

CAROLINA SPARTAN.

AN ENGLISHMAN IN AMERICA. His Opinion of War between England and the United States.

The following article appears in the London Shipping and Mercantile Gazette: Sir: I have now made the tour of the States of North America, and think it probable I can give your readers some useful information. I landed at New York city ten months ago, and have spent my time in studying the character and customs of those people, and must confess that if I remained ten years the result would be the same; and I know very little about them. But upon one point—national pride—men, women and children are all alike, and the idea of any nation of Europe, or the whole of them put together, conquering this country is perfectly absurd to them. Every body reads the papers, and a good-humored wreath of twelve years used to rate me soundly at Philadelphia for my failures at Sebastopol. The best version of American sympathy was given me a few days since. When the war commenced the Turks were the weaker power, and our sympathies were with her. After the alliance it was three against one, and our sympathies went to Russia; but, should France join Russia to-morrow against England, our government could not prevent its citizens from not only sympathizing with England, but assisting her with material aid. This I heard from a very intelligent man, who I do not think suspected my nationality; and I firmly believe it. In the South I spent some time upon the plantations, and many times held long conversations with the slaves, and always with the same result. They are much better satisfied than I suspected, and when I spoke of the probability of a war, I was answered that, "white folks wouldn't let nigga fight." "But," said I, "the blacks from the West Indies will come here and help you to gain your freedom." "What! black soger come here; let 'em cum, den massa let's fight de nigga, I know, and Gar Almighty we give 'em soger!" If not expressed in the same language the same feeling was ever expressed. I have visited all their national armories, and although the country is at peace, the greatest activity prevails; all the old arms are condemned, and by next spring nearly 1,500,000 Minie rifles will be ready for distribution, besides Colt's, Clark's, and others. A Mr. Alger, at Boston, is now engaged on a new kind of gun for the navy. The range, with solid shot, is nearly five miles; with shell, somewhat shorter, and the explosion of the shell renders conflagration certain to a great distance. These are acted, by those at work on them, the secret gun. But what the secret is I could not ascertain. Since the war rumors I have been observant of all and every thing that could give me a clue to the feelings of the people. This is not difficult to come at, for the feeling is general, and their confidence is so great in their own strength that the most difficult speak only of the consequences and the result. In company with a party of merchants, most of whom were engaged in trade with England, I broached the war subject, and was astonished to find them so indifferent about the consequences. One of them, largely interested in clipper ships, in answer to a remark of mine, that he would have to lay up his clippers—"Not a bit of it," said he, "they will make capital privateers; the government will furnish guns of long range, no British man-of-war can catch them except a steamer, and they cannot in a good breeze, so we must take chances." "But where will you get your men?" "Where! We have 84,000 enrolled fishermen who will flood our sea-ports, and I will tell you candidly that in less than six months after war is declared there will be 500 of the fastest vessels in the world aloft as privateers, and an English merchantman will not be able to show herself at sea. What if we lose a few, we will make it up in the end. Two steamers were launched a few days since, each about 4,000 tons, built in eight months, and it is just as easy to build 50 in the same time or less." "But your coasts are not defended. Remember you have no Sebastopol or Cronstadt." "Nor do we want any. We have a few very pretty forts, but should any nation attempt an invasion, we will meet them with hand and hearts equal to any, superior to most; and we can concentrate 500,000 men at any point on our coast in a few days. Let the alarm be sounded at this moment, and in a few hours near 50,000 men will make their appearance armed and equipped." This sounds like bragging, but it is a fact. This city (New York) has near that number enrolled and equipped; every man keeps his rifle at home or in the private armory of the company to which he belongs, and I find it the same throughout the country. I have frequently met with boys of 12 and 14 with guns and game-bags, starting at early dawn for the woods, for here they can shoot game wherever found. War is argued against by every body as something to be avoided, but the idea of backing out to avoid it does not appear to enter the mind of anybody. Some of the papers speak of the President's message disparagingly, but the people are with him, and I candidly believe he would be elected if the election came off to day. And I regret I cannot defend my country at this time as I would wish. The Bulwer Clayton treaty is plain and explicit, and these people don't and won't understand double meanings in treaties. They say the man with the white hat does not refer to the individual in the white cap, and my Lord John Russell acknowledges the American interpretation. There are thousands of men here that the Americans would be glad to get clear of, but that does not justify England in breaking their laws by enlisting them; and my Lord Palmerston's instructions were something like telling a man to stab his neighbor but not hurt him.

If the treaty (Clayton and Bulwer) is adhered to, we have the States pledged never to occupy it. (Central America) for, say what we will, they will stick to the treaty and it will never be annexed; abrogate it, and in less than ten years it will be one of the States of the Union. The Canadians are a very loyal set and think they could take possession of the States at a moment's warning. They have caught the habit of bragging from their neighbors without having the wherewithal to brag on. A trip up the lakes is the most convincing proof we can have of the difference in the two people. In the American are well-finished cities and towns, saw-mills, railroads running in every direction—in fact, you seldom lose sight of the locomotive—and there are innumerable steamers at every landing. On the Canadian, where there are settlements, you see the well-kept, comfortable dwellings, the smooth-sheared lawn, and everything wears an air of comfort, but little or no business, with the exception of the great railroad. However, they are rapidly improving; but should there be war, the largest and best portions of Canada are lost to us. Quebec, Halifax, and other points would both them. But to sum up my own observations after every opportunity that one man could have afforded him, the result would be as follows: Mexico, Cuba, and the whole of Central America would be annexed in the South, and I have little doubt of Canada, in the North; millions of treasure and thousands of valuable lives lost to England forever, our commerce crippled in every sea, and some fighting that will gladden the hearts of our tried soldiers.

Now, what can we gain! A foot of territory! We don't want it; and if we did, six feet for the majority of our brave fellows, I fear, would be the extent. Naval or military glory we don't want, and as for the beach head of the Mosquito King it is a deadly humbug. What would be the result to this country? It would put her back in prosperity for half a century; it would ruin thousands who are now in affluence, but would enrich thousands who are now poor. But the great advantage the Americans have is that they can produce and manufacture everything they want; the different climates affords this. They would get accustomed to their own goods and discard ours forever. But the greatest injury to all parties, and I may say to the world, would be the making of this nation of 25,000,000 a warlike people, and, once instilled with the love of war, the propagandists of Europe would have a fearful ally. The last year's crop of wheat is officially given at 170,000,000 of bushels, and everything else in proportion, so that we cannot starve them out; and, from my own observation, I would rather see England contending with the whole of Europe than against this country. I am no croaker, nor have I any doubt of the power and wealth of my beloved country, and, if need be, could again handle a musket for her honor and glory; but the day that war is declared between these two mighty rivals a contest will be commenced that will bring more horrors in its train than the world ever yet witnessed.

There is another item which I am like to forget. Many of my countrymen place great dependence on the abolitionists, or friends of freedom in this country; but I assure you their greatest protection here is their insignificance. They flourish as long as thought harmless, but the slightest suspicion of their collusion with a foreign foe, and they would be annihilated; in fact, I have preferred to my entire satisfaction that those terrible and exciting questions are only intended for political effect; but attach any importance to them, affecting the interests of the country, and they are gone. You would, no doubt, be astonished to hear that many children of foreigners, and in fact, foreigners themselves, are know-nothings, started to proscribe them; but such is the fact. I have extended my remarks further than I intended, but they have one desirable feature—that is, truth. Should they prove acceptable, I may again intrude on you. I remain, yours, JAMES B. WARREN.

Buffalo, New York, January 11, 1856.

ARRIVAL OF THE CANADA.

HALIFAX, March 28.—The steamer Canada has arrived, with Liverpool dates of the 15th.

The Conferences had reported progress, and the indications were highly favorable to peace. Prussia had been invited to join the Conferences, and Baron Manteuffel had gone as plenipotentiary.

Mr. Dallas arrived on the 12th in the Atlantic, and was favorably received. The opinion universally prevailed that peace was now certain; still, questions relative to the Danubian principalities and the Asiatic frontier remained unsettled.

It was, however, reported that these would be referred to Commissioners on the spot.

The British squadron was pushing towards Kiel, but Admiral Watson had been ordered not to engage in hostilities.

The Austrian army would be further reduced. A despatch from Berlin says that Count Orloff had made known at St. Petersburg that a definite understanding had been reached on the fifth point, and peace was assured.

A correspondent of the London Times says that an American Commercial Company was about being formed at Vienna, for the purpose of establishing direct trade between Austria and the United States, and importing cotton and other articles. It is estimated that a treaty of commerce will soon be formed between the two countries.

The Paris correspondent of the Times says that Russia has agreed to the neutralization of the Black Sea, and the dismantling of the fortresses along the coast.

Cotton had been quiet, and lower qualities were 1-8d. lower, other grades unchanged. Sales of the week 48,000 bales, including 5,000 to exporters and speculators.

Fair Orleans, 6 3-4; middling, 5 15-16; d; fair upland, 6 1-4; middling, 5 13-16; to 5 7-8; d. Stock 356,000 bbls, including 235,000 American. Flour had advanced 2s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.; corn 1s. white, 31s. 6d. Provisions quiet.

Consols closed at 92 1-4 to 92 3-8. At Havre, cotton was quiet but firm.

THE MERCHANT AND THE WOULD-BE SURVIVOR. THE PARIS correspondent of the New York Express tells the following very French story.

"One day last week a wealthy merchant of the rue Montorgueil was walking along the banks of the canal St. Martin, when he observed a young girl of wild and distracted appearance hastily pass before him. Apparently supposing herself unobserved, she knelt for an instant on the ground, and springing into the water, was about to make a final effort, when the merchant seized her arm, and gently reproaching her for attempting to put an end to her life, demanded to know the cause. The would-be suicide recounted to him a touching story. She had, she said, just lost her father, her last surviving relative, and her sole support, and finding herself alone in the world and utterly destitute of resources, thought the best thing she could do would be to put an immediate end to her own existence. Whilst she was speaking, our benevolent merchant observed that she was quite young and very pretty. Promising to provide for her future welfare, he led her from the spot. Talking together the twain arrived upon the Boulevards. In consequence of her misery the young creature had not eaten anything that day, and, naturally, now began to feel hungry. Her new-found friend straightway entered a neighboring restaurant, and called for a private room. After eating a bountiful dinner, the young girl, wishing to make some woman's request of the dame de compagnie, left the room. After waiting for some time, and finding that his protegee did not return, the merchant determined to pay his bill, but what was his chagrin, on searching his pockets for the wherewithal to do so, to ascertain that his portmanteau had disappeared, and with it the contents, amounting to over two thousand francs. The merchant has come to the determination that, for the future, if pretty young women wish to drown themselves, he will not offer the slightest obstacle."

BANK ROBBERY.—On Thursday night last about 1 o'clock, some daring thief or thieves, by means of a false key, entered the office of Mr. Geo. C. Gibbs, Agent for the "Planters, Bank of Fairfield," and stole therefrom a package of money, containing, we are informed, about six thousand four hundred dollars, in Bank bills, chiefly of the Banks of Charleston and Fairfield. Mr. Gibbs was just about starting by the Carolina for South Carolina to settle his accounts with the Bank, and had taken the money out of the safe, and packed it with his books in the bottom of his trunk, preparatory to going on board the boat. Being called out a short while, he left his trunk locked in his office, the night being a bright moonlight one, and the street being thronged with people. But the thief, who was, no doubt, aware of his purpose, and had watched his motions, took advantage of his short absence, and entered the office by means of a false key, forced the top of the trunk, tumbled the clothes out upon the floor, and carried off successfully the package containing the money and books. No clue by which to detect the criminals has yet been discovered, except that the paper which enveloped the money and books was the next morning found upon the wharf of Messrs. Bisbee & Canova, at which wharf the Savannah boat was moored at the time of the robbery. The supposition is, that the villain left on that boat. [Jacksonville News, March 22.]

THE COURT.—His Honor Judge Withers is despatching the business of our Court with great expedition and ability. He consumes but little time himself in talking, and encourages the Bar to follow his example. His response to the Presentment of the Grand Jury, on the subject of retail shops and figures, was admirable. He predicted that if the Town Council permitted retailing, our College would be broken up in ten years. The case of murder resulted in the conviction of Serena Bracy of manslaughter, and the acquittal of Perry Bracy, who had been developed in this case were a sad commentary on the morals of the neighborhood in which the homicide was committed. A jug of whiskey was the origin of the difficulty, and the death of Southern was attributable to it.—Greenville Patriot.

THE CHARLESTON COMPANY FOR KANSAS, which started some time since, had reached St. Louis on their way to the new Territory. Southern emigrants are flowing in from other States.

NEW POET OFFICE.—Mr. Lebanon post office, in this District, has been re-established, and Calvin Foster appointed postmaster.

EMIGRATION TO KANSAS.—Mr. P. H. Larriv, late of the Orangeburg Clarion, starts with his family for Kansas. It is his purpose to go alone and upon his own responsibility.

WAR EXPENSES.—The Chancellor of the British Exchequer, in a statement made to Parliament, estimates the cost of the two years' war with Russia at £43,564,000, or about \$200,000,000. Add to this our own equal amounts for France, Russia and Turkey, and we have a total of \$800,000,000. It will take, perhaps, one thousand millions of dollars to pay all the expense of the war.

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The Spartan.

SPARTANBURG: THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1856.

A VISITOR. Among others now in our town we had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Jno. L. Young, President of the Spartanburg and Union Railroad.

REPORT OF THE GRAND JURY. This document will be found in another column, and we commend it to the attention of our readers.

MILITARY ELECTION. Although we are not yet in possession of the returns, we have understood that W. H. Hunt, of Newberry, has been elected Brigadier General of Cavalry, 9th Brigade, S. C. M., vice Niles Nesbitt, resigned.

THE WEATHER. For two weeks we have been blessed with cold, blustering and otherwise disagreeable weather—intermixed with ice and frost. Winter fingers as though reluctant to yield dominion to his more genial successor. On Sunday night we heard the rumbling of thunder and saw a few weak flashes of lightning. On Tuesday morning a white frost covered the ground; and now, while we write, a cold drizzly rain is falling, with a temperature making over-coats and fires necessary for comfort.

Though spring is backward, our country friends report well of the grain crops in the ground. Wheat promises well, and though the seasons may be a little late, we have no reason to augur other than favorable results in all departments of husbandry. Early peach trees are almost in blossom, and we do not think our present cold snap will do them any injury.

THE FAIR. The Ladies of the Baptist Sewing Society held a very pretty and pleasant fair in Palmetto Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, for the sale of fancy and useful articles, to aid in means to suitably decorate the new Baptist Church. We have not heard the amount realized; but, judging from the number of persons present, we should think the sum satisfactory and equal to their expectation. As far as we could judge there seemed to be full enjoyment in the crowded room for each one present.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE. The April is among the very best of the issues of this popular Monthly. The biography of Gen. Putnam is alone worth double the price of the No. The other principal papers are—Madira, Port, and Sherry; A Home in the Cinnamon Isle; The Resurrection Flower; Papermotes; Little Dorrit—continued, and other miscellaneous readings. A Nobly should be without this admirable publication.

OUR COURT. Our spring term commenced on Monday, Judge Withers presiding. A large bar was in attendance from the circuit—among whom we noticed the efficient and gentlemanly Solicitor, J. H. Bell; Messrs. Young, Sullivan, Henderson and Hall; of Laurens, Perry, Eldred, Goodlett, and Donaldson; of Greenville, Thomson, Goodack, Galberry, and S. R. Gat, of Union.

And although cases of great importance are on the docket, yet the business is heavy, and Judge Withers, by sitting from 9 a. m. to 6 and 7 p. m., is despatching it rapidly. We have rarely seen a judge more orderly, courteous, and persevering, or account more judiciously and intent on business.

Judge Withers, at this term, realized all our ideas of what a judge should be. Thoroughly informed in the science of law, he applied its principles clearly, promptly, and impartially, with a personal bearing of great urbanity and dignity. We saw none of that petulance and hauteur usually attributed to his honor, and we are quite sure his reappearance upon this circuit will be hailed with hearty satisfaction.

THE KANSAS COMMITTEE. The committee to take evidence in the contested election case between Whitfield and Reeler is composed of Mr. Sherman of Ohio, Mr. Howard of Michigan, and Mr. Oliver of Missouri. The two first are Republican Know Nothings. Mr. Oliver was the choice of the Southern members who were in favor of the Nebraska Kansas bill.

They take out with them a stenographic reporter, a clerk and assistant, and perhaps one or more marshals.

Gov. Reeler has left for Kansas. Gen. Whitfield goes with the committee.

THE SPARTAN.—The Carolina Spartan, we think, is mistaken. It was a letter of ours that called out the reply from Judge Butler.—Newberry Rising Sun.

The Spartan gave credit to the Sun in publishing Judge Butler's letter, and the subsequent allusion was in the same direction. We only stated that the Mercury had called on our Senators for their opinions, when, unknown to it, they had already been given. Our language may have been ambiguous, but we think the Sun will see that it did not attribute the answer of our Senators to the call of our Charleston contemporary.

KANSAS.—The committee at Abbeville have made a report, of which the following is an extract: "The committee are happy to announce to their fellow citizens that eleven true and gallant men—Dr. P. M. Peltz, J. E. Connor, G. W. Connor, W. A. Grayson, J. E. McNeill, William Appleton, William McGill, Alexander McNeill, and Andrew N. Darriault—have enrolled their names as emigrants, and that handsome contributions of money have been made. The committee are encouraged by their present success to hope that twenty-five or thirty men will be enrolled, and ample funds to equip them obtained, by the day appointed for their departure."

P. T. BARNUM AND HIS FAILURE.—On Thursday Mr. P. T. Barnum was put under examination before Judge Hoffman, in New York, relative to his property, at the suit of Carling & Co., who have obtained judgment against him. The Mirror says: "Mr. B. was questioned also on Friday as to the present means of living, and stated that he took twenty-five or thirty men to Massachusetts, to prospect for a farm last summer. He had friends who would keep him from starving and had tendered him money. In reply to the question, he acknowledged that he had a gold watch, which he would produce if required to do so; also, a diamond ring, being asked if he had a name forte, he said yes, but it was mortgaged for all it was worth, as well as other furniture."

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THE NEWBERRY MIRROR.

FOR THE CAROLINA SPARTAN. [No FOR NORTH CAROLINA.]

Messrs. Editors: Every who has learned from his geography that a singular shrub called matte is found in the southeastern part of South America, of which the natives make tea, but it will be astonishing to your readers to learn from the subjoined article, copied from the correspondence of the Journal of Commerce: Let that article, as a beverage, is regarded as not only a great luxury, but almost a necessary of life. That it has long since been known to abound in North Carolina! Hoping that our industrious neighbors of that State will do the public the favor to look after this rare and valuable shrub, and give us some more definite account of it, I beg that you will insert the following article and oblige.

Yours truly, SPARTANUS.

Mate or Paraguay Tea—its use in Spanish America—found also in North Carolina—its preparation in Brazil.

SAN PAULO, BRAZIL, 1855. While in the neat Brazilian town of Paranaiba, in the new province of Parana, I observed many raw hides cases which the blacks were unloading from mules, or conveying to the ships riding at anchor at the beautiful bay. Upon inquiry I ascertained that these packages, weighing about 200 pounds each, consisted of matte, i. e. Paraguay tea. The substance, so little known in the United States, forms truly the principal refreshing beverage of the Spaniards, and is annually exported to the millions of dollars are annually expended in the States of Ayres and Chili in its consumption. The town of Paranaiba in Southern Brazil, containing about three thousand inhabitants, exports every year upwards of a million of dollars worth of matte.

Matte is the name of the prepared bark of the tree or shrub, which is commonly known to botanists as the Ilex Paraguensis. It is also classified by Von Martius as belonging to the Rhama family, and he gives it the scientific name of Castanea Yungana. The Spaniards usually denominate it Yerba de Paraguay.

I was not a little pleased to find that my friend Dr. R. (the American physician and botanist mentioned in a previous letter) is now perfectly acquainted with the preparation, as well as the medicinal class and family. The pleasure thus derived, however, gave way to astonishment when he informed me that in the United States the Paraguay tea is not only to be found, but is actually used as a beverage by the people of the Southern States. Dr. R. recounted to me, one day in his office at Limeira, (Province of San Paulo,) his wonderful adventures, when a younger man, he roamed over nearly every Southern and Western State, hunting for the plant which he was endeavoring to cure the milk sickness. Although he did not find the cause of that disease, which has so damaged many a speculation in western towns and villages, yet he made the acquaintance of a little tree in North Carolina, from the leaves of which many of the country people of the old North State have been cured. If I remember rightly, he informed me that it was the Ilex Yungana; but scientific readers must not hold me responsible for the name, as my note book does not place the name, nor does he refer to it in his letter. It was in this most glorious year afterwards Dr. R. was in the most glorious of his botanical in the world—the St. George's Island, whose magnificent flora has been the wild delight of every favored follower of Linnaeus that has been permitted to enter it. In the course of his rambles he encountered the Ilex Yungana, which he immediately saluted it as his old acquaintance (under features but little different) of North Carolina. Some months elapsed, and he visited Paranaiba; and he was almost as much surprised at another discovery, which he made, as he was at the first. He found in this out-of-the-way part of Brazil an American woman engaged in the delightful art of preparing feijoes and toucinho (pork and beans) for natives and foreigners who might visit the place. In the course of his inquiries he inquired of her, in regard to the matte, she exclaimed, "why, Doctor, this is the same tree we use in Carolina to make tea." Here was a most striking confirmation of the true conclusion of science. I was so much interested in the discovery, that I immediately visited the place, and saw the tree which Dr. R. had inquired of, and which he had seen in Carolina, why may not the enterprise in North Carolina as far as the exports (had down in every geography as far as tobacco, turpentine and lumber, matte). Brazil and Paraguay are reaping their fruits, and the subject is really worth investigation in our own country.

In Brazil and Paraguay the matte can be gathered during the whole year. Parties go into the woods, and cut down the tree, and break off the branches with the leaves. A process of distillation is resorted to in woods, and then the branches and leaves are transported to places where there is water power, and are broken in mortars. The water is then strained, and the residue is pressed, though small stems denuded of their bark are always permitted to remain. By this simple process the matte is prepared for market, only requiring the raw hide cups mentioned at the beginning of this communication. In preparation for drinking it is equally simple. A small quantity of matte, either with or without sugar, is placed in a common bowl, upon which cold water is poured. After standing a short time, boiling water is added, and the mixture is stirred. Americans who have visited Buenos Ayres or Montevideo may remember to have seen, on a fine summer evening, the denizens of that portion of the world engaged in sipping, through long tubes inserted into highly ornamented oxcart bowls, a liquid, which, though not so palatable as real tea, was certainly far less harmful. These citizens of Montevideo and Buenos Ayres were enjoying with their bambalao a refreshing drink of matte. It must be imbued through a tube on account of the particles of leaf and stem which are left upon the surface of the liquid. This is the herb, which, in its previous condition, is in his "Globe," says that great virtues are ascribed to this tea. It supplies the place of meat and drink. "Indians who have been laboring at the sun all day, feel immediately refreshed by a cup of the herb, mixed with sugar in its previous condition." Upon its publication in the Mercury, the article, in his "Globe," says that great virtues are ascribed to this tea. 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