



RIGHT OR WRONG. WHEN RIGHT, TO BE KEPT RIGHT, WHEN WRONG, TO BE PUT RIGHT.

EBENSBURG: THURSDAY: OCTOBER 31.

Thanksgiving Proclamation.

PENNSYLVANIA, SS: In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ANDREW G. CURTIN, Governor of said Commonwealth.

WHEREAS, every good gift is from above and comes down to us from the Almighty, to whom it is meet, right and the bounden duty of every people to render thanks for His mercies; Therefore, I, ANDREW G. CURTIN, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do recommend to the people of this Commonwealth, that they set apart

THURSDAY, 28th OF NOVEMBER NEXT,

as a day of solemn Thanksgiving to God, for having prepared our corn and watered our furrows, and blessed the labors of the husbandman, and crowned the year with His goodness, in the increase of the ground and the gathering in of the fruits thereof, so that our barns are filled with plenty; And for having looked favorably on this Commonwealth, and strengthened the bars of her gates, and blessed the children within her, and made men to be of one mind, and preserved peace in her borders; Beseeching Him also on behalf of these United States, that our beloved country may have deliverance from those great and apparent dangers wherewith she is compassed, and that He will mercifully still the outrages of perverse, violent, unruly and rebellious people, and make them clean hearts, and renew a right spirit within them, and give them grace that they may see the error of their ways and bring forth fruits meet for repentance, and hereafter, in all godliness and honesty, obediently walk in His holy commandments, and in subjection to the just and manifest authority of the republic, so that we, leading a quiet and peaceful life, may continually offer unto Him our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the State, at Harrisburg, this Sixteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and of the Commonwealth the eighty-sixth. A. G. CURTIN.

BY THE GOVERNOR: ELI SLIFER, Sec. of the Commonwealth.

Where is the Responsibility?

It is a matter of regret rather than of surprise, that there are yet a considerable number of men among us, calling themselves Democrats, who insist upon shoving the responsibility of the present unfortunate crisis upon the administration of Abraham Lincoln. Certainly nothing could be more unjust or unfair than this, and the reason why it is done, can only be found in the fact, that the leaders of that corrupt organization are always ready to poison the minds of the people against Republicanism, in the hope that they will thereby secure their own success and aggrandizement. This is the system upon which the self-styled Democracy always have triumphed, and it seems they are not disposed to abandon it in their present extremity.

There is not a single ground upon which this charge may be maintained. The boot is entirely on the other leg. It is well known that the Loco-Focos were in power eight years next preceding Lincoln's inauguration. While Pierce was President, all manner of schemes were concocted to rob the treasury, the most rascally of which was the Ostend Manifesto; by which it was proposed to purchase Cuba for some hundreds of millions of dollars. The "old public functionary" was then at the Court of St. James, and along with John Y. Mason, of Virginia, an intensely honest individual, was willing to give Spain anything she might ask for that much coveted island. It is a matter of some satisfaction that this nefarious project did not succeed, as in all probability Cuba would have followed the beautiful example of Texas and Louisiana, both of which were dearly paid for in blood and treasure—that is to say, Cuba would have "seseched and gone out of the Union," leaving Uncle Sam to whistle for his island, and also for his money!

But bad as was the administration of Pierce, it was nothing in comparison with that of Buchanan. When that hoary-headed old bachelor assumed the reins of power, the country was still united, and despite the efforts of its enemies, was going on prospering and to prosper. Although fettered by injudicious legislation, brought about by Loco-Focoism, yet trade was encouraged and had gathered new strength, and enterprise was successful wherever it sought to be developed. Add to this the fact, that there was about \$20,000,000 in the national coffers! But a fatal change came over the spirit of the nation's dream. When James Buchan-

an's term of office expired, our government had neither the confidence of foreign nations nor of its own citizens; the public security was entirely destroyed; there was not the bare pittance of a penny in the treasury; and the nation had been plunged into a debt of near a hundred millions of dollars. Nor is this all. A portion of his cabinet had banded together for the purpose of destroying the government, and in furtherance of their treasonable and hellish designs, they had scattered our navy far and wide, and stolen our arms and munitions of war, and given them to their rebel brethren, to be used against us, thus imperiling the national security—the very object they were intended to subvert. One section of the country was arrayed in fierce hostility against another; our forts and arsenals, built with the common treasure, were fast being surrendered to our enemies; our military officers were every day resigning their commissions; and our army was utterly demoralized; and to crown all, our very Capital was threatened with invasion!

Such was the national condition when Abraham Lincoln was called to the chair. The old man of Wheatland had lent himself to a wicked conspiracy, and the nation was the victim. He had suffered such unannounced scoundrels as Davis, Floyd, and Breckinridge to pull the wool over his eyes most effectually, and until, finally, the old gentleman found himself bound hand and foot. And after they had used him to their heart's content—used him as the humble instrument for accomplishing their own base ends—used him until they could use him no longer—they meanly deserted him, whilst they openly proclaimed their treason against the very government they had all sworn to support. Thus when Mr. Lincoln assumed executive authority, on the 4th day of March last, the public treasury was bankrupt, and rebellion and anarchy were ruling the hour. We had reached a crisis such as had never before been witnessed in our governmental affairs. Through the sound judgment, cool independence and manly preference of the people, Mr. Lincoln had been elected to the Presidency; but how could any responsibility attach to him for the manifold outrages and excesses, which the enemies of the government had committed before his inauguration? There is an absurdity almost in the question itself. Let the responsibility rest where it belongs, and let condemnation be visited not upon the innocent but the guilty. We claim that the present sad condition of affairs is the legitimate result of the administrations of Pierce and Buchanan. We behold in it the bitter fruits of a Loco-Foco policy which ignores honesty, ability and worth, and looks only to self-aggrandizement.

Mr. Lincoln has had to "run the machine as he found it." He can and will do no more than administer the government in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution. At his inauguration, he took a solemn oath to support that instrument, and he is equally pledged to enforce the laws against all offenders, and bound to treat traitors to the Union with the severity they deserve. In his inaugural address he was careful to indicate his intentions so that there might be no misunderstanding. He declared that it was no purpose of his to make war upon the South. And he kept his word: the South began the war. His administration has shown that it can be forbearing, even under the most provoking and irritating circumstances; and it has shown, too, that it can act with energy and determination when the occasion requires it to do so. It has taken the only course to secure the National safety consistently with the National honor. It will protect loyal citizens everywhere, and do no more injury to property than will be necessary to rebuke treason, and replace the flag of our country upon the forts and other places from which it has been taken and desecrated. The Administration knows, too, that there are friends of the Union and the Constitution, in the South as well as in the North, and although over-awed by military power and mob-law for the present, yet they are still entitled to the protection of the government, and it will be cheerfully extended to them.

Such are the objects and purposes for which the war is being waged. Are they not commendable, and should not the President be sustained? We opine that no right-thinking, loyal-hearted citizen can say "no!" And yet, strange as it may seem, every day we hear some one complaining about the manner in which the war is conducted, and murmuring and clamoring against the President and his cabinet for some fancied cause or other.

This should not be. We believe the time is at hand when the people of the North at least, ought to ignore political differences, and rally upon a common platform for the preservation of our glorious institutions. Partisanship should be laid aside, as a thing which will do well enough in times of peace, and patriotism should be exhibited as the "one thing needful" in this dark hour of our nation's history. Let the administration be sustained, and nobly sustained, in its efforts to redeem the tarnished honor of our flag; and let every American freeman who has not already done so, take upon himself the resolute oath of the gallant Old Hickory, that, "by the Eternal, the Union must and shall be preserved." And it will be preserved.

Tit for Tat.

A New York cotemporary says that there is one redeeming feature for the rebels about their recent failures at Santa Rosa and the Belize. They did not destroy our fleet, as Hollins foolishly bragged; they did not annihilate the Wilson Zouaves, as General Bragg gravely reported; but they did strike. Nothing is, perhaps, so disheartening to an army as to look on passively while the enemy strikes even small and unimportant blows. The burning of the Pensacola dry-dock, the spiking of a cannon on the very wharf of the navy yard, and the destruction of the rebel privateer Judith under the guns of the enemy, were deeds calculated to dishearten Bragg's troops in the same measure as they encourage ours. A prudent general prevents this effect by a quick retort. As a sharp debater insists on having the last word, even if he talks nonsense, so a good general will have the last blow, even if it is trifling. It is the moral effect he looks for, and this he gains; his soldiers feel that the onus is now on the enemy, and their courage rises in the precise proportion as their commander has been quick in returning the enemy's blow. The insurgent generals understand this admirably. They never omit prompt retaliation; if we strike a blow anywhere, they are pretty sure to retort without loss of time; and though, as in the Santa Rosa Island and Belize affairs, they may do us little damage, and suffer more severely themselves, they at any rate keep up the prestige of their arms. Our habit is different. We pay no attention to the small blows by which they keep us up the spirits of his troops and insidiously hurts the tone of our army. We prepare for great blows, and, like a giant, make no account of what we think mosquito bites. But the enemy is not a mosquito; and it is a mistake to treat him as though he were. We wish our military and naval commanders would think it expedient to pay a little more attention to these points. Of course it is the great blow which decides the war, and McClellan is right to husband his forces and devote his energies and skill to the destruction of the insurgent army which is opposed to him. But meantime, it would encourage the army and public greatly if somewhere, within a few days, our men were permitted to make some minor attack, whereby they could strike a balance for the recent Leesburg affair—Tit for tat is a good rule. Everybody knows that we can bite as sharply as the enemy; but we ought to show our teeth once in a while.

Gen. Negley's Brigade.

The Louisville (Ky.) Democrat of the 22d inst., thus refers to the brigade sent forward to that state, under the command of Brig. Gen. Negley by the authorities of Pennsylvania: "Contrary to general expectation, the fleet of boats six in number, bearing the brigade of Pennsylvania troops, arrived at our wharf about five o'clock last evening. The fleet made a magnificent appearance as it came down the river from six mile island. At that point the entire six formed in line, abreast, and steamed down towards the city, in that order, till they arrived at the foot of Willow Bar, when they broke line and wheeled around to the city wharf, landing at the foot of Fifth street. The report that they were in sight soon spread, and the wharf was lined with thousands of people, mostly women and children. This brigade is composed of some of the finest looking men we have seen anywhere, all large, healthy, able bodied men, in excellent health and fine spirits. The three regiments comprising the brigade are the 7th, under command of Col. Hambright, nine of the ten companies having been recruited in Lancaster county the 7th, under Col. Stambaugh, which had been some time in camp at Chambersburg, and the 9th, under Col. Sirwell from Kittaning. The men are finely uniformed and armed, and repose the utmost confidence in their officers. There is but one man in the entire brigade seriously unwell, showing that they have been well provided for. A splendid brass band belongs to the brigade, and a fine battery of six pieces, the members of the artillery company being from Erie county, the whole under command of Brig. Gen. Negley. The troops remained on the boats last night and will take up their line of march this morning for the Nashville depot, on their way to such destination as Gen. Sherman may assign them.

Gen. Fremont has not been succeeded, up to latest accounts.

Direct Communication with the Pacific!

The Great Overland Telegraph to the Pacific has been completed, and the first messages from the far-off Golden State were received last week. The Atlantic is now wedded to the Pacific in indissoluble bonds, and the two great sections of our common country speak to each other with instant and instinctive patriotism. We live in age of never-ceasing wonders: what formerly took months to achieve is now performed in the quickness of a flash! May the projectors of this enterprise—the successful completion of which will be of inestimable value to the whole Republic—receive their full mead of honor and profit!

As a matter of general interest, we subjoin the telegraphic messages announcing the completion of the line:

The first message dispatched over the wire was a brief announcement of the completion of the line to Salt Lake, as follows: FORT BRIDGER, Utah, Oct. 13.—The Pacific Telegraph Line was completed to Salt Lake at one o'clock to-day. The line between Salt Lake City and San Francisco will be finished in a few days.

Following this came a dispatch from Brigham Young to the President of the Telegraph Company—thus: GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, Oct. 13.

Hon. J. H. WADE, President Pacific Telegraph: Sir: Permit me to congratulate you on the completion of the Overland Telegraph Line West of this City; to commend the energy displayed by yourself and associates in the rapid and successful prosecution of a work so beneficial, and to express the wish that its use may ever tend to promote the true interests of the dwellers on both the Atlantic and Pacific slopes of our continent. Utah has not seceded, but is firm for the Constitution and laws of our once happy country, and is warmly interested in successful enterprises as the one so far completed. BRIGHAM YOUNG.

The annexed despatch, in answer to the above, passed over the lines on Saturday: CLEVELAND, Oct. 19, 1861. To BRIGHAM YOUNG, Great Salt Lake City:

Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your message of last evening, which was very gratifying not only in the announcement of the completion of the Pacific Telegraph to your enterprising and prosperous city, but that yours, the first message to pass over the line, should express so unmistakably the patriotism and Union-loving sentiments of yourself and people. I join with you in the hope that this enterprise may tend to promote the welfare and happiness of all concerned, and that the annihilation of time in our means of communication may also tend to annihilate prejudices, cultivate brotherly love, facilitate commerce, and strengthen the bonds of our once, and again to be happy Union. With just consideration for your high position, and due respect for you personally, I am your obedient, J. H. WADE.

Next came a message from the Acting Governor of Utah to President Lincoln, which was immediately responded to by the President.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY. To the President of the United States: Utah, whose citizens strenuously resist all imputations of disloyalty, congratulates the President upon the completion of the enterprise which spans the continent, unites two oceans, and connects remote extremes of the body politic with the great Government's heart.

May the whole system speedily thrill with quickened pulsations of that heart, the parrietal hand of political treason punished, and the entire sisterhood of States join hands in glad reunion around the national fire-side.

FRANK FULLER, Acting-Governor of Utah. The following is the reply: Sir:—The completion of the Telegraph to Great Salt Lake City is auspicious of the stability and union of the Republic. The Government reciprocates your congratulations. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

To FRANK FULLER, Acting-Governor. The following message was received in New York City on Friday afternoon by Mayor Wood: SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 25, 1861.

To the Mayor of New York: San Francisco to New York sends greeting and congratulates her on the completion of the enterprise which connects the Pacific with the Atlantic. May the prosperity of both cities be increased thereby, and the projectors of this important work meet with honor and reward. H. F. TESCHEMACHER, Mayor of San Francisco.

The New York Tribune, in remarking on the completion of this stupendous undertaking, says: "San Francisco is now at the one end of the longest telegraphic line in the world—70 degrees of longitude—St. John's, Newfoundland, being in 52° 43' lon. W. Greenwich, while San Francisco is in 122°.

from Newfoundland at 4 o'clock in the afternoon will reach the Pacific coast about half an hour before noon of the same day, and the news which San Francisco sends at midday will reach the foggy Newfoundlanders at 4 1/2 p. m. It cannot be long ere the electric wire may be stretched from Oregon to Behring's Straits, there to connect with the Great Russian telegraph, and so place the North American continent in daily communication with Europe and the East."

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Affair at Edward's Ferry—Full Particulars of the Fight. WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.

The object of the movement of crossing the river by Gen. Stone was, to secure the command of the Virginia shore, so that his division and that of Gen. Banks could be safely transferred to the soil of Virginia. After crossing his advance, he sent out Col Baker with portions of three regiments—his own, the Massachusetts fifteenth and New York Tammany regiment—numbering in all about 1800, forming his right wing to reconnoitre in force in the direction of Leesburg. Both his wings, his right and left, were attacked as early as 9 o'clock a. m., but repulsed the enemy wherever he appeared. At about 5 o'clock p. m., the right wing found itself confronted by near 4,000 of the enemy, under Gen. Evans, with artillery.

Evans attacked Baker's command in front and on both flanks, Baker gallantly essayed a charge in making which he was killed and his command suffered considerable loss. The officer left in command of it by his death then very properly gave the order to fall back to a position near the river bank, where they could be supported by Gen. Stone and the other portion of his army that had by that time effected a crossing of the river. This order was obeyed in good order, and he carried with him all his wounded and dead.

On reaching the position selected, the right wing fired, and both wings held their own upon it though under the fire of the enemy, which gradually slackened until midnight by which time it ceased, having for some hours become little more than picket shooting as it were. Throughout the night the balance of Gen. Stone's forces crossed the river and threw up temporary works that rendered his position secure and enabled him to protect the crossing of Gen. Banks to be essayed this morning.

Our total killed and wounded and missing in the course of the day was about 200. Some of our cotemporaries are wholly in error in announcing the affair opposite Leesburg, as a repulse of the Union troops. On the contrary, it was eminently successful, Gen. Stone having effected his object though with some loss in his right wing, while engaged in reconnoitering in advance of his main operations. While all lament the death of Colonel Baker, and that Colonel Cogswell is probably in the enemy's hand, Gen. Stone's success is still a glorious one.

Gen. Fremont's First Battle—Capture of Springfield.

St. Louis, Oct. 23.—The following despatch was received here this evening: NEAR HAMANVILLE, MO., Oct. 26. Capt. McKEEVER, Assistant Adjutant Gen.: Yesterday afternoon, Major Seago, at the head of my body guard, made a most brilliant charge upon a body of the enemy drawn up in line of battle, and their camp at Springfield, 2,000 or 2,200 strong. He completely routed them, cleared them from the town, hoisted the National flag on the Court House, and retired upon a re-enforcement, which he has already joined. Our loss is not great. This successful charge against such very large odds is a noble example to the army. Our advance will occupy Springfield to-night. J. C. FREMONT, Maj. Gen. Com'dg.

The following is a special dispatch to the St. Louis Republican: NEAR BOLIVAR, Oct. 25.

GENERAL:—I report respectfully that yesterday at 4 P. M. I met in Springfield about 2,000 rebels, formed in line of battle. They gave us a very warm reception, but our Guard, with one feeling, made a charge, and in less than three minutes the enemy was completely routed by 150 men. We cleared the city of every rebel and retired, it being near night, and not feeling able to keep the place with so small a force. Major White's command did not participate in the charge. I have seen charges, but such brilliant bravery I have never seen before, and did not expect. Their war-cry "Fremont and the Union," broke forth like thunder. CHAS. SEAGO, Major Com'dg. Body Guard.

General Fremont's Body Guard numbers three hundred, and although Major Seago was advised of the force of the rebels, yet he was determined to have a fight. It was thought that the cause of the increased Rebel force at Springfield, was the large amount of plunder gathered there for some weeks past, which, it is stated, they intended to take South with them, but which will, of course, fall into our hands. Battle in Western Virginia. NEW CASTLE, Va., Oct. 27.—General Kelley marched from this point on Friday night, and attacked Romney yesterday afternoon, routing the enemy, capturing many prisoners, three pieces of cannon, and all their wagons and camp equipment.

The Rebels retreated toward Winchester. Our loss is trifling. That of the enemy has not been ascertained.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Lieut. Gen. Scott to-day received the following dispatch: "ROMNEY, Va., Oct. 26—p. m.—in obedience to your orders, I moved on this place at 12 o'clock last night, attacked the enemy at 3 o'clock this afternoon, and drove in their outposts, and after a brilliant action of about two hours, completely routed them, taking all their cannon, and much of their camp equipment, and many prisoners. Our loss is but trifling, but cannot say to what extent. "Brig.-Gen. B. F. KELLEY, Com'dg."

The Rebel Attack on Santa Rosa Island a Costly Failure.

Mr. Packard, a gentleman who formerly resided in Pensacola, but who fortunately made his escape and arrived at New York, in the late steamer, makes the following interesting statement: The attack on Wilson's camp was avowed in Pensacola to have been part of an intended attempt to storm the fort. News had reached the rebels that a fleet was on its way to the Gulf with 35,000 men, and it was deemed necessary to attack the fort before its arrival. They had arranged, therefore, that 1,500 men should attack and destroy Wilson's camp, while 1,000 more should cross the straits and attack the fort in the rear—Bragg opening his batteries on it at a given signal. The 1,500 men sent to surprise the camp were all picked men, seventeen being selected from each company of the various regiments. The other 1,000 were Georgia troops, and could not be collected from the town in which they were scattered, soon enough to take part in the affair. They were just ready to embark, when the others came back after their repulse. It was universally conceded by the rebels at Pensacola, that the expedition was an utter and costly failure—About fifty of the men carried cans of camphine for the purpose of firing the tents. They came upon Wilson's men and took them by surprise. Part of them fought very well, and Major Creighton ordered them to charge, but his orders were countermanded, and the troops fell back towards the fort in some confusion. Capt. Hill, meantime, hearing the firing, came out of the fort with two or three companies of regulars, repulsed the rebels, drove them into their boats, and killed many of them after they had embarked. One rebel officer was shot in the cabin of the steamer in which he was crossing, when more than half a mile from shore. The regulars showed the most perfect discipline and courage, and fired three shots to the rebel's one, taking very accurate aim, and hitting nearly all the men in the head or breast. It was conceded at Pensacola, (and, indeed, the rebel newspaper accounts already received, state,) their loss at 40 killed, and 50 or 60 wounded. The loss on our side was either 11 or 13 (Mr. P. did not remember which), killed, and 8 wounded. The reported destruction of property in Wilson's camp is utterly untrue. They partly burned one barrel of pork, not damaging more than one quarter of it, set a house on fire, and destroyed 15 or 20 tents. Beyond this they done no damage whatever.

Mr. Packard states that Col. Brown had made all his arrangements to open his batteries upon Pensacola on the 10th; and that he was prevented by the shift at the mouth of the Mississippi, which made it necessary for two of the ship which were to have taken part in the action, to go to the aid of our blockading fleet.

We have, at length, an official statement of the casualties to our men in the battle of Ball's Bluff, which amount to 629, of whom they were 79 killed, 141 wounded and 400 missing. The officers and men behaved with extraordinary courage, and after exhausting their ammunition, threw their arms into the river, to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy.

Cassius M. Clay, Minister to Russia, has intimated that, in view of the attitude of the rebels, he would prefer to surrender his present commission as our representative to Russia, and enter the army in defence of the Government. We know that Mr. Clay is a better soldier than Ambassador, and, therefore, hope his request will be attended to.

It appears from official data, that Pennsylvania has 70,000 men in the field, and 30 additional regiments organizing, a portion of which are ready to move. All will be in service within a month, making a grand army of over 100,000 men, beside having material for 50 additional regiments if needed.

The French Princes on Gen. McClellan's staff were not required to take the oath of allegiance—only an oath to be faithful during the service. Col Rankin, now engaged in raising a regiment of Lancers, is understood to have taken a similar oath.

Ex-Governor Wickliffe, ex-Postmaster-General, &c., is loyal to the heart's core, but has a son in the rebel army.—That son attempted to apply the torch to his own father's house in Bardstown, but Gen. Anderson sent a regiment to the rescue.

The latest reports received from Edward's Ferry state that all our forces which were engaged at Leesburg are now on the Maryland side of the Potomac, and in excellent condition.