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The Ring My Mother Wore.

The earth has many treasures rare
In gems and golden ore;
My heart hath one more precious far—
The ring my mother wore.
I saw it first when I, a child,
Was playing by her side,
She told me then 'twas father's gift
When she became his bride.
I saw it oft in sorrow's hours
Which marked the after years,
When shining on that soft, white hand,
That wiped away my tears,
And, oh! I saw it once again,
When on her dying bed,
She lifted up her hand in prayer,
And placed it on my head.
Beside that bed where fell my tears,
The ring to me was given;
She placed it on my hand and said,
"We'll meet again in heaven!"
I kissed the cheek I had pressed,
From which the rose had fled;
And bowed with grief, stood motherless,
Alone, beside the dead.
Among the best in realms above,
Where sorrows are unknown,
O may I meet my mother dear
No more to weep alone.
Her dying words of love and faith
I'll cherish evermore,
Within the heart which held so dear
The ring my mother wore.

A BLESSING REMINISCENCE.
On a winter's night, when the moon shone bright,
And the snow was crusted o'er,
With a maid as fair as seraphs are,
I slid from a hill down lower,
Ere we reached the base, (like a horse on a race,)
Our swift-sliding sled crept on,
And with tresses fair, streaming back on the air,
Sweet Sallie went a whirling round.

Waifs.

A Yorkshireman having occasion to visit France, was dumfounded to find, on reaching Calais, that men, women, and children all spoke French. In the height of the perplexity which this occasioned, he retreated to bed, and was awakened in the morning by the creaking of a wheel, whereupon he burst into wild exclamations of astonishment and delight, and exclaimed, "Thank goodness, there's English at last!"

"I like pictures without knowing anything about them; but I hate cocknery in the fine arts, as well as in anything else. I got into dreadful disgrace with Sir George Beaumont once, who, standing before a picture at Bowdoin, exclaimed, turning to me, 'imense breadth of light and shade.'" I innocently said, "Yes, about an inch and a half." He gave me a look that ought to have killed me.—*Silvery Smith.*

"Didn't you tell me, sir, you could hold the plow?" said a farmer to a green Irishman, whom he had taken on trial.

"Arrah, be aisy, now," said Pat, "how the devil can I hold it and two horses drawing it away from me? Give it to me into the barn, and be jabbers, I'll howl it wid my body."

It was rather a doubtful commendation bestowed by a brother clergyman on the new incumbent whom he was introducing to the people:

"You will find him, my friends, to be eyes to the blind, feet to the lame, a father to the fatherless, and a husband to the widow."

An English woman is in her prime at thirty-five, while an American woman has usually begun to fade ten years younger. Reason: An English woman takes airs and exercise; an American woman takes airs and no exercise.

Brown says the "State of Matrimony" is a slave State. As Brown has a termagant for a wife, he certainly ought to know.

Sophistry is like a window curtain—it pleases as an ornament, but its use is to keep out the light.

The population of Washington City has increased 21,000 in ten years.

The Union—now and forever.

From our Port Townsend Correspondent.

Captain Robert Gray.

Now, that the names of the Columbia river and Gray's Harbor are of world-wide notoriety, it is but proper for us, who are enjoying the results of the discoveries of the old navigator, to pay a passing tribute to the memory of the merchant-captain whose bold and adventurous voyages on the north-west coast resulted in the discovery of the Columbia river and Gray's Harbor, and gave the American nation the priority of right to the country we now occupy, and which had also been claimed and owned by Great Britain.

Heroes who have fought for their country, and men who have added by their wisdom to their country's greatness, are remembered among all nations by statues, monuments, and the historian's pen. But while it is but right and proper to hold in remembrance the deeds of great men, we should not forget those unostentatious individuals, who, while in the quiet pursuit of their duties, work out great benefits to their country in the peaceful paths of commercial enterprise. In 1787, a company of Boston merchants, consisting of Messrs. Barrell, Bullfinch, Pintard and Darby, fitted out the ship *Columbia*,—a little vessel measuring only two hundred and twenty tons burthen,—and the sloop *Washington* of ninety tons. The *Columbia* was placed under command of John Hendrick, and the *Washington* under command of Robert Gray. The two vessels sailed from Boston on the 30th of September, 1787, bound to the north-west coast of North America, to trade with the natives for furs. This was the first expedition ever fitted out by Americans for the north-west coast.

They did not reach the coast till August of the following year, when Gray discovered the opening to the Columbia river, and in attempting to enter it the sloop struck on the bar, and came near being lost. He arrived at Nootka on the 17th of September, where he remained all winter, making occasional short trading voyages, until enough furs had been collected to load the *Columbia*, when Captain Gray was placed in command of her and proceeded to Canton, Captain Hendrick remaining on the coast in charge of the sloop *Washington*.

The *Columbia* proceeded to the Sandwich Islands, where Captain Gray was received with respect, and most hospitably treated. Such was the confidence of both king and people in Captain Gray, that he was permitted to take as a passenger the crown prince on a visit to Boston, full reliance being placed on Gray's promise to return him home again.

The ship arrived in Canton on the 6th of December, 1789, and having exchanged her cargo of furs for one of teas, sailed for Boston, where she arrived on the 10th of August, 1790, having carried the flag of the United States for the first time round the world.

Some twenty years ago, an eye witness of the return of the *Columbia* to Boston Harbor, relates the scene, which was published in the *Cincinnati Post* at the time. He writes:

"The ship was absent upwards of three years, and had not been heard from for a large portion of the time, when, in the summer of 1790, on a fine afternoon, a strange ship, bearing the stars and stripes of our country, arrived abreast of the castle and fired a national salute, which was promptly returned by the fortress. The firing was distinctly seen and heard from Boston, but no one could imagine what ship it was bearing our country's flag, and doing and receiving such honor. The inhabitants were all in motion, crowding Long Wharf by thousands. When it was known that the *Columbia* had returned, the artillery were ordered out, and when the ship came to anchor, off the end of the wharf, the delighted multitude rent the air with joyful exclamations, while salvos of artillery shook the neighboring hills, and the astonished people hurried into the city to join the general joy.

"The ship having returned the salute of the city, the Custom House barge was manned and the venerable General Lincoln, Collector of the Port, with the owners of the *Columbia*, repaired on board, and after bidding a hearty welcome to Capt. Gray and his princely passenger, they returned to the wharf together, when the air rung with loud exclamations, and the artillery again poured forth its thunder.

The prince was dressed in a splendid costume, covered with feathers of the most beautiful plumage, and in this magnificent attire he took the arm of Captain Gray, and a procession being

formed, they moved to the mansion of John Hancock, the Governor of Massachusetts, to bid them welcome. A splendid banquet was prepared, of which a numerous company of guests partook, and after an interchange of courteous hospitality, the prince with Captain Gray retired. A few months after, the ship having been refitted, again sailed under the same commander, and safely returned the prince to his country and friends. From this visit sprung all the friendly intercourse between the Islanders and the United States, to whom they are indebted for civilization and the useful art, and the benefits of the Christian religion."

The same incidents were related to me by another eye-witness, whom I met in Boston three years ago.

It was on this second voyage that Capt. Gray entered the noble river, (which he had previously discovered,) and gave it the name of his ship, the *Columbia*.

On the 11th day of May, 1792, about sunrise, the ship crossed the bar, passing between the breakers with all sails set, and at 10 o'clock anchored ten miles above the mouth of the river, near Chenook Point, where she remained three days. Gray then sailed some ten or twelve miles further up the river, on the northern shore, where he again anchored. The ship remained in the river till the 20th, when a fresh breeze springing up they beat the ship out and went to sea.

It was on the 7th day of May, four days prior to the discovery of the Columbia river, that Gray discovered and entered Gray's Harbor, where he remained three days, trading with the natives. He describes the place as "a good harbor, well sheltered from the sea by long sand bars and spits."

Gray's Bay, on the Columbia river, a few miles above Chenook, is often confounded with Gray's Harbor, which is on the coast, some 35 or 40 miles north of the Columbia.

The discovery of the Columbia river by Captain Gray, or rather its re-discovery, (for the Spanish commander Heceta had discovered the entrance to the river on the 15th of August, 1775, although he did not enter it,) and the subsequent settlement at Astoria by the Pacific Fur Company, with John Jacob Astor at its head, were the grounds by which our Government laid claim to all that valuable region drained by the Columbia river, and it was the acknowledgment of the priority of Gray's discovery by the British Government which enabled the Commissioner of the United States and Great Britain to effect the treaty defining the present boundary line. Captain Gray was the first to carry the American flag around the world. He was the first man who brought about a friendly feeling, and subsequent intercourse with the Sandwich Islands, which has now ripened into a friendship of lasting importance, and Captain Gray, by his daring intrepidity and brilliant discoveries, has secured both Oregon and Washington to the possessions of the United States, and thereby benefitted our whole nation. Captain Gray's achievements were as much thought of at the time of his return as were those of our more recent explorer, Dr. Kane, and although not accompanied with scientific research, yet the real, lasting, practical benefit to our country can be most favorably compared with any utilitarian result that has or will have emanated from the voyages of the great Arctic explorer. The navigators and early discoverers of every other country but ours, have had their names perpetuated by some public act, either a statue, monument, or tablet. Although neither Congress nor the nation at large have as yet seen proper to place the name of Robert Gray in the niche of fame, it seems to me to be both right and appropriate that the people of Oregon and Washington Territory should contribute towards erecting some suitable monument that will show the world that we at least are desirous to make such honorable mention of his name that the memory of his gallant deeds perish not from among us.

What could be more appropriate than a tall shaft, erected on the summit of the beautiful green hill at the mouth of the Columbia river, known as Scarborough head? The hill itself is one of the most prominent and conspicuous points the voyager looks upon in entering the river, and a monument erected on its summit would serve as a beacon to the mariner, and an evidence that Captain Robert Gray is still remembered. I trust the press of this Territory and Oregon will take up this subject, and by their united voice cause an

early action in this matter that will redound to the credit and patriotism of us all, and prove that we are not behind other nations in paying a tribute of respect to departed worth.

JAMES G. SWAN.

A South Carolina Traitor—Pass him Round!

The following perfidious treachery of a South Carolinian, in the U. S. Revenue Service throws the treason of Benedict Arnold into the shade. Such a wretch is a fitting instrument to serve the conspirators against the Union. This modern Judas rejoices in the high-sounding title of Napoleon Coste.

Lieut. John A. Underwood, late the First-Lieutenant of the United States revenue cutter *William Aiken*, has kindly furnished the following particulars of the disgraceful surrender of that vessel to the secessionists by Capt. Napoleon (J) Coste.

About two weeks prior to the passage of the ordinance of secession by South Carolina, in conversation, Capt. Coste stated to Lieut. Underwood that he would not serve under Lincoln, and in case the State of South Carolina succeeded he would resign and place him in command of the cutter. Lieut. Underwood then consulted with Lieut. Porter, second officer of the *Aiken*, as to the proper course to be pursued to protect the rights of the Government in the vessel, and asked his opinion as to whether it would be better to take the vessel to the North, or to place her under the guns of Fort Moultrie. The shortness of the provisions on board, the reduced complement of men, and the inclement season, were considered grave objections to going to the North, and Lieut. Underwood decided that he would place the vessel under the protection of the fort, until he could communicate with the Department for instructions. He then asked of Major Anderson that, in case Capt. Coste resigned and placed him in command, he might find protection under the guns of the fort. Maj. Anderson promptly, and in the kindest manner acceded to his request.

A few days afterwards, the vessel was hauled alongside the southern wharf, for the purpose of having her bottom cleaned. While lying there the ordinance of secession was adopted. On the day before Maj. Anderson evacuated Fort Moultrie, (Dec. 26,) the cutter was hauled into the stream and anchored. The following day, Lieut. Underwood, at 12 o'clock, went on shore, leaving Lieut. Porter on board, Capt. Coste in command, and the Revenue flag flying. In the course of the afternoon Capt. Coste called on Lieut. Underwood and stated that he had paid off the officers and crew up to the 26th of December; that he had hauled down the Revenue ensign and stowed it away, and had hoisted the Palmetto flag on the cutter. He also stated that he was accountable to the authorities of the State for the vessel and all the property on board.

Finding himself powerless to reclaim the vessel, or to obtain any control over her, Lieut. Underwood left Charleston and proceeded to Washington, where he reported the facts to the Treasury Department.

The *Aiken* is a fore-and-aft schooner of eighty tons, and is one of the fastest vessels of her class in the service. \$1,200 were expended on her in Charleston last Summer for repairs. She originally cost the Government \$5,000. Her armament consists of one twelve-pounder brass howitzer, working amidships, and a quantity of Maynard rifles. At last accounts, Capt. Coste was still in command of the *Aiken*, the other officers having reported to the Department for orders.

A WARNING TO EUCHE PLAYERS.—A young man in this city, who is very fond of playing euchre, and also very fond of the daughter of a "pillar" of one of our popular churches, was taking tea at the house of his adored a few evenings since, and had some fruit cake offered him. Being somewhat confused on account of his situation, as the cake was held out to him, he cried out, "I pass." The father hearing him and having played some in his younger days, was horror-struck at the young man's infatuation for the game, and thought he would teach him a lesson, and spoke bluntly: "You pass, do you? Then I order you up, and there's the door." The young man sloped, and the last that was seen of him, he was endeavoring to make a companion believe that women were trumps, but querulous old fathers took all the tricks by playing lone hands.—*See Union.*

Later from the Atlantic Side.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—The *Commercial's* Washington dispatch says, the Senate Committee on Commerce by a vote of three Southerners against two Northerners, has decided not to report Mr. McIntyre's nomination for Collector of the Port of Charleston to the Senate.

The President, to-day, sent to the Senate the name of Mr. Holt as Secretary of War. Confirmed.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 19.—Lieut. Talbot arrived here last night with gloomy tidings.

The Governor and members of his cabinet were in consultation to the latter part of last night, on the intelligence communicated by Lieut. Talbot.

Hon. Wm. Aiken of South Carolina, has been forced to contribute \$40,000 to the revolutionary government, under threat of confiscation of property in case of refusal.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 19.—The steamer *Alabama* from Pensacola, yesterday afternoon, arrived and reports the navy yard in possession of 2,000 men, and that troops were arriving from all directions.

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Jan. 20th.—The Ordinance declaring the secession of Georgia from the United States, passed the State Convention at 1 o'clock P. M. yesterday. Ayes, 208; nays 98.

Judge Linton said that, while he approved the Ordinance, he saw no reason for its adoption now; he therefore would not vote for or sign it.

A motion to postpone the operation of the Ordinance until the 3d of March was lost, by about eighty majority.

Alexander H. Stevens and H. V. Johnson, are among those who voted against the Ordinance.

Pacific Railroad.

Jan. 18.—The Pacific Railroad bill has been several times up in the Senate, and is not yet disposed of. An effort was made by Mr. Rice of Minnesota, to have the bill indefinitely postponed; but it failed, more than two-thirds having voted against the postponement. The bill was amended so as to require the consent of the States and Territories through which the road passes; and Congress to have time to ratify or reject such legislation.

There are no further hostile proceedings in the South to report. Matters are more quiet in the country.

Clark-Crittenden Amendment.

The U. S. Senate has adopted Clark's amendment to Crittenden's compromise resolutions, declaring that the Constitution is amply sufficient for the preservation of the Union—by a vote of 25 to 23. The Senators from the seceding States did not vote. Mr. Cameron of Pennsylvania moved a reconsideration of this vote, which, on the 18th was carried by three majority, and Crittenden's resolutions were postponed till January 21st. Petitions still pour in favoring it.

The House on the 18th, passed the army bill.

Senator Davis, of Mississippi, has forwarded a letter to Governor Pickens urging the abandonment of any policy which would involve hostilities.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—The question discussed over Holt's nomination was whether he was a co-operationist. During the debate on his nomination his friends denied it, and maintained his earnest desire to prevent bloodshed, and maintain the laws by every possible means.

Mr. Crittenden is said to have taken the ground that as Kentucky is now a central State, enjoying all the prosperity consequent upon the present Union and form of government, she would never consent to the breaking up and the formation of a Southern Confederacy, in which she would be a border State, exposed to all the losses of such a position. It is stated that he was much affected during this portion of his remarks, and the manner in which he upbraided the Southern men who defeated his compromise in the Senate, was very severe. He took the position that the Union must be preserved at all hazards, whether by peaceable means or force; and that if force were used against the lawless citizens of a government, that is not the coercion of a State.

Dr. McDowell, of St. Louis was confirmed as Consul to Lyons.

The message of the Governor of Kentucky recommends a convention of the border States to meet in Baltimore early in February, and opposes a hasty inconsiderate action; submits the propriety of calling a State Convention, but would leave no effort untried to restore fraternal relations between the States; advocates the Crittenden Compromise, and opposes the employment of a force against a State in any form.

George Washington on the Union.

As we must obey the Constitution of the United States, if we are to preserve the government, we ask attention here and now to the Report of Gen. Washington, transmitting the Constitution of the United States to Congress, on the 17th of September, 1787. Read it, men of all parties and in all parts of the country. Read it and seek to imitate its spirit.

WASHINGTON'S REPORT TRANSMITTING THE CONSTITUTION TO CONGRESS.

IN CONVENTION, Sept. 17, 1787.

SIR:—We have now the honor to submit to the consideration of the United States, in Congress assembled, that Constitution which has appeared to us the most advisable.

The friends of our country have long seen and desired, that the power of making war, peace and treaties, that of levying money, and regulating commerce, and the correspondent executive and judicial authorities, should be fully and effectually vested in the General Government of the Union; but the impropriety of delegating such extensive trust to one body of men, is evident. Hence results the necessity of a different organization.

It is obviously impracticable, in the Federal Government of these States, to secure all rights of independent sovereignty to each, and yet provide for the interest and safety of all. Individuals entering into society must give up a share of liberty to preserve the rest. The magnitude of the sacrifice must depend as well on situation and circumstances, as on the object to be obtained. It is at all times difficult to draw with precision the line between those rights which must be surrendered, and those which may be reserved; and on the present occasion the difficulty was increased by a difference among the several States, as to their situation and extent, habits and peculiar interests.

In all our deliberations on this subject, we kept steadily in our view that which appears to us the solidation of our Union, in which is involved our prosperity, felicity, safety, perhaps our national existence. This important consideration, seriously and deeply impressed on our minds, led each State in the Convention to be less rigid on points of inferior magnitude, than might have been otherwise expected; and thus the Constitution which we now present, is the result of a spirit of amity and that mutual deference and concession, which the peculiarity of our political situation rendered indispensable.

That it will meet the full and entire approbation of every State is not, perhaps, to be expected; but each will doubtless consider, that had her interest alone been consulted, the consequence might have been particularly disagreeable or injurious to others; that it is as liable to as few exceptions as could reasonably have been expected; we hope and believe; that it may promote the lasting welfare of that country so dear to us all, and secure her freedom and happiness, is our most ardent wish.

With great respect, we have the honor to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and humble servants,
GEORGE WASHINGTON, President.

By the unanimous order of the Convention,
His Excellency the President of Congress.

MR. BUCHANAN NOT APPRECIATED AS AN AUTHOR.

Owing to the state of public excitement in reference to the conduct of President Buchanan, we learn that Mr. Robert Bonner, of the *N. Y. Ledger*, has felt called upon to release himself from his engagement to publish a series of essays on public topics from the President's pen. Mr. Bonner, it is alleged, says in justification of his course, that he has received orders in advance from many hundreds of the most prominent newspaper dealers throughout the country, and from many thousands of his regular subscribers, to discontinue sending them the paper from and after the issue of any number containing any article or essay written by his Excellency, the President.

An exchange has the following as an excellent system of gardening for young ladies: "Make up your beds early in the morning; sow buttons on your husbands shirts; do not rake up any grievances; protect the young and tender branches of your family; plant a smile of good temper in your face; and carefully root out all angry feelings, and expect a good crop of happiness."

Persons aspiring to supreme power, like poets, should not be crowned till after death.

A fat kitchen makes a lean will.