The Valley Spirit.

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TERMS:

The Valley Spirit is published every Wednesday morning at $2.50 per year in advance. [illegible]

All communications on business of the office should be addressed to B. Y. HAMSHER & CO.

Legal Notices.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—[illegible]

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—[illegible] JOSEPH DOUGLAS, Adm'r.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—[illegible] WILLIAM STUMBAUGH, Adm'r.

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TO PROFESSORS OF MUSIC, AMATEURS, AND THE MUSICAL PUBLIC GENERALLY. F. A. WUNDERMANN. [illegible]

Miscellaneous.

U. S. 7-30 LOAN. [illegible]

SEVEN THIRTY LOAN. [illegible]

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Notices, &c.

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WANTED 1000 AGENTS FOR THE [illegible] NATHAN L. JANNEY.

PROPOSALS.—Sealed proposals will be [illegible]

DISSOLUTION NOTICE.—The partnership [illegible]

Candidates.

SHERIFFALTY.—WILLIAM REBER [illegible]

SHERIFFALTY.—[illegible]

SHERIFFALTY.—SIMON P. HARMON [illegible]

Philadelphia Trade.

BLINDS AND SHADES. [illegible]

AT THE PARIS MANTILLA EMPORIUM. [illegible]

1865 PHILADELPHIA 1865 PAPER HANGINGS. [illegible]

BEST WHITE LEAD! BEST ZINC! [illegible]

MILLINERY GOODS. [illegible]

628. HOPKINS' HOOP SKIRT 628. [illegible]

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL CO'S CHEAP FERTILIZERS. [illegible]

Tobacco and Segars.

TOBACCO AND SEGAR STORE.—[illegible]

ALL PERSONS INDEBTED TO [illegible]

The Valley Spirit.

THE WAR OVER—WHAT THEN?

The effect, upon parties, of the end of the war is beginning to be much discussed. The Abolitionists cannot but feel that, with the end of the war, must come a terrible shock to their power as a party. They know that it must at once cut off from them hundreds of thousands whose pecuniary interest alone led them to sustain an administration that was profitable, and who, contracts being unattainable, and the myriads of forms which executive patronage can assume only in time of war being no longer available, will abandon the party to which they have for four years been giving a purchased and heartless support. The war has given to the party now dominant, engines all powerful for the crushing of its political opponents. These engines will be no longer available or even have existence, when the strife shall cease. The Abolitionists, while the war lasted, could absolutely control the ballot boxes. They could call to their aid the influence of military officers upon Democratic soldiers in the field, compelling the latter, whose comfort, and even whose lives were at the mercy of their superiors in military rank, to suppress their own sentiments, or even to assume the political notions of those superiors—which superiors were controlled in turn for their dependence upon an Abolition administration for military promotion. This element of strength will be destroyed by the return of peace. The vast armies of political spies, *mouchards*, government detectives, provost marshals, deputy provost marshals, deputy-deputies, commissioners of drafts, enrolling officers, recruiting officers, examining surgeons, inspectors of horses, inspectors of mules, inspectors of every conceivable thing used in the army, agents to buy and agents to sell, fellows between the two latter in complicity to both and making "good things" out of their jobs, the swarms of officials connected with the machinery by which trade was regulated between "loyal," insurgent and semi-insurgent communities, confiscation agents, additional turnkeys to the densely populated bastiles, petty lords of military hospitals all over the land, dilapidated preachers of easy virtue who had calls to "support the government," not particularly by preaching or praying, but by pocketing with commendable regularity the salaries of the chaplaincies—all these, and thousands upon thousands of others not enumerated, could be relied upon always to labor diligently for the success of the party from whom they had their daily bread, well buttered. All that is over now—if the war be really ended.

Just so soon as the Abolition party shall be stripped of the power to bribe, to intimidate, to force acquiescence in their monstrous wrongs, will come their doom; and when they shall be obliged, unsustained by the agencies of which we have spoken, to confront the disenthralled people at the polls, God pity them!

Democrats might well rejoice to witness the close of the war. Bonfires, illuminations, bell ringings, the loud booming of artillery, would but inadequately express their joy at the prospect of restored vitality to THE WILL OF THE GOVERNED.—*Age.*

[From the German Reformed Messenger.]

RELIGION AND THE GOVERNMENT.

If anybody thinks the American government has no righteous bias, he is most egregiously mistaken. It seeks to appear neutral, but it is not difficult to discern which way it leans. Its religion, however, is of a very utilitarian character. It compliments most those churches or religious bodies, which serve its interests best according to its notion. Those bodies which have thrown themselves most cordially into the worldly current receive its chief attention. And it seems meet that they should thus have their reward.

We notice in a recent order from the President, that the United States flag is to be erected over Fort Sumter, Charleston harbor, with imposing ceremonies. This is all right. That flag deserves to be honored on the spot where treason first trailed it in the dust. To this there can be no objection.—But it is also ordered, that Rev. Henry Ward Beecher shall be invited to deliver an address on the occasion. We suspected that something like this would take place, when it was reported, a short time ago, that Henry Ward was closeted with the President, in Washington. It was given out also, at the time, that said Reverend gentleman expressed a desire to preach the gospel (?) in Charleston, as soon as it should fall into the hands of our forces. No doubt some such desire was expressed to the President, and, as a result, Mr. Beecher is now invited to deliver an address on the occasion referred to.

The order seems to us to be in bad taste. It looks like a taunt to the South. It is not usual to call clergymen from the sacred desk to deliver orations on such occasions. It is known that Henry Ward Beecher is most obnoxious to the people of the South. To parade him before a fallen foe does not seem to argue either great courage or magnanimity. If Mr. Beecher wishes to preach to the people of that fallen city, let him go and preach. But why should the government select him for such a mission? Is his Christianity the purest and the best? Does the government intend to express its partiality for his system and creed? What is the object?

There is something grand and inspiring in the elevation of the old flag over the walls of Sumter, by Gen. Anderson. But that the occasion should be improved by a stump speech from Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, seems to us a descent from the [illegible] to the ridiculous. A.

[illegible]

SIGNS OF RETURNING REASON.

It is plain that the wiser men among the leaders of the Republican party are alarmed at the bitter ferocity and the unreasoning hatred displayed by many of their own followers. After having been instrumental in raising the demon of civil war among us, they are now forced to fight against the fierce tempest of fanaticism which they have created. They begin to show some appreciation of the true condition of this nation, and are ready to resort to judicious statesmanship to heal wounds which, but for their want of it, would never have been opened. To this they are moved, not by mere motives of clemency and moderation. They know and feel the utter impossibility of ever extricating this republic from the great dangers which still beset it by means of any other policy than one which shall, as speedily as possible, erase the memory of wrongs and outrages from the midst of the Southern people, and bring back the days of good feeling and common brotherhood amongst us. Leading newspapers are speaking out boldly, even at the risk of a rupture in their own party organization. The following leading editorial from the New York *Tribune* we commend to the perusal of all true friends of their country:

We had hoped to print herewith the President's Proclamation of Amnesty and oblivion to the partisans of the baffled rebellion, and we do not yet despair of receiving it before we go to press, though no portion of it has yet been received. We are apprised, however, by telegraph from Washington, that its tenor was publicly debated in that city yesterday, while our State Senate was agitated by a kindred discussion. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that strenuous efforts are being made to swerve the President from the course to which his judgment and his feelings alike incline him, by stigmatizing it as involving infidelity to Principle or Party. Others will be heard on this point, though we were to keep silence; we claim, therefore our equal right to set forth our views, that they be accorded such weight as they shall be deemed to deserve.

We hear men say—"Yes, forgive the great mass of those who have been misled into rebellion, but punish the leaders as they deserve." But who can accurately draw the line between the leaders and followers in the premises? By what test shall they be discriminated? Some of the arch plotters of disunion have never taken up arms in its support, nor have they held any important post in its civil service. Where is your touchstone of leadership? We know none.

Nor can we agree with those who would punish the original plotters of Secession, yet spare their ultimate and scarcely willing converts. On the contrary, while we would revive or inflame resentment against none of them, we feel far less antipathy to the original upholders of "the Resolutions of '98"—to the disciples of Calhoun and McDuffie—to the Nullifiers of 1832 and the "State Rights" men of 1850—than to John Bells, Humphrey Marshalls and Alex. H. H. Stuarts, who were schooled in the National faith, and who, in becoming Disunionists and Rebels, trampled on the professions of a lifetime and spurned the logic wherewith they had so often unanswerably demonstrated that Secession was treason.—Whether they weakly yielded to the madness of the hour, hoping that so they might ultimately "ride the whirlwind and direct the storm" to some ill-defined but beneficent purpose, or surrendered their judgment and their loyalty to that imposture of "State Sovereignty" which they had always held in just contempt, or were driven by sheer cowardice and fear of bodily violence into a course condemned by all their better impulses, we protest against any discrimination whereby this class shall be screened or favored. We consider Jefferson Davis this day a less culpable traitor than John Bell.

But we cannot believe it wise or well to take the life of any man who shall have submitted to the National authority. The execution of even one such would be felt as a personal stigma by every one who had ever aided the rebel cause. Each would say to himself, "I am as culpable as he; we differ only in that I am deemed of comparatively little consequence." A single Confederate led out to execution would be evermore enshrined in a million hearts as a conspicuous hero and martyr. We cannot realize that it would be wholesome or safe—we are sure it would not be magnanimous—to give the overpowered disloyalty of the South such a shrine. Would the throne of the House of Hanover stand more firmly had Charles Edward been caught and executed after Culloden? Is Austrian domination in Hungary the more stable to-day for the hanging of Nagy Sandor and his twelve compatriot Generals after the surrender of Villagos?

We plead against passions certain at this moment to be fierce and intolerant; but on our side are the Ages and the voice of History. We plead for a restoration of the Union, against a policy which would afford a momentary gratification at the cost of years of perilous hate and bitterness.

The New York *Times*, a Republican paper, only second in influence and importance to the *Tribune*, has the following very sensible paragraph. We commend it to the perusal of all candid and thinking men, to whatever party they may claim to belong:

Cannon and bayonets never yet won the love of any people, no matter whether the cause in which they were used was right or wrong. Whether the people of the South will ever feel strong affection for the old flag,—whether their hearts will ever again respond with loving pride to the music of the Union, depends entirely on the manner in which, as members and citizens of it, they may hereafter be treated. We shall very soon without doubt, re-establish authority over all the people of the Southern States. We can and shall compel them to obey our laws. But we cannot compel them to love us. We can win their confidence and regard for the national government; and we can also so exercise the authority we shall soon enjoy, as to make them hate us to the latest generation ten times worse than they ever hated us hitherto. It remains to be seen whether we can be wise as well as strong; whether we can take counsel of our judgment instead of our passions; whether we can appease the resentments of a defeated foe by conquering and overruling our own.

HON. JAMES GUTHRIE, one of the best and most experienced political economists in the U. S. Senate, has, in the formation of the Standing Committees of that body, been placed at the end of the Committee on Agriculture and Finance, and has no other position on any other Committee. At the same time such a besotted Senator as Chandler is Chairman of the important Committee on Commerce, and Andrew Johnson is President of the Senate! Such is the order of things under the ruling dynasty.

The act of Congress in relation to the currency passed at the [illegible] National Banks. [illegible]

BEECHER ADVOCATING AMNESTY.

The Philadelphia *Inquirer* says: The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, who certainly delights in a sensation, has surprised many persons who have hitherto looked upon him as a "fighting parson," by the sentiments which he avowed in his farewell sermon preached to his congregation in Brooklyn, N. Y., on the Wednesday evening prior to his departure for Charleston, S. C., where he is to take a prominent part in the ceremonies of the celebration at Fort Sumter, on the 14th inst. Mr. Beecher, who has been railed against as a clerical instigator of the war, declares that now, when it is near its end, his heart yearns for reconciliation with his brethren. He says:

"The exigencies of our country require us to do a thousand fold more than ever before; and first let us take care that we do not fall into the easy sin of vengeance, under the plea of justice. Few men can afford to be just until the principal traitors are hung, and that a sour apple-tree should take the place of Haman's gallows, upon which should swing the arch-traitor *Jeff.* Davis. If Mr. Davis was my lawful prey to-night, I would do by him as I did with another wasp yesterday. I saw the fellow on my door in the country, and was just about to smash him, when I said, "What's the use? It's only a wasp, and it's not at all probable that he and I will meet again, so I'll let him go." That's what I'd do with Jeff. Davis. Let him go where he would be by himself, powerless to injure us, and of no particular account to anybody else. And if I had my way after the close of fighting I would not let one drop of blood be spilled, and then I could say to the world that this great civil war has been ended as none other ever was. Ought there not to be an exhibition of law and justice? ought there not to be a terrible spectacle of retribution? say some. In mercy's name, has there not been suffering enough? We don't want any more vengeance. I would not expatriate any leaders on the ground of vengeance, for as they have once misled the people they might do so again. I would not expatriate and disfranchise them."

In regard to his own course at Sumter, he says:

"I would be no man's servant to be the man to go down among them, and when they are burying their dead to taunt them; and when that shining old flag is again thrown forth, God forbid that I should call their attention to it as the standard of those who have conquered them. It is the flag of their fathers; its glories are theirs, and memories their, and not henceforth the banner of their enemies."

With sentiments like these Mr. Beecher says that he will go forth, not to taunt but to encourage the "wayward sisters." In his enthusiasm he even loses his biblical learning, forgets the sublime scenes of the crucifixion and confounds them with the resurrection. He says:

"The day on which the old flag is to be raised is Good Friday, on which occurred the resurrection of the Savior, and as Christ was raised to bring life and liberty into the world, so will that flag carry renewed life and true liberty to the South."

Good Friday, most Christians are taught to believe, was the day on which Christ descended to the grave. Mr. Beecher makes it out to be the day on which he rose again! He is certainly a better politician than a clergyman, and knows more about proclamations than he does about the Sacred Scriptures.

POLITICAL ASSASSINATION.

It is so long now since a European ruler really fell under the assassin's dagger that we shall hardly be surprised to see the mad and brutal murder of the President taken up by the press of England and France as a conclusive proof of the incapacity of the Americans for self government, and of the failure of republican institutions.

Yet nothing could well be more unfair or more absurd. Had the assassination of Mr. Lincoln stained the earlier stages of our conflict; had the dagger been invoked in the outset of this great civil strife, such an argument from its use might perhaps have been tenable. But at this crisis of the great struggle it plays a part, not of policy, but of despair; it represents not the temper and the habits of a people, nor even of a section of a people, but the frenzy of a faction or an individual. The dramatic features of the horrible transaction are perhaps properly attributable to the professional training and turn of mind of the reputed assassin; and, striking as they are, it is important that we should bear this fact in mind in estimating, as well as under the stress of the excited popular feeling of the hour we may, the relation of this appalling crime to the mighty history of which it must now forever form so conspicuous an episode.

Again and again, during the past half century, the lives of European princes and sovereigns have been taken or threatened in like manner. Louis Philippe during the eighteen years of his reign over France, escaped as many attempts upon his existence; and Europe has scarcely yet recovered from the political commotion into which it was thrown by the last and most formidable of several similar efforts to solve the problem of imperialism or republicanism in France by cutting the slender thread of the third Napoleon's life.

Under the first French republic, men's minds were dangerously familiarized with the cheap and cruel expedient of meeting political difficulties by putting out of the way the leading representatives of one or another political faith. Charlotte Corday, possessed [illegible] horror of the excesses of Marat, devoted himself to death in the hope of ridding France of a despot of opinion, who had made the guillotine an institution and terror a religion. When the arms of the French republic had triumphed over the Mussulman civilization in the East, a Syrian fanatic, in a kindred spirit, sacrificed himself to the fanatic expectation that the death of Kleber, the successor of [illegible] in the command of the army of Egypt, would rid the Orient of the accursed presence of the Giaour. Napoleon himself as First Consul [illegible] was called to confront a like peril; [illegible] darkest [illegible] the capture and execution of the Duke d'Enghien, [illegible] is palliated by his admirers on the ground that the [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] allied armies, and, as the results of this campaign passed, the best friend of French liberty.

The Duke escaped the [illegible] dagger, but had he fallen beneath it, his death would have furnished, perhaps, the nearest parallel that could be found in modern times to the murder of Abraham Lincoln by a Southern brave at the very moment when he was straining to the utmost his executive authority to restore peace to the Union on a basis of security to the victorious North and of mercy to the deluded South.

Were it possible now to divert our minds from the instincts to the spectacular aspects of the fearful scene on which the attention of the civilized world must now be fixed, the assassination of Gustavus III, of Sweden by Count Ankerstroem, on the 16th of March, 1792, would supply a hardly less striking historical parallel.

Gustavus III, having entered into an alliance with the continental monarchs to resist the invasions of France upon national independence throughout Europe, was compelled to levy burdensome taxes upon the people. The discontent thus created was made the excuse of a conspiracy against his life; and at a masked ball in the palace he was approached from behind by Ankarstrom, who, armed with a pistol, and concealed by his domino, shot the king through the back, and made his escape through the crowd ere he could be identified. The king died; and the murderer, subsequently arrested and glorying in his crime, was put to death. Sweden, however, was not detached from the European alliance; and the object aimed at in this crime was unattained. Indeed, if we except the political consequences of the murder of the Duke de Berri, the son of Charles X. of France, killed, like our lamented President, at the theatre, in 1820, it will not be easy to find a case in modern history in which the results of a political assassination have not recoiled in ruin upon its authors.

And even in the case of the Duke of Berri it is perhaps demonstrable that the cause of the monarchy, aimed at in his person, was notably strengthened and made longer tenable, in spite of the folly of its supporters, by the reaction of the public feeling against the savage spirit which had actuated the assassins of an innocent and high-minded man.

Revolutions in all times and among all races breed a feverish impatience of law, and a contempt of the patient processes by which Providence accomplishes the welfare of nations, the natural tendency of which is to stimulate hot and ill-balanced natures to such crimes as that which now, for the first time in our annals, appalls and maddens the American people. But the ways of God are, and always have been, vindicated to man by the sure though sometimes slow vengeance which such crimes inevitably invoke hoisting with their own petards the inventors and engineers of these diabolical offenses against religion and humanity.

THE ATTEMPTS ON THE LIFE OF ANDREW JACKSON.—It was during the business depression of the winter of 1834 that an attempt was made to assassinate President Jackson, by a young house-painter, who was out of employment, and had others dependent upon his earnings for support. His mind, morbidly inclined to melancholy, was influenced by the belief that Jackson was the sole cause of all the trouble and that he alone stood in the way of general prosperity. The young man furnished himself with two well-loaded pistols, and as the President and others came out upon the eastern portico of the Capitol, in a funeral procession, he leveled one of them at the breast of Jackson. The percussion cap exploded but did no ignite the powder. The assassin dropped the unfaithful weapon, and instantly presented the other, with the same result. Unawed by the danger, the President rushed upon the culprit with his uplifted cane, and he was soon secured. The failure of the pistols was remarked as a special interposition of a kind Providence. They were fired without difficulty at the next trial, and each sent its bullet through an inch board at the distance of thirty feet.

A few months before this occurrence the President was assaulted by a cowardly ruffian, while he was on his way to Fredericksburg to lay the corner-stone of a monument to be erected in memory of the mother of Washington. While the boat, which bore the President and a large company of distinguished persons down the Potomac, was lying at the wharf at Alexandria, the President retired to the cabin [illegible] table, [illegible] and reading, while [illegible] standing around in conversation. A lieutenant, recently dismissed from the navy for improper conduct, approached the President as if to give him a friendly salutation, but instantly struck the venerable man in the face. [illegible]