Clearfield Republican.

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PRINCIPLES, not MEN.

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Mr. Guthrie for an Amnesty.

At the celebration at Louisville, Ky., of the anniversary of Washington's birthday, Hon James Guthrie, who was Secretary of the Treasury under President Pierce, and who has been a steadfast friend of the Union through all the present struggle, delivered an address, from which we extract the following:

"This day, if the power was with me, an amnesty and free pardon should be proclaimed to all, whether in arms or not, who, in a prescribed time, give up their arms and the rebel cause, acknowledge the supremacy of the Constitution and the laws, and agree to submit to them. I am asked what I would do with the leaders. I reply, I would leave them to the tribunals and the punishment prescribed by the laws they have violated. but I am for the largest forgiveness consistent with the restoration of the Constitution and the safety of the Union. All are not leaders in this rebellion who have acted as its noisy champions, through the press, or on the stump, or filled high places in the strife.

"My policy would embrace all who are repentant. History records that the Jews, the favored nation of the Almighty, again and again resisted his sacred laws, and were again and again chastised for their rebellious acts. The scheme of our salvation, under our holy religion is based on repentance. When God forgives the repentant sinner, shall not man forgive his repentant fellow man? Let us not be too exacting. Let us remember that we are but human. The great truth should be present with us, that

'To err is human, to forgive divine.'

This is the teaching of God's truth. The people often rebelled against Jehovah, but Jehovah himself forgave the repentant sinners. This is the lesson of the Christian religion. As we expect forgiveness for our offences, we must forgive. If these misguided men, who have taken up arms against the best government ever seen, repent and come back to their allegiance, let us receive them and show them the goodness and power of the nation in its power to forgive. Those who repent of this rebellion, if pardoned, will not go wholly unpunished. They will have to bear the burden of conscious guilt, the reproaches of those whose earthly prospects they have blighted, and the widows and orphans they have made and caused to mourn and the mistrust that must accompany them to the grave.

"I would declare this amnesty and pardon as a war measure. It may draw thousands who feel that rebellion is not a remedy for existing or supposed evils, and are earnestly and hopefully awaiting escape, as far as possible, from the consequences of their acts. I would open the door for them. Many of the seceded States have always been for the Union, and only await the time they may safely take ground for it. I would declare the amnesty and pardon as a financial measure, as a measure of economy in this most expensive and wasteful civil war. I believe it would act promptly in the restoration of the Constitution and the Union, and be more effective in restoring the Union than the most signal victories our armies have or shall obtain. If it shorten the war but fifty or one hundred days it would save to the nation more than ten times the value of all the estates you could possibly confiscate in accordance with the Constitution. You cannot confiscate the estates of non-combatants; the old men, the widows, the orphans, the insane, or the imbecile, from whatever cause, are out of the reach of the most inveterate enemies of the rebellion. We ought not to waste and destroy the property of those whom we don't intend to punish as rebels. Their estates are a part of the fixed capital of the nation, and we want it as a part of the national capital to increase the annual production of the country to meet the unusual taxation that must go with this war, and follow it for many years. I have spoken of and considered the co-restoration of the Constitution and the Union as a fixed fact, and have the most perfect convictions of it. Yet we have difficulties to encounter.

"The worst enemies of the Constitution are those whose constant cry is for the blood of the rebels and the confiscation of their estates, with the emancipation of the slaves, and who to reach their purposes, would trample the Constitution, the rights of property, and the principles of humanity under foot, and blast forever the prosperity of the nation. Such men propose to establish, through Congressional action, provisional governments over the seceded States.

"I am glad to see our Union armies advancing, although the weather is bad and the roads almost impassable, and I hope they will now strike heavy and quick.—We want no provisional governments in the States under Congressional action. The Union sentiment is strong enough in Tennessee, and I believe will be strong enough in all the seceded States when supported by the Union armies, to take possession of the State governments and bring them again under the folds of the Constitution. *There can be no fear about the supremacy of the Union sentiment in those States. There is sound logic and convincing eloquence in the martial force of our Union armies. Do not be surprised as the armies advance, to find that the work of restoration is more prompt and decisive than the work of secession, and far more unanimous.* Kentucky had no heart for this civil war. She thought and felt that it ought not to have been, and hoped her voice for peace would be heard. When she found that hope was vain, she girded on her armor and determined to strike for the Constitution, the Union, and the flag. Last in the field, she wants to be first in the work of restoration. I have felt and hoped with Kentucky, and my heart and judgment are still with her.

"If Congress is prompt and efficient in action, with efficient aid from the Executive Department, I see no reason why the Constitution and the Union may not be restored within the next ninety or one hundred days, and more than half this immense army restored to their peaceful homes and their usual industrious pursuits. May God grant this and give us peace and a happy reunion, and enable us and our children, and our children's children, whenever this day shall return, for coming centuries to appreciate and act in accordance with the farewell address of Washington, and make those who have engaged in this civil war, and those who have sympathised with them, and their posterity, as loyal to the Constitution, the Union, and the laws, as Washington himself, and cause the enemies of the Constitution and the Union to become the friends of both."

General McClellan's Address to the Army of the Potomac.

Headquarters Army of the Potomac,
Fairfax Court House, Virginia,
March 14, 1862.

Soldiers of the Army of the Potomac:

For a long time I have kept you inactive, but not without a purpose. You were to be disciplined, armed and instructed.—The formidable artillery you now have had to be created. Other armies were to move and accomplish certain results. I have held you back that you might give the death blow to the rebellion that has distracted our once happy country. The patience you have shown and your confidence in your general are worth a dozen victories.

These preliminary results are now accomplished. I feel that the labors of many months have produced their fruit.—The army of the Potomac is now a real army, magnificent in material, admirable in discipline and instruction, excellently equipped and armed; your commanders are all that I could wish. The moment for action has arrived, and I know that I can trust in you to save your country. As I ride through your ranks I see in your faces the sure presage of victory. I feel that you will do whatever I ask of you.

The period of inaction has passed. I will bring you now face to face with the rebels, and only pray that God may defend the right.

In whatever direction you may move, however strange my actions may appear to you, ever bear in mind that my fate is linked with yours, and that all I do is to bring you where I know you wish to be, on the decisive battle-field. It is our business to place you there. I am to watch over you as a parent over his children, and you know that your general loves you from the depths of his heart. It shall be my care as it has ever been to gain success with the least possible loss, but I know that if it is necessary you will follow me to our graves for our righteous cause.

God smiles upon us, victory attends us, yet I would not have you think that our aim is to be attained without manly struggle. I will not disguise it from you that you have brave foes to encounter—foemen well worthy of the steel you will use so well.

I shall demand of you great and heroic exertions, rapid and long marches, desperate combats and privations. Perhaps we will share all these together, and when this sad war is over, we will all return to our homes and feel that we can ask no higher honor than the proud consciousness that he belonged to the army of the Potomac.

George B McClellan,
Major General commanding.

☞ You have got into the way of putting aside convictions. The eye naturally closes when any object is coming against it; so does the heart of a practiced worldling close and shut out convictions.

[From the New York Observer.]

TREASON AND BLASPHEMY.

While rejoicing in the unanimity with which the North have rallied to the defence of our beloved Union and Constitution against Southern disunionists, we are pained to know that there are in the North a band of equally unscrupulous men, who have for years waged a bitter war against the Palladium of our liberties, denouncing it as a "covenant with death and an agreement with hell." Recent events have conspired to make these men less bold and arrogant in their public declarations, and have also caused many, who formerly abhorred their detestable doctrines, to regard them with more allowance. But the virus is still there, the cloven foot is only concealed. To show that the spirit of deadly hostility to our Government still animates them, let me give you a few extracts from one of their chief apostles.

At a Convention, held in Albany, Feb. 7th and 8th, Parker Pillsbury made an address, occupying five columns of the *Anti Slavery Standard*, from which I take the following sentences, illustrating the spirit of the opinions and doctrines of these arch-traitors:

"I do not wish to see this Government prolonged another day in its present form. On the contrary, I have been for twenty years laboring to overthrow the present dynasty. * * * If I do not misjudge the Constitution, whatever may have been its true character, it was never so much an engine of cruelty and of crime as it is the present hour. It seems to me the present Administration is, on one hand, the *weakest*, and on the other hand the *wickedest*, we have ever had. Mr Buchanan's Administration is under infinite obligations to it for casting its wickedness and imbecility so far into the shade.

"I cannot join in the congratulations I so often hear as to the hopefulness of the signs of the times. I do not want to see hopefulness. I have not to [illegible] heed at tidings of victory to the Northern arms. *I would far rather* [illegible]. * * * I rejoice in defeat and disaster rather than in victory, because I do not believe the North is in any condition to improve any great success which may attend its arms. I think the Abolitionists fail sufficiently to recognize one great fact, and that is the persistent, determined, God-defying, heaven provoking impenitence of the North. * * Holding these opinions, I do not desire success to the Northern army. * * I say, let us have war; let us have all its disasters and all its defeats, if the condition of the poor slave is not to be changed."

Are these the words and sentiments of a loyal citizen? Can such cold-blooded and traitorous expressions find a response anywhere except in the hearts of conspirators and rebels against the best government the world has ever seen? Are the men holding such views to mould the opinions and rule the minds of our Union loving citizens?

Without quoting more of his views on this point, let me give a single extract, which, while perfectly characteristic, almost makes one shudder at the impious blasphemy that could travesty the words of Inspiration by describing the execution of a fanatic and criminal in the touching language that records the death of the Son of God:

"John Brown, like a mighty angel, came down from heaven, and if the powers would have permitted, would have bound that dragon (of secession) for a thousand millennial years and forever. You seized that first, grandest hero of the nineteenth century, and hung him upon a cross—the sublimest, as well as saddest, spectacle since the scene upon Calvary, that veiled the very heavens in sackcloth and darkness. John Brown taught us the way; but the people would not learn. He came, *the very God made flesh*, and pointed out the road; but the people and the Government would not walk therein. He was, almost literally, the way and the truth, and he would have been the life; but the nation was not worthy. I sometimes think that on that fearful morning, the 2d of December, 1859, as he bowed his head and gave up the ghost, that the recording angel wrote in the ledgers of heaven, of this nation, It is finished."

Can treason or blasphemy go further?

An Awkward Position.—We learn that on Monday night week, a house at Mexico corner, occupied by two families, was so completely submerged by the snow, that in the morning nothing of it could be seen. The inmates attempted to escape by tearing boards from the gable ends of the house, but did not succeed in making their exit, and they were obliged to remain in that position until the neighbors gathered to dig them out. By tunneling *forty feet* through the snow the blockaded families were released.—*Portland* (Me.) *Advertiser*.

The Negro to be Excluded from Illinois.—*Springfield, March 5.*—The State Constitutional convention to-day discussed the article which prevents negroes and mulatoes from emigrating into this State, prohibits them from exercising the rights of suffrage, and requires the General Assembly to pass laws to carry out the provisions of said article. The article we adopted by sections in Committee of the Whole. The report was then submitted to the convention, and concurred in by a vote of 45 against 13.

LATEST NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

THROUGH THE BLOCKADE.

The Charleston Courier of the 7th inst., says:

The British steamer Nelly, Capt. Moore, which left Havana on the 1st instant, has arrived at a Southern port in safety. She has brought a valuable cargo of dry goods, medicines, soap, candles and numerous articles which will be very useful at the present time. She saw no Lincoln cruisers on the passage.

INTERESTING FROM NEW ORLEANS.

A Paducah (Ky.) correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer writes (11th) that he has had a conversation with two young men who have just reached there from N. Orleans, via Memphis, Humboldt, and thence down the Tennessee river by skiff. Both have been in prison in New Orleans for several months last summer and fall, and were released early in the winter. We quote:

While on the passage up from New Orleans to Memphis, the steamboat Republic passed the famous Manassas, which was lying at Bayou Sara on February 27th, having broken down. The Republic was offered a reasonable price to tow her up the river, as she had been announced to capture Cairo, but respectfully declined.

On February 24th. Beauregard transmitted a letter, through a member of his staff to Dr. Choppen, demanding a reinforcement of five thousand men from New Orleans, remarking:—"If you want to save New Orleans, you must hasten to Columbus immediately, as that is the key to the Mississippi." The first and second brigades of the "Home Defenders" were immediately called out, and Beauregard's letter having been read to them, they refused to go away from the city.

The "Orleans Guard," to which Beauregard had the honor of presenting the colors captured at Fort Sumter, and which belongs to the first brigade, was the first to refuse to go. The Leitz Independent militia were all ordered out and went into camp together, with all males between the ages of eighteen and forty five, able to bear arms. When formed into line for the purpose of drilling or review, absentees were to be fined three dollars, together with 48 hours in the parish prison. However, these militia, save a few companies, are destitute of arms. Governor Moore, however, promised them that they should be provided with a more destructive implement of war, namely "pikes."

My informants also state that we were entirely mistaken in supposing that Randolph, on the Mississippi, is a place of any importance, so far as our passage down the river is concerned. It was evacuated some two months since, and a number of the cannon also removed from Fort Pillow to Island No. 10. Four of their gunboats are now at that place, viz: the Lizzie Simmonds, Gros Tete, Yankee and Livingston, the latter being iron clad and entirely new. They each carry two guns forward and two aft, with iron casing to protect the boilers and other machinery.

It will be remembered that Capt. Maury, not long since, addressed a letter, in which it appears the rebels are building one hundred gunboats. One Captain Edward Montgomery, an old Mississippi steamboat captain, it seems, has command of fourteen steamboats, "cut down," each bearing two fore and aft guns of small calibre. This fleet has a commodore in the person of Montgomery. These are unquestionably a portion of those "one hundred gunboats referred to by Maury. We have not heard of this Montgomery fleet before.

Along the river, from Fort Jackson to New Orleans, there are several small masked batteries, and there are also two new gunboats now being built at the Bayou Bridge, and nearly completed. Two battering rams, on a new principle, 320 feet long, and which are worked by four steam propellers are also about being finished.

The Union victories lately have so frightened the rebels that nearly every place of any size has been put under martial law. A new railway was being laid in the main street of Memphis, in order to facilitate the movement of munitions and stores should it become necessary to vacate suddenly.

THE SOUTHERN CROPS.

[From the Shreveport (La.) Gazette, 1st.]

It is difficult to change the routine of work on a plantation, and it is natural to suppose that every planter knows his own business best. The suggestions of editors are generally treated with indifference, and their beautiful theories only amuse the practical planter. Being aware that we cannot change the minds or alter the plans of our planting readers, we will state a few important facts for their consideration.

A large cotton crop is already made and it cannot be sold. Another crop would glut the markets of the world for several years and reduce the price almost one-half. The border slave States are laid waste and occupied by the enemy. Our armies cannot obtain supplies from that source. The cotton States, with Virginia, must feed our armies this year, and perhaps next year. Thousands and thousands of laboring men will enlist this spring, leaving their little farms deserted and their families dependant upon the charities of their wealthy neighbors.

To repel the invaders we must have at least 800,000 men, including the militia. To feed and clothe such an army will tax the capacity of every acre of every acre of land and bring into active use every spindle, spinning-wheel and loom in the Confederacy.

Life's Autumn.—Like the leaf, life has its fading. We speak and think of it with sadness, just as we speak and think of this autumn season. But there should be no sadness at the fading of life that has done well his work. If we rejoice at the advent of a new life, if we welcome the coming of a new pilgrim to the uncertainties of this world's way, why should there be so much gloom when all these uncertainties are passed, and life at its waning wears the glory of a completed task? Beautiful as its childhood is its freshness and innocence, its beauty is that of untried life. It is the beauty of promise, of spring, of the bud. A holier and a rarer beauty is the beauty which the waning life of faith and duty wears. It is the beauty of a thing completed; and as men come together to congratulate each other when some great work has been achieved, and see in its concluding nothing but gladness, so might we not feel when the setting sun flings back its beams upon a life that has answered well life's purpose. When the bud drops blighted,—when the mildew blasts the early grain, and there goes all hope of the harvest,—one may well be sad; but when the ripened year sinks amid its garniture of autumn flowers and leaves, why should we regret or murmur? And so a life that is ready and waiting for "the well done" of God, whose latest charities and virtues are its noblest, should be given back to God in uncomplaining reverence, while we rejoice that earth is capable of so much goodness, and is permitted such virtue.

Mistakes of Educated Men.—This is the title of a lecture delivered by John S. Hart, of Philadelphia, who having seen the shoals on which our literary and professional men have so often grounded, points them out with words of suitable warning. His first monition to his young friends is, take care of your bodily health. Without this, your intellectual attainments will be shorn of more than half their value. So many helpless, hopeless wrecks, has the author seen, on every side in professional life, that he dwells on this point as pre-eminently essential. As another important element of success in life, he bids his hearers acquire the habit of being before hand with whatever they undertake.

You will see an editor scratching and scrambling for copy at the latest moment and living, it is to be feared, in greater dread of the office devil than of the other personage of the same name. You will see the professor quaking over his incompleted experiments of his half finished manuscript, anxiously dreading the summons to lecture. You will see the clergyman locking himself up on Saturday, to push through under high pressure the sermon that must be delivered on the morrow. These all, and others like these simply in consequence of a bad habit of mental action, pass through life in a perpetual state of discomfort and professional poverty. Brain work so done is generally badly done, besides being done at a ruinous waste of the life-force.

New Ornament.—The ladies are introducing a new and beautiful ornament for the parlor mantle or centre table. They take large pine burs, sprinkle grass seeds of any kind in them, and place them in pots of water. When the burs are soaked for a few days, they close up in the form of solid cones, then the little spears of green grass begin to emerge from the laminæ, forming an ornament of rare and simple beauty.

John McClure, an eminent banker in New York, has just been taught the importance of crossing his t's by an impressive lesson. He wrote to his agent in London to invest $60,000 for him in State securities, but he failed to cross the first t, and his agent bought for him an interest in a slate quarry in Wales. The agent was stupid; but he obeyed orders literally.

FOR THE CURIOUS.

The greyhound runs by eyesight only, and this we observe as a fact. The carrier pigeon flies its two-hundred and fifty miles homeward by eyesight, viz:—from point to point of objects which it had marked; the fierce dragon fly, with twelve thousand lenses in his eye, darts from angle to angle with the rapidity of a flashing sword, and as rapidly darts back—not turning in the air, but with a clash reversing the action of his four wings, and instantaneously calculating the distance of the objects, or he would dash himself to pieces. But in what conformation of his does this consist? No one can answer.

A cloud of ten thousand gnats dance up and down in the sun, the minutest interval between them, yet no one knocks another headlong upon the grass, or breaks a leg or wing, long and delicate as these are.

Suddenly, amid your admiration of this matchless dance, a peculiar, high shouldered vicious gnat, with long pendant nose, darts out of the rising cloud, and, settling on your cheek inserts a poisonous sting.—What possessed the little wretch to do this? Did he smell your blood in the mazy dance? No one knows. A four horse coach comes suddenly upon a flock of geese on a narrow road, and drives straight through the middle of them. A goose was never yet fairly run over, nor a duck. They are under the very wheels and hoofs, and yet, somehow, they contrive to flap and waddle safely off. Habitually stupid, heavy, and indolent, they are equal, however, to any emergency.

Why does the lovely wood-pecker, when he descends his tree and goes to drink, stop several times on his way—listen and look around before he takes his draught? No one knows. How is it that the species of ant, which is taken in battle by other ants to be made slaves, should be the black, or negro ant? No one knows.

The Knowledge of the Past.—Is there any young person entering into life—entering a world upon which have passed six thousand years of human experience—just coming into an innumerable company of human beings strangers to him yet?—And are there any records of these men? Can he hear their footsteps from the one shore of antiquity? Will he not then listen? Will he not desire to know something of the great story of departed ages—of the fortunes of the Persian and the Palmyrene, the Greek and the Roman? And would he not above all gladly know something of the wisdom of the wise and wonderful among men? Would he not know what Socrates thought when he talked to Plato? what eloquence Cicero uttered in the Roman Forum,—or what sublime visions visited the study of Milton—or what sage precepts dropped from the tongue of Fenelon or Taylor? Surely, ordinary human curiosity is enough to prompt the desire of this knowledge. And no longer does it seek in vain.

☞ For over thirty years the Democratic party has been in existence without a change of name, object or character.—During the same time the Opposition have been arrayed under as many titles as there were years, and their platforms have been as various as the hues of the forest.

☞ It is said that, as a rule, favors ought to be returned. But to this rule clearly there are some exceptions. Who, for instance, ever dreams of returning wedding favors.

☞ It should be necessary only to grow old to become more indulgent. We shall seldom see a fault committed that we have not committed ourselves.

☞ It is a greater blunder in the pursuit of happiness not to know when we have got it, that is, not to be content with a reasonable and possible measure of it.

☞ Wink at small injuries rather than avenge them. If to destroy a single bee you throw down the hive, instead of one enemy you make a thousand.

☞ Mourn not that you are weak and humble. The gentle breeze is better than the hurricane, the cheerful fire of the hearth stone than the conflagration.

☞ Let affliction strike heavy blows at your corruptions, your idolatries, and selfpleasing wordly schemes. Learn much of Christ at such an hour.

☞ The best thing to be done when evil comes upon us, is not lamentation, but action; not to sit and suffer, but to rise and seek the remedy.

Good temper is like a sunny day, it sheds a brightness over everything; it is the sweetener of toil, and soother of disquietude.

☞ That man may be considered happy in his choice who can take his wife down Broadway without stopping at the shawl shop.