for three years a terrible war is raging, the most bitter and the bloodiest ever known, for the purpose of forcing the Southern people to love us, for without love there can be no Union. But who ever dreamed of a State having a superior to whom loyalty was due? We do not deny that the Southern people have violated the laws and been guilty of treason; but that they have been disloyal, we utterly deny.

And if the Proclamation were not so diabolically wicked, it would be supremely ridiculous. The President makes the mild request that the States in rebellion give up rights far more dear and sacred than those by which they were created. He asks a bare and empty promise, and that they shall be taken from them; that a horde of semi-barbarians shall be turned loose among them and placed upon an equality with them, and that the yoke of a partition, fanatical aristocracy shall be put upon their necks forever. Under this Proclamation a brave people could die but never submit; nor was it the intention of the abolitionists that they should. It was issued for the purpose of protracting the war and re-electing Mr. Lincoln to the presidency. It is provided that in ten States mentioned by name, whenever one-tenth of the number of persons who voted in the presidential election of 1860, shall subscribe to the oath prescribed by Mr. Lincoln, they shall have power to re-establish a State government; which means that the abolition candidate for President in 1864, shall receive their electoral vote and that they shall each send two abolition Senators to Congress.

And this is why it was issued. It is but another instrument for the destruction of our government, another step to the despotism which is being so rapidly reared. And, by his own admission, what is it but requires the States in rebellion to do? In the message he says, "According to our political system, as a matter of civil administration, the General Government had no lawful power to effect emancipation in any State." He then requires that those in rebellion shall take an oath to support the Constitution and the Emancipation proclamation. How is it possible to do both when he says himself that the latter is unconstitutional? It is just as impossible to support both as to serve God and Satan. We cannot believe Mr. Lincoln so ignorant as to have overlooked this fact, and he must have

The President's Message.

The President's plan for reconstruction or restoration seems to be less a plan of pacification than a device to perpetrate the effect of the abolition measures in the Southern States. The plan embodied in the proclamation which Mr. Lincoln proposes to issue seems very much like a ukase from the chambers of an autocrat, instead of the voice of an ordinary man, temporarily respecting the constitutional government of the United States.

In our view the grand question is now "Can we restore peace and Union, without reference to slavery or the negro at all?" If the proclamations and acts of the administration are law, they will stand as law till repealed. The past is past. But the President seems to think the great question how to perpetrate the laws and proclamations relating to slavery; and that question of peace and Union he makes wholly subordinate to that. The negro is the prominent object of his care; the legislation relating to the negro is that which alone he labors to make effective; the negro is the condition on which he rests the possibility of peace.

This prominence given to the negro is a melancholy indication of the failure of Mr. Lincoln to see the future as men of sagacity, true statesmen here and elsewhere see it. If the slave is free, he is free; and why then waste so many words in making the peace of our nation dependent on his freedom?

A wise man would trust the proclamations and the acts of Congress to the future action of the courts and the people, not thrust them forward now as the special condition of pacification. As we read the message Mr. Lincoln means to say that there is no peace except on the condition of abolition. Wisdom would have looked for peace without any such condition, leaving the law to their own effect.

The serious question is whether this plan of the President is calculated to bring about peace—whether it is a proclamation that is likely to be well received by any considerable portion of the people engaged in the insurrection, and to hasten the close of the war. It is plain that what Mr. Lincoln wants is peace and abolition. He does not take into consideration at all the question of peace without abolition. In this respect he lends himself entirely to the radical Abolitionists, and evidently expects to continue the war until slavery is actually abolished where his old proclamation has theoretically abolished it. The President's idea of closing the war is by a sort of individual and personal contract with each and every man, woman and child, to the effect that if the person will sustain all the policy of the administration and all its acts and proclamations, he or she will be pardoned.

The offer is doubtless repulsive to the chief physician of Mr. Lincoln, if it might please the Lord to take "this excellent" to himself, making the doctor his humble instrument.

Death of Mrs. Ex-President Pierce.

Boston, Dec. 2.—Mrs. Jane N. Pierce, wife of ex-President Pierce, died this morning at Andover, Mass. She has been in feeble health for several years.

How much of bereavement is implied in this brief announcement they only can know who enjoyed the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Mrs. Pierce, and know how close and strong were the ties of mutual affection which in this case bound the husband and wife in the bonds of an imperishable love. She was a gentle and loving soul, a woman of rare social virtues, greatly beloved by an extensive circle of cherished friends, and held by them in a most affectionate regard. She had been a fragile and delicate person—little else, indeed, than a valeuntarian—ever since the death of her little son by a railroad accident, thirteen years ago.

From the effects of that bereavement she never recovered. It transferred, to her, the glittering display, and honor and power connected with the elevation of her honored husband to what was then the most august office in the world, into the most lowly and empty of festal mockeries. All that assiduous care, prompted by anxious affection, could do to restore her shattered health was done by Gen. Pierce; but the lovely May climate of Madeira, among the vine-clad steep of that most beautiful of the islands of the summer sea, failed to restore the bloom and enjoyment of life to her whose heart was already in that better land where the treasure was, and which she herself has now gone to meet again her darling boy. The sympathies of thousands of friends will go out to the bereaved husband who, in this hour of affliction, is made to realize the hollowness of all worldly honors, in the crushing experience of a loss like that he is called upon to suffer.—Harford Times.

A "bracally old bachelor" says the most difficult surgical operation in the world is to take the aw out of a woman.

The President's Message.

The President's plan for reconstruction or restoration seems to be less a plan of pacification than a device to perpetrate the effect of the abolition measures in the Southern States. The plan embodied in the proclamation which Mr. Lincoln proposes to issue seems very much like a ukase from the chambers of an autocrat, instead of the voice of an ordinary man, temporarily respecting the constitutional government of the United States.

In our view the grand question is now "Can we restore peace and Union, without reference to slavery or the negro at all?" If the proclamations and acts of the administration are law, they will stand as law till repealed. The past is past. But the President seems to think the great question how to perpetrate the laws and proclamations relating to slavery; and that question of peace and Union he makes wholly subordinate to that. The negro is the prominent object of his care; the legislation relating to the negro is that which alone he labors to make effective; the negro is the condition on which he rests the possibility of peace.

This prominence given to the negro is a melancholy indication of the failure of Mr. Lincoln to see the future as men of sagacity, true statesmen here and elsewhere see it. If the slave is free, he is free; and why then waste so many words in making the peace of our nation dependent on his freedom?

A wise man would trust the proclamations and the acts of Congress to the future action of the courts and the people, not thrust them forward now as the special condition of pacification. As we read the message Mr. Lincoln means to say that there is no peace except on the condition of abolition. Wisdom would have looked for peace without any such condition, leaving the law to their own effect.

The serious question is whether this plan of the President is calculated to bring about peace—whether it is a proclamation that is likely to be well received by any considerable portion of the people engaged in the insurrection, and to hasten the close of the war. It is plain that what Mr. Lincoln wants is peace and abolition. He does not take into consideration at all the question of peace without abolition. In this respect he lends himself entirely to the radical Abolitionists, and evidently expects to continue the war until slavery is actually abolished where his old proclamation has theoretically abolished it. The President's idea of closing the war is by a sort of individual and personal contract with each and every man, woman and child, to the effect that if the person will sustain all the policy of the administration and all its acts and proclamations, he or she will be pardoned.

The offer is doubtless repulsive to the chief physician of Mr. Lincoln, if it might please the Lord to take "this excellent" to himself, making the doctor his humble instrument.

Message of President Davis.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 11.—Jeff. Davis's message to the rebel Congress, dated Dec. 10, is a masterpiece of eloquence and logic, and a masterpiece of statesmanship. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word.

It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word.

Message of President Davis.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 11.—Jeff. Davis's message to the rebel Congress, dated Dec. 10, is a masterpiece of eloquence and logic, and a masterpiece of statesmanship. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word.

Politeness Run Mad.

New York, Boston, Washington, Philadelphia and other places East are running mad over a party of Russian grandees on a visit to this country. In New York snobbish and shabby are having a high old festival over the Lords with unpronounceable names. There are dinners, parties, races, dissipation and obscenities till one is disgusted. How is it to see Americans thus fettered for the want of cold-hearted hosts? They are drinking our wine, waiting with American wives and daughters, hugged, bestruck, in their embrace. Noble guests from a land where women are knouted till the quivering flesh falls to the ground from their bleeding backs! Princely guests from a land where wives and sweethearts are stripped, tied to racks and whipped till death, more generous than humanity, takes the victim to its own heart for shelter! Aristocratic guests from the nation that has sent weeping and bitterness to bleeding and unhappy Poland—that has filled the eyes of Polish mothers with tears—the hearts of Polish maidens with death—the hands of the fair maids of Lithuania to the unbridled lusts of brutal and beastly Cossacks! Dance and drink!—Rab and guild with the illustrious foreigners! When America was in the bloody day of its national drawing, brave men of Poland drew their swords and split their blood in our behalf. Poland is now oppressed—Russia is warring the blood of the persecuted people—the smoke, the smoke and coils of American kites and bug the illustrious transients.—For shame! Yet such is snobbishness—Out here on the broad prairie, beyond the reach of shoddy and yawning, call things by their right names—and we call the drunken attention to the Russian novel, by home news and laboring under ever since the war commenced.

The end of the War.

We submit that Judge Kelley, of Philadelphia, who spoke at the war meeting on the 2d inst., discouraged enlistments. He said that there was no more fighting to be done now than such as might occur at a New York election. If such is the fact, then the soldiers in the field are abundantly able to do it, and no more are needed. But really, if these people are sincere, why have they not laboring under ever since the war commenced.

They do not appreciate the terrible alternative they have presented to the people of the South. Will eight millions of people give up all their rights, all their liberties, all their property without the most desperate struggle ever known in all history? Will the grand old colonial States of Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia, whose title deeds to independence were won in the noblest struggle of the present age, ever yield their birthrights and be governed by an alien yoke, while there is a hand to wield a sword? The whole talk of the present war is one of subjugation and conquest.—The abolition party now speak as coolly of "conquering" the South, as if our government were already announced to be at an end, and an Empire substituted in its place. We are yet to learn how a Republican government can conquer any country, and hold it as an organized territory. When it does, it ceases to be a Republican government, as any one with a medium amount of brains must see at a glance.

Recently, the abolition party, for some reason are crying aloud more vigorously than ever that the war is over, and yet they are, in the same breath, clamoring for more soldiers. Now, the simple truth is, that the war, so long as Mr. Lincoln's policy is continued at any rate, will go on. There is no peace under it, nor possible peace. If no peace under it, nor possible peace. If no peace under it, nor possible peace.

The inability of General Grant to pursue his late advantage is admitted. The campaign is said to be closed. Upon the Potomac it is equally so. General Meade falls back without a battle, and the war goes over until another year. In the meantime, the South will have a chance to rally every available man for a desperate struggle, and anything that now happens in the North so far away from his base of supplies, and so far into the enemy's country, must prove fatal to him. People, therefore, who talk of the end of the war, talk nonsense. It is the old game of deception. It is the story of "sixty and "ninety" days, which first broke out. The South is neither subdued nor starved out, and all such stories are valuable and not infrequently will fall upon the ears of the Union, which will and should be willing to stand by the Union, as it was—the Union of our fathers, that is, the Union with the Rights of the States unimpaired.—New York Daily Book.

Message of President Davis.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 11.—Jeff. Davis's message to the rebel Congress, dated Dec. 10, is a masterpiece of eloquence and logic, and a masterpiece of statesmanship. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word.

It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word.

Message of President Davis.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 11.—Jeff. Davis's message to the rebel Congress, dated Dec. 10, is a masterpiece of eloquence and logic, and a masterpiece of statesmanship. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word.

Politeness Run Mad.

New York, Boston, Washington, Philadelphia and other places East are running mad over a party of Russian grandees on a visit to this country. In New York snobbish and shabby are having a high old festival over the Lords with unpronounceable names. There are dinners, parties, races, dissipation and obscenities till one is disgusted. How is it to see Americans thus fettered for the want of cold-hearted hosts? They are drinking our wine, waiting with American wives and daughters, hugged, bestruck, in their embrace. Noble guests from a land where women are knouted till the quivering flesh falls to the ground from their bleeding backs! Princely guests from a land where wives and sweethearts are stripped, tied to racks and whipped till death, more generous than humanity, takes the victim to its own heart for shelter! Aristocratic guests from the nation that has sent weeping and bitterness to bleeding and unhappy Poland—that has filled the eyes of Polish mothers with tears—the hearts of Polish maidens with death—the hands of the fair maids of Lithuania to the unbridled lusts of brutal and beastly Cossacks! Dance and drink!—Rab and guild with the illustrious foreigners! When America was in the bloody day of its national drawing, brave men of Poland drew their swords and split their blood in our behalf. Poland is now oppressed—Russia is warring the blood of the persecuted people—the smoke, the smoke and coils of American kites and bug the illustrious transients.—For shame! Yet such is snobbishness—Out here on the broad prairie, beyond the reach of shoddy and yawning, call things by their right names—and we call the drunken attention to the Russian novel, by home news and laboring under ever since the war commenced.

The end of the War.

We submit that Judge Kelley, of Philadelphia, who spoke at the war meeting on the 2d inst., discouraged enlistments. He said that there was no more fighting to be done now than such as might occur at a New York election. If such is the fact, then the soldiers in the field are abundantly able to do it, and no more are needed. But really, if these people are sincere, why have they not laboring under ever since the war commenced.

They do not appreciate the terrible alternative they have presented to the people of the South. Will eight millions of people give up all their rights, all their liberties, all their property without the most desperate struggle ever known in all history? Will the grand old colonial States of Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia, whose title deeds to independence were won in the noblest struggle of the present age, ever yield their birthrights and be governed by an alien yoke, while there is a hand to wield a sword? The whole talk of the present war is one of subjugation and conquest.—The abolition party now speak as coolly of "conquering" the South, as if our government were already announced to be at an end, and an Empire substituted in its place. We are yet to learn how a Republican government can conquer any country, and hold it as an organized territory. When it does, it ceases to be a Republican government, as any one with a medium amount of brains must see at a glance.

Recently, the abolition party, for some reason are crying aloud more vigorously than ever that the war is over, and yet they are, in the same breath, clamoring for more soldiers. Now, the simple truth is, that the war, so long as Mr. Lincoln's policy is continued at any rate, will go on. There is no peace under it, nor possible peace. If no peace under it, nor possible peace. If no peace under it, nor possible peace.

The inability of General Grant to pursue his late advantage is admitted. The campaign is said to be closed. Upon the Potomac it is equally so. General Meade falls back without a battle, and the war goes over until another year. In the meantime, the South will have a chance to rally every available man for a desperate struggle, and anything that now happens in the North so far away from his base of supplies, and so far into the enemy's country, must prove fatal to him. People, therefore, who talk of the end of the war, talk nonsense. It is the old game of deception. It is the story of "sixty and "ninety" days, which first broke out. The South is neither subdued nor starved out, and all such stories are valuable and not infrequently will fall upon the ears of the Union, which will and should be willing to stand by the Union, as it was—the Union of our fathers, that is, the Union with the Rights of the States unimpaired.—New York Daily Book.

Message of President Davis.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 11.—Jeff. Davis's message to the rebel Congress, dated Dec. 10, is a masterpiece of eloquence and logic, and a masterpiece of statesmanship. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word.

It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word.

Message of President Davis.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 11.—Jeff. Davis's message to the rebel Congress, dated Dec. 10, is a masterpiece of eloquence and logic, and a masterpiece of statesmanship. It is a masterpiece of statesmanship in the strongest sense of the word.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

HOLIDAY GIFTS!!

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!!

CONFECTIONARIES

GROCERIES,

BURNSIDE'S.

TO DAVID M. BECK.

CORN RYE AND HOGS WANTED!

LOCKE'S MILLS!

COMMISSIONERS SALE OF UNSE-

FAMILY DYE COLORS.

NO HUMBURG SEVEN YEARS.

FOR SALE.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

SILVER WATCHES.

PHILADELPHIA ANDERIA RAILROAD.

PHILADELPHIA ANDERIA RAILROAD.