

Franklin Repository.

Wednesday, April 19, 1865.

THE MARTYR PRESIDENT.

He who a few days since was the honored President of the Republic, now lies cold and silent in death. ABRAHAM LINCOLN is dead; foully murdered by the hand of a villainous assassin, whose arm was nerve and whose heart was steeled for his heinous work by the foul deed of human slavery, which is now writhing in its death agony.

So mild in him, that Nature might stand up and say to all the world, "This was a man." TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN, more than to any other man, are we indebted for a restored Union. Chosen by the people to be their chief magistrate, he entered upon his office at a time when organized treason was defiant, and every loyal heart was saddened with fears of impending ruin.

Let his great example stand colossal, send every land, And keep the soldier firm, the statesman pure Till in all paths and thro' all human story The path of duty be the way to glory!

WHAT OF PEACE?

We give in to-day's paper the address of President Lincoln, delivered in Washington on Thursday evening last, on the absorbing question of re-establishing the authority of the government in the revolted States. It will be seen that he fully appreciates the delicate questions about to be pressed upon him, and he has expressed his views with a degree of caution becoming the position of one who is charged with the most solemn responsibilities, and with the determination of issues fraught with weal, or woe to the tranquility and power of a continent.

Citizens charged with no responsibility in the great struggle for a Nationally, may with safety obey the behests of passion; but not so with the President who must answer to posterity and to God for the liberties, the peace and prosperity of thirty millions of people. Impressed with the grave duties imposed upon him, Mr. Lincoln has ignored the rancor of revenge; has turned from the altar of partizan dictation; has bid the play of faction cease, until time and experience shall solve the great problems presented for solution. He is not insensible of the terrible conflict of interest, of prejudice and of passion that confronts the adjustment of the questions now rising up as the legacy of fraternal war. He foresees the peril, and turns from frictions to deal with the higher and holier issues of the perpetuity of a chastened and regenerated Nationally. He well knows how faction will hurl its

ferent thunderbolts against any measure of adjustment. One would blot from existence the last vestige of State authority; seize the States as conquered provinces, and dictate the qualifications of citizenship so as to confer suffrage upon the liberated slave. Another would demand the guillotine, and stay not the hand of vengeance until the bloody days of the French revolution should be forgotten in the history of the appalling atonement of treason; and still others would declare their liberal or radical persuasions, as they may happen to entertain them, as the only means of safety to our free institutions.

All these points have been well considered by the President, and he treats of them with the utmost caution. What appears as indecision, is but the dispassionate postponement of each question until its consideration and determination become a necessity, and then he means to meet it with his proverbial fidelity as the surrounding circumstances may dictate. If the already organized free governments of Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee and Virginia shall prove the best means of restoring the States to the folds of the Union, they will be sustained; and until some better method of attaining the end desired by all is devised, or until they shall prove unequal to the purpose for which they have been created, they will be encouraged. To reject them would leave those States in utter anarchy, and what would be the fruits of a new and different effort at organization? If only loyal men should be allowed to participate in creating them, they would be substantially re-produced. If loyal and disloyal alike should participate, the singular spectacle might be presented of unfaithful State governments dealing with the parent government in the restoration of the States. We are not unmindful that the Baltimore Convention pointedly ignored the organizations in those States, and that Congress with uncommon unanimity declared them not to be such State governments as entitled them to representation in the electoral college. In the action of both bodies, we then heartily acquiesced, and we would be glad to-day to see some more acceptable method of restoring these States. But we share the conviction of the President that, objectionable as they are, they may still be the best, and we are willing to accept the experiment. The administration that is charged with the grave duty of restoration, and in whose fidelity and enlightened statesmanship we have abiding faith, has now authoritatively declared that at present there seems to be no better mode of securing the unity of the government, and we must see clear way to better results before we shall decline to sustain it.

The severest ordeal of Mr. Lincoln's administration is just about to be entered upon. The peril to our institutions united all classes in support of war; but that peril once past, the great bond of unity is broken, and faction will play with tireless energy against any policy of peace. Most earnest and formidable will be those who will demand an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. Forgetful of the example of the great warrior, who crowned his unparalleled achievements by receiving the surrendered sword of Lee at Appomattox Court House, and who bid his foe go home and obey the laws without fear of vengeance, they will insist on any adjustment that is not baptised in the blood of traitors. How well they merit the dire vengeance is patent to all; but Grant deemed the life of a single soldier of his brave command more valuable than the blood of Lee and his entire army; and he taught his discomfited foes how magnanimous and beneficent was the Government they sought to destroy. In harmony with the action of the Lieut. General, is the action of the administration and the military authorities in Richmond. There the rebel legislature is invited to return to their State capital, assured of safety, and undo their work of attempted disintegration, and bring Virginia back into the Union by the same power that hurled her into the cruel arms of treason. This magnanimity has disarmed the masses, and aroused the latent love for our common Nationality, and it has made the arch conspirators impotent for evil henceforth. It promises to induce the deluded people of the South to throw off the yoke of treason, and return to their allegiance to the best of civil governments. To this end we shall heartily sustain the efforts of the administration to restore the South to fidelity; and if thereby peace and tranquility shall be restored, and traitors still live to see how treason is scorned by a Nation that has drunk its bitterest draught, we shall not envy them the clemency that has denied them the refuge of the grave!

Since the foregoing article was written, the Nation has been bowed in deep sorrow by the assassination of President Lincoln; and his last words of calm, patriotic counsel to his countrymen will be prized as the guiding star; as the silver lining to the cloud that has been deepened and made terribly portentous by his untimely death.

The Greensburg Argus thus announces the brilliant triumphs of our heroic armies which resulted in the capture of Petersburg and Richmond. The Argus may be safely termed the last of the copperheads, for certainly no other term could be applied to such a treacherous reptile. The Democracy of Westmoreland will doubtless blush for the open, insolent, cowardly treason their organ has manifested. We quote:

"The scraps of war news which we publish today, will carry sorrow and bereavement to thousands of families. The slaughter on both sides has been terrific. The bungling butcher Grant, the murderer Sherman, and the incendiary Sheridan, have so doubt, at an immense sacrifice of life, obtained a decided advantage over the Confederate forces. Every battle inflicts fresh injury on our rulers, who have persistently refused all terms of reconciliation that did not inflict a death blow on the Constitution, and be the winding sheet of our free institutions.

We give in to-day's paper the remarks delivered by Mr. McClure in the House of Representatives, on the bill to provide for the adjudication of military damages on the border, as taken down by the photographic reporter of the House. His speech on the same bill at a later date, when it was finally defeated, will appear hereafter.

THE NATIONAL BEREAVEMENT.

Editorial Correspondence of the Franklin Repository. PHILADELPHIA, April 15, 1865. ABRAHAM LINCOLN IS DEAD! and by an assassin's hand has the idol, the hope of the Nation fallen, just as rejoicing was swelling every heart, and party lines were fading into a common sentiment in support of the patriotic and generous policy of the President—just as the terrible pall of war seemed about to be lifted from us to usher in the angel of Peace, our joy is turned into mourning; and as we bow to the inscrutable wisdom of Him who numbers the very hairs of our heads, and who holds the destinies of Nations subject to His will, there is not a hope beaming through the dark horizon that does not come mingled with agonizing fears for the safety of the Republic.

I grieve not for Abraham Lincoln. He has filled the measure of human fame. There is no fresh honor he could have won. There was no day in the past; no day could have belonged to the future, in which he could have died more tenderly beloved, more profoundly lamented. His appointed time came when passion had bowed to his calm, unflinching wisdom; when a rescued Nation poured out to him its fondest devotion, just when most deeply enshrined in the confidence and love of his countrymen, the sad summons came, in circumstance tragic as appalling, and fixed that love, that confidence, that veneration to endure until grateful memories shall cease; and patriotism be allowed to the past. But I cannot but be oppressed with the fear that he had not yet fulfilled the high measure of his possible usefulness to an imperiled government. Heavenly grant that in this universal apprehension, human judgment may err.

It may be that it was best for Abraham Lincoln to die. In the crushing sorrow that envelops the Republic, there is the silver lining to the cloud; the hope that illumines the darkest hours of life, that the God who has just given victory to Humanity and Justice; broken the power of cruel bondage and scattered the legions of the wanton usurper, still "doeth all things well."

To what end, in the overruling wisdom of the God of Nations, this terrible bereavement has come, the futility of His purposes alone can tell. I rush not where angels dare not tread to fathom the infinite; but with the living, the pregnant present, there is no uncertainty—no doubtful judgment in the acceptance of the new duties the blood of a murdered ruler has inscribed in our laws. There must be atonement. However guiltless of the immediate act of the assassin that invaded the Nation's sacred sanctuary of power, may be those who have given us causeless, wretched war, and brought mourning to every circle in the land, still the murder that crimsoned our capital with the blood of our common ruler, is the act of those who bowed at the savage altar of treason, and drenched this fair land in fraternal blood. They polluted the heart; nerved the arm, and gave direction to the bullet and steel which have written this terrible page in our history; and justice, not vengeance, is inexorable in its demand that the long impeded, but now rescued Republic shall vindicate its might and majesty; assure its future safety, and deal mercy to mankind, by dooming to ignominious death the chief conspirators of crime.

I hope and pray that the new administration will not depart from the established and accepted policy of Mr. Lincoln, and that the Nation's hope. It promised early and enduring peace. It maintained our common brotherhood. It looked to a future with North and South as one people, cemented rather than estranged by our matchless heroism alike in behalf of wrong and right. It justly forgave the deluded; generously invited the fealty of the erring; and, save the arch-fiends of death, all seemed to be gathering to the folds of our proud inheritance again, and bring Virginia back into the Union by the same power that hurled her into the cruel arms of treason. This magnanimity has disarmed the masses, and aroused the latent love for our common Nationality, and it has made the arch conspirators impotent for evil henceforth. It promises to induce the deluded people of the South to throw off the yoke of treason, and return to their allegiance to the best of civil governments. To this end we shall heartily sustain the efforts of the administration to restore the South to fidelity; and if thereby peace and tranquility shall be restored, and traitors still live to see how treason is scorned by a Nation that has drunk its bitterest draught, we shall not envy them the clemency that has denied them the refuge of the grave!

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member of the Wellesboro bar, of high legal attainments, and in all respects eminently qualified for the position to which he has been called. He was prominently spoken of for Senator prior to his appointment as Judge; but Potter will doubtless be conceded that nomination now.

Mr. James C. Reed, 108 South 4th Street, Philadelphia, proposes to publish shortly by subscription, a large quarto volume of 1,000 pages, entitled, "The Oil Companies of the United States." It will embrace the name, capital, property of each corporation, with its location, extent, tenure, relative position, present development and facilities for future development, transportation &c. It will also be a complete directory of houses and depots of the oil industry. Such a work honestly compiled, as we doubt not this one will be, must prove invaluable, and command a wide sale. The price of the book will be \$5.

SUMMARY OF WAR NEWS. Gen. Halleck and Secretary Stanton both express the opinion that there will be no more heavy fighting. Lynchburg, Va., was surrendered on Tuesday to a scouting party. McKenney's brigade of cavalry has been sent to Garrison the town. Selma, Alabama, was captured by Gen. Wilson's cavalry on the 21st inst. Forrest and Roddy, with their entire commands, were captured. Montgomery is also reported to have been captured.

The Government has received information that five thousand of our prisoners, from Andersonville and other Southern prisons are ready for delivery at Darien, Georgia. Steps will be immediately taken for their removal North. Three companies of Mosby's guerrillas disbanded themselves on Wednesday at Upper Meriden and dispersed for their homes. Mosby has now less than 300 men, mostly operating on the neck of land running down to Aquia Creek and Fredricksburg.

Colonel Gamble, commanding the Union forces at Fairfax station, Virginia, has received a message from the guerrilla leader Mosby, in which he states that he does not care a snap for the surrender of Lee, and that he is determined to fight as long as he has a man left.

Three rebel armies have surrendered to Gen. Grant that under Buckner at Fort Donelson, on the 16th of February, 1862; that under Pemberton on the 18th of July, 1864; and that under Lee, on the 9th of April, 1865. He is the only one of our generals who has ever in due rebel army to surrender, and has in consequence three of them.

The Gazette's Lexington, Ky. dispatch says that General Palmer is at Eminence, Kentucky, for the purpose of receiving the surrender of all the Confederate forces in the State, including Col. Jessie's command. Those who will not surrender will be declared outlaws, and the people will be called upon to hunt them down. A lieutenant and 71 men surrendered to General Hobson.

A cavalry expedition went up the Chowan river on the 1st, with the intention of reaching Weldon, if possible. The Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad was destroyed. While engaged in this work, 600 rebels made an attack, but were repulsed. Among the captives were one hundred bales of superior cotton, a large amount of tobacco, and small arms and other property. A cavalry party learned that Weldon was strongly fortified, and garrisoned by 1000 rebels and several batteries of artillery. The expedition returned to Norfolk last Saturday night.

The detailed accounts of the surrender of the army of Northern Virginia, by Gen. Lee to Gen. Grant, have at length been received. The final interview between the two generals took place at the residence of Mr. McClure, in Appomattox Court House. The conditions of surrender were prepared by an aid, and signed by the general. General Curtis purchased a small table on which the agreement was prepared, and General Lee bought a large table on which they were finally signed. The only trophies left for Mr. McClure, were the chairs on which the general sat, and these were finally stolen by two cavalry officers. A cartload of twenty-five muskets, Gen. Grant ordered twenty-five thousand rations to be distributed among the rebels.

NEWS FROM RICHMOND. A National Bank of the United States is to be immediately established in Richmond, where shares in United States stocks will be sold at the rates established in Northern cities.

Gov. Pierpont will remove his personal effects to Richmond this week, and take possession of the State Executive Mansion, so kindly vacated on the 1st of April by its former tenant, Extra Billy Smith.

Rev. J. H. Vincent, of Chicago, General Lee's former tutor, just from Richmond, where he preached in Liberty prison last Sunday, informs us that among the most respectable families there, the suffering is greater than among the lower classes. A considerable quantity of flour and bacon was pilaged from the public stores, before the occupancy of the city by our troops, which supplied the wants of the masses, while the burning of the business part of the city left hundreds of wealthy families destitute. The farmers will not accept Confederate money for marketing, and they have nothing else. A family living in a house costing \$150,000 was constrained to ask for food. The Christian Commission delegates, unable to resist the tears of women and the cries of hungry little children, distributed every thing in their possession, giving out 1,064 rations in a single day, and telegraphing for five hundred barrels of flour. Announcement was made in the churches of Richmond that the Commission would distribute food to persons in actual necessity, and the heart-softening influence of the announcement is indescribable. Strong men wept at such treatment by those whom they had considered their enemies. This is the proper way to restore the Union. Treat those in arms as enemies, and save the helpless women and starving children.

PERSONAL. Gen. Couch is now in command of a corps under Schofield.

Parson Brownlow has entered upon his duties as Governor of Tennessee. He was inaugurated into his new position on Wednesday week, and his first official document has been published to the country.

Col. Thomas A. Scott, Vice President of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company, was married yesterday in Pittsburg, to Miss Riddle, that city, daughter of the late Robert M. Riddle, Esq., who was conspicuous as a politician and editor of the Commercial Journal.

A man named Mobley, a noted guerrilla, who lived about fifteen miles below Williamsport, on the Virginia side, was killed last week by several Union scouts. He was waylaid by the scouts of the rebel thieving guerrillas that infested that country.

Gen. S. W. Crawford, one of the heroes of Fort Sumter in 1861, was present at the raising of the old flag over Sumter on the 13th inst. He has won fresh laurels during the late battles for the capture of Richmond. His command was with Phil. Sheridan in all his heroic forced marches and conflicts to flank Lee.

Despatches received in Harrisburg from the Army of the Potomac, represent the health of his Excellency Gov. Curtin as much improved, and that every member of his staff is devoted to the sick and wounded. Through his influence those of the wounded who can least bear the fatigue of the travel are being forwarded rapidly to hospitals within the State, so as to bring them within convenient visiting distance of their friends; an arrangement which seems to give general satisfaction. The Governor is not expected to return before next week.

A correspondent of the Times at City Point writes from there on the 11th and says:—I arrived here from Richmond this morning, in order to witness the arrival here of Gen. Grant and staff, who will bring with them General Lee and staff, and are expected this afternoon. A special train left here at midnight last evening for Burkesville to bring them in. Gen. Lee will proceed to Richmond from this point, and I am informed on good authority that he has expressed a desire to depart for Europe with the rest of his family at an early day. He is much affected by his events, and ever leaving Petersburg, is said to have been deeply moved at the calamity which had overtaken his army. Davis has deserted him, and is retreating on his own account. General Lee, however, fought as long as there was the least chance, and surrendered only when he could do nothing else.

POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE. The Union Convention of Washington Territory has nominated A. A. Dewey as Congressional Delegate.

The Tennessee legislature has ratified the amendment to the National Constitution abolishing Slavery by a unanimous vote in both branches. The Legislature of Ohio has removed the last restriction upon black suffrage in that State—abolishing the negro of the white man to the polls the same terms as the white man. We need not a few days since, the similar action taken by the Legislature of Minnesota.

The Missouri State Convention has adjourned. The new Constitution was passed Monday by a vote of 38 to 13. It is to be voted upon by the people on the 6th of July, and if ratified will go into effect on the 4th of July. The soldiers will vote upon it in camp.

In the late Congress there were three Democratic members from New England—each from Maine, New Hampshire and Connecticut. In the next Congress there will not be one. The Congressional delegation from every New England State will be a unit on the side of freedom.

REMARKS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Delivered at the House of Representatives, Thursday Evening, March 9, 1865, on the Bill Providing for the Adjudication of Military Damages in the Border Counties.

The bill having been considered and the first section read in committee of the whole, Mr. McClure addressed the House in opposition to the concurrence in the report of the Committee. He said:

MR. SPEAKER:—If I had been here when the section opened, I should have moved to disapprove the bill. For to me it is a bill that is the result of a compromise, and for the reason that no amendments will be offered to this bill that will go directly to its vitals. To its details there will, I fear, be proposed an objection, and I have heard of the approval of the preceding legislature—has stood the test of practical operations, and when objection of amendment comes, the bill is not to be amended, and I am, therefore, Mr. Speaker, of the earnest and just opinion, that an apparent majority of the House rushed to the defeat of this bill in committee of the whole. It is a bill that is the result of a compromise, and for the reason that no amendments will be offered to this bill that will go directly to its vitals. 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