WEEKLY CLARION

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The Messenger and the Teacher.

The Meridian Messenger, some short time since, took us to task for taking our texts from its columns and not crediting them, and in quoting from it elsewhere as the Messenger and yet not giving its place of birth and residence.

Perhaps it may suffice for our excuse that we should say that we did not name the Messenger, as the "Eastern contemporary" quoted from in furnishing us texts, because we somewhat criticised its mode of treating the teacher's vocation and doubted whether the place of a man's birth should be given as the reason of rejection, rather than the style and substance of his teaching, and because our respect for that ably edited journal, which we constantly find filled with original and strikingly expressed thought, made us anxious not to have any controversy with its *personnel*. We must say, too, that in crediting "The Messenger," instead of the "Meridian or Mississippi Messenger," we convey a compliment which our friends ought better to appreciate than they do by finding fault with it. If one speak of Cæsar, it is not deemed requisite to qualify him as Julius Cæsar; it is otherwise of Tiberius or other Cæsars.

Premising that there are still in the Northern States such men as Thomas H. Seymour in Connecticut, Franklin Pierce and Daniel Marcy in New Hampshire, the Woods and many others in New York, Pendleton, Cox and others in Ohio, like men in other States and the disciples of such, who would be as true to the South when on its bosom as they were when obloquy and reproach followed them, for resisting its persecution and desolation by war, and that therefore provisos and saving clauses should always be used in characterising Northern men as enemies, we desire to quote as "worthy of all acceptation" the conclusion of the Messenger's article, which is as follows:

If the language we used seems "latently to express" that teaching is an "inferior employment," we did not mean it. It does not though. We only meant, when we said, a "Southern girl reduced to the necessity of earning a living" might serve us acceptably as a teacher, to suggest a preference for them, merit being equal. On the contrary, we regard the employment of teaching as an honorable and exalted occupation. And we confess, that the Southern mind needs to be somewhat educated upon this subject. It has been too much the style to look down upon a mere teacher as not much of a somebody. It resulted from false notions of superiority based upon negroes and cotton bags. With a little help from the wise and good men now, who could always lift themselves above such false and foolish notions of pride, the schoolmaster can easily be lifted up to his proper position of importance.

In conclusion, while upon the subject of schools, we are about to say something we have had on our mind to say some time, which we expect to meet with some disapprobation. Duty commands, and we obey. We say then, that the prevailing notion that it is disreputable for a Southerner to teach a negro school, is wrong. They will be taught and they ought: now that they are free. They *will* be taught, whether we approve it or not. So long as public opinion drives Southern teachers out of these schools, will they be filled by Northern ones under the patronage of the Bureau, about to be made permanent. These Bureau teachers, besides reading, writing and arithmetic, coming from the North, with hearts filled with hate and uncharitableness, will teach the negroes things that are to make trouble with the races. By accepting the situation as it is, and taking control of these schools into our own hands whenever and wherever we can, we may give to the minds of the rising generation of blacks an inclination greatly to our future advantage and prosperity. Instead of rancorous hate of their late masters, we may thus infuse into them kindly feelings. Within itself, there is nothing wrong in imparting instruction which elevates and refines the humblest of God's creatures with immortal souls. We utterly fail to see that there are any extraneous circumstances in the case under notice which forbid. The divine law does not forbid, but enjoins it. The Legislature of this State has enjoined it in one case. The apprentice law provides for education. Of course it contemplates negro schools and white teachers for them. We have many prejudices about the negro, growing out of his former servitude, to correct, and this is one of them. We stand upon the ground, that it is right to educate the negro, and whatever is right to do, cannot be disreputable to do.

PUBLIC MEETING AT VICKSBURG.—"The people," says the Vicksburg Herald of the 7th, "held a meeting last night at the Court House, to endorse President Johnson. Federals and Confeds met on the Constitutional platform, and under the old flag. The gallant Merwin, with his armless sleeve, presided, with the stars and stripes floating over him, and our eloquent young friend, Tom Manlove, made a speech which did him honor."

The resolutions, published in the Herald, are simply such as might be expected on the occasion. They were sustained in speeches by Hon. Walker Brooke and others. The Herald says:

"We cannot fail to refer to the fact that the venerable Col. Joseph E. Davis, the elder brother of Col. Jefferson Davis, was present on the platform, and under the flag of the Union, and declared that if the principles enunciated by President Johnson had been adopted by the North in 1860, there would have been no secession."

☞ The Chicago Tribune berates Henry Ward Beecher as "a knock-kneed, [illegible]"

☞ A witty brochure was published in this State, some twenty odd years ago, in which the doings of Mississippi politicians were taken off in allegorical style. Among the points made, one of the most telling was that where Gov. McNutt was represented as introducing his successor to the executive office and explaining to him the different parts of the gubernatorial apparatus. Among these one article especially attracted the new Governor's notice. It was a piece of head-gear, something in the shape of a Roman helmet, inscribed with the motto, "E pluribus unum," which the Governor's "man Friday," who "understood French," said, meant "a little of the d—dest." The ex-Governor bade his successor put that down, and be careful how he meddled with it. It was the Veto Power, and nobody without a very strong head, like himself or Andrew Jackson, could safely wear it. The new Governor, however, had an itching curiosity to try it on, which he did at the first opportunity, and a precious fix he found himself in.

The same article forms a part of the executive paraphernalia at Washington, and there is a man there entitled to wear it, not only by his constitutional prerogative, but by virtue of his having a head of the Andrew Jackson order. It sets well upon him, and its motto beams gallantly above his brows, declaring to the whole country that he is *one* of the few chosen, *out of many* who have been called to the high station he occupies.

The Radicals quite agree with Gov. T's "man Friday" in his translation of the motto.

FENIAN PRONUNCIAMENTO.—The following Fenian pronunciamento has been issued:

H'D. Q'RS. FENIAN BROTHERHOOD,
NEW YORK, March 1, 1866,

Brothers: The hour for action has arrived. The *habeas corpus* is suspended in Ireland. Our brothers are being arrested by hundreds and thrown into prison. Call your Circles together immediately; send us all the aid in your power at once, and in God's name let us start for our destination. And, brothers, for God and Ireland.

God save the green!

[Signed.] JOHN O'MAHONY

A rencounter took place on the 2d, between M. Hanna, local editor of the Richmond Examiner, and R. D. Ogden, manager of the theatre, in consequence of a card published in the Examiner by the latter. Several shots were exchanged without effect.—Exchange.

When it is remembered how successful D'Orsey was in keeping out of the army, it is consoling to discover that he is an indifferent shot.

☞ We have seen a letter from a young lady, an *indigenous* Mississippian, engaged in teaching, who writes:

I devoted an hour to the instruction of Harriet "our" cook, who is exceedingly anxious to learn. This I have done for several nights previous, and still continue to do. * * * * Sunday evening all the negro women on the place (numbering eight) came up, provided with spelling-books, to learn to read. They had been invited to do so, and were not slow in availing themselves of the invitation. They seem exceedingly anxious to learn. Don't you think we ought to help them as much as we can?

We say yes, yes; a thousand times yes. For thirty years we have been accustomed to the sight of "young mistresses" teaching their servants to spell and read, as a matter of amusement to themselves and gratification to the servants. They have now the additional incentive of patriotic and christian duty, to cultivate minds which will be sown with tares, unless they forestall the "enemy" by sowing good seed.

Gen. Spinner received a counterfeit fifty dollar compound interest note from South Carolina. It is not very dangerous, and was probably designed chiefly for Southern distribution.—Exch.

There is an amusing coolness about that last remark, seeming to imply that manufacturing counterfeits for Southern distribution is a venial offence. We picked up, not three days ago, a forcible reminder of the fact that such views have been entertained before. It purported to be a twenty dollar bill, and read as follows:

"Receivable in payment of all dues except export dues. XX

"Six months after the ratification of a Treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States the CONFEDERATE STATES of America will pay *twenty dollars* to bearer.

"Richmond, Va., September 2d, 1861.

"R. Hill, jr. for Register — "R. M. Payne, for Treas'r

"Hoyer & Ludwig, Richmond, Va."

This is as arrant a counterfeit as was ever got up, even the signatures being lithographed, but as it was "designed for Southern distribution," no steps were taken against the counterfeiters.

LIBERAL.—We were not aware, until reading the Clarion of yesterday, that we were especially indebted to that office for the copy of the Stay Law decision published in the Standard. The copy "*furnished*" us was in accordance with an understanding with the business manager of the Clarion, that we were to pay half the expense of transcribing the decision.—[Standard, 7th.

The Standard will, we know, excuse a slight and unintentional inaccuracy in the paragraph of ours to which it refers. According to the Standard's version or our own, it is evident that the break-neck rivalry between the two papers is an agreeable fiction for the amusement of young people. But anything to please the children; meantime, we disclaim any other rivalry, with either of our neighbors, than the contention of who best can work and best agree.

A fearful story of a snow-storm on the prairies will be found on the second page.—Exchange.

A little boy, having been sent to the grocer's for sugar, read on a board at the door "Flour, coffee, tea, salt," &c., and "X O Sugar." "Well," said he, turning homewards, "it was very polite of them to let a feller know."

LETTER FROM NEW ORLEANS.

[Correspondence of the Clarion.]

NEW ORLEANS, March 4, 1866.

This is the glorious fourth, the fourth most glorious to firemen, a class of men whom you have among you as well as we here, and a glorious set of men, too, who on the 4th of March are wont to have grand processions in which, decked in their fanciful red or white shirts and black trowsers, which fit tightly over their robust forms, with their engines and hose carriages and trucks decorated as highly as art and taste can do it, they "proceed in a procession" all over the principal streets, to the intense delight of all the girls and the hopeful expectations of the adolescent youths, who trust some day to "run wid der mashoen" also.

I am sorry to record that it took place today; for, though I am no Puritan and believe that the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath, I believe that it should be kept as a day of rest, as well from boisterous and exciting amusements as from mere labor. The needs both of mind and body, as well as the requirements of the sacred law, make the keeping of the Rest Day a most salutary duty, incumbent on all; and it is greatly to be hoped that public opinion will yet enact that these public, eye-paining and ear-deafening celebrations shall be had on a more suitable day than Sunday.

As for our New Orleans firemen, we are especially proud of them as a class; they are men of all ranks in life among us, from the wealthiest and most refined, to the hardiest sons of toil, and they are emphatically the most fearless and efficient among all fighters of fire. One thing which especially endears them to us, is that during the three years of hostile occupation, while many of them, possibly the greater number, were out in conflict, the residu were unwilling to indulge in this their accustomed annual holiday, and that last year, when it was observed in a somewhat sombre, half-and-half style, it was done by the request, amounting to an order, from the commanding General.

I shall not try to give you an account *in extenso* of to-day's celebration, as you will find it in the morning papers of to-morrow, much more fully than I could furnish it to you, within the compass of this brief epistle.

To-day has also been observed, much more appropriately for the day, in the administration of the rite of confirmation in Christ Church and St. Paul's, our two oldest Episcopal churches in the city, and in Mount Olivet Church, in Algiers, by the Right Rev. Richard H. Wilmer, D. D., the Bishop of Alabama.

The rector of Christ Church is the Rev. Dr. Leacock, and the rector of St. Paul's is the Rev. Dr. Goodrich, who were banished by Butler, and who were not permitted to return until after the surrender. These venerable men, Christians in the purest and most exalted sense, are the objects of uniform reverence and respect; even their late enemies yield it to them. The Rev. Mr. Bakewell "went out" as orderly sergeant of the 5th Company of the Washington Artillery, Capt. Slocomb, and fought at Shiloh and elsewhere, and became a clergyman and the chaplain of a Mississippi regiment subsequently, in which character he is probably well known to all who served in Johnston's and Hood's army. He is a man of [illegible] sympathies, unflagging zeal, deep earnestness and fine abilities as a preacher.

Of the distinguished celebrant you need no description from me. The Bishop of Alabama has made his mark in the history of the times, and my only regret is that he did not insist on retaining for his, and so far as his influence could go, for the other Southern dioceses, that primitive diocesan independence, which if not "national" or "republican," is, at the least, scriptural and apostolic.

When the Bishop was here, some weeks ago, just after the revocation by Thomas, after a fashion, of his interdict by military authority, or rather power without authority, but before the publication of the revocation, he administered the rite of confirmation in Trinity church in the morning and was to have administered it at night in Christ Church, but hearing that Gen. Sherman, not *the* Sherman but *a* Sherman, had issued an order to prevent him, and not having been expressly invited by the standing committee of the diocese to officiate at Christ church, he staid away. The next day he received an apology from Gen. S., who had then learned of the revocation, who told him that he could proceed, but it was too late. It is said that the intruding vestry of Christ church, Yankee interlopers, who crept in under Butler, the Beast and Banks, the profligate, were the instigators of this treatment of the Bishop of Alabama. Friday night last and to-day their Rector succeeded in causing them to hear the truth at the lips of this distinguished prelate, and Tuesday night he preaches to the young men in that great church.

Monday next, 12th inst., *on dit*, we are to have our first city election since the advent of Butler, a boon which has for the year past been denied us,—not by the Federal authorities, but by the corrupt and false men who derive their power under the fraudulent State Constitution of 1864. Of course, there is great preparation for the event. We can hardly be said to have parties here, for the Wells and Kennedy party can hardly elect a single member of the Council from any ward in the city, and assuredly not the Mayor; and the [illegible] in their ranks. [illegible] party is therefore [illegible]

I have my own [illegible] to this organization, [illegible] made will be of men [illegible] a trade and occupation [illegible] republican govern[illegible] reiguty. I am [illegible] doubt as to the [illegible] frage, for which [illegible] veeate. In one [illegible] lons in the city; [illegible] delegates to the Convention [illegible] ly of the most ordinary and [illegible] chamble material, and the like [illegible] it will succeed at the ward meeting.

I regret to add that cotton manifests some dispositions to fall off in price, owing to the depressed condition of the gold market and business in general, as indicated by our New York advices. Our latest New York advices quote it as weak at 43½ to 44. GRAYBIL.

Correspondence of the Clarion.

Letter from St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 26, 1866.]

[The following letter is published out of its regular order, having been mislaid.]

In coming up the Mobile and Ohio Railroad from Meridian to Columbus, Ky., I was gratified to find the road in most excellent condition and the accommodations for the public superior to those of any Railroad in the South or West. The ladies' and sleeping cars are really magnificent; they are kept scrupulously clean, and every attention is given to provide for the comfort of the traveler. We were astonished to find, notwithstanding the tearing up of the track and the destruction of the road in so many places during the war, that the road bed is in excellent condition, and the passenger is carried along smoothly and steadily, his mind not tormented by rude jars and jolts, so common nowadays on Railroads, giving one the unpleasant idea of a run off or smash up.

Persons from Vicksburg or Jackson desiring to go to St. Louis, Cincinnati, or in fact any point North or East, will find the route by Meridian and then on the Mobile Road to Columbus, Ky., the quickest and most pleasant route by far. The Southern road makes a close connection every evening with the Mobile train going north, and then there is no change of cars to Columbus, Ky. From all I could learn, the condition of the counties in Mississippi, north of Meridian on the Mobile Road, is as promising as that of any part of the South, and great preparations are making for a crop. In some counties it is believed that as much cotton will be planted, if not more than at any time before the war, and everywhere the people are at work with energy intending to raise all the cotton possible. An intelligent gentleman from Noxubee who has lately been over the county says the negroes are working as well as they ever did, and that more cotton will be planted this year than ever before. He says that in Noxubee there are fully as many negroes if not more than there before; quite a number having come [illegible] county from other localities and obtained employment. [illegible] little corn will be made this year in the prairie part of Mississippi, as the high price of cotton and the convenience with which corn, flour and meat can be obtained from the West, will cause the entire neglect of every production but cotton; I heard of several large planters in this part of the State that did not intend to plant any corn at all. We passed Tupelo in Itawamba county about day light, and from there to Corinth we saw everywhere evidences that the people were industriously engaged in preparing their farms for a crop. Now and then might be seen an abandoned plantation, but the [illegible] places showed signs of improvement. New fences have been made, the fields cleaned up and in some instances a considerable amount of ploughing has already been done. Corinth presents a haggard and dilapidated appearance, the ravages of war still plainly visible. We got there at 10 A. M. A drizzly rain was pouring down. I atten[illegible] at the old familiar pl[illegible] looked de[illegible] paying twenty [illegible] coffee, Preturn[illegible] building is gi[illegible] Hotel, and [illegible] provements were going [illegible] next town of any importance we was Jackson, Tenn. This appears [illegible] flourishing, place and is the term[illegible] Mississippi Central Road, or rather [illegible] of connection with the Mobile [illegible] Railroad. It is understood that in a few weeks trains on the Central Road will run to Jackson. As soon as this occurs daily trains will run from here to Canton on the Central and there connect with daily trains to New Orleans. The next place which appears to be improving on the road is Humboldt, the junction of the Memphis and Ohio with the Mobile Road. It appears to be in a pretty good section of country and will no doubt become a very respectable town. I had the pleasure of meeting here an old Meridian friend, Mr. E. Howard, connected in the days of the "so-called Confederacy" with the telegraph and stationed at Meridian. Mr. Howard, who is one of the cleverest gentlemen in the world, intends going into business soon at Humboldt and has great hopes of its becoming an important place.

We got to Columbus, Ky., at 10 P. M., making 27 hours from Meridian and 35 from Jackson. We were soon on the boat, and at 1 were in the city of Cairo. It was very dark, and the little I saw of this classic place was mud and water as I hurried with the crowd on the cars of the Illinois Central. In a half-hour we were off. I paid a dollar and fifty cents to an individual of the African persuasion for the privilege of a sleeping car. I got in my berth but, the car jostled and rocked so badly that I found [illegible] to sleep. We breakfasted [illegible] a town about the size of Jack[illegible] some important railroad conne[illegible] is the only town I saw in Illinoi[illegible] peared to be flourishing and pro[illegible] traveled through Illinois ten year[illegible] on these roads, and considering [illegible] prices of Western produce during [illegible] am greatly surprised at the little [illegible] ment that the country presents. [illegible] roads were then in better con[illegible] now. The cars were clean[illegible] and [illegible] fortable. At Odin we changed cars and [illegible] the Ohio and Mississippi Road for St. Louis. This road runs very direct from Cincinnati to St. Louis, a distance of about 340 miles. The farms I saw in Illinois, as a general thing, are rich prairie, producing excellent crops of corn and wheat. Considerable cotton was made last year in the Southern part of the State. The fall was favorable and it is said in some places from 10 to 1500 pounds of cotton were made to the acre. There will be some cotton planted this spring, the experiment having succeeded so well. In Southern Illinois there is a [illegible] quantity of timbered prairie [illegible] some of the land in Lowndes county, Mississippi, and [illegible] but for the early frost, be excellent cotton. As a general thing, the farms presented [illegible] ance. There had been [illegible] and the prairie [illegible] houses are generally [illegible] houses or orchards [illegible] the mud go to [illegible] fortable, [illegible] ling and [illegible] ances [illegible] before [illegible] large [illegible]