

# The Franklin Repository.

BY MCCLURE & STONER.

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## Franklin Repository.

### WASHINGTON.

**Murders in Washington—Death of Lieut. Brannin—The Drafted Men—Military Officers—Gov. Curtin—Military Disgraces—Distinguished Visitors in Washington.**

Correspondence of The Franklin Repository.

WASHINGTON, September 11th, 1863.

Our city has been remarkably quiet for the last week, only two cases of murder have occurred; one of these two is called a "shocking murder," because, I presume, one darkie killed another darkie with a penknife, and because he done it effectively, completely severing the jugular vein, causing death in a few minutes. No cause shown at the inquest. The other murder is called "a heart rending one," from the fact that a Policeman named Charles W. Thompson shot dead a detective, named Lieut. J. M. Brannin. Brannin is a native of New Jersey, and is the soldier that bayoneted Jackson at the same time he was shot by Brownell, at the assassination of Ellsworth, in the Marshall House, Alexandria, in 1861. He was an excellent detective and two things had something to do with his murder. First, as is generally the case in everything of the kind in Washington, a woman was mixed up in it. Second, Brannin was known to have over \$1200 with him but a short time before the murder—after his death none of it was found on his person. Where did it go? Murder here has become such a common thing, that it rarely causes a second thought.

The examination of the drafted men is progressing rapidly. Out of 2400 that have been before the board, nearly 700 soldiers have been obtained; of this number over 200 are colored. Drafted men from all parts of the country are arriving at Alexandria rapidly—by Rail Road and by Boat—so that in a very short time the army will be recruited to its original standard. Very many Regiments that were detached from it, have again joined it—and they can again defy Lee to come out of his hole or they will bring him out. A good and sensible order is now rigidly enforced in this city, namely, General Order 114, "prohibits all officers from visiting Washington, without special permission from the War Department." Another order compels all officers to wear their uniform—consequently an officer on sick leave, (which is the general plea) if caught at places of amusement or houses of ill fame—is considered well enough for duty. These are two of the best orders ever enforced in this city, as it was a burning disgrace, to see officers here by the thousands almost, and continually filling the hundreds of barrooms and supporting over 160 houses of ill fame, each one of which has not less than 10 girls, whereas the common soldiers had to lie in camp year in and year out, without even so much as two day's furlough.

Gov. Curtin, the friend of the soldier, will exhort himself still deeper to their hearts, if he will appoint, or give power to an agent, to be located in this city, who will look after the wants of each and every soldier, no matter what his rank may be. The same as Ohio and other states have now. The agent of Ohio, Mr. Witmore, attends to pension applications, gets and gives transportation and goes to the most distant Hospital to attend to the wants of the soldier. Such an agent is wanted from Pennsylvania more than any other State—and it is to be regretted that she has not had such an one long ago.

At Ford's Theatre, the Naiad Queen has been played for over two weeks, and yet the house is jammed every night. I have seen the piece played in many theatres, but never with such a series of enchanting pictures. Next week Ford's treats us to the sight of a real Ghost—an imported Ghost! The same Ghost that is creating such a sensation in the Eastern cities.

Quite a sensation has been created by the letting down by the easiest means possible, a number of high officials. Gen. Meigs, Chief Quartermaster; Gen. Ripley, Chief of Ordnance; Surgeon-General Hammond; Surgeon Clymer; Gen. Taylor, chief of Subsistence, &c.

A very large sale of confiscated property located in Washington city took place on Wednesday, a large crowd was in attendance, but there was no spirit in the bids. This sale has illustrated one fact, that is that no one cares much about buying an uncertainty. The sale was for the lifetime of the owner—such being the case, only a few thousand dollars was realized in an immense sale—which if it had been a sale of property good for all times, would have realized the Government nearly a million of dollars.

Quite a number of distinguished men left for canvas by stump speaking in the State of Pennsylvania in favor of Gov. Curtin. Col. Forney, Dr. Wm. Elder, Ex-Gov. Randall, Hon. Green Adams and Chief Justice Carter. They will be followed next week by Maj. Gen. Butler and many others.

A large number of eminent persons were in town yesterday. Com. Farragut, Gen. Meade, Hooker and Blair, John Covode, Henry J. Raymond, Ex-Gov. Hicks, Gov. Morton, Hon. P. S. White, Hon. J. G. Falfrey and Mayor Opyke. NORVAL.

**THE CROPS.**—The corn crop throughout the County will be generally good, notwithstanding it was considerably neglected during the rebel invasion. Potatoes also are good, but the rot is affecting them to some extent.



Hon. Daniel Agnew, Union Candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court.

From the National Guard.

### HON. DANIEL AGNEW.

Daniel Agnew, the candidate of the Union party of Pennsylvania for Judge of Supreme Court, was born in Trenton, New Jersey, January 6th, 1809. His father, the late Jas. Agnew, A. M., M. D., of the city of Pittsburgh, was a native of Princeton, New Jersey, a graduate of the college there, taking one of the honors, and a classmate with the late John Sergeant, Charles Fenton Mercer, and others of distinguished reputation. He was a man of commanding personal presence, and of magnificent intellect. His mother, who is yet living, and resides with her son the judge, is a daughter of the late Richard Howell, a major of the Revolutionary war in the New Jersey line. He was singularly honored for his services by his fellow-citizens, having been chosen Governor of New Jersey nine times in succession. Mrs. Agnew, the wife of this sketch is quite confident, was one of the little girls dressed in white who strewed flowers before the great and good Washington when he passed under the triumphal arch erected on Trenton bridge. Of this scene Irving remarks: "Never was ovation more graceful, touching, and sincere, and Washington, tenderly affected, declared the impression of it on his heart could never be effaced." The brothers of Mrs. Agnew, including Major Richard Howell, so long in the Custom House, Philadelphia, were nearly all in service in the war of 1812. The youngest of them, Franklin Howell, was a lieutenant in the Navy, and lost his life by the shattering of a spar on board the ill-fated President in her fight with the Endymion, off New York. Her brother, William Howell, Esq., a lieutenant in the land service, removed a number of years ago to Natchez, Mississippi, and is the father of the present Mrs. Jefferson Davis, the first Mrs. Davis having been a daughter of the late President Taylor. The treason and rebellion of Mr. Davis have not spared his own relatives by marriage. Few families in the land, as the writer of this sketch knows, though delicately forbids him to state all, have been more bitterly bereaved by the war than the family of Judge Agnew. A most noble son-in-law, the late Surgeon Minis of the Forty-eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, died at Roanoke Island, a few days after the battle, through whose perils he had passed safely, from fatigues and exposure, while attending conscientiously to his professional duties to the wounded soldiers. He was an admirable surgeon General Burnside alluded in one of his general orders to his heroic self-sacrificing death as calling for gratitude. He was acting surgeon of Ninth New Jersey Regiment in the battle, and at the time of his death. In the terrible conflict at Gettysburg the Judge was again written a mourner by the sudden death of the gallant R. P. Roberts, the friend of General Zook, and Colonel of the One-hundred-and-fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers. Colonel Roberts left a large practice at the bar of Beaver county to endure suffering and death for the glory and perpetuity of his country. He was killed on the afternoon of the second of July, hat in one hand and sword in the other, urging his men to drive the rebel invaders, and to remember they were on their own soil. He was the most intimate friend Judge Agnew possessed. No one, had he lived, would have rejoiced more heartily than he in the elevation of his friend to the Supreme Bench of Pennsylvania. In an interview which the writer held with the Colonel in June last, less than a month before his heroic death, he spoke enthusiastically of the courage and

qualification of the Judge to grace public station.

Dr. Agnew moved many years ago with his family to Western Pennsylvania, and settled temporarily in Butler county; thence he removed to Pittsburgh to educate his sons. Judge Agnew received his education at the Western University of Pennsylvania, then in charge of the late Robert Bruce, D. D., and of the late John Black, the father of the distinguished and lamented Colonel Samuel W. Black. These were noble men, ripe scholars, being graduates, the one of Edinburgh and the other of Glasgow University, Scotland. After graduating in 1825, the Judge studied law in the office of the late Judge Baldwin and W. W. Fetterman. He was a student in whom, as also in the late Hon. Walter Forward—a student of an earlier day—Judge Baldwin afterwards felt a pride. He was admitted to the practice of the law in 1829, and in the same year removed to Beaver, Beaver county, Pennsylvania, where he has resided to the present time, gathering by his unobtrusive course in his daily life and by his great merit, influence with his years. Here he was married on the 4th of July, 1831, to Miss Elizabeth Moore, who has now for more than thirty years adorned his home with a quiet grace which has made it exceedingly sweet to him and to their children. She has proved herself the worthy wife of a noble man. She is a sister of Rev. F. Moore, D. D., the present pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Union Church of this city, and a daughter of the late Hon. Robert Moore, member of Congress from 1817 to 21, and in his time one of the distinguished lawyers and statesmen of Western Pennsylvania.

In 1836 he was elected a delegate to the Convention to revise the Constitution of Pennsylvania, and was with Judge Woodward one of the youngest of its members. After this he confined himself exclusively to the practice of the law until he was appointed by Governor Johnson, in 1851, to fill the vacancy on the bench of his district (Seventeenth) occasioned by the death of Hon. Judge Bredin. At the October election of the same year he was triumphantly elected by the people of the district over an able and popular opponent, Hon. John N. Furviance, carrying his own county of Beaver (by a majority of 455, when its average Democratic majority was about 100. Since that time the politics of the county have changed very much, and it is now a strong Union county. He was re-elected without opposition in 1861. His career as a President Judge has been eminently successful, comparatively few of his decisions having been reversed by the Supreme Court.

Although never aspiring to any political office, and resisting solicitations of friends in that direction, he gave his services as an old line Whig to promote what he believed to be the interests of the nation and State in the campaigns of 1836, 1840, 1844, and 1848, for Harrison, Clay and Taylor. In 1848 he was the Taylor elector for his district, and was mainly instrumental by his efforts on the stump in redeeming his own county from the opposition to General Taylor, an opposition which had taken so deep a hold that it seemed likely to sink his prospects entirely. Though firm in his views of political truth and duty, Judge Agnew, having strict notions of judicial propriety, has since his election to the bench constantly kept aloof from active partisanship. His able and impartial course as a Judge has made him a favorite with candid men of all parties.

On the breaking out of the rebellion he at once took sides with those whose hearts were wholly given to the Union, and to the preservation of the existence and liberty of the nation. He was chosen President of the Committee of Safety of the county, and has ever since been active in every effort to preserve the authority of the Government and every effort to suppress the rebellion. He is one who considers it to be the duty of every patriot to sustain the Union, not only by professions, but by active sympathy, by all the means which are necessary to uphold the hands of those who administer the Government. His lecture on "Our National Constitution, its Adaptation to a State of War and Insurrection," is a masterly production, which has done valuable service in behalf of loyalty. He is the author of an able, eloquent and original lecture that has never been in print, on "The Poetry of Law." His character in private life is, without any exaggeration, beautiful. Few men are more devotedly loved by relatives and friends who know him well. He possesses great clearness and force of intellect, an eminently judicial mind. If elected, as doubtless he will be, his intimate friends predict for him a splendid career on the Supreme bench. If the people of the Commonwealth knew his private worth, his ability and integrity, his qualifications for high office, as they are known to his personal friends, they would elevate him to the Supreme bench as the Union Convention nominated him—by acclamation.

Certainly, with such standard-bearers as the noble-hearted, patriotic Curtin and Judge Agnew, the Union party of Pennsylvania deserves success before the people at the coming election.

### LETTER FROM PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

The following dispassionate and patriotic letter was written by President Lincoln to a meeting of the Union men at Springfield, Ill. It effectually silences all the copperhead clamor for peace on the ground that the rebels are ready to negotiate, and is followed by the assurance to the people, given with characteristic sincerity and frankness, that "if any such proposition shall hereafter come it shall not be rejected and 'kept secret from you.' We subjoin the letter:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Aug. 26, 1863.

HON. JAMES C. CONKLING—MY DEAR SIR: Your letter inviting me to attend a mass meeting of unconditional Union men, to be held at the capital of Illinois, on the 3d day of September, has been received.

It would be very agreeable to me thus to meet my old friends at my own home, but I cannot just now be absent from this city so long as a visit there would require. The meeting is to be of all those who maintain unconditional devotion to the Union, and I am sure that my old political friends will thank me for tendering, as I do, the nation's gratitude to those other noble men whom no partisan malice or partisan hope can make false to the nation's life.

There are those who are dissatisfied with me. To such I would say, "You desire peace, and you blame me that we do not have it. But how can we attain it? There are but three conceivable ways: First, To suppress the rebellion by force of arms. This I am trying to do. Are you for it? If you

are, so far we are agreed. If you are not for it, we are not agreed. A second way is to give up the Union. I am against this. If you are, you should say so plainly. If you are not for force, nor yet for dissolution, there only remains some imaginary compromise. I do not believe that any compromise embracing the maintenance of the Union is now possible. All that I learn leads to a directly opposite belief. The strength of the rebellion is its military—its army. That army denominates all the country and all the people within its range. Any offer of terms made by any man or men within that range, in opposition to that army, is simply nothing for the present, because such man or men have no power whatever to enforce their side of a compromise, if one were made with them. To illustrate—suppose a refugee from the South and the peace men of the North get together in Convention, and frame and proclaim a compromise embracing a restoration of the Union, in what way can that compromise be used to keep General Lee's army out of Pennsylvania? Gen. Meade's army can keep Lee's army out of Pennsylvania, and I think can, ultimately drive it out of existence; but no paper compromise, to which the controllers of General Lee's army are not agreed, can at all effect that army. In an effort at such compromise we would waste the time which the enemy would improve to our disadvantage, and that would be all.

A compromise, to be effective, must be made either with those who control the rebel army, or with the people, first liberated from the domination of that army by the success of our army.

Now, allow me to assure you that no word or intimation from the rebel army or from any of the men controlling it, has ever come to my knowledge or belief. All charges and intimations to the contrary are deceptive and groundless, and I promise you, that if any such proposition shall hereafter come, it shall not be rejected, and kept secret from you. I freely acknowledge myself to be the servant of the people, according to the bond of service, the United States Constitution, and that as such I am responsible to them.

But, to be plain, you are dissatisfied with me about the negro. Quite likely there is a difference of opinion between you and myself upon that subject. I certainly wish that all men could be free, while you, I suppose, do not. Yet I have neither adopted nor proposed any measure which is not consistent with even your views, provided you are for the Union. I suggested compensated emancipation; to which you replied that you wished not to be taxed to buy negroes. But I had not asked you to be taxed to buy negroes, except in such a way as to save you from greater taxation to save the Union exclusively by other means. You dislike the emancipation proclamation, and perhaps you want to have it retracted. You say it is unconstitutional. I think differently. I think that the Constitution invests its Commander-in-chief with the law of war in time of war. The most that can be said, if so much is, that slaves are property.

Is there, has there ever been, any question that by the law of war the property, both of enemies and friends, may be taken when needed, and is it not needed when never taken it helps or hurts the enemy? Armies, the world over, destroy enemies' property when they cannot use it, and even destroy their own to keep it from the enemy. Civilized belligerents do all in their power to help themselves or hurt the enemy, except a few things regarded as barbarous or cruel.

Among the exceptions are the massacre of vanquished foes and non-combatants, male and female. But the proclamation, as law, is valid or not valid. If it is not valid, it needs no retraction; if it is valid, it cannot be retracted any more than the dead can be brought to life. Some of you profess to think that its retraction would operate favorably for the Union. Why better after the retraction than before the issue?

There was more than a year and a half for trial to suppress the rebellion before the proclamation was issued; the last one hundred days of which passed under an explicit notice that it was coming unless averted by those in revolt returning to their allegiance. The war has certainly progressed as favorably for us since the issue of the proclamation as before. I know as fully as one can know the opinions of others, that some of the commanders of our armies in the field who have given us our most important victories, believe the emancipation policy and the aid of colored troops constitute the heaviest blows yet dealt to the rebellion; and that at least one of these important successes could not have been achieved when it was, but for the aid of black soldiers. Among the commanders holding these views are some who never had any affinity with what is called Abolitionism, or with the Republican party politics, but who held them purely as military opinions. I submit their opinions as being entitled to some weight against the objections often urged that emancipation and the arming of the blacks are unwise as military measures, and were not adopted as such in good faith. You say that you will not fight to free negroes. Some of them seem to be willing to fight for you; but no matter—fight you, then, exclusively to save the Union.

I issued the proclamation on purpose to aid you in saving the Union. Whenever you shall have conquered all resistance to the Union, if I shall urge you to continue fighting, it will be an apt time then for you to declare that you will not fight to free negroes. I thought that, in your struggle for the Union, to whatever extent the negroes should cease helping the enemy, to that extent it weakened the enemy in his resistance to you. Do you think differently? I thought that whatever negroes can be got to do as soldiers, leaves just so much less for white soldiers to do in saving the Union. Does it appear otherwise to you? But negroes, like other people, act upon motives. Why should they do anything for us, if we will do nothing for them? If they stake their lives for us, they must be prompted by the strongest motives—even the promise of freedom; and the promise, being made, must be kept.

The signs look better. The Father of Waters again goes untroubled to the sea; thanks to the great Northwest for it; nor yet wholly to them. Three hundred miles up they met New England, the Empire, the Keystone and New Jersey, hewing their way right and left. The sunny South, too, in more colors than one, also lent a hand, on the spot; their part of the history was jotted down in black and white. The job was a great national one, and let none be named who bore an honorable part in it, while those who have cleared the great river may well be proud.

Even that is not all. It is hard to say that anything has been more bravely and better done than at Antietam, Murfreesboro, Gettysburg, and on many fields of less note. Nor must Uncle Sam's web-feet be forgotten. At all the water's margins they have been present, not only on the deep sea, the broad bay, and the rapid river, but also up the narrow, muddy bayou, and wherever the ground was a little damp they have been and made their tracks. Thanks to all! For the Great Republic—for the principles by which it lives and keeps alive—for man's vast future; thanks to all!

Peace does not appear so distant as it did. I hope it will come soon, and come to stay, and so come as to be worth the keeping in all future time. It will then have been proved that among freemen there can be no successful appeal from the ballot to the bullet, and that they who take such appeal are sure to lose their case and let the cost; and then there will be some black men who can remember that, with silent tongue, and clenched teeth, and steady eye, and well-poised bayonet, they have helped mankind on to this great consummation, while I fear that there will be some white men unable to forget that, with malignant heart and deceitful speech, they have striven to hinder it. Still, let us not be over sanguine of a speedy final triumph. Let us be quite sober. Let us diligently apply the means, never doubting that a just God, in his own good time, will give us the rightful result.

Yours, very truly,  
A. LINCOLN.

### Political.

#### UNION MEETINGS

IN FRANKLIN COUNTY:

The People of Franklin County,

without Distinction of Party,

Who are in favor of

SUSTAINING THE GOVERNMENT

against

Armed Traitors in the South

and

Secret Foes at Home;

Who will Sustain

The Brave Soldiers in the Field

battling for

The Life of the Republic

and our

Honored Nationally;

Who favor the Election

GOV. ANDREW G. CURTIN.

the

Faithful and Patriotic Executive

and the

Soldiers' Friend,

are requested to

ATTEND DISTRICT MEETINGS

at the following named places:

WAYNESBORO.....Monday, September 21, do 21.  
GREENCASTLE.....Tuesday, do 22, do 22.  
HERSCYBURG.....Wednesday, do 23, do 23.  
LOUISDA.....Thursday, do 24, do 24.  
ST. THOMAS.....Friday, do 25, do 25.  
ST. LASHBURG.....Saturday, do 26, do 26.  
FAVETWILLE.....Sunday, do 27, do 27.  
PANNETTSBURG.....Monday, do 28, do 28.  
DRY RUN.....Tuesday, do 29, do 29.  
CONCORD.....Wednesday, do 30, do 30.  
SULPHUR SPRING.....Thursday, October 1, do 1.  
(2 o'clock, P. M.)  
ROXBURY.....Friday, do 2, do 2.  
GREENCASTLE.....Saturday, do 3, do 3.  
ORRSTOWN.....Saturday, do 3, do 3.

All the above meetings will be held in the evening, excepting Sulphur Spring.

Good Speakers will be in attendance at each of the meetings mentioned above. Other meetings will shortly be announced. JOHN STEWART, Chairman Union County Com.