vent in the future its restoration to life and power. Such, at least, is my faith, and so believing, I can trust God, and wait the developments of the future.

—He may learn again from this great national bereavement, how deep and damning is the sin of American Slavery, which, after deluging the land with blood, and filling it with mourning over the slain of a hundred battlefields, consummates the sum of its enormities by assassinating our President.

I hesitate not to say that slavery has done this; for no man but one educated under the debasing influences of this institution could be guilty of such a foul deed as this. Nor could we believe that even a slaveocrat could be base enough to murder a kind, generous-spirited, noble man, such as our late President was, if we had not tangible evidence of the fact that it has been done, and if the possibility of such an act had not previously been demonstrated by the starvation under their direction of thousands of our noble soldiers in wretched military prisons. And will any man, after this last evidence of its enormity, dare to plead for an extension of its power or a prolongation of its life? No, let us rather rejoice that it is so near its end, and let us do all we can to hasten that end, and to consign it to a grave from which it will never have a Resurrection.

From this sad catastrophe we may also learn what treatment the Leaders in this wicked rebellion deserve, and must receive, if we would meet the command of God in regard to such, vindicate the law, and secure ourselves and our posterity against such outbreaks in the future.

If forbearance and kindness could have cured them of their folly and their wickedness, surely they would have been cured under the mild rule of Abraham Lincoln. But they laughed at his offers of pardon, spurned all his proposals for peace, and now at last have taken his life by the hand of an assassin. And to-day the voice of the blood of their best friend cries to God from the ground, demanding vengeance upon the heads of these murderers of their countrymen, who have fallen in battle, and of their rightful President. And that cry OUGHT TO BE and I believe MUST BE REGARDED, if we would do our duty before God to ourselves and to our posterity. These men must be executed or banished from the country. For they are the murderers of their brethren, and they have defiled the land with the blood of their slain. And as in patriarchal times the land could not be cleansed from the blood shed therein, except by the blood of him that shed it, so also in our day, it can only be cleansed by the blood of these rebel leaders who are responsible for all the blood that has been shed during this rebellion. The least punishment that ought to be thought of in connection with these men should be that of Cain—banishment to some distant land, with the infamous mark of TRAITOR and MURDERER upon them. God grant that the successor of our fallen President may have strength and courage given him for the full discharge of his duty to his country and to the race, in the proper punishment of these infamous rebel leaders. For if it was consistent with the principles of religion for Samuel to hew Agag to pieces before the Lord, whom Saul through a false clemency had spared, notwithstanding the command of Jehovah to the contrary; or for Solomon to carry out the request of David made on his dying bed in relation to the punishment of Joab, the murderer of Abner, whom he had been unable to execute himself, it is equally consistent for us, in a judicial manner, to visit the penalty of murder upon these monsters who have been at the head of this rebellion. And I do not know but that this sad calamity has been permitted to fall upon us just in the moment of our rejoicings over our recent victories, to keep us from losing sight of the enormity of the sin of rebellion, and to unite the nation in a determination to make these leaders atone for their sin by the sacrifice of their lives. If this should be the result, then will not Abraham. Lincoln have died in vain, and the nation at large shall have less cause to regret the manner of his death.

We should learn finally, from this mysterious providence to recognize God as our rightful sovereign, who holds in His hands the destinies of nations, and only uses men in authority as the instruments by which He manifests His own efficiency.

Hence He can rule by whomever He pleases, dispensing at pleasure with the services of one however valuable, and substituting for them those of another. Hence also, it is our duty in this trying hour, instead of murmuring or repining at the Providence of God in removing him we had all learned to honor and love, to bow submissively to the stroke, praying him to sanctify it to the good of the nation; and then turning with earnest confidence and zeal to his successor, give to him our hearty support, our sympathy, and our prayers. May heaven bless him with strength for his work, give him success in its performance, and long preserve him to a restored, a united, and a happy nation. And may this hour, so dark in our country's history, be the precursor of the opening morn of a day of peace, and union, and prosperity, that will never again be disturbed; but melting away in the brighter glories of the sun of righteousness, introduce at last the peaceful and eternal reign of the great Jehovah. And then may we with our fallen President, and the good and holy of all lands and of every age, take up anew the song of a nation's victory that has been suspended by this sad bereavement, and in nobler strains than we can employ here, chant it joyously before the throne of God, in union with that sublime chorus that will then be sung throughout the universe—"Alleluiah! for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth."

Miners' Journal

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1865.

THE NEGRO SUFFRAGE QUESTION.

In the work of reorganizing the Southern States which have been in Rebellion, and bringing them back to their duties to the Government, this matter of extending the right of suffrage to the negroes there is important. It is a fixed fact that until there is a truly honorable, reliable people in those States to carry on their government, and discharge faithfully their duties socially and politically, the people of the North can have no confidence in them, and will refuse to spend a dollar in needed improvements. The "chivalry" when this War commenced, very conveniently repudiated four hundred millions of Northern obligations. Now they are impoverished, and their railroads must be rebuilt their factories erected, and their resources developed by Northern capital. Not a penny of that capital will go South until the capitalists are assured that no game of repudiation similar to that of four years since, can be played in the future. On the score of economy therefore, and to set the industrial wheels of the country in motion again, it is highly necessary that the loyal, reliable, trustworthy negro of the South shall hold that section firmly loyal by giving him the right to vote.

But we place the question on still higher ground even than this, important as it is. We believe that no person should be debarred from citizenship on account of race, color or condition. These colored men have fought gallantly for the country; a hundred thousand of them now wear the uniform of the United States: we have made them freemen. It is our duty to give this race all the rights appertaining to the condition of freedom. If we do not we imprison them in a gilded cage. Some well meaning men oppose the granting of the privilege of voting, on the ground that amalgamation, such as marriage, etc., will spring from it. Not at all. The negroes themselves do not desire it, and we are sure the white race will make its social distinctions in the future in quite as marked a manner as in the past. The Copperheads seem to be the most fearful of the negroes getting the superiority, and we are not surprised, for a loyal negro is in every respect superior already to a sneaking, cowardly Copperhead. There is no estimating where the former would leave the latter, with a little education. But the Copperhead need not fear amalgamation, personally. It is not possible. He is the last person a decent negro would associate with in any way.

We are glad to see that the question of negro suffrage is attracting the attention of the President and Cabinet. A long meeting was held on Monday at which the topic was discussed at length. It is stated and we trust that the statement is correct, that President Johnson favors extending the elective franchise to all loyal citizens and withdrawing the proscriptive laws every where.

The process of reconstructing the Southern States will be a long one, and we shall have much to say on the subject from time to time. We may as well commence now by stating that we do not agree with the Philadelphia Press, which paper has been for some days past, urging the President to call Congress together immediately, that it may take the matter in hand. We do not think it would be wise to call Congress together at this time, for we believe it would be productive of much evil. We believe it would be better for the country that Congress should not meet for a year yet, than that it should meet now and commence its wrangling about the civil and political rights of the negroes in the South