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WEDNESDAY MORNING, OCT. 8.

Negro Competition.

It is sometimes necessary, on the eve of an important election, to notice the appeals of the lowest order of demagogues to the most base and selfish passions and prejudices of the human heart. Prominent among these, just now, is the cry raised that the effect of the Proclamation of Emancipation will flood the North with colored freemen, who will come in competition with the whites as laborers—that the market for labor will be oversupplied, and consequently wages comes down. This is the argument in brief, to which is added, in doses as strong as the audience can bear, the chronic prejudice—which is always found strongest in vulgar minds—against people of color.

Do not those blockheads who talk, and those who applaud such talk, know that it is Slavery that drives the negro to the North, not Freedom? Of the fifteen or twenty thousand blacks who have been set free in South Carolina, not one in a hundred has come North, and they manifest no inclination to do so. So far from a general emancipation bringing those people to the North, it would draw many of those now in the North to the South. The climate is more congenial to their constitution; and of all the human race, the negro is the most gregarious—and is it not perfectly natural that they should incline to be together?

In Maryland, in which slavery exists in a mild form, there are ten times as many free colored people in proportion to the population as there are in Massachusetts, although in the former State they suffer many social disabilities, while in the latter they enjoy all the rights of citizenship and of popular education. This proves that they press as far towards the South as they can get. But remove slavery, and they will gradually press farther and farther towards the Gulf, and leave the cold regions of the North comparatively clear. Moreover they are needed there. They are just the laborers the South requires. On this point we quote briefly from the admirable letter of Gen. Wadsworth, accepting the Union nomination of Governor of New York, in which he takes strong ground in favor of the proclamation. He says:

The emancipation once effected, the Northern States would be forever relieved, as it is right that they should be, from the fears of a great influx of African laborers, disturbing the relations of those Northern industrial classes who have so freely given their lives to the support of the Government.

This done, and the whole African population will drift to the South, where it will find a congenial climate and vast tracts of land never yet cultivated.

Missouri.

The war along the Southern border of Missouri is about to be resumed with great vigor. Ten thousand rebels under Gen. McBride have invaded South-eastern Missouri, from the direction of Pocahontas. In the Southwest Gen. Hindman, at the head of a force of forty thousand poorly armed rebels, is about to enter the State. Gen. Curtis is on the alert and is massing a strong force to meet and repel the invaders; and so far from dreading the event, our Generals are rather anxious than otherwise for the rebels to advance, being confident of their ability to meet and capture them.

Guerrilla warfare is still largely kept up in the interior. Generals Morrill, McNeil, and Guitar, with some 6,000 troops, have been after them for the last three months, and have captured some 1,200 of them, about one half of whom were summarily shot, and about 500 sent to St. Louis. The Guerrilla chief, Poindexter, who was taken by Gen. Morrill, acknowledged the loss of 150 men by drowning in swamps and rivers, and by his bullets. Porter, another Guerrilla, has crossed the Missouri, and is cautiously proceeding Southward, to avoid the fate of his associate Poindexter.

This unhappy State is drinking deeply of the same bitter cup she pressed to the lips of poor Kansas seven years ago. The tide of war surges backwards and forwards, spreading desolation and ruin over that beautiful region; and really it seems as if Providence had ordained that the foot-prints of slaves should be washed out in blood, and the fruits of their toil be given to the flames of war. Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri are all examples of this retributive justice.

Gen. Hooker.

Gen. Hooker has been getting worse and worse! One of his latest statements is to the effect that the rebels had but 80000 men at Antietam, while we had 120,000, and that, with the proper use of the power in our hands, there was no good reason why that battle should not have ended in the utter rout of the rebel army. Clearly, Gen. Hooker's hey-day of popularity is past. This is not "attesting Gen. McClellan's transcendant abilities" in the way the papers have been kindly marking out beforehand for him.

The General, by the way, is recovering rapidly. There is much talk of assigning him to the command of the Western Department, but no one yet knows what may come of it. The General is the recipient of the most constant and flattering attentions from members of the Government. The President has been several times to see him; yesterday Secretary Seward, Secretary Smith, Secretary Chase and daughter, and other notables, male and female, were among his "callers."—*Wash. Cor. of the Cincinnati Gazette.*

General Hooker has not yet been discredited as a military critic—on the contrary, so far, his capacity for command in the field, and his proved success there, have formed the grateful theme of many a letter from the camp, and many a eulogistic paragraph in the newspapers. But alas for Gen. Hooker! now that he has provoked the wrath of West Point, and the pro-slavery cabal of Generals, whose policy Major Key described. Unless the President comes up to the rescue, and keeps his best foot ready to be put very firmly down, General Hooker may get better—may get well—but it will only be to change his place of rest. Now he is in bed—he will only be ready, by and by, to leave that to be put on the shelf.

The notorious rebel, Albert Pike, is tampering with the Indians of Colorado Territory. Trouble is expected, and the people are calling for the protection of the soldiers raised there for their protection.

The President at Frederick.

On his return from Harper's Ferry, the President remained a few minutes at the good loyal city of Frederick, Md. He stopped at Mrs. Ramsey's to see Gen. Hartsuff, who was there, wounded, where he said a few words to the assembled people. Afterwards, at the railroad station, being loudly called for, he made the following remarks:

FELLOW-CITIZENS: I see myself surrounded by soldiers, and a little further off I note the citizens of this good city of Frederick, anxious to hear something from me. I can only say, as I did five minutes ago, it is not proper for me to make speeches in my present position. I return thanks to our soldiers for the good service they have rendered, for the energies they have shown, the hardships they have endured, and the blood they have so nobly shed for this dear Union of ours; and I also return thanks not only to the soldiers, but to the good citizens of Maryland, and to all the good men and women in this land, for their devotion to our glorious cause. I say this without any malice in my heart to those who have done otherwise. May our children and our children's children to a thousand generations, continue to enjoy the benefits conferred upon us by a united country, and have cause yet to rejoice under those glorious institutions bequeathed us by Washington and his compeers. Now, my friends, soldiers and citizens, I can only say once more farewell.

[From the Pittsburgh Post of this morning.]

The Draft and the Tax.

We trust that the good people of Pennsylvania will not forget two very important matters—the draft and the tax—measures flowing from the benignant reign of Abolitionism, and to be enforced *after the election!* People will be very apt to bear in mind that we were promised better times if Lincoln should be elected; and that, instead of these better times, we have a bloody Abolition war on hand, which requires drafting to fill up the decimated ranks of the army; and an enormous Abolition debt, to pay the interest of which an Abolition *tax* of $150,000,000 will be assessed and collected *after the election!* And this enormous *debt* will be increased, and *taxation* will be increased to pay the piper for this nice little Abolition dance.

Here is a case for the Grand Jury, under the law and in accordance with the excellent charge of Judge STERRET, published in this paper. We make no comments, but simply call the attention of those whose business it is to see that the laws are faithfully executed, to this bold and flagrant defiance and infraction of those laws.

Latest from Washington.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6, 1862.

EXPEDITION TO TEXAS URGED.

Col. Hamilton, of Texas, is urged for the position of Military Governor of Texas, with Gen. Clay as commander of the army. The two to go together with a division of soldiers and 50,000 armed citizens. The former to take and the latter to hold, occupy, and cultivate the soil of that State. This expedition is intended to cooperate with that of Eli Thayor to Florida, and it is believed that the success of the two would go far toward crushing the rebellion by quenching the hope of its leaders in the direction of Mexico or Central America on the one hand, or Cuba on the other.

THE OCCUPATION OF FLORIDA.

Five thousand men have already offered themselves to Thayer, and a wealthy ship owner of New York yesterday proffered three first-class steamers for the enterprise.

TREASON IN LOWER MARYLAND.

Another evidence of the sturdy treason of Lower Maryland is found in the fact that a large exodus of male population there is taking place into Virginia. The lower counties of the State will not be able to furnish more than a fourth part of their quota under the draft. If every male individual of Charles and St. Mary's Counties were to be impressed, still the quotas of those two counties would remain unfilled. Most of the young men of this region are now serving in the rebel army.

CAPT. BLANCHARD, of the regular army, has been ordered by Secretary Stanton to report immediately to Headquarters, to answer charges preferred by Union citizens of Maryland, for paying enormous prices for things purchased from Secessionists, and for having favored treason in his official and personal intercourse. It is stated that he paid a Mr. Blinch at the rate of $5 75 for wood in the tree, the current rate being 75 cents only, and another claimant, who was just out of the Old Capitol Prison, $1,500 damages for injury to his place by Gen. Sumner's Corps, such injury consisting in the destruction of a picket fence in front of the house, which amount paid covered the whole value of the land and building.

FROM WASHINGTON.

SERENADE TO GOVERNOR MORTON.

Speeches of the Governor and Commissioner Holloway.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6, 1862.

Gov. Morton being loudly called for, came forward amid vociferous cheering, and spoke as follows: Friends and fellow-citizens—I have returned to the capital after an absence of nearly eight months. During that time events of the greatest importance have been transpiring in that space of time. Much history has been written—some of which is pleasant, and some of which is bitter. We have won victories and have suffered disasters; and, perhaps, what you would like to know to night of me is the condition of public sentiment in the West now in regard to the prosecution of this war. I can tell you these disasters which we have suffered, and the protraction of the war, have only the effect throughout the West to intensify and deepen the determination of the people that this rebellion shall be crushed. [Applause.] We have suffered no despondency in heart. (That's so.) Our troops have behaved with the most distinguished and conspicuous gallantry. We have the men, we have the resources, we have the cons[illegible] (applause,) and, therefore, we must and will conquer. (Loud applause.) Many of our gallant sons have poured out their life's blood on the sod of Virginia, of Maryland and other States. My own State of Indiana has recently suffered the loss of some of her most gallant spirits. She mourns the death of these men—of the humblest private—their blood is precious in our sight, but the effect of this is, that every life which is thus sacrificed is but another guarantee that this rebellion shall be crushed. (Cries of bravo and applause.) With us, it is understood that everything is at stake upon the result of this contest, and therefore that we are to stake everything upon the result, if need be. (Applause.) That there is no sacrifice too great to be made; that there is no loss which ought not to be cheerfully endured, that this government may be preserved and the unity of the nation remain undestroyed. (Applause.) If any man decides in himself with the idea that the success of this rebellion would but result in the establishment of a confederacy—of two governments—the old government to be composed of the loyal States and the new one to be composed of the rebellious States; let him at once disabuse his mind of this idea. If this rebellion shall succeed, I look upon it as utterly improbable, as in fact impossible, that the remainder of the Republic can be held together. Should the rebel States succeed in establishing their independence, and support a government, and thus the example of successful rebellion be placed before the world, the work of disintegration will go on and continue until we have been broken up and become a number of petty republics, warring upon each other without consideration before the world, and with none so poor to do us reverence. (That's so.) At once would the States upon the Pacific set up for themselves. They are widely separated from us by plains and by mountains. They are upon the western slope of the Rocky Mountains, and they would at once aspire to become the Republic upon that side. We would have a party at once existing a great Northwestern Republic, on the banks of the Mississippi; and should we be so unfortunate as to be beaten in this contest, the South, with the prestige of arms would claim the entire Valley of the Mississippi, and every foot of land west of the Allegheny mountains. I but bring your attention to what would be the result of this rebellion. A remedy for these evils is the crushing out of this rebellion, and compelling the seceding States to obedience to the Constitution and the laws of the land. [Prolonged applause.] How shall this be done? [A voice—"by hlining." (Laughter and applause.) Another voice—"they should be annihilated." Several voices—"they should be hanged."] It shall be done by the destruction of the military power of the rebels. [That's it.] It shall be done by withdrawing from them their resources. [Applause.] It shall be done by any means that will cripple and destroy their power. [Cries—"That's the way," and applause.]

The President has issued a proclamation recently. I do not propose to-night to discuss the details of that proclamation. Whether it was not put forth at the proper time, or what shall be the effect of it, are questions upon which we may speculate, but so far as the power of the President is concerned, and his right to issue a proclamation proclaiming freedom to the slaves of rebels as a war measure, I entertain no doubt whatever. [Cries of "Good," and applause.] There is no more of a constitutional question or doubt in regard to it than there would be in the army of Kearning the Potomac, or in the seizure of New Orleans by Gen. Butler. ["That's so," and applause.] It is purely a military question; means to an end—the end, means, in the view of the President, by which the power of the enemy may be crippled and destroyed. [Applause.] As Commander-in-Chief of the armies of the republic, he is charged with the very responsible duty of crushing out the rebellion, and of compelling these rebels to obedience to the Constitution and laws. That is for him, in his capacity of Commander-in-Chief, to find out in what the power of the rebels consists, and when he has discovered this to destroy that element in whatever way he can. [Cries of "Good," and applause.] If he shall discover that the institution of slavery is an element of power in the rebel cause, that it feeds their armies, digs their trenches, supports the families of the masters while they are absent engaged in an effort to bring about the destruction of our Government, it would then be his right and duty to pull down that institution just as