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TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 10, 1863.

The Disaster at Lookout Bridge.

The Crisis publishes the following statement of the section master, Mr. A. T. Temples, concerning this disaster:

On Monday morning, after the rains of the day previous, I took three hands—all I could in my employ—and with the hand car went over the whole line of my section, which is four miles long, attending to shoving the dirt from the different bridges. I was at the bridge where the accident occurred twice in the forenoon and twice in the evening. I visited the bridge four times a day, and there was no drift at all against the bridge much between 9 and 10 o'clock on the morning of Wednesday. Had been to the bridge four times each day. By 3 o'clock P. M. on Wednesday the drift had accumulated so thick and the stream so much swollen, that I could not move it with a dozen hands, had they been with me. The Chickamauga was then at its highest, and the bridge had swagged down stream about one hour's time, one of the bents parted out, and with it a large portion of the drift. The evening freight train was then due and laying at the station just below. There were several men at the bridge at the time, and I asked Mr. Green Harris, one of my hands, to stop the approaching train, which he did, while I returned to the section house. As the train came slowly, the fireman told me to be sure to notify the train that would leave Meridian at 3 the next morning of the danger at the bridge. I said I would do so, and took my hand car immediately and went to the water tank, where Mr. Hardy, an employee of the road, was working. I told him to stop the trains at the tank, and not let them pass, as the road was all torn up, and two other trains were then at Hickory Station, and could get no further, and that one boat was out of the bridge and they could not cross. "I live too far off that I cannot be here myself," was the reply. Then I told him to go home and hire a negro fiddler for the purpose. I then returned to the bridge, and found that the water had fallen about two inches. I then dug a hole in the middle of the track, and put up a stake pole, about as near as I could 100 150 yards from the bridge. This is the usual method of stopping trains when danger is ahead. I then went to do my more good, I returned to the section house at dark. The next morning I had the hands up before daylight, and was just going out on the road to work, having full confidence that Hardy would not let the trains pass the tank. Just as I turned out, I met a man running up the road with the news of the accident.

The correspondent who furnishes the statement says:

Wherever the fault may lie, and whoever may be culpable in this terrible disaster, the officers of the railroad company, high in authority, will have to bear a large share. The section men are furnished with neither flag or signal lights, for a sufficient number of Lamps to keep the road in anything like repair. To believe that one old man with three negro men, one of whom is sick most of the time, can keep eight miles and fifteen bridges on such a road in good order, is simply ridiculous.

LINCOLN'S MOVEMENTS AT NIGHT.—The Northern papers say that "Old Abe" goes the rounds every night or two, consulting with his officers and seeking "the latest army intelligence." A correspondent of the Boston Journal says:

All parties who know the habits of President Lincoln are not surprised to hear of his personal visit to General Burnside—nor would any such be astonished to know that he was in New York at any time. If he wanted to see anything or anybody, he would be quite as likely to come as to send. He has an object in his own, and no one can tell where he will be or what he will do, from anything done yesterday. If he wants a newspaper he is quite as likely to go out and get it as he is to send for it. If he wants to see the Secretary of State, he generally goes out and makes a call. At night, from ten to twelve, he usually makes his tour all round—now at Gen. Seward's, and then at Halleck's, and if Hooker was nearer he would see him each night before he went to bed. Those who know his habits and watch to see him late at night, follow him round from place to place, and the last search generally brings him up at General Halleck's, as he can get the latest army intelligence there. When ever else is asleep or indolent, the President is wide awake and around.

LOYALTY AND LIBERTY—*Now and Then.*—For many years before the outbreak of this war for negro emancipation the great cry of the Abolitionists was Liberty, without regard to loyalty. Now the great cry is loyalty without regard to liberty. That is, they were first for freedom of slaves in defiance of the laws and rights of freemen; and now they are for loyalty to executive, and military edicts emancipating slaves, even if the lawful rights and liberties of freemen be sacrificed. This is but a fair average sample of Yankee Abolitionism. They know no law but the vague, undefinable and blasphemous dogma termed the "Higher Law," which sets at naught all laws human and divine. But this is precisely characteristic of Yankee Puritans, who habitually assume to be wiser than God, and, of course, better than other men.—*Maysville (Ky) Bulletin.*

A Free-Talk Native on the President's Message.

[From the Philadelphia (R. I.) Post.]

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE REDUCED TO THE LEVEL OF THE MEANEST UNDERSTANDING.

Fellow citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Since your last annual assembling, a year ago, twelve months have passed by. They have not, though, any indications of a return of peace to our distracted land. I am pleased to say, however, that the corn crop is quite large. Let us hope that in the course of time all will be peace.

Our foreign relations are not so satisfactory as they were (but if they were more so) in the month of June last, we had reason to expect that the partisan powers would cease to recognize the insurgents as belligerents; but they did not. Some trifling defeats of ours which occurred about that time, probably influenced them in this absurd course.

Several Americans of pure African descent have applied to me to have their emigration to some good place; other persons have done the same thing. On the other hand, several of the Spanish American Republics have declared that they will not receive such colonists at any price. Liberia and Hayti are the only countries to which such colonists would be received, but the inducements do not seem to appear to be great enough. Occasionally, I find that they have a strong desire to go somewhere. This passes me. This, however, which creates some, not great and small, will probably sensibly affect their opinion in this regard.

The condition of the National finances demands your most serious attention. The surplus in United States Notes in the Treasury, in anticipation of postage stamps, is disappearing rapidly. In times past we have had paper enough to serve the Treasury, but although the United States Mint is daily adding to its stock, it seems impossible to meet the conclusion that we shall never have enough again. At all events, a portion of United States Notes can not lawfully be established. I therefore propose that a National Bank system pass be started all over the country, and that the Government issue to these banks United States Bonds deposited in the Treasury. By these means we shall have a currency based on unfailing security of paper dollars and a large currency, and what could be more patriotic?

As the war is no importance at all when compared to the slavery question, I pass it by with the remark, to come at once to the question of the latter. And in regard to it, it is gratifying to perceive that the North and the South are rapidly becoming separated. I propose to remove the remnant of ties between them by amending the Constitution, so that all slaves who are not now free shall become so on the 1st day of January, in the year of our Lord 1900 and that they have—provided the States in which they are held to labor are willing to compensate them in consideration of United States Bonds, to be made payable at that date.

As this is an entire new line of policy, you will, of course, want to know my reasons for thinking it. Without saying the rebellion could never have existed without slavery, it could not continue a day without it. Therefore, it is a logical consequence that if we amend the Constitution as I propose, the rebellion will be ended by the year A. D. 2000, the rebellion will be ended, and all peace be prolonged thereafter. It will be asked, how is this to be done? I reply, in the following manner: First, the compensation is to be gradually, the longer of time for consummating it (ten hundred and seventy-three years), and finally the compensation will be entirely satisfactory to the slaveowners of perpetual slaves; but to the negro of time sound, and probably would greatly mitigate their dissatisfaction. Secondly, I have no doubt at all but that it will have entirely passed out of their minds at the expiration of the term stated. The time spares both races from the evils of sudden disenthralment, and will enable the slaves to move up more gradually, and thus avoid the chance of their taking cold. I think I am warranted in stating that those opposed to the measure will never "see it." Another place will call the process of emancipation, but will appreciate the length of time. They will not call it given too little to the now living slaves. But to each of them as are in the Mississippi Valley—and it is well known that slaves often live to a very great age—it really gives much. Besides, it saves them from the dreadful vagaries, and gives the important assurance that their posterity shall be free forever. And a man will endure anything for his posterity may be all right.

The plan leaves to each State choosing for itself (if which nine of the eleven rebellious ones of course will) to abolish slavery now, or on the thirty-first day of December, in the year of our Lord Two thousand and forty-five, or at any other time. It also provides for compensation, which must further mitigate dissatisfaction, especially among those who are not to be compensated. It may be that those who are to pay, and not to receive, will object; people of that class usually do. But such are blind to their own interest, or a war never so more than compensated immaterial would. And so, referring to the premises laid down at the beginning, that war will end when slavery ends, viz: A. D. 2000, it follows, as a natural consequence, that it will be more economical for us to pay for the slaves, in addition to paying for the war up to that time, than it would to pay for the war alone, leaving the slaves out of the question. The assertion, I repeat, would save money, and in that view would be a prudent and economical measure. Certainly it is not easy to pay something as it is to pay nothing, but it is easier to pay a large sum than to pay a larger one, and it is easier to pay any sum when we are able than it is to pay it before we are able. In other words, there are four millions of slaves in the South. These we would have to pay for at an average of five hundred dollars each, making in all two thousand millions of dollars. Now, it is not so easy to pay two thousand millions of dollars as it is to pay one cent postage stamp; but it is easier to pay two thousand millions of dollars than it is to pay two hundred thousand millions of dollars, and it is easier to pay two thousand millions of dollars when we have got it, than to pay the same sum when we haven't got it. I cannot better close this part of my argument than by the remark made by my old and respected friend Jack Bunsby: "If so be as the ship's gone down, my opinion is it won't come up no more. If so be it hasn't gone down, why then it will. Don't say it will. Why not? Which because the bearings of this observation lay in the application on it."

I trust I have made myself perfectly clear on this point.

It is highly idiotic to suppose that colored people can displace any more white labor by being free than remaining slaves. If they stop in their old places—which they won't—they join no white laborers. If they leave their old places, they leave them open to white laborers, and as it is a physical impossibility for white laborers to do the work of the negroes in the rice, the cotton or the sugar fields of the South, this would be a highly liberal and wholesome arrangement.

Again, as practice proves more than theory in any case, has there been any eruption of colored people north, because of the abolishment of slavery in the District of Columbia last spring? I answer promptly—No! It was quite the contrary, for the slaveowners of the contiguous counties in Maryland made an exceedingly good thing out of it by bringing all their lame, blind, halt and generally decrepit negroes into the Washington market, and there getting compensated for them at abolition rates.

It may not, perhaps, be out of place to state here, that this place in no wise affects the restoration of the national authority, the continuance of the war, and proceeding under the Emancipation Proclamation of September 22, 1862, by which all slaves of rebels are declared free on and after January 1, 1863, and no United States bonds offered in compensation. The sagacity displayed in giving up the main part of my message to it will thus be apparent at a glance.

The idea I have labored to convey is, that if we buy the slaves of rebels and set them free, paying in United States bonds due January 1, 2000, that they will immediately lay down their arms, and fall upon our bosoms in a fraternal embrace, for this is all our Southern brethren have been fighting for. It was the hope of the "compromise" and "conciliation" days of the Republic, and it was the hope of the "compromise" and "conciliation" days of the Republic, and it was the hope of the "compromise" and "conciliation" days of the Republic, and it