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Mouldings of all descriptions, from half inch to 8 inches, on hand.
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A large supply of Dressed Flooring for sale.
Also—Window and Door Frames on hand or made at short notice. HAZELET, VERNON & CO.,
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Wanted by GEO. A. DEITZ.
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Wanted by GEO. A. DEITZ.
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Wanted by GEO. A. DEITZ.
100 LARGE CHERRY LOGS
Wanted by GEO. A. DEITZ.
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STOVE AND LIME COAL
for sale cheap, by the ton or half ton.
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by the cord or half cord.
OAK AND HICKORY WOOD.
sawed and split for stove use, by the cord or half cord.
WINDOW AND DOOR SILLS,
of Oak, Walnut and Pine, always on hand.
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and all kinds of LUMBER, such as Oak and Pine Plank; Oak, Walnut, Pine and Hemlock Boards; Flooring Boards, Joists, Scantling, Shingles, Paling, Laths, &c.
BEST OF ROOFING SLATE
always on hand, and roofs put on by the best Slaters, who have drawn medals for their superior workmanship.
CALL AT DEITZ'S WAREHOUSE,
above the Railroad Depot, and *buy cheap.* [dec21

LEONARD EBERT & SON,
COAL AND LUMBER MERCHANTS.
We have on hand all kinds of Coal and Lumber, and are prepared to furnish Bill Lumber to order at short notice, *all at the most reasonable terms. Our stock of Lumber* consists of
White Pine 2 inch Plank,
" " 1½ " select Plank,
" " 1¼ " Plank,
" " 1 select and Culling Boards,
" " ¾ " Boards,
" " ¾ " Siding (6 inch,)
" " Best River Shingles,
" " Worked Flooring,
" " " Siding,
Joist and Scantling, all sizes,
Hemlock Joist and Scantling,
" Boards,
Yellow Pine Boards, Joist and Scantling.
Pailing and Plastering Laths.
We have also always on hand a good supply of all kinds of Coal for stoves and lime-burning. Also a superior article of Broadtop Coal for blacksmiths. The public are invited to give us a call, as we will endeavor to give satisfaction to all that call.
Coal and Lumber furnished on the cars, to any station on the Franklin Railroad.
☞ Office on Second St., in the rear of the Jail Yard, Chambersburg, Pa. LEO. EBERT & SON.
July27-tf.

SMALL, BENDER & CO.,
York and Goldsborough, Pa.,
LUMBER DEALERS
AND MANUFACTURERS OF
SASH, DOORS, SHUTTERS, BLINDS,
DOOR AND WINDOW FRAMES, &c.,
Keep constantly on hand a well selected stock of seasonable Lumber, viz:—Joist and Scantling, Weatherboarding, dressed Flooring, Siding, Laths, Shingles, Palings and Fencing.
☞ White Pine and Oak Bills, sawed to order at the shortest notice. All communications should be addressed to YORK, PA. [sep28-1y

STEAM SAW MILL.—The undersigned have erected and in operation a Steam Saw Mill at the *South Mountain, near Graffenburg Springs*, and are prepared to saw to order Bills, of WHITE OAK, PINE, HEMLOCK or any kind of timber desired, at the shortest notice and at low rates. One of the firm will be at the Hotel of Sam'l Greenawalt, in Chambersburg, on Saturday the 24th inst. and on each alternate Saturday thereafter for the purpose of contracting for the delivery of lumber. LUMBER DELIVERED at any point at the LOWEST RATES. All letters should be addressed to them at Graffenburg P. O., Adams Co., Pa.
dec14-tf MILTENBERGER & BRADY.

BUILDING LUMBER.—The undersigned is prepared to saw all kinds of Building Lumber at the lowest market price. R. A. RENFREW,
GREENWOOD MILLS, Fayetteville P. O. dec28-1y

Hotels.

EASTERN INN.—The undersigned having lately purchased the large and commodious Brick Building of Rev. S. R. Fisher, in connection with his present place of business, on the corner of Main street and Ludwig's Alley, is prepared to accommodate BOARDERS by the day, week or month. He is amply provided with STABLING to accommodate the traveling public. Having a large LIVERY STABLE connected with the Hotel, guests and the public generally can be furnished with Horses and Carriages at any moment. Persons visiting Chambersburg with their families will find this the *most comfortable Hotel* in the county, as it has been refitted with entire new Furniture, and the rooms are large and well ventilated. The TABLE is amply supplied with all the luxuries of the season, and the BAR, which is detached from the Brick Building, will always be furnished with choice and pure liquors. Every attention paid to the comfort of guests. [oct12[S. F. GREENAWALT.

BROWN'S HOTEL.—This Hotel, situated on the corner of Queen and Second Streets, opposite the Bank, Court Room and County Offices, and in *the immediate neighborhood of Stores, Shops,* and other places of business, is conveniently situated for country people having business in Chambersburg. The Building has been greatly enlarged and refitted for the accommodation of Guests.
THE TABLE will always be furnished with the best the Market can produce.
THE BAR will be supplied with pure and choice Liquors.
THE STABLE is large and attended with a good and careful Ostler.
Every attention will be rendered to make Guests comfortable while sojourning at this Hotel.
febl JACOB S. BROWN, Proprietor.

UNION HOTEL.—This old and well established Hotel is now open for the accommodation of Guests
The Proprietor having leased the three-story block of buildings on Queen Street, in the rear of his former stand, is prepared to furnish GOOD ROOMS for the traveling and transient custom.
HIS TABLE will sustain its former reputation of being supplied with the best the market can produce.
HIS BAR, detached from the main building, will always have choice and pure Liquors.
Good warm STABLING for fifty horses, with careful ostler.
Every attention will be made to render guests comfortable while sojourning at this Hotel.
jan18 JNO. FISHER, Proprietor.

DAVID H. HUTCHISON has become the Proprietor of the UNITED STATES HOTEL, near the Railroad Depot at HARRISBURG, PA. This popular and commodious Hotel has been newly refitted and furnished throughout its parlors and chambers, and is now ready for the reception of guests.
The traveling public will find the United States Hotel the most convenient, in all particulars, of any Hotel in the State Capital, on account its access to the railroad, being immediately between the two great depots in this city. [Harrisburg, June 17, 63-tf.

STATES UNION HOTEL, OPPOSITE the Lebanon Valley and Pennsylvania Railroad Depots, Harrisburg City, Pa. This convenient and pleasant Hotel is now kept by the undersigned, late of the Indian Queen in Chambersburg, and he invites the patronage of his old friends and the public generally. *Terms moderate.*
oct5-tf JOHN W. TAYLOR.

BLINDS AND SHADES.—
B. J. WILLIAMS,
No. 16 NORTH SIXTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA,
MANUFACTURER OF
VENITIAN BLINDS AND
WINDOW SHADES.
The *largest* and *finest* assortment in the city at the *lowest cash* prices. STORE SHADES made and lettered.
march 29-2m

Franklin Repository.

From the Evangelical Quarterly Review.

THE HAND OF GOD IN THE WAR.

BY F. W. CONRAD, D. D.

There is a God. As Creator he made all things by the word of his power as Sovereign, he governs them by the Hand of his Providence. Accordingly, he worketh all things after the *counsel of his* own will, both in the armies of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth War is one of the most important and far-reaching events, which can occur in the history of nations. And as God exercises, both a general and a special Providence, in the affairs of individuals and nations, war cannot arise, continue, and end, without his knowledge, permission and control. And this is the truth, to a candid consideration of which we invite the attention of the reader under the theme: *The Hand of God in the War.*

I. *The Hand of God is seen in the origin of the War.* God created man, permitted his fall, and determined the development of his depravity. God redeemed man, made provision for his moral recovery, and enacted the law of benevolence, as the rule of his life. Now as human depravity and human redemption, stand in contrast with each other, so too, do they present developments, in direct opposition to each other. The development of man, under the promptings of depravity, is one of supreme selfishness; his development, under the influence of redemption, is one of disinterested benevolence. One of the grossest forms, in which human depravity exhibits its selfishness, is characterized by the Scriptures as man-stealing, which consists in subjugating man to a state of bondage, by the exercise of might in violation of right. To do this, is to treat man, in a manner directly contrary to the law of God, which *enjoins upon each, to love his brother* as himself. Man depraved, under the law of selfishness, craves freedom for himself, and imposes Slavery upon his fellow: man redeemed, under the law of benevolence, claims Liberty for himself, and demands Liberty for his fellow.

The Signers of the Declaration of Independance, under the light of Revelation, and the guidance of the law of benevolence, announced: "These truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator, with certain inalienable rights, among which are, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." This constitutes the American declaration of personal independence. It is the authoritative announcement of the political equality of all men. It is the self evident expression of the true idea of the inalienable rights of human nature. It is the *Magna Charta* of Liberty.

Alexander H. Stevens, the Vice-President of the so-called Confederate States, has announced the declaration of slavery, practically adopted by them. It is made in these words; "The prevailing ideas, entertained by Jefferson, and the most of the leading statesmen, at the time of the formation of the Constitution, were, that the enslavement of the African, was in violation of the law of Nature; that it was wrong in principle, socially, politically, morally. Those ideas, however, were fundamentally wrong. They rested upon the assumption of the equality of the races. This was an error. Our new government is founded on exactly the opposite ideas. Its foundations are laid, its corner-stone rests upon the great truth, that the negro is not equal to the white man: that slavery—subordination to the white race—is his natural and moral (normal) condition. Our new government is the first in the history of the world, based upon this great physical, philosophical and moral truth." This constitutes the repudiation of the truth of the Declaration of Independence: the denial of the political equality of all men: the negation of the inalienable rights of human nature; *the contradiction of the unity of the race of mankind*: the repeal of the Mosaic statute against man stealing, the annulling of the second table of the Decalogue; the promulgation of the law of Might: the very *Magna Charta* of Slavery.

Liberty and Slavery are opposites. They are antagonistic in their very natures, and cannot possibly be harmonized. Accordingly this antagonism will become manifest, wherever and whenever they are brought into contact with each other. This fact has been illustrated, in the history of our country. Liberty was borne on the May-Flower, under the fostering care of the *Puritans*, and landed at *Plymouth Rock*. Slavery was imported by Man-stealers in an English ship, and landed at Jamestown, Virginia. They began their development in the same year, exhibited their peculiar characteristics, and spread their respective forms of civilization, from their different centres. And as Jamestown was in Virginia, and Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts, Slavery wrote its impress upon the South: and Liberty inscribed its image upon the North. And as Virginia and Massachusetts were colonies under the same Government, Liberty and Slavery came in contact with each other, during the colonial period of our history. *Their antagonism at once appeared*, but their clashings were as yet local and individual. Slavery travelled North and confronted Liberty in Massachusetts. Liberty journeyed South and rebuked Slavery in Virginia. At the formation of the Constitution, however, the antagonism between them became formal and sectional, and exhibited itself in the debates of the convention, on the legalizing of the slave trade, the representation of slave property in Congress, and the insertion of a fugitive slave clause into the constitution. And this antagonism has appeared, at different epochs in our history, from that day to this. *In earlier years, Liberty manifested* its antagonism to Slavery, by expelling it from all the Northern States, by excluding it from the territory of the North-west, and by restricting it to the Missouri Compromise line. In later years Liberty manifested its antagonism to Slavery, by the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia: by excluding it from all the territory of the United States, during all coming time; by the formal offer of compensation for the manumission of slaves in the Border States, by the acceptance of the offer by the people of Western Virginia, and their reception into the Union as a Free State; by the majority of *votes cast in Missouri in favor* of immediate emancipation: by the adoption of a Free Constitution in Maryland, and by the Proclamation of Freedom, to all the slaves of the rebellious States forever.

The antagonism of Slavery to Liberty, has been exhibited, in carving three slave States out of the territory belonging to the old thirteen; in the purchase of Louisiana, and the formation of three more slave States: in the acquisition of Florida, and the addition of another slave State; in the annexation of Texas, and the admission of another slave State: in the Mexican war, and the seizure of territory for half a dozen *slave States; in the* removal of the Missouri Compromise line, for the purpose of establishing slavery North of it; in the attempt to engraft Slavery upon Kansas, against the will of her people: in the imperious demand for the passage of a slave code in the territories, according to the infamous Dred Scott decision; and in the inauguration of civil war, by firing upon Fort Sumpter.

God created man a rational spirit, morally perfect. He made ample provision for his continuance in holiness, but so constituted him, that it was possible for him to sin and fall. Foreseeing this he determined, what the deteriorating effect upon his moral constitution should be, and the manner in which it would develop itself in his moral history. That which was possible has become actual. *Man has sinned*, his nature has become depraved, and his rational development is one of selfishness. But as this development is a moral one, it cannot be necessitated, and irresponsible; it must, therefore, be a voluntary one, and hence free and responsible.

God has redeemed man, made provision for his moral recovery, and determined the effect, which such a renovation would have, upon his moral constitution, as well as, the manner in which his development as a new creature in Christ Jesus would take place. This development, being likewise moral, cannot be necessitated and irresponsible, but must be *voluntary, and therefore, free* and responsible. We can thus comprehend, in what manner God's hand may be said to be seen in the fall, as well as, in the redemption of man He *permitted* his fall—he achieved his redemption. He determined the constitutional effect of the fall upon him, but he did not necessitate him, to yield to the cravings of appetite. He determined likewise the effect, which redemption should have upon man's moral constitution, but he does not necessitate him to obey the law of right. When, therefore, man develops his depravity in supreme selfishness, he does it freely, and is responsible for *his guilt; and when, on the other* hand, he developes his renewed nature, by the manifestation of disinterested benevolence, he does it voluntarily, and hence deserves the praise of man, and the approbation of God.

And now, as God has so constituted humanity, that in its depraved state, it would exhibit supreme selfishness, and in its recovered state, disinterested benevolence; and as he has permitted fallen man to subject his fellow to Slavery, and commanded redeemed man to bestow upon his fellow, Liberty; and as he has imparted to Slavery and Liberty their respective characteristics; and as he has so constituted them, as to be antagonistic to each other: and as he has enacted laws which condemn Slavery and approve of Liberty; and as he has imposed the obligation of opposing Slavery, *and of defending Liberty upon* all his people; and as the crime of Slavery blinds the minds of its perpetrators, to the enormity of the wrong which they commit, and prejudices them inveterately against those who expose and denounce their conduct, it follows, that the antagonism between Liberty and Slavery, will be transferred to their respective champions.

And just in proportion as the advocates of freedom rise in their love of Liberty, will they increase in their hatred of Slavery: and just in proportion as the advocates of bondage grow stronger in their selfishness, will they rise in their love of Slavery, *and sink in their appreciation of Liberty.* And as under the promptings of avarice, Slavery can never be satisfied, but with the horse leech, cries incessantly, Give! Give! and as under the promptings of benevolence, Liberty can never look upon its encroachments with indifference, and hence must constantly interpose its plea, Spare! Spare! it follows that the antagonism between the abettors of Liberty and Slavery can neither cease nor diminish, but, on the contrary, must continue and constantly increase. And while in the beginning it may not be stronger than to produce a conflict of opinion carried on in words and writing, it cannot stop at that, but it will go on accumulating in strength, until it produces a conflict of legislation, carried on through the ballot box, the framing, adoption, *and amendment of Constitutions, and the enactment* of laws. But even this will not constitute its *Ultima Thule*, it will overleap all these bounds, engender strife poisoned with implacable hatred, and culminate in open and relentless war. There *is* an "irrepressible conflict" between Liberty and Slavery. And when the distinguished Secretary of State announced it as a political axiom, he did not discover a new truth, but declared a self-evident old one, founded on the original constitution, which the hand of God had impressed upon man in his fall and in his redemption. "The Northern and the Southern States *must* eventually become all slave or all free." And when Abraham Lincoln, of Illinois, made this declaration in one of his political speeches in his debate with Senator Douglas, he not only drew it as a deduc*tion from the premises furnished* by the philosophy of history, but he uttered it as a truth, taught in the living oracles of God, and illustrated in the history of our country, under the guidance of his own hand, as the patriot-President, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States. And as all this is but a *fac-simile* of the history of Liberty and Slavery in America, and as this is but the natural development of Slavery and the moral development of Liberty; according to the original constitution, which he has given to each, it follows that his hand has been exhibited in the *origin* of this war.

II. *The Hand of God is seen in the progress of the war.* As that which has a beginning, must have an end, progress becomes indispensable to its attainment. This war had a beginning, it must come to an end, and progress must secure it. And as we have seen the hand of God in its origin, it is morally certain that His hand will also be manifest in its progress. Ordinarily the progress of war is not uniform: all the victories on one side, and all the defeats on the other; but it is various: victory and defeat alternating. And the hand of God may be seen in the one, just as clearly as in the other.

The hand of God may, therefore, be discovered in our victories. We have waged war for national life and unity, more than two years. We have raised mighty armies, fought great battles, and gained signal victories. As they must be counted by scores, we cannot enumerate them in detail, and simply mention those of Pea Ridge, Shiloh, Henry, Donaldson, Island Number Ten, Murfreesboro', New Orleans, Antietam, Vicksburg, Port Hudson, Gettysburg, to which there have since been added Chattanooga, Spotsylvania, Atlanta, Mobile, Savannah, Charleston and Richmond. Now if the hand of God may be traced, in giving us one of these *victories, it may be discovered in-giving us all the* rest. It cannot be expected that we should attempt to prove this, by an examination of the particulars of each engagement, which resulted in victory to our arms. We shall, however, attempt clearly to show you the fruits of the hand of the Almighty, in giving us the victory on the field of Gettysburg. We do not claim that God wrought miracles in our favor, but we maintain, that he so ordered the controlling circumstances of the battle, as to cause them to result in the success of the Army of the Potomac. Give heed to an enumeration of a few of the most striking turning points of victory!

The first of these is found in the commanding General. Victory is frequently determined by the ability and experience of the Chief of an army, and the degree of confidence reposed in him by his officers and men. General Hooker was removed, and General Meade appointed his successor, on the Sabbath preceding the Wednesday when the battle began. He had never fought a battle as Commander, and his army knew him as their leader but three days. He had no experience in planning a battle, and his officers and soldiers had never fought one under him. They were comparatively unacquainted with each other. *Never did a General lead an army to battle*—never did an Army enter upon an engagement, under circumstances more trying, than those which encompassed Gen. Meade and his army at Gettysburg. An error of judgment by the President, in the removal of one, and the appointment of another commander—a mistake or blunder by Gen. Meade, and the battle of Gettysburg would have been lost.

The position occupied by an army is an important circumstance in determining the result of a battle. Ours was Cemetery Hill, immediately south of Gettysburg. It has been compared to a *horse shoe, the toe of which* was turned towards the town, the left heel extending to Round Top, and the right to Wolf's Hill. It was elevated, admirably adapted for defence, and hard to be turned. The ridge which constituted it was stony, and at some places even rocky. The owners of the land, had used the stone and rock thus furnished for fencing; miles of which were found, just where they were needed for breastworks. Where this was not the case, stone, timber, rails and earth were found, in adequate quantities to fill up the gaps, thus giving us with little labor, an entirely entrenched line of battle.

The manner in which *this position was secured* must not be overlooked. General Reynolds, supported by Gen. Howard, had attacked the enemy beyond Seminary Hill, just north of the town, *with the intention of holding that range until our* army could come up to occupy it. But being overpowered by superior numbers, he was compelled to fall back through the streets of Gettysburg, to Cemetery Hill. The position voluntarily chosen, was Seminary Hill; the position necessarily taken, was Cemetery Hill: and yet the latter was a much stronger one than the former. It commanded a view before and around it for ten miles. No movement could be made by the enemy, from any part of his line, which could not be immediately observed from ours. Besides, there was nothing except the town, several strips of *woods, and a few houses and barns*, which could afford him any shelter in his advances, and he could consequently be subjected to a concentrated fire from almost every point of attack. Its horse-shoe shape enabled the commanding General to hold his entire army close in hand, and to move reinforcements rapidly from one point to another, as the tremendous massed charges of the enemy might demand.

The offensive and the defensive are important in their bearing on victory. It is easier to defend than to take a position. Other things being equal, the army on the defensive has greatly the advantage *of the army on the offensive*, and this advantage was ours The correspondent of the New York *Times*, after stating that the attack made by General Reynolds cost him his life, says: "It was, however, priceless, as it was the means of putting us on the defensive, and of giving us the choice of position. We were not to attack, but to be attacked. The risks, the difficulties, the disadvantages of the coming battle were the enemy's. Ours were the heights for artillery; ours the short inside lines for manœuvering and reinforcing: ours the stone walls, fences and crests of the hills" Had Ewell and Hill pressed their advantage on *Wednesday evening, and driven us* from Cemetery Hill, as it was possible for them to do, we would have lost not only our impregnable position, but the defensive. Had Lee entrenched himself on Thursday, on Seminary Hill, Meade would have been compelled to give him battle by taking the offensive. And in that event the advantages which were ours would have been theirs, and the result, in all human probability, changed from victory to defeat. But all this was otherwise, because the hand of God was in it.

The condition of an army, very frequently determines its success, or failure in an engagement. *The Army of the Potomac had just marched over* two hundred miles. The weather, during their march, was cloudy and rainy, rendering the roads muddy, and their march fatiguing. Many Corps were yet far from the field of battle when it began. Under the spur of the sound of artillery, heard in the distance, they came up hurriedly, took their positions, and began the work of intrenchment. They were a tired army, needing rest, sleep, and food to bring them into their highest state of courage and hope, strength and efficiency; and they were outnumbered by their antagonists, not less than twenty thousand men. The Army of Virginia was in a very different condition. It had marched leisurely into the loyal States. It was in perfect discipline, rested, well fed, and fully equipped. It was composed of veterans, baptized in fire. It was led by a General, under whom it had fought for years, whose military genius had given it renown, and whom it regarded as invincible.

The crises of battle constitute the turning points of victory. They were numerous, and the were ours. The propitious arrival of the Sixth Corps, is one of them. A grand charge *en masse*, was being made across the plain, the Third Corps was broken, the Second and Fifth came to their support; but all combined were unable to check the advancing column. The crisis had arrived. But with it, the arrival of Sedgewick's Corps. His men had marched thirty hours, and were foot-sore, worn and weary. They were ordered to the charge. Without hesitation, they flung away their knapsacks, forgot their fatigue and hunger, rushed forward, threw themselves into the fight, repulsed the enemy, and saved the day.

Immediately in the rear of the Cemetery, on the Taneytown road, stood a small white house. *It was occupied by General Meade as his Head-Quarters.* It was exposed to the fire of a hundred guns for hours. The shells passed over it, fell all around it, struck different parts of it, and exploded near it. One entered the chimney, but its fuse went out, and it fell down harmless. Sixteen horses tied around it were killed, and many of his Staff made hair-breadth escapes, so that while Lee was covered by the Hospital Flag on the cupola of the College, Meade, although exposed to a storm of artillery, was covered by the hollow of God's hand, and remained unmoved and unharmed. Once the enemy had almost reached our intrenchments on our left, when an enfilading fire from Cemetery Hill mowed them down. At another time they had come up to our very guns in the centre, and were about turning them upon our own men, when they were *driven* back at the point of the bayonet. Again they made a desperate effort to turn our right flank, and had succeeded so far as to hold part of our position, but they were, nevertheless, repulsed with dreadful slaughter. The marks of the fierceness of this encounter, are visible on the trees of half a mile of woods, and exceed anything we could have imagined to be possible.

The so-called accidents or mishaps of a battle, frequently determine its result. We had none at Gettysburg. Everything wanted was there, and every thing was in its place. There was no panic as at Bull Run; no blundering as at Ball's Bluff; no treachery as at Harper's Ferry; no breaking as at Chancellorville; no disobedience of orders as at Manassas; no dereliction of duty as at Fredericksburg. There was military ability of a high order, displayed in disposition and strategy, by the Commanding General, efficient cooperation on the part of the subordinate officers, and courage and endurance never excelled, on the part of the rank and file.

Nor can we omit the circumstance, that the battle was fought in Pennsylvania. The Army of Virginia had invaded the North; in defiance of the Army of the Potomac. *It had run riot in* Maryland, and the border counties of Pennsylvania. It was flushed with victory and laden with spoils. It was proud and boastfull, self-inflated and arrogant. Its General looked with disdain upon his antagonist, and took the offensive, in the full assurance, that he could overwhelm him with defeat, and become the dictator of the terms of peace, either at Philadelphia or Washington, as might best suit his convenience, and the pleasure of Jefferson Davis. But it was to fight on loyal soil, and though it did fight with the desperation of invaders, it fought under the curse of Treason. With the Army of the Potomac all this was different. It had marched from the soil of Virginia, to that of Pennsylvania. It was now in the North; on free soil; at home. It was called upon to expel the invader, and drive him from our borders. It felt that the eye of the nation was fixed upon it, and the hopes of millions concentrated in it. And, although it fought an enemy, who had repulsed it at Fredericksburg, and before whom it had retreated, when they last met at Chancellorville, it nevertheless fought him on the soil of a Free State, in Pennsylvania—fought him under the inspiration of Home, Loyalty and Liberty.

And now, when we put all the links of this chain of circumstances together, it seems to us that the hand of God becomes clearly manifest, not only in forging each link, but also in connecting them all together, and forming an entire chain. How easy it would have been for one of the other of these circumstances to turn out differently. And if this had been the case, who can doubt, that the Battle of Gettysburg might, and in all human probability would have been lost. And as an inspired writer could declare, after a successful engagement of David with the Philistines, "The Lord wrought a great victory that day;" so too *are we called upon to acknowledge, that God* wrought a great victory for us at Gettysburg. Who can doubt, that God in his great goodness, so ordered all these circumstances, that in their combined and concentrated influence, they should give us the victory. Yes! God gave us the General; God gave us the position; God gave us the defensive: God gave us the turning points of the battle; God gave us the soil of Pennsylvania: God gave us the invigoration of courage: God gave us the inspiration of patriotism; God gave us the stimulus of the Right; God gave us the Baptism of Liberty; *God gave us the victory!*

*The hand of God may also be traced in our de*feats. Great and numerous as our victories have been, they have not been granted, without being interspersed with defeats. And although our defeats have not been so frequent as our victories, they have been sufficiently disastrous to exert a mighty influence upon us, and thus to become, under the hand of God, a salutary ordeal, through which he deemed it necessary that the nation should pass.

Our defeats have become a rod of correction in the hand of God, to convince us of our errors of opinion in regard to the character, design, and *strength of the Rebellion. We thought at first,* that it was a sudden ebullition of passion aroused by the loss of the presidential election, and which having neither method nor determination, would soon spend its force and then subside: but defeat has taught us that it had its origin in a long cherished desire for secession; and that for the accomplishment of its end, it had formed a deep seated conspiracy, for the outbreak of which, the election of Mr. Lincoln, furnished the mere pretext. We also thought that the design of the Rebels, in passing secession ordinances, was to secure some additional guarantee, for the security of slavery in the States, and hence we hastened to call a Peace Convention, to pass compromise resolutions, and to propose constitutional amendments; but our defeats in all these efforts *taught us*, that their object was, not to gain some sectional advantage through the long tried specific, *Compromise*, but that it was, to dissolve the Union and overthrow the Government.

When the Rebellion exhibited its determination, by making military preparation, and warlike demonstrations, seizing forts, stealing arms and ammunition, robbing mints, and setting at defiance the authority of the Government, we imagined in our simplicity, that it could be mollified by the political panacea, called *Non-Coercion;* but the shot fired at the Star of the West, and the thunder of the batteries which compelled Fort Sumpter *to surrender, and Major Anderson to lower the The Star Spangled Banner* to traitors, in arms against their country, soon dispelled the delusion.

When the Rebellion called out its forces, marshalled an army, marched on Washington, and threatened the Capitol, the President thought that seventy-five thousand men would be amply sufficient to repel and scatter them, and the philosophic statesman at the head of the Cabinet, uttered the oracular opinion, that it would be quelled in ninety days; but the defeat of Big Bethel, at Bull Run, and at Ball's Bluff, convinced Mr. Lincoln of his under estimate of its strength, *and induced him to call out half a million of men* to subdue it.

When the Rebellion developed military resources, adequate to meet and contend with this enormous force, repulsing it on the Peninsula, routing it at Manassas, confronting it in Kentucky, baffling it in Missouri, threatening Ohio, and invading Maryland, we became convinced that it was a rebellion of unparalleled magnitude, and that to put it down, we needed a million of men. Defeat so educated the nation, that it welcomed the first draft.

And when the Rebellion was able, notwithstanding *all this array of military power, to blockade* the Mississippi, to dispute our re-occupancy of Louisiana, Tennesssee and Arkansas, to repulse us at Fredericksburg and Chancellorville, to overrun Western Maryland, to press onward to Pennsylvania, and to march upon and occupy Chambersburg, Carlisle, York and Gettysburg, then the last scales fell from our eyes, we saw the colossal *proportions of the Rebellion*, and became fully convinced, that to defend the life of the Nation, it was indispensable, that a law should be passed empowering the President, as Commander-in-Chief, to call out the entire strength of the Republic, should the exigencies of the war demand it. And under the spur of defeat it was done.

Our defeats have been made by the hand of God, a school of experience, in which we have learned the folly and absurdity of our first war policy. What was it? It was the policy of conciliation. It constituted the American invention for conducting war on peace principles. It ignored *the first great political commandment, Salus populi suprema est lex*, which freely translated means, The salvation of the nation is the supreme law of the land; and it gave no heed to the second, which was like unto it, viz: In war weaken the enemy, and strengthen yourself by the use of all the means sanctioned by the code of civilized warfare. It involved the contradiction of waging a war, according to the Constitution, for the suppression of rebellion, and at the same time ignoring the fact that, according to the Constitution, traitors in arms against it have forfeited all rights under it, and deserved nothing but confiscation and death. It was the arrogation of the possession of greater wisdom in political affairs than He who said, "They that take the sword shall perish by the sword."

Under the guidance of this policy we began by endeavoring to banish the thought of Slavery from our minds, interdicting the mention of it by the lip, restricting the pen from writing, and prohibiting the press from printing it. Let Slavery alone! was the specific of conciliation. Defeat soon taught us the folly of supposing that conciliation would pacify an organized rebellion, and that it could be suppressed without touching its cause. This brought us so far as to begin to think and speak, write and print something on the subject of the bondman and the free man of color; but we were yet very far from offering freedom to the one, and *acknowledging the manhood of* the other. We still gave assurances to disloyal masters that their slaves should not be disturbed, and when, under the instincts of freedom, they fled to our lines, our Generals ordered them to be seized and returned under escort to their owners. Defeat cured us of this absurdity, and advanced us another step. We were now willing to see them leave their masters and come within our lines, and while we were unwilling to become slave-catchers for rebels, we could not bear the thought of putting a spade into their hands to dig in our trenches, much less to take a musket and fire it at a traitor master in arms against the government. Defeat knocked this stupidity out of us, and compelled us to make another advance. We were then prepared to declare the slaves of masters who were actually engaged in fighting against the Union, free, encouraged them to take refuge in our camps, where we gave them protection, and furnished them employment. But we still thought it would be too humiliating to us, and too aggravating to our foes, to enrol and arm them as soldiers of the United States. Defeat has, however, at last conquered our prejudices, and we now raise regiments among the slaves, accept recruits from among *the free people of color*, draft them with the same wheel, which draws the name of the white man, equip them as soldiers, give them a position in our armies, and confer upon *them the place of honor.* And notwithstanding the disadvantages under which they have labored, they have vindicated their claim to manhood, covered themselves all over with glory, and demonstrated the folly of the former, and the wisdom of the present war policy of the government.

Our defeats have also become the scourge in the hands of God, to constrain us to do right. We had become so accustomed to oppression, under the yoke of which we subjected the African to hopeless bondage, that our eyes were closed, both to the enormity of this national sin, and to the political and moral dangers, to which we were *thus exposing* ourselves. To conciliate the Slave Oligarchy, we were anxious so to amend the Constitution as to render it forever impossible to remove slavery from the seceded States. We were willing to go farther still, to declare that we would never interfere with it in any of the territory of the United States. Yes! Unlike our fathers, who would not tolerate the word slave in the Constitution, and who while they granted an indirect protection to it, *nevertheless did so in the* expressed hope that the States would themselves eradicate it from the land, we were not ashamed to propose to compound a felony, to become partakers of other men's sins, by obligating ourselves and our posterity to let Slavery alone, politically and morally, forever. But the hand of God, being in the war, was stretched forth to prevent us from becoming *participes criminis* with Slavery, and committing national suicide. When Butler, the patriot son of Massachusetts, uttered the magic words, *Contraband of war*, over the head of a fugitive slave, the politicians turned pale, their knees trembled, and they asked in *consternation*, To what are we coming? When Fremont—the gifted path-finder—the representative man of Freedom, issued the Military Order in Missouri, "And if he (the Rebel in arms) have slaves, they are hereby declared forever free," and Hunter re-issued it in South Carolina, and Sherman did the same in Louisiana, its authoritative force was broken by the modification and recall of the cautious and prudent, though honest and patriotic, President. When secession first showed its teeth, and exhibited its brazen front, Congress, though elected under the banner upon which was inscribed the motto, "*Restriction to Slavery in the territories*," was intimidated and refused to insert the Wilmot Proviso into the territorial bills before it. But defeat has changed our views, corrected our mistakes, weaned us from our idols, rebuked us for our sins, and brought us to repentance. The politicians now not only endorse Butler's position, but regard it as behind the times; our Generals not only imitate Fremont in declaring slaves free, but they command the Freedmen, as soldiers in their armies, redeemed from bondage; Congress has not only passed a Confiscation act, but it has prohibited Slavery from ever entering the territories, and banished it from the *District* of Columbia; and the President has not only, as the Chief Magistrate of the nation, recommended the passage of an act offering compensation to *the loyal Border States* for the manumission of their slaves, but he has, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, issued a Proclamation of Emancipation, striking the chains of servitude from the hands of three millions of Africans in the rebellious States. And while political demagogues have endeavored, under the stimulus of party feeling, to delude the people and array them against the Government, because it has done right, their efforts have proved utterly abortive, and the nation has risen up in the majesty of its strength, and declared in tones of thunder, that it would stand by the Government, because the Government, under *the goadings of defeat*, has been made to stand by the *Right*.

III. *And the hand of God will also be seen in the end of the war.* War is a terrible calamity: civil war superlatively so. We deprecated this war, with natural and awful dread. To avert it, we stood prepared to do almost anything, regardless of its moral character, or ultimate consequences. When all efforts to prevent it failed, we hoped that it would come to a speedy end. But we have been disappointed, for the war has raged more than two years. It had a beginning; it has made destructive progress; it must come to an end. And *as we have traced the* hand of God in its origin, and discovered its presence, in both victory and defeat, during its ongoing, we shall also behold it in its end—in the *time* of its end—in the *manner* of its end—in the *results* of the end.

Does the reader ask, When will it end? That God only knows; we do not, but we *do* know that His hand will determine the *time* of its end. Turning the telescope of the philosophy of history back, and examining the different phases of the war, with the immediate results attained at this and that period of its progress, we can readily discover, that if it had closed with *the year in* which it began, it might have proved disastrous to the nation; and that it it had even reached its limit, with the termination of the second year of its progress, all the invaluable moral and political results secured since that time, would have been lost. And as the philosophy of redemption teaches, that great spiritual blessings can only be secured through vicarious sufferings; so too, does the philosophy of history teach, that great national blessings, can only be attained through physical suffering. And as the hand of God overrules evil for good in the moral world, so too does His hand overrule evil for good in the political world. Now, if God be the founder of this nation, as the fathers of it believed, then must He have a corresponding end to accomplish through it. And if His hand be in this war, then will He so regulate it, as to constitute it a means for the futherance of that end. And what end can be regarded as commensurate with the