

THE STAR AND BANNER.

D. A. RUEHLER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

“FEARLESS AND FREE.”

TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

VOL. XVIII.—98.

GETTYSBURG, PA., FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 3, 1847.

NEW SERIES—NO. 28.

DRUG & BOOK STORE, GETTYSBURG, PA.

Subscribers to the Public for the liberal and ready patronage with which he has been favored for a series of years, and respectfully announces that he has just received, at his old established stand in Chambersburg street, a large and fresh supply of

DRUGS & MEDICINES, Paints, Varnish, Dyestuffs,

and every variety of articles usually found in a Drug store, to which he invites the attention of the public, with assurances that they will be furnished at the most reasonable prices.

The subscriber has also largely increased his assortment of BOOKS, by an additional supply of

Classical, Theological, School, and Miscellaneous

BOOKS,

embracing almost every variety of Standard and Popular Literature; also, Blank Books and Stationery

of all kinds, GOLD-PENS, Pencils, Visiting and Printing Cards, Card Cases, Inkstands, &c., &c., all of which will, as usual, be sold AT THE LOWEST PRICES.

Arrangements have been made by which anything not included in his assortment will be promptly ordered from the Cities.

S. H. RUEHLER,
Gettysburg, Oct. 22, 1847.

I have at present on hand an excellent assortment of BIBLES, plain and fancy, for school and family use—at very low prices.

VALUABLE PROPERTY In the Market.

MILL AND LANDS AT PUBLIC SALE.

THE Subscribers, Executors of the Estate of WILLIAM COBEAN, deceased, will offer at Public Sale,
On Thursday the 5th day of December next, at 1 o'clock, p. m.

A FARM,

late the Estate of said deceased, on Marsh Creek, Cumberland township, Adams County, Pennsylvania, containing 150 acres, more or less, situated on the lands of W. M. Scott, Francis Brant and others.

C&S TRAINING

67 ACRES, ON WHICH ARE SEATED Two Dwelling Houses, (two-story) A STABLE, SPRING, &c.

with a good SAW MILL, and also a pair of Country Horses, and one pair of Bays, with Elevators, and all the necessary Machinery for making Merchant Work. There is one of the finest BIRNEY SPRINGS in the country, a few rods from the dwelling house.

A FARM,

CONTAINING 150 ACRES, situate in Hamilton township, Adams County, adjoining lands of Wm. M. Scott, Wm. Whelan and others, about 50 acres of which are thriving Timber. The improvements are a one and one-half story Log Dwelling-house,

A LOG BARN,

with three never-failing springs which water the fields. On both the above Tracts there are thriving young

Orchards, of Grafted Fruit.

Persons wishing to view the premises, will call on Wm. Cobean, residing on the Mill property, or on Samuel Cobean, on the other side. The Sale will take place on the Mill Tract. Attendance given, and terms made known by WILLIAM COBEAN,
ALEXANDER COBEAN,
Nov. 19, 1847. Executors

VALUABLE PROPERTY

At Public Sale.

On Saturday the 4th of December, At 10 o'clock, a. m., at the COURT-HOUSE, in Gettysburg,

will be sold all my land lying within the Borough of Gettysburg, Adams County, Pa., consisting of

FARM,

CONTAINING MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED ACRES

FARM HOUSE,

with a large Brick BARN, and good Meadow, and a large quantity of excellent WOOD LAND.

Several Town Lots

and other property will be offered for sale at the same time. As I reside at a distance from the property, I am determined to sell it without reserve. The Terms will be sold in two tracts if purchasers do not buy.

One-third part of the purchase money on the 1st day of April next, when a good title will be given, and the balance in two equal annual payments with interest.

THADDEUS STEVENS,
Janetown, Pa. Oct. 22, 1847.

“Cassius” in uniform.

Several of Capt. C. M. Clay's company of volunteers who were prisoners in Mexico, have published a card, in the course of which they say:—When Captain Henry made his escape, and the Mexican Commander, excited by that event, gave orders for the massacre of the Americans, Capt. Clay exclaimed:—“Kill the officers, spare the soldiers!” A Mexican Major ran to him, presenting a cocked pistol to his breast, and the still exclaimed:—“Kill me—kill the officers—but spare the men—they are innocent.” Who but C. M. Clay, with a loaded pistol to his head, and in the hands of an enraged enemy, would have shown such magnanimous self-devotion!

[For the “Star and Banner”]

CASSIUS M. CLAY,

By D. H. COCHRAN, Esq.

Fearless of soul, and brave!

Son of the Free!

There, where our banner waves,

Wouldst thou couldst be!

He was a soldier's heart,

A dauntless eye,

No peril made him start—

Feared he to die!

He never knew of fear:

Not thought of life,

When crimson blades rang near

In deadly strife!

Hark! pleads that manly voice,

“My home is my wife's!

His soul has made the choice—

The soldier's life!”

“Hold there! my soldiers save!”

He bares his breast—

What question dost he crave!

“Save—save the rest!”

“Grave,” “—no! no! no! base word!”

“I strave to thee

As to a mortal hind,

Child of the free!

Aye! aye! that voice demands,

Not a knight he!

As calm as pearl's mouth he stands

It claims “kill me!”

The martial weapons gleam

Upon thy brow:

Not the life-blood streams,

Ever faltered thou!

This is a heart to feel—

Lead and awe leave!

The slaughter-reeking steel,

Thy breast to save!

A Cavalry thou art!

Thy country's pride—

Deep treasured in her heart,

There to abide.

SPEECH OF MR. CLAY,

At the Mass Meeting in Lexington, Ky., on Saturday, November 13, 1846.

After the organization of the meeting, Mr. CLAY rose and addressed it substantially as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The day is dark and gloomy, unseasoned and uncertain, like the condition of our country, in regard to the unnatural war with Mexico. The public mind is agitated and confused, and is filled with serious apprehensions as to its indefinite continuance, and especially as to the consequences which its termination may bring forth, menacing the harmony, if not the existence of the Union.

It is under these circumstances, I present myself before you. No ordinary occasion would have drawn me from the retirement in which I live; but, whilst a single pulsation of the heart remains, it should, if necessary, be dedicated to the service of one's country. And I have hoped that, although I am a private and humble citizen, an expression of the views and opinions I entertain, might form some little addition to the general stock of information, and afford a small assistance in delivering our country from the perils and dangers which surround it.

I have come here with no purpose to attempt to make a fine speech, or any ambitious oratorical display. I have brought with me rhetorical bonnets to throw into this assembly. In the circle of the year autumn has come, and the season of flowers has passed away. In the progress of years, my spring time has gone by, and I too am in the autumn of life, and feel the frost of age. My desire and aim are to address you, earnestly, calmly, seriously and plainly, upon the grave and momentous subjects which have brought us together. And I am most solicitous that not a solitary word may fall from me, offensive to any party or person in the whole extent of the Union.

War, pestilence, and famine, by the common consent of mankind, are the three greatest calamities which can befall our species; and war, as the most direful, justly stands foremost in the front. Pestilence and famine, no doubt for while although inscrutable purposes, are inflictions of Providence, to which it is our duty, therefore, to bow with obedience, humble submission, and patient resignation. Their duration is not long, and their ravages are limited. They bring, indeed, great affliction while they last, but quickly soon recovery from their effects. War, on the contrary, is a scourge which is the voluntary work of our own hands, and whatever approaches it may deserve should be directed to ourselves. When it breaks out, its duration is indefinite and unknown—its vicissitudes are hidden from our view.

In the sacrifice of human life, and in the waste of human treasure, in its losses and in its burthen, it affects both belligerent nations; and its sad effects of mangled bodies, of death, and of desolation, endure long after its thunders are hushed in peace.

War, wherever it occurs, disturbs its peaceful and regular industry, and seizes upon the needs of disease and immortality, which continue to germinate and diffuse their baneful influence long after it has ceased. Dazzling by its glitter, pomp and pageantry; it begets a spirit of wild adventure and romantic enterprise, and often disqualifies those who embark in it, after their return from the bloody fields of battle, from engaging in the industrious and peaceful vocations of life.

We are informed by a statement, which is apparently correct, that the number of our countrymen slain in this lamentable Mexican war, although it has as yet been only 18 months existence, is equal to one-half of the whole of the American loss during the seven years' war of the Revolution. And I venture to assert, that the expenditure of treasure which it has occasioned, when it shall come to be fairly ascertained and footed up, will be found to be more than half of the pecuniary cost of the war of our Independence. And this is the condition of the party whose arms have been everywhere and constantly victorious.

How did we unhappily get involved in this war? It was predicted as the consequence of the annexation of Texas to the U. States. If we had not Texas, we should have no war. The people were told that, if that event happened, war would ensue. They were told that the war between Texas and Mexico had not been terminated by a treaty of peace; that Mexico still claimed Texas as a revolted province; and that, if we received Texas into our Union, we took along with her, the war existing between her and Mexico. And the Minister of Mexico formally announced to the Government at Washington, that his nation would consider the annexation of Texas to the U. States as producing a state of war. But all this was denied by the partisans of annexation. They insisted we should have no war, and even impudently to those who foretold it, sinister motives for their groundless prediction.

But, notwithstanding a state of virtual peace resulted from the act of annexation of one of the belligerents to the U. States, actual hostilities might have been probably averted by prudence, moderation, and wise statesmanship. If Gen. Taylor had been permitted to remain, where his own good sense prompted him to believe he ought to remain, at the point of Corpus Christi; and if a negotiation had been opened with Mexico, in a true spirit of amity and conciliation, war possibly might have been prevented. But, instead of this pacific and moderate course, whilst Mr. Slidell was bending his way to Mexico, with his diplomatic credentials, Gen. Taylor was ordered to transport his cannon, and to plant them, in a warlike attitude, opposite to Matamoros, on the east bank of the Rio Bravo, within the very disputed territory, the adjustment of which was to be the object of Mr. Slidell's mission. What else could have transpired but a conflict of arms?

most awful exercise of sovereignty.

The Convention, which framed our federal constitution, had learned from the pages of history that it had been often and greatly abused. It had seen that war had often been commenced upon the most trifling pretext; that it had been frequently used to snatch a crown from the head of one potentate and place it upon the head of another; that it had often been prosecuted to the profit and other interests than those of the nation whose chief had proclaimed it, as in the case of English wars for Hanoverian interests; and, in short, that such a vast and tremendous power ought not to be confided to the perilous exercise of one single man. The Convention, therefore, resolved to guard the war-making power against these great abuses, of which, in the hands of a monarch, it was so susceptible. And the security against those abuses, which its wisdom devised, was to vest the war-making power in the Congress of the United States, being the immediate representatives of the people and the State.

So apprehensive and jealous was the Convention of its abuse in other hands, that it interdicted the exercise of the power to any State in the Union, without the consent of Congress. Congress, then, in our system of government, is the sole depository of that tremendous power.

The Constitution provides that Congress shall have power to declare war, and grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water, to raise and support armies, to provide and maintain a navy, and to make rules for the government of the land and naval forces.

Thus, we perceive that the principal power, in regard to war, with all its auxiliary and important incidents, which have ever called upon us to determine upon the solemn question of peace or war, Congress must consider and deliberate and decide upon the motives, objects and causes of war. And, if a war be commenced without any previous declaration of its objects, as in the case of the existing war with Mexico, Congress must necessarily possess the authority, at any time, to declare for what purposes it shall be further prosecuted. If we suppose Congress does not possess the controlling authority attributed to it; if we contended that a war having been once commenced, the President is to have power to declare, and grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water, to raise and support armies, to provide and maintain a navy, and to make rules for the government of the land and naval forces.

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