

which their ancestors maintained against George III. and his Ministers; or whether the parts have not been wholly inverted, or whether the North does not find itself playing the part of the very King whom for eighty years it has held up to the execration of its people as the vilest and most cruel of tyrants?

We know that the North has not succeeded, but can it show any ground to convince us that it deserves success? They cannot submit their cause to be tested by their own principles. Can they point out any others under which their cause will obtain more favor? America has been celebrated, and justly, as the first country that ever based its Constitution on the principles of abstract right and justice. The founders of the Republic maintained the principle of the inalienable rights of man against prescription and authority. Rebels in their eyes were only men reverting to the first principles of natural justice, and sovereigns lost their right to reign as soon as they ceased to contribute to the happiness of their people. These are the stereotyped doctrines of the 4th of July. To be consistent, the Northern States ought now to denounce and punish them as treason.

How are the mighty fallen! A year ago the North went forth to conquer, confident in its numbers, in its vast flotilla, in its crushing artillery, and in its possession of capital, for the moment, at least, entirely without limit. It went forth to fight for empire, and, as men do who seek to conquer and oppress their fellow-men, it trusted mainly in overbearing might, and rested the merits of its cause on the sharpness of its sword. It invaded on every side a territory scantily peopled, supplied with like wealth, without manufactures, without large cities, cut off from the rest of the world by the vast superiority of its antagonist, with nothing to rely on but dauntless courage and resolute endurance. The Southerner was ill-armed, ill-clothed, ill-fed, poorly lodged, and he was encumbered with the most formidable of all hindrances—a slave population of several millions, to whose mercies he had to leave his wife and his child, his homestead and his plantation, when he went forth to fight his battle of independence.—Wherever they could swim the Northern gunboats penetrated, and so long as they were accompanied by this flying artillery, which also afforded an easy means of transport for all the wants of an army, the Federals proved irresistible.—The time came at last, however, when it was necessary to advance beyond the reach of gunboats, and then, as we in England always predicted, the Federal difficulties began. The Confederates withdrew from before Washington, but the Federals could not follow them, and Gen. Beauregard disappeared from his lines at Corinth, leaving Gen. Halleck quite unable to pursue him.—The great Army of the West has been reduced to inactivity, but the Army of the East has contrived, by marine transport, to place itself on the South-east of Richmond, thus interposing that Capital and the whole army of the Confederates between itself and the remainder of the Federal forces. As if this was not enough, Gen. McClellan disposed his men on a piece of ground divided by three rivers, thus giving every facility for the destruction of his army in detail. The catastrophe has come, as might have been

expected. Almost surrounded by their enemies, the Confederates, moving on shorter lines, had always the opportunity of throwing an overwhelming force on any point which they chose to attack. An advantage once gained was vigorously improved, and after seven days' hard fighting the Federal army is rolled up into a dense mass, the destiny of which every body expects to be very similar to that which has been prematurely announced. After pouring forth blood like water, and fertilizing the fields of Virginia with thousands of corpses, the North finds itself obliged to begin all over again, with credit destroyed, a ruined revenue, a depreciated currency, and an enormous debt.—Nay, as if these were not sufficient, a Republic, based avowedly on the inalienable right of man to personal liberty, to life, and to the pursuit of happiness, and on the principle that Governments are formed for the purpose of establishing these rights, begins to talk of levying 300,000 men by conscription.

Will nothing arrest this frantic and suicidal rage? Is there no one from whom the American people will listen to the words of truth and soberness? We know that counsels of moderation, ever distasteful in themselves, are doubly distasteful when coming from us; but we can scarcely believe that the infatuated multitude will remain as blind to the teaching of facts as they have hitherto been deaf to the voice of well-meant expostulation. What proof do they yet require that they are embarked on a fatal and ruinous cause? Their wealth is turned into poverty, their peace into discord, their prosperity into wretchedness; the power in which they gloried is effaced; society is torn in pieces by the hands of its own members; law is trampled under foot, and the country is fast falling into anarchy, the only refuge from which is despotism. We do not scruple to say, that we shall rejoice if the worst anticipation be realized—not from any ill will to the North, but because we see in the failure of its efforts to subjugate the Southern States the only prospect—we had almost said the only possibility—of peace.

There is something pathetic, when compared with the language to which we have been accustomed, in the extreme thankfulness with which New York hails the escape of the army from absolute perdition. We hear no more of "strategic movements," of bets that McClellan would be in Richmond in a week. Truth and nature have at last found utterance, and the language of empty swagger and wilful falsehood is thrown aside. "Could the army once make a stand, be permitted a brief interval of rest, and time to throw up entrenchments, under the protection of the gunboats, on the James River, all would be well. On Wednesday and Thursday there was no fighting. We cannot exaggerate the importance of this fact, nor exult too much over it; it is the salvation of the army; therefore, though we have, perhaps, lost men by thousands and guns by hundreds, we announce the news with gladness." We earnestly hope that this soberness of tone and humbleness of expectation is an indication of the first step in a change of public opinion, which may induce the North to shake off the sanguinary dream of conquest and empire, and return to a due estimation of its own interests, and the rights of those whom it has been its futile ambition to trample under foot.

TEAMSTERS WANTED:

HEADQUARTERS, QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE, C. S. A.
CHARLESTON, VA., Sept. 20, 1862.

ONE HUNDRED TEAMSTERS WANTED.
Good wages paid, and Rations.
Also BLACKSMITHS and WHEELWRIGHTS.
EDWARD McMAHAN,
Major and Chief Quartermaster.

Sep 26-1f

GENERAL ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPT. OF WESTERN VA.,
CHARLESTON, VA., Sept. 17, 1862.

General Order No. —

The commanding General feels deeply sensible of his obligation to treat all persons in arms against the Confederacy, and who may fall into his hands, with the utmost humanity required by Christian charity and the usages of war. In like manner all citizens who obey the laws and repudiate their treason, will be treated with the clemency declared in the Commanding General's Proclamation. He has heard, with deep mortification, that in a single instance this rule has been departed from by the unauthorized order of one of his officers; but the wrong done will be promptly punished and redressed.

All persons who have received arms of the public enemy are invited to bring their arms into camp, and if they choose, take service in the defense of the country. No punishment will be imposed on such persons.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. LORING.

H. FITZHUGH, Chief of Staff.

Sep 26-1f

GENERAL ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPT. OF WESTERN VA.,
CHARLESTON, VA., Sept. 14, 1862.

General Order No. —

The Commanding General congratulates the Army on the brilliant march from the Southwest to this place in one week, and on its successive victories over the enemy at Fayette C. H., Cotton Hill and Charleston. It will be memorable in history, that, overcoming the mountains and the enemy in one week, you have established the laws and carried the flag of the country to the outer borders of the Confederacy. Instances of gallantry and patriotic devotion are too numerous to be specially designated at this time; but to Brigade Commanders, and their officers and men, the Commanding General makes grateful acknowledgment for services to which our brilliant success is due. The country will remember and reward you.

By command of

MAJOR GENERAL LORING.

H. FITZHUGH, Chief of Staff.

Sept 26-1f

GENERAL ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPT. OF WESTERN VA.,
CHARLESTON, VA., Sept. 16, 1862.

General Order No. —

All public Stores, Horses, Wagons, and property of every description, captured by the Army, or in possession of private citizens, will be handed over to the Quartermaster. All plundering of such property will be severely punished. The Commanding General learns that great waste has occurred by want of attention to the law in this respect, and by appropriation of such property in the Army.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. LORING.

H. FITZHUGH, Chief of Staff.

Sept 26-1f

GENERAL ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPT. OF WESTERN VA.,
CHARLESTON, VA., Sept. 18, 1862.

General Order No. —

On and after this date, all persons arriving at this place will report at once to Major Thomas Smith, Provost Marshal.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. LORING.

W. B. MYERS, A. A. G.

Sep 29-1f