

Spirit of Jefferson

BENJAMIN F. BEALL, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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BALTIMORE CARDS.



STABLER'S ANODYNE CHERRY EXPECTORANT.

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POETICAL.

FAREWELL TO FREEDOM.

Farewell bright spirit! till in better days, A new nation shall thy temple raise.

In towering grandeur, length thy native clime; In towering grandeur, length thy native clime;

What, though the clouds obscure the heavenly face, Thy spirit still shall o'er thy wasted land.

Till proved by devotion, scourge and flame, Thy chosen children shall thy reign proclaim.

And, ere thy stately dome on high, Bright Freedom's Pharos in the Western sky.

Alas! that nations should forget thy work; Alas! that tyrants should encounter earth;

The inspiration immortal fame, Should not the brute, the despot, or the slave, The cunning villain, or the tyrant's slave;

The wicked demon to degrade his race, Their deeds illustrious, and their works efface.

What, though no more thy life-inspiring ray, Beam o'er the land effulgent as of yore;

And night enshroud thee earthily dwelling place, What, though the clouds obscure the heavenly face;

Dispel the clouds, and thine immortal ray, Thy shining bolts illumine the wakening land.

Thy soul triumphant, with thy precious price— A nation blest, shall in thy name arise;

Transmit thy virtues, and thy deeds sublime; And leave their record on immortal name.

The underlined having purchased of the original proprietor their entire interest in the above valuable recipes, take pleasure in presenting to the world articles which now stand alone to none for the relief of the diseases for which they are recommended.

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Gen. Early's Book.

Last week we gave an editorial notice of this work, a single copy of which is in the hands of a gentleman of this town.

The interest which this book is likely to attract, and the avidity with which it will be read, induces us to publish the following extract.

Under a solemn sense of duty to my unhappy country, and to the brave soldiers who fought and died for me, as well as to myself, the following pages have been written.

When the question of practical secession from the United States arose, as a citizen of the State of Virginia, and a member of the Convention called by the authority of the Legislature of that State, I opposed secession with all the ability I possessed, with the hope that the horrors of civil war might be averted.

While some Northern politicians and editors, who subsequently took rank among the most unscrupulous and vindictive of our enemies, and now hold me to be a traitor and rebel, were openly and sedulously justifying and encouraging secession, I was laboring honestly and earnestly to preserve the Union.

I voted against the ordinance of secession on its passage by that body, with the hope that, even then, the collision of arms might be avoided, and some satisfactory adjustment arrived at.

The adoption of that ordinance wrung from me bitter tears of grief; but I recognized my duty to abide the decision of my native State, and to defend her soil against invasion.

Any scruples which I may have entertained as to the right of secession, were soon dispelled by the mad, wicked, unconstitutional measures of the authorities at Washington, and the frenzied clamor of the people of the North for war upon their former brethren of the South.

I then, and ever since have, regarded Abraham Lincoln, his counsellors and supporters, as the real authors who had overthrown the constitution and government of the United States, and established in lieu thereof an odious despotism; and this opinion I entered on the journal of the Convention when I signed the ordinance of secession.

I recognized the right of resistance and revolution as exercised by our fathers in 1776, and without avail to the name by which it was called, I entered the military service of my State, willingly, cheerfully, and zealously.

When the State of Virginia became one of the Confederate States, and her troops were turned over to the Confederate Government, I embraced the cause of the whole Confederacy with equal ardor, and continued in the service, with the determination to devote all the energy and talent I possessed to the common cause of my country.

I fought through the entire war, without once regretting the course I had pursued, with an abiding faith in the justice of our cause; and I never saw the moment when I would have been willing to consent to any compromise or settlement short of the absolute independence of my country.

It was my fortune to participate in most of the great military operations in which the army of Virginia was engaged, both before and after General Lee assumed the command.

In the last year of this momentous struggle, I commanded, at different times, a division and two corps of General Lee's army, in the campaign from the Rapidan to James river, and subsequently a separate force, which marched into Maryland, threatened Washington city, and then went through an eventful campaign in the Valley of Virginia.

No detailed reports of the operations of these different campaigns have been published, and the Valley of Virginia has been the subject of much comment and misapprehension. I have now written a narrative of the operations of all my commands during the closing year of the war, and lay it before the world as a contribution to the history of our great struggle for independence.

In giving that narrative I have made such statements of the position and strength of the opposing forces in Virginia, and such reports of their military operations as were necessary to enable the reader to understand it; but I do not pretend to detail the operations of other commanders.

I have not found it necessary to be guilty of the injustice of attempting to pull down the reputation of any of my fellow-officers, in order to build up my own. My operations and my campaign stand on their own merits, whatever they may be.

Nor, in anything I may have found necessary to say in regard to the conduct of my troops, do I wish to be understood as, in any way, decrying the soldiers who constituted the rank and file of my commands. I believe that the world has never produced a body of men superior in courage, patriotism and endurance, to the private soldiers of the Confederate armies.

I have repeatedly seen those soldiers submit, with cheerfulness, to privations and hardships which would stamp to be almost incredible; and the wild cheers of our brave men, when they were so different from the studied hurrahs of the Yankees, when their thin lines bent back opposing hosts of Federal troops, staggering, reeling, and flying, have often thrilled every fibre in my heart.

I have seen, with my own eyes, ragged, barefooted and hungry Confederate soldiers perform deeds, which, if performed in days of yore by mailed warriors in glittering armor would have inspired the harp of the minstrel and the pen of the poet.

I do not aspire to the character of a historian, but, having been a witness of and participant in great events, I have given a statement of what I saw and did, for the use of the future historian.

Without breaking the thread of my narrative as it proceeds, I have given, in notes, comments on some of the errors and inconsistencies committed by the Commander of the Federal army, General Grant, and the Federal Secretary of War, Mr. Stanton, in their reports made since the close of the war; also some instances of cruelty and barbarity committed by the Federal commanders, which were brought to my immediate attention, as well as some other matters of interest.

As was to be expected, our enemies have done the press with all the misstatements, in which all the appliances of the most scrupulous literature have been made use of, to glorify their own cause, and to suppress, and to blacken ours.

But some Southern writers, also, who preferred the pen to the sword or musket, have not been able to resist the temptation to rush into print; and, accordingly, carrying criticisms have been written by the light of after events, and even histories of the war attempted by persons who imagined that the distinctness of their vision was enhanced by distance from the scene of conflict and an exemption from the disturbing elements of whistling bullets and bursting shells.

Perhaps other writers of the same class may follow, and various speculations be indulged in as to the cause of our disasters. As for myself, I have not undertaken to speculate as to the cause of our failure, as I have seen abundant reason for it in the tremendous odds brought against us. Having had some means of judging, I will, however, say that, in my opinion, both President Davis and General Lee, in their respective spheres, did all for the success of our cause which was possible for mortal man to do, and, in a great privilege and comfort for me to believe and to have been able to bring me into exile from a profound love and veneration for those great men.

In regard to my own services, all I have to say is, that I have the consciousness of having done my duty to my country, to the very best of my power, and whatever my fate, I would not exchange that consciousness for untold millions. I have come into exile rather than submit to the yoke of the oppressors of my country; but I have never thought of committing any fault of blame or censure to those true men, who, after having nobly done their duty in the dreadful struggle through which we passed, now that it has gone against us, remain to share the misfortunes of their people, and to comfort them in their trials; on the contrary I appreciate and honor their motives. I have not sought refuge in another land from an insensibility to the wrongs and sufferings of my own country; but I feel deeply and continually for them, and could my life secure the redemption of that country, as it has been often risked, so now it would be freely given for that object.

There were men born and nurtured in the Southern States, and some of them in the Old State, who took sides with our enemies, and aided in desolating and humiliating the land of their own birth, and of the graves of their ancestors. Some of them rose to high positions in the United States army, and others to high civil positions. I envy them not their dearly bought prosperity. I had rather be the humblest private soldier who fought in the ranks of the Confederate army and now remains disabled, hobble on his crutches from house to house, to receive his daily bread from the hands of the grateful women for whose homes he fought, than the highest of those renegades and traitors. Let them enjoy the advantages of their present positions as best they may! for the deep and bitter exertions of an entire people now attend them, and an immortality of infamy awaits them.

As for all the enemies who have overrun or aided in overrunning my country, there is a wide and impassable gulf between us, in which I see the blood of slaughtered friends, comrades, and countrymen, which all the waters in the firmament above and the seas beneath cannot wash away. Those enemies have undertaken to render our cause odious and infamous; and among other atrocious committed by them in the efforts to do so, a humble subordinate, poor Virg, has been selected as a victim to a fiendish spirit, and basely murdered under an executive edict, founded on the sentence of a vindictive and illegal tribunal. Let them continue this system; they are but creating monuments to their own eternal dishonor, and furnishing finger posts to guide the historian in his researches.

Every citizen of the United States, who has his "Bureau of Military Justice," to sacrifice other victims on the altars of their hatred, and prove marshals, and agents of the "Freedom's Bureau" may riot in all the license of petty tyranny, but our enemies can no more control the verdict of impartial history, than they can escape that doom which awaits them at the final judgment.

During the war, slavery was used as a patchwork to arouse the passions of a fanatical mob, and to some extent to prejudice the minds of the civilized world against us; but the war was not made on our part for slavery. High dignitaries in church and state in Old England, and puritans in New England, had participated in the profits of a trade, by which the ignorant and barbarous natives of Africa were brought from that country, and sold into slavery in the American Colonies. The generation in the Southern States which developed their country in the late war, found amongst them, in a civilized and christianized condition, 4,000,000 of the descendants of those degraded Africans. The Almighty Creator of the Universe had stamped them, indelibly, with a different color and an inferior physical and mental organization. He had not done this from mere caprice or whim, but for wise purposes. An amalgamation of the races was in contradiction of His designs, or He would not have made them so different. This immense number of people could not have been transported back to the wilds from which their ancestors were taken, or if they could have been, it would have resulted in their relapse into barbarism. Reason, common sense, true humanity to the black, as well as the safety of the white race, required that the inferior race should be kept in a state of subordination. The condition of domestic slavery, as it existed in the South, had not only resulted in a great improvement in the moral and physical condition of the negro race, but had furnished a class of laborers as happy and contented as any in the world, if not more so. Their labor had not developed the numerous resources of the immediate country in which they were located, but was the main source of the great prosperity of the United States, and furnished the means for the employment of millions of the working classes in other countries. Nevertheless the struggle made by the people of the South was for the institution of slavery, but for the inextinguishable right of self-government, against the domination of a fanatical faction at the North, and slavery was the mere occasion of the development of the antagonism between the two sections. That right of self-government has been lost, and slavery violently abolished. Four millions of blacks have thus been thrown on their own resources, to starve, to die, and to relapse into barbarism; and inconceivable miseries have been entailed on the white race.

The civilized world will not, it is to be hoped, to glorify their own cause, and to suppress, and to blacken ours. But some Southern writers, also, who preferred the pen to the sword or musket, have not been able to resist the temptation to rush into print; and, accordingly, carrying criticisms have been written by the light of after events, and even histories of the war attempted by persons who imagined that the distinctness of their vision was enhanced by distance from the scene of conflict and an exemption from the disturbing elements of whistling bullets and bursting shells.

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THE USURY LAW.

In the State Senate of Virginia, on the 4th instant, Senator MEADE of the Frederick district asked leave to make a personal explanation, which being granted, he said:

Mr. President—It was with much regret that I found, during my necessary absence for a few days, just before the adjournment for Christmas, that the Senate had taken up and passed a bill restricting the legal rate of interest by contract to ten per cent. Sir, I know of no measure fraught with more mischief to our people.

It is not my purpose to abuse your patience by any extended remarks, but I would say to Senators that neither ten, fifteen or twenty per cent. will be sufficient inducement to bring money into our State, until relieved from the present uncertain, undefined position we occupy towards the Federal Government. Sir, this is the weight that bears us down.

You may recall all laws upon the subject of usury; you may, if you will, make fifty per cent. the legal rate of interest; but that will attract no money here until public confidence is restored. It is not confidence in the security, not the percentage, that is our trouble, and in this view of the subject I have the concurrence of many of the ablest financial men and largest capitalists in Baltimore. But, sir, what will be the effect of this bill, should it unfortunately become a law? Whilst it will not only put up the rate of interest at home nearly double, enabling the fortunate amongst us still further to increase the burdens of the necessitous. Not a dollar will your banks discount without the increased rate. Senators, are you people prepared for this?

Mr. President, I was favorably struck with the fact in noticing the action of the Senate upon this bill, that the very same Senators who plead for the payment of the little pitance of six per cent. because of the poverty of their people, and their inability to pay six per cent., were the advocates of this measure, and clamorous for the privilege of paying what price they pleased in order to borrow money. Now, sir, the effect of this will be to enable parties who hold their property through a generous stay-law—which to-day would not pay the honest debt—all to mortgage it at unheeded rates to secure ready money; they could afford to pay twenty-five per cent. for all they get, is so much gained. Sir, I do not intend any reflections upon our noble, gallant people. God knows I love, honor and respect them as the noblest people on earth; but that there are too many amongst them who would avail themselves of and thus abuse the privilege, is too true. I ask, Mr. President, that if any Senator objects to the journal, that, if present, I would have protested against the passage of a law so pregnant with un-mixed evil.

A Palpable Hit.

In the House of Representatives, on Thursday week, Mr. Eldridge, of Wisconsin, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the following resolution, introduced into the House of Representatives, December 4, 1862, by Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, expresses the conviction and sense of this House, to-wit: "Resolved, That if any person in the employment of the United States, in either the legislative or the executive branch, should propose to make peace, or should accept, or advise the acceptance, of any such proposition, on any other basis than the integrity and entire unity of the United States and their Territories, as they existed at the time of the rebellion, he will be guilty of a high crime," and that House bill 543 is clearly in violation of the spirit of said resolution; and that the same does in fact assert, or at least admit, that secessionists and rebels were successful in dividing the Union, and destroyed certain States of the United States, as such in the Union, despoiling them into Territories; and that the Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, in and by the introduction and advocacy of said bill, has manifested a mind and heart disloyal to the Constitution and the Union of the States as they existed at the time of the rebellion, and is guilty of the crime specified in said resolution, and therefore deserves the reprobation of this House.

Mr. Ashley of Ohio, objected to the introduction of the resolution.

Mr. Eldridge said he did not desire to press it, as the gentleman named in the resolution was not then in his seat. It was laid over.

The other night when thermometer stood at zero a prominent citizen was aroused by a violent knocking at the door of his domicile. Supposing that some extraordinary had happened, he jumped out of bed, and opened the door, when he found a boy who questioned him as follows: "Do you live here? Are you going to live here next summer? Do you own this house?" Upon receiving affirmative answers the boy further interrogated: "Well, Mr. — will you sell your garden plowed next spring, because if you do, I want the job?" The prominent citizen slammed the door and went back to bed without anything but a





