

DECLINING TO THE CONSTITUTION, AS THE SHIPWRECKED MARINER CLINGS TO THE LAST PLANK WHEN NIGHT AND THE TEMPEST CLOSE AROUND HIM.—David Foster.

DEMOCRATIC STATE NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR, GEORGE W. WOODWARD, OF LUZERNE COUNTY. JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT WALTER H. LOWRIE, OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY.

Movements of the Democracy

A HICKORY POLE was raised, on Saturday afternoon last, on the farm of Geo. Miller, on Raven Creek, in the township of Benton. It was attended by a respectable number of Democrats. Great animation pervades the Democracy of Columbia.

A MASS MEETING was held on last Saturday evening, at Moore's school house, in Sugarloaf township. Several hundred Democrats—many of whom came from adjacent townships—were in attendance and very many were unable to obtain admission into the house. The meeting was addressed by the Editor of this Journal.

A CLUB MEETING, of the Fishingcreek democracy, was held on last Monday evening, in Asbury. M. A. Ammerman President. The house was crowded to overflowing, and the meeting was also addressed by the Editor of this Journal.

We have never seen the Democrats of Columbia in greater earnest, and never were they before equally as united and determined in support of Democratic doctrine and constitutional principles. Even the ladies, of almost all ages, grace these meetings with their presence. These indications are ominous of overwhelming Democratic victories.

Peo John is expected to resume shortly, a branch of the business he was following with so much elat and success, before he became Lick Spittle General to Abe Lincoln; to wit "Middle States Reformer." It is true he failed somewhat, ridiculously in the medical reformation he attempted, owing to a plentiful lack of brains; but it is thought he will succeed better in his present projected undertaking, because he has Wendell Phillips to steer the machine; and because also, having educated the Republican party up to the point of abolitionists, the next step, amalgamation, will be comparatively easy.

The census of the United States tells us, that "whilst nearly half of the colored in the non slave holding States are mulatto, only about one ninth in the slave holding states are mulatto, excluding New Jersey," in which there are yet a few slaves. It shows that John's friends have been quietly and patiently, but to a considerable extent, carrying on what is now the publicly proclaimed doctrine of his party. So when the abolitionists go into the amalgamation business "to the fullest extent," American citizens of a "Copperish tinge" will increase and multiply exceedingly.

Wonder how long it will take Dr. Peo John and Wendell Phillips to reform the Middle States, and get their favorite theory into good working order? There is a beginning, where will be the end?

There has been no trouble with the enrollment in this county, except in some of the townships where the people do not read—where they are ignorant—where they roll up overwhining Democratic majorities.

People of Columbia, loyal Democrats, and respectable citizens, above you are again slandered by Peo John. "Do not read," and are "ignorant!" How long is this descendant of a Tory to continue insulting your intelligence and patriotism.

As was to be expected, the editor of the Democrat has paid his compliments to the Rev. Mr. Dime, by devoting a half column to misrepresenting his able and patriotic address before the Union League. We understand that the Rev. gentleman feels very much obliged to him for not misrepresenting him any worse than he has. But one statement we care about—the editor of the Democrat has stated that "Mr. Lincoln was elected by a constitutional majority." The editor of the Democrat makes him say "a majority," and pronounces the statement false. Such is the kind of criticism indulged in by the editor of that sheet.—Smut Machine.

Dr. John, appears as the defender of the Rev. Mr. Dime, as will be seen by the foregoing attempted falsification. We asserted last week, that Mr. D. said, "Abraham Lincoln was elected by a majority of the voters of the United States." He did not use the term, "constitutional majority." And this can be proven by all candid men who heard him. This is incontrovertible.

Mr. Dime may well "feel much obliged" that we dealt with him and his speech as we intended, so leniently. We tell the Rev. gentleman, most frankly, that Dr. Peo John, has ruined the fortunes of about all the men he has ever expounded in Columbia county, and if he has chartered his services, in this instance, it will incur to his serious injury in this community.

Let him call off his dog. The Presbyterian Church of Bloomsburg, having been rejuvenated and improved, will be re-opened for service, at 10 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

The Draft in Columbia County.

We caution our readers, and all persons at a distance, against believing any stories about resistance to the draft or abandonment, in Columbia county; and most especially as to any report that may appear in the columns of the Republican published at this place; the Editor of that sheet being so lost to "manhood," and so anxious to inaugurate civil war in our midst, as to publish the most extravagant rumors without reference to their truth or falsity.

The last report was about trouble in Mifflin, and scarcely an incident was true. We are assured by citizens of the township, as well as the Lieut. commanding the Provost Guard, that the following are the facts in the case:—

The Board sent into the township to enroll it, a boy scarcely twenty years of age, instead of giving it to a man and citizen of the township; and we are informed that a prominent republican told the Deputy Provost Marshall, that if he would appoint a man that would not abuse the women and children, the township would be properly enrolled; but that he declined to do. Well, the Lieutenant informed us, that a man under the influence of liquor, fired his gun at the enroller, which frightened the boy off;—a few of the soldiers say three or four guns were fired.—But this did not induce the Guards to withdraw. They came on this side of the river merely for accommodations and rations. The Lieut. feels mortified that a story of such magnitude in falsehood is in circulation, in reference to himself and men.

On the following morning, a committee of the citizens of Mifflin, headed by Mr. Theodore Craig, repaired to this side of the river, and informed the Lieut. that if he would send a respectable man, he could enroll the township; and the citizens would assist him. CHARLES S. HARDER, a returned volunteer, accompanied Mr. Craig, and the township was completely enrolled in a short time, without the assistance of the Provost Guard; who remained on this side of the river while the township was enrolled.

We are informed also, that such being the state of the facts; neither armed nor concerted resistance, and all the county but one township, we believe enrolled; the Deputy Provost Marshall has telegraphed for 500 or 1000 thousand men to be sent him to quell the Columbia county riot. We trust this may not be true.—We believe instead of quenching, it will provoke trouble, and we are inclined to the opinion there will be no difficulty in the draft, unless they make it by useless distrust of the people.

We have said before, and we repeat, that it is the folly and the fears of the administration which bred the trouble.—They dare not rely upon the people whom they have outraged, and they flounder on, because they have too little magnanimity to retract their wandering footsteps. We have always counselled obedience to the Constitution and the laws, we counsel that now; but that obedience is due from the rules as well as from the citizen, from the servant of the people as well as the people themselves. If all obey the law, all will go well.

Words of Reason.

The Editor of the Republican, very recently, printed the letter of Mr. Lincoln, in reply to the Congressional Committee of Ohio, demanding the release of Mr. Vallandigham, and pronounced it "unanswerable." Now, will Dr. John do the public, and the Ohio Committee, the sheer justice to also print their rejoinder to Mr. Lincoln's letter? He has pronounced Mr. L.'s letter unanswerable, and we believe that the said Committee have not only answered it incontrovertibly and satisfactorily to all honest minds, but by every principle of truth and logic, have given it, its total annihilation.

If Peo John believes what he says, he certainly cannot hesitate one moment, to let his readers judge of the truth of his assertion, by seeing the answer in the columns of the Republican. This an honest man would cheerfully do. We dare him to vindicate his *exparte* assertion by referring its decision to the people.

Two weeks ago, this same puissant Editor, attempted to deceive his readers by misrepresenting Judge Woodward. We proved him a wilful falsifier and demanded a correction of the gross misrepresentation. He quietly pocketed the suit impeachment, preferring to deceive many of his readers—who get no other paper—rather than rectify an error, or own that he had misquoted, nay, perverted, the language of Judge Woodward.

What Peo John has done in one case, may be expected in another. He is bound in honor, to lay the letter of the Committee, and the Speech of Judge Woodward, before the people. They are capable of deciding, and we challenge him, to submit them to their judgment and decision.

The "Cow-Doctor of the Danville Smut Machine, is again smelling after for notoriety. Brower is a dead-match for the Bloomsburg Smut Machine grinder and they are as much alike as two black hogs. It would be ungenerous to disturb the "skunk quarrel," as they have proven each other quack and cowards.

A loyal Leaguer is one who is willing to sacrifice anybody's life, either in the war or anywhere else, except his own.

Pennsylvania Insulted.

Prominent Pennsylvanians say that Governor Curtin, foreseeing the invasion from which the Keystone State is suffering, asked authority weeks ago, to call for fifty thousand men to defend the State, as he has since, for sixty thousand; and that his request was refused by the Secretary of War; who coupled his refusal with a reflection upon Pennsylvania of such a character that her chief magistrate turned upon his heels and left the disreputable presence without a word.—New York Tribune.

The above is of a piece with Lincoln's subsequent telegram, that "Pennsylvania must take care of herself." And all that when Pennsylvania has sent into the service over 200,000 men. Of all the states remaining true to the government at Washington, we have suffered the most in men and money and property destroyed; and yet the administration refusing to assist Pennsylvania couples its repulse with an insulting reflection upon Pennsylvania.—Once the proud old Keystone of the federal arch, now degraded to a Province and insulted by a man like Stanton and an administration like Lincoln's. Great Heaven! has it come to this?

What business had Andy Curtin to go begging to Stanton or Lincoln, for power to call troops to defend our state from invasion? None whatever. Pennsylvania never relinquished her right to defend herself from invasion by her own troops.—It is a sovereign right she always had and never yielded. Gov. Curtin knew this—he afterward acted upon that knowledge; but he was so very anxious for that foreign mission which Lincoln promised him, if he would be a good boy until after his term was out, that he would lick the dust from the feet of Stanton, and let "Pennsylvania take care of herself."

Has there not been enough of this toadying to Federal power—enough of this degrading of sovereign States into petty provinces? Has there not been enough disregard for Constitution, law and order? Let us then with one accord, one heart, and one mind, return to and abide by all those obligations which have been deserted and unheeded; elect a Governor who knows the Constitution and the laws, the rights of States and of citizens under them, and knowing, dares maintain them. So that every man shall be protected by the law and be amenable to it, and wrong and outrage shall cease. Elect Woodward, Governor, and the halcyon days will once more return.

Retreat of Lee.

General Lee crossed the Potomac on Monday and Tuesday of last week, taking all his guns, ammunition and supplies with him. It does not appear that General Meade was aware of it until the Confederate army had crossed, supposing all the time that Lee was in his front ready to give him battle. Thus has this able and wily General again accomplished his purpose, as he did after the battle of Antietam, and returned to Virginia with the immense plunder he secured in Pennsylvania—but this time after a retreat of some forty miles and with a swollen river before him. The bird has again flown from the coil which was supposed to have been wound around him by the Army of the Potomac. Where he will next turn up remains to be seen.

Peo John, who signed a lying Petition to Curtin to have the Bloomsburg Abolition rioters pardoned, and through the partizanship of the Free Nigger Governor, succeeded; is now most desperately anxious that the New York Rioters, whom it calls "Copperheads," should be severely punished for their fault. We would recommend to this hypocritical lover of equality, (at least when the subject is "an American citizen of African descent,") the perusal and study and application of the following fable.

"A Farmer came to neig' boring lawyer, expressing great concern for an accident which he said had just happened. One of your oxen, continued he, has been gored by an unlucky ball of mine, and I should be glad to know how I am to make you reparation. Thou art a very honest fellow, replied the lawyer, and will not think it unreasonable that I expect one of thy oxen in return. It is no more than justice, quoth the farmer, to be sure; but what did I say?—I mistake! It is your bull that has killed one of my oxen. Indeed! says the lawyer, that alters the case: I must inquire into the affair; and if—And if! said the farmer, the business I find would have been concluded without an if, had you been as ready to do justice to others as to exact it from them."

A VOICE FROM THE EXILE.—Our readers will find in our columns to-day a letter from the distinguished exile, CLEMENT L. VALLANDIGHAM, addressed to the people of Ohio, and accepting the nomination for Governor by the Democracy of that State. The letter is bold and manly, and speaks in proper terms of scorn and derision of the tyrannical conduct of Mr. Lincoln and his rattleites. Every true friend of liberty and law will read this letter with pleasure, and rejoice that there lives, even in exile, as brave and heroic a spirit. Hurrah for the next Democratic Governor of Ohio.

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER.—Th President of the United States has appointed Thursday, the 6th day of August, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer to Almighty God for the recent victories achieved by the armies of the Union.

A Parallel.

Pope had just been defeated and routed at the second battle of Bull Run, August 30th; on the 7th of Sept. McClellan was put in command of the army; on the 8th he fought at Poolesville; on the 9th the rebels evacuated Frederick City; on the 12th skirmish at Maryland Heights; on the 13th charge on the rebels at Middle-town, Md; on the 14th battle of South Mountain; on the 17th battle of Antietam; 18th Rebels retreat the Potomac. Thus in ten days from the time McClellan got command of a defeated and shattered army; he fought three severe skirmishes, and two terrific battles; and within thirty six hours of the last one, Lee left Maryland and Pennsylvania.—A more successful and brilliant campaign was never made by any man, in ancient or modern times. In nine days thereafter he began his advance, and when he had reached Warrenton, Va., in pursuit of Lee, he was relieved of his command.

Gen. Meade took command of the largest and best appointed army the United States ever had in the field, June 28th; the battles in and about Gettysburg were fought on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd days of July.—After which Lee fell back to the fastnesses of the Maryland hills, and the fords of the Potomac.

From that day forward, the abolition papers daily brought us word, that "Lee was bagged," that he could never recross the Potomac, that the great battle would be fought to-morrow, and various other sensation stories equally false, and got up for the purpose of amusing and deceiving the people. In that way things went on for ten days, the two armies lying within striking distance; Meade's flushed and victorious, Lee's routed and demoralized; the people waiting in breathless anxiety for the expected decisive engagement which should put an end to the war; when lo! and behold! we are told by these same sensation papers, in the meekest possible manner, and in the smallest sized type, that Lee and his whole army, horse, foot, and dragoons, bag and baggage, had—escaped!

Meade's dispatch is dated on the 14th, eleven days after the battle; and yet up to that time; he had not made a step in advance—though the President ordered McClellan to advance at the end of 14 days; and when he was advancing, removed him for not advancing.

We trust that we shall hear no more of the tardiness of McClellan—no more about his not bagging Gen. Lee—no more about his not advancing after a fight. Everything since his removal has demonstrated that there was not a particle of reason for those changes; or if so, that others could commit the same faults with impunity. For Burnside did not fight the battle of Fredericksburg until Dec. 13th, and Hooker fought at Chancellorsville, and we believe, according to the abolition papers, "bagged Lee," the 6th or 7th of May.

McClellan's Campaigns can be favorably compared with those of any General of any age. He will never again be put in command by Lincoln and his abolition advisers; they had rather fail with Fremont than win with McClellan: But when the people put Horatio Seymour into the Presidential Chair, as they will in 1864, doing justice to military merit and capacity, he having a regard to the oldest commission in the service will put McClellan again at the head of his men.

State Editorial Convention.

LANCASTER, Pa, July 16, 1863.

The Democratic Editorial Convention met, according to the call of the President, in the room of the Democratic Central Club of Lancaster City, at 2 o'clock, P. M. The Convention was called to order by the President, and, on motion of J. M. Laird, Esq., of the Greensburg Argus, J. Alexander Fulton, Esq., of Kittaning Mentor, was appointed Secretary.

A. E. Lewis, Esq., of the Philadelphia Evening Journal, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Democratic Editors of the State of Pennsylvania be recommended to meet in counsel upon the same day, and at the same place with the first meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee.

Col. John Hodgson, of the West Chester Jeffersonian, offered the following, which was also adopted:

Resolved, That the President of this Convention be requested to confer with the Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee with reference to the time and place of holding said meetings.

The Convention then adjourned.

DEMOCRATIC EDITORIAL CONVENTION.

Agreeably to the resolution passed at the meeting of the 16th inst., the Democratic Editorial Convention will meet at the Merchant's Hotel, in Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 11th of August next, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

GEO. SANDERSON, President.

LANCASTER, July 21, 1863.

SOLDIERS, TO THE RESCUE!—Young men, rushing into the exposures and dangers of a Soldier's life, should prepare themselves for the fatal Fevers, the Dysentery, the Sores and Scurs, which are almost certain to follow. HOLLOWAY'S PILLS, used occasionally during the campaign, will insure sound health to every man. Caley 25 cents per box.

From the Susquehanna.

RETREAT FROM MIFFLINVILLE.

OCCUPATION OF WILLOW SPRINGS.

(Special Correspondence of the Democrat.)

Headquarters 1st Mifflin Army Corps, Mifflinville, July 18, 1863.

Dear Sir:—Mifflinville is ours. The town was unconditionally surrendered to our forces this morning. Dr. Rittier met our forces on the banks of the Susquehanna river, and surrendered the town.—Further capitulations were effected on the part of the town by Mayor Jacob Teets. Our Commander made a levy on the inhabitants for three drinks of red eye, one for himself and one for the Mayor, two cold potatoes, and six apples as nearly ripe as possible; if not filled in one week, the town is to be handed over to our forces to be pillaged. Our entire force entered the town on the same day, the rear being brought up by Capt. Jacob D.—

The Union sentiment in this town is not very generally developed, but is very strong where it does exist; from the fact that our soldiers had nothing to eat until the wagon train came up, and the Unionists very kindly let them wait until they did come.

There are now only two more important points to capture, and the campaign will be over in this military district. The one is the Speck Barrig and the other is the Rever Barrig. Our commander, by a very ingenious strategic movement, (that nobody understood nor has any business to understand,) has cut off all communication between the Speck Barrig and the Rever Barrig, also by the same movement between the Rever Barrig and the Speck Barrig. [Correspondent thinks this was effected by taking possession of Keller's Tavern.] Our forces consist in total of 31 privates, 1 Gignard-Brindle, 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, and 28 Sergeants. Of the cavalry and artillery forces I am not allowed to speak, only to say that we have none of them.

We expect a heavy battle on the Speck Barrig or on the Rever Barrig in which our loss may reach 200 men, and that of the insurgents about a 1,000, and the rest can then be easily routed or captured and then the glorious Stars and Stripes will wave once more triumphantly over Speck Barrig and Rever Barrig. We may be in want of artillery, but as the insurgents are reported to have more ammunition than they want, it will be an easy matter to borrow all we may need for the occasion. When the fight takes place I will inform you immediately.

Yours respectfully, UNION CORRESPONDENT. SPECIAL.

One hour later.—All quiet on Speck Barrig. No fighting on Rever Barrig. U. C.

STILL LATER. Picket firing is distinctly heard on the Rever Barrig. A great battle imminent. Our forces retreating in good order across the Susquehanna. U. C.

VERY LATEST. Willow Springs occupied by our forces without resistance. Nothing to be heard from the enemy. Our pickets report the enemy retreating greatly demoralized.—Our pickets occupy Rever Barrig. The enemy all gone. The campaign is over. U. C.

NOTICE. The State Central Committee are requested to meet at the Merchant's Hotel, in the City of Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 11th day of August next, at four o'clock, P. M.

CHAS. J. BIDDLE, Chairman. PHILADELPHIA, July 18, 1863.

DEMOCRATIC STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The following is the State Central Committee as appointed by Hon. Findley Patterson, of Washington county, who, as President of the late Democratic Convention, was authorized by a resolution of the body to announce the Committee. It consists of a Chairman, and Representatives of the several Senatorial Districts into which the State is divided:

Hon. Charles J. Biddle, Chairman 1st District—Theodore Cuyler, Robert J. Hemphill, John Fullerton, Jr., Isaac Leech, Philadelphia.

2d District—John D. Evans, Chester county.

3d District—Wm H Witte, Montgomery county.

4th District—Wm T Rogers, Bucks co.

5th District—Thos Heckman, Northampton county.

6th District—Hester Clymer, Berks co.

7th District—William Randall, Schuylkill county.

8th District—Asa Paeker, Carbon co.

9th District—Michael Mylert, Sullivan county.

10th District—S S Winchester, Luzerne co.

11th District—Mortimer F Elliot, Tioga county.

12th District—John H Humes, Lycoming county.

13th District—Wm Elliot, Northumberland county.

14th District—Samuel Hepburn, Cumberland county.

15th District—Wm M Breslin, Lebanon county.

16th District—Geo Sanderson, James Patterson, Lancaster county.

17th District—John F Spangler, York county.

18th District—Henry G Smith, Fulton co.

19th District—J S Africa, Huntingdon county.

20th District—Wm Bigler, Clearfield county.

21st District—T B Searight, Fayette co.

22d District—W T H Pauley, Green county.

23d District—Geo W Cass, James P Barr, Allegheny county.

24th District—Jas G Campbell, Butler co.

25th District—David S Morris, Lawrence county.

26th District—Thos W Grayson, Crawford co.

27th District—Kennedy L Blood, Jefferson co.

HON. C. L. VALLANDIGHAM.

His Second Address to the People of Ohio.—He accepts the nomination for Governor, and defines his position.

NIAGARA FALLS, Canada West, } July 17, 1863.

Arrested and confined for three weeks in the United States a prisoner of State; banished thence to the Confederate States and there held as an alien enemy and prisoner of war, though on parole; fairly and honorably dealt with and given leave to depart, an act possible only by running the blockade at the hazard of being fired upon by ships flying the flag of my country, I found myself first a freeman when on British soil. And to-day under protection of the British flag, I am here to enjoy and in part to exercise the privileges and rights which usurpers insolently deny me at home. The shallow contrivance of the weak despots at Washington, and their advisers, has been defeated.—Nay, it has been turned against them; and I, who for two years was maligned as in secret league with the Confederates, having refused when in their midst, under circumstances the most favorable, either to identify myself with their cause or even so much as to remain, preferring rather exile in a foreign land, return now with allegiance to my own State and Government, unbroken in word, thought or deed, and with every declaration and pledge to you while at home, and before I was stolen away, made good in spirit and to the very letter.

Six weeks ago, when just going into banishment because an audacious but most cowardly despotism caused it, I addressed you as a fellow-citizen. To-day, and from the very place then selected by me, but after wearisome and most perilous journeyings for more than four thousand miles by land and upon the sea, still in exile, though almost in sight of my native State, greet you as your representative. Grateful certainly I am for the confidence in my integrity and patriotism implied by the unanimous nomination as a candidate for Governor of Ohio, which you gave me while I was yet in the Confederate States. It was not misplaced; it shall never be abused. But this is the last of all considerations in times like these. I ask no personal sympathy for the personal wrong No: it is the cause of constitutional liberty and private right, cruelly outraged beyond example in a free country, by the President and his servants, which gives public significance to the action of your convention. Yours was indeed, an act of justice to States and the liberties of the people, had been marked for destruction by the hand of arbitrary power. But it was more. It was an example of courage worthy of the heroic ages of the world; and it was a spectacle and a rebuke to the usurping tyrants who, having broken up the Union, would now strike down the Constitution, subvert your present Government, and establish a formal and proclaimed despotism in its stead. You are the restorers and defenders of constitutional liberty, and by that proud title history will salute you.

I congratulate you upon your nominations. They whom you have placed upon the ticket with me are gentlemen of character, ability, integrity and tried fidelity to the Constitution, the Union, and to liberty. Their moral and political courage—a quality always rare, and now the most valuable of public virtues—is beyond question. Every way all these were nominations fit to be made. And even jealousy I am sure, will now be lulled, if I especially rejoice with you in the nomination of Pugh your candidate for Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate. A scholar and a gentleman, a soldier in a foreign war, and always a patriot; eminent as a lawyer, and distinguished as an orator and a statesman. I hail his acceptance as an omen of the return of the better and more virtuous days of the Republic.

I endorse your noble platform—elegant in style, admirable in sentiment. You present the true issue, and commit yourself to the great mission just now of the Democratic party—to restore and make sure first the rights and liberties declared years by your constitutions. It is vain to invite the States and people of the South to return to a Union without a Constitution and dishonored and polluted by repeated and most aggravated exactions of tyranny. It is base in yourselves, and treasonable to your posterity, to surrender these liberties and rights to the creatures whom your own breath created and can destroy. Shall there be free speech, a free press, peaceable assemblage of the people, and a free ballot any longer in Ohio? Shall the people hereafter, as hitherto, have the right to discuss and condemn the principles and policy of the party—the ministry—the men who, for the time conduct the Government—to demand of their public servants a reckoning of their stewardship, and to place their men and another party in power at their supreme will and pleasure? Shall Order Thirty-eight or the Constitution be the supreme law of the land? And shall the citizen any more be arrested by an armed soldier at midnight, dragged from wife and child and home to a military prison; thence to mock military trial; thence condemned, and then banished as a felon for the exercise of his rights? This is the issue, and nobly have you met it. It is the very question of free, popular government itself. It is the whole question; upon the one side liberty, on the other despotism. The President, as the recognized head of his party, accepts the issue. Whatever he wills, that is law. Constitutions, State and Federal, are nothing; acts of legislation nothing; the judiciary less than nothing. In time of war, there is but one law supreme—his will; but one law—military necessity, and he the sole judge.

He has decided that a man now drafted, although he comply with the terms of the law and pay \$300 or furnish a substitute, is nevertheless liable to the next draft, should it occur within a week, a month, or a year.

He has also decided that "a negro is not a military equivalent for a white man." We have held that these decisions are not merely absurd, but a clear violation of the plain letter of the law. In fact they are laws made by the Provost Marshal General, or the War Department, and not by Congress. As an offset to these ridiculous constructions, and in support of our own views heretofore fully expressed, and now reiterated, we submit from the Lancaster Inquirer of the 20th, the opinion of Thaddeus Stevens, who not only was a principal actor in the getting up and passing of the law, but is conceded to be a sound and able lawyer. The Inquirer gives the following as the opinion of Mr. Stevens:

"Everywhere we hear the greatest dissatisfaction expressed concerning the decisions of Provost Marshal General Fry. His decision concerning the \$300 exemption is commented on in severe terms.—The plain meaning of the law is, that when a drafted man pays \$300 to the government, it is equivalent to giving his service for three years or during the war. It is also decided by statute Fry, that a colored man cannot be accepted as a substitute. Upon what clause of the act he bases this decision is more than we can discover. Section 17 says, that any person enrolled and drafted who shall furnish an acceptable substitute, shall be exempted from military duty. The law it will be seen, does not say whether the substitute must be white or colored, but merely an acceptable substitute. As colored men have been enrolled and a number drafted, we cannot imagine why a man of color should not be accepted as a substitute.—We hope that these matters will soon be settled by the courts, so that every one may know whether the act as passed Congress, is the law of the land, or whether a man named Fry is the sole law-maker we have."

Military orders supersede the Constitution and military commissions usurp the place of the ordinary courts of justice in the land. Nor are these mere idle claims.—two years and more by arms they have been enforced. It was the mission of the weak but presumptuous Burnside—a name infamous forever in the ears of all lovers of constitutional liberty—to try the experiment in Ohio, sided by a judge whom I name not, because he has brought foul dishonor upon the judiciary of my country.—In your hands now, men of Ohio, is the final issue of the experiment. The party of the Administration have accepted it. By pledging support to the President they have justified his outrages upon liberty and the Constitution; and whoever gives his vote to the candidates of that party, commits himself to every act of violence and wrong on the part of the Administration which he upholds; and thus, by the law of retaliation, which is the law of might, would forfeit his own right to liberty personal and political, whenever other men and another party shall hold the power. Much more, do the candidates themselves. Suffer them not to treat you to evade the issue; and by the judgment of the people we will abide.

And now, finally, let me ask what is the pretext for all the monstrous acts and claims of arbitrary power which you have so nobly denounced? "Military necessity." But if, indeed, all these be demanded by military necessity, then believe me your liberties are gone, and tyranny is perpetual. For if this civil war is to terminate only by the subjugation or submission of the South to force and arms, the infant of to-day will not live to see the end of it. No, in another way only can it be brought to a close. Traveling a thousand miles and more, through nearly one-half of the Confederate States, and sojourning for a time at widely different points, I met not one man, woman, or child who was not resolved to perish rather than yield to the pressure of arms even in the most desperate extremity. And whatever may and must be the varying fortune of the in all which I recognize the hand of Providence pointing visibly to the ultimate issue of this great trial of the States and people of America, they are better prepared now every way to make good their inexorable purpose than at any period since the beginning of the struggle. These may indeed be unwelcome truths, but they are addressed only to candid and honest men. Neither, however, let me add, did I meet any man, whatever his opinions or his station, political or private, who did not declare his readiness, when the war shall have ceased, to consider and discuss the question of the Union. And who shall doubt the issue of the argument? I return, therefore, with my opinions and convictions as to war of peace, and my faith as to final results, sound policy and wise statesmanship, as unchanged, but confirmed and strengthened. And may the God of heaven and earth so rule the hearts and minds of Americans everywhere, that with a Constitution maintained, a Union restored and liberty henceforth made secure, a grander and nobler destiny shall yet be ours than that even which blessed our fathers in the first two ages of the Republic.

The Conscription Act—Chief Marshal Fry's Decisions.

It will be found, we think, when final decisions from the right quarter shall have been obtained, that we have been correct from first to last in our construction of the most important sections of the Conscription Act, notwithstanding the profound disquisitions of the Telegraph, always eager to sanction every folly and outrage of the administration and its subordinates.

The Chief Marshal has already, under instructions from the Solicitor of the War Department modified one of his absurd decisions, and he will be compelled to modify others.

He has decided that a man now drafted, although he comply with the terms of the law and pay \$300 or furnish a substitute, is nevertheless liable to the next draft, should it occur within a week, a month, or a year.

He has also decided that "a negro is not a military equivalent for a white man." We have held that these decisions are not merely absurd, but a clear violation of the plain letter of the law. In fact they are