MEMPHIS APPEAL

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CITY.

MONDAY MORNING, : : : : JAN. 8, 1872.

THE EIGHTH OF JANUARY.

To-day is the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans. On this day, fifty-six years ago, the second chapter in the history of American Independence was written. On that day a sturdy troop of undisciplined volunteers and militia stood face to face with a veteran army which had been trained under the eye of the victorious Wellington, and become inured to victory on the bloody fields of the Peninsula. But when the sun was set on the Eighth of January, 1815, the pride of England was humbled in the dust.

The lion banner drooping hung—
No trophied column graced the shore—
To tell her deeds no lyre was strung—
The Queen of the Ocean ruled no more.

Upon the recurrence of such an anniversary, it is the pleasing duty of patriots to dwell upon the character of Andrew Jackson; to contemplate Jackson the boy, Jackson the impetuous young man, Jackson the dashing lawyer of Tennessee, ready to go before a jury or to meet his opponent in the field; Jackson the politician, the representative and senator in congress; Jackson presiding as a judge; Jackson the hero of the memorable battle of New Orleans; Jackson, president of the United States and Jackson, the patriot statesman and christian gentleman. There are some mountains whose rugged grandeur is such when we stand under their shadows that all idea of symmetry and proportion is lost. To view them rightly, we must retire many a mile away, and when distance has thus mellowed the harshness of outline, we can look back upon them looming up in sublime proportions and majestic beauty. So it is with some men. Nearness to them, contemporaneousness with them, makes us see their faults, their shortcomings, and all that is imperfect in them. Nothing tends to make us underrate or overrate men so much as that strongest of all prejudices—party politics. The leaders of all ages, from Moses to our own time, have traduced the purest and best of men. There is however, a compensation in the judgment of posterity. Party rancor is laid in the dust, the "evil that men do" is forgotten, and departing from the sentiment of Mark Antony, the "good that men do" lives after them. Henry Clay and Daniel Webster are both examples of what we mean, and Andrew Jackson is eminently so. Each, in his own peculiar line, was a leader. No men had more bitter enemies, none more devoted friends. We could not estimate them aright in their lifetime, but when the soil covers their once living forms we can look from our distant standpoint and see their true greatness of soul, their lofty patriotism. We may have differed from their views in many things, but now we are ready to acknowledge a more beautiful symmetry than we were willing to confess when they were with us. When living and while in close proximity with those steeped in bigotry, enmity and hate, Andrew Jackson was considered as rough and craggy as the near mountain. But as we journey on and look back, we see how grand and majestic is the great character which was disparaged while casting its living shadow. As our national troubles culminated in a war, and have increased year after year, the fame of Jackson has become dearer and dearer to our hearts, simply because, of all those who labored to establish our Union, he seemed most deeply impressed with its value, and most earnestly strove to instill a love for it into the hearts not only of his cotemporaries, but of all posterity, by leaving as his last, best legacy the advice of clinging to that Union as the chief of their earthly blessings.

The people of this State should never permit the 8th of January to pass without the most enthusiastic demonstrations, for Andrew Jackson was the greatest of Tennessee's great sons. The splendor of his name is as imperishable as our own mountains, and as, in sickness, we turn for comfort to Him in whose hands are the issues of life and death; so, on the Eighth of January, should we, amid the scorching rays of civil discord, turn to the memory of our mighty dead, feeling that even in his ashes may live the wonted fires of his patriotic soul, urging again his countrymen to uphold the great edifice that contains the precious fortunes of millions, and ready to rebuke the fanatics, who, like Sampson, would tear down the edifice of our liberties, even though they themselves should perish beneath the hideous ruins. The nation will ever cherish the name of Washington; Massachusetts loves the spot in which are deposited the bones of Webster; Ashland will forever be the Mecca to which Kentuckians will journey, and Tennessee must not forget her Jackson. If it be true that people become ungrateful towards the memory of their benefactors as soon as they become corrupted, there is reason to fear that the seeds of corruption have been sown in our midst, for the Eighth of January would have been forgotten by many of our readers but for this article. We trust this neglect will never occur again, and that for the future the Eighth of January will be a grand holiday throughout the State. For many years the people of Memphis have discussed the proposition to erect a monument to the memory of Jackson on the Jackson Mound in the suburbs of the city. Such a monument, overlooking the Mississippi and commanding the admiration, thrilling and kindling the spirit of millions who float upon the bosom of our majestic river, would round off the splendor of Jackson's fame with an overflowing measure, and show to the world that there was that public virtue in Memphis which cherishes the fame of one of the nation's greatest benefactors. A monument thus erected, as an affectionate tribute to the patriotic dead, should not be the result of a poetical sentiment, which stirs the imagination, but should be prompted by that feeling which makes the heart throb with noble emotions; feeds the fires of heroism and fosters and keeps alive that spirit of unselfish devotion which we call patriotism. Human nature shows not a brighter or a higher attribute than in building monuments to those whose example is worthy of imitation.

OUR CHARLESTON ROAD AND TOM SCOTT.

The Augusta *Chronicle and Sentinel* is bitterly opposed to the transfer of the Georgia State and other roads to Tom Scott's Southern Railroad Security company which has reached Georgia through East Tennessee and South Carolina. The Georgia State road, when honest people ruled, paid the whole annual cost of the State government. It fell into the clutches of Bullock's thieves and was worthless. Tom Scott's Security company wants it and the people, it seems, are unwilling to surrender. Scott has also been balked of his purpose in Alabama. He sought to secure possession of Stanton's Chattanooga and Meridian and Vicksburg road, but Stanton would only sell his claim on condition that his floating debt was paid, and Governor Lindsay, of Alabama, demanded strong assurances of the soundness of the Southern Railroad Security company. Moreover, politicians do not cheerfully surrender patronage and power, and if the governors of Alabama and Georgia were deprived of these roads there would be certainly a thousand of their retainers swept from office. These facts do not indicate Governor Lindsay's conduct. The people, like the governor, are unwilling to sell unless debts due thousands along the line of the road are assumed by the purchasers. This assumption of a cash debt of two millions is a somewhat greater sum than Scott's company can afford to pay for Stanton's road when the Memphis and Charleston, a better line, through a richer country and with better feeders across the Mississippi may be bought without any great cash expenditures. The solvency of Tom Scott's ring, as chartered, has been questioned in Georgia. There need be no doubt that the charter was obtained for the ring in order that its members might escape individual liability in case its speculations were unfortunate. What its real wealth may be and whether it can execute its proposed contract with the Memphis and Charleston company we do not know. In Baltimore, where several of the largest of Scott's partners and shareholders live, the Security Railroad company is deemed invulnerable. The *Gazette* gives it a capital of seven millions. Its ownership of majority of the stock in the roads of East Tennessee constitutes a sufficient basis of wealth to satisfy the public that its pretentions to solvency are by no means baseless. It paid the holders of a majority of the stock in the Bristol and Chattanooga lines more than a million dollars in cash. Its contracts for roads in Virginia and the Carolinas have been faithfully and promptly executed. Its trades have been profitable and advantageous to an extent never known before in the annals of railway speculation, and unless unanticipated developments be made, the stockholders in the Memphis and Charleston company will ratify, as we are advised, the preliminary contract executed by President Wicks with the Southern Security Railway company, in directing whose fortunes the illustrious Tom Scott is the presiding genius.

It is again asserted that Grant, to secure his re-election, will plunge the country into a war with Spain. The people of the country have had enough of war. A few reap wealth and glory and official honors, while the toiling masses are converted into machines to be hurried into the jaws of disease and death. Then come taxation and mountains of debt and vice and corruption and shoddy and military upstarts and soulless adventurers to reign despotically. The country wants no war with Spain. The fruit will ripen that makes thieves' mouths water in the Cuban paradise. When it falls it will be time enough to devour it.

ANDREW JACKSON.

A Leaf from Henry A. Wise's Book—A Story for the Eighth of January.

Life and Death of Mrs. Jackson—Constancy and Devotion of the Hero of New Orleans.

The new book of Hon. Henry A. Wise, of Virginia, "Seven Decades of the Union," etc., has many very graphic and interesting reminiscences in it of a political and personal character, in connection with the public men of the past, one. We annex one or two, to-day, as follows:

LIFE AND DEATH OF MRS. JACKSON.

But we are anticipating events by painting, perhaps out of place, the private characteristics and traits of a very great man, whose name belongs only accidentally to to this memoir of one of his successors. General Jackson was elected president in the fall of 1828. His domestic life had been scanned and scourged, and his beloved and honored wife had been most malignantly reviled and tortured by the forked tongues of his political opponents. She was happy in his love, and never aspired to the splendor of his fortune in life. She had fled to his manhood for protection and peace, and had been sheltered and saved by his gallant championship of the cause of women. He, and he alone, was her all, and of him it may be truly said that, in respect to "wassail, wine and women," he was one of the purest men of his day, and that, too, in an age of rude habits and rude, vulgar dissipation among the rough settlers of the west.

He was temperate in drink, abstemious in diet, simple in tastes, polished in manners, except when roused, and always preferred the society of ladies, with the most romantic, pure and poetic devotion. He was never accused of indulging in any of the grosser vices, except that in early life he swore, horse-raced and attended cock-fights. As for the wife of his bosom, she was a woman of spotless character, and an unassuming, consistent Christian; yet political rancor bitterly assailed her, and, not content with defamation, endeavored to belittle her by the contemptuous appellation of "Aunt Rachel," and held her up to ridicule for smoking a corn-cob pipe. She did prefer that form, not for the pleasure of smoking, but because a pipe was prescribed by her physician for her phthisis, and she often rose in the night to smoke for relief. In a night of December, 1828, she rose to smoke, and caught cold while sitting in her night-clothes; and the story is that her system had been shocked by her over-bearing reproaches of herself whilst waiting in a parlor at the Nashville inn. She had said to a friend, upon she election of her husband: "For Mr. Jackson's sake I am glad; for my own part I never wished it. I assure you I had rather be a door-keeper in the palace at Washington." She was not allowed to live in "that palace at Washington." Before the day of her husband's inauguration at the White House she was taken by her God to that "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

The 23d of December was the anniversary of General Jackson's greatest strategy in war. He had, without means made preparations for the defense of New Orleans. He had arrested suspected persons by a strong arm; he had aroused the populace of the city, of all races and colors, to relay arms for defense; he had seized cotton bales to make him a line of impenetrable ramparts from river to lagoon for miles; he had manned gunboats to cooperate with the land forces; he had done wonders in making strongholds of nothing for the last ditches of defense; but the coup de main was, after making his last hold as strong as he could, in leaving his intrenchments to attack the invading foe in full force at night, with a handful of men, under Coffee and Carroll, on the 23d of December, and striking the enemy so hard a blow full in the face that he was staggered and made to hesitate and pause, giving Jackson sixteen days' time to recruit his forces and strengthen still more his defenses. Had the enemy marched directly upon New Orleans on the 23d or 24th of December, the "beauty and booty" of the city would have fallen a prey to his lust and repine. But Jackson pursued his "policy of rashness," struck unexpected and unseen, saved the city, and won immortal laurels.

This, the 23d of December, 1814—not the 8th of January, 1815—he counted his day of victory. Strategy was the successful forerunner of courage and force.

Preparations were being made in Nashville to give him and his lady a grand reception and celebration of the anniversary of this lucky day, and all eyes were bent toward the Hermitage to see the conquered hero, the then President, come with his cherished wife at his side, when, lo! a messenger on "the White Horse" was seen, riding fast, to announce that his partner was—dead. She was no longer the afflicted, deserted one whom he had championed and married, and lived with in holy and lawful wedlock. She was no longer his angel bosom partner; she was no longer a target for this world's fiery darts of detraction; she was a saint. The day's gladness was turned to earthly mourning, and the day of the funeral to the day of fasting.

Dr. Heiskel, of Winchester, Virginia, was just starting as a young physician in the neighborhood of the Hermitage, and was the first to minister to her relief, and attended until two eminent physicians were called in from Nashville. From him we learned that she had caught cold, and pleuritic symptoms supervened upon her constitutional nervous affections. She was sitting smoking her corn-cob pipe when she caught her last malady.

The day of burial came, and we witnessed the solemn scene. This we confidently testify, that more sincere homage was done to her dead than was ever done to any woman in our day and country living. Thousands from the city and from all the country around flocked to her funeral. The poor white people, the slaves of the Hermitage and adjoining plantations, and the neighbors, crowded off the gentry of town and country, and filled the large garden, in which the interment took place. She had been a Hannah and Dorcas to every needy household. She had been more than mistress, a mother to her servants and dependants, and the richest and best were proud of the privilege of her sincere and simple friendship. She was, without question, loved and honored by high and low, white and black, bond and free, rich and poor; and that love was so unaffectedly expressed by a wail so loud and long that there was no mistaking its grief for the loss, not of the departed one, but of the living left behind her. From that same door of the northeast room of the house, near which the happy bridal party set but a few short months before, her coffin was borne to the grave dug in the garden for her remains.

Following the pall bearers came General Jackson, with his left hand in the arm of General Carroll, holding his cane in his right hand, not grasping it with the hand over the head nor with the thumb up, but with the back of the hand up, and holding the point of the cane forward as he would have held a sword, and where he stopped at the pile of clay its point rested on the clods. Weeping and mourning was heard on every side, but at the moment of his coming up to that cold portal of clay a favorite old servant of Mrs. Jackson burst through the group around the pit, and tried to get into the grave with the coffin. She was about sixty years of age, robust and strong, and, falling near the brink, got both feet over the edge of the grave, when the sexton and others took hold of her and prevented her descending, and were trying to raise her up and remove her. Her cries were agonizing: "Mistress, my best friend, my love, my life, is gone—I will go with her!"

This was but a moment; but, close to General Jackson, we watched him intently. Every muscle of his face was unmoved; steady as a rock, without a teardrop in his eye or a quiver in his voice, he quickly raised his voice and said, "Let that faithful servant weep for her best friend and loved mistress; she has the right and cause to weep, and her grief is sweet to me!" The persons who had hold of her immediately released her and left her sitting over the fresh clods, weeping, and there she remained, hindering the burial, until after a while some of her friends persuaded her to leave the grave and let the ceremony go on. The body was let down, "dust to dust" was said, the grave was filled up and shaped into the common mound which covers poor mortality, and General Jackson was led away by General Carroll back to the northeast room. The crowd followed and we got in close to the chief mourner. Arriving fairly into the room and pausing a few moments, he looked around him, and raising his voice said:

"Friends and neighbors, I thank you for the honor you have done to the sainted one whose remains now repose in yonder grave. She is now in the bliss of Heaven, and I know that she can suffer here no more on earth. That is enough for my consolation; my loss is her gain. But I am left without her to encounter the trials of life alone. I am now the President-elect of the United States, and in a short time must must take my way to the metropolis of my country, and if it had been God's will I would have been grateful for the privilege of taking her to my post of honor and seating her by my side, but Providence knew what was best for her. For myself I bow to God's will, and go alone to the place of new and arduous duties, and I shall not go without friends to reward, and I pray God that I may not be allowed to have enemies to punish. I can forgive all who have wronged me, but will have fervently to pray that I may have grace to enable me to forget or forgive any enemy who has ever maligned that blessed one who is now safe from all suffering and sorrow, whom they tried to put to shame for my sake!"

This was uttered calmly, firmly, mournfully, and in such deep silence of the crowd that it was audible and distinct to every one in the room. We can never forget it. Could he? The answer to the question illustrates his leading trait of the policy of pugnacity."

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THE copartnership in the practice of Law heretofore existing between D. K. Mosbe and S. P. Walker is this day dissolved by mutual consent. The existing business of the firm is disposed of in a manner that it is supposed will prove satisfactory to clients, who, until further notice, are referred for information to the present office of the firm.

D. K. MOSBE,
S. P. WALKER.

d31

NOTICE.

UNION AND PLANTERS' BANK OF MEMPHIS, MEMPHIS, TENN., January 3, 1872. By order of the Board of Directors, a semi-annual dividend of five per cent. out of the net earnings for the six months ending December 31, 1871, will be paid the stockholders of this bank on application.

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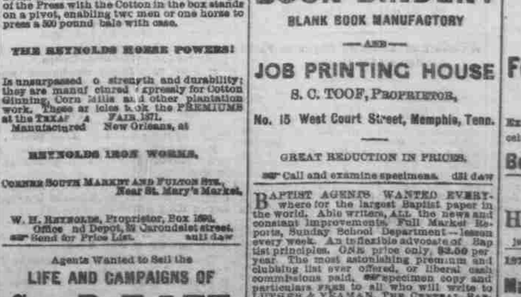

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