



CLEARFIELD, PA.

Wednesday Morning, Dec 9th 1863

DEB The "stray sheep" that has lately broken into the editorial pasture of our neighbor across the way—and which we noticed last week as having perpetrated the first truthful sentence on the subject of the war that has yet appeared in the editorial department of that paper—brings forth Gov. Bramlette, of Kentucky, as his witness to convict us of disloyalty, and for this purpose produces one or two extracts from a recent letter attributed to that gentleman.

The object of calling this witness is to refute our charge that the war, *as now prosecuted*, is "not for the restoration of the Union, but for the destruction of negro slavery." Gov. Bramlette says "but such is not the object." Who is this witness? What authority has he to say what the object is, or is not? We will answer: He was elected Governor of Kentucky on a platform that was opposed by every Abolition member of the Pennsylvania Legislature last winter, and supported by every Democrat, and he is the man the Philadelphia "North American" styles "as great a Copperhead as Gov. Seymour, of New York," and whose official organ in Frankfort gave notice a few days ago, that the attempt on the part of Mr. Lincoln to "enforce his project of conscripting negroes in that State would be resisted by every unconditional Union man of Kentucky." This is the character of this witness. He is pronounced a Copperhead by the most influential Abolition journal in the State. And why? Simply because he won't consent to "impartial freedom with negroes" by conscripting them into the Union service.

But let us see what other witnesses there are on the point that the war is now "for the freedom of the negro." Mr. Seward, Secretary of State, ought to be good authority. What says he? In his speech at Gettysburg the other day, where thousands of afflicted mourners assembled to consecrate the dust of their departed relatives—Mr. Seward used the following language:

"He anticipated forty years ago that the battle of freedom would be fought upon this ground, and that slavery would die." [Loud cheers.] "There had been a great issue between the people of the country North and South, and it was now being determined in this contest. He was anxious to see slavery die by peaceful means, and by moral means, if possible, and now he was destined to see it die by the fate of war." [Applause.]

The "great issue" here referred to was kept up by the Abolitionists alone, "the people" of neither section had part nor lot in it. But by the devilish cunning of such wicked men as Seward, Lincoln & Co., "the people" were entrapped into a war, and they are now insultingly told that those who have fallen, or who have yet to fall, in this war, fell not in defense of the Union, but that "slavery might die."

Our next witness is Hannibal Hamlin, the Vice President, who occupies the seat on the throne next to Abraham himself. He is of equally good authority; and with two such witnesses any man might safely rest his cause. In a speech made in New York, just before the late election, he said:

"Some persons talk of having the Union as it was. Well, they can't have it."

We might go still further, and quote remarks recently made by "Honest Old Abe" himself—at least they are attributed to him by his friends—plainly signifying that the "Union as it was" is not to be, but that the great work in hand is the extirpation of slavery, and that he is the instrument in the hands of the Almighty to do it.

If the struggle was for the restoration of the Union as our fathers made it, we would not say "no," but would use that other word,—so miserably shamed by our intensely loyal brethren—"COME, boy, to the rescue of our glorious inheritance." But when the evidence is piled up mountain-high that such is not only not the purpose of our rulers, but that the accomplishment of their ends will render such a blessing utterly impossible, we ask in all candor if we are not perfectly justified in declaring that "Patriots can take no Democrat to the field?"

ELECTION OF MAYOR OF NEW YORK CITY.—THE "PEACE" CANDIDATE TRIUMPHANTLY ELECTED.—The election of Mayor took place on the 1st inst. Three candidates were before the people. Blunt, (Repub.) Boole, (regular Dem.) and Gunther, (the "Peace" Dem.) The following is the result:

Blunt, Boole, Gunther,
19,460 22,581 29,035

It is thus seen that out of a poll of 71,000 votes, the Republicans only cast 10,460.

DEB Reports from Chattanooga state that Gen. John C. Breckinridge died of wounds received at Ringgold the day following Bragg's retreat from Chattanooga. Accounts from Richmond make no mention of the fact.

THE WAR NEWS!

GEN. FOSTER AT CUMBERLAND GAP.

LONGSTREET IN RANGERS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The military authorities received a telegram this morning from Gen. Foster who was joined at Cumberland Gap by the forces previously sent thither from Burnside's army to guard that important point.

The few troops under the former may be able to inflict some damage on the rear of Longstreet, who is retreating into Va. General Sherman was expected to reach the neighborhood of Knoxville to-day.

FROM CHATANOOGA.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 3.—A Chattanooga dispatch, dated yesterday, says that the army movements are at present contraband. The hospitals are full of wounded from both armies.

Refugees and deserters reported that Bragg has been reinforced, near Dalton, by Joe Johnson.

There is nothing from Knoxville.

A despatch from General Foster's chief of staff dated Cumberland Gap, on the 1st, says nothing of the reported capture of 5,000 rebels at Knoxville.

[TENNESSEE.]

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 3.—The movements of the army going on cannot be reported.

There are questionable reports of a rebel raid across the Chickamauga river at Red House Ford, and that the families took refuge in the town.

Rumors continue to thicken of rebel doings in the border counties of Tennessee. Reports say that Faulkner and his men are not only conscripting all the men, but taking all the horses, mules, cattle and hogs, without regard to the political sentiments of their owners.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

GEN. MEADE RE-CROSSES THE PATIDIAMAN EXPLANATION OF THE RETROGRADE MOVEMENT.

(Correspondence of the New York Herald)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

December 2, 1863.

The public need not be surprised when the announcement is made that the army of the Potomac, which set out six days ago, full of high hopes, and with every promise of success, is back again upon its old stamping ground, worn, tried and weary.

My last despatch was sent on Monday night last from the field, south of the Rapidan, and I hoped that that my next,

now, we are perfectly sure that our ideas and principles have undergone no change; that we view the relative powers and duties of the Federal and States' Governments precisely in the same light that we did before the war; that we can see nothing right now in what would have been wrong then. Then *why this difference?* It must be because this gentleman, and all such as he, have wonderfully changed; or else, treacherously professed principles, in former days, they did not hold. The dilemma has no other horn.

DEB—We have now two hundred and thirty-five military hospitals, containing about 80,000 sick and wounded soldiers. During four months of 1863 there were treated for gunshot wounds alone, 20,000 cases. The wounded in the whole British army during the Crimean war was only 12,000—not so many as we have several times had killed and wounded in a single battle. One cause of our frightful losses in battle is the want, not only of military genius but of military knowledge, on the part of our generals. Only think of sending soldiers into battle under the lead of such fellows as Dick Tweedie and John Cochrane! The wonder is that a single man gets out alive, by such military ignoramus.

DEB—We have on Saturday and Sunday Gen.

Meade and his corps commanders were engaged in devising means to put the enemy from his position on the western slope of Mine river. It had been demonstrated that he was too strongly posted to

warrant us in making a direct assault upon his works, even though we should outnumber him two to one.

Let me describe his position. Mine river is a stream of perhaps ten feet in width, but very shallow, if we judge by the depth of clear water, but very deep when we count in the mud at its bottom.

At its side, extending several rods back, is a low marsh, muddy and reed-grown—from the edges of the marsh the land rises gradually to a height of perhaps a hundred feet. A half mile back from either shore these slopes are open, and in many places cultivated patches of young pines dot the slopes and extend back to the dense woods which crown the summits of the hills. The run rises somewhere south of the plank road, in nearly a straight line.

The enemy had fortified the western slope by a strong earthwork at its summit, front of which fell trees and shrubs and brush formed an impenetrable abatis; they had also dug a succession of pits half way up the slope, within easy musket range of the creek, and another series of the same style of defences at the commencement of the abatis. This line of defence extended from Clarke's Mountain, south of the plank road, to the mouth of the stream, and was fully supported by artillery, and was, in fact, said by military men to be a stronger position than he held at Fredericksburg.

Our own artillery was planted upon the side of the eastern slope, a few rods down from the edge of the timber, while our infantry were covered from view by the thick wood.

In order to successfully operate upon the enemy with infantry, it became necessary to bridge streams and morass in several places—a work you will

imagine to be both difficult and dangerous. It was done, however, by the First divisions of the First and Second corps, respectively.

Darkness found us on Saturday night in the following position: The Second corps was on the extreme left, in the vicinity of Clarke's Mountain, reinforced by one division of the Sixth corps. The left centre was held by the Third corps, the centre by two divisions of the First, and the right by the Fifth, and the remaining two divisions of the Sixth corps.

General Warren was to have attacked and turned the enemy's right wing at three o'clock in the afternoon. The Fifth and Sixth, under Sykes and Sedgwick, were, at the same time, to attack the left, while the Third and First were to make a demonstration upon the centre. The reserves of artillery had all been brought forward and positioned ready for action; but, for some reason, Gen. Warren failed to connect, and night slipped in upon us, all drawn up in line of battle. That night a change was made in the programme—Gen. Warren did not deem his force adequate to the task of turning the enemy's right, so he was still further reinforced by two divisions of the Third corps, under Generals Carr and Prince, while Birney, with his division of the same corps, was to support the artillery.

Eight o'clock on Monday morning was then set as the hour for the great battle to open, and we returned to our ground beds to rest and dream. The night of Sunday was the coldest we have yet experienced.

Ice formed in the streams an inch in thickness, and several of our men froze their limbs, and one or two froze to death, while doing duty as pickets.

At 8 o'clock on Monday, the artillery began to play upon the enemy, and for an hour the fire was constant and heavy;

but the infantry did not make any demonstration whatever, and, after making a deal of noise and wasting a large amount of ammunition, the artillery was silenced

by an order from general headquarters.

Nothing further was done during the day except to study strategy; and that study resulted in demonstrating that the wisest plan to advance would be to go back to the line of the Rappahannock and take a fresh start. Accordingly yesterday morning we commenced moving back toward the river, and at night we crossed in safety, having succeeded in losing about a thousand men in killed, wounded and missing, and generating a very unkind feeling in the breasts of the rank and file towards those in position who had promised them so much and yielded them so little.

That there was a great blunder made by somebody, somewhere, is apparent; but it is not for me to fix it. The public must wait until a court of inquiry settles the matter.

THE LATEST.

A despatch from the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, dated December 4th, says:

A light division of rebel troops crossed the Rapidan this afternoon, at some point above Rappahannock Ford, probably on a reconnaissance. Since this information came to camp considerable cannonading has been heard in that direction, and it is supposed that their advance has been checked by our light batteries, which have been attached to the cavalry arm of the service, in pursuance of Gen. Meade's orders.

THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF MEN

have been called to arms by President

Lincoln since the war commenced:

1st call for 3 months 75,000

2d 2 years 500,000

3d 3 years 300,000

4th 9 months 300,000

5th draft, for 3 years 300,000

6th draft, for 3 years 300,000

Total 1,775,000

It will not be six months before two millions of men will have been called for. Before the war is ended three millions will have been called—And of all those, not a hundred thousand will ever return to the peaceful paths of industry and usefulness. We may safely say that three millions of men will be sacrificed upon the bloody altars of Abolitionism. Not only this, but our country will be made a burnt offering to the all-devouring Moloch.—*Day Book.*

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