

Clearfield Republican.

W. MOORE,
B. GOODLANDER, Editors.

PRINCIPLES, not MEN.

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NEW SERIES—VOL. II.—NO. 6.

Select Poetry.

A SONG OF PEACE.

BY W. L. RHOENAKER.

Oh, when will thou benignant Peace!
Smile on our hopeless land again?
When will the sword be laid aside?
The cannon cease to blare to war?
The bitter tears of grief be dried,
And hope be ours to faint no more?
Oh, come sweet Peace! and breathe again
Thy blessing o'er our broad domain!
O'er every heart resume thy sway,
And chase the clouds of war away!

The Gales of Columbia sigh
To see the land with dangers rife,
And armed hosts with hostile cries,
Rush to a fratricidal strife.
Fair Freedom veils her starry head,
Angry to see her home profaned,
Her folds with blood of brethren red,
Her streams with blood of brethren stain'd.
O, come, sweet Peace! etc.

With wonder and with pain the world
Looks on the strife, and asks us why
There are two banners now unfurled,
When only one should wave on high.
Alas! when our forefathers built
Our glorious Union up for us,
They scarce imagined then the guilt
That would our nation never thus.
Oh, come, sweet Peace! etc.

Alas! and sad the day,
When first outburst the fire of hate,
And false ambition led the way
To break the bonds of State to State,
O, North, South, East, and West, resume
The ties that made ye one before,
O'er Freedom's towers no more will bloom,
No more your glory will restore!
Oh, come, sweet Peace! etc.

Depth of Mines.

THE WORKING OF THE ENGLISH MINES.
An English journal, says the Baltimore Sun, after valuing the total product of the mines of Great Britain at £41,491,022 per annum, and computing that England's supply of coal will last at least seven hundred years longer, at present rates of consumption, gives the following account of the depth to which the bowels of the earth have been pierced in England:

"The depth to which we mine for coal is already great. The pit at Duckenfield, in Cheshire, is 2,901 feet below the surface to the point where it intersects the 'Black Mine Coal,' a seam which is four feet six inches thick, and of the best quality for domestic and manufacturing purposes. From this point a further depth of 500 feet has been attained by means of an engine plane in the bed of coal, so that a great portion of the coal is now raised from the enormous depth of 2,504 feet. At Ponderton, near Manchester, coal is daily worked from a depth of 2,135 feet; and the Canal coal of Wigan is brought from 1775 feet below the surface. Many of the Durham collieries are equally deep, and far more extended in their subterranean labyrinth. Some of those, and others in Cumberland, are worked out far under the bed of the sea; and on both sides of the island we are rapidly extending our submarine burrowing.

"The Dolcoath tin mine, in Cornwall, is now working at 1,800 feet from the surface, and is rapidly sinking deeper. The depth of Treascan, a copper mine, is 2,180 feet. Many other tin and copper mines are approaching these depths; and under the Atlantic waves, in Botallack, Levant and other mines, man is pursuing his labor daily at half a mile from shore. To aid the miner in these severe tasks, gigantic steam engines, with cylinder one hundred inches in diameter, are employed in the pumping of water from those vast depths. Winding engines, which are masterpieces of mechanical skill, are ever at work raising the minerals from each dark abyss, and 'man engines,' of considerable ingenuity—so called because they bring the weary miner to the light of day, saving him from the toil of climbing up perpendicular ladders—are introduced in many of our most perfectly conducted mines. Our coal cost us annually one thousand lives, and more than double that number of our metallic miners perish from accidents in the mines, or at an unusually early age, thirty-two, from diseases contracted by the condition of their toil. By the industry of our mining population there is annually added to our national wealth considerably more than thirty millions sterling. Thus, when elaborated by the process of manufacture, is increased in value ten fold. While we are drawing upon that hoarded treasure, guarded by dragons white and red, which the enchanter Merlin is said to have concealed in the caves of the earth, we should not cease to remember how much of mental labor and muscular power is expended, and how large a percentage of human life is annually sacrificed in the contest with those hydra-headed evils which are very truly personified by the dragons of the legend."

"ENJOYING LIFE."—I must pity that young man, who, with a little finery of dress and recklessness of manner, with his coarse passions all daggered out upon his face, goes whooping through the street, driving an animal much nobler in its conformation than himself, or swaggers into some baunt of shame, and calls it "enjoying life!" He thinks he is astonishing the world, and he is astonishing the thinking part of it, who are astonished that he is not astonished at himself. For looking at that compound of flesh and impudence, and say if on all this earth there is anything more pitiable. Does he know anything of the true joy of life? We might think that the beauty and immensity of the universe were inclosed in the field where the prodigal son lay among the hogs and the swine.

No man has a right to do as he pleases, except when he pleases to do right.

Why did not President Buchanan Reinforce the Forts at Charleston and other Southern Cities?

Because he had no means of doing so. Gen. Scott's letter to the War Department, dated 29th of October last, (about a week before the Presidential election, contains the following paragraph:—"From a knowledge of our Southern population, it is my solemn conviction that there is some danger of an early act of rashness preliminary to secession, viz: the seizure of some or all of the following posts: Fort Jackson and St. Philip in the Mississippi, below New Orleans, both without garrisons; Fort Morgan, below Mobile, without a garrison; Fort Pickens and McRea, Pensacola harbor, with an insufficient garrison for one; Fort Pulaski, below Savannah, without a garrison; Forts Moultrie and Sumter, Charleston harbor, the former with an insufficient garrison, the latter without any; and Fort Monroe, Hampton Roads, without a sufficient garrison. In my opinion all these works should be immediately so garrisoned as to make any attempt to take any one of them by surprise or coup de main, ridiculous."

Gen. Scott here enumerates nine forts in six different States, all of which Forts, he says, "should be immediately garrisoned," but he submits no plan for the purpose, and designates no troops available for that object. In a supplementary letter written on the following day, Oct. 30, he says, "There is one regular company at Boston, one here at the Narrows, one at Portsmouth, one at Augusta, Geo., and one at Baton Rouge; in all, five companies only within reach, to garrison and reinforce the Forts mentioned." Five companies, containing less than 400 men, to garrison or reinforce nine fortifications, scattered over six of the Southern!

Nearly all of our small army was at that time stationed on the remote frontiers of our extensive country to protect the inhabitants and emigrants against the tomahawk and scalping knife of the savage, and at the approach of winter could not have been brought within reach, for several months. They were employed as they had been for years. At the period when our fortifications were erected, it was not contemplated that they should be garrisoned except in the event of a foreign war, and this to avoid the necessity of maintaining a large standing army. No person then dreamed of danger from the States. It is a remarkable fact that after several months had elapsed, and the President, at the instance of Gen. Scott, had scoured the whole country for forces to protect the inauguration of the President Elect, all the troops that could be assembled at Washington, tank and file, amounted to but six hundred and thirty. This is stated in a message of President Buchanan to the House of Representatives.

To have sent 400 men to Charleston after the Presidential election, (Nov. 6) to garrison and defend three Forts, an arsenal, a custom house, navy yard and post-office, would have only been to provoke collision. Undoubtedly the public property was safer without than it would have been with a force so totally inadequate; and it is fair to presume that such was the President's opinion. Besides there was a strong expression on the part of the Southern States against any attack by South Carolina upon the public property. For this reason, it was not politic for them to make an attack. Accordingly President Buchanan remarked in his Message to Congress 3rd December last,—"It is not believed that any attempt will be made to expel the United States from this property by force." In this belief he was justified by the event; as there was no trouble until after Major Anderson retired from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter, as he had a right to do, first having spiked his own cannon and burned his gun carriages.—And suppose it should appear, as we are inclined to think it will eventually that Col. Anderson himself after his retirement to Fort Sumter, deemed a reinforcement inadvisable, and so expressed himself to the government? Would this, in addition to the lack of troops before mentioned, justify the President (Buchanan) in not sending them forward?

We have said that Gen. Scott's letter was dated Oct. 29th, Congress met about five weeks afterwards, say on the 3rd of December, and the President in his message at the opening of Congress, called the attention of Congress to the subject at much length. Had the light which he shined upon it been turned to practical account, and his advice been heeded, we should have avoided the dreadful fratricidal war that is now upon us—a war which according to present appearances, must end either in final separation, or in the subjugation of eleven States to the power of twenty-three. Our differences would have been healed and our Union preserved on its original basis. He however committed the whole subject to Congress, declaring his readiness to execute the laws, to the extent of the powers conferred upon him; at the same time declaring the existing laws wholly inadequate to meet the exigencies growing out of the secession of a State or States:—"It is therefore my duty to submit to Congress the whole question in all its bearings. The course of events is so rapidly hastening forward, that the emergency may soon arise when you may be called upon to decide the momentous question whether you possess the power, by force of arms, to compel a State to remain in the Union."

But Congress did nothing. Week after week and month after month passed away, but they did nothing. They refused to adopt any measures of conciliation worthy of the name—they also refused to pass a Coercion law. Congress continued in session until the expiration of President Buchanan's term of service and the inauguration of his successor. As they did not see fit to exercise their powers, so

neither did he see fit to usurp them.—Thus the whole matter remained in abeyance; for the bitter feeling towards the South so persistently manifested by the dominant party, in Congress and through the pulpit and press, discouraged the Union men of the South, while it encouraged and exasperated the Secessionists.—When that session of Congress opened, and for seventeen days afterwards, the Union was unbroken, no State having yet seceded. When closed, (3d of March last,) seven large States had declared themselves out of the Union, viz: South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. All this was done while Congress was in session, and while President Buchanan was awaiting its action, whether for conciliation or coercion. In the meantime he more than once, if we recollect right, pressed the subject upon their attention, but without effect—certainly without any good effect. With what justice, then, can he be held responsible for the non-exercise of powers which he did not possess, and which Congress did not see fit to confer upon him?—Much less is he responsible for their laudable baying toward the South, and their determination apparently, to have nothing effectual done, either by way of conciliation or coercion, until the President elect should come into power. Thus the revolution was left to drift on unobstructed for several months; and not only unobstructed, but aggravated by the neglect of Congress to do anything by way of removing or relieving the grievances complained of. The rest is too fresh in the remembrance of our readers to require repetition. President Lincoln succeeded to a legacy which he might well have desired to shun, and for a few weeks pursued very nearly the same course which had been marked out by his predecessor. But his party would not stand it. There came down from the North and Northwest an avalanche of public sentiment in favor of active measures for the enforcement of the laws, (i. e. for making war upon the South,) that he was at length constrained to yield. The first step, was to send an expedition to Charleston harbor, for the relief, and probably for the reinforcement of Fort Sumter. That was the inauguration of a war policy on the part of the Government, and was so understood on all sides. Nobody imagined that South Carolina, after what had occurred, would allow Sumter to be reinforced, or even provisioned, if she could prevent it. When the Government sent that expedition, they must have fully expected that it would precipitate an attempt to capture the Fort, on the part of South Carolina. And they were not disappointed. The attempt was made and succeeded.—Fort Sumter was captured, to prevent its being reinforced. The American flag was lowered, and the garrison surrendered as prisoners of war. This was enough. The flame of patriotism mingled with some other flames, was kindled throughout the land. President Lincoln issued his proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteers to defend the capital, &c. This alarmed the border States, and soon Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas, declared themselves out of the Union, and united their fortunes with the Southern Confederacy. Preparations for war were prosecuted with vigor on both sides; and to day two great armies confront each other, with every prospect of a speedy and terrible conflict, which, however it may result, will be but the beginning of a struggle of which no man can foresee the end.—*Journal of Commerce.*

PROTEST AGAINST THE WAR.—The *Iron State Journal* (Republican) says:—"The blows dealt by the Administration to punish disloyalty are most fearful in their recoil. The loyal North west is being ruined by the measures taken to harass and disturb the country of the Southern Mississippi. Whether the administration knows it or not is a question somebody else must answer. Wheat in this city, of a good merchantable quality, will not bring twenty cents per bushel; corn has been sold and delivered one hundred miles east of us for seven cents per bushel, and will down, down, is the fearful tendency. It always appeared to us that the better policy was to drain the South of specie and concentrate it here. "The loyal Northwest and the disloyal South feel alike the effects of the blow.—The last, stimulated to greater endeavors, sows broad acres, and lives while we languish. We can tell the 'blood invoking' advocates of this war that the 'plain men' of Mr. Lincoln's administration are becoming aroused. They see ruin and desolation staring them in the face. They see that every avenue which has hitherto br't them wealth choked up—more, they see evidences of the *animus* of this war, and all of them Republicans as well as Democrats, are beginning to think. From every hill-top of low the cry will soon come 'Peace, take off restrictions, unlock the channels of trade, give us life and peace.' We know it, we state nothing from hearsay or conjecture; it is the monotone of the people which will become stronger with the need. The Mississippi river must be opened and the Northwest saved."

The contractors who have furnished blankets to the Government for our soldiers, says the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, have realized the handsome little profit of two hundred thousand dollars. A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* states one of the sons of Secretary Cameron is said to have made about \$20,000 on a single horse contract.

A husband and a wife cannot witness for or against each other, though a wife sometimes gives evidence of the bad taste of the husband in selecting her.

It is dull and painful pleasure to have to do with people who approve of all we do or say.

WHERE THE RESPONSIBILITY RESTS.

Would the South have Accepted the Crittenden Compromise—An Important Page of Political History.

INDIANAPOLIS, July 30, 1861.

To the Editor of the Enquirer:

I have seen a statement in the Enquirer, copied into the *Sentinel*, of this city, that the Southern Secessionists, as represented by their leaders—Jefferson Davis and Robert Toombs—were willing to take the Crittenden Compromise last winter, and save the Union, but the Republican Senators refused to adopt that measure, and hence our present troubles and disaster. This statement is vehemently denied by all Republican friends. They say that the cotton States—headed by Davis and Toombs—would not take that compromise, and that no proof can be given that they would. Several of them admit that if they would have taken it, a terrible responsibility rests upon the Republicans for refusing it, and they declare they will never support that party hereafter if it can be shown by documentary evidence. Can you give me any additional particulars of the circumstances under which Mr. Douglas bore the testimony which you published in the Enquirer a few days since, in reference to the willingness of the South to take the Crittenden Compromise? DEMOCRAT.

We have before us the *Congressional Globe and Appendix* for the Session of 1860 and 1861. Our correspondent will turn to the *Congressional Globe* of March 11, 1861, he will find in it a debate in the Senate, of March 2, upon the Corwin Resolution to amend the Constitution of the United States. In the course of the debate, Senator George E. Pugh said:

"The Crittenden proposition has been endorsed by the almost unanimous vote of the Legislature of Kentucky. It has been endorsed by the Legislature of the noble old Commonwealth of Virginia. It has been petitioned for by a larger number of electors of the United States, than any proposition that was ever before Congress. I believe in my heart, to-day, that it would carry an overwhelming majority of the people of my State; ay, sir, and of nearly every other State in the Union.—Before the Senators from the State of Mississippi left this Chamber I heard one of them, who, I assume at least to be President of the Southern Confederacy, propose to accept it and to maintain the Union if that proposition could receive the vote it ought to receive from the other side of this chamber. Therefore, of all your propositions, of all your amendments, knowing as I do, and knowing that the historian will write it down at any time before the 1st of January, a two-thirds vote for the Crittenden resolution in this Chamber would have saved every State in the Union but South Carolina."

Mr. Pugh said this in the hearing of Seward, of Wade, of Fessenden, of Trumbull, of all the Republican Senators, and not one denied the truth of his assertion. Mr. Douglas heard it, and confirmed its truth thus. We quote from the *Globe* report of the discussion, of March 2. Mr. Douglas said:

"The Senator has said, that if the Crittenden proposition could have passed early in the session, it would have saved all the States except South Carolina. I firmly believe it would. While the Crittenden Proposition was not in accordance with my cherished views, I avowed my readiness to accept it, in order to save the Union, if we could unite upon it. No man has labored harder than I have to get it passed. I can confirm the Senator's declaration, that Senator Davis himself, when on the Committee of Thirteen, was ready at all times to compromise on the Crittenden proposition. I will go further and say that Mr. Toombs was also."

This makes the matter beyond dispute, that the South would have taken the Crittenden Compromise as a final settlement of all our difficulties. We will go further, however, and adduce the testimony of Senator Toombs, of Georgia, himself. In his speech in the United States Senate, on the 17th January, 1861, he said:

"But, although I insist upon the perfect equality, yet when it was proposed—as I understand the Senator from Kentucky now proposes—that the line of 36° 30' shall be extended, acknowledging and protecting our property on the south side of the line, for the sake of peace, I said to the Committee of Thirteen, and I say here, with other satisfactory provisions, I would accept it."

These declarations forever settle the question, as a point of history, that the adoption of the Crittenden Compromise would have saved the Union and preserved the public peace. What a terrible mistake was its rejection!

We are now embroiled in an extensive and dreadful civil war, without any real attempt being made by the majority of Congress to settle the difficulty peaceably and amicably. Many propositions were made in the last Congress, but they generally came either from the Southern men or from Northern Democrats, and were all rejected by the Republicans, without whose assent nothing can be done. The proposition of Mr. Crittenden was, as we all know, rejected by this party. Then Mr. Etheridge, one of the most resolute of the Union men of the South, and who is now Clerk of the House of Representatives, chosen by the Republicans, drafted some resolutions of compromise, which was known as the Border State Compromise. It was not satisfactory to the Cotton States, but it would have kept all the Border States in the Union, and in that event the Cotton States could not have remained long out of it. Mr. Douglas introduced a very excellent scheme of adjustment that would have satisfied Virginia and all the Border States. This the Republicans would not accept. They would

not accept the proposition of the Peace Conference Congress. No votes were given for it except Northern Democrats and Southern Border State men. Mr. Bigler's proposition, to submit the Crittenden proposition directly to a vote of the people, was rejected when offered by him, and subsequently when offered by Mr. Crittenden. Mr. Adams, a Republican member from Massachusetts, now Minister to England, had a plan of compromise, but his own party voted that down. Even the constitutional amendment of Mr. Corwin, which provided only what is now in the Constitution, that Congress should not interfere with slavery in the States, was voted against by more than half the Republicans in the House. Our correspondent will see therefore, that no attempt was made last winter to settle things peaceably, nor has there been any effort made since. President Lincoln, it is true, recommended in his Inaugural Address, a General Convention of the States to propose amendments to the Constitution. This scheme was voted for recently in the House of Representatives, by all the Democratic and Union members, with Crittenden at their head, but the Republican majority voted it down.

Thus we are in a bloody and expensive war, because the Republican politicians would not allow the question in dispute to be settled by a fair compromise. They have evinced wretched statesmanship, and we fear their patriotism is but little better. There is not one of the compromises we have mentioned, that the people would not have sanctioned by an immense majority, for the sake of national unity and peace. The people understand very well, that in this extensive country, with its varying interests and local prejudices, there must necessarily be compromises, in order to keep every thing smooth and in order. It is extremely unfortunate that a party opposed to any compromise, opposed to even having a conference with the South in a General Convention to see what can be done, is in power. Shrewd Administrations gain more by the pen than by the sword.

From the Elk County Advocate.

Democratic Legislative Convention.

In pursuance of a resolution passed at the convention held at Ridgway, August 1860, the representative Conferences of the counties of Clearfield, Jefferson, Elk and McKean, met at St. Marys on Thursday, August 16, for the purpose of nominating suitable persons to represent the district in the legislature.

The convention was organized by selecting George Weis, Esq., President, and J. B. Oviatt and Lever Flegal, Secretaries.

The following persons presented their credentials and were admitted as delegates: Clearfield—Lever Flegal, Matthew Ogden and Dr. T. J. Boyer.

Jefferson—John Conrad, H. Kretz and Lorenzo Haskill.

Elk—George Weis, Charles Luhr and Julius Jones.

McKean—Seth A. Backus and J. B. Oviatt.

On motion, the delegates from McKean were allowed to cast three votes in the convention.

The convention was addressed by Messrs. Backus, Boyer and Conrad.

On motion, the convention proceeded to make nominations.

Mr. Conrad nominated R. J. Nicholson.

Mr. Luhr nominated Dr. C. R. Early.

Dr. Boyer nominated Jas. H. Larrimer.

The convention then proceeded to ballot.

Dr. Early had 6 votes.

Jas. H. Larrimer had 3 votes.

R. J. Nicholson had 3 votes.

Our most profound approbation and reflects lasting credit to those brave spirits. But that we most solemnly, and in the name of humanity, justice and christianity, protest against the late acts of the administration which have for their object the subjugation of the South, and the betrayal of our brave soldiers into acts of lawlessness and opposition to the principles and feelings which actuated them in their march for the defence of the national capitol.

Resolved, That with all good citizens we deeply deplore the recent slaughter of Americans in Virginia. We pity the Northern widow and the Northern orphan; and we pity the Southern widow and the Southern orphan; and we swear again, that we will stand together, and strive by the use of all honorable means to bring about peace, and restore to their friends our young men now sickening from the effects of a Southern summer.

Resolved, That the threats of Abolitionists pass us like the idle winds, which we regard not. We are freemen—American citizens, and we will protect ourselves, and each other, in the exercise of the rights of American citizens to the last extremity, and with our lives, if need be.

Resolved, That in the language of Senator Douglas, in his late speech in the Senate, we "don't understand how a man can claim to be a friend of the Union, and yet be in favor of war upon ten millions of people in the Union. It cannot be covered up much longer under the pretext of love for the Union."

"WAR IS DISUNION, CERTAIN, INEVITABLE, FINAL AND IRRREVOCABLE."

Resolved, That we are in favor of a speedy settlement of the present difficulty by compromise.

Resolved, That when one section of our country shall have been subjugated by the other, we have already become the slaves of a military despotism.

Resolved, That we are ready to defend freedom of speech and of the press, against those who have tried hard to suppress these constitutional rights.

Resolved, That wherein the Chief Magistrate of the nation has failed to administer the government agreeable to the Constitution of the United States he is deserving the rebuke of every good citizen.

Resolved, That the small patriot band of Senators and representatives in the late extra session of Congress, who dared to maintain the integrity of the Constitution, under the menaces of expulsion and imprisonment, are entitled to the gratitude of every American citizen; and impartial history will award them an enviable distinction.

Resolved, That the persistent determination of the majority of the members of the late extra session of Congress to frown down every measure that had for its object the peaceful adjustment of our national difficulties, indicates a fanatical mania that would have much better become the crusaders of centuries gone by, than the representatives of a free, intelligent and christian people of the nineteenth century.

Resolved, That the candidates nominated this evening, Dr. C. R. Early and Maj. R. J. Nicholson, are worthy of the support of every democrat, and that we pledge them our determined support at the October election.

On motion, Resolved, That these proceedings be published in the Democratic papers of the district.

The Convention then adjourned.

GEO. WEIS, President.

J. B. OVIATT, Secretaries.

OUR CLASSIC BATTLE FIELDS.—In the history of this country we have had three wars and one rebellion—the present still existing conflict. Many and glorious have been the battles, and chivalrous the deeds that marked the war of the revolution, the war of 1812, and the conquest of Mexico, and it may be curious to contrast the names by which the battles of these three epochs are known, with the names of the principle conflicts in the present war.

The euphony of the former contrasts strongly with the unpleasant sound of the latter. In the revolution we had such battles as those of Lexington, Yorktown, and Saratoga. In 1812 we read of the contests at Chippewa, Queenstown, New Orleans, and Bladensburg. In the Mexican war the liquid Spanish tongue furnished such names as Molina del Rey, Buena Vista, Chapultepec, Churubusco, and Resaca de la Palma, as the scenes of great battles. But in the present war we cannot soar any higher in the realms of euphony than Bull Run, Big Bethel, Scary Creek, Dog Spring, Hoke Run, Bull Town and Big Point. Alas, for our present classic battle-fields.—N. Y. Herald.

GET AT NIGHT.—Look out for your boys, fathers and mothers, when night comes. There is nothing more ruinous to their morals than running abroad at that time. Under the cover of darkness they acquire the education of crime; they learn to be rowdyish, if not absolutely vicious; they catch up loose talk, they hear sinful thoughts, they see obscene things, they become reckless and dissipated. If you would save them from ruin, save them from prison, see to it that night finds them home.

JESSE FREMONT.—Private letters from General Fremont, says the *Tribune*, speak of the great assistance which his wife, "Jessie," well remembered of the campaign of 1856, is rendering him in this most serious contest. She acts as his most secretary, writing many of his most important business letters, and taking notes of his conversation with officers on matters of moment.

The lays of a nightengale may be very delightful to a well fed man, but the lay of a hen are liked much better by a hungry man.