

### Border-State Proclivities.

Our readers will have already noted that the House of Representatives last Thursday, on motion of Mr. Green Clay Smith of Kentucky, by 93 Yeas to 64 Nays.

"Resolved, That, as our country, and the very existence of the best Government ever instituted by man, is imperiled by the most senseless and wicked Rebellion that the world has ever seen, and believing as we do that the only hope of saving the country and preserving this Government is by the power of the sword, we are for the most vigorous prosecution of the war, until the Constitution and the laws shall be enforced and obeyed in all parts of the United States; and to that end we oppose any armistice, or intervention, or mediation, or proposition for peace from any quarter, so long as there is found a Rebel in arms against the Government; and we ignore all party names, lines, and issues, and recognize but two parties in this war, patriots and traitors."

This resolve, it will be noted, is a direct counterblast to one offered, a few days before, by Mr. Fernando Wood of this city, proposing that the President be requested to send three Commissioners to Richmond to sue for peace at the hands of Jeff. Davis & Co. The House laid the resolve on the table by substantially the same vote as the foregoing—that is, those who voted to pass Mr. Smith's resolve voted to lay Mr. Wood's on the table.

Some aspects of these votes and their impulses, deserve special attention. Mr. Green Clay Smith has been a volunteer officer in the Union ranks, and was nominated on what *The Louisville Journal* stigmatized as a "Republican platform"—that is, one of unconditional fidelity to the Union. He had two competitors—J. W. Leathers, who comes as near being a rebel as he can and his near, and J. W. Menies, the late Member, who is of the Guthrie and Garret Davis school of Unionism—that is to say, a "Border-State man" of two years ago. The vote of the District (opposite Cincinnati) stood, Smith 6,936; Leathers 1,970; Menies 2,283; Smith over both competitors 2,953. Such is the impulse that sent Mr. Smith to Congress.

Now let us see how the Border Slave States voted on his resolution above:

Yea—Delaware—Smithers—1. Maryland—Cresswell, Winter Davis—2. Kentucky—W. H. Randall, Green Clay Smith and Yeaman—3. Missouri—Blow, Boyd, Loan, McClung—4. Total 10.

Nay—Maryland—B. G. Harris—1. Kentucky—Harding, Glider, Malbury, Walsworth—4. Missouri—Hall, James S. Rollins, Scott—3. Total 8.

So that the Border Slave States give a decided majority in favor of prosecuting the war without compromise, armistice, or overture of any kind, until the last Rebel shall unconditionally submit to the authority and acknowledge the indivisibility of the Union. And, had every Member been present and voted, the majority would almost certainly have been greater.

Now see the figure that some other States cut on this vote:

Ohio—Yea—Ashley, Garfield, Eckley, Seneca, Spaulding—5.

Nay—Bliss, Cox, Finck, Hutchins, Wm. Johnson, Leibold, Long, McKinney, S. R. Morris, Noble, John O'Neill, Peuleton, C. A. White, J. W. White—14.

Here is another Free State voting, by nearly two to one, against a vital proposition that other people have just indorsed by at least Thirty Thousand majority. Not five of these members could be re-elected to-morrow, on the platform on which they have just placed themselves.

But let us see how our own State appears on this record:

NEW YORK—Yea—A. W. Clark, T. T. Davis, Fenton, Frank, Hotchkiss, C. T. Hulburd, O. Kellogg, S. F. Miller, D. Morris, Odell, Pomeroy, Van Valkenburg—12.

Nay—Brooks, Chanler, Ganson, Griswold, Herrick, Kerman, Nelson, Radford, J. B. Steole, Ward, Winfield, Fernando Wood—12.

So that New York stands equally divided on an issue just decided in the affirmative by her people by an emphatic majority of Thirty Thousand. And among those voting Nay are five (in italics above) who at home pass for "War Democrats"—at least did so when they were in want of votes. Mr. Griswold, for instance, was elected in a district which, as he well knows, would give 2,000 majority to-day for Clay Smith's resolve, and sent him to Congress because he was supposed to stand on the War platform. Mr. Winfield made War speeches throughout his district when he was looking for a seat in Congress, and he will have to make them stronger and hotter before he gets re-elected. And Mr. Nelson accepted the Colonelcy of the volunteer regiment raised in the county just before his election, and resigned it just afterward. It will take at least two regiments to reflect him on a Fernando Wood Peace platform.

We are not complaining of any of these votes. Gentlemen will make up their own record as they see fit, and then justify it to their constituents as they can. We only remind them of the advice of a sagacious old legislator to his green young successor: "Always vote the way that don't need any explanation."

UNION AND INDEPENDENCE.—We must be unanimous," observed Hancock, on the occasion of signing the American Declaration of Independence; "there must be no pulling different ways—we must all hang together." "Yes," added Franklin, "we must all hang together, or most assuredly we shall all hang separately."

### The Winter's Work.

Though the winter season may enforce a suspension of hostilities in Virginia, and even for a brief interval delay the advance of Grant beyond the celebrated triangle formed by nature and the railroads, whose lines intersect at the three points of Chattanooga, Cleveland and Dalton, yet there will be no cessation of military enterprise at other points of the vast field of operations, where Northern frosts and snows are unknown.

Already we hear from Beaufort, South Carolina, of an expedition being fitted out there under the command of a fighting General. The latest advices from Texas and New Orleans indicate increased activity in the Department of Gen. Banks, who, it would seem, has an excellent lieutenant in Gen. Dana, now in charge of the army in Texas. The vigilance and energy of Gen. Butler will neither "slumber nor sleep" in that east-region, which forms his important field of operations, and where the mild winter season it usually experiences, may give him just the kind of opportunities he will delight to improve. As he has got now on the left side of the "Confederacy," along the Eastern Virginia and North Carolina coast, he should feel but little surprise—or, perhaps it would be better to say, we should feel only a gratified surprise—if this shrewd, restless, resourceful Ben Butler would be able, some day, to plant a blow under the fifth rib of his enemy—and so anticipate Grant, who is, no doubt, actively preparing to deliver his blow on the other side, when he shall have made Chattanooga a storehouse of supplies, and rendered the great mountain fortress of which he has possession—the triangle already spoken of—impregnable.

With Grant and Butler and Banks there will indeed be no delay. But Grant alone has a force under his command adequate to the work before him. The other two Generals will probably accomplish all that in the nature of things can be accomplished with the means at their disposal, but we trust that every energy of the Government will be bent to the task of reinforcing them.

And now one word on this all-important task of reinforcements.

We do not think this will be best done by any of the violent methods urged by some inconsiderate people upon Congress but it can be done effectually by employing the twenty millions appropriated by Congress to pay bounties to encourage enlistments, and the fund soon to be realized by the payment of three or four hundred dollars commutation money for each person exempted under that clause of the Enrollment Act, to raise an army of Southern Union men—men who will render more than lip-service—who will render military service—to the Union, and fight its enemies of any and every color, themselves not being judged or condemned by reason of their color.—*Pitts. Gazette.*

HOPE.—It stole on its pinions to the bed of disease, and the sufferer's frown became a smile—the emblem of peace and love. It laid its hand upon the arm of the poor, which stretched forth at the command of unholly impulses, and save him from disgraced and ruin. It dwelt like a living thing in the mind of the mother, whose son tarried long after the promised time of coming, and saved her from desolation and the "care that killeth."

It hovered about the head of the youth who had become the Ishmael of society, and led him on to works which even his enemies praised.

No hope! my good brother. Have it, beckon it to your side. Wrestle with it that it may not depart. It may repay your pains. Life is hard enough at best, but Hope shall still lead you over its mountains, and sustain you amid its billows. Part with all besides, but keep thy Hope.

THE FREEDOM CONVENTION.—In announcing that the Freedom Convention, which was to have met at Louisville Ky., on the 8th of January, has been postponed to some time in the month of February or March, in order to afford opportunity for further conference, that harmonious action may be had, the *St. Louis Democrat* says:

"The convention, which will represent the radical Unionists of the South, will be one of the most important bodies, if not the most important, that can come together in the present crisis. It will represent the men who hold the question of reconstruction in their hands. The radical anti-slavery movement in the South has recently, and since the call for a convention was issued, excited such vigor and extended development that the work to be performed is greatly enlarged beyond what was at first contemplated. Instead of being designed to organize such a government, it has now to deal with an organization in full progress. A locality will be selected most convenient to the Southern Unionists, and due notice will be given of the time of the meeting."

When I look upon the tombs of the great, every emotion of envy dies in me; when I read the epitaphs of the beautiful, every inordinate desire goes out; when I meet with the grief parents upon a tomb stone, my heart melts with compassion; when I see the tombs of the parents themselves, I consider the vanity of grieving for those whom we must soon follow, when I see kings lying beside those who deposed them, when I consider rival wits placed side by side, or the holy men that divide the world with their contest and disputes. I reflect with sorrow and astonishment on the little competitions, factions, and debates on mankind. When I read the several dates of the tombs, of some that died yesterday, and some six hundred years, I consider that great day when we shall all be contemporaries, and make our appearance together.

A MINISTER'S CONUNDRUM.—A story is told of a grave divine on Cape Cod, not long since, who awoke from a comfortable nap in his chair and discovered his amiable helpmate in the act of mending his pantaloons. Inspired with a love of fun which seldom affected him, he inquired, "Why are you my dear, like the evil adversary spoken of in scripture?" Of course she was unable to discover any resemblance. "Because," said he, "while the husband man slept you sowed the tares!"

### The American Citizen.



THOMAS ROBINSON, CYRUS E. ANDERSON, Editors.

BUTLER PA.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 6, 1864.

"Liberty and Union, Now and Forever, One and Inseparable."—D. Webster.

FOR PRESIDENT IN 1864:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

### The Unterrified.

The Democracy of Pittsburgh have held their convention for the nomination of Municipal officers. After a preliminary organization was effected, and the different wards called over, it was ascertained that over half the city was unrepresented. Some were in favor of adjourning till they could drum up a full representation, while others were for going ahead at once. They finally effected a permanent organization, and without much difficulty made their nominations. One delegate frankly avowed that the absence of delegates was, as on a former occasion, ominous of defeat. Doubtless he is right.

The truth is, the unexpected thrashing they received at the hands of the loyal voters last fall, has not only discouraged them, but has "demoralized" them all over the country. Thousands of honest men, who through a delusion, voted with them then, will never do so again. Even the leaders have no heart to prepare for another canvass, which can only result in rout and disaster.

There is little prospect of them ever again being able to give battle "in force"; all that they possibly can do, will be to form guerrilla parties by which they may make an occasional dash on our advance or rear guard—this will require the more vigilance on the part of our pickets, but will never be able to stay the victorious march of the army of freedom.

### The Legislature.

The Legislature of this State met yesterday. The Senate will stand, politically, sixteen for the Administration party, and sixteen against it—Senator White, of the Indiana district, being a prisoner at Richmond; his resignation, however, has been smuggled through the rebel lines, and it is therefore probable that his seat will soon be filled by a special election ordered for that purpose.

In the House, the Administration has fifty-two against forty-eight; this gives them a good working majority. There is one or two contested seats in the House, but they are not likely to effect the Administration party unfavorably.

It is well for the country that parties stand as they do; were it otherwise, we might have serious trouble in maintaining our present proud position as a loyal State. We have every assurance now, that whatever measures may be found necessary for the efficiency of our arms, or the comfort of our brave soldiers, will receive that warm united support which patriotism and wisdom alike suggest.

When the present civil war was forced upon the country, there was a law on our statute books, unobjectionable and unrepented, authorizing the vote of our volunteer army, in case of war, to be taken in camp—it set proper guards round the ballot box—all that was necessary to secure a fair vote. Thus, when our present volunteer army was filled up, the young men of our State who entered it, had a right to expect that they would be allowed to exercise the right of suffrage under that law; but in this they were disappointed.

In order to remedy this evil, and secure them the rights they thought they always enjoyed, the last legislature passed, among others, an amendment to the Constitution, securing to our volunteers the right of suffrage. Before this amendment becomes a part of the organic law, it must pass the legislature this winter, and then be adopted by a direct vote of the people at an election to be held under a law authorizing it, and of which at least three months notice has been given.

One of the first, and most important duties therefore, resting upon the legislature now entering on its labors, is to pass, without delay, this constitutional amendment, and also to provide by law for a special election to be held throughout the State for its adoption. This election might be held in May or June. It is to be hoped that the legislature will press this matter on at once, giving the enemies of the soldier no time to get up organized opposition. They should, by all means, have their votes at the next October election.

The question of State bounty may also be before the Legislature; if so, we hope to see it treated in a spirit of liberality and justice. No legislature need ever be afraid of going too far in behalf of the soldier.

An editor out West says:—"If we have offended any man in the short but brilliant course of our career, let him send us a new hat, and say nothing about it."

### Are the Needy Cared For?

This is a question that each one should ask himself. Besides those who are usually dependent upon the charity of the world, there is at this time quite a number, who, without the attention of their neighbors would certainly suffer.—Have these all been amply cared for, or are some of them still short of the necessities of life?

We have just passed through one of the severest winter storms that it has ever been our lot to experience. The nights of the first and second of January, 1864, will long be remembered by many a brave, who of those memorable nights, with fixed banner, paced his lonely round, as he stood peering along the banks of the Rapahannock. His suffering not more intense from the cold blasts of winter, than from the anxious reflection, How is it with my poor family at home? Have they been properly cared for by those whose substitute I am here, or do they too suffer the severity of the blast?

In a former article, we took the liberty to suggest, that there should be an organization in every township in the county, for the express purpose of attending to this matter. The thought has occurred to us that there is a Teachers Institute in every township. Why could not they be the nucleus of such an organization? It is true many of its members are females, and frequently strangers to the township, where they teach, but this would not be a valid objection to their undertaking this patriotic work. They could call in the assistance of young ladies, and gentlemen too, and this might make it quite agreeable to all.

The most of us have exhibited more or less energy, and suffered, even some cold, for the purpose of meeting with our good neighbors round a Christmas or New Year's supper. Why cannot, at least, as much energy be exhibited in this patriotic duty?

It is to be hoped that no mother will let her children suffer for any of life's comforts, while her neighbors are ready and willing to supply them, as soon as they are made acquainted with their wants.—Speak out and let your wants be known, and they will be as speedily supplied.

### The Beginning of the End.

When secession was first openly avowed in our National councils, some of our statesmen were bold and patriotic enough to declare that the physical power of the country would be used to coerce them into obedience. To this, those original traitors would reply, that there was no power, under the Constitution, to "coerce a State," and that if such power existed, still, it would be useless to attempt to exercise it, as it would only alienate and divide us for ever. "Attempt to coerce us," said they, "and we can never be reconciled—we will never send members to Congress, nor in any way act under the Federal Constitution or laws," and this avowal was received by many in the North, as literally truthful. And thus, while they assented to the prosecution of the war, still they would inquire, "where will the end be? How can we restore civil government to the States in insurrection, after we defeat them in the field? Can we compel them to take upon themselves the responsibilities and burdens of States in the Union?" To all these the answer, in substance, "sufficient is the day for the evil thereof." "First destroy their military power, and all else that stands in the way will easily be overcome."

Many entertained the belief that from the beginning, there was a large portion of the people of the insurrectionary districts, in favor of adhering to the "old Union." But this could be little else than speculation, until these districts were entirely relieved from the iron grasp of the bogus Confederacy—this long looked for event has at last come, so far, at least, as some of the States are concerned.

This brings us to the solution of the question, "How can they be restored to their former political relations to us?" This question, the President proposes to solve by inviting them, when a sufficient number is found willing, to re-organize their State governments and come back—hence too, his proclamation of amnesty; thus relieving them from the consequences of their past crimes; and now the Loyal people of the whole country, and perhaps the disloyal too, are looking for the results that will attend these measures. Already the signs are propitious. A movement is already on foot, in both Tennessee and Louisiana, which we trust, will absorb the disloyal element still remaining within their borders, and bring those States back where of right they belong. But of all the States where re-organization has fairly set in, Arkansas seems to take the lead. Relieved from rebel rule, she at once commences the work of reconstruction in earnest. The following from the *N. Y. Tribune* gives a glowing account of a Union meeting held in that State, which means something.

At a meeting of a large and highly respectable number of the citizens of Saline and adjoining Counties, held at Benton, Ark., on the evening of the 4th inst., the following proceedings were had:

On motion, Capt. E. H. Vance of Saline county, was called to the chair, and the Hon. Willis Jones of Pike county was appointed Secretary.

After a brief explanation of the object of the meeting by the President; it was moved and seconded that a committee of

thirteen be appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting, which committee were as follows:

Capt. S. G. Weaver of Clark co.; Capt. A. S. Arnold of Sevier co.; C. T. Jordan esp., and the Rev. M. L. Langley of Clark co.; Capt. M. Stinnett, Capt. G. Epperson, Dr. J. Putnam, J. Mitchell, esp., and the Rev. S. D. Cantrill, all of Pike co.; the Hon. J. Spivey, A. Hartgrove, and Dr. J. H. Green, all of Hot Spring's co.; and the Rev. J. C. Priddy of Montgomery co.

The Committee reported after due deliberation the following preamble and resolutions.

Whereas, The history of our country and especially of this war has illustrated in the most striking manner the blighting effects of Slavery, as well as the great superiority of free institutions; and

Whereas, The people of the Slave States in defiance to the rights of the few slaveholders, who constituted but an insignificant minority of their fellow-citizens, have for years tolerated an institution, which has ever been a burden upon their energies, and a blight upon their every best interest; and

Whereas, Assisted by political demagogues, these same slaveholders, in violation of the obligations of gratitude and humanity, have availed themselves of our tolerance to drag our country into a devastating and a most unholly war; and

Whereas, Too, by an infamous system of legislation, they have thrust us, who have ever protected their rights, forward to fight their battles, while they remained at home to reap all the benefit, if any benefit should accrue; and

Whereas, These same men, now that they are whipped with an unparalleled assurance, are secretly organizing and using their money, thus infamously preserving a view to the reestablishment of this accursed institution in our State, after the Army shall have been dissolved by peace; and

Whereas, They propose to effect this latter object by making Arkansas the rendezvous of all the slaves and slaveholders of those States to which the Proclamation does not apply; and

Whereas, Our Constitution, as it now stands, renders this plan entirely practicable; therefore, be it

Resolved, By these citizens of Arkansas here assembled:

First: That we hail the Proclamation of Emancipation with heartfelt delight, not only as an efficient war measure, but as the harbinger of a regenerated South.

Second: That, as the Proclamation has only freed the slaves now in the States, and has therefore not finally settled the question, but leaves room for great fraud and for the ultimate reestablishment of Slavery in this State, we should call a convention as soon as practicable, and so amend our Constitution as to place the question beyond the reach of evil.

Third: That, in order to carry out these views, we call upon all the loyal citizens of Arkansas to organize and to arm, and to pledge themselves never to lay down their arms until this unrighteous Rebellion is crushed, but until every trace of Slavery is eradicated from our midst finally and forever.

Fourth: That the *N. Y. Tribune*, Missouri Democrat, Chicago Tribune, and the Fort Smith New Era, be requested to publish these proceedings.

Col. W. M. Fishback of Sebastian County, after reading the preamble and resolutions to the audience, took them up, and in a powerful and eloquent speech discussed them clause by clause. His scathing denunciation of the slaveholders for the course they pursued, and the enthusiastic cheers with which it was greeted, are beyond the power of description. He laid their infamy open in all its nakedness, in getting up a war for their benefit alone (though constituting but one in about fifty of the inhabitants), and then causing laws to be passed exempting themselves and forcing the poor for their families to fight against their every best interest. He showed, in a most conclusive manner, that the people owed it to themselves not only to adopt the resolutions, but to act upon them; and after congratulating his audience upon the near approach of the time when every man would feel, as he had not before felt, that he is indeed a freeman, he took his seat amid enthusiastic cheering.

The resolutions were then passed unanimously, and amid evidence of the deepest earnestness.

After the passage of the resolutions C. S. Gordon, Esq., rose and gave a touching and eloquent narrative of his experience as a "Mountain Fed." The Rev. S. D. Cantrill, the Hon. W. Jones, Warren Halligan and Capt. Martin followed in patriotic and appropriate speeches, which were each greeted with repeated applause.

LAST ADMONITIONS TO A LAZY BOY.—A late clergyman, who was as well known for his eccentricity as his talents, one day sent his son a lazy lad, about 12 years of age, to catch his horse.

The boy went sauntering along, half-asleep, with an ear of corn in one hand and the bridle in the other, dragging the reins on the ground.

"Thomas!" said his father, calling after him in a solemn tone of voice, "come here, Thomas; I want to say a word to you before you go."

The lad lazily returned, and parson proceeded:

"You know, Thomas, I have given you a great deal of good counsel. You know I have taught you, before closing your eyes, always, to say,

Now I lay me down to sleep, &c., besides a good many other things in the way of exhortation and advice. But this is the last opportunity I shall ever have of speaking to you, and I couldn't let it pass without giving you my parting advice.—Be a good boy, Thomas, and always say that pretty prayer when you are going to sleep. I fear I shall never see you again."

As he said this in a very grave and solemn manner, the poor boy began to be frightened, and burst into tears with this exclamation:

"You'll never see me again, pa?"

"No—for I shall die before you get back with the horse."

This quickened Thomas' ideas, and gathering up the bridle-reins, he ran and caught the horse sooner than he had ever done before.

### An Eloquent Defense.

Mr. Leatham, member of the British Parliament for the borough of Huddersfield, addressed his constituents on the 9th inst., and in the course of his remarks made the following pungent allusion to the destruction of Kagosima:

"There are many people who have great sympathy with the cause of the rebellion, and who seem to have no tears for this defenseless, this innocent outcast population, perishing beneath British broadsides, and in execution of the men who, in the name of just and merciful England, have perpetrated these atrocities."

In a subsequent part of his speech he said on the subject of our war:

"On a previous occasion I remember stating that I considered the war in America one not so much of great and decisive battles as of siege and blockade. The Federal arms have been crowned with success to a degree which those who spoke with the greatest confidence a year ago could scarcely have ventured to predict. The conquest of the whole line of the Mississippi has left the Confederacy assunder. It has shorn it of half its strength; it has cooped up the rebellion in one corner of America; it has exposed to certain and easy subjugation the vast States of Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana; it has devoted anew to progress and freedom its vast territories stretching westward to the ocean—the illimitable area over which, in the programme of secession, slavery was to have extended—and it is one of the most odious necessities of that great crime, that it must forever spread or perish."

[Hear.] It has secured to the Union this vast growing ground of the American empire; out of which States as great and popular as the kingdoms of Europe are destined to arise; and, finally, it has propped the West, and by insuring a highway for her commerce, and hiding up her mighty fortunes with those of the East, has arrested the last great peril which still menaced the Republic. [Cheers.]

### NO MAY OF HOPE FOR THE REBELS.

But these operations have likewise pierced the Confederacy to the heart.—The position which the Federals have taken up at Chattanooga, and from which they manifest no effort of the Confederates can dislodge them, will enable them to prey upon the vitals of the rebellion.—Desperate, indeed, the plight to which the ruined cause is now reduced! Thanks to the firmness of the British government, [Hear.]—all hopes of European aid withdrawn; the steam rams safely seized which were to have raised the blockade—[cheers] mutiny and treason in the camps at home; Alabama and Georgia full of disaffection; North Carolina almost in open revolt; Kentucky gone; Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas going; half Tennessee gone; half Virginia gone; Maryland gone; New Orleans, the greatest city in the Confederacy, in the hands of its enemies; Charleston, the cradle of the rebellion bombarded; Richmond, and gold and credit nowhere; [cheers] the paper dollar worth just as much as the real one; the remaining sustenance of the people in the hands of gamblers and sharpers, immense hostile armies advancing from every side, and occupying one after the other, those military positions which must eventually command the whole country; the republican cause triumphant, and that by vast majorities, all over the North—[loud cheers] the hope of a pro-slavery and democratic President, that last among the many false hopes of secession, thus effectually taken away; the courage and determination of the North rising from day to day in proportion as they see the struggles of their victim growing feebler and fainter—where is there in all this a single ray of hope for the South, or a single drop of consolation for their abettors in this country?

"Blind indeed must be the man who has carefully watched or pretended to watch, the progress of events during the year, and whatever may be his desires or his predilections, has not been forced to the conviction that the great end is coming—manfully struggled against, again and again retarded, at times apparently almost arrested—but still coming, like the sure march of Destiny or the inexorable Nemesis of crime. And I rejoice that it is coming. [Cheers.]

AMERICAN DEMOCRACY NOT A FAILURE.—"Had this rebellion prospered—had America succumbed—had she shrunk from her terrible responsibilities—had she permitted her flag and her laws to be trampled in the mire, advantage would have been taken of her feebleness, her pusillanimity, and her failure to roll back the tide of liberty all over the world. [Cheers.] We should have been told that a State which commences its own dismemberment, which commences its own dissolution, which commences its own degradation in the great empire of nations, and that that form of government had forfeited the respect and confidence of us all. [Cheers.] This rebellion was scarcely hatched when the exultation of those whose cause is not that of the people—jumping to the instant conclusion that it must prosper—knew no bounds. We were told that the American bubble had burst [hear and laughter]; that the republic was a rope of sand; that the great experiment had failed. We were told also to lift our eyes and to witness the wrath of Heaven descending upon a people who had dared to flourish without a peerage, a priesthood or a prince. [Loud cheers.] And the inference which was drawn from all this was, that in a country in which democracy, in the American sense, has no better chance than polygamy, any measure which should have the effect of missing any portion of the unfranchised population out of the political degradation under which they labor, would be a stride in the direction of American democracy, and, therefore, of American ruin."

"Whether a just inference or not, now that the prophecies have proved false, we have a right to turn round and force back upon those who drew this inference, step by step, through all their deductions, and to argue in favor of those very measures of liberalism which their taunts were intended to prejudice and condemn. And don't let us be told that because *habemus corpus* has been suspended, and the most

licentious press in the world placed temporarily under control, therefore the American constitution has broken down under the prodigious strain to which it has been subjected. For what plainer proof is there of the strength of that constitution than the ease with which it has adapted itself to the sudden pressure of events?

"It particularly raises our faith in the freest institutions, in a constitution based upon the most liberal and popular model,—universal suffrage itself—to witness the cheerfulness and confidence with which a people so jealous of personal liberty have deposited in the hands of the executive those priceless rights which all experience and all reason teach us must be surrendered in times of imminent public peril. The constitution itself provided for the emergency, and the Executive has been clothed with an almost autocratic strength for the moment, because the people are aware that in a country where liberty is placed upon a broad and indestructible basis, its overthrow through the abuse of power in the Executive is absolutely impossible."

### ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

"I don't come here to eulogize the institutions of America at the expense of our own. I have always hitherto maintained that we have no occasion to go to America to school for anything. Institutions, natural and necessary there, might, I am well aware, fail if imported into the midst of a society which has grown gray in the service of privilege, and in the worship of proscription. In referring to this aspect of the American question I have done so not in order to draw comparisons to the disadvantage of my country, but in order to point out that the attempt which has been already made to prejudice the cause of progress here by reference to events which are taking place there, is based upon an assumption of feebleness and failure which is contrary to fact." [Cheers.]

Huddersfield, the borough represented in Parliament by Mr. Leatham, is a manufacturing town fourteen miles from Leeds, and contains about thirty thousand inhabitants. It has between one hundred and two hundred woolen mills.

### NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Gen. Thomas reports that he has furnished Gen. Banks with 17,000 well armed colored soldiers, and that he has had 51,000 men, women and children under his protection, the able-bodied of whom he has hired out to planters in the vicinity of his operations. He has leased abandoned cotton and sugar plantations to farmers at the rate of four dollars per bale of cotton, one cent per pound for sugar, and five cents per bushel for corn and potatoes—which proceeds go into the treasury of the United States, and the farmers pay a revenue tax in addition. Great success has attended this arrangement, which has proved satisfactory to all parties.

Gen. Thomas returns to his field of labor immediately; thence he goes to New Orleans and Texas, arming the blacks everywhere. He has ten regiments of them ready to send to Gen. Grant.

The War Department has decided to pay three hundred dollars bounty to men enlisting to new as well as to men enlisting in old regiments.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The *Post* says it is understood that five or six arrests have been made on board the steamer George Cromwell, bound from this port to New Orleans. Among the persons arrested, was an individual of some prominence in this community. There have also been seizures of large quantities of arms and ammunition, etc. The details cannot now be made public, but in a few days will develop some facts in relation to the recent order for searching vessels leaving this port.

WEST POINT, Dec. 24.—A great test with Stafford's projectiles to-day produced wonderful results. An iron target six and eight inches thick, packed with fifteen inches of live oak, was perforated and set on fire by two shells containing one gallon of Greek fire each. The aperture made in the iron was fourteen inches in diameter, and the wood and bolts terribly broken. The ignition was secured by being impacted, and it continued to burn until extinguished by the officer in charge. The gun used was an eight-inch Parrott rifle.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24.—It is understood that the National Conservative Union Convention, now in session in this city, has re-affirmed the nomination of Major General George B. McClellan for President, and have nominated Ex-Governor Campbell, of Tennessee, for Vice-President.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—The steamer Evening Star from New Orleans, with dates to the 27th ult., and Havana to the 29th ult., has arrived.

Gen. Fitz Henry Warren, with a considerable force, had embarked on the steamer Warrior, and crossing Matagorda bay, occupied Indianapolis without opposition.

Some important rebel documents were captured, and among them Gen. Magruder's address to the people of Western Texas.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27th.—A Charleston letter to the *Baltimore American*, dated on the fleet the 24th, says: "As I intimated in my last, we have settled down here, with the expectation of a month or two more in activity. The strike among the engineers at the North, which has delayed the completion of the Monitors, and deprived our iron-clad fleet of reinforcements, which were expected here more than a month since, has been the primary cause of the delay—the disaster to the *Webhawk*, and the coming of the winter season. Let us hope if Grant does not steal a march on us by one of his famous rear attacks, that Charleston will then fall in the meantime, if we cannot look for immediate and decisive results here, no great disaster need be apprehended. Gen. Gilmore's position is impregnable. The monitor *Lehigh*, by the time this reaches you, will have completed the repairs rendered necessary by the hammering she received while grounded. The *Patapsco* has nearly completed her repairs, and will shortly relieve the *Nantuxet*, at Warsaw Sound. Both the *Patapsco* and *Lehigh*, have been provided with extra deck plates, that will add to their invulnerability."

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