

—So successfully does the money order office work that it is to be greatly enlarged. One hundred and thirty-nine offices were established on the first of November last. On the first of June 280 more will be established. The amount of money orders issued last quarter was \$588,462.24, on which Government received about \$5,000. There are about \$40,000 constantly lying in the hands of postmasters, subject to call.

—A delegation of Congressmen, with the Hon. James M. Ashley at their head, called on the President the 16th for the purpose of protesting against any action on the part of the Government, which shall extend the rights of prisoners of war to those officers and privates in the late Rebel service who have consented to the murder and starvation of our men when prisoners of war. There is a great deal of feeling on the point in Ohio and throughout the West, which sections claim to have had an undue proportion of the unfortunate blacks who have been butchered in United States uniform, and of the whites who have been reduced to skeletons by the barbarians of the now collapsed Confederacy. It is understood that President Johnson agreed with the delegation, and will proceed to act upon their representations by directing that testimony be immediately taken upon the subject.

—We learn from Fortress Monroe that the farmers are returning to their plantations, now that the war is over, and are making strenuous efforts to produce good harvests. Large numbers of contrabands are being thrown out of employment by the order of retrenchment in the government expenditure. Many northern farmers, tempted by the liberal inducements of the government, have purchased tracks of land in the neighborhood of Old Point.

—The Galveston News says that the corn crop is good, but that the sugar crop will be very short. At New Orleans the holders of cotton were demanding an advance, and exchange on New York was a half per cent premium.

—A prize fight for \$5,000 took place at Port Jervis yesterday, between two men named Dunn and Davis. The fight lasted one hour and five minutes, during which forty-three rounds were fought, resulting in Dunn winning.

—The Internal Revenue Department has decided: That a manufacturer is entitled to deduct all taxes paid by him as a manufacturer, either as taxes, or under the head of expense of business, in his estimation of income.

—George D. Prentice of the Louisville Journal, is lying very sick at the St. Cloud Hotel, Nashville. Clarence D. Prentice, his son, lately a rebel officer, has taken the oath of allegiance to the Federal Government.

—The Portuguese Cortes have joined the other Governments of Europe in passing resolutions of sympathy with the American people on the occasion of the death of President Lincoln. Accounts of public meetings and resolutions of sympathy continued to pour in from all parts of England. In both Houses of Parliament, on March 4, the reply to the Queen to the addresses in reference to the assassination was read. The Queen declares that she entirely participates in the sentiments addressed to her by the Parliament on the assassination.

—The Spanish Government has issued a decree ordering the evacuation of San Domingo.

—It is now extremely probable that the review will take the shape of the troops through Pennsylvania-avenue, the President and General Grant reviewing the columns from suitable point. This will gratify everybody, and afford spectators a splendid opportunity.

—The Nashville Press learns that Gen. Forrest was killed by Capt. Walker of the Rebel army, in revenge for shooting his son.

—There is in the Patent office at Washington a model of a steamboat invented by Abraham Lincoln. It was patented.

—Mr. Develin, counsel for the United States, applied the Montreal court having cognizance of the cases of the St. Albans raiders on the 12th, that he was instructed to give the information that no further demand would be made by our Government for their extradition.

—The schooner Mailer, of Union, N. J., caught fire in the Potomac near Alexandria, on Monday, and was burned to the water's edge.

—Charles D. Norton has been appointed Collector of the port of Buffalo, vice Metz, deceased.

—Sr. Fernando de la Cuesta, many years Consul of the Mexican Government in Philadelphia, died on the 14th at his residence in that city.

—The Rebel Gen. Early, is said, died recently at Lynchburg. Previous accounts had left him suffering from rheumatism in the stomach.

—President Johnson has recently had his life insured for \$10,000. His late illness arose from vertigo, to which he has always been subject.

—Isaac N. Arnold, member of Congress from Illinois, is said to be preparing an account of President Lincoln's life and administration.

—The delegation from the Argentine Republic to the United States are in New York.

—Nearly 5,000 emigrants reached N. Y., during last week.

—The President is said to be engaged on an Amnesty Proclamation.

—It is said that the counsel for the prisoners in the assassination trial are to be paid, if at all, by money raised in Baltimore for that purpose.

—An unsuccessful attempt was made on the 16th by some rascal to obtain possession of Gen. Grant's two most valuable horses.

—Gen. Halleck has offered a reward of \$25,000 for the arrest of Extra-Billy Smith, a Rebel Governor of Virginia.

—It is now stated that the paper found on the person of Booth, implicating Jeff Davis in the crime of the former, was in cypher, and that it was read by means of another document written in a similar character found in Davis' house in Richmond.

—Dispatches say that the Rebel leaders Gateswood and Chame Ferguson are committing great depredations on the defenseless people of East Tennessee.

—Large numbers of the paroled prisoners of Lee's and Johnston's army are traveling through East Tennessee, robbing and plundering the people generally.

—The camp for mustering-out the troops of the central section of the State of Pennsylvania, will be located in York or Cumberland counties.

—Twenty-four hundred Rebel prisoners at Camp Chase, Ohio, have taken the oath of allegiance, and been discharged.

—Basil Duke, and several of Davis' officers, have surrendered to our forces at Augusta.

—The Navy Department has received information of the capture, on the 11th instant, of the Rebel sloop Florida, with a cargo of cotton, and the Rebel sloop Annie, with a cargo of loose cotton, off Crystal River, Florida, by the United States schooner Sen Bird, tender to the United States steamer Hobbses.

—Three burglars attempted to enter the house of Isaac Cagner, a farmer of Berks Co., Pa. on Wednesday night, but were driven off, and one of their number—a desperate character from Reading—killed.

Bradford Reporter.

Towanda, Thursday, May 25, 1865.

THE LESSON AND THE DUTY OF THE HOUR.

It is the part of wisdom to learn from experience, and the duty of all to bow submissively to the inflictions of Providence. These appear generally to be designed for our good! and often, in the midst of tears we are allowed to see whereby affliction profiteth us, making joy of our sorrow.

Accepting therefore, the terrible death of our beloved, and lamented President, as designed for the nation's good, we propose to make an application. As we understand the nation's condition, and necessities, any man in it could have been better spared than ABRAHAM LINCOLN, and this seems to be the judgment of the whole people; and if it had been asked, at any time since the 4th of March last, whose sudden death would cause the greatest alarm, and the deepest lamentation in the land, the undivided answer would have been, ABRAHAM LINCOLN; yet, with all this unanimity of sentiment on this head, it is meet that he should go hence. It will hardly be contended that his own fame required his death, for he "who doeth all things well," could as easily have preserved the one as the other; and it is equally out of the range of probability, that either his life or his fame were paramount to the interests of this whole nation. But the most reasonable supposition is, that the cause of freedom required this great sacrifice, as it required many others.

A retrospective glance at some of the more prominent events of the first years of the war, may be instructive, and may throw light on our present peculiar surroundings.

The first battle of Bull Run was a fearful blow to the Northern States. All then saw that disaster to our arms must prolong the war a year, if not for years; and, as a consequence, the national heart was filled with gloomy forebodings. But in the renewed efforts called forth to prepare further for the contest, new hope sprang up, and our first discouragement was measurably forgotten in the promise we had in the future. Great preparations were made, and unbought hopes were excited by McClellan's vast assurances of certain triumph. He declared that such an army as he had the South could not resist, and we all believed him. What else could we do? He was our General, and therefore, it was presumed he knew, and he was said to be a second Napoleon. Then how could we help believing him? Besides too, we wanted it to be as he said—poor blind mortals—an additional motive for it.

But this great army, and greater general, and all the accompanying bright hopes, came to naught. Crippled and broken, we were driven from before Richmond, and the second humiliation was greater than the first. Then followed close on its heels the second Bull Run defeat, more disgraceful, and more discouraging than all the rest, because brought about by the treachery of some of our generals. Besides these, we had, as intermediate comforts, as ghastly interludes to our depressed spirits, and bewildered vision, such massacres of our poor soldiers as took place at Great Bethel, at Ball's Bluff, and Boedleis Mill, &c., to reflect over. When all these things came upon us, as they did during the two first years of the war, our hearts nearly sank within us. All was gloom and despondency, and whilst these disasters, in a measure, discouraged us, they did not defeat us, nor was this their design. We were to be schooled by them for greater duty, and much greater realizations than the most sanguine amongst us had dreamed of. But this was not their only purpose, and perhaps the least part of them. It now seems manifest that the success of the rebels in the early part of the struggle, were necessary to lead them into the full, and distinctive exhaustion, which has since followed, and without this exhaustion, our victories would not have been so complete, and God's purpose not so well worked out. For who does not see, that if we had been successful at Bull Run, on the James Peninsula, at Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville, that the rebels would have had to succumb; and if they had yielded then, their darling institution would have been saved, and they could now be back again in the Union with all their insouciance, quarrelsomeness and bravado—perhaps even in power again to-day. Then our work would not only have been unfinished, but our immense losses, our sons, our brothers, our fathers, and our load of debt, would have been an entire sacrifice. No grin could be counted on our side. Now, however, it is different; we have great losses, but also great gains; and this is owing to our defeats, and to rebel successes in the beginning. It now appears, what was not so clear at first, that by this rebellion the Almighty designed to free the blacks, to rid this nation of the curse of slavery, the darkest, the foulest blot that ever stained the escutcheon of any Nation. All the signs we see point in this direction. All the visible indications have been bearing, and all the writing this interpretation. God knew what was necessary to carry out this purpose. We did not. He knew that a half-whipped slave-holder would not give up the victim of his power, and his lust. He knew what a desperate character slavery had created, and what a fearful power he had acquired; and that the means necessary to his destruction must be commensurate.

When the Israelites were led from bondage, fearful indeed, was the tenacity with which the rapacious and gluttony Egyptians clung to their victims. The plagues of vermin, reptiles, and blood, which tortured this poor, besotted nation, could not make them let go the bond-man and the bond-woman; and "Pharaoh, and his host"—the proud, the rich, the lordly slave-holder of Egypt—had to be destroyed before the oppressed brick-maker could be free. How

overwhelming must be that passion which so infatuates its subject as to yield it up only with death. This great Jewish redemption here as developed through this rebellion. Here, the master yielded his slave with all his life. Here, the master throws up all in defence of his slave. There the master rushed to his ruin, and his end, and his bondman "still lives." Here, the master blindly strikes at the constitution, and by it severs the chain which held his slave.

But the last throes, and desperate struggles of the rebellion had begun to excite sympathy for the deluded, erring, wicked rebels, and there was danger of this misleading us. Pity for Lee, he who is no traitor's second in enormous criminality, and who, in turning against his government, adds the great sin of ingratitude to that of treason, for he was educated at the public expense, that he might be a help in time of need, and by receiving her bounty he agreed to defend the government. But this he cast to the dogs, and with hands dripping with the blood of an hundred thousand devoted loyal men, either of whom was a thousand fold better than he. Yet sympathy goes up for this accused rebel, the least deserving and most condemned of all. We hear it said along the streets of Towanda that the heroic Lee, the great general, and fine gentleman, should not be hung. Why? because he has been more successful in slaughtering the Union soldiers? Why? because, by means of superior genius, and greater opportunities, he has been able to do our cause, and our country, more damage? We can hang all the Bealls, and his class of offenders we can take, and these are only the instruments of the great leader, and infinitely less culpable; but Lee, and his conspers must have pity. It is out of place here, and unfit us for duty. We already see the fruits of the leniency granted to Lee and his army, in the aping, and weaker generals, who consented to give a safe conduct, and protection to a rebel legislature, and rebel magnates, to come together to consult for their own safety, and concoct new schemes of trouble for us, and Sherman—I grieve to say it—attempted to imitate George, falling from his high position as a general, to become a lunkster for a copperhead nomination for the Presidency, just as if the latter could rank him, even if successful to his utmost wish, where he stood when before Goldboro. What rank folly. And all this error and blundering, comes from clemency; and had it not been arrested it would have led us to ruin.

In this hour of our great weakness, in the midst of this deep danger, the Almighty takes our leader from us—our Moses is taken hence, and Johnson is placed in the lead, because better fitted for that position of the great work of our redemption, which is yet to be carried out. The genial spirit, the boundless humanity, the lofty earnestness, and enlarged, and winning nobleness of Abraham Lincoln were necessary to lead us through the Red Sea, and over the wasting wilderness, the trials, and sufferings of the Israelites not inaptly typifying our own struggle. Now however, men of sterner mould, of strong sinews, of broader boldness, are called for to meet the exigencies of the hour. Ask, if this is not the true interpretation of our apparent affliction, why is it, that the only members of our administration, that were known to be leaning to full forgiveness to the rebels, a full pardon for their crimes, were stricken down? The rest were in as great danger, but were saved. And why? we can not tell God's workings, only as they become visible to our vision. Then, it is our privilege, as it is our duty, to understand them aright; and this is the inference we draw from this late severe deprivation. That there is good designed by it, can not be doubted. Throughout this whole war, Mr. Seward has been the embodiment of leniency towards the rebels. He has had confidence in kind words, in persuasion, and returning reason. His power in this line is admitted to be unsurpassed, and whilst he did us no harm at home, his peculiar gift in diplomacy, was of infinite advantage, and may continue to be of vast use to us in our affairs with foreign nations. And may not his attempted assassination by those whom he has labored so hard to befriend, be intended to cure him of an error, by teaching him further the fiendish desperation which slavery engenders, and the wonderful danger there is in trifling with it.

Looking then, upon Mr. Lincoln's administration as the first period, or step, in freedom's upward, and humanity's advancing strides, we come to the beginning of the second period, when we are to cross the Jordan, under a new leadership, and when we are to go into the full possession of our national heritage, when graver and more melancholy duties may exact our homage, and try our faith.

Now is this aspect of the case in any way changed in view of the re-election of President Lincoln. That election was one of the leading measures which led to our final triumph. Without it, we were really in danger of being defeated, and it is our belief would have been. That election was just as potent in our success, and just as necessary, as were the great armies of Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Thomas all combined, and a simultaneous victory by each division would have been a less powerful auxiliary in crushing the rebellion, than was the re-election of Abraham Lincoln. That election gave us the first great victory, and his death the second and final triumph over traitors and the cause of slavery. The first was a lesson to the rebel mind, and the last a lesson to the free mind of the North, and knowing our lesson let us heed it.

The large rewards for the capture of Booth and Harold are to be distributed at the discretion of the Secretary of War upon the completion of the trials.

THE ASSASSINATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF TUESDAY.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, May 16. In accordance with a suggestion made yesterday, by the Judge-Advocate, the commission repaired to Fom's Theatre, this morning, at half-past nine o'clock, to examine the premises, with a view to a more intelligent understanding of the testimony. A large crowd collected in front of the theatre, but none were admitted save the members of the commission, the official reporters, and the several Senators.

Everything remains undisturbed inside the building, just as it was at the time of the assassination, except that the chair in which Mr. Lincoln sat when he was shot has been taken away, and the blue flag, which hung in front of the box, and in which Booth's spur caught, has been removed. We found upon examination that the distance the assassin ran in order to get out of the building after he fell upon the stage, was about ninety feet, two-thirds of this being the distance from the box in which the President was seated, to the passage-way leading to the rear door, through which Booth escaped from the theatre. This passage-way is about six feet wide, entirely unobstructed, and is on a level with the ground in the rear of the building, so that the assassin had no steps or stairs to ascend or descend in taking his flight from the stage, on the south side of the theatre, on Tenth-street, on which the building fronts. It was at the front door of this hall that Booth, Spangler and another man whose name is not yet in evidence, were engaged in the mysterious whispering and maneuvering which attracted the attention of Sgt. Joseph M. Dye, as detailed by him in his testimony yesterday.

The examination of the building elicited many other features worthy of special mention. At about 10:30 o'clock the commission arrived at the court-room, and resumed the hearing of the case. Some three hours were consumed in reading and revising the journal of yesterday's proceedings, and at 2 o'clock a witness was called to the stand and the hearing progressed until near 7 o'clock, when the commission adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

Among the witnesses called to the stand this morning was Col. W. H. Wells, now Provost-Marshal of Alexandria. Col. Wells is a lawyer, formerly of Detroit. His testimony was clear and comprehensive, and fixed the guilt of Dr. Mudd as an accomplice of Booth beyond a doubt.

Disturbed the defendant, upon whom it weighs heavily, more than anything that has occurred during the trial. Mudd winced manifestly as Col. Wells detailed the defendant's preparation and evasion, and his final acknowledgement of damaging facts. It now comes out that it is Col. Wells, probably, more than any other person engaged in unravelling the mystery of the assassination, that we are indebted for bringing the offenders to trial and throwing light upon the dark plot. He it was who detected and caused the arrest of Payne, Mrs. Surratt, Atzerodt, Arnold, O'Laughlin, Spangler and Mudd. He discovered and followed the trail of Booth and Harold down into Lower Maryland, and finally telegraphed to the War Department the information which led to their capture.

The shadow deepens as to O'Laughlin, and the additional testimony to-day by Maj. Knox and Hatter, showing the presence of accused at Mr. Stanton's house on the night of the 13th of April, under suspicious circumstances, exercised O'Laughlin painfully. His facial demonstrations of mental suffering and misery during the rendering of this evidence, were generally remarked. The prisoner is much changed to-day. He came into the room this morning looking very pale and dejected.

The prisoners' platform and railing has been extended across the entire width of the room, and Mrs. Surratt now sits upon one end of it, two or three feet apart from the other accused. This miserable creature is looking stronger and apparently more reconciled, as in fact do all the prisoners save Dr. Mudd and O'Laughlin.

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JEFFERSON DAVIS.

PARTICULARS OF HIS FLIGHT.

NASHVILLE, Friday, May 19, 1865. Through Confederate officers who have just arrived, I get a full account of Jeff. Davis' movements up to within a short time of his capture.

Gen. Debell, who commanded his escort, was engaged in the battle near Raleigh, N. C., when he received intelligence of the surrender of Lee; and at the same time Wheeler got a dispatch from Jeff. Davis, dated at Greensboro, N. C., calling for one thousand picked men, to escort him and what remained of his government to Washoe, Ga.

Debell was accordingly dispatched with the required force, and after a march of three days reached Greensboro, at which point he found Jeff. Davis with his family, Judah P. Benjamin, John C. Breckinridge, Senator Burnett of Kentucky, J. H. Reagan, Postmaster General Gustavus A. Harris of Tennessee, and other Rebel officials.

As soon as Gen. Debell arrived the party prepared to march, and they set out on the following day. Jeff. Davis and the Rebel officials rode in front, followed by ambulances containing the women and children and the specie, which was currently reported among the officers to amount to eleven millions of dollars. It was put up in heavy iron-bound kegs and boxes, and had a guard of one thousand men led by Gen. Debell, which followed the train.

At a point about five miles from Greensboro they camped. Jeff. Davis and family taking up their quarters in a house in the vicinity. Here the rank and file first learned the object of their mission, and it was discussed with all the surmises which it naturally excited, the men being exceedingly anxious to know the destination of their government.

On the following day Jeff. Davis visited the boys and made a day-stirring speech, advising to the disasters that had overtaken their beloved Confederacy, but giving them every assurance that they were not irrevocably lost—that all that was necessary to ultimate success was confidence in their Government, and the undaunted bravery which had characterized the Confederate Army during its past career.

Upon taking up the line of march, they rode in the same order, Jeff. Davis having by his side, one Col. Johnston, an aide of Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston, in whom he evidently reposed the most implicit confidence.

They reached Charlotte, N. C., where they again camped, and Davis harangued the men again, inspiring confidence in them and dealing in glowing words of Rebel patriotism. He appeared happy and cheerful, took the boys by the hand, and entered into cheerful conversation with them. He would praise their valor in the presence of the ladies, and call them the faithful thousand, the Bower of the Confederacy, and paid other pretty but not substantial compliments.

At this point they were joined by Basil Duke, Ferguson and Vaughter, with their brigades, which increased the escort to the magnificent proportion of 5000 men.

After the new comers had mingled with the others they were given the condition of things, and they too had their surmises. Like a pack of hungry wolves they were suddenly reminded that the Government was slightly indebted to them, and as the treasure was near at hand the idea of presenting their bills suggested itself to them.

The men would congregate in groups, and their low mutterings boded no good to the Government. Jeff. found it necessary to rebuke his efforts to conciliate, but his eloquence was wasted now. The men obeyed their marching orders and followed Jeff. into South Carolina to Abbeville, where they again halted, very much fatigued and demoralized.

On the 8th they began to assume a new desperate feature, and Jeff. found it politic to inspire his brave boys with something more substantial than words. The treasure was opened, and the division of Gen. Debell, with the brigades of Duke, Ferguson and Vaughter, were formed in line, and the soldiers were paid off. Some of the men were paid \$40, some \$28, and others \$20. They were paid in gold and silver, the coin being chiefly Mexican dollars, with few United States; but few of them received gold.

In the evening Duke sent his Adjutant-General, Capt. Davis, to notify all his men who wished to go west of the Mississippi River, to report at 11 o'clock on the following day. At the appointed time all the men reported, but Duke refused to take those who were without arms, and taking only those who were armed, and left the others to shift for themselves.

They heaped curses on Duke, and with heavy hearts went to Washoe, Ga., where they surrendered themselves to Col. Wilson, together with the brigades of Ferguson and Vaughter.

The command of Gen. Debell escorted Jeff. Davis to Vienna Valley, on the west bank of the Savannah River, when the grand dissolution took place on the 9th.

At this point Debell, Breckinridge, Burnett and several other troops, last followed by Jeff. Davis and his family. At the hour named Jeff. Davis and suite crossed the river, and the other portion of the government galloped off to Washington, their pocket-handkerchiefs in mourning.

The command was apprised of the fact that they were now left to follow the bent of their own inclinations. Benjamin and Breckinridge, with their friends, no doubt reached the west bank of the Mississippi.

THE REBEL GEN. BEN. HILL GIVES UP HIS COMMAND—THE MEN PAROLED.

LOUISVILLE, Friday, May 19, 1865. Mr. McGrath was shot and killed in Shelbyville this morning by a negro soldier of Capt. Kirt's company. McGrath and two or three others violently objected to the occupancy by the negro troops of the United States of the rendezvous, and in this altercation the shooting occurred.

The Nashville Union says the Rebel General Ben. Hill has turned over all his men—some 700 in number, with their arms and horses—to the United States authorities. The men were paroled.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ATHENS

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF CONTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY, WASHINGTON, May 11, 1865. WHEREAS, by satisfactory evidence it has been ascertained that the "First National Bank of Athens," in the borough of Athens, in the county of Bradford and State of Pennsylvania, has been duly organized and according to the requirements of the Act of Congress, entitled "An Act to provide a National Currency, secured by a pledge of United States Bonds, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof," approved February 25, 1863, and has complied with all the provisions of said Act, required to be complied with, before commencing the business of banking under said Act.

Now, therefore, I, FREDERICK CLARKE, Comptroller of the Treasury, do hereby certify that the "First National Bank of Athens," in the borough of Athens, in the county of Bradford, in the State of Pennsylvania, is authorized to commence the business of banking under the authority of the Act of Congress, entitled "An Act to provide a National Currency, secured by a pledge of United States Bonds, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof," approved February 25, 1863, and I do hereby certify that the said bank has complied with all the provisions of said Act, required to be complied with, before commencing the business of banking under said Act.

Now, therefore, I, FREDERICK CLARKE, Comptroller of the Treasury, do hereby certify that the "First National Bank of Athens," in the borough of Athens, in the county of Bradford, in the State of Pennsylvania, is authorized to commence the business of banking under the authority of the Act