

THE LEBANON ADVERTISER... A FAMILY PAPER FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY...

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A FAMILY PAPER FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY... VOL. 14--NO. 8.

Appal of the President to the Border States Congressmen.

The Representatives and Senators of the border slave-holding States having, by special invitation of the President, been convened at the Executive Mansion on Saturday morning, the 12th ult., Mr. Lincoln addressed them as follows, from a written paper held in his hand:

Gentlemen:—After the adjournment of Congress, now near, I shall have no opportunity of seeing you for several months. Believing that you of the Border States hold more power for good than any other equal number of members, I feel it a duty which I cannot justifiably waive to make this appeal to you.

I intend no reproach or complaint when I assure you that, in my opinion, if you all had voted for the resolution in the gradual emancipation message of last March, the war would now be substantially ended. And the plan therein proposed is yet one of the most potent and swift means of ending it.

Most of you have treated me with kindness and consideration, and I trust you will not now think it improper to touch what is exclusive your own, when for the sake of the whole country, I ask, "can you, for your States do better than to take the course I urge?" Discarding partiality and maxims adapted to more manageable times and looking only to the unprecedentedly stern fact of our case, can you do better in any possible event?

I am pressed with a difficulty not yet mentioned—one which threatens division among those who, united, are none too strong. An instance of it is known to you. Gen. Hunter is an honest man. He was and is honest still, my friend. I valued him none the less for his agreeing with me in the general wish that all men everywhere could be freed.

its beloved history and cherished memories are vindicated, and its happy future fully assured and rendered conceivably grand. To you, more than to any others, the privilege is given to assure that happiness and well that grandeur, and to link your names therewith forever.

With a view to a statement of their position, the members thus addressed met in council to deliberate on the reply they should make to the President, and as the result of a comparison of opinions among themselves; they determined upon the adoption of a majority and a minority answer.

RESPONSE OF THE DELEGATION.

The undersigned representatives of Kentucky, Virginia, Missouri and Maryland, in the two Houses of Congress have listened to your address which is inspired by the high source from which it emanates, the earnestness which marks its delivery, and the overwhelming importance and the subject of which it treats.

We have not been wanting, Mr. President, in respect to you, and in devotion to the Constitution and the Union. We have not been indifferent to the great difficulties surrounding you, compared with which all former national troubles have been but as the summer cloud; and we have freely given you our sympathy and support.

We are trying to accomplish it by war. The incidents of the war cannot be avoided. If the war continues long, as it must if the institution in your States will be extinguished by mere incidents and abrasion—the mere incidents and abrasion will be done, and you will have nothing valuable in lieu of it.

In the first place it proposed a radical change of our social system, and was hurried through both houses with undue haste, without reasonable time for consideration and debate, and with no time at all for consultation with our constituents, whose interests it deeply involved. It seemed like an interference by this Government, with a question which peculiarly and exclusively belonged to our respective States, on which they had not sought advice or solicited aid.

Upon these considerations I have again begged your attention to the message of March last. Before leaving the Capitol, consider and discuss it among yourselves. You are patriots and statesmen, and as such I pray you consider this proposition; and at the least commend it to the consideration of your States and people.

But, if we are told that this was expected that only the States we represent would accept the proposition, we respectfully submit that even then it involves a sum too great for the financial ability of this Government at this time. According to the census of 1860—

Table showing population statistics for Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, Missouri, and Tennessee.

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Again, it seemed to us that this resolution was but the announcement of a sentiment which could not or was not likely to be reduced to an actual, tangible proposition. No movement was then made to provide and appropriate the funds required to carry it into effect; and we were not encouraged to believe that funds would be provided. And our belief has been fully justified by subsequent events.

The right to hold slaves is a right appertaining to all the States of this Union. They have the right to cherish or abolish this institution as their tastes or their interests may prompt, and no one is authorized to question the right or limit its enjoyment.

There is one other idea in your address we feel called on to notice. After stating the fact of your repudiation of General Hunter's proclamation, you add:

That if we had voted for the resolution in the emancipation message of March last, the war would now be substantially ended. We are unable to see how our action in this particular has given, or could give, encouragement to the rebellion.

troubles Southern society was divided, and that a large portion, perhaps a majority, were opposed to secession. Now the great mass of Southern people are united. To discover why they are so we must glance at Southern society and notice the classes into which it has been divided, and which still distinguish it.

Mr. President, we have stated with frankness and candor the reasons on which we forbore to vote for the resolution you have mentioned; but you have again presented this proposition, and appealed to us, with an earnestness and eloquence which have not failed to impress us, to "consider it, and at the least to commend it to the consideration of our States and people."

Any person claiming exemption on account of physical defect or bodily infirmity, or by the laws of this State or of the United States, may, before the day specified in the notice, make an affidavit before some one qualified to take the same, of his exemption, which shall be filed in the office of the City or County Commissioner, and any person swearing falsely is liable to a prosecution for perjury.

As it is now determined that drafting shall take place, an interest is felt to know who is exempt. A section of the bill passed by Congress July 15, 1862, provides: "That whenever the President of the United States shall call forth the militia of the States to be employed in the service of the United States, he may specify in his order the militia which shall be exempt from military duty, and the militia so exempted shall be exempted from military duty, and the militia so exempted shall be exempted from military duty."

Each State has its own laws in regard to the enrollment of the militia force, and these laws generally embody the manner in which drafting shall be carried out, when called for by the National Government.

war solely for the purpose of restoring the Constitution to its legitimate authority; concede to each State and its loyal citizens their just rights, and we are wedded to you by indissoluble ties. Do this, Mr. President, and you touch the American heart and invigorate it with new hope.

By the laws of the United States the persons exempted from military duty are the Vice President of the United States; the officers, judicial and executive, of the Government of the United States; the members of both Houses of Congress, and their respective clerks; all custom-house officers, with their clerks; all post officers and stage-drivers who are employed in the care and conveyance of the mail of the post office of the United States;

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—The following order has just been issued: WAR DEPARTMENT, U. S. A., August 4, 1862. Order calling for militia from the several States.

FROM CAPT. WEIDMAN. Describing the Battles before Richmond. Capt. Weidman, as he came by, passed directly in front of me, and I was struck with the expression of his countenance, and the address of his manner.

Who Can be Drafted. As it is now determined that drafting shall take place, an interest is felt to know who is exempt. A section of the bill passed by Congress July 15, 1862, provides: "That whenever the President of the United States shall call forth the militia of the States to be employed in the service of the United States, he may specify in his order the militia which shall be exempt from military duty, and the militia so exempted shall be exempted from military duty, and the militia so exempted shall be exempted from military duty."

States, for the space of five consecutive years; but no office shall be so exempt unless by his resignation, after such term of service duly accepted, or in such other manner as shall here be lawfully discharged.

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A Draft for 300,000 Militia for WAR DEPARTMENT, U. S. A., August 4, 1862. Order calling for militia from the several States.

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