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LETTER FROM MR. VALLANDIGHAM To the "Young Men's Democratic Association," of Lancaster, Pa.

GENTLEMEN: From your President and Secretaries, as also from individual members, I have, within the past three months, received respectful cordial invitations to address your Association. While a compliance in person would be most agreeable to me, I do not believe that either time or circumstance is auspicious just now for active political agitation. But I avail myself of your kind request, to present, very respectfully, in writing, a few thoughts upon the present position and duty of the Democratic party. At best they can be but conjecture in part, and in part suggestion; for he would be a bold man, and ought to be omniscient of as well the future as the present, who should attempt to lay down, in these times, when the senses change with the diversity, suddenness and marvellous contrariety of theoretic representations, a fixed rule of policy upon any public question. Yet with this qualification, and speaking for myself only, I shall address you with becoming freedom and candor. I do not, indeed, conceal from myself, the apprehension that we are rather at the beginning than the end of a great revolution, and that free institutions in America are to-day far more upon trial than at any period during the past four years. If, indeed, the agencies of force were at once to give place to the arts of peace, and placid liberty regulated by law, sub poe rege, to succeed the sword, the melancholy forebodings of the more thoughtful among us might yet prove to be the vain fears of men whom much learning in history and an enlarged study of human nature have made timid. I surrender myself willingly, however, for the present to the cheering illusion of those who believe that incalculable power will again interpose, and a great calm, at the word of command, follow the tempestuous raging of the sea.

The Democratic organization will, of course, be maintained. Surviving every change of party and policy from near the beginning of the government to this day, often triumphant, sometimes defeated, never conquered; always adhering, as a national organization, to the essential principles of its founders, but adapting its policies, so far as these principles admitted, to the changing circumstances of the country; enduring even through the great dangers and the mistakes of the past years, and at the end, numbering over a million of the most intelligent voters in the States which adhered to the Union—a number larger within the same States, than at any previous election—it needs no only organization and discipline to make it powerful at once and ultimately triumphant. For myself, under no circumstances, will I consent that the Democratic organization be dissolved, so long as it shall have vitality enough to hold together. The masses of the party will never agree to the surrender, whatever "the leaders," so called, might attempt.

The fundamental principles of the Democratic party, of course also, must remain unchanged so long as our Federal system, or even any form of democratic-republican government, shall survive; and especially its true STATE-RIGHTS doctrine—not Nullification, not Secession, but the theory of our system laid down in the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions of 1798, as interpreted by their authors; the one by Madison in his report in 1799, and the other by Jefferson in his solemn official Inaugural of 1801. Thus interpreted they were, and I doubt not, still are the constitutional doctrines of the new President. So long as these constitute the accepted theory and the practice under our system, there can be no consolidated government, either Republic or Monarchy, in the States which now make up the American Union. The other general principles of the Democratic party are but variations or amplifications of the maxims, "the greatest good to the greatest number," "the interests of the masses," "the rights of the many against the exactions of the few"—axioms which, though the demagogue may abuse or abuse them, lie, nevertheless, at the foundation of all democratical government.

But true as all this is, it would be the extreme of folly not to comprehend and recognize that as to man and politics, the events of the past four years, and especially of the last few weeks, have wrought a radical change. Old things have passed away; all things become new. New books, as Mr. Webster said upon an occasion of far less significance, are now to be opened. A new epoch in the American era has now been reached; and he who cannot now realize, or is not willing to accept this great fact, would do well to retire to his closet and confine himself to funereal meditations over the history of the dead past or airy speculations upon the impossible future. He may become an instructor, but is not fit to be an actor in the stirring scenes which are before us. The time will, indeed, come, and may not be far distant, when it will be justifiable and may be necessary to inquire into the causes of the civil war just now apparently at an end, and to institute a searching inquiry into the measure of guilt of those who are responsible for it, as well North as South; and it is fortunate that we have a President who, upon neither side, is among its authors—unless, indeed, his support of General Breckenridge for the Presidency in 1860 be reckoned up against him. In all else, at least, whatever may have been his position during the war, or shall be his course now, he is guiltless. Upon the other hand, by our political foes, the line of conduct of those who opposed war, demanded conciliation and insisted that the path of peace was the shortest, easiest, cheapest road to the Union, and of those who, marching in the same direction, but along the rugged and bloody highway of war, denounced only the policies of the late Administration, will be called in question. For myself I am ready to answer, and by the record to be adjudged. If I erred, it was in the glorious company of the patriot founders of our political

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ar system of government. And now, accepting the new order of things, I yet enter upon no defence for adhering to the last moment to the policies of those great men, adopted and sanctioned as those policies were, by the second generation of American statesmen. So far from it, I would conform yet, as far as possible, to their teachings and practice. We may not, indeed, be ready to follow the enthusiast who had rather ere with Plato than be right with other men; yet neither are we far enough corrupted, I trust, to be obliged to apologize for accepting Washington, Jefferson, Sherman, Hamilton, Webster, Clay, and Jackson, as exemplars worthy of study and imitation. But they were wise in their day and generation. Let us be wise in ours. Whether there was not the true wisdom for us also in the long run, remains to be seen; for the end is not yet. And be that as it may, for any man to have erred as to the advent, progress, duration, or final issue of a civil war which has moored, so far, the presence of the wisest statesman of as well the Old World as the New, is no disparagement of any judgment or intellect less than divine. In any event, I let that it be announced that upon all questions of vindication up to this point, I am "paired off" with the Secretary of State, Mr. Seward. But as to the present and future, and the new and stupendous questions which every day will now be developed, a public man's position must be determined, not by his mistake where all have erred, but by his capacity, his integrity and his patriotism. The day has passed when the party epithets upon either side, which were without justification, almost without excess, even amid the rancor of a civil war and the heat of partisan discussion, ought any longer to be tolerated. No man in the Democratic party in the North or West, of responsible or recognized position, was for disunion or separation for its own sake. But if any such there was, false to the government of the Union, he was false also to the Southern Confederacy; else his place would have been in the ranks of her armies. Some, indeed, not many, of the ablest and most sincere and honest among us—men who, to-day, changing their opinions, are the worthiest of trust, and I speak strongly as one not of their conviction—believed that only through temporary recognition of Southern independence, could the Federal Union be restored. Such, too, had been the declarations before and at the beginning of the war, of many distinguished men in the Republic. Some of them still high in public estimation, expressed in language the most dignified, going even to the extent of premature secession. The record of these declarations remains; but to quote them, or to name the authors, is needless. The argument stands sufficient of itself.

It is not that the Democrats opposed either the civil war or the peculiar policies upon which it was conducted, that is to exclude them from the confidence of the people. Scarcely a prominent man in the Republican ranks, unless of Democratic antecedents, from the late President down, but opposed—many of them with unmeasured bitterness and violence—the prosecution of the foreign Mexican war. Detested wholly to the Union, the old Union, in any event, the men of the Democratic party judged the war and of its policies solely by that standard, and upheld or opposed them accordingly. The party—and I refer to the question because it has been made the subject of recent newspaper comment—will, indeed, certainly not follow the "Chicago Platform" of 1864 as a political text book now, any more than the Republican party, or its heirs or assigns, will adopt the "Chicago Platform" of 1860, for the same purpose in the future; not that the former was not the very best practicable at the period and for the occasion which brought it forth; but because, dealing in a time of war almost wholly with questions of policy, not principle, it would, in time of peace, be quite as inappropriate as the code of Justinian or the journals of the Continental Congress. All that need now be asked of our political foes, that it be quoted correctly; the more especially since, though the work of a committee made up of some of the ablest and truest men in the Convention, and adopted by that body unanimously, it would the rapturous applause of two hundred thousand freemen present or at hand, it survived but eight days—lying in circumsion. But there is one crown of glory, at least, during the terrible trials of the last four years, richest among the treasures of the Democratic party, which cannot be taken away. If it shall so happen that to the Republican party is due the honor of maintaining the Union, to the Democracy the country is indebted for the preservation of whatever remains of that other and even dearer heritage of Americans—Constitutional Liberty and private right.

But leaving all these questions aside for the present, I trust that all men who, in the old Roman phrase, feel alike concerning the Republic now, may be soon brought to net together. He who cannot at this moment, for a season at least, forget his private griefs, or lay aside his prejudices against men and parties, for the sake of his country in an hour of trial which demands all the wisdom of the wise and the utmost firmness of the stout-hearted among us, is too much of a partisan to be any thing of a patriot. Fortunately among politicians the laborer is usually not difficult. If the melancholy reflection of Cicero, in his later years, were well considered and just, that true friendships are most rarely found among those who concern themselves in public affairs, it is quite certain also that perdurable enmities are equally rare with them. And it is the motive, not the new association, which marks the change of party habits, as patriotic or corrupt. It was not the mere fact that Fox and Burke united in coalition with Lord North, that made them all odious to the British people, but because the purpose and circumstances of the coalition were unpopular and not just. Here and now the war having accomplished all that the sober and rational among its advocates ever claimed for it

—the breaking down of the chief military power of the Confederate Government—we have reached the point where all that class among its supporters, of whatever party, must now unite with the friends of peace and conciliation, in exhausting all the arts of statesmanship, to the end that a speedy and perfect pacification, and with it, a real and cordial reunion, may be secured. The questions which belong to a state of war are, in their very nature and from necessity, totally distinct from those which arise upon a cessation of hostilities. Men who have hitherto agreed on other issues, will differ widely now, and new party associations must follow. The hereditary supporters of the President just inaugurated, must not assume that, as a matter of course, the Democratic party will be found in opposition upon these questions. On the record up to the day when the Executive office, by reason of a horrible crime, was forced upon him, he himself differed from that party only, or chiefly, as to the fact and the manner of prosecuting the war. Not responsible for anything done or omitted by the late Administration, whereof the Democracy complained, now that the war is ended, he begins his chief magistracy without past differences in principle or recent separation as to policy. In any event, he is entitled at the hands of the Democratic party to a fair, candid and charitable consideration of the several measures which he shall propose; though most assiduously at the same time, it will be the duty of that party to render a strict, firm and fearless judgment upon them, and to act accordingly as they shall be found to merit approval or to demand opposition. It is, indeed, already so that although Gen. Sherman may not have used the authority—and he declined none for himself, referring all to the Executive—his plan of Pacification and Re-union was not promptly confirmed by the President. It was concise, comprehensive, complete, proving him not less wise and great in the science of statesmanship, than grand and triumphant in the arts of war. And it would have made peace, immediate and sincere—"peace from the Potomac to the Rio Grande." This was his proud congratulatory boast to his army at the end of the great struggle, and not of any victory in the field. Defeating the armed military hosts of the Confederacy, his aim, at the close, was to conquer the hearts of his people also, and to be exalted thus as the Hero of Peace—the only true heroism in civil war.

Upon the great question of RECONSTRUCTION, it is not that the Democrats oppose it, or reject whatever measures may be proposed. If the policy which the President may recommend shall appear, upon a calm and deliberate scrutiny best adapted in general to secure a speedy, complete, cordial and lasting pacification upon the basis of the Federal Union of the States, it will, in my judgment, be fit and just that the Democracy, waiving all minor points of detail, lend to him a liberal, earnest and patriotic support in carrying it into execution. If, upon the other hand, it be such as can but make that solitude which conquers all peace; or, worse if possible, that peace which hangs like a black and heavy pall, over Hungary, Ireland, Poland, then it will be the duty of the Democratic party, with determined firmness and fearlessness, to interpose such constitutional and legal opposition, through the press and in public assembly, as may be just and efficient, till either the President shall be impelled to change both his Cabinet and the measures to which they may have advised him, or the people, peaceably through the ballot, shall be enabled to secure pacification and Union by a change of Administration and of policies. I say, in change, in part or in whole, of the Cabinet, in advance of the election; because, remembering the peculiar circumstances under which the office fell to the President, his advisers, "the Ministry," are rather to be held responsible than himself.

As to the hitherto vexed question of slavery, allow me to say for myself, that from the very first to the last, with consistency and persistence, I opposed all agitation of the subject; not for the sake of the institution—I repeat it, not for the sake of the institution, but because I had been taught by the Fathers to believe, and did truly believe, that it could end only in civil war and disunion, temporary or eternal—whether right or wrong, let the history of the last four years decide. The price has now been weighed out, and in part paid. A heavy score yet remains. But I will not essay to reckon up and adjust the appalling accounts of debt and taxation, of suffering, crime and blood in the past or yet to come. Again I accept the facts, rejoiced, indeed, if under the new order of things, we and our children may enjoy the same measure of private happiness and public prosperity which was permitted to us and to our fathers under the Old Union, "part slave and part free." And now, if without slavery, re-union and a pacification real, sincere, and lasting, together with welfare and security to the people of all the States, can be made sure, let slavery utterly perish. But in no event, let the question stand any longer in the way. I still would prefer the Union, the Federal Union, the Old Union—yes, "the Union as it was, under the Constitution as it is"—to either slavery or the abolition of slavery. Fanatics at home, and envious, supplanting statesmen abroad, may not be able or willing to comprehend this conviction: every true and liberal-minded American patriot will.

The fatal mistake of the South—her "blunder," which a false morality pronounced worse than a crime, was in ignoring the great American idea of ONE COUNTRY—not an impulse, not a precept, not a mere aspiration of national vanity, but a commandment written by the finger of God upon the rivers and mountains and the whole face of the land, and graven thence upon the hearts of the people. It was this, not anti-slavery, which held the border slave States in the Union, and stirred, for good or evil, the whole North and West to such exertions of military, naval and financial force, as never before were put forth by any nation. And it was this grand and pervading national sentiment, hedged

by the sanction of destiny, which, according to the measure of my ability, I undertook to expound and justify in the House of Representatives, in 1853, and by this line of argumentation to establish that the Union through peace was inevitable. Nothing but the violence of an intense counter-passion, and the terrible pressure of civil war, could have suppressed, even for a time, the power of this sentiment among the people of the South also. Had their leaders forbore to demand separation and a distinct government, adhering to the old flag, and within the Union under the Constitution, firmly but justly, required new guarantees for old rights believed to be in peril, they might not, indeed, have had barren and deluding sympathy from subjects, and false hopes of assistance from kings and emperors in Europe, eager for the decline and fall of the American Republic; but they would have been cheered by the cordial greetings and the active support of finally an overwhelming majority of the States and people of the West and North. But when they established a permanent distinct government, and took up arms for independence, they marked out between them and us, a high wall and deep ditch which no man, North or West, could pass without the guilt and the penalties of treason. They went beyond the teachings of their own greatest statesmen of the past age; for Mr. Calhoun himself had declared, in 1851, that "the abuse of power, on part of the agent (the Federal Government), to the injury of one or more of the members (the States), would not justify secession on their part; there would be neither the right nor the pretext to secede." No man who was responsible originally for that condition of things which led finally to war, nor what the motives and character of the war after its inception—and upon both these questions I entertain and have expressed opinions as fixed as the solid rock—so far as the South fought for a separate government, she stood wholly without sympathy or support in the States which adhered to the Union. Whatever else may happen, her vision of independence has now melted into air. In the appeal to arms—maintained upon both sides for four years with a courage and endurance grandly heroic—she has failed; and though it had happened otherwise, still, in my deliberate conviction, her experiment of distinct government would have failed also. But the sole question really decided by the war, as by peace years before it had been settled, was that two several governments could not exist among the States of the American Union. And here the whole controversy ought to end. If upon this point, the "Crittenden Resolution" of July, 1861—proposed too, at the same time, in the Senate, by Andrew Johnson—should be modified, let it in all else, both in spirit and letter, be exactly carried out. But whatever policy may now be decreed—and I trust it will be a wise, a liberal, a healing policy—it is the part or wisdom for the people of the South to acquiesce; returning wholly and cordially to the Union, thus making it once again a union of consent, a union of hearts and hands, as our fathers and their fathers made it at first. Then will the passions of the recent terrible strife speedily be hushed. Already millions in the North and West regard them as brethren still, and in a little while these millions will become a vast majority of the people, and will see to it that the solemn pledge be redeemed and the Union restored—"with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired." With slavery, the people of the South will prosper within that Union, as before. Without slavery, if in a wise and judicious way, it shall be abolished, they must, in less than a single generation—except possibly as to two or three States—become more populous, prosperous and powerful than any other section. And the very Southern States Government should be re-organized—an act both impolitic and unnecessary—yet in ten years, if our Federal system survive, the whole people of every State will be restored to all their rights within the State, and the South hold, along with all her citizens, the same position of equality and influence which she held fifty years ago. This is the lesson of history, the law of human nature; and no narrow, suppressing spirit of revenge or of bigotry and sectionalism, in the form of test oaths and testing, restraining, denying regulations without number, can stay the inevitable result—no, not even though it should succeed now in controlling the civil and military power of the Federal Government, and,

"Dressed in a little brief authority, Play such fantastic tricks before high Heaven, As make the angels weep."

But, to return: as to the time and manner, as well as the results of abolishing slavery, and the gravest of all, what shall be done with the Negro, the power and responsibility are alike with the Administration; and again it will be for the Democratic party, guided by the light of its ancient principles and looking only to the public good, simply to accept or reject.

The question of the political and social status of the negro, is essentially and totally distinct from the issue of African servitude; and any man may have been or be yet radically anti-slavery, without being a friend to negro suffrage and equality. Party spirit or pressure, indeed, has driven many into support of the doctrine, contrary to both impulse and conviction; but now the issue is changed. Outside of slavery, the negro, where admitted to reside in a State, ought to be the equal of every other man in all legal rights and remedies, just as is the female or the minor. But political rights and social usage are questions which each State and community or individual must be permitted alone to decide. And four millions of Africans are not to become the wards and pupils of the whole American people, nor the Federal Government a vast eleemosynary institution made up of guardians and trustees and professors and school masters for the negro population. Whatever party now, with the pressure of anti-slavery and war removed, undertakes the task, will fall before the popular reaction. Not the peo-

ple only, but a large majority of the army and of its bravest and ablest officers, and foremost among them the gentleman whom I have already named with honor, are determined in their hostility to the whole doctrine of negro suffrage and equality, and to its natural and necessary, but unlearned corollary, miscegenation. And it is not a question of religion or philanthropy, as slavery was assumed to be; but of pure politics. Women, minors and aliens are alike excluded from political rights upon grounds of public policy; and yet all are of the human family—any of our own race, and more yet, are, many of them, our own mothers and sisters and wives and brothers. A far higher and more compelling public policy, enforced by the example of Mexico and other republics and countries of mixed races not of our common stock, and fifty fold more essential now if four millions of African slaves are to be set free at once among us, forbids political equality to the negro, where we deny it to our own flesh and blood and to those of our own households. Still Mr. Jefferson forty-four years ago, and after the Missouri Question:

"Nothing is more certainly written in the book of fate, than that these people (negro slaves) are to be free; nor is it less certain that the two races, equally free, cannot live in the same government. Nature, habit, opinion have drawn indelible lines of distinction between them."

And he advised gradual emancipation and deportation. Herein lies both the difficulty and the danger of dealing now with slavery in the South.

Upon the question of the political rights of the negro, we are beyond the faint and reproach of the moonstruck of Europe. When they shall have introduced universal white suffrage, removed the disabilities imposed upon millions of their own subjects, and abolished all titles of nobility and other distinctions of rank, it will be time enough for them to again interpose in the domestic affairs of the American Republic.

On this question, too, the Democratic party has a record which it cannot reject. It has proclaimed that though all men, of whatever race, may be equal before the municipal law, yet that the governments here were made by white men to be controlled by the white race. But be this as it may, the entire question, whether slavery remain or be abolished, belongs solely to the people of each State to decide for themselves—else the whole theory of our system of governments has been surrendered, and the system itself is perished.

Every principle of its being, by its very name, by its whole record, it is inexorably committed to hostility to all violation of freedom of speech and of the press; to arbitrary arrests and military commissions for the trial upon any charge, of citizens in States and places where the judicial tribunals were null and void; to armed or corrupt interference with elections; and to the whole host of other wrongs done to public liberty and private right. There can never be peace, quiet, or—dearest, most useful to the human heart, beyond even physical health to the system—the sense of security, till all these shall have been removed from us. But upon this chiefest question of constitutional liberty, the Democratic party no longer stands alone. A large majority of the masses of the Republican party, some among their most influential presses, and many of the ablest and bravest public men of that party, as the votes and the powerful and manly speeches in the Senate and House at the late session attest, are wholly with us. If the President would, by one word, secure the largest public confidence, let him forthwith restore the habeas corpus and proclaim an end to all these instruments of tyranny and oppression.

As to the "Monroe doctrine," I do not doubt that its speedy enforcement would tend more than any other cementing agency, to unite the people of all sections. Without the vindication of that doctrine, the mission of Manifest Destiny will have been but half achieved, and the blood and treasure spent in our civil war largely expended in vain. Upon the Monroe doctrine, England is estopped to make any issue with us, and must remain at peace.

I have said nothing upon questions of Finance—debt, taxation, tariffs, a disordered currency and impending bankruptcy. These are the inevitable penalties of war. But they are mischiefs which have scarce yet been felt. Sufficient, abundantly sufficient unto the day will be the evil thereof.

Concerning the Democratic party as an organization, with new policies arising out of the issues of the hour, many of them to endure for a life-time, it is essential, in my judgment, that a new vitality also be infused into it. In numbers it is more powerful than at any former period. Thus it was unsuccessful has been, at times, but the fate of all parties. In the character, ability, eloquence, integrity and love of country of its public men, and the general intelligence, honesty and patriotism of its masses, it may challenge comparison with any party. But for seven years, and therefore energy of action of purpose, and therefore energy of action. During the war especially, with the control of but two States out of the twenty-three which adhered to the Union; without power, patronage or influence in the Federal Administration, and therefore without any special organization or agency authorized or permitted to prescribe a common line of policy and prompt united action upon the new question daily arising; and with the most vigorous and vehement central authority against it ever known, wielding alike the clamor of patriotism and the cry of religion, acting in politics, upon military principles and through military instrumentalities, and to the whole power of the purse and that sword the entire fighting population of the country, adding a supervision and constraint over press, speech, person, railroad, lightning, highway, steamer

and telegraph, all the modes of action and of locomotion and every vehicle of thought, such alone as the fabled Britaricus might be supposed able to exert; with every appliance of both Church and State, and of social and business organization combined against it, it is rather amazing that the Democratic party did not perish, than wonderful that it should exhibit signs of partial paralysis. To-day, indeed, it lies a powerful but inert mass, yet needing only a new life-blood, a fresh vitality, the "prance-then fire" to be infused into it. There are those yet among the living who were actors, especially in Jackson's day, and many, younger than I am, who remember when the party was a power in the country, exerting all the energy without any part of the terrorism of the late Administration. "Oh, for an hour of Old Doodle!" Without more of courage, more vigor, more audacity, if you please, in grappling with great questions as in former years, the Democratic party cannot, ought not to survive, and must give way to some other younger and more vital organization. If it is to remain in its present comatose State, at now the beginning of a new epoch in public affairs, it were far better that it should be buried out of sight at once. Certainly I do not advise that it shall move without occasion, and waste its superfluous vigor upon the air. "Rightly to be great is, not to stir without great argument; and it may be months before politics and issues are sufficiently defined to require it to act at all. But the repose of conscious power and the lethargy of threatened dissolution are very different things.

I have flushed now what I would have said in prison, had I accepted your invitation to be present with you. I have confined my address, I repeat, wholly to conjecture and suggestion, and desire it especially to be remembered that I have written not as one having authority, but solely for myself. Within this limit I have written the more freely, because, inasmuch as with the single exception of the honored Governor of New Jersey, no member of the Democratic party is in authority—how even are in office any where, though among these are some of the most eminent—each has an equal right to speak to and for the millions of freemen who make up the ranks of that party. I am persuaded, indeed, that by pursuing a line of policy wholly different from that which I have suggested; by rejecting all middle ground; by offering persistent and indiscriminate opposition to the Administration; by waiting with cunning and unpatriotic patience for and seizing upon every opportunity to assail and denigrate most hazardous questions which are to be met now and decided by the President and his advisers, the Democratic party would, after some years and in the natural course of events secure, through the forms of the Constitution, control of the government, with the power and unquestionably the will, set on fire then by "patient search and vigil long," to take ample and violent revenge for wrongs real and imaginary. Such is the history of all revolutions and all great popular convulsions. But I seek peace and would ensure it, and know well that mentioning, and after the event, as for years past, the country would be the victim at last. Patriotism and the public repose alike forbid it.

C. L. VALLANDIGHAM. DAYTON, Ohio, May 5, 1865.

How Nature Covers up Battle Fields.

"Did I ever tell you," says a correspondent of an eastern paper, among the affecting little things one is always seeing in these battle-fields, "how on the ground upon which the battle of Bull Run was fought, I saw pretty, pure, delicate flowers growing out of the empty ammunition boxes, and a wild rose thrusting up its graceful head through the top of a broken drum, which doubtless sounded its last charge in that battle; and a cunning scurled verbera peeping out of a fragment of a burst shell, in which strange spot it was planted; was not that peace growing out of war? Even so shall the beautiful and graceful ever grow out of the horrid and terrible things that transpire in this changing but ever advancing world. Nature covers even the battle-grounds with verdure and bloom. Peace and plenty spring up in the track of the devastating campaign; and all things in nature and society shall work out the progress of mankind."

THE BURNING OF RICHMOND.—Gen. Ewell denies over his own signature having given orders for, or being privy to the burning of Richmond, on its evacuation by the Confederate troops. He attributes it to the outside mob.

A woman is either worth a good deal or nothing. If good for nothing, she is not worth getting jealous for; if she be a true woman, she will give no cause for jealousy. A man is a brute to be jealous of a good woman—a fool to be jealous of a worthless one; but he is a double fool to cut his throat for either of them.

It is stated that while only five revolutionary pensioners are alive, there are one thousand four hundred and eighteen widows of such pensioners alive and drawing pensions.

Last November, Charles Jones, of Marlington, Illinois, lost his wife. Next month he married again. Last week the first wife's body was exhumed, and strychnine found in the stomach. Jones is in prison.

An exceedingly modest young lady desiring a leg of a chicken at the table said, "I'd take the part that ought to be dressed in drawers. A nice young gentleman who sat opposite immediately said, 'I'll take the part that ought to wear the bustle.'"

A critic, malignant enough to tell the truth, says that the most awkward thing in nature is a woman trying to run.