

Rumors of Peace.

The rumor of peace continues. We hear of the disbandment of the several armies. The public mind appears to have settled down into the conviction that peace is at hand. Upon what basis, no one knows; but there are a thousand conjectures. It is no longer a matter of doubt or argument, however, whether we shall, or ought to be, satisfied with the conditions made—whether these conditions imply our recognition or not—whether there are to be any securities for property or State sovereignty—whether, in short, the States are to have anything left to them! Such is the general demoralization, that a large number seem disposed to welcome peace on any terms.

There is no policy in self-deception. We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that our people are in the most melancholy state of exhaustion. They have been overborne by numbers. Hosts have prevailed against will, and courage, and self-sacrifice; and, as it would seem, the South must be reconciled to submit to an adverse destiny, at all events, until it can recuperate.

The battle is not always to the strong. Even the virtuous must suffer, at times, in their conflict with great and evil odds. We have, unhappily, not been virtuous. We have not been wise. We have been terribly misgoverned. Our resources have been wasted; our strength frittered away purposelessly. Incompetents in all the departments, civil and military, have dissipated equally our capital of physical and moral power. We were not prepared for war—lacking all its foundations—lacking work-shops, foundries and almost every necessary agency. It is evident to all thinking minds that a great social and moral revolution—a change equally in economy and policy—must prepare us for a proper nationality—for self-government and the proper aggregation of powers, essential, at once, to defence and self-development. Whatever be the result of this present contest—whatever the basis of peace—and we have little hopes of any reconciliation as permanent that does not include recognition—we are now required to address ourselves to such reforms as shall reinvigorate our States and people, and endeavor so to strengthen them as to make them equal to the maintenance of that independence which we may hereafter be disposed to assert.

It will be for our people to bring into play all their own energies and wisdom, and to employ in their councils the best hearts and the wisest heads. It is no longer possible, without national suicide, to trifle with our votes at the polls. Just so long as the people suffer themselves to be bought or beguiled into the employment of wretched incompetents in legislation, just so long will they suffer sacrifice at the hands of these incompetents in the hour of trial.

And life itself is a long trial—a long warfare—in which a people is never more insecure than in the times of seeming peace. Whatever shall befall, let us all go to work vigorously each in his several vocation, resolute to do his

best and serve and save his country. Industry, pains taking, humility in seeking, close observation, patient thinking on what we observe, and an energetic working out of our thoughts, are the only processes for reaching the grand results of wisdom; and wisdom is the great virtue of manhood—the essential of all national safety, as of individual; giving us prosperity in seasons of peace, and strength to endure, and the capacity to conquer, in the event of war. For this wisdom we need a social revolution; and perhaps it is for this that God has seen fit to prepare us through the calamities of a war the issues of which are humiliation. We shall survive this, if we accept with humility the conditions of God, in the recognition of his laws.

Do You Need Salt?

EDITOR PUEBIC: Some of your readers have seen or used *creasote*—some of them may not know Greek enough to know that it is a "flesh-reserver," and as such so called on its discovery about 35 years ago. For this and other interesting facts connected with *creasote* and kindred elements of chemical properties and affinities, I refer to any chemical or medico-chemical authorities or readers, inviting further information on a topic now of special interest and value.

I only wish now to declare and assert most confidently, and to ask a trial for the assertion, that fish of fishes, or birds, or beasts, flesh of any kind needed or desired for food of man, can be preserved safely and wholesomely and healthfully without salt. It is still a question with observant physicians, how much, if any, salt is actually needed for health of man or beast—but no salt whatever is needed for preserving flesh, if we choose to apply and employ a flesh-preserving element which can be found anywhere in this our favored region. *Creasote* is the distinctive principle in wood-smoke, and is a pyrologeneous acid, and this acid can be readily and cheaply made wherever wood and any distilling apparatus can be found. Flesh of fishes or beasts can be saved and preserved by use alone of pyrologeneous acid and without salt, vinegar or pepper, unless these are desired for flavor. Pyrologeneous acid may cheaply be made, and the process of making it for use instead of salt, should be promptly undertaken by any citizen of competent enterprise and determination.

I respectfully propose that by appointment and request from the citizens generally, or from the City Council, or the Board of Relief or other organization, a competent distiller be instructed and authorized to make and furnish pyrologeneous acid in time and in quantities at least sufficient for a thorough trial with the fishes that may be taken this season.

I hope that this proposition will engage immediate attention and inquiry, and lead to efficient measures for relieving a want under which our people have too long suffered. It would be disgraceful if we longer suffer for salt or submit to any rates demanded in barrier, when we can find a meat preserver, not only equal to salt, but in some respects better than salt, furnished at hand in our forests and groves.

W. B. C.

GENS. LEE AND GRANT—The Constitution of the United States provides, that in case of the death of the President and Vice-President, the Senate shall proceed at once to elect their successors. It is said that the election of Gen. Lee to the one and Gen. Grant to the other, is freely canvassed in the Federal army.

The Situation.

THE ARMISTICE—TERMS OF AGREEMENT, ETC.

A Government officer has furnished us the following particulars of the armistice and the proposals for the settlement of the difficulties between the North and South, as agreed upon between Gen. Sherman and the officials of the Confederate States:

1. A reconstruction of the Union and immediate representation in United States Congress.
2. United States authorities to garrison all forts and arsenals.
3. Troops of the various Southern States to be marched to their separate States, disbanded, and their arms turned over to State authorities.
4. A general amnesty to all.

It is stated that President Davis ratified the agreement, but Andy Johnson replied "that he would take occasion to remind Gen. Sherman that he was simply a Major-General in the United States army, and hereafter must confine himself to the management of military affairs in his department, and let the administration of the Government alone." He is also reported to have endorsed on the agreement, "Submission, emancipation, confiscation, or extermination."

The Confederates were informed that the truce would expire at 12 o'clock, on Wednesday, the 26th April. The truce was afterwards renewed for ten days.

SHERMAN, GRANT AND THE SOUTHERN SOLDIERS.

It is stated that Gens. Sherman and Grant said that the Southern soldiers had made a gallant fight and deserved the most honorable terms, and that if they were not granted such terms, the war would be interminable. Furthermore, that a protracted war would involve the United States in difficulties with foreign Governments, which might complicate her seriously; that it would be much better to have the Southern soldiers to fight for her than against her; and that, if honorable terms were not granted to the South, Sherman and Grant would disband their armies and send their men home.

DEATH OF ANDY JOHNSON.

We learn from soldiers who have just arrived from Greensboro, that it was currently reported and believed there that Andy Johnson had also been assassinated. The asserted causes being his refusal to grant just terms to the Confederates, and the declaration of Booth that he had been instigated by Johnson to murder Lincoln. It is generally conceded by the Federal troops that President Lincoln was in favor of the arrangement entered into between Gens. Johnston and Sherman.

GEN. JOHNSTON'S ARMY DISBANDED.

We have received information from a source which dissipates all doubt, that the troops in Gen. Johnston's department—which embraces the entire section of country East of the Chatahoochee River—are to return to their State capitals, turn over their arms to the authorities, and be disbanded, after binding themselves not to engage in hostilities against the United States until relieved from the obligation. During which time they are to comply with the laws of their respective States. The United States authorities give guarantee them against molestation. The troops are to retain their personal effects.

We hope to be able to give further particulars in our next issue.