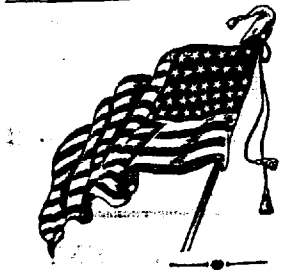


Daily Telegraph



Forever float that standard sheet!
Where Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us.

OUR PLATFORM
THE UNION—THE CONSTITUTION—AND
THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW.

HARRISBURG, PA.
Monday Morning, February 24, 1862.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTH-DAY.

In connection with our distracted country, there is at present so many conflicting feelings, that to refer to the past in quest of themes for discussion, seems like a superfluous and idle task. The present is big with a mighty struggle for a mighty object, and yet there is no dilemma in which the present can place the nation, but for which the past affords some sacred council or admonition; and it would perhaps have been more conducive to our national peace and prosperity, had that past been more revered, and the actions of those who shed honor and glory on the infancy of the Republic, more closely imitated. In a crisis such as that which now surrounds us, with the jealousy of one section aroused in bloody anger against the intelligence and progress of the other, there seems to be no more fitting words to aid in overcoming such a strife, than the solemn and sublime utterances of the Father of his Country. If the advice of Washington had been heard when the Constitution was formed, the cause and the influences now of rebellion, would then have not suffered to survive for such mischief. He understood and comprehended the power and the influence which the right of one slave to barter in the flesh of another, would eventually create and stimulate. He beheld in the imminent condition of slavery, the seed of a great moral contest, and therefore most earnestly opposed, while he lived, its acknowledgment as a political element, and before he died set the seal of his disapproval on the institution by liberating his slaves, and recording his sentiments against slavery. The condition of the nation justifies such allusions in this connection, though we desire more particularly to refer to the fact that the very sentiment which Washington bequeathed to the whole country, is now repudiated by a portion of the people of that country, while the other portion still cling to and defend it, as men only would defend their lives. The Union of the American States, was the great object for which Washington struggled. While he lived his solicitude and his prayers were all devoted to that Union. He esteemed it as far more than any other feature of the government, because without Union, there could be no perfect government. The mere interests of localities were of small importance compared to the perpetuity of that Union. That had a lasting significance in the estimation of Washington, which exceeded all other considerations; and while he lived, monopolized his hopes and his devotions.

We forbear the indulgence of any inappropriate reflections on the occasion of this Birth-day of Washington. We leave our readers to the pursuit of his immortal Farewell Address, as the most appropriate offering we can present. And we leave them, too, to the prayers which the occasion itself must suggest, and which should be in the hearts and on the lips of every people, whether in tumult or confusion, war or peace.

When Virginia was a loyal state, her citizens expressed great regard for Winfield Scott. He was claimed as the next in esteem, for valor, nobleness and patriotism, to the immortal Washington; and in one of these fits of admiration, the authorities of the Old Dominion ordered a life size equestrian portrait to be painted of Old Cheatupetec, to adorn the capitol of that state. A celebrated Kentucky artist was selected for this important work, and the picture has been finished to the satisfaction of all, save the artists of Virginia. They refuse to take the portrait, because Geo. Scott has been false to Virginia. False to Virginia in refusing to cooperate with her people in a mad effort to subvert the authority of the federal government! False to Virginia in raising his arm to stay the mad progress of rebellion! False to Virginia in being loyal to the Union! This act crowns the treachery of Virginia with a species of meanness that must forever blacken its reputation. The nation should at once become the purchasers of this picture, and place it in the grandest hall in the Rotunda of the Capitol.

THE INAUGURATION OF JEFF. DAVIS.
To-day has been fixed upon by traitors and rebels for the inauguration of the chief of the incendiary, and assassinian horde. Since Mrs. Davis indulged the boasting that she would receive company in the White-house at Washington, the times have changed, and the circumstances under which she indulged her boasts have been also materially altered. When she thus made her arrogant boast, it was the fixed opinion of the traitors of the south, that the capture of Washington city would be the smallest of the achievement of the rebellion, while to conquer the entire country they would require only its occupancy by the traitors, at once to induce the coward north to yield. One year ago, when Davis was first inaugurated, he had a better prospect before him than he now contemplates. He knew then what the people of the loyal States did not; that he had numerous confederates, sworn to his purposes, still in the army and navy of the United States; that he had accessories and friends in every bureau at Washington, true to his cause, though false and forewarned to that of the government; that the administration of Mr. Lincoln would be beset and betrayed in the very outset by treason, where it had every reason to look for faith and loyalty; he reckoned, and there is no doubt, he had warrant for

reckoning, on aid, and co-operation, too, in more than one of the states of the North. The news of the past week must have a saddening and a crushing effect upon the feelings of the leading traitors. They must see that these events are decisive, and that to their armies, now broken and disheartened by successive discomfures, nothing remains unless it is desultory struggles here and there, in a cause most clearly hopeless. Will that inauguration take place at Richmond to-day? If it does, it will be rather an occasion of funeral solemnity, and for the pageantry of mourning and burial, than a great public holiday and festival.—What words of cheer or encouragement can even that audacious and unscrupulous chief pronounce, by way of inaugural address, to such a crowd as can be gathered in capitol square at Richmond?
The downfall of the rebellion is at hand, and it will probably be quite as sudden as its formidable uprising. Davis may go through the ceremony of a new inauguration, but it is safe to predict he will not long remain at Richmond, or wield the executive power anywhere for three months longer, unless as a refugee, like Claib. Jackson, issuing proclamations to a people among whom he dare not show his face.

BY TELEGRAPH.
From our Evening Edition of Saturday.
WASHINGTON'S BIRTH-DAY.
The 180th Anniversary of the Occasion.
HOW IT WAS CELEBRATED.
THE TWENTY-SECOND AT WASHINGTON.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.

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FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Savannah abandoned by its Inhabitants and occupied by U. S. Troops.
THE REBEL STEAMER MERRIMAC.
PREPARATIONS TO RUN THE BLOCKADE.
RUMORED ATTACK ON NORFOLK.

FROM WASHINGTON.
THE RAILROAD CONVENTION.
SECRETARY STANTON'S SPEECH.
ARRIVAL OF COTTON FROM PORT ROYAL.
DETENTION OF THE STEAMER JURA.
XXXVIIth Congress--First Session.

LATER FROM PORT ROYAL.
No Intelligence from the Expedition Against Savannah.
Official Account of the Fight at Fort Pulaski.

LATER FROM HAVANA.

public decency? If not, why should Congress accept the presentation of these flags, nothing more than tokens coming simply from rebels of no national standing. He would go far as any other gentleman in this House or out in his respect and admiration for those who have left their homes to sustain on distant battle fields the existence of this government, but he wishes on this occasion to act in a manner consistent with self respect and official propriety.
Mr. CAMPBELL, presuming that his previous remarks had been misunderstood, explained that he would receive these flags and tokens in respect to the bravery of our troops.
Mr. LOVELL caused to be read the law of 1814 and 1818, to the effect that the Secretaries of the War and Navy be directed to cause to be collected and transmitted to them all flags, banners and colors which may have been or shall be taken hereafter by the army and navy from the enemy, and that all of them, together with those in the possession of those Departments shall, with all consistent despatch, be delivered to the President, for the purpose of being displayed in such public places as may be deemed proper.
Mr. LOVELL said this was the law, that by receiving these flags we would recognize a rebel government, was the most absurd idea ever originated in the brain of man. He was willing to receive every rebel flag, the more the better, in respect to the brave men who captured them.
Mr. BOWEN, (N. H.) expressed himself in favor of carrying out the arrangement for the presentation of flags.
Mr. POTTES, (Wis.) in apparent seriousness, rose to a question of order. It was that the gentleman was speaking with his back to the chair. [Laughter.]
Mr. BOWEN smilingly said. I did not wish to turn my back to the ladies. [Laughter.] He would receive the flags in honor of our gallant soldiers.
The SPEAKER appealed to the galleries on an occasion like this to preserve order, to refrain from applause, and to observe due propriety.
Mr. RICHARDSON. The galleries are behaving better than we are.
The question was taken on the adoption of Mr. Crittenden's motion, and resulted in yeas 90, nays 61.
Mr. CARRINGTON moved that the vote be reconsidered and that the motion be laid on the table.
Mr. BLOOMER moved a call of the House, but while engaged in this proceeding, the hour arrived for the commencement of the ceremonies. The centre door was thrown open and the Vice President and Secretary of the Senate appeared preceded by the sergeant-at-arms followed by the Senators; these occupied the front seat; next came the several heads of the Departments, who were accommodated with chairs on the right of the Hall on the first range.
The Chief Justice and associate Justices of the Supreme Court, representatives of foreign governments near this government, who were largely represented. Lord Lyons was not present. Officers of the army and navy in full uniform. Maj. Gen. McClellan was among the officers of the army, and on his entrance there was repeated applause from the galleries.
The members of the House remained standing till the guests on the floor were seated. The scene was a most brilliant one.

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TUESDAY EVENING, Feb. 25th.

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