# PITTSBURG CONVENTION.

## THE CROWD THINNING OUT.

### Murdoch, the Actor, and John Burns, the Hero of Gettysburg, on the Platform.

### Visit of Sympathy from the Municipal Authorities of Pittsburg.

## THE PLATFORM AND RESOLUTIONS.

### Their Sentiments Radical to the Bitter End.

## NO CONCESSIONS, NO COMPROMISE.

### SPEECH OF GENERAL BUTLER.

&c. &c. &c.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

PITTSBURG, Sept. 26, 1866.

An unpleasant change in the weather from warm sunshine to a bleak rain has checked the outdoor excitement, which died away with this morning's break of day. The celebration attendant upon the torchlight procession did not end until then, and even after midnight speeches were made by B. Van Riper and others from the balcony of the Monongahela House.

APPEARANCE OF THE CONVENTION.

At the assembling of the Convention to-day the City Hall was well filled, but not so densely as yesterday, and the delegates are rapidly thinning out, although a day parade is on the cards for to-morrow. While there is no doubt a large number of good and true fighting men of the Union army in this Convention, their voices have not been heard, and the proceedings of to-day have confirmed the fears that the movement would be stripped of all moral effect by being controlled and run by politicians, instead of by the fighting men of the army. The main movers and managers in the Convention have been ex-Assemblyman Thos. Van Buren, General Barnum and the accomplished political tactician, General John Cochrane, of New York; the experienced political hack, Ben Butler, of Massachusetts; B. Van Riper, of New Jersey; Governor Cox, of Ohio; Congressman Farnsworth, of Illinois, and Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, and the candidate for the succession, General Geary.

BEN BUTLER AND GOVERNOR COX LOSING GROUND.

The New England soldiers repudiate openly the idea that Ben Butler is a representative man, so far as they are concerned, and the same position is taken by the soldiers of Ohio in regard to Governor Cox. The opposition to the latter gentleman in the Ohio delegation led to-day to some warm words between two of their number. The only soldierly resolution, based upon the sentiments of General Grant and offered by a soldier yesterday, was frowned down by the managers, and to-day the ball has been kept up and tossed around to by the self-constituted cooks and bottle washers on the platform, to the exclusion of the rank and file of the Convention.

The resolutions reported by General Butler were, after a long and spicy conflict, locked into a shape apparently satisfactory to the Convention; but had they spoken the real sentiments of the soldiers they would have simply declared in favor of the Congressional amendment as the acceptable and final terms for the immediate admission of the lately rebellious States into the Union, and, without a word of censure or implied enmity against their late enemies, would have exhorted the Southern soldiers and civilians to adopt those terms cheerfully, and to come back into the Union in peace, good fellowship and brotherly love. This is the true wish and principle of the real fighting men who are here; but they are as modest as heroes generally are, and have suffered themselves to be silently misrepresented by the political wire-workers and plotters by whom the Convention has been manipulated. If their voices had been suffered to be heard they would have done incalculable good by checking the radicalism of Thad Stevens and administering a final death blow to copperheadism on both sides.

THE PROCEEDINGS TO-DAY

have partaken of a singular character. A New Orleans letter was read, which ought in decency and common sense to have been excluded from the Convention, and which was received with murmurs of disapprobation by the soldiers, but was loudly applauded by the politicians. The writer, whose name was refused to the reporters, gives it as his opinion that peace is impossible and unsolicited; that another war is inevitable, and recommends the immediate reorganization and arming of the old volunteer regiments, so that they may be ready at the tap of the drum to march to the South. The North is further recommended by the writer to trim their lawn trees and lamp posts with Northern copperheads. The letter, when read, was smuggled into the pocket of a political outsider on the platform, by whom it had been given to the chairman. Neither was there any applause from the soldiers themselves when a Kansas delegate promised that if the President of the United States would "swing round the circle" as far as Kansas they would jayhawk him. The proceedings were of a character which must be designated "high mixed." There were some fine recitations of poems by Mr. Murdoch, a comic song by a bald headed old gentleman from Maine, with a chorus of "Ha! ha! ho! ho!" by the Maine delegation; a couple of comic political songs and some excellent feats of ventriloquism by Professor Pope, of Washington, and a presentation of a gold-headed cane to Mr. John Burns, of Gettysburg, by an Alderman of Pittsburg, who spoke in a weak voice, which was rendered more inaudible by constant cries of "Louder! louder!" from the soldier boys. Mr. John Burns, it will be remembered, did not leave his house and shedadile when the rebels invaded his State, as did many other Pennsylvanians, leaving their homes to be protected by the boys in blue from New York. He remained on guard and fired upon the invaders. He is a firm, determined looking old gentleman, who has seen over sixty summers, and as he stood on the platform bowing deferentially to the Convention, with a worn beaver hat and an old cotton umbrella of the Sairey Gamp fashion in one hand and his new gold headed cane in the other, he drew forth hearty applause from the soldiers. Then there was an exhibition of two old soldiers and one old sailor of the war of 1812, and a speech from the old tar, who recounted the history of the war with England, sketched the progress of the national troubles with France, gave a review of our diplomatic relations with all foreign countries in 1812, and was proceeding to tell the history of the fight between the Constitution and the Guerriere when the patience of the Convention became exhausted, and he was good naturedly interrupted with applause, which lasted until he resumed his seat. General Barnum continued the show by introducing a resolution begging subscriptions to the New York *Weekly Tribune*, and embodying the prospectus of that enterprising paper, which called forth three cheers for the *Tribune* and three terrible groans for the New York *Times*. General Garfield, however, ruthlessly destroyed the effect of this piece of *Tribune* puffery by striking out the name of that paper, and inserting the words "all the loyal press of the country." This was agreed to by an almost unanimous vote. The Chairman next gave notice that several gentlemen had had their pockets picked. The resolutions were then read, and General John Cochrane appeared on the platform and moved their adoption. What other business was transacted will be learned from the following report of the proceedings.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Sept. 26, 1866.

The Convention assembled at ten o'clock in the City Hall.

THE REPRESENTATION QUESTION.

After prayer by Mr. Matlock General Farnsworth, of Illinois, offered a resolution that in case it may be necessary for this Convention to vote on any question, ten delegates may demand a vote by States, each State to cast the number of votes which it now casts in Congress under the last apportionment, such votes to be announced by the chairman of each State delegation.

General COCHRANE, of New York—Mr. President, Congress is our standard of constitutional law. (Applause.) We therefore present this suggestion to the mover of the resolution that it may be incorporated in it, viz.:—That the resolution operate only as to such States as are represented in and recognized by this Convention.

General Farnsworth said he was in favor of allowing every State representation in the Convention by loyal soldiers, if there were any such present. (Applause.) He was willing to trust the real Simon Pure loyal men, and believed there was nothing to fear from such a course. He would be glad to see every State in the Union represented by loyal soldiers.

A delegate from Tennessee intimated a probable difficulty in allowing the delegates present to vote without proper regulation. He represented that unless some rule was adopted it would be difficult to give a fair expression to the sentiments of the loyal people of the States.

A delegate proposed that where the delegation of a State was less than the Congressional delegation they be allowed to vote according to their strength in the Convention, and where the number exceeded the representation in Congress they cast a vote equal to that representation.

The member from Tennessee opposed such a proposition, remarking that common justice required that in a national convention each State, whether of the North or South, should be treated alike in the matter of representation. The State of Texas, if represented by but one delegate, should be awarded the same representation that was given to Maine or Massachusetts. The representatives of the Southern States came here in danger. The Convention should appreciate their situation.

General Langley, of Ohio, moved to lay the whole subject on the table, which was agreed to.

PRACTICAL SYMPATHY FOR A VETERAN HERO.

General BARNUM, of New York—I rise to a question of privilege. There sits by my side a gallant son of the gallant State of Ohio. Early in the war, in the front of battle at Perryville, he was wounded. I will show you how. (The person alluded to rose in his seat showing his wounds, which consisted of the loss of both arms below the elbow.) Returning to his home and supplying nature's hands with iron, he went out with another regiment from Ohio—the One Hundred and Thirtieth National Guard—as its color-bearer. When he reached Washington he was denied the right of muster, and was obliged to surrender his colors and return to his home. He then applied to Andrew Johnson for employment. He was refused employment. (Hisses and three groans for Johnson.) I have consulted with those who know him well from his State. They tell me he was a gallant soldier and a worthy private citizen. Sitting here by the side of New York our sympathies have gone out toward him, and we have given them practical application by putting $50 in his almost empty pocket. I therefore request in behalf of New York that our fellow delegates from other delegations shall also sympathize with him and put their sympathy in practical shape.

It was then suggested that the chairman of each delegation take up a collection for the purpose named. (Cries of "Name him! Name him.")

General BARNUM—His name is Samuel H. Deckar, of Lucas county, Ohio, formerly of the Fourth United States Artillery.

A GOLD-HEADED CANE FOR JOHN BURNS.

The CHAIR announced that John Burns, of Gettysburg fame, was requested to call at the rooms of the City Council of Pittsburg to receive a gold-headed cane. (Applause.)

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS.

The following letters and telegrams were read:—

BELVIDERE, N. J., Sept. 24, 1866.

General JARDINE, Chairman of New Jersey delegation to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Convention, Pittsburg, Pa.:—

MY DEAR GENERAL—I am sorry to inform you that circumstances beyond my control prevent my meeting with you at Pittsburg, but rest assured that the objects of the Convention enlist my hearty support. Your action in behalf of Congress and the constitutional amendment will show to the country that the soldiers and sailors of the Union are *en masse* determined to defend by ballot those principles for which they sacrificed so much in desperate battles by land and sea. It will show that we shall not surrender the fruits of victory into the hands of those we could not trust in the dark hours of the struggle for the life of our nation, nor into the hands of impenitent rebels who have laid down their arms, but are still in rebellion against the best interests of the country. Wishing you success in your vindication of the true and safe principles of reconstruction, I am your obedient servant,

ROBERT McALLISTER.

General McALLISTER, who was present, rose and said he had come here lest his views should be misunderstood. His name had been without his consent attached to the call for the Cleveland Convention, which he would not touch with a ten foot pole. He would say God speed the soldiers in their noble work.

Three cheers were given for General McAllister.

TROY, N. Y., Sept. 25, 1866.

To the PRESIDENT of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Convention, Pittsburg:—

The Union men of Rensselaer county, in convention at Troy, greet their brothers in the Union ranks, the boys in blue, who vote as they fight, to make treason odious, to restore the Union and to give freedom and protection to every man under the flag which they have planted upon every battle field of the republic.

WILLIAM E. GURLEY, President.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 25, 1866.

To the CHAIRMAN of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Convention:—

Isaac M. Perigoy, a three years' veteran and a carrier in the Baltimore Post Office, was discharged yesterday because of his refusal to sign a circular endorsing "my policy."

WILLIAM NICHOLS.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' CONVENTION, Pittsburg:—

We, the undersigned, soldiers of Hamilton county, Indiana, do hereby endorse the call for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Convention, and pledge ourselves to sustain its action.

[Signed by two thousand citizen soldiers.]

HASTINGS, Minn., Sept. 25, 1866.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' CONVENTION:—

I am a delegate from Minnesota, detained unavoidably. I desire to be counted in attendance, and vote aye on every measure consistent with the Thirty-ninth Congress and John W. Geary, force-ordained governor of Pennsylvania. Will vouch and vote by proxy.

W. G. SEDUE, late Brevet Brig. Gen. U. S. V.

ANXIOUS TO JAYHAWK THE PRESIDENT.

Chairman FISHER, of Kansas, wished, in the name of Kansas and West Virginia, to respond to the sentiment of this Convention and be united in their greetings to the soldiers of the national Union. He would inform the nation that John Brown's soul was marching on. (Cheers.) Custer had been sent to command Kansas. If Johnson should "swing round the circle" as far as Kansas they would promise to jayhawk him.

JAMES E. MURDOCH ON THE STAND.

Colonel McMichael, of Cal., announced that James E. Murdoch, the eminent dramatist, was present, and moved that he be invited to a seat on the stand. The motion was carried with great enthusiasm.

Mr. Murdoch was conducted to the stand. Loud calls were made for him to speak, and in response he came forward and made a brief speech, thanking his audience for the compliment paid him and announcing his entire sympathy with the objects of the Convention.

A delegate from New York requested, on behalf of his delegation, that Mr. Murdoch read "Sheridan's Ride." (Great applause.)

VISIT OF THE CITY COUNCILS OF PITTSBURG.

The City Councils of Pittsburg and Allegheny entered the Convention at this point, and were received with three cheers. General Negley, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, said:—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the Convention—The Councils of the city of Pittsburg, moved by considerations of public respect for this Convention, sympathizing deeply with the objects of the assembly; actuated by feelings of the sincerest gratitude to the defenders of the nation in its passage across the Red Sea of the rebellion, have called upon this meeting in a body to pay their personal and public homage to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the Boys in Blue and the members of these delegations. I have the honor to present them. General Barnum, of New York, said:—I call for three hearty cheers for that body of men who protested Andrew Johnson's draft! (Cheers.)

THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY EXTENDED TO JOHN BURNS.

Mr. RAMB then spoke as follows:—Soldiers and Sailors—It is made my pleasant duty in behalf of the Councils of the city of Pittsburg, to tender to you a cordial welcome to our place, welcome at all times, but especially now, when so many thousands of people are here in consultation in relation to the future of our country. You are not strangers to us. We have heard of you upon the field of battle and upon the ocean. While you were there attending to your duties, we supported you by material aid to the army. We are now engaged in another contest, on another field of battle. And, while we shall attend to our own affairs at the ballot box, we ask your support in the accomplishment of our object, so that after the second Tuesday of October you may all have it to say that you have not supported "My policy." (Cheers.) I am instructed by the Councils to ask whether John Burns is present in the audience? It appearing that the old soldier of Gettysburg was not present, Mr. Rabb continued:—

I would like to say that the councils have further instructed me to say that they have tendered the hospitalities of the city to John M. Burns, of Gettysburg, (cheers,) and, further, in consideration of his distinguished patriotism we have tendered to him, in addition, a gold headed cane. (Cheers.)

The PRESIDENT suggested that perhaps the fittest expression that the convention could make of their sense of the loyalty and the hospitality of these cities have been already heard in the cheers with which these present had received them.

PEOPLE WHOSE MEMORY SHALL EVER BE GREEN.

General BARNUM, of New York—I move that whereas these people have extended the freedom of their beautiful cities to John Burns, the patriot, and whereas they did not extend it to Andrew Johnson, the apostate; therefore, with three rousing cheers, be it

Resolved, That we recognize in the people of Pittsburg and surrounding cities people whose memory shall ever be held green in the hearts of the boys in blue.

With three rousing cheers the motion was carried.

RECITATIONS BY MURDOCH.

Order being again restored, Mr. MURDOCH recited "Sheridan's Ride," amid frequent interruptions of applause. Three cheers were proposed and given for General Sheridan.

A VETERAN OF THE WAR OF 1812.

General CLARK have the pleasure of introducing to you Captain Holbrook, one of the Veterans of 1812.

The CAPTAIN then came forward and delivered some appropriate remarks. He announced that he had served in the navy since 1812, and reviewed the history of the government since that period, speaking particularly of instances of the times in the wars of 1812 and with Mexico.

Governor Curtin, General Willich, and General Negley were in turn called to the stand and made speeches of a few minutes length each; the Convention warmly applauding and, at times loudly cheering.

THE PRESENTATION TO JOHN BURNS.

The CHAIRMAN then introduced John Burns, the hero of Gettysburg, who was received with great cheering. Mr. Robb, in behalf of the City Councils of Pittsburg, then presented to Mr. Burns a handsome gold headed cane, as a slight testimonial of admiration for his gallant conduct in shouldering a musket and hastening to the field of Gettysburg when his home was threatened with invasion. A bouquet of flowers was also presented in behalf of the ladies. These articles were gratefully received by Mr. Burns, who expressed his appreciation of them through the medium of the Chair.

Loud calls were made for General Steel; but it was announced that that gentleman was not present.

"NO WARROR OR NOTHING."

General BARNUM—I have a matter of business which I am sure will meet a response from every loyal soldier. When we see defection in high places so frequently coming upon us, it is proper that we shall rally round and sustain those men and those institutions who, in this hour, stand firm for the right. I therefore have the honor to offer the following preamble and resolution:—

Whereas, this Convention recognizes in a free press the bulwark of freedom, and whereas it is the duty of every patriot in this hour of national peril to put forth every effort for right and country; therefore

Resolved, That we heartily recommend to all friends of freedom and their country to aid in advancing light and truth upon the great questions of liberty and loyalty as they are disseminated by the New York *Tribune*.

GROANS AND THANKS.

A DELEGATE—Three groans for the New York *Times*. (Groans.)

Mr. JARDINE, of New Jersey—That resolution goes to the committee under the rule already adopted.

General GARFIELD—I move to strike out the words "New York *Tribune*" and insert in lieu thereof "the loyal press of the country."

The amendment was agreed to, and the resolution was referred.

A resolution of thanks to the Sanitary Commission, Christian Commission, Ladies' Aid Society and Loyal League Unions was adopted.

MORE TELEGRAMS.

The following despatches were read:—

NEW YORK, Sept. 26, 1866.

L. EDWIN DUDLEY, temporary President Soldiers' and Sailors' Convention:—

Letter too late. I prayed that your committee's invitation was not sent to St. Louis. Its earlier reception would have enabled me personally to express my cordial sympathy with the objects of the Convention. J. C. FREMONT.

Three cheers for Fremont were proposed by Colonel Moody, of Ohio, and given by the Convention.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 26, 1866.

To the Chairman of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Convention:—The Union League of Philadelphia sends greeting to the Loyal Soldiers' and Sailors' Convention. May the results of your deliberations in council be as successful as your glorious victories on land and sea.

JAMES H. ORNE.

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS TO CONGRESS AND SYMPATHY FOR THE OFFENDED OF ALL PARTIES.

Major JOSEPH P. LOCHMAN, of Philadelphia, offered the following:—

Resolved, That the thanks of the country are due to the Thirty-ninth Congress of the United States for their revision of and action upon the much perverted Neutrality laws of the United States, and to the Hon. N. P. Banks, the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, for his able and exhaustive report thereon.

Resolved, That we deeply feel for the unfortunate and oppressed of all nations and accord to them our loyalest sympathy and, whenever lawful and practicable, our earnest co-operation and assistance in their efforts to throw off the yoke of their oppressors, and erect for themselves republics like our own; and we are animated with the hope that the day is not far distant when Ireland in the Old World and Mexico on our own continent can hail us as free republican nations in fact as they should be of right.

The resolution was referred.

A delegate moved that the Convention take a recess until half past three o'clock, but subsequently withdrew that motion, General Butler, chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, appearing in the hall with the report of the committee.

THE PLATFORM.

After great cheering, General Butler came forward and said:—

Mr. PRESIDENT—The Committee on Resolutions has unanimously instructed me to report the following as a platform of principles for the soldiers and sailors here assembled:—

By the soldiers and sailors of the army and navy of the United States, in convention assembled, be it

Resolved, That the action of the present Congress in passing the pending constitutional amendment is wise, prudent just. It clearly defines American citizenship, and guarantees all his rights to every citizen. It places on a just and equal basis the right of representation, making the vote of a man in one State equally potent with the vote of another man in any State. It righteously excludes from places of honor and trust the chief conspirators, guiltiest rebels, whose unatoned crimes have drenched the land in fraternal blood. It puts into the very frame of our government the inviolability of the national debt and the nullity forever of all obligations contracted in support of the rebellion. (Applause.)

Resolved, That it is unfortunate for the country that these propositions have not been received in the spirit of conciliation, clemency and fraternal feeling in which they were offered, as they are the mildest terms ever granted to the subdued rebels. (Applause.)

Resolved, That the President, as an executive officer, has no right to a policy as against the legislative department of the government. (Applause.) that his attempt to fasten his scheme of reconstruction upon the country, is as dangerous as it is unwise; his acts in sustaining it have retarded the restoration of peace and unity, they have converted conquered rebels into impudent claimants to rights which they have forfeited, and places which they have desecrated. If consummated, it would render the sacrifices of the nation useless; the loss of the lives of our buried comrades vain, and the war in which we have so gloriously triumphed what his present friends at Chicago in 1864 declared to be a failure. (Applause.)

Resolved, That the right of the conqueror to legislate for the conquered has been recognized by the public law of all civilized nations; by the operation of this law for the conservation of the good of the whole country, Congress has the undoubted right to establish measures for the conduct of the revolted States, and to pass all acts of legislation that are necessary for the complete restoration of the Union.

Resolved, That when the President claims that by the aid of the army and navy he might have made himself Dictator, he insulted every soldier and sailor in the republic. He virtually admits he understands that the loyal people of this nation can never be used to overthrow civil liberty or popular government. (Applause.)

Resolved, That the neutrality laws should be so amended as to give the fullest liberty to the citizen consistent with the national faith; that the great Union republican party is pledged to assist liberty and equal rights in the Old World, and therefore we tender to all peoples struggling for freedom our sympathy and cordial co-operation. (Applause.)

Resolved, That the Union men of the South, without distinction of race or color, are entitled to the gratitude of every loyal soldier and sailor who served his country in suppressing the rebellion, and that in this present dark hours of trial, when they are being persecuted by the rebels, not because they are now, and have been, true to the government, we will not prove recreant to our obligations, but will stand by and protect with our lives, if necessary, those brave men who remain true to us when all around are false and faithless. (Applause.)

Resolved, That in reorganizing the army justice to the volunteer officers and soldiers demands the national and efficient service in the field ought ever to have place in the army and navy of the Union. (Applause.)

General BUTLER said:—Mr. President—These are the resolutions offered by the Committee. The question is now before the Convention, what shall be done with them?

General COCHRANE—Mr. President, permit me to say that a more complete, just and righteous platform for a whole people to occupy has never before been presented to the national sense. I move, sir, the adoption of the report. (Cheers.)

The vote was taken by the entire audience rising and giving three cheers.

General BUTLER—The report having been adopted, I have been instructed to offer this resolution—

Resolved, That a national committee to form a Soldiers and Sailors union of all who agree with the principles set forth in the resolutions of this Convention, shall be selected by the several delegations here represented to consist of members from each State and territory, the names to be reported to the committee appointed to notify the officers, and take such steps as may seem to them necessary for the furtherance of the principles of the great Union party to which we belong.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

ADDRESS OF GENERAL BUTLER.

General BUTLER was again vociferously called for, and coming forward addressed the Convention as follows:—

GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION:—May I ask your indulgence by the most perfect attention, that I may be able to make myself heard. We are met here on the most momentous issues ever presented to any body of men, and to no such body of men was ever before a governmental question presented for adoption. You are called upon to support as citizens those principles and those rights and that course of government for which you fought in the field. (Applause.) We might have well hoped when the last rebel surrendered, and when our arms were victorious everywhere that peace and concord and unity should prevail; but unfortunately for the country some evil thought entered into the breast of the Executive of the nation assuming to himself strength of mind and purpose to deal with a question which he should have presented to the whole government of the United States in Congress assembled. He undertook by his own fiats to reconstruct the country. It was an act, the power to do which no President had ever before claimed. The question of admitting states into the Union had more than once been presented to this government. Kansas we all remember; Missouri passes beyond the memory of many of us, but history tells us that the country divided upon the question of what terms Missouri would be admitted under. Did the then Executive—able and constitutional lawyer that he was—did the then Executive claim that by his fiat, by his policy, he could say how a State was to come into the Union? No. It was referred to the Congress of the United States. But, passing on, the present Executive gave what he called an experimental government to each of the States, for which I have searched in vain to find any constitutional authority. What becomes of the states that have revolted from the Union? For in that question to which I purpose to call your attention for a few moments, it seems to me, the whole issue is here and now to be determined. You remember that because Abraham Lincoln was elected eleven States, with the sympathy of some two or three more, revolted from the Union, seized all the property and drove out every vestige of Union authority and Union powers, armed themselves against the constitutional authority of the country, confederated themselves into a Union and government, raised armies and attempted to inaugurate and set afloat a navy, and put themselves in such a position that the Supreme Court of the United states decided that all the people on this territory were national public enemies, engaged in a civil and territorial war. Here, at this point, fellow-citizens, we should stop to consider what was their condition. If they were not all that time out of the Union, certain it is that the Union was out of them. (Laughter.) Standing just there, my comrade sailors, when we passed Fort Jackson, under the lead of the immortal Farragut, did we believe that Louisiana had all her rights in the Union at that time? You who landed at Port Royal after that most brilliant bombardment, fellow soldiers, did you believe that South Carolina was then in the Union with all her rights and privileges as a part of the governing power of this Union? Clearly not. Then let us follow on for a few moments, because, if there is any man so stupid here as to believe that at that time South Carolina had all her rights in the Union as a part of the government, him have I offended, and he had better take his hat and go to dinner, for I shall not address him any longer. (Applause.) Now, then, with varied success, Gettysburg, Antietam and a thousand other battles, of which you are the representatives, the war was fought out. We all agree that at the time I have spoken of, the beginning of the war, these men had no rights in the Union. When the war was fought out, what was the next step in the progress of the nation? All the armed soldiers representing these men surrendered themselves as prisoners of war. Mark that! surrendered themselves and their rights and everything they had to our victorious arms. (Applause.) Is there a man here that will claim that by that surrender men got rights? (Applause.) Is there any man here that will claim that a man conquers saying, "I give up?" (Applause.) Then they got no rights. What did they become? What did they claim they were? What, did they claim amnesty as paroled prisoners of war? Now then, my doubting friend, if any there are here, is not a paroled prisoner of war pretty poor material to make sovereigns of the Union out of? (Great applause.) What were the States then in intendment of public law? What were the states in intendment of national right and of every decision of every court and every jurist? They were but camps of paroled prisoners under the guard of our soldiers to see that nobody molested them so long as they behaved well. Now then I ask you to-night here, can there be any doubt in the language of your resolutions that the Congress of the United States, representing the government of the conquering army of the United States, have full rights to make all necessary rules and regulations for the government of the camps of paroled prisoners of war? I do not discuss the question what you call them, I deal with the question boldly and firmly what they were. You may call them Territories, conquered provinces, anything but our governors. I won't stand that. (Applause.) But I have heard the sophism, which is the end and aim, the Alpha and Omega, of all argument against us, to this effect:—Well, I don't understand you there. You say that a State has no right to secede. You say that the States tried to secede and you whipped them and prevented them. Then you say they are not in protection of the American flag. We say the obligations of every man remain the same to the United States. The distinction we make is this: They lost their rights by the crimes they committed, while they did not get rid of their obligations. They had rights as a part of the government, as States in the Union; they had no obligations as citizens of the United States. Let me give you an example familiar to our courts. A man commits murder. At that moment he has all the high rights of a citizen—the right to ballot, the right to be elected to office, the right to the marriage relation, the right to the government of his children, the right to walk a freeman around the streets; but by the act of murder, by that crime he forfeits his right to his liberty, his wife, his children, and even life itself. Mark me, he gets rid of none of his obligations to society by his own crime. (Applause.) So with these States; while they could not make one hair white or black so far as their disseverance from the Union was concerned, yet they by their treason and their crimes could forfeit all their rights in the Union; not less traitors because they were citizens, not less citizens because they were traitors. (Applause.) Now, then, what is a State for? It is said that a State can never die. Suppose for a moment that all the people of a State die, what becomes of the State then? (Laughter.) Suppose all the people move out of a State. I now speak of the political organization as a part of this government, what becomes of the State then? Suppose one step further, that all the people of a State substantially, with a few glorious exceptions, which we need not now stop to consider—suppose they all repudiated their obligations to the government, and all bound themselves together and swore allegiance to another government, and all united in arms to drive out the authority of this government, what then becomes of the State? Why the State is destroyed, because the State is but the organ of civil government. I do not know, my friends, that it will make the argument any stronger to quote an authority to you, especially such an authority. But Andrew Johnson, in his proclamation appointing provisional governors, says that he appoints provisional governors because all civil government is destroyed in the revolted States, when all civil government is destroyed, using his very language, "Where was the State?" Therefore all the ideas that a State can never die—that a State must always exist—and that a State by its people can fight the Union for four years and then come back of its own volition and undertake to govern the Union, is a sophism and a delusion unworthy of an intelligent people. (Applause.) Now, then, it is said, further, that a State cannot die, and can not lose its rights, because it has no right to secede. Let us look at that a little further. I find a man on the sidewalk weltering in his blood, razor in his hand, showing a case of suicide. Why, I say, the man is dead. No, say you, he cannot be dead; he has no right to cut his throat; it is a question of right, not a question of fact. So I answer, this is a question of fact and not a question of right, and I repeat once more what I understand to be the true principles of the great republican party on this question, that in this great contest not one right of the government over these States or over their citizens was lost, but every right of every traitor on its soil forfeited and gone forever. (Applause.) If we have settled them to our satisfaction upon the principles of inexorable logic and truth, what is the condition of those people we have settled definitely? What shall be the rights of Congress or the rights of the rest of the nation? Their rights are all powerful, their duty is another question. Now, in all governmental communities it has always been found necessary for the government to treat communities as if they had erred or been misled, to be in the mass forgiven; but all governments have always treated as examples those that misled their communities, and that is our duty in the present crisis it would seem to me (applause), to extend to the South, to those southern men, who as communities have been misled, our cordial welcome back when they will come back, in the spirit of truth, of justice, of right, of kindness, and of loyalty, in which we offer to receive them. But for the men that misled them—the great unrepentant mass, let them be so dealt with that no man hereafter shall leave his seat in the Congress of the United States or desert the glorious flag for the purpose of taking command in the armies of our enemies. (Applause.) As I have said governments must deal with communities as if they had erred, as soon as the communities have shown a desire to be received back in an humble—mark the word!—in an humble thankfulness for the clemency meted out to them (because it is to men who have erred to be humble). I would answer here the question put by the President, "What, do you hang eight millions?" No, no, Mr. President, God forbid! But you begin and hang one, and we will tell you when to stop. (Tremendous applause.) Now, Mr. President, perhaps, by no means the worst man in the country with confidence; but he chose to take the place of a representative man. He played for an empire, and stake his life on the result. And let him pay the forfeit. (Applause.) As an example for all time, that no man shall plot treason in the halls of Congress of the United States. (Applause.) What shall we say fellow soldiers of another man who was educated in the military academy of the United States to be equal to which we had to serve four years in the field, mid blood and death, privation and imprisonment, brought up at the feet of Camalial. The treason-tainted chief of staff of the Lieutenant General of the United States army on the 19th of April, 1861, when our neighbors and comrades were being shot down in Baltimore resigned his commission and went back to his native State, for what purpose? For the purpose on the morning of the 23d of April following, accepting a commission as commander of all the rebel forces in Virginia. Is there any man here who is so stupid as not to know that Colonel Lee, of the United states cavalry, when he resigned his commission on the 19th day of April, believed and knew that he was to be appointed Commander-in-Chief of the rebel Army of Virginia? He did know it. Now, fellow citizens, what shall be done with the traitor who deserts his flag and takes with him the secrets of his commander? (Cries of—"Hang him!") Shooting is too good for him who deserts for the purpose of taking command or bribe by a higher command in the armies of his country. Why we all know that by every law, human, and without irreverence I may say divine, any soldier who deserts his flag for the purpose of taking command in the army of the enemy shall surely suffer death. (Applause.) But, say you, General Lee but followed the secession of his State. Alas! my friends, history shows that there was not left to him even that too poor an excuse for rebellion; for on the 17th of April his State passed the ordinance of secession, but they put in that ordinance a clause that it should be void and of none effect until it was ratified by the people at a vote to be taken on the 23d of the following May, more than a month afterwards, so that General Lee left the army of the United states and went into Virginia, and was at the head of the rebel forces of Virginia before his state seceded, and carried her out at the point of the bayonet. Now, gentlemen, we had an Arnold, and he escaped punishment; but he did not remain here. We have, it seems to me, an equally guilty traitor. And the question to be decided in this country is, whether his surrender as a prisoner of war when he was captured shall avail against the description of law now to take service in the armies of the enemies of his country. (Cries of "No," "No.") I therefore again say that I would make an example of the man so that no soldier hereafter should ever find it compliant to desert the flag of his country. (Cheers.) And for the rest the most humiliating spectacle that took place at the close of this war was that here were these rebels threatening that if we did not do pretty much as they wished they would go to Mexico, or Brazil, or South America, or somewhere, they would go and leave us. What ought we to have said to them? "Go" stood not on the order of your going, but go at once!" More than that, here is a free ticket on board a United States transport, to take you wherever you like, and the further the better, but see that you never come back. And is there one man here to doubt that of that course had been taken there would be today peace, quiet and amity with the South. Nobody doubts a golden opportunity was then lost, but not for ever. We have offered to the States in rebellion that if they will accept the conditions of amendment they shall return to their positions in the government. But, fellow soldiers, I want to add another to that. ("Good! good!") There may be many that the country need to add, but I, as a soldier, desire to add one condition, and you shall judge me whether I wish to be harsh. In the State cemetery of Texas did lie reposing the bones of city compatriots who fell victims to the climate and to the war in that State. They were sleeping side by side with the confederate dead. There all animosity should have been forgotten. But the state Legislature of Texas have passed a resolution that our comrades' bones must be removed to some other place lest they contaminate the Confederate dead. (Hisses.) Again, at Holly Wood sleep our comrades who died at Belle Isle and Libby; and when, on a time of festival, all Virginia turned out to deck the graves of the Confederate dead a few Northern ladies, whom they term "Northern abolitionists," and a few women of darker hue, but of true patriotism, went to deck the graves of our comrades with their loyal tokens of respect; these flowers and wreaths were torn down and trampled in the dust. Again the United States took money from the Treasury of the North, sustained by our taxation, and bought a piece of land near Malvern Hill, and the brave and glorious dead who repose in their last resting place on that battlefield, where, we may say, without doing wrong to anybody, if their victory had been followed up the war would have been ended. The United States, I say, bought a cemetery and gathered the fragments of our dead and buried them there with due respect and Christian kindness, and over their remains they raised this our flag—(pointing to the American standard)—as the most fitting monument for a soldier of the Union. (Cheers.) The reconstructed rebels of Virginia tore down that flag and trampled it in the dust. (Cries of—"Shame.") There was a time in this war when a man who tore down the American flag, met his deserts—(great cheering)—and that time will come again. Now, in this connection I would say that we shall not have those States brought back into the Union until our dead comrades can sleep in peace and honor within their borders—(cheers)—and if any man wants reconstruction before that happens I am not with him for one. (Cheers.) Therefore the committee have said in their resolutions that it was unfortunate that our propositions to Congress were not received in the same fraternal spirit with which they were offered; and that that time comes, be it sooner or later, until every man can walk in peace, uncovering the flag of the United States if he pleases, with devotion to the Union on his lips, and not be molested in every revolted State, for one I do not want to see that State in the Union making laws for me. (Great cheering.) The sooner that time comes the better, but never until the two come together. (Cheers.)

(We had not received the conclusion of General Butler's speech when, owing to the lateness of the hour, we were compelled to go to press.—ED. HERALD.)

### The Feeling of the Soldiers Against the Radical Character of the Proceedings.

PITTSBURG, Sept. 26, 1866.

Since the adjournment of the Convention much dissatisfaction has been expressed by soldiers from all parts of the country, especially from New York, at some of the principles and sentiments put forth by General Butler in his address before the Convention to-day. His declaration that more may be required of the Southern States in the event of their adoption of the constitutional amendment before they shall be admitted to Congress is generally regarded with great disfavor, as threatening to leave the country still in agitation and the States unrepresented, even though the constitutional amendment should prevail. The better part of the soldiers also utterly repudiate his demand for the hanging of General Lee as well as Jeff. Davis. The large majority of the soldiers distinctly declare that such are the sentiments of the party to which they intend to give their ballots.

This evening there has been speaking at the City Hall by Murdoch and others, and at the Monongahela House but most of the delegates have left, and there will be only a spirited fling for to-morrow's doings, which will be mainly of a social character.

The National Committee, appointed by the Convention not to-night and organized by the selection of General Barnum, of New York, as Chairman. An executive committee of one from each State was formed, with a provision that nine shall form a quorum, the Chairman of the National Committee to be Chairman of the Executive Committee.

A meeting of the Libby prisoners, with Colonel Streight as Chairman, was held to-night, and formed an organization to be known as the "Association of the survivors of Rebel Prisons," electing Colonel Streight as Chairman.

# BROOKLYN INTELLIGENCE.

THE RIVALS—AFFRAY BETWEEN TWO NEGROES.—On Tuesday evening a public meeting was held in the African Methodist Episcopal church, Bridge street. Before the audience dispersed it was fast approaching midnight. Among those who emerged into the dark, unlit street were Thomas Gibson and John H. Moore, both residents of Navy street. Gibson is a good looking "cream colored fellow," by occupation a driver; and Moore is supposed to have been jealous of him because he carried off the sweetheart of the latter. At all events a row took place between them; knives or a knife was drawn, and almost before Moore knew it his arm was badly cut. Gibson was taken before Justice Cornwall yesterday morning, who has set down the case for examination on Friday.

THE DONNELLY INQUEST.—The adjourned inquest into the circumstances attending the death of Patrick Donnelly, who was stabbed by Wm. Cox on the evening of the 16th inst., was resumed yesterday before Coroner Lynch. Several witnesses were examined, when the inquest was further adjourned until Friday next, at one o'clock P. M.

CONCLUSION OF THE MARKHOFF INQUEST—THE VERDICT.—The inquest in the case of John Markhoff who was drowned a short time since in a mysterious manner at Greenpoint, was concluded yesterday morning before Coroner Lynch. John Hussing, Dr. Willets and other witnesses were examined, and one of the prisoners, Henry Witty, made a statement to the effect that he was in the boathouse and heard Smith say that Markhoff had jumped overboard, intending