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BY JOHN W. GORMAN. CONCORD: FRIDAY, JULY 26. The friends of Capt. NELSON SLOUGH respectfully announce his candidature for reelection to the office of Clerk of County Court of Cabarrus.

Death of Col. G. P. Fisher. The remains of this gallant hero who fell at the battle of Manassas, was brought to Salisbury on Wednesday evening last. It was interred on yesterday. We know that the loss of such a good and useful citizen and brave soldier must cast a gloom over that place which will last for some time.

Capt. R. S. Young's Company. This company of 90 men, who have been encamped here for the past two weeks, left us on yesterday morning, for Graham, where they will remain until further orders are given.

The Battle at Manassas. Presidents DAVIS' official report of the battle at Stone Bridge which is to be found in another column, will carry sorrow and mourning to many firesides in this and our sister States, and floods of tear will be shed for the many honored, cherished and loved ones who have fallen in defence of our country and our country's rights.

Notwithstanding the superior force which we have had to contend with, and more particular in this most terrible battle to which we allude, we have the consolation of knowing that the God of battles has been with us, and give us victory. We should be thankful to the Ruler of the Universe, for the many blessings bestowed upon us, and for the strength with which the Southern arm has been nerved to repel the invaders.

Although the Federalist greatly outnumbered the Confederates, they were not able to withstand the constant and successful fire which was poured into them, scattering them like chaff before an angry wind. This should, it does not, teach Lincoln and his minions that they are contending for that which is unjust, unholy, and disapproved of by God himself.

It is reported by some that there were between 50 and 60,000 Confederates and 95 or 100,000 Federalist engaged in the fight. Gen. Johnston, who commanded the left wing, with 15,000 men, marched out from his strong position, where he was stationed near Stone Bridge, and advanced on the enemy. Those he had to contend with far outnumbered him, being estimated at 35,000, but notwithstanding all

MESSAGE

PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS, DELIVERED TO CONGRESS, IN RICHMOND, VA., JULY 20th, 1861.

To the Congress of the Confederate States of America:

GENTLEMEN: My message addressed to you at the commencement of the session contained such full information of the state of the Confederacy as to render it unnecessary that I should now do more than call your attention to such important facts as have occurred during the recess and to matters connected with public events.

I have again to congratulate you on the accession of new members to our confederation of free, equal and sovereign States. Our ever loved and honored brethren of North Carolina and Tennessee have consummated action foreseen and provided for at your last session, and I have had the gratification of announcing by proclamation, in conformity with the law, that these States were admitted into the Confederacy.

The people of Virginia, also by a majority previous unknown in her history, have ratified the action of her Convention, and united her tones with ours.

The States of Arkansas, North Carolina and Virginia have likewise adopted the permanent Constitution of the Confederate States, and no doubt entertained of its adoption by Tennessee at the election to be held early next month.

I deemed it advisable to direct the removal of the several Executive Departments, with their archives, to this city, to which you had removed the seat of Government.

Immediately after your adjournment the aggressive movement of the enemy required prompt and energetic action. The accumulation of his forces on the Potomac sufficiently demonstrated his efforts were to be directed against Virginia, and from no point could the necessary measures for her defence and protection be so efficiently directed as from her own capital.

The rapid progress of events for the last few weeks has fully sufficed to strip the veil from behind which the true policy and purposes of the Government of the United States had been previously concealed—their various features now stand fully revealed. The message of their President, and the action of their Congress during the present month, confess the intention of subjugating the States by a war whose folly is revealed only by its wickedness—a war by which it is impossible to obtain the proposed result; whilst its dire calamities are not to be avoided, we will fall with double severity upon ourselves.

Commencing in March last, with the affection of the seven States which first organized the Government; persisting, in April, in the idle and absurd assumption of the existence of a riot, which was to be dispersed by a posse comitatus, and continuing in successive months the false representation that these States intended offensive war, in spite of the conclusive evidence to the contrary furnished as well by official action as by the very basis on which this Government is constituted, the President of the United States and his advisers succeeded in deceiving the people of those States into the belief that the purpose of this Government was not peace at home, but conquest abroad; not the defence of its own liberties, but the subversion of those of the people of the United States.

The series of manoeuvres by which this impression was created and the art with which they were devised, and the perfidy with which they were executed, were already known to you, but you could scarcely have supposed that they would be openly avowed, and their success made the subject of boast and self-laudation in an Executive message.

Fortunately for the truth of history, wherever the President of the United States details with minuteness the attempt to reinforce Fort Sumter, in violation of an armistice of which he confesses to have been informed, but only by rumors too vague and uncertain to fix attention, the hostile expedition despatched to supply Fort Sumter is admitted to have been undertaken with the knowledge that its success was impossible. The sending of a notice to the Governor of South Carolina of his intention to use force to accomplish his object, and then quoting from his inaugu-

ral address the assurance that there could be no conflict unless these States were aggressive, and we were the aggressors; he proceeds to declare that his conduct, as just related by himself, was the performance of this promise, so free from the power of ingenious sophistry, as that the world should not be able to misunderstand it, and in defiance of his own statement that he gave notice of the approach of the hostile fleet, he charges these States with becoming the assailants of the United States, without a gun in sight or in expectancy to return their fire, save only the few in the fort. He is, indeed, fully justified in saying that the case is so free from the power of ingenious sophistry, that the world will not be able to misunderstand it, under the cover of this unfounded pretence that the Confederate States are the assailants. That high functionary, after expressing his concern that some foreign nations had so shaped their action as if they supposed the early destruction of our national Union was probable, abandons all further disguise and proposes to make this contest a short and decisive one, by placing at the control of the Government for the work, at least 400,000 men and \$400,000,000. The Congress concurring in the doubt thus intimated as to the sufficiency of the force demanded, has increased it to a half a million men. This enormous preparation in men and money for the conduct of the war on a scale more gigantic than any which the New World ever witnessed, is a distinct avowal in the eyes of civilized men that the United States are engaged in a conflict with a great and powerful nation; that they are at last compelled to abandon the pretence of being engaged in dispersing rioters and suppressing insurrections, and are driven to the acknowledgment that the ancient Union has been dissolved; they recognize the separate existence of these Confederate States, by interdiction, embargo, and the blockade of all commerce between them and the United States, not only by sea, but by land—not only in ships, but in cars—not only with those who bear arms, but with the entire population of the Confederate States.

Finally, they have repudiated the foolish conceit that the inhabitants of this Confederacy are still citizens of the United States, for they are waging an indiscriminate war upon them all, with a savage ferocity unknown to modern civilization. In this war rapine is the rule, and private residences, in peaceful and rural retreats, are bombarded and burnt; grain crops in the field are consumed by the torch, and when the torch is not convenient, careful labor is bestowed to render complete the destruction of every article of use or ornament remaining in private dwellings after their inhabitants have fled from the outrages of the brutal soldiery. In 1781, Great Britain, when invading her revolted Colonies, took possession of every district of country near Fortress Monroe, now occupied by the troops of the United States, and the houses then inhabited by the people, after being respected and protected by avowed invaders, are now pillaged and destroyed by men who pretend that the victims are their fellow citizens. Mankind will shudder to hear the tales of outrages committed on defenceless females by the soldiers of the United States, now invading our homes; yet these outrages are prompted by inflamed passions and madness of intoxication; but who shall depict the horror with which they regard the cool and deliberate malignity with which, under the pretext of suppressing insurrection, said, by themselves, to be upheld by a minority only of our people, make especial war on the sick, including women and children, and, by carefully devised measures, prevent their obtaining the medicines necessary for their cure. The sacred claims of humanity, respected during the fury of actual battle, by a careful diversion of attack from the hospitals containing wounded enemies, are outraged and cold blood by a Government and people that pretend to desire a continuance of fraternal connections. All these outrages must remain unavenged, save by universal reprobation of mankind, in all cases where the actual perpetrators of the wrongs escape capture. They admit of no retaliation; the humanity of our people would shrink instinctively from the bare idea of waging a like

war upon the sick, the women and the children of an enemy; but there are other savage practices which have been resorted to by the Government of the United States which do admit of repression by retaliation. I have been grieved at the necessity of enforcing this impression. The prisoners of war taken by the enemy on board the armed schooner Savannah, sailing under our commission, were, as I was credibly advised, treated like common felons, put in irons, confined in a jail usually appropriated to criminals of the worst dye, and threatened with punishment as such. I had made application for an exchange of these prisoners to the commanding officer of the enemies' squadron off Charleston, but that officer had already sent the prisoners to New York when the application was made. I, therefore, deemed it my duty to renew the proposal for an exchange to the constitutional Commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy, of the United States, the only officer having control of the prisoners. In making the proposal, I informed President Lincoln of my resolute purpose to check all barbarities on prisoners of war by such severity and retaliation on prisoners held by us as should secure the abandonment of the practice.

This communication was received and read by the officer in command of the United States Army, and a message was brought from him by the bearer of my communication, to the effect that a reply would be returned by President Lincoln as soon as possible. I earnestly hope that this promised reply, which has not yet been received, will convey the assurance that prisoners of war will be treated, in this unhappy contest, with that regard to humanity which has been so conspicuous in modern warfare. As a measure of precaution, however, and until the promised reply is received, I still retain in close custody the men and officers captured from the enemy, whom it had been my pleasure previously to enlarge on parole, and whose fate must necessarily depend on that of the prisoners held by the enemy. I append a copy of my communication to the President and Commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the report of the officer charged to deliver it, marked Document.

There are some other passages in the remarkable paper to which I have directed your attention, having reference to the peculiar relations which exist between this Government and the States usually termed Border Slave States, which cannot properly be withheld from notice. The hearts of our people are animated by sentiments towards the inhabitants of those States which found expression in your enactment refusing to consider them enemies, or to authorize hostilities against them. That a very large portion of the people of these States regard us as brethren; that if unrestrained by the actual presence of large armies, the subversion of civil authority, and the declaration of martial law, some of them at least would joyfully unite with us; that they are, with almost entire unanimity, opposed to the prosecution of the war waged against us—are facts, of which daily occurring events fully warrant the assertion.

The present United States Government refuses to recognize in these, our late sister States, the right of refraining from an attack on us, and justifies his refusal by the assertion that the States have no other power than that reserved to them by the Union and the Constitution, no one of them having ever been a State out of the Union. This view of the Constitutional relations leads us to consider another assertion of the message; that the Executive possesses the power of suspending the writ of habeas corpus, and of delegating that power to military commanders at his discretion, and both these propositions claim a respect equal to that which is felt for the additional statement of opinion in the same paper, that it is proper, in order to execute the laws, that some single law, made in such extreme tenderness of the citizen's liberty that practically it relieves more of the guilty than the innocent, should, to a very limited extent, be violated. We may well rejoice that we have forever severed our connection with a Government that thus tramples on all the principles of Constitutional liberty, and with a people in whose

presence such avowals could be hazarded. The operations in the field will be greatly extended, by reason of the policy which was heretofore secretly entertained, but is now avowed and acted on, by the United States. The forces hitherto raised proved ample for the defence of the seven States which originally organized the Confederacy, as is evinced by the fact that, with the exception of three fortified islands, whose defence is efficiently aided by a preponderating naval force, the enemy has been driven completely out of those States, and now, at the expiration of five months from the formation of the Government, not a single hostile foot presses their soil.

These forces, however, must necessarily prove inadequate to repel invasion by half a million of men now proposed by the enemy, and a corresponding increase of our force will become necessary. The recommendation for the raising of an efficient force will be contained in a communication from the Secretary of War, to which I need scarcely invite your earnest attention. In my message delivered in April last, I referred to the promise of abundant crops with which we are cheered. The grain crops generally have since been harvested, and the yield proved to be the most abundant known in our history. Many believe that the supply will be adequate to two years' consumption of our population. Cotton, sugar and tobacco, forming the surplus production of our agriculture, and furnishing the basis of our commercial interchanges, present the most cheering promise, and a kind Providence has smiled on the labor which extracts the teeming wealth of our soil in all portions of our Confederacy. It is the more gratifying to be able to give to you this information, because of the need of large and increased expenditures in the supply of our army. Elevated and purified by the sacred cause which they maintain, our fellow citizens, of every condition of life, exhibit the most self-sacrificing devotion. They manifest a laudable pride in upholding their independence, unaided by any resources other than their own, and the immense wealth which a fertile soil and genial climate have accumulated in this Confederacy of agriculturists, could not be more strikingly displayed than in the large revenue which, with eager zeal, they have contributed at the call of their country. In the single article of cotton, the subscriptions to the loan proposed by the Government cannot fall short of fifty millions of dollars, and will probably largely exceed that sum; and scarcely an article required for the consumption of our armies has been provided otherwise than by the subscriptions to the produce loan so happily devised by your wisdom.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in his report submitted to you, will give you the amplest details in connection with that branch of the public service. But it is not alone their prompt pecuniary contributions that the noble race of freemen who inhabit these States evince how worthy they are of those liberties which they so well know how to defend. In numbers far exceeding those authorized by your laws, they have pressed the tender of their services against the enemy. Their attitude of calm and sublime devotion to their country—the cool and confident courage with which they are already preparing to meet the threatened invasion in whatever proportions it may assume—the assurance that their sacrifices and their services will be renewed from year to year with unflinching purpose, until they have made good to the uttermost their right to self-government—the generous and almost unquestioning confidence which they display in their Government during the pending struggle—all combine to present a spectacle such as the world has rarely if ever seen. To speak of subjugating such a people, so united and determined, is to speak a language incomprehensible to them. To resist an attack on their rights and liberties is with them an instinct.

Whether this war shall last one, or three or five years, is a problem they leave to be solved by the enemy alone. It will last until the enemy shall have withdrawn from their borders, and their political rights, their altars and their houses are freed from invasion. Then and then only will they rest from this

struggle, and enjoy in peace the blessings which, with the favor of Providence, they have secured by the aid of their own strong hearts and sturdy arms.

JEFFERSON DAVIS. Another Great Victory! THE PLAINS OF MANASSAS RENDERED IMMOBILE! THE INVADERS DRIVEN BACK TO THE POTOMAC! THE BATTLE AT STONE BRIDGE! The President's Official Dispatch. From the Richmond Dispatch. The city was intensely excited yesterday, and a deep anxiety to learn further particulars of the battle fought on Sunday last, near Manassas Junction, was visible on every countenance. About midday it was ascertained that the President had officially communicated the news of the victory to the War Department, and the following was posted on the bulletin board: "President Davis has sent an official dispatch this morning to the Secretary of War, announcing the complete and decisive victory on yesterday. The enemy, after a contest of ten hours, broke and fled precipitately in the direction of Leesburg and Centreville, and were pursued by our Cavalry and Light Infantry until night put an end to the pursuit. The enemy left on the field of battle large stores of ammunition and quantities of arms, besides vast piles of their slain. Everywhere, in the direction of their flight, dead bodies, and those of their wounded were scattered. The neighboring farm houses on the roadside were crowded with their wounded. "Our force immediately engaged in the fight was 15,000—that of the enemy estimated at 38,000. This was the left wing where the battle raged for the most part. "The enemy lost in the battle several batteries of field Artillery and one regimental staff of colors. "The President's dispatch to Adjutant General Cooper was read to Congress yesterday morning. It is as follows: MANASSAS, July 21, (at night), 1861. To GEN. S. COOPER: Night has closed on a hard fought field. Our forces have won a glorious victory. The enemy was routed and fled precipitately, abandoning a very large amount of arms, munitions, knapsacks and baggage. The ground was strewn with those killed for miles, and the farm houses and grounds around were filled with his wounded. The pursuit was continued along several routes towards Leesburg and Centreville until darkness covered the fugitives. We have captured several field batteries and regimental standards, and one United States flag. Many prisoners have been taken. Too high praise cannot be bestowed, whether for the skill of the principal officers, or for the gallantry of all the troops. The battle was warmly fought on our part, several miles from our field works—our forces engaged there not exceeding fifteen thousand, that of the enemy estimated at thirty-five thousand. (Signed,) JEFF. DAVIS.

This clear and comprehensive language of President Davis, who has gone to take the field in person, conveys all that we have learned up to last evening at 6 o'clock of our glorious victory. There are many who will mourn the loss of sons and brothers, yet we have the satisfaction of knowing that the invader turned back and fled over a pathway of blood. It was reported that a later dispatch had been received from the same source, announcing that the pursuit of the flying enemy was renewed yesterday morning, by the reserve force at Manassas, but we need not touch for its correctness.

STILL LATER. The central train arrived late last night, and we gathered from the passengers some particulars of the battle. As already stated, the left wing of our army sustained the heaviest part of the fight, and suffered severely. The loss on our side is killed and wounded is variously estimated at from 1,000 to 2,500, though in the confusion succeeding the battle it was utterly impossible to ascertain the number accurately. The enemy is believed to have lost from 12,000 to 15,000, besides

a large number taken prisoners. About 500 of the latter were brought in at Manassas yesterday morning. Gen. Patterson, of the Federal Army, is taken prisoner; also, another high officer whose name we understood to be Wilcox. The body of Col. Fisher, of the North Carolina Sixth Regiment, who passed through here a few days ago at the head of a splendid command, was brought down on the train last night; also, three others whose names we did not learn. A considerable number of wounded soldiers also came down. The train started, we were informed, with some three hundred, but left many on the way—some of whom took different routes for the interior, and others were to feeble to travel. Capt. Shields Hewitzer Battery was in the action at a late hour, and behaved gallantly. We could not learn that this command suffered any serious loss. The Washington Artillery, of New Orleans, sustained a handsome part in the fight. Only one was killed. His body came down last night in charge of his father. A few were wounded—the exact number we could not ascertain. We have reason to believe that Col. Moore's First Virginia Regiment suffered little loss. Much anxiety was manifested at the depot to learn the loss sustained by the cavalry companies, and a gentleman who was near the scene of action thought it was not heavy, since they commenced their attack and pursuit at a late hour. Sherman's Battery considered the finest in the Federal service, was unquestionably captured. This was the firm opinion of all with whom we conversed. The number of muskets and equipments generally, secured by the Confederate troops, is very large. The wounded men who came down last night excited the commiseration and sympathy of the vast crowd assembled. They will have every necessary attention bestowed upon them. Some of them were suffering severely, others slightly hurt. A gentleman who witnessed the battle says the balls flew incessantly, like hail in a tempestuous day. It was a terrific scene from first to last. Such a battle was never before fought on this continent. When the federalists gave way they scattered like sheep, and their slaughter was awful. We could learn no names on our side, other than those mentioned yesterday, except Col. Fisher, and Mr. Fontaine, of the Boston Grays. The latter was a son of Col. E. Fontaine, President of the Central Railroad Company.

It was stated by a passenger that the scene attending the arrival of the Federal prisoners was quite ludicrous. They threw themselves down upon the wet ground, while the militia of the neighborhood stood around in double rank and with guns erect, protecting them in their repose. The reports so freely circulated yesterday of the occupation of Alexandria by our troops, were unfounded. The pursuit of the fugitives was kept up for a few miles only. The victory was complete, and our Congress yesterday properly acknowledged their gratitude to Almighty God, who has so signally blessed our cause. Resolutions were passed recommending public thanksgivings in all our churches on Sunday next. President Davis' Message. This important and much sought for document, will be found in the columns of this issue. There is nothing which we could present, which would be more acceptable. Notwithstanding its shortness, he has submitted, in a calm, dignified, and statesmanlike manner, all the principal, public events which have transpired since the adjournment of our last Congress, and the propriety of adopting suitable measures for meeting the new exigencies which have arisen. Read it. Master Johnny Wallace, of this place, showed us a few days ago, one of the greatest curiosities we have seen for some time. It was a Chicken with four legs and feet, four wings, two backs, two posterior, all well formed, representing two chickens with the exception of the head which is somewhat de-