

The Clearfield Republican.



CLEARFIELD, PA

Wednesday Morning Dec. 3rd 1862.

SOURCE: Mr. BUCHANAN.—Our readers will find the "rejoinder" of Gen. Scott to Mr. Buchanan's reply to the former's "statement" (both of which we published two weeks ago) and also Mr. Buchanan's reply to the said "rejoinder," in this issue.

These documents are highly important, forming as they do the part of the record of the most critical period in our history, it is important to correctly inform all those interested points, it is of the first importance that they should know who is right, and who is wrong—what information they can only obtain by having the *two* *sides* fully and fairly presented for their investigation.

The Abolitionists and traitors of this country have been unrelenting in their denunciation of Mr. Buchanan, even charging him with direct complicity with the secessionists. To these scurrilous attacks, Mr. Buchanan dignified no reply. But Gen. Scott, as if impatient of this silence on the part of the ex-President—as if determined to "wake him up"—lends the influence of his great name to give importance to these insinuations. This afforded Mr. Buchanan an opportunity to speak, and so crushing were his few brief *cross-examinations* of Gen. Scott's *minutes*, that the latter gentleman, assuming the defensive—although clearly the assailing party—attempted a "rejoinder." That this attempt is lame and weak to a degree that must be lamented by every admirer of Gen. Scott, the scathing reply of Mr. Buchanan is not requisite to convince any one. But with that reply, and the two documents together, so as to compare them sentence with sentence, and line with line, no patriot can fail to blush for the fair fame of the "greatest of living Generals."

Our neighbor over the way has furnished us his readers with Gen. Scott's first letter, and will no doubt follow it up with the "rejoinder"—but leaves them totally ignorant as to what Mr. Buchanan says.—How can readers expect to form correct opinions upon controverted facts when they hear the evidence only on one side?

We prefer to lay all the facts—the statements of each party—before our readers, so that they can judge for themselves—and we trust our neighbor will do likewise.

NEW YORK ELECTION.—The official returns of the recent election in this State show a total vote of 603,554 for Governor, as follows:

Seymour, dem., 367,063

Wadsworth, abolition, 296,491

Seymour's majority, 10,572

The majority against the Democrats in this State last year was 107,712. Rather at all gain.

ILLINOIS ELECTION.—The total vote polled in this State at the recent election was 236,695. The only State officer elected being a State Treasurer, and the vote was as follows:

Starke, Dem., 126,123

Butler, abol., 117,572

Democratic majority, 18,551

This State gave "Old Abe" 12,000 majority in 1860. Quite a clever change here.

THOS. B. FLORENCE, Esq., we are glad to see, is named for Clerk of the next House of Representatives. Mr. Florence represents the first district of Philadelphia for many successive years in Congress, giving him an acquaintance with the routine of business in the House second to no other man; and besides that he is one of those Democrats who was always right.

#9. The incomprehensible and gloomy forebodings hinted at in the Chicago Platform have at length produced something real and practical, and within, easily understood, and may be summed up as follows: Disunion—Taxation—Starvation—Disunion and Thunder.

ELECTIONS YET TO BE HELD.—The States which have yet to elect their Representatives to the next Congress, and the dates at which they usually hold their elections are as follows:

New Hampshire, on the second Tuesday in March, 1863.

Rhode Island, first Wednesday in April, 1863.

Connecticut, first Monday in April, 1863.

Maryland, first Wednesday in November, 1863.

Kentucky, first Monday in August, 1863.

California, first Thursday in September, 1863.

Virginia, fourth Thursday in May, 1863.

North Carolina, time not specified.

Tennessee, time not specified.

EXPENSIVE EDUCATION.—Mr. French, a high-pressure Abolitionist, has been employed by government to teach the Florida negroes. The Boston Post says he has taught one hundred negro children at Fernandina, Florida, to sing "Glory, Glory, Hallelujah," at an estimated expense to the government of about \$200,000.—There's where the people's money goes, and while it goes the soldiers are left unpaid for six or eight months.—*Patent & Queen.*

BRIMSTONES.—Of all the Brimstones with which our country has heretofore been cursed—and goodness knows they have been frequent and severe enough—the present epoch the climax—The General Government taking the lead, they are now issued by the basketful by corporations and individuals, until such a thing as a silver coin—not even a half dime—is no longer met with in a day's travel. And all this in plain and direct violation of State and Congressional statutes, providing for the infliction of heavy penalties for their violation. But who cares for that? It is only the poor—and not the rich—who are to suffer. Our Government is growing strong—and the people weak—and this is the sort of "better times" so confidently promised by those now at the head of our State and National Governments.

GEN. SCOTT AND MR. BUCHANAN.

GEN. SCOTT'S REJOINDER.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.

General Scott publishes a rejoinder to the recent letter of ex-President Buchanan, "to answer his *accusations* to perceive that the publication of his official report of President Lincoln has given offence, and that the result was purely incidental. He did not enter into his purpose in drawing up the paper but on reflection he supposes that under the circumstances of the time was unavoidable. Let it be remembered, he remarks, that the new President had the right to demand of me, the immediate commander of the army, how it happened that the incipient rebels had been allowed to seize several forts, and from the bad condition of others were likely to gain them also. Primarily the blame rested on me; hence to vindicate my sworn allegiance to the Union and my professional conduct, the report was submitted to President Lincoln at an early day in his administration and recently to the public, without the consent of President Lincoln, by one of the General's friends, in a political speech during a highly excited gubernatorial canvass, had influenced him to prepare his criticisms on my conduct, it is not for me to determine."

At what period did Gen. Scott obtain the six hundred recruits to which he refers in his rejoinder? This was certainly after the date of his "views," on the 33d October, 1860; because in these he states emphatically that the forces then at his command were "in all five companies, only within reach to garrison or reinforce the [nine] forts mentioned in the 'views.'

Did he obtain these recruits in November? If so, had he visited Washington or written and explained to me in what manner this military operation could be accomplished by the four hundred in the five companies and the six hundred recruits, I should have given his representations all the consideration eminently due to his high military reputation.

But it informs us he did not arrive in Washington until the 12th December. His

second recommendation to garrison these forts must consequently have been made, according to his own statement, on the 13th, 15th, 23rd, or 26th of December, or on more than one of these days. At this period the aspect of public affairs had greatly changed from what it was in October. Congress was now in session, and our relations with the Seceding Cotton States had been placed before them by the President's message. Proceedings had been instituted by that body with a view to a compromise of the dangerous questions between the North and the South; and the highest hopes and warmest aspirations were then entertained for their success. Under these circumstances, it was the President's duty to take a broad view of the condition of the whole country, in all its relations, civil, industrial, and commercial, as well as military, giving to each its appropriate influence. It was only from such a combination that he could frame a policy calculated to preserve the peace and to consolidate the strength of the Union. Isolated recommendations proceeding from one department, without weighing well their effect upon the general policy, ought to be adopted with extreme caution.

But it seems from the rejoinder that Secretary Floyd at Richmond had claimed the honor of defeating General Scott's "plans and solicitations respecting the forts, it being there," says the General "universally admitted that but for that victory over me there could have been no rebellion." This is, in plain English, that the secessionists of the cotton States, who

have since brought into the field hundreds of thousands of undoubtedly brave soldiers, would have abandoned in terror their unlawful and rebellious designs, had General Scott distributed among them

such numerous four hundred and eighty men in October or one thousand men in December! This requires no comment. I have never been able to obtain a copy of the speech of Mr. Floyd, at Richmond, to which I presume General Scott refers; but

I learned, both at the time and since, from gentlemen of high respectability, that in this same speech he denounced me most bitterly for my determination to stand by and sustain the Union with all the power I possessed under the Constitution and the laws.

And here permit me to remark that it is due to General Scott as well as myself to deny that there is any portion of my answer which justifies the allegation that "the ex-President sneaks at my 'weak device'" (the words "weak device" being marked as a quotation) for saving the forts." This mistake I must attribute to his "accidental visitor."

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