

Speech of Rev. Breckinridge.

The venerable Rev. Dr. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, was the temporary presiding officer of the Union Presidential Convention held in Baltimore, June 7th, '64.

On taking the Chair he addressed the Convention as follows:

Gentlemen of the Convention—You cannot be more sensible than I am that the part I have to perform here-to-day is merely a matter of form, and, acting upon the principles of my whole life, I was inclined, when the suggestion was made to me from various quarters, that it was in the minds of many members of the Convention to confer this distinction upon me, to earnestly decline to accept, because I have never sought honors; I have never sought distinction; I have been a working man and nothing else but certain considerations led me to change my mind. (Applause.) There is a class of men in the country far too small for the good of the country; these men who, merely by their example, by their pen, by their voice, try to do good, and all the more in perilous times, without regard to the reward that may come. It was given to many such men to understand by the distinction conferred upon one of the humblest of their class that they were men whom the country would cherish, and who would not be forgotten.

There is another motive relative to yourselves and to the country at large. It is good for you, it is good for every nation and every people every State and every party, to cherish all generous impulses, to follow all noble instincts; and where are men more noble, more generous than when they labor to purge themselves of all self-seekers and betrayers, and to confer honors, if only in mere forms, upon those who are worthy to be trusted, and ask nothing more? [Applause.] Now, according to my convictions of propriety, having said this, I should say nothing more. (Cries of go on), but it has been intimated to me from many quarters, and in a way which I cannot disregard, that I should disappoint the wishes of my friends, and perhaps the just expectations of the Convention, if I did not, say briefly and yet as precisely as I could, say something upon the great matters which have brot us here.

Therefore, in a very few words, and as plainly as I can, I will endeavor to draw your attention to one and another of these great matters in which we are all engaged.

In the first place, nothing can be more plain than the fact that you are here as the representatives of a great nation, voluntary representatives, chosen without forms of law, but as really representing feelings, principles, and, if you choose, prejudices of the American people, as if it were written in the laws and already passed by the votes; for the man that you will nominate here for the Presidency of the United States, and a ruler of a great people in a great crisis, is just as certain, I suppose, to become that ruler as anything under heaven is certain before dawn.—(Prolonged cheering.) And, moreover, you will allow me to say, though perhaps it is hardly strictly proper that I should, but as far as I know your opinions, I suppose it is just as certain now before you utter it, whose name you will utter, and which will be responded to from one end to the other of this nation, as it will be after it has been uttered and recorded by your Secretary. Does any man doubt that this Convention intends to say that Abraham Lincoln shall be the nominee? (Great applause.)

What I wish, however to call your attention to is the grandeur of the mission upon which you are met, and, therefore, the dignity and solemnity, earnestness and conscientiousness, with which representing one of the greatest, and certainly one of the first people of the world, you ought to discharge these duties. (Applause.)

Now, besides the nomination of President and Vice President, in regard to which sacred offices I will say nothing, because I know there is more or less difference of opinion among you; but besides these nominations you have other most solemn duties to perform. You have to organize this party throughout the United States. You have to put it in whatever form your wisdom will suggest that will unite all your wisdom, energy and determination to gain the victory which I have already said was in our power. More than that; you have to lay down, with clearness and precision, the principles on which you intend to carry on this great political contest, and prosecute the war which is underneath them, and the glory of the country which lies before us if we succeed. Plainly, not in a double sense; briefly, not in a treatise; with the dignity and precision of a great people, to utter, by its representatives, the political principles by which they are willing to live, and for the sake of which they are willing to die, so that all men, everywhere, may understand precisely what we mean, and lay that furrow so deeply and clearly, that while every man who is worthy to associate with freemen, may see it and pass over it, every man who is unworthy may be either unable to pass it, or may be driven far from it. We want none but those who are like us to be with us. (Applause.)

Now among these principles, if you will allow me to say it, the first and most distinct is that we do not intend to permit this nation to be destroyed. (Applause.) We are a nation—no doubt a peculiar one—formed of States, and no nation except as these States form it; and these States are no States except as they are States in that nation. They had no more right to repudiate them. Not one of them had even the shadow of a right to do this, and, God helping us, we will vindicate the truth so that it shall never be disputed any more in the world. (Applause.) It is a fearful alternative that is set before us, but there are great compensations for it.

Those of you who have attended to this subject know that from the foundation of the present Government, before and since our present Constitution was formed, there have always been parties that had no faith in our Government. The men that formed it were doubtful of its success, and the men that opposed its formation did not desire its success, and I am bold to say, without detaining you on this subject, that for all the outcry against our violations of the Constitution, this present living generation and this present Union party

are more thoroughly devoted to that Constitution than any generation that has ever lived under it. (Applause.) While I say that, and solemnly believe it, and believe it is capable of the strongest proof I may also add that it is the great error which is being propagated in the land to say that our national life depends merely upon the sustaining of the Constitution. Our fathers made it, and we love it. He intended to maintain it; but if it suits us to change it we can do so [Applause], and when it suits us to change it we will change it. (Applause.) If it were torn into ten thousand pieces the nation would be as much a nation as it was before the Constitution was made; a nation always that declared its independence as a united people, and lived as a united people until now; a nation independent of all particular institution under which they lived, capable of modeling their precisely as their interest require. We ought to have it distinctly understood by friends and enemies, that while we love that instrument we will maintain it, and will, with undoubted certainty put to death friends or foes who undertake to trample it under foot. Yet, beyond a doubt, we will reserve the right to alter it to suit ourselves, from time to time, and from generation to generation. (Applause.)

One more idea on that subject. We have incorporated in the instrument the right of revolution, which gives us, without doubt, the right to change it. It never existed before the American States, and by the right to change there is no need of rebellion, insurrection or civil war, except upon a denial of the fundamental principle of all free Governments; that the major part must rule; and there is no other method of carrying on society, except that the will of the majority shall be the will of the whole, or that the will of the minority shall be the will of the whole. So that, in one word, to deny the principles I have tried to state, is to make a dogmatic assertion that the only form of Government that is possible with perfect liberty, and acknowledged by God, is a pure and absolute despotism.

The principles, therefore, which I am trying to state before you are principles which, if they be not true, freedom is impossible, and no Government but one of pure force can exist, or ought to endure among men. But the idea which I wish to carry out as the remedy for these troubles and sorrows is this: Dreadful as they are, this fearful truth runs through the whole history of mankind, that whatever else may be done to give stability to authority, whatever else may be done to perpetuate its institutions, however wise, however glorious, practicable and just may be the philosophy of it, it has been found that the only enduring, only imperishable cement of all free institutions has been the blood of traitors. No Government has ever been built upon imperishable foundations which foundations were not laid in the blood of traitors. It is a fearful truth, but we had as well avow it at once, and every blow you strike, and every rebel you kill, every battle you win, dreadful as it is to do it, you are adding, it may be a year, it may be ten years, it may be a century, it may be centuries, to the life of the Government and freedom of your children. (Great applause.)

Now, passing over that idea—passing over many other things which it would be right for me to say, did time serve, and were this the occasion—let me add, you are a Union party. Your origin has been referred to as having occurred eight years ago. In the one sense it is true, but you are far older than that. I see before me not only primitive Republicans and primitive Abolitionists, but I see also primitive Democrats and primitive Whigs, primitive Americans, and if you will allow me to say so, I myself am here, who all my life have been in a party to myself. (Laughter and applause.) As a Union party I will follow you to the ends of the earth, and to the gates of death. (Applause.) But as an Abolition party, as a Republican party, as a Whig party, as a Democratic party, as an American party, I will not follow you one foot. (Applause.) But it is true of the mass of the American people, however you may divide and scatter, while this war lasts, while the country is in peril, while you call yourselves, as you do in the call of the Convention, the "Union party," you are for the preservation of the Union and the destruction of this rebellion, "root and branch."

And, in my judgment, one of the great errors that has been committed by our Administration of the General Government—the chief of which we are about to nominate for another term of office—has been to believe that we have succeeded where we have not succeeded, and to act in a manner which is appropriate for those who have succeeded. You will not, you cannot succeed until you have utterly broken the military power of this people. (Applause.)

I will not detain you upon these incidental points, one of which has been made prominent in the remarks of the excellent Chairman of the National Committee. I do not know that I would be willing to go so far as, probably he would, but I cordially agree with him in this. I think, considering what has been done about slavery, taking the thing as it now stands, overlooking altogether, either in the way of condemnation or approval, any act that has brought us to the point where we are, but believing in my conscience and with all my heart, that what has brought us where we are in the matter of slavery is the original sin and folly of treason and secession—because you remember that the Chicago convention itself was understood to say, and I believe it virtually did explicitly state that they would not touch slavery in the States—leaving it therefore, altogether out of the question—how we came where we are on that particular point, we are prepared to go further than the original Republicans themselves were prepared to go. We are prepared to demand not only that the whole territory of the United States shall not be made slave, but that the general Government of the American people shall do one of two things—and it appears to me that there is nothing else that can be done either to use the whole power of the Government, both the war power and the peace power, to put slavery as nearly as possible back where it was—for all though that will be a fearful state of so-

ciety, it is better than anarchy—or else to use the whole power of the Government, both of war and peace, and all the partial power that the people of the United States will give them, to exterminate and extinguish it. (Prolonged applause.)

I have no hesitation in saying for myself that if I were a pro-slavery man, if I believed this institution was an ordinance of God and was given to man, I would unhesitatingly join those who demanded the Government should be put back where it was. But I am not a pro-slavery man. I never was. I write myself with those who believe it is contrary to the brightest interests of all men and of all Governments, contrary to the spirit of Christian religion, and incompatible with the natural rights of man. I join myself with those who say, "Away with it forever," (applause), and I fervently pray God that the day may come when through-out the whole land every man may be as free as you are, and as capable of enjoying regulated liberty.

Will not detain you any longer. One single word will allow me to say in behalf of the State from which I come. We know very well that our eleven votes are of no consequence in a Presidential election. We know very well that in our present unhappy condition it is by no means certain that we are here to-day, representing the party that will elect the majority of votes in that unhappy State. I know very well that the sentiments which I am uttering will cause me great odium in the State in which I was born, which I love, where the bones of two generations of my ancestors and some of my children are, and where soon I shall lay my own. I know very well that my colleagues will incur odium if they endorse what I say, and they too know it. But we have put our faces toward the way in which we intended to go, and we will go in it to the end. If we are to perish we will perish in that way. All I have to say to you is, help us if you can; if you cannot believe in your hearts that we have died like men. [Great applause.]

Sherman and Johnston.

Atlanta is thronged with furnished fugitives from northern Georgia and Alabama, and an aspect of gloom pervades the place. Johnston has buoyed up the rebels of Atlanta with hopes of what he was going to do, until at length they find every point of exterior defence abandoned successively, and Johnston beaten in conflict and thwarted in strategy. He made an attempt to save Atlanta by marching towards Dallas, to cover the turnpike leading to Atlanta; but after erecting formidable works and fighting useless battles, he finds that Sherman has all the time amusing him there while portions of his army were marching by the flank toward Marietta, which they have now reached, and are thus established on the direct railroad to Atlanta, at the principal town on the road, south of all the formidable positions and within easy reach of Atlanta.

If Johnston now remains in his fortified position near Dallas, Sherman will take possession of the railroad and run his forces to Atlanta. If Johnston breaks camp there and moves to Marietta, Sherman then has the turnpike road open to Atlanta, and can move by it. A pitched battle of the most desperate character would be Johnston's true policy, and this will account for his assuming the offensive and attacking Sherman; but he does not seem to have the courage or resolution to risk a decisive battle, and therefore his fights never amount to much. We presume that he will retreat to the line of the Chattahoochee, and attempt to defend it against Sherman. This will be a difficult task at present, in consequence of the position Johnston finds himself in, with Sherman's forces occupying both the railroad and the turnpike.

The possession of Marietta by Sherman will cause the immediate abandonment by the rebels of all points on the railroad north of that place, including Kennesaw and Atlanta, the two strongest positions south of Buzzard's Roost; and as Sherman always keeps his locomotive ready, the cars will soon reach him at Marietta, and open communications through to Kingston and Chattanooga. We are aware that it is this long line of communications to maintain, and against a general of the capacity of Lee it might be perilous; and Johnston's policy is so purely defensive, and Sherman's so incessantly offensive, that the line is pretty safe, more especially since Kingston has been converted into a military base.

In approaching Atlanta, Sherman will now be apt to hold the turnpike roads south of the railroad, because he thereby protects the approaches to his own communications, there being no roads north and east of the railroad running to Atlanta from the north except by a very circuitous route. He will be apt to do so also for another reason. In undertaking the siege of Atlanta, he was desirous it to be severed from the railroad which would connect it with the most available reinforcements, which being the one leading to Mobile, comes in the way of his march from Dallas.

Should Johnston retreat to the line of the Chattahoochee on finding Marietta in possession of our forces, Sherman would probably follow the same policy he pursued at Kingston and other places—keep his main army on the line of the railroad and send a column marching by the parallel turnpikes. If the direct one to Sandtown and Atlanta was open, he might thereby secure an available crossing of the Chattahoochee; but as Johnston would probably defend the river at Sandtown, it would be necessary for Sherman's detached parties to march by the circuitous route from Dallas to Campbellton.

In point of fact, Johnston has retreated so far, and lost so many good positions, that he has now got himself into a very awkward dilemma, where the defence of Atlanta seems almost impossible. Without moving on Dallas, Sherman has but to send a detachment by the turnpike to Villa Rica, and he would hold a position commanding a short and direct road to Kingston, on the north, and another to Campbellton, Sandtown and Atlanta, on the east. This route completely turns the flank of any available position Johnston is likely to take on the line of the Chattahoochee, and also give us access to the great southern railway connection of Atlanta.

The American Citizen.



THOMAS ROBINSON, CYRUS E. ANDERSON, Editors.

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BUTLER PA.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 15, 1864.

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

FOR PUBLISHED IN 1864: ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT: ANDREW JOHNSTON.

Presidential Electors.

SENATORIAL. Morton M. Michael, Philadelphia. Thomas H. Cunningham, Beaver county.

REPRESENTATIVES. 1 Robert P. King, 13 Elias W. Hall, 2 Geo. Morrison Costes, 14 Charles H. Shriver, 3 Henry Bunn, 15 John Wister, 4 William H. Kern, 16 David McCoskey, 5 Barton H. Jenks, 17 David W. Wood, 6 Charles M. Rank, 18 Isaac Benson, 7 Robert Parker, 19 John Patton, 8 Aaron Mills, 20 Samuel R. Dick, 9 John A. Hiestand, 21 Edward Bierer, 10 Richard H. Conwell, 22 John P. Finner, 11 Edward Holliday, 23 Ebenezer M. Juhnke, 12 Charles F. Reed, 24 John W. Blanehart.

LOCAL TICKET. CONGRESS. JOHN M. THOMPSON. (Subject to District Conference.)

LEGISLATURE. WM. HASLETT, JOHN H. NEGLEY. (Subject to District Nomination.)

COMMISSIONER. A. C. CHRISTY.

AUDITOR. LEANDER WISE.

Presidential Nomination.

In the first issue of our paper, we hoisted the name of Abraham Lincoln, for re-election. On several occasions since then, we insisted that a National Convention was not necessary—that the people were for him, and that they would elect him, whether the politicians were for him or not. The Baltimore Convention met however, but only to give form to the popular will already well understood. It only remains now for the people to ratify their own action at the November election, which they will do as sure as that day comes round.

Andrew Johnston, of Tennessee, is associated with him as the candidate for Vice President. No better nomination could be made. He is a patriot of the first stamp.

With Lincoln and Johnston as our leaders, victory is sure—and that victory will have an object. It will be a fresh announcement to the world that "the Union must be preserved." The people should go to work at once to organize for the coming contest.

On the first page of our paper today, will be found a synopsis of the great speech of our able member of Congress, Hon. Thomas Williams. We would fain have given this speech entire, but owing to its great length as also to the crowded state of our columns with war news, we have been reluctantly compelled to forego the pleasure of laying it entire before our readers. A gentleman like Mr. Williams, whose reputation as a scholar, an orator and a statesman, dates back beyond a quarter of a century, cannot be injured by withholding one of his many productions from the public, or by having it abridged, it is the people who are benefited by its publication. But as it has been published in pamphlet form, we trust it will get a wide circulation. We advise all who can, to procure a copy—read it and hand it to your neighbor—it has been favorably noticed by the press generally—for our self, we believe it to be the greatest speech we have read for a long time. A friend in Washington wrote us that its delivery was listened to with profound interest, and that at its conclusion the members gathered around him to extend their congratulations, long may he live to serve his country.

Our Ticket.

We hoist to our mast head the names of Lincoln and Johnston, which have been put in nomination by the Baltimore Convention. Of Mr. Lincoln, nothing commendatory need be said. His nomination was made by the people, and the Convention had simply to ratify their action. His election by the voice of every loyal State in the Union is morally certain.

The nomination of Andrew Johnston, of Tennessee, is also a happy one—a lifelong Democrat, he still refuses to follow his party into rebellion—preferring to stand alone beneath the folds of the old flag. No better nomination could have been made.

Major Thompson, our nominee for Congress, is well known to all our readers; has served with distinction in the State Legislature—his nomination by the District Conference, will be received as a mark of confidence in him, and respect for the just claims of our county; but should some other gentlemen be the fa-

vored one, none will acquiesce more cheerfully than he and his friends.

Our nominees for Assembly, Messrs. Haslett and Negley, are also our representatives—their re-nomination is but a fresh endorsement of the time honored custom of a re-election: So far as we have been able to observe, their record is all right—they are therefore, entitled to our continued confidence.

Our candidate for Commissioner, A. C. Christy, although not extensively known, is a man much esteemed by all who know him—he was disabled while in the service of his country; his nomination therefore, is a renewal of the assurance so often given by our party, that we will take care of our disabled heroes.

Of Mr. Leander Wise, our candidate for Auditor, we need only say, that he is the patron poet of the Citizen—being the author of the poem which appeared in our paper last winter, entitled "The call for Lincoln," and several others of kindred character. Of course we will all vote for him.

To those who were not the successful ones at this time, we would say, have faith, and all will come right, for all cannot succeed at once. There is a good time coming.

County Convention.

The Committee of Return Judges of the primary election, held throughout Butler county, June 11th, 1864, met at the Court House in Butler Monday June 13th, and organized by the appointment of Hon. James Kerr of Mercer township, as President, and Dr. A. Lusk of Zelenople, and James A. Phillips of Oakland, as Secretaries.

DELEGATES PRESENT.

- Adams, Benjamin Douthett. Alphegny, Joseph Rosenberry. Brady, Zeph. Snyder. Buffalo, John P. Barker. Butler tp. Wm. S. Boyd. Cherry, James Smith. Centre, Thomas Richards. Clay, Allen Wilson. Concord, Wm. Magill. Cranberry, J. P. Roll. Clinton, John Montgomery. Conoquessing, J. K. Kennedy. Donegal, Elisha Wick. Fairview, Matthew Ray. Forward, Dr. Wm. Irvin. Franklin, Robert L. Peters. Jefferson, John Lefever. Jackson, James Jones. Lancaster, James Morison. Marion, Robert Gilchrist. Mercer, James Kerr. Muddy creek, John W. Forester. Oakland, James A. Phillips. Parker, John W. Turner. Penn, Nathan Brown. Slipperyrock, E. D. DeWolf. Summit, S. Mitchell. Venango, David Hoover. Washington, A. H. Campbell. Worth, R. Barron. Winfield, Wm. Crooksbank. Butler boro., Thomas Robinson. Centreville boro., O. C. Campbell. Zelenople boro., Amos Lusk.

On Motion, Nathan Brown, Dr. Wm. Irvin, Zephaniah Snyder, Wm. S. Boyd and Benjamin Douthett, were appointed a committee to draft resolutions. The following having been reported by them were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the re-nomination of Abraham Lincoln for President, and the nomination of Andrew Johnston, for Vice President, meets with our cordial approbation—that the action of the National Convention, lately assembled at Baltimore, is eminently proper and patriotic; and we hereby reaffirm and adopt the resolutions of said convention, as expressive of the sentiment of the Loyal and Union men of this county.

Resolved, That the remembrance of our friends who have fallen or been wounded in the service of their country, will ever be cherished. Over the grave of the fallen hero, we shed the tear of sorrow, while to the surviving soldier, we extend the hand of friendship, and bid him God speed in his holy cause.

Resolved, That the families of our dead and wounded soldiers, deserve, and will receive our constant and jealous care, and that Government should provide a comfortable support for the family of every soldier left destitute by his fall or wounds in his country's service.

Resolved, That the persons this day nominated, merit this mark of the people's favor and confidence, and we hereby pledge ourselves to use all honorable means to insure their election—thereby strengthening the Government, in this its hour of trial.

On motion, Judge Mitchell, W. W. Dadds and E. D. DeWolf, were appointed representative conferees, to meet with those from Mercer and Lawrence counties and Isaac Ash, James Kerr and Thomas Robinson, Congressional conferees, to meet similar conferees from Armstrong and Allegheny counties.

On motion, it was resolved, that the Ex. Committee consist of two members in the borough and one from each election district, and that the President of this Convention appoint the chairman of said Committee.

The returns from the various townships, having been summed up it appeared that for Congress, John M. Thompson, had 1032 Thomas Williams, 326 Assembly—John H. Negley, 1165 William Haslett, 930 William Smyth, 493 Commissioner—And. C. Christy, 1012 Solomon Pleegeer, 372 Auditor—Leander Wise, 979

On motion Adjourned.

The names of the Executive Committee will appear next week.

JAMES KERR, Pres't. Amos Lusk, James A. Phillips, Secretaries.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Citizen.

EDITORS OF AMERICAN CITIZEN:—Having been an occasional visitor from one of the Rural Districts to your peaceful and quiet town, and having observed some of the doings and conduct of your citizens; of many I cannot speak in terms of too much praise, while there are others whose conduct cannot be too severely reprimanded. I mean those who forsake that place which is called "sweet home," and congregate in groups in Bar Rooms and remain there until an untimely hour of the night. Those men who forsake the company of their bosom friends and those tender ones who should be as dear to them as the apple of their eye. Those men who forget home only when necessity compels them to go, either to satisfy the "inner man" or to slumber away the few remaining hours of the night.

In this group may be found the man bordering on "three score years," the middle aged and the youth or the man in the vigor or prime of life. And perhaps you will also find men who once made profession of Religion, who in former days occupied a seat at the table of their Lord and Master in commemoration of their Saviour's death; who have said by their former profession that they would be for their Lord and Master and not for another; who doubtless have heard from the month of their former Pastor, that the "vows of God were upon them," and that it was better not to vow, than vow and not pay." But the Religion of such men is like the "seed which was sown on stony places which sprung up, but not having much depth of earth soon withered away;" or perhaps, may be compared to the "Sow which was washed and returned to her wallowing in the mire again."

If you ask such men the reason why they have absented themselves from the Ordinances of God's house, doubtless the reply will be: "O we had a Political Preacher," or perhaps, "some of the Elders disputed our loyalty," and therefore, it would not be right for us to go to church, and there enjoy the ordinances of God's house whilst there is animosity between us and our brother." Having therefore, absented themselves from the church, they very soon become good members in this home forsaken group, where doubtless they feel more pleasure than in the church of the Living God.

In this group while sitting between the two fluids, the burning and the drinking, you will hear the great topics of the day discussed—the Rail Road, in all its practical bearings, the coal and oil speculations, a general lecture on the Legislative department of the Government, and all other subjects from the sublime to the ridiculous—especially on the latter,—and all interests discussed but their interest for eternity.

An association of this kind, where its tendency is to make men absent themselves from their peaceful homes, when the earth is clothed in her robe of darkness and prevents their exercising the parental care over their tender offspring, and from the enjoyment of those true pleasures which alone are found in the family circle, and also, to learn those who are brought within its coils to partake of the intoxicating cup—is certainly a dangerous association to be connected with, for although it may seem to give pleasure at the present, and be as a sweet morsel under their tongue; yet, it will eventually "bite like a serpent and sting like an adder," and bring upon its members shame and everlasting disgrace, therefore, Reform ere it be too late. HOME.

Army Correspondence.

CAMP NEAR MECHANICSVILLE, 62d, Reg. P. V. June 1, 1864. Messrs Editors:—Having a few leisure moments this evening, and knowing that friends at home will be anxious to know what we are doing, I thought I would write a short communication to your paper, for publication, provided you have not enough better, to fill the columns of the same. We are now encamped on the southern shore of the "Pamunkey," within four miles of the old battle field of Mechanicsville, where the Penna. Reserves fought on the 26th of June 1862, under Gen. McClellan. We have succeeded in driving the Rebels from the shores of the Rappahannock, back to their fortifications around Richmond. Our losses have been very heavy during this campaign, but one consolation is, their losses are equally as heavy as ours—the enemy acknowledge this in their papers. The loss of the 62d, during the campaign, from May 5th to the present date, is 260 men, killed, wounded and missing. The loss of the entire army, as near as can be ascertained, is about 50,000, killed, wounded and missing, very few of whom are prisoners. The enemy is strongly fortified here, and in all probability, they will make one last and desperate effort to drive us ere they abandon their present position, unless Gen. Meade should try another or his flank movements on them—you know he is pretty good on a flank.

Those of the enemy, who are so fortunate as to be taken prisoner, say their army is still confident of victory, but I hardly credit that report, as their men do not fight with the same determination now, that they did in the first battles of this campaign; a good "Yankee" cheer is now sufficient to route their entire skirmish line, without firing a shot. In former engagements, their pickets would fight a line of battle, but (to use a soldier's phrase) this is played out now. Our army is in excellent spirits, and seem eager for the prey, knowing that the sooner the war is over, the sooner they will get to their homes. The general belief throughout the army is, the war will be over when Richmond is taken; be that as it may, the war will be over when there are no more "cubs" to fight us and I think a few more campaigns similar to the one now progressing, will thin their ranks considerably, and they acknowledge they cannot recruit their army, while we are every day receiving reinforcements sufficient to keep our army up to former standard.

If the "Copperheads" at home, wish to see the south victorious, I would advise them to leave immediately for the Southern climes, for they will need all the northern Copperheads to secure their independence, (might need more.) Yours Truly, G. W. F. Company D, 62d, P. V.

Through the kindness of Capt. E. L. Gillespie, of Co. G, 4th Pa. Cavalry, we have been permitted to publish the following extract of a letter from Andrew Nellis, O. S. of said company. It will be gratifying to the many friends and relatives of the members of this Co., to know that thus far in the great and sanguinary conflict that has been going on since the army crossed the Rapidan, this company has not lost a single man.

CAMP 4TH PA. CAVALRY, 10 miles from Richmond, June 4, 1864. CAPT. E. L. GILLESPIE—Dear Sir: We are fighting every day and night, and it is hard to say how it will end. The regiment has been lucky so far. Lt. Bowan, of Co. L, is wounded, one leg shot off reports that he is dead. Co. G, has not lost one man, and 30 recruits have arrived for the company; all in the best of spirits and confident of success.

ANDREW NELLIS, O. S., Co. G.

An Act.

To provide for the payment of Bounties to volunteers in the County of Butler.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the School Directors or a majority of them, of the several townships and boroughs of the County of Butler shall have the power to levy, assess and collect on the property now taxable for State and county purposes a tax sufficient to pay a bounty of not exceeding Three Hundred Dollars to each volunteer enlisted and credited on the quotas of said districts for the present or any future calls and drafts.

SECTION 2. That in levying and collecting said tax the said Directors shall have power to include in the same a Poll or Per capita tax on Each taxable Citizen who is, or may be subject to a draft, of not exceeding Twenty-five Dollars.

SECTION 3. That in case said Bounties have already been raised and paid to said volunteers in any of said districts, by money subscribed, loaned, advanced or paid by or through individuals or Committees acting for the Citizens, and with the understanding or Condition that the same should be repaid by general taxation, the said Directors are hereby authorized and required to repay the same to said persons out of said monies so assessed and collected.

SECTION 4. That in assessing and collecting said taxes said Directors shall have power to make such abatements and exemptions as they may deem just and proper, and shall have power to appoint such Collectors and issue such WARRANTS and take such BONDS for the collecting and safety of such monies as is provided by existing laws for the assessing and collecting of State and county taxes, and do all other acts and things necessary in the premises.

SECTION 5. All funds so raised for said purposes shall be audited by the township or borough Auditors of any of said districts, and if any surplus exists, the same shall be paid over by said Directors to the Common School fund of said districts.

SECTION 6. The said county of Butler shall be exempt from the provisions of the General Bounty Law approved Twenty-fifth March Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, wherever said provisions are inconsistent with the provisions of this act.

HENRY C. JOHNSTON, Speaker of the House of Reps.

JOHN P. PENNY, Speaker of the Senate.

Approved, The Fourteenth day of April Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four.

A. G. CURTIN.

A correspondent with Gen. Sherman, writing under date of the 1st, refers to assaults on Hooker's and the 2d corps on the 30th ult., which were repulsed with disaster to the enemy. Of the result of the five day's fighting to that date, Gen. McPherson had closed upon our right wing, ready for the next important movement.

A Tribune correspondent dispatches from White House, Saturday, that two officers just arrived there brought the news of the capture of Fort Darling, stating that an order conveying this intelligence has been read to the army the previous evening, and that the cheers of the soldiers could be heard for miles around.