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PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, OCT. 21, 1861.

Slavery and the National Crisis.
It is hard to determine clearly the effect Slavery has to have upon our great National conflict, or what effect that conflict is to have upon Slavery. The two are inseparably blended, but subject to numberless complications and contingencies.

There can be nothing truer than that Slavery was the cause of this War, and that the Rebels plunged the nation into it solely to build up a strong government to its defense. How righteous, therefore, that a war begun by fanatics to uphold Slavery should end in its destruction!

It is also true that the war, on the part of the National Government, was not undertaken for the purpose of extinguishing Slavery, or all anti-slavery, but with that abhorred institution. The Government was forged into a struggle with its rebellious subjects, and entered upon it with the sole object of suppressing the rebellion and retaining the supremacy of the Government over the Constitution and the Union, just as they existed when the war broke out. The professed purpose was to recapture the forfeited franchises taken by the Rebels, recover the lost government property, and re-establish the status quo ante bellum.

But it does not follow that, although undertaken with that purpose, the people would not consent to end the war with the present attainment of that end. Purposes change with changing circumstances. Wars begin for one object, and in the attainment of another. The American Revolution was begun solely to get rid of an obnoxious tax upon tea. But the English government consented to yield that right to the Colonists, at the outbreak of the struggle, the world having ended it, and we should have been, to-day, British Colonists. But as the war progressed, higher purposes came in. What was a struggle against obnoxious taxes in 1775, became a struggle for Independence, in 1776, upon a Declaration embracing the highest and holiest rights of humanity. The blood shed at Lexington and Concord could not be wiped out by the removal of a tax upon tea. It had rendered that sacred shield at Bras was but carnal, and heroism had consecrated the cause to the highest and noblest aims.

When David, in his mountain-hold, leaped for a cool drink from the well of Bethlehem, shot from him by the besieguring Philistines, three mighty men of war broke through the Philistine array and brought back the cooling draught so longed for by their king-like master. But David, with the keenest appreciation of true heroism, refused to drink the water obtained for him by men who took their lives in their hands and brought it to him at the perilous risk of their blood. Herod had rendered it too sacred a drink, and he purposed it out as libation before the Lord. Had it been obtained without risk the case would have been different.

And heroism consecrates what it obtains, as well as does it in 1776 or in the times of King David, and we won back the armaments and forts and cities, property and territory, for which we so ardently longed, without bloodshed so wearily earned. That which was born merely to have avoided such a calamity, as far as possible, has now become the cause of a greater problem, and hundreds of thousands of lives, and the faith and hopes of millions are elements in it, along with the welfare of four millions of slaves. What the solution will be, Time can tell; but as he works it out, much of the solution will depend upon the correspondence between our faith and hope, and acts. Our readers can answer for themselves; as for our own hand and voice is with Liberty and Humanity, and for the wisest improvement of the present Great Opportunity, the neglect of which must call down upon the nation the vengeance of Heaven.

A Guaranty of Peace.

We have no official guarantees of peace, if not of good behavior, on the part of the great maritime Powers of Europe, (and we are concerned not with the dispositions of others,) in the fact that both France and England are highly dependent upon us for bread, and will continue so till harvest next.

Our alarmists, who understand very little of the subject, are apt to suppose that sacred shield at Bras was but carnal, and heroism had consecrated the cause to the highest and noblest aims.

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Constitution to its supremacy has found a higher expression in that equally sublime declaration in Fremont's Proclamation, "We shall see them free men."

The Government may hesitate, and falter, and modify that declaration if it chooses; but the People in the Army underlie it, and the result of the war, though not its policy in its progress, will take that shape. At least so it seems to us.

Who would be content, now, with the restoration of the past?—Perhaps Salomon Gandybough, or some of his congeners who cannot measure above the interests of trade; but who, with a true heart in his bosom would be content? Are we to back to slave-trading for the benefit of our southern brethren? (other than the downing of the champions of Liberty in the Senate Chamber; to the plundering of friends and relatives in the South; to an emancipated gospel, a muzzled press, ex-purgated literature, and a manhood condemned to the dust?) Have we marshaled an army of 500,000 men, incurred a debt of \$500,000,000, roused up the free hearts of millions of true men, and dotted the land with the graves of brave men, fallen by the hands of Rebels, and all merely to bring back the old thralldom under which we groaned so long? Have we got the master by the throat, and shall we let him go again? Say, rather, shall we not strangle him, while in our grasp, and make the correspond to the vicious employed? As well raise a tempest to lash the ocean into a fury.

"To wait a gathering storm," as proclaims the war, now, upon its original basis.

That this is a war which must end in the triumph of Liberty or Slavery is a result apparent clearly to some, dimly to many more, and not at all, perhaps, to a large number of others. The war on our part had not started at first, nor has it now; but it is rapidly leading to that end, without the knowledge, it may be, or intent of those carrying it on. If we could all see it, clearly and distinctly, many would doubtless shrink from it. The light of that great

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