

Clearfield Republican.

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PRINCIPLES, not MEN.

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Sect Poetry.

RISE: FREEMEN, RISE!

From the Crisis, (Ohio).

Freedom, arise, if still one drop
Of patriotic blood flows in your veins;
If still one spark of freedom's fire,
Upon your altars yet remain.
Will ye stand tamely by and see
Your brothers near a tyrant's chain?
If such things in our land may be,
Then have our fathers died in vain!

Alas! for freedom, if her sons
Most linger in a felon's cell,
For daring to assert the rights
For which our fathers fought and fell,
And have they taught our Eagle's wings
To sweep thro' heaven's broad arch in vain,
Before some mighty power to bring
Those heroes from their graves again?

How would each traitor's spirit grieve,
How would each coward's eye grow dim,
If echoing on the sudden gale,
There came the living voice of him
Whose banner waved o'er Banker's height,
Whose voice rang from the Monmouth plain,
O that his spirit, power and might,
Might guide our nation's helm again!

Is this the noble Old's reward,
Is this the garden of the free,
Long months of weary silent toil,
A life of hopeless slavery?
Beneath our country's flag of fight,
If such must be the patriot's doom,
Blot out each star of glory bright,
And chain her Eagle to the tomb.

If from the Democrat's fair ranks,
Her "slut" sons must thus be torn,
Soon shall the last departing cry
Of freedom on the winds be borne,
And we shall see a despot's flag,
Waving above our father's bones,
And need a revolution's fire,
To purify our fallen thrones.

A HAPPY WOMAN.—Is she not the very
sparkle and sunshine of life? A woman
who is happy because she can't help it—
whose smiles even the coldest wrinkle of
misfortune cannot dampen. Men make
a terrible mistake when they marry for
beauty, for talents, or style. The sweetest
wives are those who possess the magic
secret of being contented under any cir-
cumstances. Rich or poor, high or low,
it makes no difference; the bright little
fountain of joy bubbles up just as mus-
ically in their hearts. Do they live in a
log cabin, the fire leaps up on its humble
hearth becomes brighter than the gilded
chandeliers in an Aladdin palace. Were
the steam of life so dark and unprop-
er that the sunshine of a happy face
falling on the turbid tide would not awak-
en an answering gleam. Why, these
joyous tempered people don't know half
the good they do.

A country girl desirous of
matrimony received from her mistress a
\$20 bill as her marriage gift. Her
mistress desired to see the object of
Susan's favor, and a diminutive fellow,
swarthy as a Moor and as ugly as an
ape, made his appearance.
"Oh, Susan!" said the mistress, "how
small! what a strange choice you
have made!"
"La, ma'am!" answered Sue, "in
such hard times as these, when all the
tall and handsome fellows are off
to the war, what more than this could
you expect for twenty dollars?"

A wretched editor, who hasn't
a wife to take care of him, went the
other night to a ladies' fair. He says
he saw there an article which he felt
would call his own but it was not for
sale. He declares that since that
night he has been "wrapturously
wretched." As the article was bound
in hoop, the supposition is that it was
either a girl or a keg of whiskey.

Dean Swift was once called up-
on to deliver a charity sermon. Tak-
ing the pulpit, he delivered the fol-
lowing, and sat down: "He that giv-
eth to the poor lendeth to the Lord."
"If you like the security, down with
the dust." The result was an unpre-
cedented subscription.

A Dublin journal observes that
a handbill announcing a public meet-
ing in that city, states, with bound-
less "candor," that the ladies without
distinction of sex, are invited to at-
tend.

What a good lesson the old ma-
tron taught to children, when she said—
"Children, you may have anything
you want, but you musn't want any-
thing you can't have."

Some ardent devotees of trade
would go to hell itself if they could
get bargains there. There first salu-
tation on meeting with the devil
would be, "Well old boy, how's sul-
pher?"

An old sailor finding a corked
bottle floating on the sea, opened it,
with the soliloquy, "Rum I hope; gin
I think; tracts, by jingo!" and threw
it back into the water.

If every word men utter fell to
the ground and grew up a blade of
grass, most public speeches would be
worth ten times as much as they now
are.

Promissory notes—Tuning the
fiddle before the performance begins

Correspondence of the Philadelphia Bulletin. Horror of the Convalescent Camp.

WASHINGTON, Saturday Eve, Dec. 13.

I have just returned from the so-called
Convalescent Camp at Alexandria, having
spent the day in search of sick Pennsylv-
ania soldiers. More than ever do I re-
alize something of man's inhumanity to
man. You may have heard a good deal
about the abuses in that camp; but the
half has not been told you. The treat-
ment and condition of some of its inmates
some of its victims—is positively shock-
ing.

Going out from Alexandria, I passed the
notorious slave pen of "Price, Birch & Co.,
Dealers in Slaves." I conjured up all sorts
of horrors inside of those high brick walls
in days gone by. I imagined, or tried to,
something of the crushed spirits and bleed-
ing hearts and the physical torture of the
thousands of human beings, old and young,
knocked off to the highest bidder in the
souls and bodies of men, women and chil-
dren in that dark, dirty prison place. But
coming back by it after one day's visit to
that camp in the mud, after looking into
the wan, spiritless, pitiful faces of the
thousands there, who have hoped against
hope, till all courage is lost, and seeing
where they eat, and sleep, and live, or ra-
ther die by inches, in the filth, and ver-
min, and mire of that place provokingly
nicknamed a "Convalescent Camp," I con-
cluded that the old slave pen of so many
setral and imaginary horrors, would be
coveted luxury to many of the brave,
good-hearted fellows on the hill. And so
it would.

In the first place the whole bleak, bar-
ren hill on which the camp is located is
this day covered in many places with
stinky mud, when we have had no rain
for a week. In stormy times one can't
fall to go in ankle deep at every step.—
The filthy tents are huddled together
without floors or straw. Ditch the soil as
you will and it is damp if not soaking wet.
This is the convalescent's bed. If he has
a blanket, which isn't always the case,
that is his covering. His fuel he brings on
his back two or three miles, having to
take the limbs out last winter at that point.
I saw at least a dozen carrying their bun-
dles of sticks thus to-day, like the old man
in the child story, who was met by death
on the way. And yet I saw at least twenty
corps of good dry wood piled up in
camp! I asked one in charge why they
did this, and he thought they didn't—
thought it wasn't necessary—yet I saw it,
and it is done every day. The papers
have said that several men froze to death
in one cold night while thus engaged.—
He said but one had died by his pile of
sticks, and they thought he was murder-
ed; one was found in the privy, but they
didn't think he froze to death! Heav-
enly consolation to his friends that will be,
won't it? I asked the boys why they had
to hack wood when there was wood in
camp? They said they got part of a stick
from some under officer to cook their food
sometimes, and sometimes they didn't—
never half enough for cold weather. I
asked why they didn't cut a clump of
timber standing half a mile or more from
camp. They said that it was guarded, and
the guards had orders to fire on a trespass-
er—that a few of them got some rails one
cold night and a guard of soldiers cocked
their guns and compelled us to abandon
them.

I saw two men washing their shirts in a
creek two miles away—the nearest good
washing place. I asked them if they be-
longed to the convalescent camp. One
replied "no; we belong to the Death camp."
—and I believe him! I heard an assist-
ant surgeon say that a young soldier of
his ward was then lying in his tent on the
ground, with a raging fever and had been
for twenty four hours, because he had no
vacant bed in the hospital. I remarked
that such a state of things ought to be
expedient. He replied, you can't say too
much against the abuses here, or make
them as bad as they are. But we (the
assistants) are not to blame; we do all
we can; we have no power." I tried to
have passes issued to a few friends who
have been there since July, to be exam-
ined. He couldn't do it—said more passes
were out than there could be examined in
three days. He and other assistants had
been prohibited from examining and a spe-
cial board of three had been appointed.—
On their door was written, "No business
done to-day—nor till Monday"—by which
time a dozen cases or more will have
passed into the other world for examination!
They were probably off to Washington
having a good time; they never work
but three or four hours a day. I heard a
gentleman telling a member of Congress
from Ohio who was there, that he had
just found two men from that State who
were never mustered in! They enlisted,
but were rejected on examination and

went home. Subsequently they were re-
jected as deserters, put in there and can't
get out.

Col. Belknap, who was in command,
seemed willing and anxious to mend mat-
ters. He said he would shrink from no
responsibility or duty, but he had not
full control; he was interfered with; he
could not compel the surgeons to act; and
two of them were at loggerheads, each
claiming to be chief. His requisitions
were not promptly filled, and if he sent to
the Quartermaster General for teams, he
was told they had such a number that
was enough; while the fact was, many of
those charged to him had been captured
by the rebels some time ago.

The trouble, I think, begins with the
doctors. Nothing can be done without an
official examination, and they don't exam-
ine a quarter fast enough. There should
be half a dozen examining boards. Yet
slow as they are, the papers will be gone
two or three weeks to Washington for ap-
proval. They should examine every man
at once; if he is down sick, send him to a
hospital; if well, to his regiment; if in-
curable, discharge him. Send them off
somewhere, anywhere, but for God's sake,
don't keep them there to die by inches.—
Hundreds of lives, I doubt not, have been
uselessly, recklessly sacrificed there al-
ready, and hundreds more will be, unless
Congress applies the remedy, for the Med-
ical Department won't, or it could have
done so long ago.

Then, I mistrust, there are a set of
thieving, shiftless middle men and under
officials, who oppress the soldier by their
petty power and filch his food. If he
wants to sell some articles for others his
sickly appetite will relish, which is accord-
ing to army regulations the rations are
stopped. The presumption is that when
soldiers are short, in such a place as Alex-
andria, there is a gross neglect of official
duty or thieving officials somewhere, for
the Government is not at fault. No sol-
diers were ever more honorably furnish-
ed as ours are now. And there is not one
particle of necessity or excuse for suffer-
ing, or even hard fare in this or any other
camp so easy of access, if officials do their
duty as the men will do theirs.

It is pitiful enough to see so many poor,
broken-spirited, crippled fellows gather
around a man who comes in to look up a
friend, and plead with tears and others of
all their four, or six, or eight months' back
pay, for many of them haven't had a cent
in six months, if he would only help them
out. They have asked, and looked and
waited, month after month to be examined.
They think if they have some member of
Congress, or influential friend, to give in
their names, they will receive attention;
and so they will. But alone and unaided
they look upon all effort as useless. If
they make complaint of abuses, they say
they are gruffly repulsed and told to mind
their own business. This for men living
perhaps in luxury at home, and quite su-
perior in position and worth to many of
their petty tyrants, comes a little tough
on true, freeborn American citizens. And
thus the brave, high spirited, enthusiastic
young men who patriotically left friends
and luxuries, and all the heart calls a
home, with a glowing enthusiasm to carry
the old flag bravely through the battle
storm, or die beneath its starry folds, be-
comes the spiritless, dejected, ruined
objects of pity, caring little whether he
lives or dies. Sir it is one of the saddest
sights of my life. And the remedy is with
the press and the people. Let them set
their Congressmen at work for they can
reform these abuses if they will.

Remarkable Works of Human Labor.

Nineveh was 14 miles long, 8 wide and
46 miles round, with a wall 100 feet high,
and thick enough for three elephants
abreast. Babylon was 50 miles within the
walls, which were 75 feet thick and 100
feet high, with brazen gates. The temple
of Diahah at Ephesus was 520 feet to
support the roof. It was 100 years in
building. The largest of the pyramids
was 481 feet high, and 653 feet on the
sides; the base covered eleven acres.—
The stones are about 60 feet in length and
the layers are 208. It employed 330,000
men in building. The labyrinth in Egypt
presents ruins 17 miles round, and 100
gates. Carthage was 29 miles round.—
Athens was 25 miles round, and contained
359,000 citizens and 400,000 slaves. The
temple of Delphos was so rich in dona-
tions that it was plundered of 50,000,000,
and Nero carried away from it two hun-
dred statues. The walls of Rome were 13
miles round.

We find the above paragraph going the
rounds of the papers, and stop it for the
purpose of correcting some of its errors.
It is an unfortunate fact that a vast deal
of the history and information which is given
to general readers who do not study

authorities is of the class contained in this
paragraph—grossly untrue, and made up
by some sensation lecturer or penny-
liner. Perhaps no better illustration can
be given than by referring to a common er-
ror taught in many books and most Sun-
day Schools, that Titus, the Royal Imp-
erial conqueror of Jerusalem, plowed up
the site of the city and sowed it with salt.
This ridiculous story originated within
the present century, and is without the
slightest foundation in fact. The stones
in Jerusalem that remain in their ancient
sites to-day show the utter impossibility
of the occurrence, which was never heard of
by any historian or writer of earlier times.

We find repeated in the above para-
graph a very common story about the
size of the stones of the pyramids of Egypt.
They are commonly reported to be of
great size. The writer above named
makes them sixty feet long! The size of
the stones forms no part of the wonder of
the pyramids. There are many structures
in the world containing much larger mon-
oliths, and modern architects frequently
use stones larger and heavier than any in
the pyramids. The largest course of
stones in Cheops are only four feet
thick, and the stones vary
in length from four to eight feet. There
are some stones in the interior, roofing the
passages and chambers, which are larger,
but these are not much heavier than the
slabs we frequently see carried along
Broadway and placed on the sidewalks
in front of new buildings as pavement,
and also roofing for the vaults under the
street. The wonder of the great pyramids
is that such a vast mass of stones
should be piled up, but it is not to be
doubted if any one cared to spend a few
million dollars in America, a fac-simile of
the pyramid of Cheops could be erected
here to-day.

Much greater wonders are found in the
Monolithic statues of Egypt, and in the
columns of the great hall of Karnak.—
Still the paragraph that we quote is again
in gross error when it describes the ruins
of Thebes as twenty-seven miles in cir-
cumference, and the story of a hundred
gates, but a passage from ancient poetry.
The ruins of Thebes are but few in number
and lie in detached places two miles or so
apart on one side of the hill and about
the same on the other side. The mono-
lithic statues, one of which lives in tradi-
tion as the vocal Memnon, are indeed
wonderful remains of the grandeur of an-
cient art, and so are nearly all the Theban
ruins. No architect of modern times
would undertake to build one column of
the twelve great columns of Karnak.—
Each of these is a column twelve feet in
diameter and nearly ninety feet high—
made of sections of stones piled one on
the other.

The great stones of ancient art are
found at Baalbeck in Syria. The Roman
ruins there overlie the remains of a Cy-
clopean age. History and tradition are
silent as to the men who heaved those
grandest remaining memories of the days
of giants. Ten stones in one course, side
by side, are each about thirty feet long,
thirteen feet high, and ten feet six inches
thick. At right angles with this course
is another of six similar stones about the
same size as the former, and on these six
stones lie the three great monoliths of an-
cient workmanship. These three stones
measure in gross 150 feet in length—each
being 65 feet long, 13 feet high and about
the same thickness. No man knows who
heaved them and laid them there. A
fourth stone of the same general dimen-
sions, lies in a quarry a mile distant,
whence it never was removed, doubtless
it has lain there more than three thou-
sand years.

We might correct other errors in the
paragraph we have copied. The siege of
Nineveh and that of Babylon are merely
conjectural. The story of the Egyptian
labyrinth is from the father of historians,
and some profane people have regarded
Herodotus as a father of falsehood too,
though, it is not to be denied that modern
discoveries are doing much to establish
the credit of the old Greek.

[N. Y. Journal of Commerce.]

"I am glad this coffee don't owe
me anything," said Brown, a boarder at
the breakfast table.

"Why?" said Smith.

"Because," said Brown, "I don't believe
it would ever settle!"

Two kinds of eggs are used in mak-
ing Tom and Jerry, namely, hen's eggs
and nut-eggs.

Why is a lady who has bought
a sable cape at half price, like an officer
absent on leave? Because she's
got her fur low.

Why is a kiss like a sermon?
It requires two heads and an applica-
tion.

[From the New Hampshire Patriot.] How Richmond was not Taken.

When Gen. McClellan went to York-
town last spring he had the promise of
certain forces for the capture of Richmond.
Upon his arrival before the rebel works
at Yorktown he was informed by the
Washington authorities that a large por-
tion of these forces (McDowell's corps and
Franklin's division, some 50,000) would
not be allowed to join him; but McDow-
ell's 40,000 were sent to red in silence at
Fredericksburg. This interference with
his plans and diminution of his forces not
only prevented him from "bagging" the
rebel army at Yorktown, and thus secur-
ing the capture of Richmond, but caused
all the terrible losses and sufferings of the
subsequent campaign.

Afterwards, in May, when Gen. Porter's
corps marched to Hanover Court House,
20 miles north of Richmond towards
Fredericksburg, if McDowell then had
been permitted to join him there, Rich-
mond would have been taken, and all the
losses and sufferings of Pope's retreat and
the Maryland campaign would have been
avoided.

These are no facts of history, substan-
tiated as conclusively as such facts can
ever be proved. Such is the testimony of
Gen. McClellan, recently given in a Court
Martial at Washington in the case of Gen.
McDowell. In that testimony he said:
"I have no doubt that, for it has ever
been my opinion, that the Army of the Po-
tomac would have taken Richmond had not
the corps of Gen. McDowell been withheld from
me. It is also my opinion that had the com-
mand of Gen. McDowell joined the Army
of the Potomac in May, by way of Han-
over Court House from Fredericksburg, we
should have had Richmond within a week after
its junction. I do not hold Gen. McDow-
ell responsible, in my mind, for the failure
to join me on either occasion."

He also testified that the troops for the
defense of Washington numbered about
50,000, exclusive of McDowell's corps.
Gen. McClellan, in answer to certain
questions of the Court, gave his opinion
that Jackson's movement against General
Pope was to prevent reinforcements being
sent to the army of the Potomac, and
he expressed that opinion to the Presi-
dent in a telegram within a day of the
time he (McClellan) received information
of Jackson's movement. If McDowell
had moved direct upon Hanover Court
House instead of in the direction of Front
Royal, Jackson would have rapidly re-
traced his steps to join the main rebel
army at Richmond. With a strong army
of our own in the vicinity, and threatening
it, McClellan did not think the rebels
would have detached a sufficient force to
seriously endanger the safety of Wash-
ington.

Here is the opinion of the ablest mili-
tary commander of the country, that but
for the withdrawal of McDowell's corps,
Richmond would have been taken. Here
is also his opinion that if McDowell had
been permitted to join him in May, Rich-
mond would have been taken within a
week. But this does not rest upon his
opinion alone. Such was McDowell's
opinion and that of the ablest command-
ers of the Army of the Potomac. Such is
the recorded opinion of the Prince de
Joinville who was with the army; and
such was the opinion and expectation of the
people of Richmond at the time. This latter fact
is stated by Mr. W. H. Herbert, who was
then a prisoner there and had favorable
opportunities of learning their views and
feels.

Now it has been established and admitted
fact that Abraham Lincoln alone is re-
sponsible for this wicked interference with
Gen. McClellan's plans and for defeating
his success; and it is thereby proved that
the capture of Richmond was twice defeated,
in the space of two months, by him. This
cannot now be denied. It was Abraham
Lincoln who divided the Army of the Po-
tomac, and gave Gen. McDowell a separate
command. It was he who refused to
allow McDowell to join McClellan, af-
terwards, when McDowell wrote to him
that Little Mac had reached Hanover
Court House, and added, "For God's sake,
Mr. President, let me join him at this
critical moment." It was he who ordered
McDowell's retreat, even after Secretary
Stanton, bitter as he was against Mc-
Clellan, had given him permission to ad-
vance. In his testimony before the Court
Martial, Gen. McClellan said—"The Presi-
dent assumed the responsibility of the change in
McDowell's destination." He wanted Mc-
Dowell to defend Washington, "although
the force in and around Washington,"
said McClellan, "was double that deemed
necessary by the officers." It is the Presi-
dent who has, in every instance, yielded to
the political pressure for interference with
McClellan's plans. And why did he thus
willingly, as it seems, defeat this great vic-
tory? As the Providence Post says, "but
had Richmond at our finger's end, had the
price been snatched away by Abraham Lincoln,
was McDowell needed to defend Wash-
ington? NO! Nobody believes it. We
do not think Abraham Lincoln believed it at
the time? The truth is, it was deemed better
that we should lose a thousand chances of
capturing Richmond, than that George B.
McClellan should capture it!"

BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG. DESPATCH FROM GEN. BURNSIDE TO GEN. HALLECK.

Particulars of the Engagement—
HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 19.

To Major General H. W. Halleck, General-
in-Chief U. S. A., Washington.

General—I have the honor to offer
the following reasons for moving the Ar-
my of the Potomac across the Rappahan-
nock sooner than was anticipated by the
President, Secretary of War or yourself,
and for crossing at a point different from
the one indicated to you at our last meet-
ing at the President's:

During my preparations for crossing at
the place I had first selected, I discovered
that the enemy had thrown a large portion
of his force down the river and elsewhere,
thus weakening his defenses in front; and
I also thought I discovered that he did
not anticipate the crossing of our whole
force at Fredericksburg, and hoped by
rapidly throwing the whole command
over at that place to separate, by a vigor-
ous attack, the forces of the enemy on the
river below from the forces behind and on
the crest, and in the rear of the town, in
which case we could fight him with great
advantage in our favor. To do this we
had to gain a height on the extreme right
of the crest, which height commanded a
new road lately made by the enemy for
the purpose of more rapid communication
along his lines, which point gained, his
position along the crest would have been
severely tenable, and he could have been
driven from there easily by an attack on
his front in connection with a movement
in the rear of the crest.

Had we been able to accomplish our
object future reports will show. But for
the fog and unexpected and unavoidable
delay of building the bridges, which gave
the enemy twenty-four hours more to
concentrate his forces in his strong posi-
tions, we could certainly have succeeded,
in which case the battle would have been,
in my opinion, far more decisive than if
we had crossed at the place selected; as it
was, we came very near success.

Failing in accomplishing the main ob-
ject, we remained in order of battle two
days, long enough to decide that the en-
emy would not come out of his strongholds
to fight us with his infantry, after which
we recrossed to this side of the river un-
molested, without the loss of men or
property.

As the day broke our long lines of
troops were seen marching to their dif-
ferent positions as if going on parade.—
Not the least demoralization or disorgani-
zation existed.

To the brave officers and soldiers who
accomplished the feat of thus recrossing in
the face of the enemy, I owe everything.
For the failure in the attack I am respon-
sible, as the extreme gallantry, courage
and endurance shown by them was never
excelled, and would have carried the
points had it been possible.

To the families and friends of the dead
I can only offer my heartfelt sympathy,
but for the wounded I can offer my ear-
nest prayers for their comfort and final re-
covery.

The fact that I decided to move from
Washington on to this line rather against
the opinion of the President, Secretary,
and yourself, and that you have left the
whole movement in my hands without
giving me orders, makes me the more re-
sponsible.

I will visit you very soon and give you
more definite information, and finally will
send you my detailed report, in which a
special acknowledgment will be made of
the services of the different grand divi-
sions, corps, and my general and personal
staff departments of the Army of the Po-
tomac, to whom I am much indebted for
their support and hearty co-operation.

I will add here that the movement was
made earlier than you expected, and at-
ter the President, Secretary and yourself
requested me not to be in haste, for the
reason that we were supplied much soon-
er by the different staff departments than
was anticipated when I last saw you.

Our killed amount to 1,132, our wound-
ed about 9,000, our prisoners about 900
which have been paroled and exchanged
for about the same number taken by us.

The wounded were all removed to this
side of the river before the evacuation
and are being well cared for. The dead
were all buried under a flag of truce.

The surgeons report a much more lar-
ge proportion of slight wounds, 1,633
only being treated in the hospitals.
I am glad to represent the army at the
present time in good condition, thank-
ing the government for that entire support
and confidence which I have always re-
ceived from them.

I remain, General, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
A. E. BURNSIDE,
Maj. Gen. Com'g. Army of the Potomac.