

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.

NEW SERIES.

EBENSBURG, PA. WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1863.

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creasing bitterness, for the last thirty years. The country wants repose, and is willing to purchase it at any sacrifice. Alas, for the delusion of the belief that repose will follow the overthrow of the Government.

I doubt not, from the temper of the public mind, that the Southern States will all be allowed to withdraw peacefully; but when the work of dismemberment begins we shall break up the fragments from month to month, with the nonchalance with which we break the bread upon our breakfast table.

If all the grave and vital questions which will arise among these fragments of the ruptured Republic can be adjusted without resort to arms, then we have made vast progress since the history of our race was written. But the tragic events of the hour will show that we have made no progress of all. We shall soon grow up a race of chieftains, who will rival the political bandits of South America and Mexico, and who will carve out to us a miserable heritage with their bloody swords. The masses of the people dream not of these things.

A convention of the States, and offer guarantees which will afford the same repose and safety to Southern homes and property enjoyed by those of the North, the impending tragedy may yet be averted, but not otherwise. I feel a positive personal humiliation as a member of the human family in the events now preparing.

If the Republic is to be offered as a sacrifice upon the altar of African servitude, then the question of man's capacity for self-government is forever settled. The derision of the world will henceforth justly treat the pretension as a farce, and the blessed hope which, for five thousand years, our race amid storms and battles, has been hugging to its bosom, will be demonstrated to be a phantom and a dream.

Pardon these hurried and disjointed words.—They have been pressed out of my heart by the sorrows that are weighing upon it.

al; but while we pledge our united efforts to test them in all legal modes within our reach, we will not infringe upon or violate any law, whatever may be our present opinions, until it is pronounced by the proper judicial authorities to be null and void. It is better to bear many grievances of a temporary character, than to plunge our country into anarchy, ending in military despotism, and destroying all our hopes for the future.

3d. That resistance by force to an invasion of our personal freedom is a virtue; and if the insane threat of a distinguished military chieftain, (distinguished more for the position he holds, than for achievement in arms) to put his heel upon the necks of Northern men, be attempted to be carried out, we promise him a warm reception. In order to allay any undue excitement however, that might be occasioned by this threat, we deem it proper to add, that as this same authority has informed us that we are not to be molested until the rebels are first subdued, we are of opinion, judging by past progress, that the present generation at the North can hardly feel themselves interested in the question.

"I have had an interview with a gentleman who speaks by authority, and have learned from him that it is the purpose of the French Government to demand from Mr. Seward an immediate explanation, and a disavowal of the offensive passport issued by Mr. Adams. Within the present week, the Emperor's Minister of Foreign Affairs had received from Mr. Mercier a dispatch giving the details of a conversation between the French Minister at Washington and Mr. Seward, in which the latter assured Mr. Mercier of the strong desire of the United States to maintain the most friendly relations with France, and declared that they would preserve in all respects a rigid neutrality in the war between that Power and Mexico. These assurances had given the greatest satisfaction to the Emperor's Government, and the sensation caused by the appearance of Mr. Adams' letter was consequently even more marked than it would have been had no such interview as that described by M. Mercier taken place. Instructions are to be sent out to M. Mercier, in the course of the next few days. They will be unmistakable in their import. Our Government will be reminded that the attitude of France since the beginning of the civil war in the United States, has been of strict neutrality, and that she cannot be reproached with a single act of a character to irritate the North, or aid the rebellion directly or indirectly. She has not hitherto pursued a policy similar to that of Great Britain; and no member of the Emperor's Government has uttered one word which could be construed into unfriendliness toward the United States, or expression of any other sentiment than the hope of again seeing them united and prosperous. But if the strange doctrine implied by Mr. Adams' letter of April 9th be sustained, and the American cruisers in the Gulf instructed to pass cargoes intended for the Mexicans, then the French Government will regard the act as leading assistance to the enemies of France, and it is fully resolved to retaliate by aiding the enemies of the United States."

Commanding what? The 18th U. S. Infantry, or at the most the United States forces of Indiana—but not the people, the free white Americans citizens of American descent, not in the military service. That is the extent of his authority, and no more. And now, sir, I hold in my hand a general order also—an order binding on all military men and civilians alike—on Colonels and Generals and Commanders-in-Chief—State and Federal. (Applause.) Hear it:

"The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

By order of the States and people of the United States, George Washington commanding.—[Great cheering.] That, sir, is General Order No. 1—the Constitution of the United States. [Loud cheers.] Who now is to be obeyed, Washington or Carrington?

HOLT versus HOLT.
"Look here upon this picture."
[Holt as he was in 1860.]
"And on this."
[Holt as he is now is.]
[Communicated.]

They suppose the Republic can be destroyed to-day and peace will smile over its ruins to-morrow. They know nothing of civil war. This marsh in the desert of the pilgrimage of nations has happily been for them a sealed fountain. They know not as others do of its bitterness, and that civil war is a scourge that darkens every fireside, and wrings every heart with anguish. They are to be commiserated, for they know not what they do. Where is all this? It has come because the pulpits and the presses, and the coverings, unscrupulous politicians of the North have taught the people that they are responsible for the domestic institutions of the South, and that they can be faithful to God only by being faithful to the compact which they have made with their fellow-men.

Sincerely your friend,
J. HOLT.

A Gallant Deed and a Chivalrous Return.

In the recent movement of Stoneman's cavalry, the advance was led by Lieut. Paine, of the First Maine Cavalry. Being separated by a considerable distance from the main body, he encountered unexpectedly a superior force of rebel cavalry, and his whole body were taken prisoners. They were hurried off as rapidly as possible to get them out of the way of our advancing force, and in crossing a rapid and deep stream, Lieut. Henry, commanding the rebel force, was swept off his horse. As none of his men seemed to think or care anything about saving him, his prisoner, Lieut. Paine, leaped off his horse, seized the drowning man by the collar, swam ashore with him, and saved his life, thus literally capturing his captor.

He was sent to Richmond with the rest of the prisoners, and the facts being made known to Gen. Fitz Hugh Lee, he wrote a statement of them to Gen. Winder, the Provost Marshal of Richmond, who ordered the instant release of Lieut. Paine, without even parole, promise or condition, and, we presume, with the compliments of the Confederacy. He arrived in Washington on Saturday last. This act of generosity, as well as justice, must command our highest admiration. There is some hope for men who can behave in such a manner.

But the strangest part of the story is yet to come. Lieut. Paine on arriving at Washington learned that the officer whose life he had thus gallantly saved, had since been taken prisoner by our forces, and had just been confined in the Old Capitol Prison. At the last we heard of him he was on his way to Gen. Martindale's headquarters to obtain a pass to visit his beneficiary and benefactor. Such are the vicissitudes of war.

Let the Abolition brethren with whom Mr. Holt now exchanges hugs, read this and profit by it. The apostasy of some has not weakened the truth or the force of these warning words. We may remember this Samson, who in his un-usable days, the days of his terrible strength, was the champion of our great patriotic cause.

Hence these Liberty bills, which degrade the statute books of some ten of the free States, and are confessedly a shameless violation of the Federal Constitution, in a point vital to her honor. We have been presented, from year to year, the humiliating spectacle of free and Sovereign States, by a solemn act of legislation, legalizing the theft of their neighbors' property. I say THEFT, since it is not the less so because the subject of the despicable crime of chances to be a slave, instead of a horse or bale of goods.

But the meeting was ably addressed in the spirit of these resolutions, by W. Rosenthal, Esq., Hon. J. Glancy Jones, Hon. Hoister Clymer and James B. Bechtel, Esq., and then adjourned.

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6th. That we will patiently wait the progress of events, until power passes from the hands of the present administration under the forms of law. We will continue to urge upon Congress and upon the States the repeal of all unconstitutional acts, and the calling of a National Convention to amend the sovereign rights of the State of Pennsylvania, and in order that she may be prepared to exercise those rights, we urge upon our fellow citizens the necessity of organization, the selection and election of our ablest and best men, for Governor and Legislators; and in the meantime we have no terms of peace to offer to any quarter, except upon the basis of re-union.

Mr. Vallandigham at Hamilton.
The Dayton Empire gives the following sketch of what Mr. Vallandigham said in his speech at Hamilton, on Gen. Carrington's "order No. 15."

Let us remember the reverence of old days
To the dead fame,
Walk backward with averted gaze
And "lile the shame."

Washington, Nov. 30, 1860.
MY DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of your kind letter of the 27th inst., and thank you for your kindly allusion to myself, in connection with the fearful agitation that threatens the dismemberment of our Government. I think the President's message will meet with approbation, but I have little hope that it will accomplish anything in moderating the madness that is the hour. The indications are, that the movement has passed beyond the reach of human control. God alone can disperse the cloud of its lightnings. South Carolina will be out of the Union, and in its stead an assertion of a distinct national independence before Christmas. This is not unless the course of events is arrested by some prompt and decided action on the part of the people and the Legislature of the Northern States, or the other States will follow South Carolina in its mad career or months.

The invincible Democracy of Old Berks held one of the largest mass meetings, on the 21st of April, that ever convened in that good old citadel of Democracy. It was an immense gathering of the staunch yeomanry of the county. At least 10,000 persons were in attendance and their determination to oppose every unlawful aggression upon their rights from every quarter, was discernible in every countenance; defiance to usurers and tyrants flashed from every eye. They spoke in language that needs no interpretation. The meeting was organized by the selection of Hon. S. E. Ancona, as President, and one Vice President from each township, borough and ward, and eight Secretaries.

Our Paris correspondent, writing under date of April the 24th, sends us information of very grave importance. From sources of the highest authority, he had learned that the French Government was profoundly irritated at the singular proceeding of our Minister to London, Mr. Adams, in furnishing to certain English shipowners a certificate to enable their vessels bound to Matamoros, to pass without molestation our blockading squadron in the Gulf of Mexico. The interpretation placed by the Imperial Government upon the passport to Messrs. Howell & Zirman, given by Mr. Adams on the 9th of April, was that of an official agent of the United States, assured that there was no intention to run the Southern blockade, had no objection of smoothing the way for an introduction of a cargo of arms into Mexico. It can scarcely be believed, in this country, that such was in fact the purpose of Mr. Adams; but, unhappily, the terms in which the certificates in question is couched, fully bear that construction.

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