

The third, and last thought presented in the text, which we can but briefly consider, is the reason why we should return to God. It is this: "He hath torn, and he will bind us up." That God has torn us sorely, and smitten us with a heavy stroke, we know from sad and painful experience. The graves of a hundred thousands of our brave countrymen, who have laid down their lives in defence of the liberties, Constitution, and integrity of our loved country, abundantly attest this. A hundred battle fields, fattened with the lives blood of our slain friends and fellow citizens, give ample evidence of this. The families bereaved, the hearts bleeding, and crushed with anguish, and the ten thousand happy homes made desolate, affords ample evidence of this. The lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, all over our once smiling land, for husbands, sons and brothers, who will return no more, until the grave shall become tenanted, and the sea shall give up her dead; abundantly attest this. The widowed wives and fatherless children; the halt and the maimed; the fruitful fields made desolate, and the pleasant towns burned with fire, all show how severely God hath torn us, and how hard he hath smitten us. But if we humbly repent of our sins and return unto him, he will freely forgive us; he will heal us, and bind up our bleeding wounds. God only can save us. None but the arm of Almighty Power can rescue us from the dangers which imperil our national existence, and give us complete triumph over rebellion, and an honorable and righteous peace. All human power and human means are and must be vain, without the aid of the Lord God of Hosts. We have instrumentalities in abundance, but they themselves will be of no avail. We have vast armies, the power of our country, strong, noble, brave men, well equipped and disciplined, and ready to dare and to die for Union and Liberty, but this will not suffice. We have a great and powerful Navy, iron-clad ships with skillful and heroic commanders, and daring crews, rivaling and ready to compete with the proud Navy of Great Britain, once the queen of the seas; but this will not suffice. We have munitions of war in great abundance and of every kind, but these will not suffice. We have military skill of a very high order, but this is not enough. We have vast resources of men and money and provisions, to defray the expenses of our Government, and sustain our armies in the field, but all these will not suffice. "The race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong; God setteth up one, and putteth down another." We put too much confidence in men and in means. We exalt human agency and leave out of view the supreme and all-controlling power of the Most High. We glorify our Generals and forget to give glory to the Lord our God. Let us sincerely return from our wanderings unto God, and put our trust in him, and seek help and safety from him only. The voice of God calls us saying: "Return ye backsliding children, return, and I will heal your backslidings." God is infinitely kind and gracious, and willing to deliver us. If we truly humble ourselves before him, and repent of our sins and return unto him, he will have mercy upon us. He will say of us of his people of old: "How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how shall I set thee as Zebaim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together. I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger." Hos. 11:8-9. He is a God, "That pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgressions of the remnant of his heritage; he retaineth not his anger forever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again and have compassion upon us." Micah, 8:18, 19. If then we come to him with true humility and submission, he will raise us up, and exalt us, and make us yet a great and good, a glorious and happy people. We shall be his people, and God himself shall be our God. And "Happy is that people that is in such a case; yea, happy is that people, whose God is the Lord."

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FOR PRESIDENT:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

of Illinois.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT:

ANDREW JOHNSON.

of Tennessee.

Presidential Electors.

REPRESENTATIVE.

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Maryland is Free.

It is with delight we announce that this noble State on its Southern border is, at last free. The people by a direct vote have adopted the new Constitution, by which freedom is declared throughout the land to all the inhabitants thereof. An injunction was asked for to restrain the Governor from counting the vote of the army (without it, the new Constitution would not have been adopted.) The court below refused the writ; an appeal was taken to the superior court, but it too, refused; and the Governor has by proclamation declared that from and after the first of November instant, the new Constitution shall be the organic law of the State. Thus this barbarous institution is swept from another State. Three cheers for "my Maryland."

A Sermon.

In to-day's paper will be found a sermon preached on the 4th of August last by Rev. Wm P. Harrison. It is prefaced by a short introduction by the author, from which, as well as from other sources we are led to believe that the "conservative" (!) part of his congregation at Mt. Nebo have taken offence at his anti-slavery utterances. We are sorry to say that the congregation at Mt. Nebo is not the only one thus disturbed. It is not strange to reflect, that a fast decaying and disloyal organization, which is soon to disappear from the face of the earth still retains such a hold on some, whom we would fain believe sincere—first arousing their prejudices and then their passions, until they and their families are (in some instances) finally won to the pale of the church and its sacred influence!

We are sorry to see a congregation disturbed; but we rejoice, nevertheless, to know that the ministry, following the example of the Author of their holy Religion, are nobly discharging their duty, "declaring the whole counsel of God whether men hear or forbear." Let who will forsake them their Heavenly Father will sustain them with His grace.

The Last Rally for National Unity.

The people of Pennsylvania have been heavily taxed this season, not only in money but in time. The ruling of our courts made it necessary to amend the Constitution, so as to secure the elective franchise to the soldier; this measure was fought all the way through by the Copperhead party, but nobly did the union men turn out, even in harvest, to the number of two hundred thousand! A glorious victory was achieved.

In October we were again called upon to meet the foe and nobly was it done, the enemy too, delivered his main assault in Pennsylvania, but nobly did the Union lines stand and repulse their repeated assaults, until our gallant reserves—the voice of the army came, and in a single assault swept the cohorts of slavery and treason before them!

Another great conflict is before us, not so sanguinary—not so desperate now. The masses of Lee when thrown against our advancing columns at Spotsylvania, or the Wilderness, although they could no where disorganize, could nevertheless make fearful onslaught; it is not so now however, their assaults are feeble, never deranging the movements of our forces—they are reduced and disheartened at the fruitlessness of the attempt—so it is with our adversary at home, he has exhausted all his power to break our lines in October; this was necessary in order to gain prestige for November. But while he is disheartened he is still necessitated to draw out his shattered hosts once more. We must therefore, drive them from the field, and finish this momentous campaign with their final dispersion.

Let every friend of his country of "liberty regulated by law," prepare to do his whole duty. Let committees be active. For the last time we appeal to you, to see to it that every man whose heart is in the right place, shall vote on the eighth inst. Good morals—Religion, Liberty and Union all require this at our hands. Let us not disappoint them; and before another November is upon us, we will be enjoying the peace secured by this victory, with a re-union country and with liberty throughout the land from the lakes to the gulf and from ocean to ocean.

Horrid Affair.

On Tuesday evening of last week, a notorious character by the name of G. W. Stillwagon, while returning from New Castle, stopped at Eyth's Hotel, in Centerville, for supper; after supper, not finding Mr. Eyth in the bar-room, he went across the street to the Hotel kept by Mr. Christley, and called for liquor, but was refused, whereupon he became enraged, and was finally requested to leave the house, (he is said to have been intoxicated at the time) he refused to go and used a dirk freely on Mr. Christley, inflicting four severe wounds, two in the breast, one in the back part of the shoulder, and one in the lower part of the abdomen. We are glad to be able to say that Mr. Christley, is likely to recover. Stillwagon is confined in Jail, where we hope, he will be detained until justice reaches him.

Many of our readers will, doubtless remember him as the leading character amongst the disturbers of a Union meeting, held in the Court House, on Monday evening the 26th of September last.

Immediately after the adjournment of the special session of the Legislature, we sent to Harrisburg, and at our own cost, procured a certified copy of a supplement to our Local Bounty Law, which was published in our paper of 28th Sept. But as there is still much inquiry as to some of its provisions; below we give the 4th Section, being the most important Section; we hope our readers will preserve it for reference.

Sec. 4. The said boards of School Directors in making the Exonerations and Exemptions, provided by the act to which this is a supplement, shall Exonerate and Exempt the property of all persons who have lost two or more sons in the service; also, the property of those who now have two or more sons in the service, without having received any local bounty; also, all the property of all widows and families, whose husbands or fathers who have fallen in battle, or died in the service.

On next Tuesday, the 8th inst., the people of the United States will declare by their votes, whether they are in favor of Abraham Lincoln, and a vigorous prosecution of the war, or George B. McClellan, and a separation of this country. "Some may think this too strong, but we have no hesitation in declaring that, whether McClellan would favor it or not, his election would be the division of this country.

Foreign Governments are always justified in acknowledging the existence of a new government, whenever it appears clear that the old or legal government has not power to overcome it—the Chicago Convention has told the world that it is the "sense of the American people" that four years of war is a failure; let the sentiment be endorsed by the people at the polls, and England and France would undoubtedly recognize the Southern Confederacy at once; and in justification of it, would refer us to the verdict of our own people. This is the view taken by Robert J. Walker, and others, now in Europe they assure us that those two great powers would not hesitate a day to declare the rebellion a success, should the Chicago candidates and platform be endorsed by the people. All those who favor this state of things, should vote for McClellan, contra, for Lincoln.

And Still Another.

Last week we gave an extract from a patriotic Democrat, who, though originally, one of McClellan's warmest friends, could not endure the disloyal combination at Chicago, and therefore felt in duty bound to go for Lincoln—or as we have it in his own words—he could not sustain McClellan longer and be true to his country. This week we have been handed another letter of the same kind from the pen of an ardent Democrat, Mr. W. W. Maxwell, of the 78th Regiment. He writes as follows:

NASHVILLE, Oct. 20, 1864.

Dear Sir:—After my respects to you, I would request you to pay my county tax and forward me the receipt, so that I can vote at the Presidential election. I understand the last election was pretty close in our State, and I want to be prepared to vote for Lincoln and Johnson, on the 8th of November. It may seem strange to you to know that I am going to vote that ticket, but as I have spent three years fighting for the restoration of the Union, I cannot give my support to the nominees of the Chicago Convention; Placed, as they are, on a peace at any price platform, but will give my hearty support to the nominees of the Union party. Send the receipt so that I can get my vote, and I will re-pay you.

I remain yours, very respectfully,

W. W. MAXWELL.

Grand Union Demonstration.

It was our good fortune to be present at the Union Convention, at Harmony, on Tuesday last. We have seen many fine gatherings in Butler County, in the last twenty years, but none ever before witnessed compared with the Harmony Convention of Tuesday—Our friends in the South-west deserve great praise for the energy and taste displayed in this demonstration. It speaks well for the good cause in that section. The cause of the Union has certainly nothing to fear from that quarter.

The assembled multitude was addressed by able speakers both in German and English, Mr. Seignerneck (German) and Messrs. Bigham, Marshall and Graham made able speeches.

We were sorry that business arrangements prevented us from seeing the close of the days labor, but we saw enough to convince us that all was well. That day will long be remembered by the many thousands who helped to swell the throng.

Our Butler delegation was a little late in arriving, we had not, therefore, much time to spare in examining the different devices, banners, and various arrangements that helped to augment the interest of the occasion. A wagon drawn by six fine horses containing thirty-five young ladies, wearing appropriate costume to represent the thirty-five States, (which belonged to the Evansburg delegation), was certainly full of interest to the observer, not only by the appearance of the charmingly handsome young ladies who composed the group, but being emblematic of a United country, it aroused the national spirit. We noticed a wagon drawn by a yoke of cattle and bearing a

length of rail timber, with a rustic old gentleman, with maul and wedge in hand splitting it into rails—all could understand the figure. In another delegation we noticed an old gentleman—he was in the custody of a squire, Sample, of Cranberry, upon his old lat, was this inscription "Jeff. Davis," a hard looking sight he was, the personification of distress even remorse seemed to have made an impression on his haggard countenance—it was doubtless a good figure of that distinguished rebel; had we space, we would like to go more into detail, but must forbear—those who were absent missed a great treat.

Sons of Liberty, Ballot Forgers.

When a party, by reason of their faithlessness to their country, lose the confidence of the people, there is no knowing how far they will go in deeds of infamy, in a vain hope to gain power. A striking illustration of this is seen in the freedom with which the Butternuts of the Northwest went into the treasonable order called the "Sons of Liberty," becoming bound together by disloyal oaths, for the purpose of opposing the Government by force of arms if need be, to regain power. For a time they seemed to prosper, and great fears were entertained, that by the thoroughness of their organization as also the secrecy of their movements, they might accomplish much mischief. The fall elections were coming on, the rebel armies were to invade the west and to be able to assist them and intimidate loyal men—as also, as was proven, for the purpose of overthrowing the loyal state authorities, arms must be had; the procurement of these in New York, and their shipment to leading Democrats of Indiana, was discovered in time to intercept them! the arrest of implicated parties followed, confessions were made, testimony produced, and the whole plot, treasonable as it was, was made public—public indignation became aroused, and these conspirators of the nations life, were swept from the state with one torrent of patriotic indignation.

A more recent plot, and meaner still, if meaner could be, has recently been gotten up in New York, by the agents, and of course, "the friends" of Gov. Seymour, by which they not only anticipated the forging of the names and ballots of living soldiers, but of dead heroes. The matter is but partially "unearthed." We are happy to believe however, that this meanness of all crimes has been discovered in time to counteract its pernicious influences, and to sweep Seymour and his dogs from the presence of an insulted people.

The following confession of one of the guilty parties, who had been arraigned before a military commission, will throw some light on the subject:

FERRY'S CONFESSION.

"I do not recollect the time when the first papers were forged, but it was in the presence of O. K. Wood of Clinton County; it was done in my office, No. 85 Fayette St., Baltimore; I am, and have been for the past two years, the Agent for the State of New-York, appointed by Gov. Seymour, to look after the sick and wounded soldiers of New-York; I first saw Wood on Wednesday of last week, at my office; he came and represented himself as an agent of the Central Committee of his county to look after its local ticket; he talked about the way in which votes could be taken; It was agreed that we should sign the names of soldiers and officers and then send them home to have the local tickets filled in; I made out some papers; I signed the name of soldiers on quite a number of them; I cannot tell what names we signed; the papers are now in the bundle on the table; I did not sign names of officers, but Donahue signed any quantity of them; there was a large package of these papers left with me which I destroyed; that package contained over 200; Donahue signed them all; the idea of forging these papers was first suggested by a man named Stephen Mason; he is from the Western part of the State of New-York; I do not know from what county; he is not in the service; he is a State agent; I cannot say at what time it was first proposed to forge these papers; it was almost two weeks ago; I do not think there was any body present but Donahue and myself when Mason first proposed to forge the papers; there was a man named Bundy in my office; he is now in New-York; also a man named H. Newcomb; I never saw him until he came there; he is a lawyer in Albany; part of the forged papers were made in my office, and part were brought there; they were usually brought in a bundle tied up; I do not know who brought them; I had no letter from Peter Cagney, except what were found in my desk; I never knew any correspondence on this subject with Gen. Farrell, the Commissioner of subsistence, except the package which you have; the package contained a lot of blank envelopes and powers of attorney, with a letter from Gen. Farrell, marked 'confidential,' which contained a list of the names of the residents of Columbia Co.; I did not let any one know I destroyed the forged papers left with me, but told my associates that I sent them to different parties in the State to be mailed; a young man came from Washington on Friday or Saturday last, saying if I had any spare blanks to send them on to Washington; I am not certain that he did or did not say anything about there being twenty men over there who could attend to these matters; I do not know how many forged papers were sent off; but I heard they said they sent them from Washington by the dry goods boxfull; I do not recollect hearing them talk disparagingly, but they talked quite jubilantly and confidently; I sent a package of forged papers to Gen. Farrell with the following letter:

Official Election Returns of Butler County, for the Year, 1864.

	Congress.	P. Judge.	Assembly.	County.	Auditor.
Republicans in Roman.	111	111	111	111	111
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