Democrat and Sentinel.

THE BLESSINGS OF GOVERNMENT, LIKE THE DEWS OF HEAVEN, SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED ALIKE, UPON THE HIGH AND THE LOW, THE RICH AND THE POOR.

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...tch of John Van Buren.--How He Got the Letter.

...Though I thought the beginning of the ...ervise, I am now for my country and ...e for the war to the end. It is a lu... thing that a parcel of people with ...e gentlemen and white faces—("Black ...") ...ed spectacles are running ...ting Democrats with being ...sed to the war. Did you ever hear ...e Democrats being opposed to any ...("Never!" from Mr. Purdy.) The ...e knee says "Never!" Who was ...at voted that it was unbecoming a ...ed religious people to rejoice at ...ns achieved over the enemy; and ...as it that hoped the Mexicans would ...e our troops to their soil with ...ds and hospital graves, ? ("Cor... who is their minister to Mexico ...?) Yes. (Mr. Van Buren spoke ...ency of the services Gen. Kearney ...ed. Truth, two Democrats, had ...ed the country.) These two were ...ent fearless Democrats, and would ...e here, or in New Jersey, sup... the Democracy, and being charged ...ly with being traitors, like us. I ...ll those abolitionists in the country ...e Democrats had not supported ...r, but let the abolitionists to fight ...Jeff. Davis would be watering his ...ses in the Hudson, and sacking ...y of New York. (Laughter.) The ...st be carried on by the Democrats. ...ds me to speak of the unfortunate ...ce of the war thus far. Those who ...e to be the friends of the President ...e did not properly appreciate the ...s before him. He had no cause to ...d the bravery of the South. But ...ral Scott wrote to him a letter, warn... him exactly of the difficulties of the ... (Mr. Van Buren stated the points ...e letter, and referred to Gen. Scott's ser... withholding his judgement to consider... ...) It was a matter of serious discussion ...e Democrats possession of that letter. In ...e first place it was not a private letter. ...e only reason I disclose how I got it is ...use I happened to say that a lady ...e longer me to keep the secret, and ...n to come to the city shortly ...ter, because I left my card where ...e called, and the fact got into the ...s over, only I want to say to me, ...e know all about it, Mrs. Lincoln ...d you." Gen. Scott showed me ...e original draft of the letter, and, when ...ded it to him, I asked permission to ...y, which I did through my ... After having made this copy; I ...d him, "This is one of the most im... documents I ever saw; it is a mon... of true sagacity and credible to ...rotism, and, as you never gave ...ssion, I would be much obliged if ...ld make a present of this to me, ...triumph. (Applause. Mr. Van ...ld the letter in his hand, and ...d to the audience.) You perceive ...t as possible. I intend to ...tographed be that extraordi... man, Mr. Brady, when you ...e an opportunity to see it. ...was suggested that this letter of ...'s should be made public, and ...e was left to a person of great ...t and refinement to say whether ...ld be done, and the decision ...liberty to make it public. I ...d that General Scott did not ...e a copy. The wisdom of that ...s been proved. It was an easy ...the Secretary of State to say ...war was a little thing, and would ...in sixty days, and to go to the ...Northwest, when the enemy ...e extreme Southwest, and shout ...amid." But General Scott's ...and foresight have been proved by ...A person of the name of Chas. ...t to General Scott and asked ...e I obtained a copy of that let... gave him such information as ...would be good for Charles ...have. [Laughter.] But he ...to the office of the *Evening* ...etailed his private conversation ...owing that he was stating what ... [Applause.] A man who ...lf William J. King, corner of ...and 4th avenue—which corner ...ew and it is farther toward ...than I am acquainted—publishes ...t in which he says it was ...ing, and attempts to confirm, ...ulosity of General Scott the ...ade by Charles King. It is ...said nothing to General Scott ...ing the letter, or as to my ...the Cooper Institute, but the ...that I dined uninvited with ...; is untrue. If Mr. King ...y who he may anybody can dine ...Scott uninvited let him try it, ...I find himself on the sidewalk. ...William J. King is I don't ...The *Tribune* says he is a son of Charles King. That is *prima facie* proof that the fact is otherwise. [Great Laughter.] He says Gen. Scott saw the publication of the letter with the greatest possible regret. There is not a word of truth in that, because, as I have said, the publication was, in a manner, authorized. [Mr. Van Buren referred to the fact that Charles King was the only American he knew who ever attacked a dead woman, as King did—Gen. Jackson's wife, after her death—in voting, with another miserable abolitionist, against a resolution of condolence with Gen. Jackson at the Historical Society. He also referred to Charles King's course in reporting that the shooting down some American prisoners in cold blood in England was a justifiable act. But thus rendered infamous amongst men and amongst patriots, he has thought it important to waylay Gen. Scott, and talk to him until he obtained some statement on the matter of this letter, and then going to the *Evening Post* to falsify the statement. Accounts are matters I understand very little: I do not keep them: I want to settle them all up before election. The editor of the *Evening Post* undertook to attack me with very great ferocity some two weeks ago. I suppose there never was a more scandalous attack made. Several people said, "What are you going to do, are you going to whip that man?" "No," I said, "for then you would have him yelping and howling about here till after election, disturbing the whole country." "Well, are you going to sue him?" "No; I am a lawyer: I never sue anybody: that is a folly I leave other people to commit." [Laughter.] So I informed Gen. Wadsworth, through the reporters at the Brooklyn meeting, as I had no better way of communicating with him, that I should enter upon an investigation of his private character at Rochester, about twenty-five miles from his residence, where the witnesses were at hand, unless the *Evening Post* discontinued its assaults. If he did not desire his character investigated, he must call off his dog. [Laughter.] I have no doubt he saw what I said, for a more well-behaved paper than the *Evening Post* since then I have not seen. (Laughter.) I think I am a benefactor of the American Press. Is it not delightful, after seeing a newspaper assail a man who sets up for some character, scandalously stop at the bidding of its master, and this hound shrinks back into his kennel without even a whimper or a whine. Gen. Scott's advice was good. After fighting eighteen months, and with a million and a half of men in the field, we have retreated back to Bull Run, where we started from, having, by careful measurement, advanced just four feet. (Laughter.) One of the best things the President ever said was when he met McClellan, after the army got back into its old trenches. "Well, General," he said, "I have heard of people being knocked into the middle of next week, but we are the first people I ever knew who were knocked into the middle of last year." (Great laughter.) We must make more of a business of this war. We can just as well take Richmond in sixty days as in sixty years. I will guarantee that the Democrats will take a contract to put it through in sixty days. (Great applause.) The fresh recruits in America fight as well as the disciplined soldier. You can just as well send half a million of men to Richmond in thirty days as thirty years. After we get to Richmond I have suggested that we call a halt. I am in no particular favor of the South. I used to call them a great many hard names, which I thought they deserved, and they used to couple the name of Van Buren with that of Seward. When I was at the Sulphur Springs they used to walk around me precisely as if by going to Buffalo I would become a bison and they dared not be seen with me. If it had not been for the ladies of the South I should have been left solitary. They had more courage and did not run, and they showed more taste. But I would not violate a Constitution under which they had lived for eighty years with their slaves. I would not arm blacks. I would not arm the slaves of the South—a brutal, ignorant population—to be turned against unoffending women and children, and effect crimes at which manhood shudders. In such a case the country could only ask me to remain neutral, for it would only be my inclination to join in the protection of the women and children. (Applause.) Let me say that I do not believe that there is any danger of foreign intervention until we violate the rules of Christian and civilized warfare. I meet a great many contractors who are very patriotic and cry that this war must go on while there is a cent in the Treasury. (Laughter.) Then I met a bold Brigadier "Busted" and the question to him is whether he shall continue with his forty-five hundred dollars a year or go back with me to the practice of the law with his poor five hundred, ("How are you, Richard") and he says to me, "Our people are not awake to this crisis—I am going to stump the State to show them that the war must go on till the rebellion is crushed and the last man killed. "Well, I say, you go on. (Laughter.) I met a white neck-clothed, pale-faced man the other day, a rank Abolitionist, and he said: "Your name's Van Buren, I believe?" I told him I thought so once, but I had been called so many names that I had almost began to doubt it. (Great laughter.) "Well," said he, "I understand you want to stop this war." Says I: "Not immediately." "But," says he, "some time." I told him I thought it would be better to stop it some time. "Well," says he, "you wan't to make terms with traitors. You are not willing that this rebellion should be wholly crushed." I told him I thought in every war there must come a time when the parties could make terms. "Well," says he, "this is the most nefarious thing that was ever undertook! Most atrocious thing ever was!" Says I, "that's so: when did you get back?" "When did I get back from where?" said he. "Oh, I have not been to the war!" "When do you go?" said I. "Oh, I shan't be able to go: my wife isn't well, and ———." "Well," said I, "do you think it is a good thing for you to be sending men down to this war when you sit here like these contractors, who are urging us to go on to the South while they stay at home and steal?" I should go for a halt at Richmond, but if others desire to march further let them go, I should say, "Gallant Greeley, advance!" (Laughter.) "Forward the black brigade." (Renewed laughter.) "Penetrate the heart of South Carolina, and for fear of future uprising, stay there forever. (Increased laughter.) Everybody knows that where people fight each other good and hard, it begets mutual respect.—Nobody knows that better than the old Bumburners and Hunkers. (Laughter.)—Here are some spared monuments. Never were they better united. The South supposed this idea of seceding would be entertained by the non-slaveholding States.—This is all fallacy. They must not go out without calling a convention to get us to consent to it, and if they attempt it they must be whaled back again. They see it is going to be done, and fifty years from now Virginia will not stand where she stood when this war commenced. So, too, the North has been deceived. I speak particularly of those persons who have been engaged in inciting the war. Those who thought it would blow over in sixty days, those who thought it could be pursued against a timid, trembling, flacing foe, are all greatly mistaken. General Scott was not one of those men. (Great applause.) If we meet in convention, and after that the war is to be renewed, we shall know what we are doing. We have some slaveholding States in the Union now. Make the Supreme Court say what the Constitution is on the subject of slavery, and require the consent of all the States to alter it, and in my judgment Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Arkansas will adhere to the twenty-three States. Then suppose the other seven States still refuse. You must have the full navigation of the Mississippi. The Western people will take it. You cannot have any treaty for the surrender of fugitive slaves. No free government ever made such a treaty. These people would set up a little one-horse republic, and with their slaves constantly escaping to us you would have to determine whether, with a debt of two thousand millions, an army of a million, you would subjugate them. My impression would be, it would be better not to attempt it; but if it was determined, I am with the government, right or wrong, in the attempt to restore the Union as it was. (Applause.) But the Abolitionists propose to abolish slavery, to drive out the settlers and plant colonists. To that I am unqualifiedly opposed. It shall be determined to-morrow whether the State is Abolition, and I can say from observation in passing through it, there is very little doubt what the determination is to be. (Applause.)

A VOICE:—What do you think of Hiram Barney and his nigger book-keepers?

MR. VAN BUREN—I think very little of Hiram Barney. He will blow over in sixty days. [Laughter.] I made some remarks at the Cooper Institute three weeks ago to-night, and as the Republicans all agreed it was very imprudent for me, and would help them very much, I thought I would say the same thing in other parts of the State. [Laughter.] Of course I thought they would receive me with open arms, but at every step I received denunciations from the Republican press. The only way I know of to defend myself is to thrust as well as parry, or, as Mr. Flagg told me the other day, to "keep the rascals picking slivers out of their own shins." [Laughter.] When Jackson was a candidate he denounced him as a military effectain; when General Taylor became one, Greeley elected him. An anti-slavery man, Greeley selected Taylor, with 300 slaves, for his candidate. With pretended liberal principles to foreigners, he supported the native American ticket in 1844. Professing excessive scrupulousness in regard to lobbying, he very curiously had possession of a thousand dollar Mattison draft a short time ago. [Laughter.] Claiming to be opposed disinterestedly to those who seek office, he broke up the firm of Seward, Weed, Greeley & Co., because they would not elect him Senator. An excessive temperance man, he can take three columns of rum advertisements in the *Tribune*; and when I called his attention to the temperance question once, before election, he said it was no time to be embarrassed with side issues. [Laughter.] To-day he has half a column denunciation of Fernando Wood, but he used to boast he had elected him mayor against Havemeyer. Is it not desirable such a man should control a public press, to arraign others? He was vigorous for the war, but now I cannot get him to shout "On to Richmond!" till after the first of January. [Laughter.] I was told in this city that Wadsworth's strength lay in the interior of the State, and I went through looking for it, but everywhere the Republicans told me. "We are not doing well just here," and when I got most through it I began to hear that Wadsworth's strength is in this city. [Laughter.]

Gen. Scott was called upon by an intimate friend of his, within two weeks, who was deeply distressed at the condition of the country, who thought Lincoln an honest man, disposed to do right, but recollecting that he deposed Fremont, countermanded Fremont's proclamation, corrected Cameron's report, and told the Chicago committee that an emancipation proclamation would be like a "Pope's bull against the comet," said he, "If the man is doing his best, what can I do to encourage him?" Said Scott. "If you want to give him courage, elect Horatio Seymour governor." (Tremendous applause. Cheers for Gen. Scott and Horatio Seymour.) I am not authorized to mention that. [Laughter.] The Abolitionists can go dog him to ascertain wether it is so, and they will find it is a fact. Mr. Van Buren closed by saying that Mr. Fillmore does not want Wadsworth elected. Mr. Lincoln has not said he does. Mr. Seward's political hopes are crushed if he is elected and Wadsworth himself has not said that he wanted the election. Mr. Van Buren made an eloquent allusion to the past associations of Tammany Hall, and retired amid uproarious applause, saying that they might not hear him again in a long time.

General McClellan's Removal--Opinions of the Press.

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Express*:

"Never, in the history of this war, have been noticed, on the avenue and around the hotels of this city, more sad and anxious countenances than exist this morning. The news of the removal of the Commander of the Army of the Potomac burst upon the people with such suddenness as to almost electrify the public with astonishment, that the President, after the just expressed desires of the people, should so far insult the standard of conservatism as to yield to the ravings of a disappointed clique of Abolitionists."

Another correspondent writes:

"The President himself seems to be the mere creature of the Revolutionary clique about him, and to have lost all respect either for the Constitution or—for what is next to the constitution—the known and declared will of the people.

"Some of the journals, because of this malign influence of the radicals in the President's Cabinet upon him and his surroundings, call upon him to change his Cabinet; but, it is well understood [in the President's own peculiar style,] that he declines "to swap horses" again, or "to kill another skunk" [Cameron]

Another correspondent writes:

"This removal of a victorious General, with fresh victories already in his grasp, and in the midst of his brilliant career, now actually en route to Richmond, is to be excused, by misrepresenting him and his position in all manner of ways—but the public are so accustomed to that, and as this is but the second or third great intrigue against him, the public will see right through it."

The St. Louis *Republican* remarks:

"There were two things into which, of all others, the ultra Abolitionists determined to force the Administraton, viz: the issuing of an Emancipation Proclamation, and the removal of McClellan. Success has attended their efforts, and triumph never crowned more persistent or more laborous machinations. A commission was appointed to investigate the Harper's Ferry surrender, and another to inspect the fortifications built by McClellan. Hundreds of laborers have been put upon the works, to create the impression that McClellan had not done his whole duty before. The Harper's Ferry Commision has censured McClellan, as was expected. Perhaps the Administration imagines it has made out its case."

From a long article in the New York *Journal of Commerce*, we extract:

"It is the fortune of Gen. McClellan to be sent for whenever the nation is in imminent peril, to save the Capital from its enemies, to win the love of the army, the gratitude of his fellow citizens, the admiration of the world, and to be 'relieved.'

"His brilliant career has no parallel in history.

"With reference to his removal from the command of the army at the present moment, after saving the Union at South Mountain and Antietam, we have no comments to make. Gen McClellan himself is the last man who would desire to have his personal treatment made the subject of public difference at a time when unity of sentiment and action is so necessary to the safety of the national cause. He is always ready to sacrifice self and selfish references for the public good—those who admire and love him should exhibit their admiration by imitating this chief glory of his character."

The Providence *Post* remarks:

"The astounding news of the removal of Gen. George B. McClellan from the command of the army of the Potomac, reached us yesterday. The circumstances show that his removal has been for some time determined upon, and the conclusion with most people will be, that the President has only been waiting for the elections to go by in order that so startling an act might not influence the result. If McClellan had been removed twenty days ago, we do not believe the Administration party would have elected a single Congressman in any State, save Massachusetts, where an election was held on the 4th inst."

The Philadelphia *Ledger* says:

"The announcement that General McClellan had been removed from the command of the army of the Potomac was the subject of conversation yesterday in all circles. The friends of the General was very much excited. Those who have been recognized as his opponents did not appear to be satisfied, and many of them regretted that the act was done when the army was in the face of the enemy and upon the eve of battle. In the evening the excitement in regard to the subject was very great, and at the Continental Hotel a large crowd was assembled, anxiously inquiring if there was any confirmation of the news. Men gathered in all parts of the saloon, comparing notes and endeavoring to solve the riddle why the General was removed."

The following is from the New York *Herald*:

"The act of his removal will create a profound sensation throughout the country. Among the Abolition radicals it will be hailed with fanfical joy, while among conservatives of the North it will be accepted with doubts and apprehensions of evil. The radicals have urged this movement as demanded by the late elections, while the conservatives will contend that the people, in these elections, have spoken in favor of McClellan. * * We do not pretend to know the exact specifications against him; nor is this knowledge necessary for our present purpose. It is sufficient that he has fallen a victim to the machinations of the radical Abolition faction. Their intrigues have pursued him from the day that he was first called to the command of the army of the Potomac to the present hour; and his unpardonable crime has been his persistent refusal to make the cause of the Union secondary to the cause of negro emancipation."

From the New York *World*:

"It was not upon the friends of General McClellan alone, nor upon the opponents of the administration, which has been so assiduously represented by its partisans as his enemies, that this news fell like the sound of a passing bell. Every lover of his country, every man to whom the final victory of the Constitution and the Laws is dearer than any triumph of passion or of party, every thoughtful student of the actual situation of affairs, was startled as from a dream of hope and courage by the strange and sudden tidings."

We have hastily collected these few extracts from various papers, simply to give a faint idea of how the country feels at the sudden dismissal of General McClellan.

Gen. Burnside, the new Commander of the Army of the Potomac.

Major General Ambrose Everett Burnside is a native of Indiana, and now in the 30th year of his age. He graduated at West Point, in class thirty-eight, in 1847, taking brevet rank and pay of a second lieutenant in the Second U. States Artillery. September, 1847, Lieutenant Burnside was promoted to a full second lieutenancy in company C, Third Artillery, since rendered famous as "Bragg's Battery," Bragg himself being captain of it. With this battery Lieutenant Burnside marched, in General Patterson's division, to the city of Mexico, and remained there until the close of the Mexican war. After this he served with his company in New Mexico, where he was distinguished in encounters with the Apache Indians, being complimented in the general orders. On the 12th of December, 1851, he was promoted to the first lieutenancy in the room of an officer who was cashiered.—When the present Lieutenant Colonel James D. Graham, of the corps of topographical engineers, was appointed United States astronomer in the joint commission to settle the frontier lines of the United States and Mexico, Lieutenant Burnside was chosen to fill the office of quartermaster, and in this capacity he conveyed dispatches from Col. Graham to President Pillmore, traveling twelve hundred miles across the plains in seventeen days, with an escort of only three men. After serving a short time at Fort Adams, Newport Harbor, Lieut. Burnside resigned, in 1859. After his resignation he turned his attention to the manufacture of a breech loading rifle of his own invention, known as the "Burnside rifle," a project which resulted in considerable pecuniary loss, on his part.

General Burnside then sold his establishment to his brother-in-law, who has supplied quite a number of the Burnside rifles to the present Administration. Subsequently to this he was, with Gen. McClellan, connected with the Illinois Central railroad, holding the position of President of the Land Office Department. While residing at Bristol, Rhode Island, he married Miss Bishop, of Providence, and removed with her to Chicago, on being appointed to the Illinois Central. At the outbreak of the rebellion, at the request of Governor Sprague, he assumed the colonelcy of the 1st Rhode Island Volunteers. This regiment did good service in the first battle of Bull Run, its colonel acting as brigadier general of the second brigade, the second division. After this he was appointed brigadier general of volunteers, his commission being dated 6th August, 1861. Of the celebrated "Burnside expedition" to North Carolina nothing need be said. At the battle of Antietam, in September last, Gen. Burnside's *corps d'armee* performed a highly important part. It took the main road to Sharpsburg, on the left, and encountered the most determined opposition in successfully executing its part of the general plan of the battle. General Burnside had to cross the bridge over the Antietam creek, and dislodge the enemy, who were in strong force and position on the opposite side. Twice his army made an attempt to cross, and twice was it repulsed with great loss, but the third attack, led by the General in person, was successfull, and the position was won, though at a great sacrifice of life.

THE NEXT PRESIDENCY.—At the great meeting in New York, on the 10th, John Van Buren made a speech at the close of which he nominated Gen. Geo. B. M'Clellan for the next President of the United States, and called for three cheers, which were given with a will. This nomination is, perhaps, premature, a little in advance of public opinion, but it will do to start with. Geo. B. M'Clellan is already a great man—he may be greater. Who knows?

☞ It is a truth not often realised, that men must be already wise in order to love wisdom.

☞ We must not undervalue physicians. Perhaps the fabric of society would fall without them—they are its *pill-ars*.

☞ A farmer likes cold weather at the proper season; but an early frost in autumn goes against his grain.