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Patriot & Union

VOL. 6.—NO. 26. HARRISBURG, PA., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1863. PRICE TWO CENTS.

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The Patriot & Union.

THURSDAY MORNING, OCT. 1, 1863.
ABE'S VISITOR.
All nature was decked for her evening rest,
For the golden sun had sunk in the west,
When home (?) old Abe, with his usual grace,

And a smile like that illumined his face,
Reposed at his ease in a cozy arm chair;
(He'd always at sunset settled in there!)
While the thoughts of the "Nig," the War and the Draft,
And the glorious days when he sailed on a raft,

When the Devil appeared, and, grasping a chair,
Set down with a grin that raised Abraham's hair.
How are you, my Abe? Is the list nearly filled
Of sick men and dying, of wounded and killed?

Of poor, honest white men struggling for bread?
For Devil, quoth Abe, I'm doing my best
To promote the interest of you and the rest;
But then, you remember, I'm only the tool

Of O'Connell and Chase, and that other old fool
Who the Navy controls, and who always con-
demns
Any modern plan of capturing Sumner;

He reminds me of one I know in the West—
Pshaw! your jokes, said the Devil, are none of the best.
Contented old Abe! Since last you were here,
The Copperhead tribe have thrown off their fear,

And would you believe it, have striven to vote
(Of which fact, Mr. Devil, please make a note)
At their consciences dictated a thing seldom known
In our party, of which you're the star and bone.

But, thank God, Abe, I settled their fate,
I paroled enough soldiers to carry the State!
Good! cried the Devil, I hope you'll never cease
To struggle all efforts that tend to a peace;

But tell me, my Abe, what worries your mind?
Is your conscience not dead—your judgment not blind?
Ah! murmured old Abe, I've a hankering fear
There'll be peace with the South in less than a year.

And, turning your best, were trying our chance
To kick up a war with England and France.
Bully for you! cried the Devil in glee,
The howls is so good, come sit on my knee;

I love thee, my Abe, and love thee so well,
That you and your aids shall flourish in hell!
I must bid you good bye; keep on with your
No doubt you now in my bosom shall lurk,

So on your old "Leagues," a very good joke,
And kissing old Abe, he vanished in smoke.
Still the glorious sun and the night's starry hand
Shine angry and sad on our grief-stricken land,

Death's holding a feast and crushing the life
From a nation torn by unnatural strife.
But what care the men that are holding the helm?
Their rule o'er us all,—the Devil rules them.

LOYALTY AND ALLEGIANCE.

Some of our contemporaries are discussing again the question of State rights and Federal sovereignty. It seems to bother them as much as "free-will and foreordination" has em-

ployed the minds of the theologians. It is impossible for any man to have a clear idea of the object to which he owes allegiance in this country unless he divests himself of all prejudice growing out of the present state of affairs, and studies the Constitution with impartial mind. He will then see that there is a State sovereignty which is wholly independent of the General Government, and over which the United States has no power.

He will also see that there are subjects in which the United States is sovereign over the State. These are distinct subjects. It is only once in a hundred thousand cases that any doubt arises as to which government is the sovereign in that particular case. The word loyalty is not strictly applicable to the relations which we owe to our government here.

But if we insist on using it, then, to be strictly correct, a man must be loyal to his State, and must support the Constitution and Government of the United States. This distinction has been preserved in all the public customs of our country. Many of the States require oaths "to bear true faith and allegiance to the State of — as a free and independent State."

Such in substance is the oath required of every voter in certain States. On the other hand, the oath to "support the Constitution" or to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States" is the form commonly used with reference to the duties of officials of the General Government. But one duty does not override the other. Loyalty to the State is not inconsistent with, nor is it a higher duty than support of the General Government. It is because of the notion that one is a separate and antagonistic duty from the other that so many feel unwilling to acknowledge the distinction.

It is impossible for the United States Government to succeed to the powers now held by the separate States, except by usurpation or grant. But if the United States, by any terrible accident, should cease to exist, the people of the State of New York would at once possess every power now held by the United States within the limits of its own territory. This illustration shows the absolute nature of the one power, the secondary, but no less sacred, nature of the other power.

Now we beg our radical contemporaries not to go into an ecstasy of rage over this statement of a plain American principle, as they did once before, when we stated it; but if they do not believe it let us have reason against it, or if reason fail, let us have a citation of some respectable authority, if any can be found, against it. But none exists. The grand union of State sovereignty and Federal energy makes this Government. The State sovereignty is as necessary to its existence, is just as much a part of the life-blood of the National existence, as the Federal power.

The rights reserved to the States are, in all respects, necessary to our nation as the rights given to Congress or the Executive. The oath to support the Constitution binds us to support the reserved rights of the States. The powers of Governor Seymour, as to all subjects in which he is vested with power by the people of this State, are as full, complete and ample as the powers of the President conferred by the Constitution of the United States, nor is there any distinction in the grade of those powers. So long as each officer obeys the constitution he is sworn to support (we say constitutions) because the oath of each obliges him to support both State and United States constitutions, just so long, by the wise arrangement of our fathers, there can be no collision between the two, but both must co-operate and assist each other in the grand work of government. And so with every Governor of every State.

This subject is one which ought not to be treated in the flippant style adopted by our radical contemporaries. It involves the entire structure of our Government as well as the duty of every citizen. This structure ought not to be misunderstood. Citizens ought not to be misled in regard to fundamental truths, for the sake of party ends. If we would preserve the life of our nation we must preserve both State rights and Federal Union. The latter cannot exist without the former. Who strikes a blow at the former strikes as hard a blow at the Union.—Journal of Commerce.

THE POSITION OF AMERICANS.
No people of any monarchy in Europe are more completely under autocratic power than the Americans now are. Here is the Providence Post's exposition of the real significance and effect of A. L.'s latest Edict, and it is a true statement. Reader, how do you like the picture?

THE LAST PROCLAMATION.
The proclamation of President Lincoln, suspending the writ of habeas corpus until the end of the war, has been placed before our readers. The character of the proclamation may be very briefly stated. With a single stroke of the pen Mr. Lincoln annihilates the civil power of the country. The military authority becomes the supreme authority.

And it is no longer true that military rule must be governed or regulated by any law whatever. The will of the commander becomes the law both of the camp and the country.—Each officer is responsible only to his superior officer, until we reach the commander-in-chief, and he is responsible to nobody and nothing. \* \* \* The President is commander-in-chief of the army and navy, and places himself and the army and navy above the civil power. He does not assert that he will trample upon the rights of citizens; but he does assert that neither he nor his servants will hold themselves amenable to the laws, and that no citizen shall be permitted to inquire, through a judicial tribunal, whether he is wronged or not. He does not declare that he will every day violate the laws which Congress has enacted for the government of the nation; but he does boldly proclaim that his acts shall not be submitted to the laws, or questioned by the courts. He tears down the only safeguard of our liberties, and coolly informs those whose servant he was intended to be, that some necessity which he perceives or thinks he perceives, makes him their master. If he desires to play the tyrant, nothing but revolution can prevent him from doing it.

\* \* \* To us it evinces a determination to perpetuate power in this administration. To us it says: "There shall be no more talk of constitution; no more appeals to courts; no more regard for written laws; no more boasting of personal freedom. I am the government, and my will is law. Your duty is submission; and for your submission there is no protest." This may not be the meaning which Mr. Lincoln attaches to his words. But who will say that all history does not give him this interpretation?

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PLAIN FACTS ABOUT THE "SOLDIERS' FRIEND."
The Pittsburg Gazette, the leading Republican organ west of the Alleghenies, in its issue of the 20th of July, was very severe on Andy Curtin and his shoddy contractors, which indicated such great injury upon the soldier, and who were victimized by his unskillful and fraudulent agents. Gov. Curtin was entrusted with the privilege of expending the first appropriation made by the Legislature for the purpose of equipping those who responded to the first call of their country. Among the numerous charges made by the Gazette is the following:

—Those brave young men who had responded so generously to the first call of their country were in rags, with shoddy vestments, shoes whose soles were stuffed with shavings, and blankets almost as thin and transparent as a window-pane.

The change is literally true. The Legislature, at its special session, made ample provision for clothing the soldiers of Pennsylvania comfortably and creditably. But Gov. Curtin, through his agents, squandered the appropriation, and clothed the volunteers in the most wretched vestments.

Take the Third Pennsylvania regiment, composed of the hardy miners, colliers, furnace and rolling mill and railroad men, of Blair and Cambria counties, as an example. It was uniformed at York, Pa., about the middle of May, and in less than six weeks from that time the regiment was in rags! Men appeared on dress parade in their drawers, and so disgraceful was the spectacle, that Col. F. P. Minier ordered them to their quarters. Some were shoeless, and were compelled to perform duty barefooted; others were hatless, and everywhere throughout the three months' campaign they were the subject of ridicule, and known as the "ragged—Third!"

When they returned to Harrisburg, they met with anything but a cordial reception, for their appearance was not in the least prepossessing. Their garments were scarcely any better than the most ragged and dilapidated worn by rebel prisoners who have been transported over our public thoroughfares. Men appeared in their drawers, and their homes under the shadow of night to hide their nakedness, and escape the jeers and ridicule of their fellow-citizens.

This is no over-drawn picture, but the plain, unvarnished truth, and can be verified by scores of men who were in the three months' service from Blair county. Yet Andrew G. Curtin is held up to the people as the "soldier's friend," while the facts prove that he and his confederates squandered the money appropriated by the State for the benefit of her soldiers, robbed them of its intended benefits, and enriched himself and his agents with what was duly provided for the soldier's comfort and health.—Hot Standard.

THE REPEAL OF THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.
"God forbid that our country should ever descend to that depth of infamy. No. The only course of honor and justice is the one which the President has justly but firmly indicated.—The promise being made, must be kept."
Aye, the promise being made, must be kept. First, the oath which Abraham Lincoln took on assuming the Presidential office, "to support the Constitution of the United States—so help me God." Next he must fulfil the promises of the inaugural address, which, referring to the pledges upon which he was elected, he renews, in these words:

"I do but quote from one of my speeches when I declare that I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I BELIEVE I HAVE NO LAWFUL RIGHT TO DO SO, AND I HAVE NO INCLINATION TO DO SO." Those who nominated and elected me did so with full knowledge that I made this and many similar declarations, and had never retracted them. I now reiterate these sentiments; and in doing so, I only press upon the public attention the most conclusive evidence of which the case is susceptible, that the property, peace and security of no section are to be in any wise endangered by the now incoming administration. I add, too, that all the protection laws, can be given with the Constitution and the State when lawfully demanded, for whatever cause—as cheerfully to one section as to another."

Aye, keep the promise! It is written in the Crittenden resolution, which declared that the war was waged to maintain the Constitution and not to abridge the rights of the States, and that as soon as this end was accomplished it should cease!

These are the promises which President Lincoln made to the people—before election, upon his inauguration, and since! Upon this pledge the people have staked their lives and their fortunes. Does he now hold that the promise made to the negroes must be fulfilled, while his oaths and pledges to the people may be broken?—Albany Argus.

CONSPIRACY OF FOOT TO BREAK UP THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Times thus sounds the note of alarm:

There is another very serious matter in relation to which the people ought to be warned.—The recent elections for members of Congress make it probable that there will be a majority of members in the next House of Representatives in opposition to the administration. It will be a very small majority, but still a majority, and they would have the power to elect the Speaker. The administration have taken means to prevent this. When Congress assembled, men will present themselves from all the districts in the Southern States now occupied by our troops, and will claim to be Union men in those districts. Arrangements have been made to have such men sent from North Carolina, Arkansas, Louisiana, the Western part of Tennessee and Florida.

These men will really have been elected, but it will be by an election held and controlled by military force, and at which no one will have been allowed to vote except tools of the administration. I need not say that the voice of the people of the States I have named will not be heard or expressed in those elections at all.—But the creatures thus elected will come to Washington, and will demand seats in the House of Representatives. The utmost power of the administration will be exercised in order to have them admitted to seats. The money in the Federal Treasury will be used in lavish profusion to effect this end. If it is effected, it will turn the balance, and the Republicans will elect the next speaker. Already, by the juggling of the last Congress in passing the bill for the dismemberment of the State of Virginia, the administration has created for itself two votes in the United States Senate. The dismemberment game will be tried again in this Congress. For every State thus dismembered the administration gains two new votes in the Senate.

"All public functionaries in this land are under the law, and none, from the highest to the lowest, are above it."—Walter H. Lovell.