Raftsman's Journal.

BY S. J. ROW. CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 1864. VOL. 10.—NO. 45.

SPECIAL ELECTION

PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, under the great Seal of the State, has issued the following writ of Election:

TO EDWARD PERKS, Esq., Sheriff of the county of Clearfield, sends Greeting:

WHEREAS, A Joint Resolution proposing certain amendments to the Constitution of this Commonwealth, which are as follows, viz:

"There shall be an additional section to the third article of the Constitution, to be designated as section four as follows:

"Section 4. Whenever any of the qualified electors of this Commonwealth shall be in any actual military service, under a requisition from the President of the United States, or by authority of this Commonwealth, such electors may exercise the right of suffrage in all elections by the citizens, under such regulations as are or shall be prescribed by law, as fully as if they were present at their usual place of elections.

"There shall be two additional Sections to the Eleventh Article of the Constitution, to be designated as Sections eight and nine, as follows:

"Section 8. No bill shall be passed by the Legislature containing more than one subject, which shall be clearly expressed in the title, except appropriation bills.

"Section 9. No bill shall be passed by the Legislature, granting any powers or privileges, in any case where the authority to grant such powers, or privileges, has been, or may hereafter be, conferred upon the Courts of this Commonwealth," has been agreed by a majority of the members elected to each House of the Legislature, at two successive sessions of the same.

AND WHEREAS, It is provided in the Tenth Article of the said Constitution, that any amendments so agreed upon, shall be submitted to the people in such manner, and at such time, at least three months after being so agreed to by the two houses, as the Legislature shall prescribe; such submission to be in such manner and form, that the people may vote for or against each amendment seperate and distinctly;

AND WHEREAS, By an Act of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, passed the twenty-third day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty four, it is provided "that for the purpose of ascertaining the sense of the people of this Commonwealth, in regard to the adoption or rejection of said amendments, or either of them, the Governor of this Commonwealth shall issue a writ of Election, directed to each and every Sheriff of this Commonwealth, commanding them to give notice in the usual manner, in not less than two Newspapers in each city or county; Provided, That so many are published therein, and by at least two printed handbills in each Election District, of every city and county where no Newspaper is published, that an election will be held in each of the townships, boroughs, wards, precincts and districts therein, on the FIRST TUESDAY OF AUGUST, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, for the purpose of deciding upon the approval and ratification, or rejection, of the said amendments, which said election shall be opened, held and closed upon the day last aforesaid, at the places and within the hours, at and within which, the General Elections of this Commonwealth are directed to be opened, held and closed."

NOW THEREFORE, in obedience to the requirements of the Tenth Article of the Constitution, and in accordance with the true intent and meaning of the said act of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, I, A. G. CURTIN, Governor of the said Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do issue this writ, commanding and requiring you, the said Edward Perks, Sheriff of the said county, to give notice in the usual manner and as by Law required, that an election will be held according to the terms of the Constitution and provisions of the Act of the General Assembly aforesaid, in each of the townships, boroughs, wards, precincts and districts therein, on the first Tuesday of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, for the purpose of deciding upon the approval and ratification, or rejection, of the said amendments.

(SEAL.) Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at Harrisburg, this Twenty-first day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and of the Commonwealth the eighty-eighth. By the Governor: ELI SLIFER,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

THEREFORE, I, EDWARD PERKS, High Sheriff of Clearfield county, do hereby give PUBLIC NOTICE to the Electors of the county of Clearfield that a special Election will be held on the FIRST TUESDAY OF AUGUST next, being the SECOND day of the month, at the same time and places fixed by law for holding the General and township election, in said county in accordance with

"An Act Prescribing the time and manner of submitting to the people, for their approval and ratification, or rejection, the proposed amendments to the Constitution

WHEREAS, A joint resolution, proposing certain amendments to the constitution of this commonwealth has been agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each house of the legislature, at two successive sessions of the same, the first session commencing on the first Tuesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and the second session commencing on the first Tuesday of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four:

AND WHEREAS, It is provided in the tenth article of the constitution, that any amendment, so agreed upon, shall be submitted to the people, in such manner, and such times, at least three months after being so agreed to by the two houses, as the legislature shall prescribe, such submission to be in such manner, and form, that the people may vote for, or against, each amendment, separately, and distinctly; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same.* That for the purpose of ascertaining the sense of the people of this commonwealth, in regard to the adoption, or rejection, of said amendments, or either of them, the governor of this commonwealth shall issue a writ of election directed to each, and every, sheriff of this commonwealth, commanding them to give notice, in the usual manner, in not less than two newspapers in each city, and county; *Provided*, That so many are published therein, and by at least two printed handbills, in each election district, of every city and county, wherein no newspaper is published, that an election will be held, in each of the townships, wards, precincts, and districts, therein, on the first Tuesday of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, for, the purpose of deciding upon the approval and ratification, or rejection, of the said amendments; which said election shall be opened held, and closed, upon the day last aforesaid, at the places, and within the hours at, and within, which the general elections of this commonwealth are directed to be opened, held, and closed; and it shall be the dpty of the judges, inspectors, and clerks, of each of said townships, boroughs, wards, precincts, and districts, to receive, at the said election, tickets, not exceeding the number of proposed amendments, either written or printed or partly written and partly printed, from each of the qualified voters of this State, who may offer the same, and to deposit them in a box, or boxes, to be for that purpose provided by the proper officers; which tickets shall be, respectively, labelled, on the outside "First Amendment;" "Second Amendment," and "Third Amendment;" and those who are favorable to said amendments, or any of them, may express their approval thereof by voting, each, as many separate, written or printed, or partly written and partly printed ballots, or tickets, as there are amendments approved by them, containing, on the inside thereof, the words, "Against the Amendment;" the electors, voting for, or against, the first amendment, shall be considered as voting for, or against, the first proposed fourth section to article three of the constitution, extending the right of suffrage to soldiers; electors, voting for, or against, the second amendment, shall be considered as voting for, or against, the proposed eighth section to article eleven of the constitution; and electors, voting for, or against, the third amendment, shall be considered as voting for, or against, the proposed ninth section to article eleven of the constitution.

SECTION 2. That the election, on the said proposed amendments, shall, in all respects, be conducted as the general elections, of this commonwealth, are now conducted; and it shall be the duty of the return judges, of the respective counties, and districts, thereof, first having carefully ascertained the number of votes given for, or against, each of said amendments, in the manner aforesaid, to make out duplicate returns thereof, expressed in words, at length, and not in figures, only; one of which returns, so made, shall be lodged in the prothonotary's office, of the court of common pleas, of the proper county, and the other sealed, and directed, to the secretary of the commonwealth, and by and of said judges deposited, forthwith, in the most convenient post office, upon which, postage shall be prepaid, at the expense of the proper county.

SECTION 3. That it shall be the duty of the secretary of the commonwealth, on the twenty third day of August next, before four o'clock, past meridian, to deliver to the speaker of the Senate, or the speaker of the House of Representatives, the returns of the said election, from the several counties of the commonwealth; and the same shall, on the same day, and hour, be opened, and published, in the presence of the members of the Senate, and House of Represetatives; and the number of the votes given for, and against, said amendments, respectively, shall be carefully summed up, and ascertained, and duplicate certificates, of the result, shall be signed by the speakers of the two houses. One of said certificates be delivered to the secretary of the commonwealth who shall cause the same to be recorded and filed in his office, and the other of said certificates shall be delivered to the governor, who shall forthwith issue his proclamation, declaring whether the said amendments, or either of them, have been approved, and ratified, by a majority of the qualified voters, of this state, voting thereon; *Provided*, That if, for any cause, a quorum of either house of the legislature, shall not be present, at the day, and hour, above mentioned, then the said votes shall be opened, in the presence of such members, of said houses, as shall be present; and in case of the absence of the speaker, of either of said houses, the said certificates shall be signed by the speaker present; or, in case of the absence of both speakers, the chief clerks of both houses, or either of them, in case of the absence of one of said clerks.

SECTION 4. That the several duties required to be performed by the sheriffs, commissioners, constables, judges, inspectors, and all other officers, whatever, in, and about, the general elections of this commonwealth, shall be performed by such officers, in, and about, the election herein provided for; and all persons, whether officers, or others, shall be liable to the same punishment, for the neglect of any duty, the commission of any offence, at, in, or about, the said election, as they would, for the neglect of like duty, or the commission of like offence, at, in, or about, the general elections of this commonwealth.

HENRY C. JOHNSON, Speaker of House of Rep.
JOHN P. PENNEY, Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The twenty-third day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four.
A. G. CURTIN.

The electors of the county of Clearfield will take notice that the said special Election will be held at the following places viz:

At the house of Samuel M. Smith for Beccaria township.

At the house of Aseph Ellis for Bell township.

At the house of James Bloom, Sen., for Bloom township.

At the house of Edward Albert for the township of Boggs.

At the house of Wm. Hoover for the township of Bradford.

At the public house of R. W. Moore for Brady township.

At the house of John Young for the township of Burnside.

At the schoolhouse near Simon Rorabaugh's for the township of Chest.

At the court house for the Borough of Clearfield.

At the house of Jacob Maurer for the township of Covington.

At the house of I. Bloom, dec'd, for the Borough of Curwensville.

At Centre school house for the town'p of Decatur.

At the house of Thomas B. Davis for the township of Ferguson.

At the house of John I. Bundy for the township of Fox.

At Congress Hill school house for the township of Girard.

At the public school house for the township of Goshen.

At the house of Jacob Hubler for the township of Graham.

At the school house in Janesville for the township of Guelich.

At the house of J. Wilson for the twn'p of Huston.

At the school house in Ansonville for the town ship of Jordan.

At the house of B. D. Hall & Co. for the town ship of Karthaus.

At the Turkey Hill School house for the town ship of Knox.

At the court house in the Borough of Clearfied for Lawrence township.

At the public school house for the borough of Lumber city.

At the house formerly occupied by Thomas Kyler for the township of Morris.

At the public school house for the Borough of New Washington.

At the house formerly of Wm. W. Anderson for the township of Penn.

At the house of I. Bloom, dec'd, in the Borough of Curwensville for Pike township.

At the house of R. W. Moore for the township of Union.

At the house of Thomas Henderson for the township of Woodward.

NOTICE IS FURTHER HEREBY GIVEN, That all persons, except Justices of the Peace, who shall hold any office or appointment of trust, under the government of the United States or of this State, or of any incorporated district, wether a commissioned officer or otherwise, a subordinate officer or agent, who is or shall be employed under the Legislative, Executive, or Judicial Departments of this State or United States, or any city or incorporated district, and also that every member of Congress and of the State Legislature, or of the common or select council of any city, or commissioner of any incorporated district, are by law incapable of holding or exercising, at the same time, the office or appointment of Judge, Inspector, or Clerk of any election of this Commonwealth.

And the Return Judges of the respective districts aforesaid are requested to meet at the Court House, in the Borough of Clearfield, on the *First Friday* next after the said First Tuesday of August, then and there to do those things required of them by law.

GIVEN under my hand and seal, at Clearfield, this Twenty-ninth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth. EDWARD PERKS, Sheriff.

Select Poetry.

A HUNDRED YEARS HENCE.

All ye loyal freemen give ear to my song,
Come listen a-while, I'll not keep you long.
Concerning these croakers about great expense,
They'll all be forgotten a hundred years hence.

There's Val. of Ohio, with Cox and a Pugh,
Who're sorely afflicted with secession, too.
They would not vote one dollar for Union defence,
And hey'll be forgotten ere twenty years hence.

There are Seymours and Woodses all joined in a band
For the spread of the slave trade over the land;
To be friends of slaveholders they speak much nonsense;
But they'll be forgotten a hundred years hence.

And George B. McClellan, the copperhead god,
Who is at their service by wink or by nod.
He once, to be loyal, made a great pretense,
But he'll be forgotten a hundred years hence.

These Cops cry for peace and the rights of the South
Then hurrah for the war with the very same mouth;
They set up McClellan astride of this fence;
It will all be forgotten a hundred years hence.

Success to the champion that's now at the helm,
May he all the foes of our land overwhelm,
Suppress all rebellion no matter from whence;
He will be remembered a hundred years hence.

All honor to army and navy so bold,
In every old State they have now a foothold;
Our tories at home are all in suspense,
They'll not be forgotten a hundred years hence.

The Bible.

The following is a calculation of the number of books, verses, letters, &c., contained in the Old and New Testaments. They are worth reading and preserving:

OLD TESTAMENT.—Number of books, 39 chapters, 929; verses, 33,214; words, 592,-439; letters, 2,728,100.

The middle book is Proverbs.

The middle chapter Job xxix.

The Middle verse would be 2 Chronicles xx, 17, if there was a verse more, and verse 18, if there was a verse less.

The word *and* occurs 35,543 times.

The word JEHOVAH occurs 6,855 times.

The shortest verse is I Chronicles i, 25.

The 21st verse of the 7th chapter of Ezra contains all the letters of the alphabet.

The 19th of the 2 Kings and the 37th chapter are alike.

NEW TESTAMENT.—Number of books, 27; chapters, 260; verses, 7,060; words 181,-268: letters, 828,580.

The middle book is 2 Thessalonians.

The middle chapter is Romans xiii if there was a chapter more.

The middle verse is John xi 35.

OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS.—Number of books, 66; chapters, 1,189; verses, 40,-274; words, 773,967; letters, 3,556,680.

The middle chapter, and least in the Bible, is the 117th Psalm.

The middle verse is Psalm cxviii, 8.

Anecdote of Dr. Bethune.

A friend writes us from Florence a good story about the late Dr. Bethune, which we must share with our readers. Two English clergymen were calling on him in Florence, and the conversation turning upon the war in the United States, one of them said to the doctor:

"You need a king in your country, sir?"

"A king?" replied the doctor, "do you know how there come to be a king?"

"Well," said the clergyman, "God gave him to the Jews in His anger."

"Yes," respouded the doctor, "and do you know who was the first king?"

"Saul, of course," said the clergyman.

"Yes," rejoined the doctor, "and Saul was a driver of asses—the only beings that want kings."

"But," said the clergyman, again, "one of the offices of Christ was that of a king."

"True," rejoined the doctor, with great animation and dignity, "and the *man* who usurps that office, does in the *State* what the *Pope of Rome* does in the *Church!*" The advocates of royalty, on this, subsided, so says our informant, who heard the whole. —*Congregationalist.*

A Decision was on Saturday rendered by Judge Betts, in the United States District Court, defining the powers of collectors under the Internal Revenue law. It was, on motion, brought by Barnard Carples and others, represented as manufacturers, to restrain the Collector of the Fourth District from enforcing the collection of a tax of $16,632 against the property of the plaintiff. The motion was resisted by the United States District Attorney, and denied by Judge Betts, who ruled in the first place that the redress sought must be through appeal: second, that it was not permissible to the judiciary to restrain the executive branch of the government. The motion for injunction was therefore denied.

A terrible drought prevails in Texas and in Louisiana. The prairies are so baked and so cracked into fissures that horseback travel is dangerous and wheels impossible. Cattle are dying in great numbers because the springs, creeks, bayous and rivers are dried. A recent traveler by the gulf coast says that he passed thousands of carcasses of cattle which had come to the sea shore and drank salt water until they died. The effect of this upon the rebel supplies from Texas can be easily seen. They depend upon Texas for their beef.

Specimens of petroleum have been obtained from coal oil wells at Canon city, Colorado territory, which are said to be nearly as white as the oil taken from our Pennsylvania wells. The productiveness of the works is not precisely stated, but it is believed that enough oil will be got from the vicinity of Canon city to supply the entire territory.

Prentice says that at the end of the war, the Federal officers will have the delight of hanging on the necks of their wives and sweethearts. The rebel leaders may have to be content to hang on their own.

The Micawbar Democracy.

Mr. Wilkins Micawbar is again in difficulty. It is really surprising that this estimable gentleman cannot be appreciated—that he can neither succeed in the coal, the brewery, or the banking business. His misfortunes compel a kind of sympathy, for if there is anything sad to see it is this spectacle of a man going through the world perpetually waiting for "something to turn up." Mr. Micawbar is now in a peculiar trouble. He is really A Fallen Tower. He cannot find a candidate—he cannot borrow a platform—he cannot even get a Convention. What is to be done? He purposed going to Chicago, and Mr. Vallandigham, his next best friend, undertook the perils of a journey from Canada to Ohio, entering Hamilton in a dramatic way, in the hope of giving life and fire to the Chicago Convention. Even that has failed. Vallandigham finds himself in a state of sin and misery in Dayton—despised by one party, distrusted by his own friends, and very sad indeed because no one will put him under arrest. If he had only been arrested there might have been a riot, a great trouble, much excitement, and an opportunity at Chicago for Mr. Micawbar. Then there were hopes of Mr. McClellan. This Micawber of warriors was just the man for the Micawber Democracy. He managed war very much as his great original managed his finances, and with much the same result. He got into difficulties on the Peninsula, and had to come home. Why should he not be made a candidate for the Presidency? He was popular throughout the South. He was respected by the rebels. He had never said a word to injure the feelings of the most sensitive Southern gentleman. He had managed a large army so that as little injury as possible would be done to the rebellion. He was precisely the man for Chicago. A Micawber party could do no better than nominate a Micawber captain; and so men believed. Mr. Micawber does not think so. He wants to wait a little longer. This man Grant has ruined whatever reputation as a military man McClellan may have ever gained. Mr. Micawber is, therefore, in difficulties again. He concludes not to go to Chicago, but to wait two months longer and see if something will not possibly turn up.

The issue therefore stands Fremont and Cochrane on the one hand, Lincoln and Johnson on the other. As Fremont and Cochrane represent nothing but a small, miserable faction, we may virtually say that Lincoln and Johnson are alone in the field. They have no rivals. Their enemies virtually surrender the fight. These enemies say that they have examined the record of Lincoln and Johnson—the administration of the army and navy, the career of the former as President, and of the latter as Governor and Senator, the platform upon which they stand, and the principles they represent—and they find it impossible to name a candidate to oppose them, or to construct a platform in opposition that can in any way command the confidence of the people. In other words, this great Copperhead combination bows down before the will of the people. Filled with enmity and hatred, desiring above all things the overthrow of the country and the Administration, it is afraid to take the field on ground of its own choosing, to accept the challenge we have given. It is afraid to say now what principles it believes or what man it deems proper to repent those principles. We find the convention in Illinois refusing to adopt any resolutions but one endorsing Vallandigham. It prefers to wait until the Chicago Convention meets and determines a policy. In other words, the Democracy in Illinois, and, indeed, in most parts of the country, do not know what to believe until they are instructed by Mr. Vallandigham and a company of gentlemen at Chicago. They have a word of sympathy for a banished traitor, but they have no word of sympathy for our cause; no voice, sentiment, or opinion on any issue involved in our war for a harassed and suffering country. A great contest has been raging for years; thousands of men have been slain; deeds that history will dwell upon for ages to come are being performed, and yet this Democratic party has no word to say of approval or disapproval. It is silent, and not only so, but silent under the suspicion of cowardice. Why does it not speak? It cannot be out of sympathy for the war, or from a desire to do nothing that may embarrass the prosecution of the war, for these men have no sympathy for our cause or our country. They are time-servers, trimmers, camp-followers, men who hang around the baggage-trains until the battle is over, and join the victorious party to plunder the dead. Whether Cassio kill Roderigo, or Roderigo kill Cassio, or each do kill the other, every way works to their gain. They are perfectly content to nominate Grant if he takes Richmond, or to take as rank a submissionist as Seymour of Connecticut, or Wood of New York, if Richmond, should not be taken. With these it is neither peace nor war, but a political victory. As we have said, so that they can plunder the dead it matters little who wins the day.

Is it not humiliating to see a great party so reduced and abandoned that we can find no term but a fanatic creation of fiction whereby to describe it? Where is the Democratic party of other days, proud and defiant in the consciousness of principle: first in the fray, with its banner aloft like the banner of Percy, and its motto 'Esperance' always in the front? How have the mighty fallen! Like the banner of the Percy, the standard of the Democracy has long since been shattered and torn, and trailed in the dust. The carrion crows have made it their rookery, and where brave and good men were once proud to follow, adventurers and banditti now presume to lead.—*Philadelphia Press.*

That's superiority, where the majority, not the minority, have the authority.

THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS.

LETTER OF COMMITTEE.

HON. ABRAHAM LINCOLN—*Sir*: The National Union Convention, which assembled in Baltimore on June 7, 1864, has instructed us to inform you that you were nominated with enthusiastic unanimity for the Presidency of the United States for four years from the 4th of March next.

The resolutions of the convention, which we have already had the pleasure of placing in your hands, are a full and clear statement of the principles which inspired its action, and which, we believe, the great body of the Union men in the country heartily approve. Whether those resolutions express the national gratitude to our soldiers and sailors; or the national scorn of compromise with rebels, and consequent dishonor; or the patriotic duty of union and success; whether they approve the Proclamation of Emancipation, the constitutional amendment, the employment of former slaves as Union soldiers, or the solemn obligation of the Government promptly to redress the wrongs of every soldier of the Union, of whatever color or race; whether they declare the inviolability of the pledged faith of the nation, or offer the national hospitality to the oppressed of every land, or urge the union by railroad of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans; whether they recommend public economy and vigorous taxation, or assert the fixed popular opposition to the establishment by armed force of foreign monarchies in the immediate neighborhood of the United States, or declare that those only are worthy of official trust who approve unreservedly the views and policy indicated in the resolutions—they were equally hailed with the heartiness of profound conviction.

Believing with you, sir, that this is the people's war for the maintenance of a government which you have justly described as "of the people, by the people, for the people," we are very sure that you will be glad to know, not only from the resolutions themselves, but from the singular harmony and enthusiasm with which they were adopted, how warm is the popular welcome of every measure in the prosecution of the war, which is as vigorous, unmistakable and unfaltering as the national purpose itself. No right, for instance, is so precious and sacred to the American heart as that of personal liberty. Its violation is regarded with just, instant, and universal jealousy. Yet in this hour of peril every faithful citizen concedes that, for the sake of national existence and the common welfare, individual liberty may, as the Constitution provides in case of rebellion, be sometimes summarily constrained, asking only with painful anxiety that in every instance, and to the least detail, that absolutely necessary power shall not be hastily or unwisely exercised.

We believe, sir, that the honest will of the Union men of the country was never more truly represented than in this convention. Their purpose we believe to be the overthrow of armed rebels in the field, and the security of perfect peace and union by liberty and justice under the Constitution. That these results are to be achieved amid cruel perplexities, they are fully aware. That they are to be reached only through cordial unanimity of counsel, is undeniable. That good men may sometimes differ as to the means and the time, they know. That in the conduct of all human affairs the highest duty is to determine, in the angry conflict of passion, how much good may be practically accomplished, is their sincere pursuasion. They have watched your official course, therefore, with unflagging attention; and amid the bitter taunts of eager friends and the fierce denunciation of enemies, now moving too fast for some, now too slowly for others, they have seen you throughout this tremendous contest patient, sagacious, faithful, just; leaning upon the heart of the people, and satisfied to be moved by its mighty pulsations.

It is for this reason that, long before the convention met, the popular instinct had plainly indicated you as its candidate; and the convention, therefore, merely recorded the popular will. Your character and career prove your unswerving fidelity to the cardinal principles of American liberty and of the American Constitution. In the name of that liberty and Constitution, sir, we earnestly request your acceptance of this nomination; reverently commending our beloved country, and you, its Chief Magistrate, with all its brave sons who, on sea and land, are faithfully defending the good old American cause of equal rights, to the blessing of Almighty God.

We are, sir, very respectfully, your friends and fellow citizens,

WM. DENNISON, Ohio, Chairman,
(And thirty-one others, Committee.)

REPLY OF MR. LINCOLN.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHIN'TN, June 27.

Hon. Wm. Dennison and others, a Committee of the Union Convention:

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 14th inst., formally notifying me that I have been nominated by the Convention you represent for the Presidency of the United States for four years from the 4th of March next, has been received. The nomination is gratefully accepted, as the resolutions of the convention—called the platform—are heartily approved.

While the resolution in regard to the supplanting of Republican Government upon the Western Continent is fully concurred in, there might be misunderstanding were I not to say that the position of the Government in relation to the action of France in Mexico, as assumed through the State Department and indorsed by the Convention, among the measures and acts of the Executive, will be faithfully maintained so long as the state of facts shall leave that position penetrable and applicable.

I am especially gratified that the soldier and the seamen were not forgotten by the convention, as they forever must and will be remembered by the grateful country for whose salvation they devote their lives.

Thanking you for the kind and complimentary terms in which you have communicated the nomination and other proceedings of the Convention, I subscribe myself,

Your obedient servant, A. LINCOLN.

ITEMS OF WAR NEWS.

Gen. Hunter's movements in South-western Virginia have been carried out on a grand scale, and have been highly successful, notwithstanding Lee's efforts to overtake and defeat him. It is known in official quarters that Gen. Hunter has adhered to the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad with a pertinacity unparalleled. He produced a consternation at Lynchburg that the rebels of that vicinity will never forget. While one portion of his forces was engaged in tearing up the railroads, the other portion fought the enemy. Rebel accounts agree that the damage done by Gen. Hunter's forces was very extensive. They say that the scene of desolation and ruin in the neighborhood of Lynchburg is positively appalling. All available supplies for the rebel army were destroyed, and grain, cattle and other stock confiscated. After leaving Lynchburg, Gen. Hunter pushed on westerly to Liberty, on the same road, destroying the Big and Little river railroad bridges, the rails and sleepers on the road, and rebel supplies. From there he moved along the same road to Salem, where he destroyed a large number of bridges, including the railroad bridges over the branches of the Stanton river. At this point he turned northward, passing Fincastle, and, at last accounts his command was out of the reach of any forces sent again him by Lee. He has performed a great work. He has not done it, of course, without hard fighting and losing some men; but he has done his work and done it well.

An army correspondent gives further interesting details of the attack by the rebel eighteen-gun battery upon Gen. Smith's Eighteenth Corps on Friday morning, June 24th. The cannonade is said to have been one of the heaviest of the campaign, and the impression on people at a distance was that a terrible battle was in progress. The enemy wasted a large amount of ammunition in a concentrated but harmless fire upon our troops and batteries. The ball opened at about 6.30 o'clock, a. m., and closed at about nine. Our own batteries during this time were not silent, but replied in a spirited style. While this artillery fire was raging, a charge was made on a position of Gen. Stannard's division, (formerly General Brooks,) of the Eighteenth corps, by Haygood's brigade of rebels. About four hundred of them succeeded in entering our front line of rifle pits—a mere picket line, our skirmishers retiring to the main breastwork of the front line of battle. While these were coming in our troops did not fire from the fear that they might hit our own men. The rebels, encouraged by this, advanced boldly towards our entrenchments, but the moment our skirmishers had all gone in, a volley was immediately fired into the ranks of the enemy, and mowed them down fearfully. Their progress was all at once stopped, and to retreat was as much out of the question as to advance. While placed in this dilemma our men continued firing rapidly upon them. They made signs of a desire to surrender, which was not at first perceived, but as soon as their wish was ascertained, firing was discontinued and they received a cordial invitation to come in. The number of prisoners taken was one hundred and sixty-six, and thirty-six wounded were brought off the ground. The remainder of the four hundred must have been either killed or too badly wounded to get away, as the men captured say none went back. Many of the prisoners appeared to be rather pleased than sad at the lot which had befallen them. One, a sergeant, exclaimed fervently, as he jumped into our entrenchments, "Thank God, I'm a white man again," a rather emphatic way of announcing that he considered himself released from slavery in becoming a prisoner. Another one, a Captain, expressed the opinion that the entire brigade to which he belonged would come in if they could do so without being fired upon. It is worthy of remark that these men appear to be chiefly South Carolinians, and judging by the feelings they express, one would infer that the State which inaugurated the war was ready to cry "hold, enough," but these men are of the poorer class, and their views and feelings are entirely distinct from those of the wealthy oligarchy who rule them, and wield them for the accomplishment of their own aims by combining a system of the most shameless mendacity with a rigorous exercise of power. Some of the prisoners taken this morning say they have been told constantly that the Yankees, if successful, will reduce them to a condition almost worse than that of the slaves, compelling them to work for seven pence a day, or whatever they may see fit to give. I was particularly struck by the naturalness and evident sincerity of the reply made by a wounded rebel to some one who inquired whether he came into the army on his own inclination. "No, indeed," he answered, "I ought to be at home ploughing corn this very hour." The look of care in his eye as he said this betrayed anxious thoughts of his distant wife and children, and the crops he had planted wilting under the hot sun for want of his culture.

THE OPINION OF A WAR DEMOCRAT.—Hon. James T. Braly, the well-known Democratic lawyer of New York, in a late speech uttered the following just sentiment: "Much has been said, too, about usurpations of power; but where in history will you find a war against rebellion conducted with such moderation?" The copperhead papers do not seem to be in a hurry to respond to this question of a War Democrat.

Whatever you dislike, study.