

**Gov. Curtin and the Secret Service Fund—How the Money of the People is Expended to Secure his Re-election, and how the Sick and Wounded Soldiers are Defrauded.**

HARRISBURG, Sept. 28, 1863.

Messrs. Editors of the Age.—I observe among the items contained in *The Age*, that Philadelphia is rapidly filling up with soldiers, many of them sent home upon furlough for the purpose of voting for Curtin. The same thing is observable throughout the whole State. In every city and town the soldiers favorable to Governor Curtin are flocking home to vote, while the Democrats are left in the field to face the enemy, and perhaps to suffer defeat from this unwarrantable and inhuman depletion of our armies.

I have ascertained upon the most undoubted authority that Gov. Curtin has agents employed to visit the hospitals and camps, to sound the men, ascertain who are willing to vote for him, and obtain furloughs for such, to visit their homes on election days. These agents go out ostensibly upon missions of humanity. They pretend to visit and care for the sick and wounded Pennsylvanians in our hospitals, but the principal business is to drum up recruits for Curtin. A young man from this town, who has been employed in this business, admitted, the other day, in an unguarded moment, that he had been visiting the hospitals for the express purpose of ascertaining the names of the Curtin men. The gross injustice of this proceeding must be apparent to every fair man; but the more feature remains to be told. The expense of these agents are paid out of the State Treasury. Governor Curtin is now using the money appropriated by the Legislature as a secret service fund, for the purpose of advancing his own private interests. Let me state facts that will bring the charge directly home to the Governor.

The three million Loan bill passed by the Legislature, and approved by the Governor on the 15th of May, 1861, authorized him to draw on his warrant from the State Treasury a sum not exceeding \$20,000 for the compensation of such persons as he may require to serve the Commonwealth in the military organization of the State or the General Government, and for the expenses incident to the business on which they may be employed, and he is further "authorized to cause the same to be duly settled quarterly with the Auditor General of the State." Under the authority hereby granted, Governor Curtin has drawn from the State Treasury the sum of \$15,500, and has settled only one quarterly account, for the quarter ending December 21, 1861, for the sum of \$6,007.38, leaving the sum of \$9,492.62 in his hands unaccounted for, although the law expressly requires him to make quarterly settlements. The sum of \$6,007.38, for which Governor Curtin has accounted, was principally expended in paying his aids-de-camp and in the expenses of special agents visiting the hospitals to look after sick and wounded soldiers. The sum of \$9,492.62, for which Governor Curtin has not accounted, is now being expended in paying the expenses of agents, whose particular business is to ascertain the politics of the soldiers in camps and hospitals, and to report the names of those who are good enough Curtin men to entitle them to receive a permission to come home and vote. Why has Governor Curtin neglected to settle his account for secret service money, drawn since Dec. 21, 1861, in utter disregard of law which requires him to settle quarterly accounts? Because he was a candidate for re-election, and he feared to place on record an account which would have convicted him of having misappropriated the public money and diverted funds intended for the relief of the sick and wounded soldier to the advancement of his own private political purposes.

In September, 1861, Gov. Curtin repaired to Washington for the purpose of presenting regimental flags to the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps. How much do you think that visit ought to have cost the State? How much would it have cost any man of prudence who desired to spend as little of the public money as possible? The public records show that Governor Curtin drew from the Treasury to defray the expenses of himself and suite on this occasion, the sum of \$384.30. The greater part of this money was evidently spent in riotous living—in dining and winning the hangers-on who accompanied his Excellency under the name of his suite—as if the Governor of Pennsylvania could not repair to Washington to perform a simple duty without having a suite of young Forneys and McMichaels tagging at his heels and guzzling at the expense of the State.

If the Governor would only settle his account for the last quarter, there is not an earthly doubt that it would appear he had spent at least five hundred dollars in the expense of himself and suite to the headquarters of the army of the Potomac to witness the sword presentation to Gen. Meade, Forney and McMichael, and other members of his suite, were present and their expenses paid by the State, while they were manufacturing a speech for General Meade, which he never made. And if report does not belie them, the whole party, not excepting the Governor himself, disgraced themselves by their conduct upon that occasion and subsequent thereto.

These are facts that cannot be denied. Governor Curtin has drawn from the Treasury over nine thousand dollars which he has never accounted for, although required by law to make quarterly settlements. His money has been expended, and is being expended, in paying the expenses of political agents, and inference is not only fair but irresistible that the expenses of Gov. Curtin and the suite with which he is now travelling the State, are paid out of the same fund. If the people

of Pennsylvania can re-elect Governor Curtin in the face of these facts, they deserve to be plundered and enslaved.

**Montrose Democrat.**

A. J. GERRITSON, Editor.  
Thursday, Oct. 8th, 1863.

**Democratic State Nominations.**

FOR GOVERNOR,  
**GEORGE W. WOODWARD,**  
OF LUZERNE CO.

FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT,  
**WALTER H. LOWRIE,**  
OF ALLEGHENY CO.

**Democratic County Ticket.**

FOR REPRESENTATIVE:  
M. C. TYLER, of Montrose.

FOR SHERIFF:  
GAYLORD CURTIS, of Susq'a Depot.

FOR PROTHONOTARY:  
OWEN P. PHINNEY, of Dundaff.

REGISTER AND RECORDER:  
ABRAHAM WALTMAN, of Auburn.

FOR TREASURER:  
WM. K. HATCH, of Montrose.

FOR COMMISSIONER:  
JAMES MEAD, of Friendsville.

FOR CORONER:  
DR. C. C. EDWARDS, of Harford.

FOR AUDITOR:  
E. H. GAGE, of Silver Lake.

**Election, Tuesday, October 13.**

"These States are glorious in their individuality, but their collective glories are in the Union. By all means, at all hazards, are they to be maintained in their integrity and the full measure of their Constitutional rights, for only so is the Union to be preserved—only so is it that the colored man, blended, produce the ray of light. It is the completeness of these assembled sovereignties, lacking nothing which they have not lent for a great purpose, that makes the Union precious. This word Union is a word of gracious omen. It implies confidence and affection—mutual support and protection against external dangers. It is the charmed circle within which the family dwells. It is a man helping his fellow-man in this rugged world. It is States, perfect in themselves, confederated for mutual advantage. It is the people of States, separated by lines, and interests, and institutions, and usages, all forming one glorious nation—all moving onward to the same sublime destiny, and all united with a common life. Our fathers pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honors, to form this Union—let ours be pledged to maintain it."—Geo. W. Woodward.

Voters should remember that it was a belief that the Republicans meant to take from the South their rights in the Union, that caused the South to try to go out of the Union. Now, if the Republicans—who are getting more Abolitionized every day—are kept in power, the South will fight all the harder for independence. But put the Republicans out of power, and the Rebel excuse for the rebellion will be taken from them; the honest Southern masses and Union men will abandon their leaders, their soldiers will desert, and the war come to a desirable end much sooner.

We have been told by many rebel soldiers that they had no enmity to the North, generally, but hated Abolitionism! There is plenty of evidence of this kind. Such soldiers will not continue to fight, if Abolitionism is defeated at the polls. Of course the rebel leaders will not give up, but our policy is to induce the Southern people and soldiers to abandon Jeff Davis and his wicked crew, and submit to the laws. Only show the Southern people that with submission comes protection, and they will submit. But continue the present policy of universal Abolition and confiscation, and we may fight on for an indefinite period, and give every ranting Abolitionist, and every other man, a chance to see whether fighting is pleasant and profitable.

**STRONG TESTIMONY.**—Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts, an Abolition member of Congress, thus exposed the corruption of his party, in an able speech delivered upon the floor of the last Congress, on the 25th of April, 1862:

"The gentlemen must remember that in the first year of a Republican Administration, which came into power upon professions of reform and retrenchment, there is indubitable evidence abroad in the land that somebody has plundered the public Treasury well nigh, in that single year, as much as the current yearly expenses of the Government during the Administration which the people hurried from power because of its corruption." Voters! bear this in mind on your way to the polls on the second Tuesday of October.

A small crowd was at Montrose yesterday to hear a speech from Horace Greeley, the author of the following:

**The American Flag.**  
Tear down the flaunting Lie!  
Half-mast the starry flag!  
Insult no sunny sky  
With hate's polluted rag!  
Destroy it who can!  
Deep sink it in the waves!

**ONE DAY FOR LIBERTY!**

We appeal to the friends of Woodward, Lowrie and Liberty, to devote Tuesday next to the success of our candidates. See that yourself and friends so arrange your business as to be at home, with nothing to do but attend the election and work for the ticket.

Hitch up your team early in the day and take a load of your friends with you to the polls. When there, see that every man who will vote our ticket is supplied with a full set, and that he is allowed to put it into the ballot-box.

Do not stand arguing with Republican politicians; for while one keeps you talking, another will cheat some Democrat out of his vote. Keep quietly to the work of supplying votes to those who want them, and let the abolitionists do the blowing.

See that every Democrat from your vicinity comes to the polls. If he delays coming, go with your team and bring him along. Some hundreds of Democrats in the county may neglect to come out, each one thinking that "one vote will make no difference." But let every one be urged to attend, and vote a full ticket.

Keep close watch of the polls, so that fraudulent Republican votes shall not be cast. Challenge every man who is believed to not be lawfully entitled to vote.

Be careful to see that the votes are not changed before being put in the box, or that one of them is not dropped on the floor. See that your set is full, all put in and tallied.

Let no threats or promises prevent you or your friends from voting as you choose. Be active and vigilant and victory is ours. Those who work will win the day.

**ONE QUESTION SETTLED.**

We are always glad to see a controversy settled. For years we have argued that the Republican party was taking the ground of Negro-Equality. Democrats maintain that negroes are inferior to whites; but Republicans assume that where the Declaration of Independence says, "all men are created equal," we are to understand that negroes are included, and are therefore equal to the whites.—But Democrats repudiate this forced construction of that revered instrument, holding that no negroes were in the Convention, and were not meant to be included; and that nobody ever thought that made negroes equal to whites, until Abolitionists said so for political effect.

A secret hand-bill has lately been printed by the Curtin Committee, asserting that because Democrats argue that the Declaration don't include negroes, that they "repudiate the Declaration;" which allegation is false. We only repudiate the Republican idea that it makes negroes equal to whites.

The circulation of this hand-bill, therefore, besides showing that the Abolitionists will lie to gain votes, settles one question, viz: that Curtin and his party leaders believe that negroes are equal to whites, and therefore are in favor of Negro-Equality. With Abolitionists who swallow this modern doctrine, we hold no dispute; and think that every man who thinks negroes are his equal ought to vote for Curtin; also for Agnew, who advocates negro-voting.

But white men of all parties who repudiate Negro-Equality will repudiate Shoddy Andy and his party.

The Curtin organs do not pretend to stick to the truth, but rely on falsehood to sustain their sinking cause, and cheat the public. One of the latest lies is a statement in the Montrose Republican that "Rev. Thos. P. Hunt, a life-long Democrat, was out for Curtin." "Father Hunt" never was a Democrat, and never voted the Democratic ticket, but is an old-fashioned John Adams black-cockade Federalist, as he announced at a meeting in Montrose last Fall. He is also an advocate of the abolition of all legal distinction between white and black men. Who could such a man be but for Curtin? The Montrose Republican may convince the public that the creatures who wrote and printed that statement are "life-long liars," but it could not convince the editor that his adopted story was aught else but a willful falsehood.

Let no Democrat trade votes. Do not vote for Curtin because some Republican offers to vote a part of our county ticket. You will be cheated at last, and that too by men who call you "copperheads," and say you ought to be hung. Poll a full vote for Woodward, Lowrie, and the whole Democratic ticket. Its success has insured unity and prosperity to the country in the past, and it will do so in the future.

Let every freeman who desires to see the Union preserved, and the authority of the Constitution restored to every part of the country, vote for Judge Woodward.

**CURTIN AND MORE DRAFTING!**

New Jersey has a Democratic Governor, who is, of course, opposed to the present iniquitous system of drafting; when better means are at hand to raise troops; so he went to work on 30 days notice and raised the whole quota of the State by volunteers, and there will be no draft in that State. Gov. Seymour, of New York, another Democrat, wanted to be allowed to raise volunteers, but Lincoln, thinking they could cheat enough in the draft to change the result of the election, refused to accept volunteers, on the false plea that he could not wait for that.

We call it a false plea, for more men were raised in one half the time in the little state of New Jersey by volunteering, than in all New England by drafting. So it is proved that the Democratic policy of volunteering is more speedy and effective than the Republican policy of a slow and unfair draft. No Republican Governor has asked to be allowed to raise volunteers. Gov. Curtin has not—and if he is elected draft after draft must be made until every man has had a chance to march or pay \$300—and pay the \$300 several times, too, for the Republicans decide that a man is liable to pay \$300 every time there is a draft.

If Woodward is elected, he will not favor the system of drafting; but if more men are needed, he will if allowed by the President have them raised if possible by the only proper method—volunteering.

If Woodward is elected, the war will be shortened, for he is in favor of suppressing the rebellion and then letting the war cease.

If Curtin is elected, the war will be prolonged, for he and his party is pledged to continue the war until all the slaves are liberated—a long and hopeless task.

**"600,000 More!"**

According to the Washington correspondent of the New York Evening Post, another draft is about to be ordered for 600,000 men, the present one not having produced over 75,000 men, and probably not more than 50,000. All persons liable to be caught in the "wheel of fortune" would therefore do well to commence their preparations for donning a blue roundabout and being sent off to Dixie, or for paying the little three hundred commutation demanded in lieu of personal service. "Your money or your life" is the watchword of the administration, and you will be allowed no appeal to the Courts from the decision of the Boards of enrollment and Provost Marshal Gen. Fry, since the President has suspended the habeas corpus and established Martial law throughout the country.—*Owego Gazette.*

The Abolition papers are busy lying about Judge Woodward, but they dare not quote the platform upon which he was nominated, nor his letter which we printed last week, one paragraph of which we reprint in type large enough so that Republicans whose eyes are but slightly open can read it:

**"So far from ever avowing belief in secession, or favoring recognition of the Southern Confederacy, I am and always have been opposed to both, and am in favor of suppressing the rebellion by which both are supported."**

The Abolition organs are circulating what they call "extracts from the last speech of Geo. Woodward." We copy one sentence:

"We hear it said, let the South go peaceably. I say, let her go peaceably!"

Judge Woodward never entertained the idea nor used the words, Greeley did, in the Tribune, advocate that doctrine, and now the blacks charge their own treason upon patriotic men. The other pretended quotations from Woodward, in the African organs are garbled and false.

We learn from Philadelphia papers that Curtin is having soldiers who will vote for him, from Massachusetts, Vermont, and other States; imported into that city, kept there ten days, and assessed to vote, while those who will vote for Woodward, but belong in the city, are sent away so that they cannot vote. Curtin is the "soldier's friend," just so far as he can use them to further his pecuniary or political interests, or those of his thieving go-betweens.

**FRIENDSHIP FOR SOLDIERS.**

A vote for Governor was taken among the inmates of the Nicetown Hospital a day or two ago, which resulted in favor of Woodward by about two to one. This result frightened those in authority, and the Woodward men have been promptly sent away, some to their regiments and some to other hospitals in counties where they have no right to vote. We learn that about two hundred members of the Invalid Corps who were believed to be unsound on the goose, have also been sent away to Harrisburg and other places where they have not the legal right to vote. This is the way the Curtinists manifest their friendship for the soldier. *Philadelphia Evening Journal.*

**How Goes the Contest?**

This is the inquiry of all. We can assure our friends that the prospect is good. The Democratic party never was better united, and thousands are joining us. Reports from all quarters are cheering. There is no want of harmony in our ranks, in spite of the corrupt means everywhere used by the corrupt shoddy party to gain votes. Our candidate is above reproach. No man can truthfully say aught against George W. Woodward. The Philadelphia Inquirer, the most widely circulated and influential Republican journal in Pennsylvania, the day after the Convention, said:

**"JUDGE WOODWARD IS A CITIZEN OF UNIMPEACHABLE CHARACTER, AN ABLE JURIST, AND A PATRIOTIC GENTLEMAN."**

No word has ever been uttered by that paper to contradict the above.

But Curtin and his party are in tribulation. The three Republican papers at Pittsburgh were so bitterly opposed to Curtin that they declared that he "could not be elected, and he ought not to be;" and they showed by his corrupt record that he was unfit for any post of trust. A new organ has been started at Pittsburgh, to coax Republicans in that region to vote for Curtin, with what effect we shall see.

In Blair County the party organ, the *Whip*, refused to hoist Curtin's name or support him. In York County the *Pennsylvanian*, a Republican paper, gave its opinion of Shoddy Andy, thus:

**"WE ACKNOWLEDGE IN SHAME THAT WE VOTED FOR GOVERNOR CURTIN. GOD SPARE US FROM EVER AGAIN VOTING FOR SUCH A MAN. HONEST REPUBLICANS, CAN YOU VOTE FOR SUCH A MAN?"**

In Philadelphia the most prominent Republican paper, one of whose publishers holds an office under Lincoln, is entirely silent on the question of Governor, except to speak well of Judge Woodward, as above quoted. Two years ago it published the damning evidence of Curtin's guilty connection with the frauds upon our State volunteers, and last July, while we were in the State service, and somebody was making money by keeping back our food, the *Inquirer* published the following:

"It is a sad commentary that, while thousands of brave men rush to arms to defend the State from invasion, and while the Governor was tickling them with honied words, his minions and followers were permitted, like harpies, to deprive them of food, and to compel them to make long and weary marches without the poor luxury of crackers and pork. It is a matter of record that, while these contractors were receiving enormous sums, the gallant Philadelphia soldiers were placed on an allowance of a cracker a day for several days together, thanks to the neglect and corruption of the Executive Department of Pennsylvania."

So we may confidently assure our friends that "all goes well." Let every man rally to the post of duty, prepared to balance any scheme of fraud that may be perpetrated, by making our majority overwhelming. One strong, united pull, and victory is ours.

**THE PHILLIPS & GARRISON PARTY.**

The Republican party has finally admitted that they have taken position with Wendell Phillips and William Lloyd Garrison who declare that "the Constitution of the United States is a league with death and a covenant with hell." This announcement is made in the Worcester correspondence of the New York Tribune, which speaking of the late Massachusetts "Republican" convention, says:

"It will be borne in mind that there were nearly 1,700 delegates in attendance, and that resolutions, radical, without a precedent in the history of this State were under consideration, and thus unanimously adopted. In their admirable speeches, Wilson and Boutwell, Dana and Elliott, ranged themselves fully along side of Garrison and Phillips, and the Convention, with united, and enthusiastic voice, said amen!"

**OUR COUNTY TICKET.**

Do not neglect the county ticket. We have said less about it, knowing that if we convinced men that our cause was right, and that they ought to vote for Woodward, they would also vote our county ticket; and have therefore depended more on the friends of the candidates to look out in their respective localities for such extra votes as they may be able to poll. Our ticket is a first-rate one—admitted to be such by all—and well worthy an election.

**OFFICIAL FRAUDS.**—The Pennsylvania soldiers will never forget that Andrew G. Curtin aided and abetted in the perpetration of the most outrageous frauds against them: He appointed contractors, who with his positive knowledge, provided for our gallant volunteers shoddy uniforms, cobweb blankets, worthless shoes, and unwholesome provisions. For these articles the contractors received the highest prices. They are now supporting Curtin, and are attempting to secure his election by using the same money they plundered, with his concurrence, from the public Treasury.

Freemen should remember that any person who tries to induce them to vote against their wishes by promises of reward, or who threatens to discharge them from their work, are liable to fine and imprisonment. If any Curtinite is caught at their practice of bribing or threatening voters, see that the voter votes as he pleases, and then that the offender is sent to the penitentiary. Republicans in some parts of this county often try to force their hired men to vote against their will. Watch them this time, and remind them of the \$500 fine and two years imprisonment.

Among the malicious falsehoods coined by the Curtinites to bolster up his cause, we call attention to a few of those appearing in the Montrose organ:

Its allegation that British gold is now being used to aid the "copperheads," is a falsehood which we believe to be willful.

Its statement that Heister Clymer said that Woodward and Vallandigham, if elected, would withdraw the troops from their States to force the administration into a compromise, has been branded by Mr. Clymer as a falsehood. Will Frazier retract the lie?

The second-hand yarn of T. J. Bingham that Judge Lowrie ordered two hungry soldiers from his door, saying he preferred feeding rebels, is false. This Bingham has been proven a liar in this canvass, by a soldier in the field; and the blacks had better hunt up some other creature to coin slanders.

We can take up no more space to-day in exposing their falsehoods. The public may look for a quantity of them in papers and hand-bills, before election.

Curtin's committee have printed some extracts garbled from a speech of Alexander H. Stephens, made in 1860, against secession. It shows that the Vice President of the Southern Confederacy was opposed to leaving the Union; and it is generally believed that he is still in favor of giving up and submitting to our government. A few months ago he started for Washington to see Lincoln and lay before him propositions to end the war, and return to the Union, but the President sent him back, refusing even to hear what he would offer.

If Stephens is so good a Union man as to be used to electioneer for Curtin & Co., why could not Lincoln just as easily be the offer of peace and submission which he wanted to make; if favorable to the North, they could have accepted, the war ended, and the Union restored, but if not honorable, rejected.

But no; Lincoln & Co. feared that the offer of peace would be honorable, and they therefore would not listen to it, and so prolong the war for abolition and robbing purposes.

The Curtinites in their desperation have fallen back upon rebel aid for their electioneering thunder. They circulate a hand-bill which gives what they say appeared in Jeff Davis' organ, the Richmond Enquirer. If the words ever were printed in that rebel sheet, it only proves what we believe—that the rebels want the Democrats beaten, and hope to injure them by false professions of friendship. Any sensible man can see that the whole thing is a party trick to scare weak men out of their votes. If Davis' organ ever contained the hand-bill stuff (which we doubt) it was put there on purpose to be used by abolitionists for their benefit; for if rebels really wanted the Democrats to carry the North, they would be too shrewd to say so for it would injure us; while if, as we believe, Jeff Davis wanted the Democrats beaten he is cunning enough to know that the way to help do it would be to praise us, and get the abolitionists to circulate his stuff, as they are doing.

The handbill only proves that the Curtinites are using a probable falsehood or rebel aid to beat Woodward, and that Jeff Davis is used to aid Curtin.

The desperate Curtinites are trying to scare weak men into voting for Shoddy Andy, by falsely alleging that the friends of Woodward are in favor of paying the rebel debt when the war is over! The story is a WILFUL FALSEHOOD. No Democrat has ever favored any such thing. The Northern debt, which will be immensely increased by the thieving party friends of Curtin, will be larger than can be paid for generations, without any Southern debt.

The abolitionists are flooding the State with numerous falsehoods to affect the election on Tuesday next. A quantity of anonymous handbills, some of them so contemptible that they have not dared to print them in their newspapers, where they could be seen and exposed, are to be put secretly into people's hands to deceive voters. Pay no attention to any sort of slander issued just before election, but go to work and help carry the State for the UNION AND WOODWARD.