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NATCHITOCHES UNION

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DEVOTED TO POLITICAL AND LOCAL INTERESTS.

Ernest LE GENDRE, Editor.

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☞ Advertisements sent to the Union after Tuesday evening, will not be publishe before the ensuing week.

Persons desiring to stop advertisements must give notice thereof at the office, otherwise they will be continued and charged for until expressly forbidden.

No Job work will be done hereafter, unless, the pay can be had on delivery.

☞ All persons indebted the to NATCHITOCHES UNION, either as subscribers, or for notices or judicial advertissements, are requested to come forward and settle immediately. We dislike very much to be always asking our debtors for money, but being obliged to comply with our own obligations, we find ourselves under the painful necessity of acting towards others with the same rigour that others intend to act towards us.

Notice.

Having received a lot of Postage Stamps for sale. The public will please take notice that no more letters will be charged. Those owing for letter postage will please call and settle.

JOHN W. TABER,
February 13th. Post Master.

(Communicated.)

The Cotton Question.

The last week's UNION, Mr. Editor, contains a sensible, well written communication in reply to mine in a former number. "Cotton Planter No 2" and I do not appear to differ very materially about the policy of planting for another full crop while the present one remains unsold; but on one point, we total disagree, and, on one or two facts, he seems to lay too great stress. Instead of making up our opinions upon this true policy to be followed by the growers of Cotton, not one or two crops only, but a series of years, with all their changes, political and moral, that may probably bring about, should be embraced in our view. Such changes often come round with startling rapidity. In my former article, I suggested A REMOTE DANGER that threatens the monopoly we have so long enjoyed, by the production of cotton in other countries. Every one knows the persistent, herculian efforts, made by the "Cotton supply associations" of England, patronized by the Government of France to grow Cotton in the dependencies of the crown. France attempted and growth in Algeria. Thus far, they have made but little progress. The main Cotton is now neither abundant enough, nor of the right staple, to interfere seriously with our interests, yet there is no relaxation of effort to obtain supplies from there and other quarters of the Globe. Not four months ago, Lord Palmerston assured a Committee of Manchester spinners, that before long they would cease to be so dependent on the Southern States for cotton to supply their wants. It is a well known fact, that cotton lands of the best quality exist in Central America, which, if properly cultivated, might supply the world with Cotton; and it is to this fact among others, that perhaps, Great Britain insists with such pertinacity on her protectorate of the Mosquito shore, where the soil is said to be admirably adapted to the cotton culture. In 1850 an American citizen opened a Cotton plantation on the Island of Omotepec in Nicaragua, cultivated by peons, of the Indian race, where he had every chance of success, had not the jealousy of the people interfered with his operations—rendering his laborers dissatisfied, and not having power to inforce their contracts to labor from the disturbed condition of the country. There, the labor of the country is done by this class of the population. Only such labor is not equal to that forced labor of slaves, yet large crops come from it. They cultivate indigo and cochineal equal to any in the world, and it only remains to develop such labor to the culture of Cotton, to increase to a considerable extent which is required for the manufactories of Europe. Since the separation of those States from the Spanish crown, they have been in a State of revolution and civil war; there has been no time to develop their agricultural resources. But civil war and anarchy can never prevail in any country. The Isthmus, the civilized commercial States of the world have great interests—it will some day be the point of transit for the commerce of America and Europe, with Asia, and if the Central-American States will not of themselves settle their quarrels and adopt stable governments, other powers will do it for them. Whenever stable governments, law and order are there established, commerce and agriculture will go hand in hand in making them prosperous and powerful commonwealths. Emigration will flow there, and all the great staples of the Tropics will be grown, so as to add vastly to the commerce of the world.

But it is said that the Caucasian race cannot cultivate tropical regions. Unquestionably, the African is constitutionally better able to endure the miasmata of Tropical latitudes yet, man soon becomes acclimated to the region in which he plants himself Europeans settled in the Central American States, appear to endure the climate well, and with a guaranty of good laws faithfully executed, would soon make them the garden spots of the world.

It is on this point that, I think, Cotton Planter No 2 lays too great stress. Our large swamps and the Deltas of our large rivers or the rice plantations, could not probably, be profitably cultivated by laborers of European Origin; but three fourth of the Cotton lands of the South might be successfully cultivated by white men as well as black ones. That this is so; you need not go twenty miles from home to find farmers with their sons toiling through the cold of Winter, and the heats of Summer in the open field, apparently in better health than those who keep in the shade. Who is there that cannot point out instances of men of ample fortunes now who began life in growing the staples of the South? No doubt but compulsory slave labor is preferable here to any other, but it is not simply because our staples cannot be raised by men of the "Caucasian" race.

That it would be impolitic to send two full crops of cotton to market in the same season, is the opinion generally entertained (and justly, I think,) through the cotton region. But, perhaps, the growth of a half crop would not injuriously affect prices. England has always kept on hand a surplus from a half to a million of bales. This surplus will be entirely exhausted in a few weeks. Not only so, but the markets where cotton fabrics find sale will be bare of cotton goods. To supply this surplus and enough to stock the markets with goods will require more cotton than is now on hand in our ports or our plantations. Capital will probably find investment in new mills. Is it then unreasonable to suppose that we could ship two millions of bales more with out depressing prices to any great extent.

As to the effect of the "Self imposed" embargo, men will differ as upon all other political questions. I must however, express some surprise that one so well informed, patriotic and accomplished as Cotton Planter No 2, should express the opinion that the Legislative power should intervene to prevent the growth of another crop, and that, however unconstitutional, such Legislation might be, the people would acquiesce in it This, I believe, is the idea intended to be expressed by the writer, though I do not quote his words. Now every violation of the constitution and Laws are dangerous in the extreme to public liberty. While they are preserved in their integrity, men feel they have a shield of protection against private and public wrong; when they are broken down, to what tribunal can the minority appeal against the selfish interests on excited passions, of a dominant majority? Undoubtedly the people in a crisis like the present, would willingly acquiesce in some measures, not exactly constitutional. They have done so in relation to the suspension of specie payments by the Banks, because they believed it essential, in order to sustain the Confederate Government. They have acquiesced in Gov. Moore's edict forbidding the shipping of Cotton to New Orleans, because they believed it a military necessity. But an act interfering with the private pursuits of the citizen so far as to dictate what he should or should not produce on his land, would scarcely be tolerated by any people professing to be free. It may be well doubted whether it be ever safe to violate the Constitution, except where the necessity exists to declare martial Law, and the necessity to be determined by the authority to whom the Constitution has delegated the power.

COTTON PLANTER.

BEAUREGARD COMING, — Says the Bowling Green *Courier* of Tuesday:

We have already intimated the probability of Beauregard being assigned to the chief command at Columbus, and are now enable to state authoritatively that such is the fact. This announcement will cause a thrill of delight and enthusiasm throughout the South. Under the lead of this great General, our brave men will be prepared to perform deeds of heroic valor worthy of their holy cause, and drive the last one of the nigger-stealing invaders from Southern soil, or enrich it with their blood.

LATE FROM BOWLING GREEN.— Says the Memphis *Avalanche* of Wednesday:

We learn from a friend just from Bowling Green that matters are quiet there just now; that a large amount of provisions had arrived and was stored in that city for army purposes; that the large number of Federals which had crossed Green river had been driven back by Gen. Hindman; that all the produce, houses and mills north of Bowling Green had been destroyed, so that the Yanke could find no shelter and no feed; that the roads had been plowed up, and trees felled across them to stay the advance of the Yankee; and that sixty days would not elapse before ten thousand good and true Southern men would rise up in the rear of the Yankee army and fight their way through to General Buckenr.

FIGHT NEAR PRESTONBURG, Ky.—In our notice of the fight near Prestonburg last week, we put the enemy's loss at 400. We stated it from the information we then had. We have since seen an officer of Gen. Marshall's command who was in the fight, and he informs us that the loss of the enemy was variously estimated, ranging from 200 and upwards. The Federal forces were under the command of Col. Garfield, and not Col. Moore, as we stated.

Gen. Marshall's loss was nine killed and not exceeding twenty wounded — some very slightly.

In another column we give the report of the enemy, which makes quite a different showing as to the result. Their loss is put down as small, and the Confederate loss quite heavy. We prefer believing those whom we know, to the enemy, who is always givien to lying.

Abingdon Virginian.

THE CORRUPTION IN THE YANKEE GOVERNMENT.— The New York *Tribune* expresses the opinion that within the last ten months the Union has been robbed of a hundred millions of dollars by corruption in the public service.

The subjoined verses on "Despondency" are worthy of a better fate than the "Poet's Corner" in a newspaper. The writer has endured already in life, evils enough to envelop in gloom the stoutest heart. The loss, in a single season, of mother, sisters and brothers, and the bar escape himself from the "grim monster" suggested these lines; but one must bear up, with stoic fortitude, under the inevitable ills of life; every heart, endowed with keen sensibility, will sometimes bend, for months and years, under the burden of existence. The philosopher may learn to scorn the evils of poverty, and the desertion of what is *facetiously* called friends, for he knows that poverty has been the doom of millions of men as worthy as himself, and that friends may be gathered in multitudes, around the table where there are good viands and rich wines; he knows that society itself is but an *organized hypocrisy* and learns to despise it; he builds up in his own bosom a little world, peopled by the choice spirits of past ages, or the creatoin of his own fancy, and, instead of becoming misanthropic, he finds life glides on more truly calm and happy than when he believed society something better than a sham, and men something more reliable than experience has taught him to believe. Let the young man fight the battle of life with courage and skill and the old man console himself with the reflection that

"There is a calm for those who weep
A rest for weary pilgrins found;
And while the mouldering ashes sleep
Low in the ground,
The soul, of origin divine,
God's glorious image, freed from clay,
In Heaven's eternal sphere shall shine
A star of day!!"

DESPONDENCY.

"I'm tired of this long, long day,
I'm weary of its flagering light;
And loathing life I turn away,
AND WEEP AND WISH FOR NIGHT"— BYRON.

Sickness and suffering, and the vile hypocrisy, of man have taught me this.

In this bleak world, there's not a joy,
That's fe't, without a pain:
There's not a link, without alloy,
In friendship's golden chain.
The smiles of friends, the frowns of foes,
Are false and fickle as a dream;
Alike they fill, the cup of woes,
With poisons, to the brim;
There's nothing fixed or lasting here,
We change with each expiring breath;
We come, we smile, we shed a tear,
And all is o'er, in death.
Take from our minds, the false, the vain,
And soon we'ed sicken at the show,
Of disappointment, grief and pain,
And wretchedness and woe.
As travelers, way worn with the road,
By heat and hunger sore opprest,
Still hope to find some kind abode,
Where they may short y rest:
So all, with fixed untiring gaze,
Are looking to some distant spot,
Far off in life's bewild'ring maze,
Where troubles are forgot.
But ah! we err, the charm is gone,
Ere we can climb the rugged steep;
The phantom leaves us all alone,
To wander and to weep!
And as these foibles lure us on,
Time drops his hoar-frost on the brow;
The play is o'er, the race is run,
Ere we know when or how.
Oh! man by every vice accurst,
What means your power, pride and State?
Thou soulless creeping worm of dust,
Do these things make you great?
But ah! I turn with awe and dread,
From such depressing scenes as this
I'd rather mingle with the dead,
Than share your fancied bliss
I've seen and suffered but too long,
To wish a brighter day—
So pass on, with your busy throng,
I gladly give the way—
For e'er so bright the morning rays,
That clothe the world in light,
They fade away in transient days,
And leave the world in night.
And thus the fate of human life,
Thus follow hope and fear—
The present may with joys be rife,
The future's dark and drear.
In gloom all Nature's beauties lie,
Untaste all its sweets—
Fast as the swift wing' dmoments fly,
My transient pleasure fleets.
I feel no joys that others feel;
Darkness and day to me are one,
Existence is the only Hell,
My sighing soul would shun.
This world is but a vale of tears
When friends and kindred meet to part,
Where fortune, with her countless cares,
Preys ever on the heart;
Existence is a span—a day—
The present moment all we own;
We act our parts and pass away,
To Lands unseen—unknown,
I'm tired of this ling'ring pain—
This hopelessness of cart—
This constant burning of the brain
Oh God! let me depart.
I long to flee from living death,
My tired nature fain would yield
My spirit quit this night clad earth,
And seek the far Elysian field!
Come Death, no more thysting I fear;
My soul, my all, to God is given;
Come wipe away the mortal tear
And take me home to them in Heaven.

ALCANZOR.

(Communicated)

I have seen a private letter from the Head Quarters of 2nd Brigade McCulloch's Division at Fayetteville Ark. dated 21st January 1862. By which I learn that the gallant McCulloch has by this time rejoined his command in Missouri The health of the 3rd Regt. Louisiana Volunteers is fine and our boys are well. Our young follow townsman Lieut. S M. Hyams Jr., is acting adjutant and Inspector General of the 2nd Brigade.

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ANECDOTE OF SIMON CAMERON.— A Pennsylvanian, now in the army, relates to us a traditional anecdote of the Secretary of war, which is probably as true as the posthumous stories of the juvenile days of great men generaly are; and we therefore put it on record for the benefit or his future biographef.

It was the custom aforetime is Pennsylvania, for mothers to place an apple, a silver dollar and a Bible before their children, as on as they so were able to toddle about, with a mother's interest and satisfaction, watch them make their choice. It was considered indicative of their more matured predilections. In accordance with this custom the mother of the infantile Simon, as soon as he was able to stand on his pins, produced the articles and set them before the child hoping in her heart he would select the Bible. But not so Simond. The future Secretary of War took a somewhat deliberate view, and with less reverence than King Alfred, mounted atop the Holy Writ, pocketed the dollar, and commenced munching the apple It is needless to add that he has been at that business ever since. [Cincinnati Commercial.

THE CAIRO FAILURE.—The Evansville (Ind.) *Journal* thus speaks of the great expedition from Cairo, of which the Yankee papers have so long been making boastful promises:

The Cairo correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* says the recent startling telegraphic dispatches from that place, relative to the very wonderful things going to take place, were not only suggested but absolutely dictated by the military authorities. He predicted that the whole thing would amount to nothing, and his prediction was correct. We learn from gentlemen on the Courier, which left Cairo Sunday night that some, of the troops had already returned, and the whole force. was on the march down the hill again. The gunboats will not be ready for offensive operations for two weeks, and the naval officers assert that the land forces will hardly be in a condition to co-operate by that time. What's in the way outsiders have no means of knowing.

THE FEDERAL CONGRESS.—In the Senate on the 21st, Senator Browning proposed a resolution of inquiry into the expediency of investing foreign-born soldiers in the Union army who are not naturalized, with the right of citizenship. An amendment was adopted to a military bill prohibiting the discharge of minors from the service, and providing that no person shall be mustered under eighteen years, but that the oath of enlisment shall be conclusive as to age. The Bright case was then takan up, and the most exciting debate of the session took place between Summer Lane, of Indiana, and Bright. Without disposing of the subject the Senate adjourned.

In the House, the bill prepared by Mr Colfax, prohibitng the transportation of newspapers outside the mails by express companies and railway trains received its quietus. During the debate Mr Morrill, of the Ways and Means Committee, stated that a stamp tax on newspapers and telegraphic messages would be presented by that committee. The Senate bill passed creating two Assistant Secretaries of War.

A NEW PROPELLER.—A. Obendoffer, of Norfolk, has invented a new propelling power for steamers, of which the Richmond *Dispatch* says:

It is a wheel placed upright under the stern of the boat, with paddles connected with the engine by a horizontal shaft. The model which we saw is composed of a wheel six inches in diameter worked by a small clock instead of an engine; and this miniature machine propels the boat in which it is placed (some three feet long and weighing about twenty-five pounds with the ballast) at the rate of seventy-five feet per minute. The construction of the boat is such as to protect the wheel and rudder from shot, and it might be used with great success in the immediate vicinity of an enemy's ship. Mr. Obendoffer deserves credit for his ingenuity, and we hope the naval authorities will give his invention a thorough examination.

SHIP ISLAND.—The Mobile *Advertiser* of Friday last says:

We have reliable intelligence that the Yankee troops are encamped on Ship island to the number of 10,000 to 15,000 men. There were lying near the island, at the same time, about twenty seven vessels, the most of them transports.

A THOUSAND CHINAMEN DROWNED.— The California journals, in giving an account of the late disastrous floods with which they have been visited state that the Chinese have been very great sufferers. No less than forty-five Chinamen were carried away in their cabins at Orehon bar, in Placer county. The Chinese hongs in San Francisco have since received letters from the interior of the State to the effect that during the late freshet near one thousand Chinamen were washed off from Long Bar and vicinity on the Yula, and drowned. It appears that the poor fellows remained in their cabins on the bar, as they had done during previous floods, until the raging waters rose about them and rendered their escape impossible.

ANOTHER STONE FLEET.—The Charleston *Mercury* of Tuesday last says:

Observations made yesterday afternoon show that the Yankee have sunk ten more old hulks on the Rattlesnake Shoal, about six miles from Beach Channel. There is one yessel with her masts still visible, just inside of the Rattlesnake Shoal, not yet sunk but evidently ready for sinking.

THE NEW SECRETARY OF WAR.—Secretary Station has already initiated much needed reforms. He will reorganize the War Department entirely, to facilitate the speedy transaction of public business. All army appointments now before the Senate are to be suspended, to permit their revision by the new Secretary. Comunications by mail which under the Cameron a *regime*, were much neglected, thus causing a daily inroad into Washington of those having business with the Government, will hereafter secure prompt attention.

EIGHT CHILDREN AT A BIRTH.—From a letter in the New York *Tribune* we extract the following:

On the 2d of August Mrs. Timothy Bradlee, of Trumbull country, Ohio, gave birth to eight children— three boys and five girls. They are all living, and are healthy, but quitte small. Mr. B.'s family is increasing fast.—He was married six years ago to Eunice Mowery, who weighed 273 pounds on the day of her marriage. She has given birth to two pairs of twins, and now eight more, making twelve children in six years. It seems strange, but nevertheless is true. Mrs. B. was a twin of three, her mother and father both being twins, and her grandmother the mother of five pairs of twins. Mrs. B. has named her boys after noted and distinguished men; one after the Hon. J. R. Giddings, who has given her a splendid gold medal; one after the Rev. Hon. Elijah Champlain, who gave her a deed of fifty acres of land; and the other after James Johnson, who gave her a cow.

JACOB ISRAEL,
Dupleix's Old Stand.
Having received a large invoice of
Dry Goods
AND
Groceries,
I am compelled to sell
Cheaper than Heretofore.
Let all my customers come and judge for themselves and
ONCE MORE,
every one will be convinced that no Store in Natchitoches, is able to offer such a large stock in
WAR TIMES.
Cotton or other Produce
Take in exchange.
COME ONE COME ALL!
JACOB ISRAEL.

Notice to Per Emptors.

The Approved Township Map of Township (18) Eighteen North of Range (14) Fourteen West, West of Red River, North Western Land District, has been received at the Land office at Natchitoches. Pre-Emptors are notified to come forward and file their Pre-Emption Claim.

Natchitoches February 14th 1862.

S. M. HYAMS,
Register,

SightDrafts
On New Orleans, for sale by
L. DUPLEIX.

HUTTON & FRELIGH'S
SOUTHERN MONTHLY
Terms always in Advance.
One Copy—per year $3 00
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Memphis, Tenn.

To whom it may concern
Take Notice.
CONFEDERATE BONDS, taken at One per cent Premium!
PARISH BONDS taken at Par
On the eve of his departure for the seat of War, the undersigned will take thereafter, Confederate and Parish Bonds, as above, in payment of *all sums* due him by notes or otherwise.
L. DUPLEIX.

CLOUTIER
AND
PRUDHOMME
HAVING withdrawn from our auction the best and newest goods, which composed our splendid stock, we announce to our old customers,
THAT, FROM THIS DAY,
We have opened a store in the home of Mr. Lecomte, at the corner of Front Church street, with the intention of selling out, AT COST and in the shortest time, our remaining stock of
Spring silk goods
Rich valenciennes,
Embroideries of all kinds,
Embroidered handkerchief
Laces, Tulles, collars & Sleeves
Ladies, Misses & children's
Hose; shoes, &c.
Ladies desiring to make purchases should but let pass such a good opportunity of buying cheap and find goods.

Second Brigade, Fourth Division. Louisiana Militia.

Head Quarters, Natchitoches, January 30th, 1862.

GENERAL ORDER No 1.

The Companies called, the *Chasseurs à Pied* and the *Natchitoches Guards* in the parish of Natchitoches and all other organized Companies in this Brigade (composed of the parishes of Rapides, Natchitoches, Sabine, Catahoula and Concordia) are hereby exempt from militia drill, and subject to no command but their own officers, and the Governor. The Colonels, of the several Regiments of the Brigade will take notice and GOVERN themselves according.

All arms and amunition, now in the possession of said Companies, will be retained by them until further orders.

Thomas Hunter of the parish of Natchitoches, is hereby appointed Brigade Major and Inspector with the rank of Major,

Felix Metoyer of the same parish is hereby appointed Quarter-Master and Pay Master of the Brigade with the rank of Captain.

Doctor George E. Gillespie of Natchitoches, is hereby appointed, Surgeon of the Brigade, and to take rank according to the rules and regulation, of the *late* United States Army.

Valery Gaiennie and Octave Metoyer of the arish of Natchitoches, Wm. B. Stille E. C. Davidson, of the parish of Sabine.— S. W. Henari and Whashington Gaiennie of the parish of Rapides, are hereby appointed my Aids-de-Camp with the rank of Captain.

Regimental drills are hereby dispensed with until further orders. The captains of are required to muster their companies *at least* once a month

JOHN BLAIR SMITH.
Brigadier General 2d Brigade 4th Division, Louisiana Militia.

MARTIN'S
Steam Saw-Mill.
Until further notice the price for lumber will be as follows:
1st Quality, at the saw mill $10.00 per thousand M.
1st Quality, deliveredin town $15.00 per thousand M.
Orders left with our Agent, Louis Dupleix, will receive a prompt dispatch.
MARTIN & SON.
January 23 1862

Wanted to buy.
1500 Bales of cotton for which Cash will be paid on delivery by D...