Democratic Watchman

P. GRAY MEEK, - - Editor.

BELLEFONTE, PA.

FRIDAY MORNING, SEPT. 2, 1864.

TERMS.—$2 per year when paid in advance, $2,50 when not paid in advance, and $3,00 when not paid before the expiration of the year.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR CONGRESS,

S. T. SHUGERT,

OF BELLEFONTE,

Subject to the decision of the Congressional Conference.

FOR SENATOR,

JAMES McMANUS,

OF BELLEFONTE,

Subject to the decision of the Senatorial Conference.

FOR ASSEMBLY,

C. T. ALEXANDER,

OF BELLEFONTE.

FOR COMMISSIONER,

JOHN L. GRAY,

OF HALE MOOR.

FOR AUDITOR,

JOHN RISHEL,

OF GREGG TOWNSHIP.

The News.

We have received a Southern report of the late battle on the Weldon Railroad. From this account and the various Federal reports which have reached us, the Federal loss appears to have been from one to two thousand killed and wounded and two thousand captured. Nine cannon were taken by the enemy. They represent their loss at one thousand killed, wounded and missing. Hancock's Corps is in the rear of Warren, re-organising after its recent defeat. The Federal army is cut up into various detached parties. There are intervals between the corps, into which the enemy may at any time throw an attacking column. The Confederates report that twelve miles of the Weldon Railroad have been destroyed. On Sunday last everything was quiet at Petersburg, scarcely a gun having been fired.

General Sheridan has only advanced as far as Charlestown, six miles from *Harper's Ferry*.—He reports a strong force of the enemy in front of him. Sheridan, it is said, has received orders from Washington not to advance farther into the Valley, for fear of accidents.

The garrison at Fort Morgan, which surrendered on Thursday last to Admiral Farragut, is stated at six hundred.

General Heintzelman and his staff have gone to Chicago. They arrived there on Sunday.—*Age.*

——Just as we are going to press the news reaches us of the nomination of George B. McClellan, for President, and George H. Pendleton, of Ohio for Vice President. The platform is decidedly for peace, in favor of an armistice, and a convention of all the States, yet lacks one great feature which in our estimation considerably weakens it—an explicit declaration, reaffiring the great doctrine of State Rights—a bold renunciation of the doctrine of *coercion*. The conflicting opinions in regard to Candidates, which threatened at one time to create dissension, were harmoniously settled, and the nominations were made unanimous. We shall give the full proceedings next week.

Are the People Ready.

Before another issue of the WATCHMAN meets the eye of the reader, upwards of twelve hundred of the citizens of this county will, no doubt have received tickets to the carnival of blood-pressing invitations to the feast of death. Twelve hundred of them will have been notified that they are wanted as a sacrifice to offer up to the Moloch of Abolitionism—*to die*, that puritan fanaticism and obscene Abe Lincolnism may wreak their revenge upon the people of the South—to be butchered that the American Republic may be totally destroyed and that a monarch may sit enthroned in a place that a president once served. Whether our people are ready for the 5th of September, whether they have set their things in order and prepared to meet the crisis as it becomes freemen, a few days will tell; what the result will be, a little while will show.—Let it come as it may, we are prepared for it. If the masses are waiting and willing to be driven like sheep to the slaughter, so be it, we can be counted out. If they are ready and determined to stand by their rights, so be it, we can be counted in. Come what will, our path of duty is plain, in it we shall walk—our mind is made up, and we shall stand by what we believe to be right though we stand alone.

It may be possible that the order will yet come postponing the draft—that light will break in upon the benighted minds of the fanatics that are driving the people to desperation. God grant that it may be so. Much misery, much suffering much darkness and desolation would be averted, and there would be some hope left for the people of the North. The storm would be turned aside and its fury might be spent before breaking around us. But we would not raise a false hope in the minds of our readers, we would not tell them of safety when danger is near. There are dark days in store for us, and they may be but a little ahead. We can only say wait, hope, be *prepared* for the worst. Courage avails much, stand firm and all will be well.

The Conscription.

The time draws near when the lottery of death will begin, and five hundred thousand men will be called upon to give up all they hold dear on earth and enter the slaughter-pens of Lincoln.—When conscription was first talked of, it was opposed by the Democracy because they believed it to be anti-Republican and unconstitutional. In a government like ours, and in a war like that being now waged, whenever sufficient soldiers to carry it on cannot be obtained by the volunteer system the war ought to cease; because any number of Americans would volunteer in any war which they believed to be for the general good, and struggle on almost against hope, if the object for which they fought was worthy of the sacrifice. There will always be a few captious persons to resist anything which throws any responsibility upon them; but in this case the voice of a great *majority* of the American people is against this mode of raising armies, and particularly in a civil war where the issues at stake may very naturally have two sides. Is it in accordance with the American theory—that man is capable of self-government—to force any number of men into an army where they will be compelled to commit what their conscience tells them is murder? The government our fathers reared never contemplated such an issue, it never meant to raise a question in any one's conscience between his duty to his God and to his government. In the hearts of thousands of those who will be drafted on the 5th inst. that issue will be directly raised, and none but the veriest moral coward would hesitate a moment in his choice. Unless American blood has cooled since our fathers dared the anger of old England, not a man but would die rather than take up arms in a cause which he believed to be wicked and unjust. In refusing to submit to an arbitrary law of a black Despotism, our fathers won for us our liberties, and to pursue the same course now is our only hope of preserving them. In opposing the power which reaches forth to drag us to the field of slaughter, we do not come in collision with the government; but with a Revolutionary power which has overturned the Constitution, and established in its stead a horrible despotism, which has for its object the subjugation of fifteen states of this Union, and the slaughter of millions of white men to force "THE ABANDONMENT OF SLAVERY." The Conscription act, as it now stands, with the commutation clause repealed, is the first instance in our history, in which the Executive has dictated laws to the Legislative branch of government, and *compelled their passage*. Nothing in the history of the last three years has told so plainly of our departed greatness as this act. Congress on their first vote, refused to repeal the commutation clause, and were only driven into it by the pressure of the Executive power. Now they tell us that the Democratic party clamored against the three hundred dollar clause because it favored the rich man at the expense of the poor. And so they did; but it is worse a thousand times now than before. What hope has a poor man left him save that of dying that he may escape the chains which have been fettered upon him? By selling all he possessed on earth, he might escape the bloody hand by the payment of three hundred dollars; but now while the rich only can command the price of a substitute; the poor man is compelled to enter the army side by side with the negro his rich neighbor has hired in his stead. And this is the "poor man's party," which promised "homes for the homeless" and protection for the laborer. How have they kept their word? Go to Virginia and view a million graves, a hundred battle-fields strewn with the festering carcases which three years ago were the happy inmates of a thousand happy homes, and see how Lincoln has fulfilled his promise of "land for the landless." A spot of earth six by two, a sod whereon a hundred forms may lie and rot is what his followers have been given. And he asks for your votes to continue him in power. On the 5th of September he threatens half a million of the best blood in the land with death, and in November asks you to vote for him. Will you do it? If you like blood and ruin and horror, debt and taxation and death, you can have all of them at his hands. If you tire of the darkness, and long for the sun of prosperity to shine again, vote for the party upon whose banners it never went down.

—— We have taken considerable pains to find out the strength of the Lincoln party in this county, and now lay before our readers the result, as near as can be arrived at. About one dozen of Provost and deputy Provost Marshals; twenty-three spies and informers; nineteen pimps that would like to be appointed spies and informers; ten "government" tax assessors, collectors and clerks; four partners in the 1st National Bank of Bellefonte; seventy-five candidates, for Post and other offices; Seventeen fools, who are for Lincoln because Democrats are opposed to him; thirty miscegenationists who want black wives; ninety-six niggers who want white wives; thirteen cripples, not liable to draft; one hundred individuals that are in hopes of getting some petty appointment.—There may be a few "miscellaneous cusses ready for anybody, or anything, but they will not make the whole number vary fifty. Loyal Divines and patriotic Post-masters are included in the above statement.

—— Growing long—The faces of the Abolitionists as the election approaches. They fear the verdict of the people.

Be not Deceived.

The abolition presses and orators are laboring most assiduously to make the people believe that Abraham Lincoln is anxious and willing to make peace, whenever the Confederate authorities are ready to accept terms that will be honorable alike to both sections of the country. They see that the popular mind has grown tired of war, that the great masses are longing for rest, for quiet, for *peace*, and are shifting their course hoping to catch the unthinking—to deceive the unwary into the support of the dirty old joker whose cry is still for blood. They know that they are telling the people a positive lie, when they say Lincoln desires peace; they know that they are asserting what is false, when they declare he is willing and anxious to have hostilities cease; they know that it is to his interest, to their interest, and to the interest of their party, as a political organization, to continue it as long as possible, for when there is no longer "greenbacks" to manufacture and steal, when there is no longer an army vote to return falsely, when there is no longer thousands of petty offices to fill and no longer an excuse for "military necessity,"—their power will vanish like mist before the sun. The prolongation of this war is their only hope. The eternal disruption of the American Union their only desire.

If Abraham Lincoln wants peace why does he not make an effort to secure it? If he wants peace why has he rejected every overture made by the Confederate authorities or by private agents sent from the South? If he wants peace why is he calling for more men to prolong the war, why are his conscript agents busy preparing to drag our citizens from their homes to fill the decimated ranks of the army? Why are his tax-collectors robbing the laborer of his hard earned mite, to furnish means to renew the struggle? Why are his recruiting agents sent into every part of the country to buy the mercenary and frighten the cowardly into the ranks? Why has he declared that the war shall not cease *"until slavery is abandoned?"* The plain truth of the matter is, he and his supporters have no desire to see this infamous, brutalizing war brought to a close. They are growing rich by its continuance *and will not let it stop* as long as it is possible to get men and money to keep it up. He has had scores of chances to settle our difficulties honorably; not a day has passed since the commencement of the war, but he could have done it, had he so desired, but it was not to the interest of his party to do so and he refused. Abolitionism wants no settlement, it wants no union with the Southern States, it wants their niggers and their land, it wants to live on the blood and treasure wrung from the laboring masses of the North and the plantations stolen and confiscated from the citizens of the South. This is what it wants and this is what it will fight to have if the people can again be deceived into the support of Abraham Lincoln. He does not want peace; listen not to the lies of his followers.

——If you want to vote for men who are in favor of the government of our fathers, vote the Democratic ticket.

If you want to vote for men who are in favor of a peaceful, prosperous, happy country, vote the Democratic ticket.

If you want to vote for honest, competent men to fill your district and county offices, vote the Democratic ticket.

But if you would favor those who are laboring to prolong the war, to increase your already enormous taxation, to divide forever your country, to have draft after draft take place, to make negroes your equals, to eat up your property in war and bounty taxes and murder yourselves in a vain attempt to subjugate the people of the Southern States, vote the Abolition ticket; the candidates on it are in favor of war, of bloodshed, of conscription, of taxes and of ultimate disunion.

——The man that thinks a nigger is a "good deal better than an Irishman, or any other foreigner," passed through town on Wednesday last. He is the identical chap that the Abolitionists are supporting for Commisioner in this county. Will white men vote for him?

——The white man's ticket is the one that floats at our mast-head to-day.—Those in favor of the supremacy of the white race will support it. Those in favor of negro equality will oppose it.

——The Abs in this section are as 'mute as mice;' they see that Lincolnism is "played out," so completely, that even "loyalty" and "green backs," wont save it.

—— Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, publishes a note denying all the reports to the effect that he is mixed up with any proposition for an armistice with the rebels. He says, "No public man connected with the Administration is in favor of an armistice. I personally know that President Lincoln and all the members of his Cabinet have undoubted faith in the success of our armies and the complete triumph of our cause, and with that belief they will pursue the most vigorous measures to raise money and men to carry on the war."—Thus we have a semi-official declaration that the men in power are determined to persevere in the course they have pursued for nearly four years, and will make no efforts to obtain peace in any other way than through blood and death.—*Ex.*

——Keep it before the people, that Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America, refuses, in the fourth year of a bloody rebellion, to open negotiations with Southern commissioners for peace, unless the total and absolute abolitionist of slavery. Can people of intelligence support a man who is prosecuting the present war upon this basis. If so, indeed very low has the American people fallen in vice and degradation.—*Ex.*

From Atlanta

BEFORE ATLANTA GA., Aug. 17th 1864.

EDITOR WATCHMAN:—As the 7th Pa., Cav., has quite a number of friends in Centre county, I will try to give them through the colums of your paper a brief outline of our proceedings during the past month. To give you a full history of our long marches and our many sharp skirmishes since we first crossed the Chattahoochie River, would take more time than I have at my command. So I will commence with our first raid upon the Augusta or Georgia R. R., which we struck at Stone Mountain completely destroying it for five miles; and burning the depot. Upon the 20th of July we left Decatur a town six miles east of Atlanta, upon the above named line of R. R., and marched nearly due east to Oxford and Covington, two towns of considerable size within a half mile of each other and also upon the Augusta Railroad. There the road was also destroyed for six miles and all the buildings connected with it burned to ashes. Two thousand bales of cotton were burned with the large store houses in which they were packed. The boys captured large quantities of tobacco and other articles which was very scarce in our division. We left the town as soon as possible, and took a northerly direction to Laurenville a town of some importance on account of the large cotton factories which had been recently burned. Along the whole route detachments were sent out on either sides of the road to bring in horses, about two thousand were captured. We arrived safe back at Decatur on the evening of the 24th, and learned that the town had twice changed hands, during our absence, the "rebels" having taken possession during the terrible fight of the 22nd and was afterwards driven out by the McPherson's forces. Upon the 1st of August we moved out to the fortifications within one mile of Atlanta and in sight of a part of the city.—Our horses were sent to the rear, and we were transferred (for the present) into the infantry service and have been acting as such and doing the same duty from that date up to the present one. There has been but one casuality in our Regiment since we came here. Robert Bridgens of Company E., had his right leg entirely shot off by a twelve pound solid shot while sitting by his tent on the evening the the 13th and died in six hours afterward. He was a resident of Beech Creek Clinton county.—There is considerable dissatisfaction exhibited among the men of the Regiment who enlisted in 1862 with the understanding that thir time would expire at the same time of the Regimental term, at least so the recruits were told by an *honorable* gentleman in a speech delivered in the Court House at Bellefonte, at the time of the first danger of draft. I hope that justice will yet be done to these men who have been faithful soldiers for two years and who are still willing to stay another year, but think they are entitled to the same bounty as the men who were allowed to re-enlist last November. It is more than ten months since we have received a cent of pay, and if pay day does not soon come down this way, we will have to make application for a furlough to go home and have our families put upon the township. If our friends at Washington cannot issue "green backs" fast enough to give us a share, they had better increase the number of their operatives. A part of the returns for the amendment election, was received in camp yesterday by the Nashville papers which gave 100,090 in favor of amendment which made the Republican portion of our country very jubilant, but this mornings Chattanooga paper reduces the figuers to 1,600 and four counties to hear from. As far as the 7th is concerned the amendment or no amendment makes but little difference, for *I am certain, that for every Abolition vote that is cast there will be Democratic one to ballance it.* Hoping that little Centre will do her duty in the coming contest. I, close, yours &c.,

FREEMAN.

The Widow Maker.

Lincoln holds the purse and sword of the Republic, and the liberty and lives of the people are placed at his disposal. He has recklessly squandered the treasure, unhumanly wielded the sword, destroyed the liberties of the people, and he is giving millions of our lives to secure the freedom of the ngigers. He asks to be the custodian of these for four years more. Shall we grant it to him?

Those who are in favor of a devastating war for the abolition of slavery say yes.

All who lose sight of the property, liberty and lives of white men in their blind zeal for the nigger, say yes.

The recipients of official favors from Lincoln, say yes.

The army contractors and government thieves say yes.

The men who expect to obtain place and plunder through Lincoln says yes.

Those who are actuated by honest motives, say no.

Those in favor of the old Union and the old Constitution say no.

Those who want liberty, prosperity and peace, say no.

Those who would not have their substance consumed by endless taxation, say no.

All who would not sacrifice life, liberty and country for illgotten Greenbacks or scotty Niggers say no.

And a most emphatic no comes from the broken family ties—the deserted tenements, the ruined hopes of millions of orphans—the million widows he has made—the four millions of families over which he is shaking his heartless conscription.

What has he done for the country? Ruined it! *He has filled the land with fear* and mourning. He has caused a million of brave men to be sacrificed for nothing. He has scattered smutty jokes and fleshless bones all over the land. He has strengthened instead of weakening secession. He has digged an impenetrable gulf between the North and the South and filled it with the bones of brave and patriotic men that Niggers might pass over to an abolition paradise. He has disgusted his own party and won the contempt of every man who is not one of his minions, or a paid tool who can with pointed bayonet or specious lies insult the people who have placed him in power.

Let those who can support him do so.—It is their privilege. Let them hang their wedges and axes on poles as once they did. Let their shouts and huzzas rise above the wailings and lamentations of a mourning people. Let them fling their flag to the breeze, with scull and cross bones painted thereon in black, and shout in drunken glee for their pet the great Widow-Maker of the nineteenth century.—*Holmes County Ohio Farmer.*

Our Danger.

John Adams complained in his time of the difficulty of arousing the people to an appreciation of British aggressions and the peril to American rights therefrom. Were that patriot here to-day, he would find similar cause of solicitude and sorrow. People are apt to measures by the moneyed cost of an exemption from their operation.

John Adams' experience, and our every day events prove that so long as ease can be purchased with money, principles will be sacrificed to an ignoble indolence and a dread of the displeasure of an advancing tyranny.

The wide spread evidence of this fact is the most melancholy indication of the times, and fills the heart of every thinking friend of the people with the gravest apprehension. The history of the world does not furnish an instance of a tyrant whose good will could not be propitiated by bribes and sacrifices. The King of Dahomy is soothed by the shrieks of the victims offered upon his idolatrous altars, and his subjects purchase their personal security by delivering over to butchery a certain number of their friends. So we of the United States are but glad to purchase a lease of life by furnishing to Lincoln such number of our neighbors and friends as will appease his anger. We dwell with horror upon the story of the Hindoo mother who throws her child into the Ganges to satisfy her offended God, and to save her own life. What element we doing to-day but going about the country buying up the young men and boys to offer a sacrifice to an abolition God. The Hindoo has the sanction of her religion for her parricide; we are condemned by ours. We have only the bare excuse of self-preservation—for this we sacrifice our friends. If this could always be, then indeed should we despair of the Republic.

Victims will soon be exhausted, and then, bereft of the blessings that our liberal government has showered upon them, the people will begin to place a just value upon the principles of the government, and perhaps succeed in preserving some part of their birth-right. The great difficulty is in bringing the people to see impending ruin before it is upon them, and too late to avert disaster. They do not seem to realize that in acceding to the demands of a tyrant, they establish a precedent and consolidate his power.

Had the people checked Abraham Lincoln in his first usurpation, there would never have been a second.

But they acquiesced, did just what Washington and the Revolutionary fathers told them not to do—and usurpation has gone on until no branch of the government—no right of the people is unpolluted by his touch, and yet the masses bow tamely to the exactions of a vulgar tyrant, who has not even the commendation of ability to gloss his tyranny.

If as a nation we have sinned, certainly God could not have inflicted a greater, more humiliating punishment upon us, than putting Lincoln to rule over us. That the people should tolerate the tyranny of such a man as Lincoln can only be accounted for upon the hypothesis that Providence has stupified and made them blind that they that they should neither see nor feel the grinding load he compels them to bear.

For our part we see no hope of liberation no prospect of the restoration of the ancient rights of Americans until the people shall have been reduced to abject poverty. If we have reached that period where we are compelled to choose between the entire loss of all that makes life desirable or to resistance to tyrants, then we shall regain our liberties, if not, then we shall be ground to the earth for another four years.—*Lansing Mich., Journal.*

75,000 TONS OF HUMAN BLOOD.—A writer in the Jefferson County (N. Y.) Union, who has been making calculations relative to the number of men killed thus far in this war, gives the following startling result:

"There has been enough already slain to encircle our State, if their dead bodies were laid in on continuous line.

If they were placed in coffins and corded, they would count thirty-nine thousand cords.

If laid in a wall twenty-five feet thick and thirty feet high, it would be over one one-fourth miles in length.

If five feet thick and ten feet high, the pile would reach across the State.

If piled upon a ten acre lot, they would be nearly two hundred feet high.

And if laid upon the ground, they would cover every foot of ground in Jefferson county.

Seventy-five thousand tons of human blood have been spilled in Dixie's soil—enough to turn every spindle in Lowell, and if the tears were added to the blood, it would turn the machinery of the continent, and the unavailing sighs would fill every ocean sail.

The one-half has not yet been told. The millions of wounded and maimed for life must be taken into account in summing up the grand total of evils incident to this bloody and fanatical war.

And the end is not yet.

We shudder at the news of the death of twenty persons killed by the accidental breaking of a rail, or the sinking of a steam boat, and if two hundred are lost by any means, we are fairly horror-stricken, and are ready to wreak vengeance on any one who has been negligent or careless in the matter.

But when tens of thousands are cut down in one day by the procurement of designing demagogues, we shout "hallelujah," and can hardly contain ourselves for joy, while we thank heaven for the human slaughter."

Change of Base—Read and Reflect.

In order that the people can see how far Abraham Lincoln has gone from his original love, we copy from his inaugural of March 4th, 1861, as well as from *his proposition* of July 5th, 1864. How any one can read these productions and entertain any confidence in the man now at the head of affairs is more than we can conceive. Unless the people are blind to their best interests they will place in his stead an individual possessing some consistency, respecting the vital issues of the country. Will the readers of the WATCHMAN call the attention of their radical friends to these extracts?

Lincoln's Inaugural March 5th, 1861.	*Lincoln to the Rebel Commissioners, July 8, 1864.*
I declare that I have no purpose, DIRECTLY or INDIRECTLY, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have NO LAWFUL RIGHT TO DO SO, and have NO INCLINATION TO DO SO. * * * * The RIGHT of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its judgment EXCLUSIVELY, IS ESSENTIAL to the balance of power on which the perfection and ENDURANCE of our political fabric depend. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.	Any proposition which embraces the restoration of peace, the integrity of the whole Union, and the ABANDONMENT OF SLAVERY, and comes by an authority that can control the armies now at war with the United States, will be received and considered by the Executive Government of the United States, and will be met by liberal terms on substantial and collateral points; and the bearer or bearers thereof shall have safe conduct both ways. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

——A newspaper carrier has paid $5,000 for the exclusive right to sell papers at the depot and on the cars of the New York Central Railroad.

Did the "Government" Lie?

In his letter to the Springfield and Syracuse conventions a year ago, Lincoln said:

"You say you will not fight to free the negroes. Some of them seem willing to fight for you. But no matter; fight you then exclusively to save the Union. I issued the proclamation on purpose to aid you in saving the Union. Whenever you shall have conquered all resistance to the Union, *if I shall urge you to continue fighting, it will be an apt time then for you to declare you will not fight to free negroes.*"

"Whenever you shall have conquered all resistance to the Union." Mark the words. More than one month ago all resistance to the Union was conquered. Those who have been resisting it sent commissioners to negotiate terms of *peace and re-union*. Blessed consummation. The whole nation stood breathless with expectation, and we were picturing already the bright hours of the future of prosperity that seemed about to dawn upon us.

Abe Lincoln, the "widow-maker," the national sexton, by an act that would have disgraced a Nero or Caligula, meanly, basely thrust aside the proffered olive branch, cast down our hopes, and, bade the carnival of blood go on! It is useless for abolition traitors to tell the people that this attempt for peace was a Copperhead conspiracy; that it was made by men who were not authorized to make it on the part of the South.—They know they are liars, and will figure in that history that is accumulating hour by hour, as the most reckless, wholesale, unscrupulous liars that ever corrupted and ruined a nation by falsehood.

Does any sane man suppose that negotiation began by the Confederate Commissioners at Niagara Falls would, if met in a statesmanlike spirit by Lincoln, have terminated in anything but peace and re-union? It is useless to say that the men to whom was entrusted the mission had no authority, for when they were tendered the safe conduct to Washington, they said that if time were allowed to communicate with their Government they would be clothed with *full powers* to act in the premises, as they were *entirely familiar* with the *views* and *wishes* of Mr. Davis upon the subject of *peace*. The national cut-throat Lincoln, sent them his famously infamous "to whom it may concern" proclamation. Did he forget in doing so, that for less crimes than this, and others of which he has been guilty, monarchs, who bore around them the prestige of right, hereditary and divine, to rule their fellow men, have been stripped of their power, and had their *blood* offered as an atoning sacrifice for that crime of crimes, that awful guilt, the violation of the people's liberties.

But a word to our fellow-citizens who are living in a state of suspense and fear, in view of the approaching conscription.—There is a clause in the Declaration of Independence, which is the only one in that revered instrument to which the abolition traitors have ever paid any attention; it says, that all men have an *inalienable* right to *Life, Liberty*, and the pursuit of *Happiness*. Lincoln has always acted as though he thought these words were intended only for the negro. He has *causelessly* destroyed hundreds of thousands of lives. He has stricken down our liberties and created a despotism mere dark, unfeeling, bloody and damnable, than was ever before erected on the ruins of a nation so free and intelligent as ours. And he now proposes to send 500,000 of us to the battle-field in "pursuit of *happiness!*" In view of these truths, we ask who has alienated these rights declared to be inalienable, and secured to us by the Constitution? What should be the punishment of the one who interferes with things so sacred and important?

Our government was founded upon the theory that all power originated with the people. When the people, the whole people, assent or dissent, to any measure, no matter in what manner they may do so, can the measure which they disapprove be forced upon them? We are engaged in a most cruel, bloody and unnecessary war. A war that has been perverted from its original legitimate object, and is waged to attain an end wholly illegal, inhuman and unconstitutional,—opposed to justice, reason and sense. The pervision of this struggle is plainly declared by those who are waging it. More men are called for to carry it on. None are enlisting for this purpose. All, *loyal* and *disloyal*, hang back alike. As Democrats, we frankly say that we *will not enlist to continue this war to free negroes*. Abolitionists practically say the same thing by refusing to fill up the ranks. This united action of the whole people, is a protest, silent, but of the most telling force, against the further prosecution of the war. The Government proposes to force us into the army. We ask is it not the *duty* of us all to resist with all the means at our command, this last attempt to alienate our "right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness?" Read carefully Lincoln's words at the head of this article, and ask yourselves if "the apt time" has not arrived.—*Iowa State Press.*

The Reign of Shoddy.

We thank Heaven that the reign of the shoddy contractors and plunderers, who have grown fat upon the wealth of the people is about over. On every side we feel and see indications that the people are awakening to a realizing sense of their condition and are preparing by an overwhelming majority to defeat the administration at the approaching election.

The aspect of the two political parties is extremely satisfactory to conservative men. Fanaticism is daily sinking under the weigh of its own errors and follies, while true Unionism is rising in the ascedent. Another month will show still more clearly the relative progress of political events, and prove the certainty of the defeat of the abolition and shoddy pimps who are now plundering the Government. The eyes of the people are fast opening to behold their real situation—their voices are being raised to High heaven for relief from their suffering and have resolved in their hearts that Lincoln and Shoddy shall be decapitated at the same blow. Then, then and not till then will peace and prosperity again be restored.—*Chatfield Democrat.*

VICE PRESIDENT STEVENS' MISSION—The administration press has steadily persisted in denying that the mission with which Alexander H. Stephens sought to come to Washington had any reference whatever to peace. The Springfield *Republican* publishes a letter from C. D. Jacobs of that city, formerly a telegraph operator in Richmond, which throws some light on the subject:

"While a telegraph operator in Richmond Va., working the principal through line South, I sent a message from Jeff. Davis to Stephens, at Augusta, Ga., requiring his immediate presence at Richmond, to attend a Cabinet meeting, and desiring him to proceed upon a mission to Washington; if his health would permit, with a peace motive. Stephens was to bear propositions looking to the recognition of the independence of the Confederacy, but to propose other measures which might tend to consummate that object, confidently named upon his arrival in Richmond."

It has already passed into history that Mr. Lincoln even refused to hold parley when the Vice President of the rebel Confederacy endeavored to approach with propositions for peace.—*Buffalo Courier.*

—— Some Americans who went from Hamburg, Germany, to a little watering place near by, to spend the Fourth of July, took the American flag along with them, and got arrested by the police, who didn't know the flag, and thought it was some political ensign. The Judge before whom they were brought quickly released them, however, when he found how matters stood.

The Coming Poverty.

One-tenth of the white population of the Northern States have been in arms, consuming and destroying, within the past three years. The greater part of them were drawn from the actively producing classes.

Another army has been engaged in feeding, clothing, and otherwise waiting on the fighting army. The larger part of the remaining population has been made up of men of feeble age, of women and of tender infants.

Destruction and consumption have been prodigious. Production has been fearfully diminished. The pernicious credit system of the North has permitted the people to wade into a frightful bankruptcy, before they were aware of it. The trouble, when it does come on them, will come as an armed robber!

It is coming apace! Laboring people used to drink COFFEE. How long is it since day labourers have had in their humble homes any REAL coffee to drink! Why, it costs—the poorest kinds, fifty to sixty cents a pound. They must let it alone—or they must use vile decoctions, not favorable for health. They used to use sugar, at seven or eight cents a pound. Now, common brown sugar costs twenty-five cents a pound. They used to eat butter. Now, butter is at such rates that Greely, looking out from behind the pile of greenbacks he has made out of this war, urges the rest of us—poor fellows—not to *eat butter!* Unnecessary advice! We can't afford it! Next beef goes up. Tough old cow beef sells at twenty-five to twenty-eight cents; and beef of better grades from thirty towards *forty*. Greeley puts his countenance, again over his greenback pile, and exorts us to "cease eating beef!" "Don't buy a pound of it." Aged parents, delicate wives, sickly daughters and toilworn men are to "cease eating beef!" A howl is raised that it is "speculation" that has put up the prices. Humbug.

When, last December, far out in the interior of farming Illinois, where we traveled, we found hay selling at twenty-five dollars a ton, and we know what was coming. It is production that has decreased! It is not speculation. Beef will be scarcer yet, and all other flesh meats. But that is not all. The fortunate absence of demand for grain in Europe, has left wheat and other corn in this country, the last season. We call this fortunate—for, while it embarrassed exchange, and damaged commerce, it has, for the time being, given cheap bread to the poor. But now, an unpropitious winter blighted the fall wheat in wide districts of the West.

When spring opened, the farmers thought to plough up their wheat fields and plant them with Indian corn—to have something to eat. Gorilla at Washington, in league with his satraps, the Governors of North Western States, just then called out one hundred thousand men for one hundred days. Between those that went, and were forced to go, and those that fled to escape being forced to go, the fields the fields of the grain regions of the North West lack laborers. It is said that, in the one State of Ohio, three thousand farms stand uncultivated this year! Clothing and articles of food *heretofore considered necessaries*, have gone to prices frightening to poor people.—They wear old clothes—but these are wearing out. Now they have the prospect before them of dear bread. Coal, next winter threatens to be twenty dollars a ton, that used to be five or six dollars. Flour is likely to be nearly eighteen and twenty dollars a barrel.

It is well to try whether the poor people will endure all this? The middle classes are suffering, in their turn, and are losing all that they have saved by years of industry. Butchers losing money! Retail dealers are selling for less than they can buy for. The distress is general. It is well for the communities of the Northern States—especially for large cities and denser populations, to push this thing on to the extreme and bitter issue?

"How can it be oviated?" We can tell you, and it concerns you, men of large accumulated property, more than it concerns us. Obviate it by stopping the causes of all this. Stop a war that should never have been begun, and which will plunge you deeper and deeper into shame, into defeat, and into trouble, the longer you continue it. Madison wrote: "War is the parent of large armies. From these proceed public debts, and taxes, and armies, debts and taxes are the common methods by which the few obtain domination over the many." If it comes to this last, we mean to try conclusions as to physical forces. Stop the war while you may.—N. Y. *Freeman's Journal.*

ANSWERS WANTED.—A couple of correspondents sends us the following problems which we submit to any abolitionist or Loyal Leaguer of a mathematical turn of mind for solution:

A Problem.—Abraham Lincoln called out 75,000 men to put down the rebellion in sixty days, since that time, three years have elapsed, and he has called 2,725,000 men. At that rate how many men and how long would it make to put down the rebellion?

Another.—Which is the worst, for men to go against their principles to fight to free the negroes, or men who are in favor of freeing them to stay at home?

But not the same.—If Abraham Lincoln is judged for his works as other men are, where will he be found ten days after the Resurrection?

DISGRACEFUL STULTIFICATION.—When Mr. Stevens, Vice President of the Southern Confederacy, made application to the Washington Government as a Commissioner to negotiate, Mr. Lincoln refused to see him, for the reason that to do so would be recognition of the authority that sent him.—When Messrs. Clay, Holcomb, and Thompson—three private citizens of the Southern Confederacy—made application for a similar purpose, Mr. Lincoln declined to receive them because they were not authorized by the rebel authorities. In the one case, he refused Mr. Stephens because he was recognized; in the other, he refused Clay, Holcomb and Thompson because they were not recognized.—*Ex.*

A DISHONORABLE PEACE.—We frequently hear abolitionists talk about Democrats wanting a dishonorable peace. Since Democrats are in favor of a peace that will give us the Union as our fathers made it, and the Constitution as it came from the statesmen of the better days of the Republic, we are reminded that the abolitionists call any peace dishonorable that does not embrace the abolition of slavery. Lincoln's letter "to whom it may concern" shows what kind of a peace they are in favor of—what kind of a peace they deem honorable.—*Holmes County Ohio Farmer.*

——The Washington *Chronicle's* army correspondence makes Grant's losses in the late attack at Petersburg to be 4,637, as follows:—9th corps, 1st division—Ledlie, 687; 2d division—Potter 300; 3d division—Wilcox, 600; 4th division—Ferrero, 1,700; 10th corps—Turner, 260; 18th corps; 200; 2d and 5th corps, 200. Another correspondent of the same paper says the losses are now ascertained to be 5,640.

——The Republican papers will soon begin to tell us, for the one hundreth time that the rebellion is on its last legs, and that it is only necessary to put this 500,000 men in the field to finish it. This is the story they would have the impudence to tell for five years.