

[ Mr. J. M. Langston having been called for, came forward, and spoke in substance as follows: —]

My friends—It is highly proper that we should put our trust in God. This is a dictate of reason, and the history of all people confirms it as wise and advantageous. But no man is trusting in God in any proper sense, who refuses to discharge his whole duty to-day, to labor up to the full measure of his strength according to the sentiments of justice and right. As this is individual duty, so it is the duty of nations.

It is true that God calls upon us in the midst of our national crisis to trust Him as the Ruler of Heaven and earth. But it is equally true that he calls upon us to labor—to co-operate with Him in this grand endeavor to save our land and government. Let us then define to ourselves the great work which we are called upon, under Divine Providence to perform, and betake ourselves to the task, as becomes the sons of noble sires.

To-day we stand in the midst of a great national crisis. The eyes of the whole world are upon us. More than at any other period in our national existence our nation is a city upon a hill, and it cannot be said, “Shall the expectations of mankind be disappointed in regard to the action of the Government with respect to Slavery?” This is a question of profound significance. It becomes the Government and the people to look well to their duty in this particular.

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All admit that slavery is the sole cause of our national difficulties—that this rebellion has sprung from it—that this rebellion can not be suppressed till this cause be removed, and that our war cannot be brought to an honorable conclusion till the cause of this rebellion be wiped out. What line of conduct, then, would good policy support? Most certainly that we at once remove the great cause of all our mischief, and thus end a contest which is being conducted at such an enormous expense of life and treason.

Aside from this consideration, it should be urged that England, France, indeed all the civilized nations of the earth, are expecting the Government to adopt the emancipation policy, and that promptly and without hesitation. For upon this course depends the salvation of all the great interests of American civilization. Indeed the interests of civilization the world over demand that our Government adopt this course. Delay is only fraught with danger to the Republic. This course alone will bring success to our arms. Let this course be followed, and very soon our defeats at Bull Run and Wilson's Creek will be utterly eclipsed by the glorious victories which will crown the efforts of our soldiery. And this is true for these all-important reasons. In pursuing this course we will have the sympathy and approval of God, as well as the sympathy and approval of all civilized nations. And

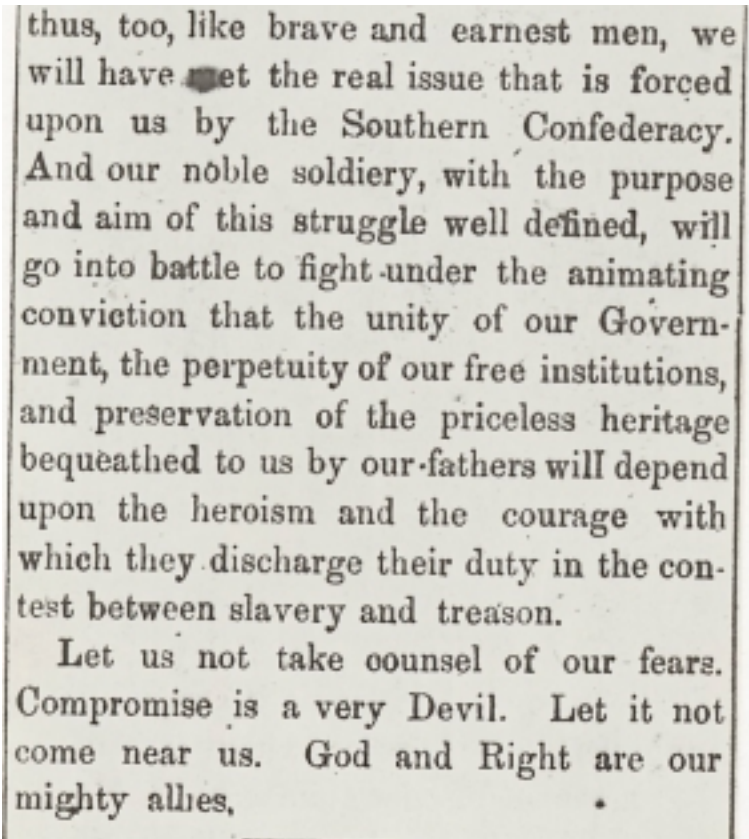
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Let us not take counsel of our fears. Compromise is a very Devil. Let it not come near us. God and Right are our mighty allies,



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