

tion, is made in the hope that it may do good without harm. It will favor labor and avoid great confusion. But why any proclamation upon this subject? This question is beset with the conflicting views that the step might be delayed too long or be taken too soon. In some, elements for resumption have been ready for action, but remain inactive apparently for want of a rallying point, a plan of action. Why shall A adopt the plan of B, rather than B that of A? and if A and B should agree, how can they know that the general Government here will respect their plan? By the proclamation, a plan is presented which may be accepted by them as a rallying point, and which they are assured in advance, will not be rejected here. This may bring them to act sooner than they otherwise would.

The objection to a premature presentation of a plan by the National Executive, consists in the danger of commitments in points which could be more safely left to further developments. Care has been taken to shape the document as to avoid embarrassment from this source. In saying that on certain terms, certain classes will be pardoned with their rights restored, it is not said that other classes on other terms, will never be included. In saying that a reconstruction will be accepted if presented in a specified way, it is not said that it will never be accepted in any other way. The movements by State action for emancipation in several of the States not included in the emancipation proclamation, are matters of profound gratification; and while I do not repeat in detail what I have heretofore so earnestly urged upon this subject, my general views and feelings remain unchanged, and I trust that Congress will omit no fair opportunity of aiding these important steps to the great consummation.

**THE WAR POWER—OUR RELIANCE.**  
In the midst of other cares, however important, we must not lose sight of the fact that the war power is still our main reliance. To that power alone can we look, for a time, to give confidence to the people in contested regions that the insurgent power will not again overrun them. Until that confidence shall be established, little can be done anywhere for what is called reconstruction. Hence our chief care must still be directed to our army and navy who have thus far borne their harder part so nobly and well, and it may be esteemed fortunate that in giving the greatest efficiency to these indispensable arms we do also honorably encourage the gallant men, from commander to sentinel, who compose them, and to whom more than to all others the world must stand indebted for the home of freedom disenfranchised, regenerated, enlarged and perpetuated.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.  
December 8, 1863.

### PROCLAMATION

#### ACCOMPANYING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The following proclamation is appended to the message:

#### PROCLAMATION.—Whereas, In and by the Constitution of the United States, it is provided that the President shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment; and Whereas, a rebellion now exists whereby the loyal States and governments of several States have, for a long time, been subverted, and many persons have committed and are now guilty of treason against the United States; and Whereas, with reference to said rebellion and treason, laws have been enacted by Congress defining the forfeiture and confiscation of property, and liberation of slaves, all upon terms and conditions therein stated and also declaring that the President was thereby authorized at any time thereafter, by proclamation, to extend to persons who may have participated in the existing rebellion—in any State or part thereof—pardon and amnesty, with such exceptions, and at such times, and on such conditions as he may deem expedient for the public welfare;

And Whereas, the congressional declaration of limited and conditional pardon, accords with well established judicial expositions of the pardoning power; and Whereas, with reference to said rebellion the President of the United States has issued several proclamations, with provisions in regard to the liberation of slaves; and Whereas, it is now desired by some persons heretofore engaged in said rebellion to resume their allegiance to the United States, and re-inaugurate loyal State governments within and for their respective States;

Therefore I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do proclaim, declare and make known to all persons who have directly, or by implication, participated in the existing rebellion, except as hereinafter excepted, that a full pardon is granted to them and each of them, with restoration of all rights and property, except as to slaves, and property in cases where the rights of third parties shall have intervened, and upon the condition that every such person shall take and subscribe an oath, and thereupon keep and maintain said oath inviolate, and which oath shall be registered for permanent preservation, and shall be of the tenor and effect following, to wit:

"I do solemnly swear, in presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Union of the States thereunder; and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all acts of Congress passed during the existing rebellion with reference to slaves, so long and so far as not repealed, modified or held void by Congress or by a decision of the Supreme Court; and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all proclamations of the President, made during the existing rebellion, having reference to slaves, so long and so far as not modified or declared void by a decision of the Supreme Court. So help me God."

The persons excepted from the benefits of the foregoing provisions, are all who are or shall have been civil or diplomatic officers or agents of the so-called Confederate Government; all who have left judicial stations under the United States to aid in the rebellion; all who resign and their commissions in the army and the United States; and all who have aided the rebellion, and all who in any way in treasonable manner have aided the rebellion.

It is a very pleasant and proper thing, no doubt, to have a purpose, but happy is the man who can indulge in the luxury, now and then, of having none at all; who can give over at intervals, the struggle of the world and have a heart-ache of his own, and have his hand across his eyes, and his feet under his feet.

of war, and which persons may have been found in the United States service as soldiers, seamen, or in any other capacity.

And I do further proclaim, declare and make known, that whenever in any of the States of Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina, a number of persons, not less than one-tenth of the number of the votes cast in such State at the Presidential election of the year of our Lord 1860, each having taken the oath aforesaid, and not having since violated it, and being a qualified voter by the election laws of the State existing immediately before the so-called act of secession, and excluding all others, shall re-establish a State Government, which shall be Republican, and in nowise contravening said oath—such shall be recognized as the true government of the State, and the State shall receive thereunder the benefits of the constitutional provision which declares that the United States shall guarantee to every State in the Union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion, and on application of the Legislature, or the Executive when the Legislature cannot be convened, against domestic violence.

And I do further proclaim, declare and make known, that any provisions which may be adopted by such State Government in relation to the freed people of such State, which shall recognize and declare their permanent freedom and provide for their education, and which may yet be consistent, as a temporary arrangement, with their present condition as a laboring, landless and homeless class, will not be objected to by the National Executive.

And it is suggested as not improper that, in reconstructing a loyal State government in any State, the name, the bond, the sub-division, the Constitution, and the Federal code of laws, as before the rebellion, be maintained, subject only to modifications made necessary by the conditions hereinbefore stated, and such others, if any, not contravening said conditions, which may be deemed convenient by those framing the new State government.

To avoid misunderstanding it may be necessary to say that this proclamation, so far as it relates to State governments, has no reference to States wherein loyal State governments have all the while been maintained. And for the same reason it may be proper to further say that whether members sent to Congress from any State shall be admitted to seats, constitutionally rests exclusively with the respective Houses, and not to any extent with the Executive. And still further, that this proclamation is intended to present to the people of the States wherein the national authority has been suspended and loyal State governments have been subverted, a mode by which the national authority over every loyal State government may be re-established within said States or any of them. And while the mode presented is the best the Executive can suggest with his present impressions, it must not be understood that another possible mode would not be acceptable.

Given under my hand, at the city of Washington, the eighth day of December, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty-eighth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WM. H. SEWARD, Sec'y of State.

**COMFORTABLE PEOPLE.**—Comfortable people are comfortably and seasonably dressed. You will never have to shiver at the sight of their muslins in November, or lament over their velvets in the dust and heat of June. Nor will the season of life be less regarded by them than the season of the year; the comfortable elderly gentleman will not ape the fashion of the youthful fop, nor comfortable grandmothers excite the pity or ridicule of their descendants by emulating the charms and tresses of fifteen, in auburn wigs and roses. Good, simple, and well-fitting, in every sense of the term—the costume of comfortable people shows that, as they are not ashamed of their age, their age will have no reason to be ashamed of them.

Comfortable people will have comfortable things about them; their furniture and household appointments being ever the reverse of what is stigmatized as 'gimmick.' You may lean back against their chairs, or lean forward on their tables, and neither will 'give way' though you do. Their sofas, if not of the very newest fashion, are infinitely preferable to any invention either before or since—their grades draw to admiration—their fences are just the right make and height for putting one's feet on; and although from a very early period of your acquaintance you have an inward consciousness that you might stir their fire unblamed, your remembrance of the fire of comfortable people for seven times seven years is connected with the conviction that no poke of yours could ever have improved it. One remarkable characteristic in the apartments of comfortable people is, that they always appear larger, in proportion to their actual dimensions, than those of others. You have room to breathe and room to move, and are never obliged to tumble over half a dozen things you do not want, in your progress towards what you do, as has so often happened to you in houses double the size of theirs. Then, too, there is such an exhilarating, wholesome atmosphere in rooms that are regularly and discreetly ventilated, and in which nothing rusty, musty, or fusty, is suffered to abide.

Abolition is a duty somewhat too strictly inculcated in the Mohammedan ritual, and often too laxly observed in Christian practice. As a man may have a dirty body, and an undefiled mind, so may he have clean hands in a literal and not in a metaphorical sense. As washes and cosmetics without, he may yet have a moral hydrophobia within. Pleasant to see an in-puritan of this stamp holding his nose lest the wind should come between a honest scavenger and his gentility, while his own character stinks the public nostrils.

It is a very pleasant and proper thing, no doubt, to have a purpose, but happy is the man who can indulge in the luxury, now and then, of having none at all; who can give over at intervals, the struggle of the world and have a heart-ache of his own, and have his hand across his eyes, and his feet under his feet.

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### The American Citizen.



THOMAS ROBINSON, Editors.

CYRUS E. ANDERSON, Editors.

BUTLER PA.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16, 1863.

For President in 1864:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

To THE PUBLIC.—Having incurred the expenditure, and taken upon us the labor and responsibility of publishing a new paper for the purpose—as was set forth in our salutatory last week—of assisting those who are already laboring to produce unity and harmony amongst all loyal men in their political action—thus strengthening the Administration, and the gallant Union army who have protected and sustained it from the enemies, alike of itself and the government whose keeping, for the time-being, it is intrusted with—we hope our friends throughout the country will give us their influence in the circulation of our paper.

We hope to be able to supply at least fifteen hundred copies of the *Citizen* to our friends in this county. A widely circulated newspaper is the most convenient way of giving information of any kind. Send in your names, gentlemen, and give us a trial. See terms on first page.

#### The News from our Armies.

It is more than likely, that there will not be much activity in either the army of the Potomac, or Cumberland, for some months to come, as winter has fairly set in, and campaigning at this season is very severe, and not always profitable. They will both likely go into winter quarters. Beside the continuous interest felt in the progress of operations at Charleston, it is quite likely that North Carolina and Texas, whose climate is more congenial to winter campaigns, will occupy the attention of the nation through the coming winter. Gen. Butler in the former, and Banks in the latter, will doubtless make their mark before the opening of spring.

#### The Exchange of Prisoners.

We are sorry to observe a disposition among a certain class of newspapers, to embrace every opportunity for censuring our Government, and thus indirectly justifying the rebels. A striking instance of this is observed in reference to the question of the exchange of prisoners—they claiming that our Government is responsible for the failure of our agents to procure the exchange of prisoners; and that the consequent sufferings of that unfortunate class now confined in the various prisons about Richmond. To all such, and those persons who read and believe their false charges, we would recommend the able and lengthy letter written to the *New York Times*, by Gen. Hitchcock, whose business it has been to supervise the exchange of prisoners.

We are only prevented by the want of space, from giving it to our readers in full. In it the General uses the following language, in reference to colored troops and their officers: "But it is a most significant fact that, in no single instance has the smallest evidence come to light tending to show that any officer connected with colored troops, has been captured alive, and held in the South as a prisoner of war; nor has any colored man, employed as a soldier of the United States, been captured in the South and accounted for as a prisoner of war."

"To any reasonable man, this glaring fact might be sufficient to show the vile purpose of the rebel authorities to countermand, if they have not directly ordered the destruction of this class of troops, whenever and wherever they unhappily fall into their power."

But, although the Government is pledged to protect all its soldiers, yet, it is clear that this is not the cause of the delay in the exchange of prisoners. We further quote: "It has been supposed, even in many parts of the North, that the proposition of Mr. Ould, of the 20th of October, for an exchange of prisoners is fair, and ought to be accepted; but it does not appear to be considered that Mr. Ould has not proposed to yield to us a certain number of prisoners of war and receive a like number in return, which would be a happy consummation that would be at once accepted by this Government."

"But his proposition is that we shall deliver to him all the prisoners now in our possession, amounting to about 40,000 men, and receive in return about 13,000 men, having about 27,000 who might be for a few days, considered on parole, not to take up arms unless duly exchanged; and then what would Mr. Ould do with these men?"

"Judging by what he has actually recently done, he would undoubtedly assume to discharge these men from all obligations under their parole, and put them in the field to fight against National troops."

We consider that, at this time, the Rebel authorities owe us upon the exchange list more than all of the prisoners of war they now hold, as equivalent for the prisoners held by us. The Government should be allowed to re-enter the service as veteran soldiers, but will receive only the bounties offered to fresh recruits. The decision will be of interest to many, as it opens a door which has heretofore been closed against them. It is also stated that all men who were in the service on the third of March, 1863, are exempt from the operations of the coming draft. All such persons, by producing their discharge papers to the Board of Enrollment can have their names stricken off the list of enrolled persons. The friends of those who have volunteered since the last draft was made, can have the names of such volunteers also stricken off the enrollment list by furnishing the Board with the proper evidence of enlistment. This will be good

men upon bloody battle-fields within the last few months."

"To show the extreme probability of this, it is only necessary to refer to a few facts, beginning with the statement of Mr. Ould to Gen. Meredith, officially communicated to me, that he, Mr. Ould, would proceed to make declarations whenever he could conscientiously feel the right to do so, for the purpose of putting men into the field—thus openly setting aside the cartel and usages of war, in favor of his individual sense of right—which sense of right, in Mr. Ould, is so obtuse and wild, as to justify him in making use of a 'tabular statement' of alleged captures principally in the western States, amounting to over 18,000 men, a considerable portion of whom were undoubtedly captured by guerrilla parties, and were not soldiers, but for the most part, peaceable citizens of the country."

We think this clearly relieves our Government from blame in this matter. But the following is what we wish more particularly to call the attention of our readers to.

"Mr. Ould is a mere agent under the cartel, and has no powers beyond those recognized in the cartel for the execution of its provisions; yet he has recently assumed to decide an important question by which he undertook to liberate from the obligations of their parole the whole of the prisoners, some 6,000 or 7,000, captured by Gen. Banks at Port Hudson, and paroled by Gen. Banks under a special agreement with the Rebel commander."

The world knows that those prisoners fell unconditionally into the hands of Gen. Banks at the surrender of Port Hudson, and Gen. Banks had the power to send them to the north if it had been his pleasure to do so; but he made an agreement with the Rebel commander to release them on parole, and released them at Mobile in conformity with the agreement.

The cartel for the exchange of prisoners granted two places for their delivery, to wit: City Point on James River, and Vicksburg, on the Mississippi; but it provided also, that when either of these places should become unavailable, by the exigencies of war, for the delivery of prisoners, other points might be "agreed upon" by the commanders in the field. This was precisely what happened. Vicksburg having fallen into the hands of Gen. Grant, had, by that exigency, become unavailable for the delivery of captured Rebel soldiers; and when, subsequently, Gen. Banks came into possession of several thousand prisoners by the unconditional surrender of Port Hudson, he made an agreement with the Rebel Gen. Gardner, his commander, to deliver his prisoners on parole at Mobile, and did so.

Mr. Ould, without any proper authority whatever, assumed to write a letter on the 10th of October last, a copy of which has been published in a Richmond newspaper, in which he attempts to release all of those prisoners from obligations under their parole because, as he undertakes to decide, they were not delivered at places named in the cartel, when the cartel itself provides for other places of delivery than those expressly named in the cartel, when rendered necessary by the exigencies of war. In the mean time, however, it cannot be doubted that the body of men in question have been put into the field to fight against the Federal troops by whom they were captured but a few months since; and this, too, without having been exchanged, and without having been properly released from the obligations of their parole.

Since writing the above, I have received an official report from Gen. Meredith, one point in which will be here stated, to wit: that Gen. Meredith, for the purpose of withdrawing our suffering prisoners in Richmond, distinctly proposed to Mr. Ould that he would send him 12,000 or more Confederate prisoners, as many as he might hold of our men, and receive in return our prisoners held in the South—which proposition Mr. Ould refused to accept, but said that he would agree to a general exchange; the effect of which undoubtedly would be to cancel the excess of prisoners in our hands by a delivery of about 40,000 for about 13,000; to leave the Rebel authorities the entire disposition of such colored troops and their white officers as they might capture; to expose Capt. Sawyer and Flynn to their fate under orders in Richmond, which have never been countermanded; to turn loose again certain notorious guerrilla leaders to renew their ravages in Kentucky and Missouri (neither of which States have ever united with the so-called Southern Confederacy); to put into the field a fresh army of Rebels, to be recaptured; and, in short, we should deliberately neutralize or throw away a chief part of the power of the Government at this time, through which there may be some hope, by measures yet to be decided upon, of controlling the action of the authorities in Richmond in their treatment of prisoners of war, and compelling them to respect the laws of war, if they are deaf to those of humanity.

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with a body of the enemy, who, having been paroled as prisoners of war at Vicksburg, have been recaptured in arms at Chattanooga, without having been properly exchanged.

I ought to state here that, the Government of the United States would not haggle about a few men, more or less, if it were hundreds or even thousands, if the question was the relief, and that alone, of our suffering prisoners in Richmond; but whoever considers the above statement of facts cannot fail to see that other questions and points are involved, which it is not safe, if it were honorable, for this Government to overlook.

It should be stated also, that an offer was made to the Rebel agent some days ago to receive all of the prisoners from Richmond under a solemn pledge that they should not be allowed to take arms unless duly exchanged with the consent of the Rebel authorities, without existing difficulties on the subject of exchange; and that this Government would pledge itself to both feed and clothe prisoners in our hands.

This proposition also was rejected, and the Secretary of War thus greatly restricted in his means of affording immediate relief to our prisoners in Richmond; but they have not been overlooked. God forbid. The Secretary of War has ordered both clothing and provisions to be sent through the Rebel lines to sustain them, although those supplies, from the necessity of the case, have been intrusted to the honor and humanity of the enemy, whose agents may or may not permit the supplies to be delivered.

Meanwhile it is well for the country to understand that this Rebellion is to be put down by organized armies in the field, acting upon and destroying organized opposition to the Government, and no real progress can be made except in this direction, to which end the energies of every loyal man in the country should be devoted. The progress already made in suppressing the Rebellion may afford the fullest assurance of final success; and this end will appear the more certain when it is considered that the *Corps d'Afrique*, in the service of the Government, already numbers 50,000 brave, athletic men, who are fighting in support of this Government, under the guidance of a body of most earnest and intelligent officers, who count their lives as subordinate to the cause they are engaged in.

I undertake to assure my countrymen that the hopes of the most sanguine have been more than realized, in the facility with which the Government has brought within its power of organization the colored population of the country, and the system contains within itself such powers of expansion that Slavery in the South is inevitably destined to give way before it, when this element is seen to work, as it will in harmony with the organized loyal power of the nation directed to the preservation of republican institutions, and the union of the States under one General Government, capable of giving protection to the whole from both domestic disturbance and foreign invasion."

**SUMMARY OF TUESDAY'S NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.**  
Some surprise is expressed at Fernando Wood's being able to muster fifty-nine votes for his resolution for Commissioners to go to Richmond and beg for peace. Fifty-nine Democrats thus place themselves on peace at any terms on the ground, under Fernando Wood's lead.  
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Numerous acts of piracy have been planned, and several of the vessels have narrowly escaped a fate akin to that of the Chesapeake. The pirates still retain possession of the remaining engineers and firemen, and will still do so until they are replaced by others. The Chesapeake pirates expect to shield themselves, if captured, by producing their orders from the Confederate Government, a copy of which was handed to Captain Willlets, by them.  
**DISCHARGED SOLDIERS.**—The Provost Marshal General has decided that soldiers who have received a discharge from the army on account of physical disability, may be received anew under the last call for volunteers. They will not, however, be allowed to re-enter the service as veteran soldiers, but will receive only the bounties offered to fresh recruits. The decision will be of interest to many, as it opens a door which has heretofore been closed against them. It is also stated that all men who were in the service on the third of March, 1863, are exempt from the operations of the coming draft. All such persons, by producing their discharge papers to the Board of Enrollment can have their names stricken off the list of enrolled persons. The friends of those who have volunteered since the last draft was made, can have the names of such volunteers also stricken off the enrollment list by furnishing the Board with the proper evidence of enlistment. This will be good

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Gen. Martindale, Military Governor of the District, family and staff, visited the Russian fleet to-day. They were shown over the flag ship by the Admiral, and upon leaving received a salute of thirteen guns.  
Gen. Meade demands a court of inquiry into the conduct of the recent advance across the Rapid and subsequent retreat. Gen. Sedgwick will command in the meantime, by seniority.  
Numerous acts of piracy have been planned, and several of the vessels have narrowly escaped a fate akin to that of the Chesapeake. The pirates still retain possession of the remaining engineers and firemen, and will still do so until they are replaced by others. The Chesapeake pirates expect to shield themselves, if captured, by producing their orders from the Confederate Government, a copy of which was handed to Captain Willlets, by them.  
**DISCHARGED SOLDIERS.**—The Provost Marshal General has decided that soldiers who have received a discharge from the army on account of physical disability, may be received anew under the last call for volunteers. They will not, however, be allowed to re-enter the service as veteran soldiers, but will receive only the bounties offered to fresh recruits. The decision will be of interest to many, as it opens a door which has heretofore been closed against them. It is also stated that all men who were in the service on the third of March, 1863, are exempt from the operations of the coming draft. All such persons, by producing their discharge papers to the Board of Enrollment can have their names stricken off the list of enrolled persons. The friends of those who have volunteered since the last draft was made, can have the names of such volunteers also stricken off the enrollment list by furnishing the Board with the proper evidence of enlistment. This will be good

with a body of the enemy, who, having been paroled as prisoners of war at Vicksburg, have been recaptured in arms at Chattanooga, without having been properly exchanged.

I ought to state here that, the Government of the United States would not haggle about a few men, more or less, if it were hundreds or even thousands, if the question was the relief, and that alone, of our suffering prisoners in Richmond; but whoever considers the above statement of facts cannot fail to see that other questions and points are involved, which it is not safe, if it were honorable, for this Government to overlook.

### The Restoration of Texas.

Gen. A. J. Hamilton has left New Orleans to enter upon his official duties as military Governor of Texas. We are in daily expectation of news of his arrival at Brownsville. Eighteen months ago, in the summer of 1862, he left his home in Austin, and, aided by the devoted Unionists of Western Texas, escaped through the mountains of that section of the country to the borders of the Rio Grande, holy pursued by the Rebel troops. Here his path was not less dangerous and he narrowly escaped, on more than one occasion, assassination by the Mexican borderers who were in the pay of the Confederate authorities to arrest or murder all who sought to fly from their tyrannical rule. At the mouth of the Rio Grande he found means to place himself on board of an American trading vessel and under the protection of the old flag. We recall these circumstances to point out another of the striking contrasts with which the history of this war abounds, and which are exciting in their interest as the most thrilling incidents of romance. Eighteen months ago a fugitive and a wanderer from home and family and friends—to-day returning the honored representative of the great Republic, and escorted to the State of his adoption with military pomp and power.

His first care on landing will be to issue a Proclamation to the people of the State, calling upon them to join the liberating army, and to aid in the restoration of the national authority. He will distinctly set forth the fact, and his presence is the strongest commentary on its truth, that the armies of the United States march not to the subjugation of part of its people, but to the deliverance of the oppressed and the down-trodden from the tyranny of an odious rule. And his call will be heard and answered. The fleet and adventurous rangers will bear the summons by night and by day, by hill and dale, thro' hamlet and glen, and the sons of liberty will gather not less rapidly, not less surely, than the children of Alpine when the cross of fire sped its quick and noiseless way to gather them to the muster-place on Lawrick Mead.

Many of those who would have rallied at his call lie where no sound of earthly trump can reach them now. Their bones bleach on the prairies, are hidden in the chapparal, are washed by their native streams, or still hang from the mountain trees, silent but eloquent witnesses of the vindictive proscription which Rebellion and Slavery breed. Thousands have fallen on fat fields, from Bull Run to Shiloh, forced conscripts in a cause which they hated, fighting against a flag which they loved.

Thousands have worn out their remnant of life in hopeless mourning and misery, and have finally died broken-hearted by the neglect and indifference of the government of their choice. But thousands, staunch and true, still remain watching the Northern Star, and each steamer which will now arrive will bring news of the swelling numbers of the loyal band.

It is not generally known that a fortnight before the arrival of Gen. Banks a large force of loyalists, several hundred in number, had gathered in a loyal camp and were on the point of undertaking the recovery of the country between the Rio Grande and the Nueces River. Only the fortunate arrival of one of their leading representative men at Matamoros, who left New York early in October to carry news of the probable instant movement to the frontier of an expedition, prevented their undertaking the capture of Brownsville. In a private letter, under date of the 29th of October, he says: "I am trying to hold back any movement for the present, but if I fail I must go in and take the chances with my friends. We can win, but at an unnecessary cost of life and private property."

The arrival of the United States forces preserved the lives of many a true and gallant man for higher duties and a wider field of action.

All Texas is stirred with a desire to throw off the hated Rebel yoke. The recent address of Gen. Magruder bears witness to the prevailing discontent, and his later arbitrary acts have fanned into burning flame the smouldering embers of liberty and loyalty, which will ere long blaze out far and wide over the prairies and mountain sides of the State. The banishment of Judges Baldwin and Peaches, and the flight of Judge Sabin, all influential and respected citizens, are evidences of the serious apprehensions entertained by the Rebel authorities of early revolt.

The presence, on the border, of Hamilton—of Col. Hayes, formerly Maj General of the State, and an old resident of the Rio Grande district—of Mr. William Alexander, long a resident of Austin and a devoted loyalist, and of Col. E. J. Davis of the gallant 1st Texas Cavalry, late Judge (whom our readers will remember to have been carried off from Matamoros last Spring with Montgomery, when the latter was brutally murdered, and the life of the former was only saved by the interposition of the Mexican authorities), all of them the beloved and chosen representatives of Texas loyalty, point to the present as the time for a systematic and organized movement.

Quite recently a delegate from the loyalists of Texas visited the President of the United States to inform him, on their behalf, that a movement was about to be made, that the Government of the State would be recognized, Slavery be absolutely and immediately abolished, the ordinance of Secession repealed or contemptuously disregarded, and representatives be returned to the Congress of the United States.

We look for the movement to begin in the part of the State west of the Colorado, where the German element, which has always been loyal to the core, is strongest. If the eastern districts follow the example a General Convention may be called—if not, the counties west