

THE PRESS.—PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, JULY 30, 1861.

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Warren's Standard banner.

Washington, July 25, 1861.

No great people can ever be elevated to the full consciousness of their destiny, or to a full understanding of their mission, until we make to realize the mission of the other. Two weeks ago, I was confident that we were as strong in a military sense, as we were irreconcileable in the logic of our cause; that, in fact, we were so clearly right, and our loss so confessedly wrong, that no human power could prevail against our arms. One week ago this very morning, I almost anticipated victory, which took place this evening, the evening of that day, because at the meanwhile, I had learned enough to lead me to doubt the policy of an attack upon the enemy's stronghold in Virginia. I said last Sunday: "The advantage of the traitors over the regular Government is considerable, in the fact that they have selected their own ground, and can draw supplies from Richmond" by direct railroads. Our troops must reach the field by long and painful marches, carrying subsistence, &c., with them."

It was precisely this advantage on the one side and this disadvantage on the other which lost us the day.

My comments upon the battle of Manassas have induced some of my political readers to complain of my want of sympathy with the rebels, and my lack of confidence in our ultimate triumph, and because I tell the whole truth to my countrymen, find myself censured in others, for giving a gloomy view of the future. My reply is: This is no time for falsehood or for fancy, in weighing our responsibility to the great questions before us. The American people must know the worst, in order that they may be prepared to meet it, to be able to work—like children to think of a great estate, and if they are to be its invincible defenders, they must be taught its enormous value, by having exposed to them the efforts and the designs of those who are preparing to steal this estate from them. My error has been that, because I believed in the Divine Providence, I did not feel that the intrinsic merits of our movement, and in its praiseworthy devotion of our people to the Republic, I never sufficiently calculated that the appeal to so much feeling in the Southern States. I am now convinced that the perfidies, and assassinations of the Southern Confederacy, and the acts of the Southern Confederacy, help to a temporary confusion in the justice of their treason, and therefore it is that I prefer plain talk to my readers' better than the pastime of harmonious sentences and high-sounding adjectives.

We can only forever put down this rebellion by dealing freely with each other, and by preparing in the most comprehensive manner for other contingencies.

I do not accept the Battle of Manassas as much as a defeat as an Administration—a lesson—a chastisement for our complicit reliance upon the virtue of our own cause, and our overconfidence in the prowess of our troops. In this view it will prove more beneficial than a dozen victories.

This battle is saved from capture and spotless laurels by the President and the Cabinet, the Lieutenant General and the Congress, and the devoted friends of the Union, have been rescued from arrest, and probably, from an ignominious death—for there is no mercy in the assassins at the head of the Southern Confederacy to those who stand by the American flag—but that result was not secured from our own forces, and we are to blame. We can only forever put down this rebellion by dealing freely with each other, and by preparing in the most comprehensive manner for other contingencies.

The capital safe, what is next to be done? Peace is rendered more than ever impossible by the victory of the enemy. They now boast that they will hold us in this ten-mile square; and in our streets and public places, in the hotels and houses of Congress—yes, even in our pulpits—they lay upon the dust of the floor the remains of the lesson of the Revolution, attack the Constitution, and impudently deface the public authorities. Mr. Breckinridge threatens the President from his place in the Senate, surpasses Hahn and Yancey in the violence of his denunciations of the preparations to preserve the Government, and openly visits the Secessionists in our midst, and carries on his correspondence with them. Mr. Barnes and Mr. Valduga follow his example in the House. I know that in many a private residence in this city these denunciations are applauded, and the shout of the nation celebrated with ecstatic saturnalia. These parties are not alone hostile to all free government, not merely the infurated foes of the United States, but they are infatuated with the idea of the war which is to be waged upon the authority of the Government, and with their complete triumph. When the Federal power is fully restored at this point, and when the majesty of the law can no longer be insulted with impunity, it will be the first duty of the President and of General McClellan, to root out all covert and treasonous efforts to overturn the flag of our country.

In this correspondence, I have repeatedly alighted to the dangers which are overtly existing in many portions of Northern states. It would be well for us to deny that there are men in Philadelphia and New York who are not at all friendly to the Administration, and only so because they know that the Administration represents the people of the North, and in endeavoring to measure up to the importance of this fact, they have not been successful. They are to be pitied, because they are not honest men, and probably, if they did not do this, they would be even prisoners of war. They went to Virginia as an armful of money, and under no possible consideration can they be subjected to the penalties of the law, and to the punishment of the public opinion of the North, which is the only punishment which the law can inflict.

One of the most prominent of these individuals is Mr. Davis, and he is to be pitied, because he has not closed this characteristic debate. The aborigines of our country, with all their savage instincts, are angels of mercy when compared with the leading spirits among the insurgents. It has never been seriously proposed that a single case in the North to come into our hands, and to be held in confinement, and exposed to the world, that we, who are in the South, and had many hard feelings against the South, and the natural feelings of the South, should attach to them the interests of those relatives, while others are attached by sympathy to the principles of the rebellion, and a fondness of the Southern cause.

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