

THE EXPECTED SENSATION AT COLUMBUS, KY.

Another flag of truce—The situation in the South-West—Unpublished incidents at Fort Donelson—A fair Southern traitress—A boy patriot—A bullet-respected lieutenant—The difficulty of dying—A formidable shell—A soldier wounded with false teeth—Ultra-professional journalists—Novel mode of obtaining information—The rating passion strong in battle—Misfortunes of a profession.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CAIRO, Ill., Wednesday Night, Feb. 26, 1862.

The expected sensation at Columbus, Ky., has not yet been realized, though anxiously looked for during the past three or four days. Whatever has occurred at the Rebel stronghold has been carefully concealed, and speculation in regard to the nature of the conference under the flag of truce is still an impenetrable mystery. Conjectures and reports are various, but extremely unsatisfactory, and so contradictory as to be unworthy of mention.

That the conference was important, and had some decided bearing on the events that have lately transpired, and are yet to transpire, the serious consideration of the information received abundantly proves. One thing, however, seems certain, that the Rebels have no idea of evacuating Columbus, where there is as large a force, with as many guns, as there has been at any time this winter.

ANOTHER FLAG OF TRUCE.

Another flag of truce was sent down to Columbus this morning, and though the boat has returned, no intimation has been given of the intention or desire of the enemy or the Unionists; and consequently no one can guess at what may be the developments of the next two days. Columbus continues to be regarded in military circles as the greatest point of interest, and the one at which an engagement is at present most imminent.

COLUMBUS IS THE LAST HOPE OF THE SECESSIONISTS IN THE SOUTH-WEST, AND IS, AS FAR AS WE ARE ABLE TO JUDGE, THE ONLY FORMIDABLY FORTIFIED PLACE NOW UNRENDERED.

Fort Henry and Donelson having surrendered, and Bowling Green and Nashville been evacuated by the rebels, Columbus alone demands our attention, and offers further resistance to our progress into the heart of Cottondom.

THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTH-WEST.

The interest in affairs in the Tennessee and Cumberland has subsided for lack of material, and Kentucky and Tennessee have been almost entirely freed from Secession. When Columbus falls—and it must soon fall—the whole South will be open to our victorious armies; since the fortifications the enemy have erected to prevent our carrying the war into the very center of their dominions have passed from their hands. The strife hereafter must be waged, if at all, on equal terms; the advantage of ground and intrenchments having been forever lost.

THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM FORT DONELSON, THROUGH PARTIES WHO LEFT THERE LAST EVENING, IS THAT IT IS QUIET IN THAT VICINITY.

Some four or five Union regiments are stationed at Clarksville; but the bulk of Gen. Grant's forces has not yet moved forward, nor is the day named when they will do so.

THE NUMEROUS ARMY CORRESPONDENTS AT THIS POINT ARE WAITING PATIENTLY AND ANXIOUSLY FOR THE FIGHT AT COLUMBUS, THOUGH NO ONE HAS ANY IDEA WHEN IT WILL TAKE PLACE.

Cairo has proved so much of a focus for false alarms that many are skeptical of anything being done in this neighborhood for weeks to come.

UNPUBLISHED INCIDENTS AT FORT DONELSON.

In previous letters from Fort Donelson I have mentioned that my note-book contained various incidents connected with the battle that have not yet been published, and which no doubt will be of interest, even at this late day, for every engagement is supposed to be fresh until succeeded by another.

A FAIR SOUTHERN TRAITRESS.

A young man belonging to one of the Tennessee regiments—he held the rank of first lieutenant in his company—was very dangerously wounded in Saturday morning's strife, and was not expected to live when I left Dover, where he lay in much pain and in more remorse.

THE YOUNG MAN TOLD ME HE WAS A NATIVE OF HARRISBURG, PENN., AND HAD RESIDED THERE UNTIL THE AUTUMN OF 1839, WHEN HE WENT TO COLUMBIA, TENN., AND THERE ENGAGED IN THE PRACTICE OF THE LAW WITH CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS.

While in that State, he became acquainted with and enamored of a young woman of culture and fortune, a distant relative, I understand, of Gen. Pillow, and was soon engaged to marry her.

THE LOVE-STREAM OF THE YOUNG COUPLE FLOWED SMOOTHLY UNTIL THE FALL OF SUMMER AND THE SECESSION OF TENNESSEE, FOR THE AFFIANCED HUSBAND, A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR THE UNION, RETURNED HOME, DESIGNING TO WED AFTER THE TROUBLES WERE OVER.

The betrothed pair corresponded regularly; but, some weeks after the lover had gone to Harrisburg, the girl, who had suddenly grown a violent Secessionist, informed him that she would not become his wife unless he would enlist in the rebel service and fight for the independence of the South.

THE YOUNG MAN WAS EXCEEDING LOTH TO TAKE SUCH A COURSE, AND REMONSTRATED WITH HIS BELOVED TO NO PURPOSE, AND AT LAST, IN THE BLINDNESS OF HIS ATTACHMENT AND IN THE ABSORBING SELFISHNESS OF PASSION, HE INFORMED HIS PARENTS OF HIS INTENTION TO WIN HIS MISTRESS ON THE TENTED FIELD.

IN VAIN THEY ENDEAVORED TO DISMISE HIM FROM HIS RESOLUTION. HE WENT TO TENNESSEE, RAISED A COMPANY, RECEIVED THE CONGRATULATIONS OF HIS TRAITORIOUS FRIENDS, AND THE COPIOUS CARESSES OF HIS CHARMING TEMPTER.

LAST DECEMBER THE LIEUTENANT PRECEDED TO DONELSON, AND, A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE FIGHT, HEARD HIS BETROTHED WAS THE WIFE OF ANOTHER.

HIS HEART HAD NEVER BEEN IN THE CAUSE, THOUGH IT WAS IN ANOTHER'S KEEPING; AND, STUNG BY REMORSE, AND CRUSHED BY THE PERFDY OF HIS MISTRESS, HE HAD NO DESIRE TO LIVE.

UNWILLING TO DESERT ON THE EVE OF BATTLE THE CAUSE HE HAD EMBRACED, LEAST HE MIGHT BE CHARGED WITH COWARDICE, HE RESOLVED TO LOSE THE EXISTENCE THAT HAD BECOME UNBEARABLE TO HIM; AND IN THE THICKEST OF THE FIGHT, WHILE SEEKING DEATH WITHOUT ENDEAVORING TO INFLECT IT, HE RECEIVED A MORTAL WOUND.

BEFORE THIS, THE MISGUIDED AND BETRAYED LOVER HAD CEASED TO THINK OF HER WHO SO CRUELLY DECEIVED HIM; FOR THE LEBANON STREAM OF DEATH IS FLOWING AROUND THE EMBURY-BONDED ISLAND OF HIS SOUL.

THE DOUBLE TRAITRESS WILL SOON LEARN; FOR HER LOVER DETESTED A LIFE TO HER UPON HIS COUCH OF PAIN.

WILL SHE BE HAPPY; CAN SHE BE HAPPY, IN THE ROSEY HOURS OF HER EARLY MARRIAGE, WHOSE THOUGHT OF THE DEAD SPOUSE, SLAIN BY HER HAND, RISES, LIKE A PORTENTOUS CLOUD, UPON HER HORIZON OF HER LIFE?

WILL NOT HIS PALE COME WITH HIS BLEEDING WOUNDS GLIDE BETWEEN HER AND HER HUSBAND'S ARMS, AND BANTH CENTENNIAL FEVER FROM THE PROFOUND SANGUINARY OF HER SPIRIT?

IF THAT FAIR AND FAITHLESS WOMAN HAD CONSCIENCE OR FEELING, WHO WOULD ERY HER, THOUGH SHE WERE THE DIADEM OF AN EMPRESS?

AND YET SHE WILL NOT SUFFER. HER HEART IS MADE OF STONER STUFF. SHE WOULD LAUGH AND MOCK, THOUGH HER SACRIFICED LOVER STOOD BESIDE HER IN HIS WINDING-SHEET, ASKING HER ABSOLUTION FOR THE SINS SHE HAD COMMITTED HIM TO COMMIT. WAS NOT THE OLD ENGLISH COED CORRECT IN SAYING:

"When woman once to evil turns,
All Hell within her bosom burns."

A BOY PATRIOT.

A mere boy of about fifteen years, from Darke County, Ohio, being in Illinois, had enlisted in one of the regiments raised in the southern part of that State; but as he was in very delicate health, his father was extremely anxious to have him released from the service, though the youthful soldier greatly desired to remain in it. While at Fort Henry and Donelson, the boy was very ill, but still insisted upon performing his duty.

His father arrived at Donelson on Friday, the 14th inst., intending, if possible, to take him home. He had an interview with some of the officers, but could learn nothing of his son. While looking for him indignantly among his companions, he learned, to his surprise and horror, that the poor boy, after fighting gallantly on Thursday, had died from exposure while lying, without fire or shelter, upon the frozen ground on that bitter and desolate night.

A BULLET-RESPECTED LIEUTENANT.

A lieutenant of a company in one of the Ohio regiments, while preparing for a charge, had his pipe, shot from his mouth. He laughed and lighted again, and soon after his fire was extinguished by a Rebel rifle ball, which killed a man three feet from him; and while wondering at his narrow escape he received a shot through his cap, and another struck his scabbard; and yet he was unhurt.

THE LIEUTENANT NOW THINKS HE WAS NOT BORN TO DIE ON THE BATTLE-FIELD.

The proverb that lightning does not strike the same tree twice must be truer than that balls do not design to do mischief to soldiers more than once during an engagement.

THE DIFFICULTY OF DYING.

A number of our soldiers were wounded five or six and even seven times, none of the wounds proving serious; and yet the variation of a quanta of an inch would have caused death in any one of the instances. Truly, to change the aphorism, in the midst of death we are in life.

DEATH AT A LONG RANGE.

One of the enemy, a member of the Alabama Rifles, had his head shot off by a shell from one of Major Cavender's Parrott rifle-batteries (the 1st Missouri) at a distance of two and a half miles, while peeping above the breastworks. The shot, of course, was accidental, but it proves the efficacy of Cavender's gun, and the terrible execution they are capable of doing at a very long range.

A MAN WOUNDED WITH FALSE TEETH.

A lieutenant in an Illinois company was shot with a musket in the left cheek, the ball passing through his mouth, which was open at the time, and knocking out three false teeth carried two of them into the thigh of his sergeant at his side, making a painful but not serious wound.

ULTRA-PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS.

Curious stories are told of some ultra-professional journalists on the field, who, in the midst of the danger and horrors of battle, never lost complete recollection of their calling or of the disagreeable duties it imposed.

THEY NEVER MOVED OUT OF RANGE UNTIL THEY HAD COMPLETED THEIR NOTES, THOUGH THE SHOT AND SHELL FELL LIKE HAIL; AND CONDUCTED THEIR BUSINESS AS CALMLY AS IF THEY WERE REPORTING A POLITICAL SPEECH OR OBTAINING "ITEMS" AT AN AGRICULTURAL FAIR.

NOVEL MODE OF OBTAINING INFORMATION.

One of the correspondents is said to have looked Gen. Buckner up in a room at Dover, and kept him there in spite of threats, until he had taken a pencil-sketch of his person.

ANOTHER DECLARED TO GEN. BUSHROD K. JOHNSTON THAT HE WOULD GIVE HIM HORRIBLE ANECDOTES UNLESS HE FURNISHED THE MATERIALS FOR A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY.

Bushrod blustered at first, but when the newspaper scribbler began putting down and reading off "B. K. Johnston, a native of Massachusetts, formerly one of the editors of Lloyd Garrison's anti-slavery journal; but compelled to fly to Tennessee on account of having been detected in a forgery of his father's name" etc., Bushrod became a suppliant, and gave the inexpressible fellow the main events of his life.

THE RULING PASSION STRONG IN BATTLE.

The representative of a metropolitan journal is stated to have run up to a wounded officer who believed himself mortally hurt, and begged him not to die yet for the sake of the ———, which he had the honor to represent; remarking, if he had any last words to utter, that they should appear in the best form in the earliest possible issue of his widely-circulated, and highly influential journal.

THE OFFICER TURNED AWAY HIS HEAD IN ABHORRENCE AND DISGUST, AND SOME OF HIS FRIENDS COMPELLED THE PAINTFULLY PERSEVERING REPORTER TO RETIRE; BUT THE PROFESSOR OF THE QUIET INSISTED THAT HE COULD MAKE A BETTER SPEECH FOR THE WOUNDED SOLDIER THAN HE COULD FOR HIMSELF; AND HOPED HE WOULD REMEMBER NOT TO GIVE ANY OTHER MEMBER OF THE PRESS THE LEAST HINT OF HIS DYING SENTIMENTS.

MISFORTUNES OF A PROFESSION.

I am very willing to believe, for the honor of journalism, that such stories are untrue; but I fear they have some foundation, as there are men in our profession who, in the discharge of their duties, forget they are anything but machines, and to the furtherance of their desires, sacrifice every sentiment of humanity and every prompting of sensibility.

THEY DO NOT KNOW THAT THE MISTAKEN JOURNALIST WHO LOSES SIGHT OF WHAT BELONGS TO A GENTLEMAN MAY EARN SUCCESS IN HIS VOCATION, BUT MUST FOREVER DESPAIR OF THE RESPECT AND ESTEEM THAT RENDER HIS PROFESSION NOT ONLY USEFUL BUT HONORABLE.

IS THE RECOGNITION OF SLAVERY IN THE REBEL STATES CONSTITUTIONAL?

To the Editor of THE N. Y. TRIBUNE.

Sir: Have not the Governments of the Rebel States, by voluntarily and formally renouncing the protection of the Constitution in behalf of Slavery, cut themselves off from such protection as a constitutional privilege?

THE CONSTITUTION PROVIDES THAT PERSONS HELD TO SERVICE IN ONE STATE, "UNDER THE LAWS THEREOF," SHALL, UPON ESCAPING INTO ANOTHER STATE, BE DELIVERED UP ON THE REQUISITION OF THEIR LEGAL CLAIMANTS. BUT HOW CAN THIS PROVISION BE APPLICABLE TO TERRITORIES WHERE NO STATE GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZED BY THE CONSTITUTION ARE IN EXISTENCE?

NEITHER THE CONSTITUTION NOR THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT HAS EVER PROMISED TO PROTECT ANY SLAVEHOLDER IN THE EXERCISE OF A POWER WHICH IS AUTOMATICALLY IN PRINCE AND TENDENCY TO THE "SELF-EVIDENT" PRINCIPLES ON WHICH THE GOVERNMENT IS FOUNDED, AS SET FORTH IN THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, EXCEPT ON AN EXPRESS CONDITION; AND THAT CONDITION IS DEPENDING IT ON ITS EXISTENCE ON THE STATE GOVERNMENTS CREATING IT.

THE OWNERS OR CLAIMANTS OF SLAVES IN THE REBEL STATES, IN ACCEPTING THEIR UNNATURAL TITLE TO PROPERTY IN THEIR FELLOW-MEN, "UNDER THE LAWS THEREOF," DID SO WITH AN ACCEPTANCE OF THE HAZARDOUS INCIDENTS TO THE EXECUTION OF THESE LAWS, UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, BY THE STATE GOVERNMENTS ENACTING THEM. THEY NEVER ASKED THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT TO BECOME A PARTY IN CREATING THE UNNATURAL RELATION, OR TO AID THEM IN PRESERVING IT, EXCEPT AS IT SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE SANCTIONED AND DEFENDED UNDER THE CONSTITUTION BY THE LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY ESTABLISHING IT.

THESE REMARKS, OF COURSE, HAVE NO RELATION TO THE DUTY OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT THOSE WHO HAVE CLAIMS UPON IT, IN THE ENJOYMENT OF THEIR NATURAL RIGHTS—RIGHTS WHICH WOULD BE RESPECTED AND GUARDED IN ANY TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES.

AGAIN: EVERY SLAVEHOLDER WHO HAS ESTABLISHED HIS CLAIM TO THE PROTECTION OF THE CONSTITUTION, HAS TAKEN THE OATH TO THE PROTECTION OF THE CONSTITUTION. HE HAS TAKEN TO THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT THAT HE NO LONGER

wishes to avail himself of the guarantees of the Constitution to hold his slaves in subjection; that he has considered it fit to place them in this respect beyond the limits of its provisions. Shall the Government refuse to accept the liberation? Shall it bring its power into exercise to recreate the unnatural and oppressive relation? Whatever may be the terms on which these who are now in rebellion against the Government shall be admitted back to their allegiance, let them never be permitted to re-annex the Constitution those whom they have now virtually and voluntarily liberated.

TO REVENGE THOSE WHOM THEIR MASTERS HAVE THUS, OF THEIR OWN CHOICE, PLACED BEYOND THAT PROVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION WHICH RECOGNIZES THEM AS "PERSONS HELD TO SERVICE," WOULD BE AN ACT OF NEEDLESS AND UNWARRANTABLE OPPRESSION.

AS A PRUDENTIAL MEASURE OF THE GOVERNMENT, IT WOULD BE, IN THE HIGHEST DEGREE, IMPOLITIC. NOTHING CAN BE CLEARER THAN THE PERFECT INCOMPATIBILITY OF SLAVE INSTITUTIONS WITH THE NATURAL EXERCISE OF THE FUNCTIONS OF A FREE GOVERNMENT.

IF SLAVERY, AFTER HAVING BEEN VIRTUALLY ABOLISHED, IS TO BE REINSTITUTED IN ITS POWER AND ASSUMED RIGHTS IN THE REBEL STATES, IT IS USELESS TO HOPE THAT IT WILL COEXIST ANY MORE THAN FORMERLY TO EXIST IN CONNECTION WITH THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, THE FREEDOM OF RELIGIOUS EFFORT, OR ANY PROPER GUARANTY FOR THE PERSONAL SAFETY OF THOSE WHO, WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION, SHALL RESIST ITS CLAIMS, OR RENDER THEMSELVES OFFENSIVE TO ITS SUPPORTERS. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE THAT THERE SHOULD BE EITHER LIBERTY OR PEACE WITH THE RESTORATION OF THE SLAVE-POWER.

BUT LET THE GOVERNMENT ACCEPT THE DECLARATION OF THE SLAVEHOLDERS COOPERATING WITH THE REBEL GOVERNMENT, THAT THEY NO LONGER DESIRE THE PROTECTION OF THE CONSTITUTION IN RETAINING THEIR SLAVES IN BONDAGE, AND HEREAFTER TREAT THEM ONLY AS FREEMEN—LET IT AVAIL ITSELF OF THE PRESENT CRISIS TO REMOVE BY APPROPRIATE AND DECISIVE ACTION UNDER THE CONSTITUTION THE CAUSE OF THE REBELLION, AND IT WOULD SOON, IN EVERY PART OF THE UNION, BE ACCEPTED AS AN ACCOMPLISHED FACT, TO WHICH THE USAGES AND INSTITUTIONS OF SOCIETY WOULD BECOME CONFORMED, AND A NEW ERA OF PROSPERITY AND CIVILIZATION WOULD BRING TO THE COUNTRY AND THE WORLD THE PROPER FRUITS OF A FREE AND CHRISTIAN GOVERNMENT.

COMMODORE ANDREW H. FOOTE.

Commodore Andrew H. Foote, who compelled the surrender of the rebel Tipton, and afterward participated in the combined attack on Fort Donelson, is a native of New-Haven, Conn., where his family now reside. His father, Samuel A. Foote, was for many years a member of the State Legislature, and once filled the office of Governor of the State. He served two terms in Congress, and in 1830, while a member of the Senate, he introduced the famous "Foote Resolutions" which called forth the memorable conflict between the champion orators of the North and South, the celebrated Webster and Hayne discussion.

YOUNG FOOTE EARLY EXHIBITED A STRONG INCLINATION TO JOIN THE NAVY, AND IN 1822 HE ENTERED AS MIDSHIPMAN. THE NAVAL SCHOOL WAS NOT THEN ESTABLISHED. HE CONSEQUENTLY RECEIVED HIS EDUCATION IN THE ACTIVE SERVICE, IN WHICH HE HAS NOW BEEN ENGAGED FOR NEARLY FORTY YEARS.

IN 1830 HE RECEIVED A LIEUTENANT'S COMMISSION. IN THE FOLLOWING YEARS HE SERVED IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AS FLAG-LIEUTENANT, UNDER COM. PATTERSON, IN THE 74-GUN SHIP DELAWARE. HE IMPROVED THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE THE SCENES OF HISTORIC INTEREST WITH WHICH THE SHORES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SO RICHLY abound. HE VISITED ITALY AND GREECE AND THE ANCIENT RUINS ALONG THE NILE. BUT SYRIA AND PALESTINE, FROM THEIR INTIMATE CONNECTION WITH THE SACRED WRITINGS, RECEIVED HIS CLOSEST ATTENTION. IN 1839, UNDER COM. READ, HE MADE THE VOYAGE AROUND THE WORLD. THE EFFECTUAL SERVICE WHICH HE RENDERED THE AMERICAN MISSIONARIES AT HONOLULU IN OBTAINING THE PUBLICATION OF THEIR DEFENSES AND IN SUPPORTING THEM AGAINST THE FALSE CHARGES OF THE FRENCH COMMANDER, LA PLACE, WHILE STOPPING AT THE SANDWICH ISLANDS, WELL ILLUSTRATE HIS SELF-RELIANT AND CHIVALROUS CHARACTER IN UPHOLDING THE CAUSE OF THE RIGHT. AFTER HIS RETURN FROM THIS VOYAGE HE WAS STATIONED AT THE NAVAL ASYLUM, PHILADELPHIA. HE INSTITUTED HERE MANY MORAL AND RELIGIOUS REFORMS TO AMELIORATE AND ELEVATE THE CONDITION OF THE SAILORS AT HIS REFUGE. HE HAS EVER BEEN ENGAGED, WHETHER IN PUBLIC OR IN PRIVATE LIFE, IN SOME PHILANTHROPIC AND CHRISTIAN ENTERPRISE. HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A STRONG ADVOCATE OF TEMPERANCE, AND HAD THE ADDRESS TO INFLUENCE HIS MEN TO JOIN THE TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES WHICH HE ORGANIZED ON BOARD SHIP. IN HIS CRUISE ON THE PERRY HE WENT FAR TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS ASSERTION THAT "WHISKEY RATIONS ARE EVIL, AND ONLY EVIL, AND THAT CONTINUALLY." HE SAILED WITH ONLY PURE WATER IN HIS SPIRIT COCKS, AND "SERVED OUT NO GROG" DURING THE ENTIRE CRUISE, YET IN THIS TIME HE DID NOT LOSE A MAN. A DEEP RELIGIOUS SENTIMENT IS AN UNDERLYING PRINCIPLE OF HIS NATURE. IT PERVADES ALL HIS ACTIONS, AND IS THE FOUNDATION OF HIS BENEVOLENT PHILANTHROPY. THE INCIDENT AT CAIRO THE SABBATH PREVIOUS TO THE ATTACK ON FORT HENRY, WHEN THE GALLANT COMMODORE SUPPLIED THE PLACE OF THE ABSENT CLERGYMAN, IS IN HARMONY WITH HIS GENERAL CHARACTER.

DURING THE MEXICAN WAR COMMODORE FOOTE WAS STATIONED AT THE CHARLESTON NAVY-YARD, ENGAGED IN FITTING OUT VESSELS TO COOPERATE WITH OUR ARMY. HE WAS IMPATIENT AT THIS APPOINTMENT, AND DESIRING OF JOINING HIS BROTHER OFFICERS WHO WERE WINNING THEIR LAURELS AT THE SOUTH, FOR OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS WERE FRIENDLY, AND AVE FROM THE NATURAL HOSTILITY OF DESPOTIC FORMS OF GOVERNMENT TOWARD THE DEMOCRATIC, HE COULD FORESEE NO "CAUS BELLI" WHICH WOULD AGAIN AFFORD HIM AN OPPORTUNITY FOR DISTINCTION.

IN THE LATTER PART OF 1849 HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE COMMAND OF THE BRIG PERRY, AND ORDERED TO JOIN THE AMERICAN SQUADRON OFF THE COAST OF AFRICA. THERE HE PROVED ONE OF THE MOST EFFICIENT OFFICERS IN THE SERVICE IN SUPPRESSING THE SLAVE-TRADE. SYMPATHETIC AND HUMANE IN HIS TEMPERAMENT, A PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE INFERNAL TRAFFIC, OUTRAGING ALIKE EVERY FEELING OF HUMANITY AND EVERY MORAL DUTY, URGED HIM TO EARNEST AND UNWITING EFFORTS FOR ITS DESTRUCTION. IN THE TWO YEARS THAT HE WAS STATIONED THERE HE CAPTURED SEVERAL SLAVES, AND IN MANY PLACES BROKE UP THE TRADE ENTIRELY. HE cordially cooperated with the British cruisers. But he always kept in mind the great principle of the war of 1812. He sternly rebuked any infringement of the treaty of 1814, proclaiming the broad doctrine "that the deck of an American vessel under its flag is the territory of the United States, and that no other authority but that of the United States could ever be allowed to exercise jurisdiction over it." On his reporting his return in 1851 he received an official recognition of his services from the Secretary of the Navy, tendering him the thanks of the department. One year from this time he was promoted to the rank of Commodore.

HIS OBSERVATIONS AND REFLECTIONS ON THIS CRUISE HE GIVES US IN A WORK ENTITLED "AFRICA AND THE AMERICAN FLAG," CONTAINING A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA, ITS PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY, THE PAST HISTORY AND PRESENT CONDITION OF ITS INHABITANTS, THE PROGRESS OF COLONIZATION, AND THE BLIGHTING INFLUENCE OF THE SLAVE-TRADE ON AFRICAN CIVILIZATION AND AMERICAN INTERESTS.

COMMODORE FOOTE FORMED ONE OF THE FAMOUS "ROTATING BOARD" APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT PIERCE TO INQUIRE INTO THE EFFICIENCY OF THE OFFICERS OF THE NAVY. THE OBJECT OF THE BOARD WAS TO RELIEVE FROM ACTIVE SERVICE THE ADVANCED IN AGE, AND BY REMOVING THE INCOMPETENT TO CONTRACT THE EFFECT OF PROMOTION BY SENIORITY.

THE DUTY WAS DELICATE AND DIFFICULT. THE DECISION WAS TO BE MADE ON THE QUALIFICATIONS WITHOUT REGARD TO PERSONS. AND THOSE TO WHOM THE DECISION OF THE BOARD WAS UNFAVORABLE, MISREPRESENTED AND MIS-

REPORTED HIS ACTION, AND BROUGHT SUCH A PRESSURE TO BEAR UPON THE PRESIDENT, THAT HE RESTORED MANY OF THE RETIRED OFFICERS TO THEIR FORMER POSITION. YET THIS COURSE ON THE PART OF PRESIDENT PIERCE CAST NO REFLECTION ON THE ACTION OF THE BOARD. THEIR DEFENSE IS FOUND IN THE ACT OF CONGRESS, PASSED AT THE SPECIAL SESSION LAST JUNE, BY WHICH THE PRESIDENT WAS EMPOWERED TO RETIRE FROM SERVICE A CERTAIN CLASS OF OFFICERS, AMONG WHOM WERE MANY OF THOSE RESTORED BY PIERCE TO THEIR COMMANDS.

HIS LAST CRUISE WAS FROM 1856 TO 1858, OFF THE COASTS OF CHINA AND JAPAN. THE FIRING UPON A BOAT'S CREW OF HIS MEN BY THE CHINESE BROUGHT OUT THAT SPIRIT OF INTREPID DARING WHICH HAS DISTINGUISHED HIM IN THE PRESENT CAMPAIGN. WITHOUT WAITING ORDERS HE ASSUMED THE RESPONSIBILITY OF AVENGING THE INJURY. WITH HIS 22 GUNS AND 300 MEN HE ATTACKED AND BREACHED THE CELEBRATED BARRIERS FORT, REGULAR FORTIFICATIONS OF SOLID GRANITE, AND GARRISONED BY 5,000 MEN. THIS DARING EXPLOIT CALLED FORTH THE PRAISE OF ALL THE FOREIGN NAVAL OFFICERS ALONG THE COAST, AND ESTABLISHED HIS REPUTATION FOR SKILL AND BRAVERY. AT THE OUTBREAK OF THE REBELLION HE WAS STATIONED AT THE BROOKLYN NAVY-YARD. HE SUPERINTENDED THE OUTFIT OF THE BLOCKADING SQUADRON UNTIL HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO HIS PRESENT COMMAND ON THE WESTERN WATERS. HIS INDEFATIGABLE EXERTION SINCE THAT APPOINTMENT IN THE OUTFIT OF HIS LITTLE FLEET, THE COURAGEOUS DARING WHICH REINSTATED THE OLD FLAG IN TENNESSEE, THE RAPIDITY WITH WHICH HE HAS FOLLOWED UP HIS SUCCESSSES, PRESSING FROM VICTORY TO VICTORY, TILL THE STARS AND STRIPES WAVE TRIUMPHANTLY OVER FORT HENRY, FORT DONELSON, AND CLARKSVILLE—all these events are too fresh before the public to need mention.

THE PEOPLE OF CONNECTICUT LOOK TO BE FILLED IN HIM THE BRIGHT PROMISE WHICH WAS SO RUDELY DESTROYED BY THE DEATH OF THE NOBLE HEARTED LYON.

COMMODORE FOOTE COMMANDS CONFIDENCE AND ESTEEM NOT ONLY FOR HIS EFFICIENT SOLDIERLY ABILITY, BUT FOR THE RARER VIRTUES OF THE CHRISTIAN. COMBINING MILITARY ARDOR WITH RELIGIOUS ENTHUSIASM, HE HAS BEEN TERMED THE CHRISTIAN WARRIOR, THE CROMWELL OF AMERICA.

"OLD YALE" OPENED THE ROLE OF THE 23d BY RAISING A FLAG IN HONOR OF THIS GALLANT OFFICER AT HIS RESIDENCE ON CHAPEL STREET. AT 9 A. M. A PROCESSION, COMPOSED OF SOME 600 STUDENTS, FORMED IN FRONT OF THE CHAPEL, AND HEADED BY A LARGE DELEGATION OF THE FACULTY AND BY COMMITTEES FROM EACH CLASS, BEARING THE BANNER, MOVED DOWN CHAPEL STREET TO MR. FOOTE'S. THE FLAG WAS RUN UP AMID CHEERS AND A SALUTE OF THIRTEEN GUNS.

MR. LEANDER T. CHAMBERLAIN OF THE CLASS OF '63 THEN PRESENTED THE FLAG WITH A GRACEFUL SPEECH, WHICH WAS RESPONDED TO BY PELATIAH PERIT, ESQ., OF NEW-YORK. CHEERS FOR THE FLAG, THE LADY, AND THE COMMODORE, CLOSED THE BUSINESS.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

THE REBEL STEAMER NASHVILLE REPORTED AT WILMINGTON, N. C.

FORTRESS MONROE, March 2, 1862. VIA BALTIMORE, Monday, March 3, 1862.

The steamer Express, Capt. Calmar, left Old Point yesterday morning at 10 o'clock, for James River, to receive the Union prisoners who were expected on Friday. They were not met, however, according to appointment, and having remained at the usual meeting place until noon to-day, the George Washington was sent up by an order for the Express to return, unless something had been heard from them. She accordingly came back, arriving at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. At about 3 p. m., yesterday, the Rebel steamer Jamestown, which, with the Yorktown, is stationed off Hog Island, steamed down to the Express with a flag of truce to ascertain the cause of her appearance in the river on two successive days.

She stopped aboard of the Express at a few rods distance, and lowered a boat, with a lieutenant on board, to communicate. He was informed of the errand of the Express, and that she was acting upon information furnished by Gen. Huger, when he explained that his commander had no knowledge of any expected prisoners, and, from seeing the Express for two days in succession, came down to learn the occasion. He expressed himself satisfied, and returning to the Jamestown, she went back to her station. She has been armed with a gun at her bows and another at her stern, and has a sharp iron cutwater projecting some three feet from her bows at the water line. She is supposed to be commanded by Capt. Barnard. Having been twice disappointed in relation to the expected prisoners, it is not uncertain when they will be sent down the river. It is uncertain whether Col. Corcoran will be among the number, although it is quite probable.

Another interview took place yesterday off Craney Island between Gen. Wool and Gen. Cobb, in reference to a general exchange of prisoners.

We hear, via Norfolk, that the steamer Nashville arrived at Wilmington, N. C., yesterday, having run the blockade at that place.

A quantity of telegraphic cable has arrived here for completion of the line across the Bay. As soon as the soundings can be completed the line will be extended to Cape Charles. This will be within two or three days, it is supposed.

A COUNTRY CLERGYMAN TO OUR RULERS.

Will the Editor of THE TRIBUNE permit one in lowly life to speak to its numerous readers? I have no claims to be heard, founded on notoriety or attractive talent, nor upon things done or suffered for my country. I am one of an obscure class, living in new settlements, and subsisting upon whatever the first settlers in a new country can spare, to remunerate each services as I can render in the cabin or farm-house, to the sick; and in the humble school-house, to the congregation.

From my salary of \$200 a year, at the opening of the war, I had saved nothing to give my country. And when patriotism fired every bosom around me, and my immediate neighbors sent all their sons, eligible to the strife, I had nothing to give but the relinquishment of any salary at all, and the assurance, with others, that our *braves* should not want anything for their comfort in our power to bestow. I have before me the names of four young men enrolled as soldiers, in the room where I am writing, who have seen some hardships, and endured sickness, with never a word of complaint sent home—one of whom was thought past recovery the last intelligence had. And I have yet somewhat to yield up for my country's good, if necessary; my last cow, my only horse, my acre lot and home, my all, are at the service of the Government in the great struggle to preserve the sacred rights of the people, guaranteed by the Constitution, and deliver them from the grasp of the hydra-headed monster that would destroy both rights and people together. And when I say this I do but speak for a large class who, in poverty's vale, unable to make a sensation in the nation, and unambitious of fame, are, nevertheless, on the sharp look-out for the righteous appropriation of their blood and treasure so freely given to the extreme extent of their ability, without selfish hope of gain or office.

In behalf of this class I have a word to say in the ears of rulers and commanders: a word that ought to be said and heeded. (I fear it will not be heeded.) That word is this: Beware how you tamper with the interests of this nation, and jeopard the liberties and happiness of this people! Let not a mistaken zeal for the Constitution, as construed by eminent men to tolerate or uphold Slavery in certain States in times of peace, lead you to suppose you can now tolerate and uphold it, and have the people say, Amen! Do not suppose the common people do not know the difference between letting alone a wolf in the distant forest, and in the sheep-fold—the

tiger in the jungle and in the parlor. Do not imagine any sophistry on this subject to pass with them for sound philosophy, reason or constitutional enactments; nor suppose you can lead them forth, like sleep, to the slaughter, or herd them in crowds to the sicken and die, just to let the wolf roam among the lambs, the tiger to feast on the children, without a most terrible retribution! I do not say the people will rise against the Government in any event. I do not think they will. The class for whom I write are loyal, and will remain so, through this momentary struggle; will be found true when the rottenness and debauchery and blood-thirstiness of this dark epoch shall have passed away by repentance, and works meet for repentance, and the grace of God, or by destruction such as the world has not seen since that "day of tribulation, such as never had been, nor ever shall be again." We shall be purified, yet so as by fire. Here shall exist a free and happy people, though this generation bite the dust. O! that I could cause but this thought to penetrate the head and heart of the entire nation. Ye cannot toy with wolves and tigers and escape unhurt! Slavery is worse than them. It has devoured, more relentlessly than wild beasts, the young and the old, the innocent babe, the helpless maiden, and the aged parent. The fangs are now inserted in the vitals of the nation, and will destroy it, if 600,000 soldiers can only let it alone. There is no alternative—the she must kill it, or be slain by it. The day of our election is at hand. Prepare your souls.

J. STEBBINS.
Highland, Clayton County, Iowa, Feb. —, 1862.

A SONG FOR OLD JOHN BROWN.

You all have heard of old John Brown,
A man he was right up and down,
Who, when he saw a thing was true,
Went straight to work to put it through.

Put it through.

He took good care to count the cost,
How much there might be gained or lost,
And found, he said, that either way,
The plan he had was sure to pay.

Sure to pay.

The wise ones called John Brown a fool
Because he kept the Golden Rule:
What he wished you for him to do,
He was at hand to do for you.

Do for you.

What bad men make to pass for law
With old John Brown weighed not a straw,
And though enforced with all their might,
Shock not his faith that light is right.

Right is right.

It worked like madness in his brain
To see his brother drag a chain,
And, let who would forbid or scold,
Straight goes John Brown to strike it off.

Strike it off.

The slaves are black, but none the less
His soul was moved by their distress,
He never stopped to mind the skin,
He only saw the soul within.

The soul