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BY TELEGRAPH.

PRESIDENT GRANT'S FIRST MESSAGE.

CONGRESS INVITED TO LEGISLATE FOR VIRGINIA AND MISSISSIPPI.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The following message from the President was received by Congress at 4 o'clock this afternoon:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

While I am aware that the time in which Congress proposes now to remain in session is very brief, and that it is its desire, as far as is consistent with the public interest to avoid entering upon the general business of legislation, there is one subject which concerns so deeply the welfare of the country, that I deem it my duty to bring it before you. I have no doubt that you will concur with me in the opinion that it is desirable to restore the States which were engaged in the rebellion to their proper relations to the government and the country, at as early a period as the people of those States shall be found willing to become peaceful and orderly communities, and to adopt and maintain such constitutions and laws as will effectually secure the civil and political rights of all persons within their borders. The authority under which this has been vindicated and established by its military power, must undoubtedly be asserted for the absolute protection of all its citizens in the full enjoyment of the freedom and security which is the object of a republican government. But whenever the people of a rebellious State are ready to enter, in good faith, upon the accomplishment of this object in entire conformity with the constitutional authority of Congress, it is certainly desirable that all causes of irritation should be removed as promptly as possible, that a more perfect union may be established, and that the country be restored to peace and prosperity.

The convention of the people of Virginia, which met in Richmond on Tuesday, December 3d, 1867, framed a constitution for that State, which was adopted by the convention on the 17th of April, 1868, and I desire respectfully to call the attention of Congress to the propriety of providing by law for the holding of an election in that State at some time during the months of May and June next, under the direction of the military commander of the district, at which the question of the adoption of that constitution shall be submitted to the citizens of the State. And if this should seem desirable, I would recommend that a separate vote be taken upon such parts as may be thought expedient, and that at the same time, and under the same authority, there shall be an election for the officers provided under such constitution, and that the constitution, or such parts thereof as shall have been adopted by the people, be submitted to Congress on the first Monday of December next for its consideration, so that if the same is then approved the necessary steps will have been taken for the restoration of the State of Virginia to its proper relations to the Union.

I am led to make this recommendation from the confident hope and belief that the people of that State are now ready to co-operate with the National Government in bringing it again into such relations to the Union, as it ought, as soon as possible, to establish and maintain, and to give to all its people those equal rights under the law which were asserted in the Declaration of Independence in the words of one of the most illustrious of its sons.

I desire also to ask the consideration of Congress to the question whether there is not just ground for believing that the constitution framed by a convention of the people of Mississippi for that State, and once rejected, might not be again submitted to the people of that State in like manner and with the probability of the same result.

(Signed) U. S. GRANT.

Washington, D. C., April 7, 1869.

CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—IN THE SENATE today, the Chaplain prayed that the patriotic arms of Cuba might be strengthened, and the Isles of the Sea delivered from their oppressors.

A bill was introduced punishing counterfeiting trade marks; foreigners to be protected by treaties.

A joint resolution was offered authorizing the President to appoint a commission to report on the Ship Canal across the Isthmus of Darien.

The bill reorganizing the Judiciary passed with several amendments, and goes back to the House.

The discussion of the Deficiency Appropriation bill was resumed. An amendment appropriating fifty thousand dollars for the improvement of the mouth of the Mississippi was lost, and the bill passed.

IN THE HOUSE, the Indian Appropriation bill passed, also the bill authorizing the bridging of the Ohio River at Paducah.

The "Butler-Rice" Georgia bill was introduced. Butler moved the previous question, which was not seconded, when a general debate ensued. Bingham made an elaborate constitutional argument in opposition to the bill, when the House adjourned without any action.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The Senate has passed the Personal Disability bill.

The House has passed the Senate bill reviving grants of land to Alabama with some amendments; also, a resolution authorizing the Election Committee to investigate the Louisiana election during the recess.

The friends of the Personal Disability bill have little hopes of their success this session.

The negroes of the district have petioned for uniform school privileges.

EUROPE.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL REFUSES THE THRONE OF SPAIN.

MADRID, April 5.—Informal meetings of members of the majority in the Constituent Cortes have resulted in a resolution to support ex-King Fernando, of Portugal, for the throne of Spain. The Council of Ministers have also decided to second the majority of the Cortes in this determination, and a deputation with Don Salustina de Olazaga at its head, has gone to Lisbon to invite King Fernando to accept the candidature.

MADRID, April 7.—The Portuguese Embassy have been instructed to inform the Spanish Government that Don Fernando positively refuses the Spanish Crown.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

LONDON, April 5.—In the House of Commons the bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt passed the second reading.

THE TURF.

THE MATAIRIE RACES—THIRD DAY.

NEW ORLEANS, April 7.—Sweepstakes, mile heats, for two years old, that had never won. Entrance $25, club purse $300.

First race—Richard's chestnut filly—time, 3, 1, 1; Wilson's Jeff Jennings, by Lightning; time—3, 3, 2; Kenner's Demi Monde, by Whale; time—1, 2, 3; Lipscomb's Alf Winn, by Melbourne, 4; distanced, 1. Time, 1:50½; 1:48; 1:52.

Second race—Dash of four miles, for all ages—purse $650. Privateer beat Agnes Donovan and Alf Winn; latter only running three miles. Time—7:59½.

Third race—Mile heats, for all ages—purse $490. Little Mark, 1, 1; Betty Bay, 2, 2. Time—1:46¾; 1:45¼. Track and day fine; attendance large.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

The Georgia wheat crop is doing well.

The weather was cold in Savannah yesterday.

The North Carolina Legislature will probably adjourn on Monday.

Wm. Stedman was confirmed, yesterday, as Consul at St. Jago, and Long as Consul at Panama.

Josiah Turner, the editor of the Raleigh *Sentinel*, was fired at on Tuesday night. Nobody hurt.

Admiral Hoff has been ordered to watch the Peruvian monitors as well as the expected expedition from New Orleans.

At the great billiard contest in Montreal, Dion beat Foster the third and deciding match, the game closing—Dion 1200, and Foster 1115.

Spangler and Arnold, the so-called assassination conspirators, who were pardoned by President Johnson, arrived at Baltimore on the Cuba.

FROM THE STATE CAPITAL.

Meeting of the Supreme Court—An Important Order—The News and the State Officials.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 6.—The Supreme Court met to-day, at 12 o'clock, in one of the buildings of the University. Chief Justice Moses and Associate Justice Willard were present; Associate Justice Solomon L. Hoge was absent, and will probably be so the remainder of this term. The judicial silk has no longer a charm for him.

The docket of the First Circuit was sounded; no answers were made. It will be peremptorily called to-morrow. The case of James Cosgrove vs. R. M. Butler, D. T. Corbin for appellant, J. Phillips for appellee, will be argued to-morrow. The court issued the following interesting order: "Cases on the docket involving the validity of contracts for the sale of slaves, will be heard on the 21st instant, and taken up together." This order is subject to exception by counsel interested.

The docket for this term is heavy—there being one hundred and five cases—and the court will, probably, be in session for the next two months. The 25th instant is set apart for the final hearing between the South Carolina Railroad and the Columbia and Augusta Railroad. The counsel for both roads are here, and are hard at work.

The scathing editorial in yesterday's NEWS on Hoge must have had some effect. Chief Justice Moses ordered the Clerk to have the order, from which I have made an extract, published in the Courier, and not THE NEWS. His Honor must fear he will be similarly handled. THE NEWS is certainly not a favorite among the State officials.

Mr. C. D. Melton has been appointed temporary Judge of the Supreme Court, in the case of Butler vs. Cosgrove, *vice* Judge Willard, disqualified.

The people of Columbia are glad to hear that Mr. P. B. Glass will probably be chief clerk, under C. M. Wilder, the new postmaster. Mr. Glass is a brother of our former postmaster, and he has the main qualities for such a position—politeness and dispatch. HALIFAX.

THE ABBEVILLE ENLISTMENTS.

State of the District—How the Enlistments came About—What Guffin did and Said—The Status Quo.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWS.

ABBEVILLE COURTHOUSE, April 4, 1869.—A few words will explain the present condition of the district and what has been done in regard to the negro militia.

All went pretty well here from the time of the election until Governor Scott's testimony was given in the contested election between Reed and Hoge. The Abbeville papers published this testimony and denounced it in such a way that it threw Scott into a transport of passion, as we are informed. He at once attempted to have the writ of *habeas corpus* suspended. In that he failed, but he had a joint resolution passed authorizing him to raise an armed force for the purpose of preserving the peace!

This resolution we have never seen. It has not been published as we are aware. Before, however, we had any idea of the resolution, or knew what authority had been given, in ran the negroes, flocking to a man here who had been "a constable" and is now "a magistrate" by the appointment of Governor Scott. Upon inquiry this man Guffin (as it is said) reported that he had authority from Governor Scott to *raise a company of one hundred men to keep Abbeville quiet.* It is said that *he had enlisted about fifty negroes,* (we have never heard of his asking a white man to enlist) when several gentlemen of the village expostulated with him, and he said, he confessed himself that he thought it would have a bad effect, and *he promised to ask Governor Scott to suspend the order.* I among others urged him to do this. Since that time we have not heard anything about it. I have understood that Guffin has declined for the present the services of great numbers of negroes which have been offered him. Volunteers at $15 per month are numerous. The thing seems to be suspended for the present, but I presume it will be put into operation before another election, to dragoon the unconquerable opposition of the people of this country.

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Very truly and sincerely your friend,

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—Dr. Petermann, the eminent geographer and originator of the first German expedition to the North pole, announces that a second expedition is to leave Bremerhaven in the first week of June. It will consist of two ships, a screw steamer of 120 tons and 30-horse power, and a sailing yacht of 30 tons. The object of this expedition, as of the former one, is to investigate the polar regions along the coast of East Greenland north of the 75th degree of north latitude. It is to be provided with a strong scientific staff, and to pass the winter in the Arctic regions, so as to return by October, 1870.

THE SOUTH.

The Address of Colonel William L. Trenholm, President of the Charleston Board of Trade, on the Occasion of its Third Anniversary.

The third anniversary of the Charleston Board of Trade was celebrated last night at the Hibernian Hall, where, at the request of the Board, an address was delivered by Colonel W. L. Trenholm, whose term of office as President expired yesterday. The hall was filled, and a large number of ladies graced the occasion with their presence. Upon the platform were the newly elected President, Vice-President, and officers of the Board of Trade, and a number of prominent citizens.

After prayer by the Rev. Dr. Hicks, Colonel Trenholm then delivered the following address, which was frequently interrupted by the hearty applause of his audience:

Our native South, the "Land we love," finds herself in new and unlooked-for times. Her tranquil and happy past was rudely broken by one of those epochs of which history is full—sudden revulsions in the life of a people, when that which is, terminates, and that which is to be, begins.

Such moments of transition, of brief revolution, are the landmarks of great eras; following one upon another, they are the giant steps by which nations mount to a high destiny; they are never found upon the smooth descent which leads to degradation; no serrated epochs jar the peaceful movement of the downward bound!

How short a time ago does it seem that with gay colors fluttering in a favoring breeze we sailed out from peace and affluence to dare the storms of war. Like those ancient heroes, who, seeking Eldorado, found America, we, tempest-tossed and defeated, have been thrown upon the unknown shores of a new world, and all the hopes in which we embarked have been shattered, and now lie stranded before our desponding eyes.

It is not unnatural that our minds should be unsettled and our apprehensions excited; old oracles are silent; precedents cannot be applied; startling phenomena in government and society present themselves; we feel wants that we do not understand and cannot supply; we are alarmed by portents which we are not able to interpret.

To obtain a respite from these troubles by thinking of the past and dreaming of its restoration has been too tempting to be resisted by all; but it is no longer permitted to us to indulge in dreams, nor even to encamp beside the old wrecks, which we can never refit. We must advance to the exploration of what lies before us, and we should advance hopefully and confidently, for we stand before the large opening of a new world, whose unmeasured resources await our coming.

In our former state we were often envied by certain classes labroad for the tranquillity we enjoyed, but that state was not a healthy one. It was a condition of intellectual and industrial stagnation, in which the mind rests upon axioms instead of grappling with problems, the scope of aspiration becomes inverted and the circle of enterprise is constantly growing less. Nature and our predecessors made our circumstances easy; we were not indolent, but our culture gave dignity to leisure, and when we sought occupation it was of a kind that pleased our taste rather than of a kind commanded by utility.

In these characteristics we stood apart from the rest of the world, and being in other things alienated from other branches of the English-speaking family, we had fallen into a condition of morbid exclusiveness. We were averse to contact with strangers; we looked with suspicion and dislike upon immigration; we were even discouraged from travelling, and were beginning to turn away from current literature.

We had no great questions in science or humanity to occupy us at home; our conceptions of government were confined to what existed; our political feeling was upon the side of a strict constitution of written law, a rigid conservatism of all that was old; our simple faith would brook no scepticism as to the merit of what was established; our declining tastes gave no stimulus to invention; our narrowing enterprises dispensed with the spirit of progress.

Well was it for the South that the voice of war roused her from this fatal lethargy; seeking to avert the chance of future change, our own precaution was made by Providence the means of our rescue. By change alone could we have been saved from decay; by change alone could we have been brought to the threshold of the destiny now opening before us.

At the epoch of the war the South had fulfilled all the possibilities of her peculiar civilization; she had reached the culmination of her development; she had accomplished the ends of her existence; she had filled the measure of her destiny.

It is no new thing in history for a people to live out more than one phase of civilization. The genius of Egyptian labor, Grecian art, Roman law, the honor of Mediaeval chivalry—have each in turn flowered and passed away. It is no reproach to our former state to say that it was a state of maturity, that it was becoming over-ripe and tending to decay; but it is a source of congratulation that we have escaped decay, and that we, even in our own time, are able to see that our past has not been in vain.

We need not be ashamed of our past; for though the world long ago condemned slavery without understanding it, history will justly record how difficult its duties were and how faithfully and successfully we discharged them. Half a century before the war, when the slave trade ceased, the South contained less than a million souls of the African race; when the war occurred they had increased to upwards of four millions. These four million descendants of savages were more orderly and moral than the same class in any other civilized country, and they remain so up to the present moment, notwithstanding the temptations and privations of the war, the license of sudden freedom and the bad advice of political agitators. They were deeply imbued with the principles of Christianity, insomuch that since emancipation they have cheerfully devoted their scanty earnings to the building and maintenance of churches and the establishment of charitable societies; their intellectual powers were stimulated and improved as far as they logically could be in a condition of slavery, and sufficiently developed to furnish a stimulus for continued effort, and to constitute the basis of future improvement upon the part of the freedmen themselves.

Slavery was something more than a contrivance for consolidating labor with capital; it was a discipline for both races, a school for the formation of character. As far as slavery and our administration of it are amenable to moral judgment, it must be judged by its influence upon the maturity, and not by its impression upon the pupilage, of those whom God placed under its restraints.

The masters as well as the slaves, the whites as well as the blacks, learned many noble lessons in life at this discontinued school. Providence and forecast for dependents, indulgence of the weak, and an habitual consciousness of responsibility upon the part of those invested with power—the obligations of honor, the force of character, the power of self-reliance, the sanctity of individual rights, the elevation of dignity above gain, of worth above wealth, were all characteristics which we had a right to be proud of, and which we should still tenaciously cling to.

Outside our own limits, we exercised an influence for good, the effect of which is conspicuous all over the United States. While New England was exploring communism and dissipating personal identity and responsibility, the South was perfecting the ideal of the individual. When the great flood of Democracy at the North had obliterated all venerable landmarks and levelled all society, the South elevated still higher her ancient families and historic names to point a contrast which should abash the levellers. When the West was one human river, rolling ever over new soils and territories, retaining nothing, preserving nothing, but pursuing all things, until home meant a camp and companionship was an incumbrance, the South rested tranquilly within her ancient borders, inhabited still her ancestral mansions, and cultivated attachment to the soil, repose and contentment.

It is not necessary to weigh the value of the contributions to the now harmonizing national character, which have been made by the different sections of our common country. Before the war we stood too widely opposed in all the relations of life for all our various qualities to combine, but now the quick intellect and fertile invention of the East, the large aims and broad culture of the North, the restless spirit and boundless ambition of the West, the conservative tenacity and intrepid courage of the South, will all become interwoven, and form one substantial and well defined American national character.

Planted at the opposite poles of human development, the North at the social and the South at the individual, our contrary systems strained the bond of union and would have rent it asunder. One-half century ago the separation would have been inevitable, but the characteristic of the present age is unification. We have seen all the ancient principalities of Italy brought together into a single nationality; we have seen the great Teutonic Fatherland restored to unity and a common destiny; we hear from afar the murmur of pan-Sclavonic aspirations; we have seen the combined power of Europe invoked to keep down a little longer the unconquerable yearnings of Grecian consanguinity. Our late opposing sections, too, have felt the hand of Providence constraining us to draw closer together, and having in the past been severally spinning the web and the woof, we are to-day uniting them in the firm texture of a common and uniform nationality.

At the North government and society have been approximating the Southern type; individuality has been emancipated from communism, the rank license of thought and speech has been restrained within the bounds of decorum, propriety has become more influential than extravagance, and distinction is no longer conferred by wealth alone.

At the South similar and correlative changes have turned the current of our future development towards the Northern ideal. Here authority has been deprived of its prerogative, personal distinction is being eclipsed by representative prominence, expediency shares the influence which used to belong to sentiment alone, reason is more consulted than usage, inducement is used rather than compulsion, public advantage prevails over private pretension.

All the elements of character and society which formerly were bent in one direction are now straining in that which is the opposite, and yet the one as much as the other will bear us onward in prosperity. When a ship, which seeks her port against an adverse wind, with all her sails aslant, has now the utmost limit of her tack and turning sharp athwart her former course, hauls round her yards and spreads her canvass for a changed career, the seaman's science knows that her progress is still onward; and so may we, if we look to principles and not appearances, be assured that the South is moving still onward to the haven of her hopes—whether her prow points northwardly or southwardly.

Much as we may rejoice in the evidence of general progress, we are nevertheless not free from apprehension as to the future of individual interests; we look back upon the crude communism of the North as we remember it in the past, and cling still more fondly to the protection of our ancient safeguards. This is natural, but it is not altogether justified by reason—we are approaching their civilization from the opposite side to that at which they entered it, we are moving to meet them, we are not following in their steps. When once these currents shall have mingled, neither can flow back to the point of its departure.

Apart from reason and interest, many of us are still held back by a sentiment which all must respect, but to which none ought to yield; our destiny is not our own to make or mar as we like, but we must conform to the requirements of our times and move to the cadence of the great march of the world.

The feudal barons built lofty towers to shield their tenants and their herds in lawless times, but now those empty strongholds stand in picturesque decay upon the hills that look down on the peaceful Rhine, untenanted by man or beast, serving no purpose but to adorn the landscape, while on the level plains below a thousand humbler dwellings give the shelter and security of home to a more numerous and a happier people.

So it is with us. Our castled crags of individualism have become obsolete. He who still abides there chooses solitude and proud penury; those who descend to the vineyards below will find liberty and prosperity, peace and companionship.

Let us not imagine that they who join this movement are doing any wrong to their ancestors whose effigies stand in the niches of the ancient walls. The institutions, the laws, the manners of the past, subserved their purpose and fulfilled their destiny. God imposed them, God has changed them. "What is man that he should contend with the Almighty?"

For us it is left only to explore our new circumstances, to discover their resources, and to appropriate their benefits.

To this task we must bring courage and patience, minds unfettered by prejudice, and eyes undazzled by authority; we must be intrepid enough to give offence to ignorance, we must forget to defer to senility, we must learn to respect energy and to make use of youth. Let the young and the brave lead our van; let the true and the wise direct our counsels; let the infirm and the timid follow safely in the rear. Thus and thus only can we advance, thus and thus only can we achieve.

With common ends in view, and common objects to attain, our energies must be united, and a common sentiment pervade our minds. It is easy for men to be combined under the constraint of authority. The influence of position, the prestige of fame, place a sceptre in the hands of distinction by which unthinking minds are swayed, and indolent dispositions directed. Such union constitutes the power of empire, it consolidates energy; it represses selfishness. But this is not the combination we should seek to maintain—our new condition must be a republic, or it will be nothing; no single mind can solve its varied problems; no single character can prevail against its difficulties. The solid front of voluntary combination, the irresistible movement of intelligence freely massed and understanding its aims, are the only forces that can avail against the obstacles which habit has built up, or which ignorance will thrust in the way of true progress.

Look abroad upon the world and contrast the two systems. See Asia stagnating and Continental Europe wildly heaving under the power of empire, while England has renewed the glory of her history in the last great triumph she has given to public opinion. The vast globe itself is not too large to be filled with the reverberation of England's mighty shout as the statue of liberty is raised above the ancient seat of unjust privilege and oppressive prerogative.

Governments and all social establishments derive their sanction from their usefulness; under the common law of modern civilization each may be summoned to the bar of the public opinion of the world and put upon the vindication of its existence. We who have learned only lately what it is to have a government over us, in which for the moment we can take no part, should feel the utmost interest in the sovereignty of the great public opinion of civilized mankind. It is the only tribunal to which we can appeal, the only power strong enough to protect us.

The disabilities under which the South once stood in that high court are now removed; the world is growing more just to our past, and is warmly drawn to us in sympathy for our present condition. To-day we stand among the other civilized communities of the world, wearing the court dress of free labor which the age prescribes, no longer obliged to plead our right to equality and respect.

The present age has brought all mankind very near together; through the rapidity of communication it has multiplied the reciprocal ties between distant communities, and has enlarged the interests which are in common among widely-spreading populations. Humanity has become the prevailing passion of our time; the brotherhood of man, which Christ preached eighteen hundred years ago, is only now being practically accepted by the world which crucified Him. But now the world is heartily in earnest; Christian charity has become more universal than Christian faith, and labors of love are more abundant than prayers and pensuces.

We who appreciate the past history of the Southern people know that in the offices of humanity they were entitled to rank with any other community. We know that the Roman discipline of the plantation was tempered with patriarchal benevolence—that subordination went hand in hand with familiar intimacy, and that courtesy was shown to age, however humble, and respect accorded to merit, even in a slave. The time may come when the world will do us justice in these things, and we should boldly claim it of the world, and not stultify our past and embitter our future by suffering the freedmen of the South to be persuaded that they have suffered wrongs in the past or are likely to be defrauded of their rights in the future. The obligations of honor and humanity in which our childhood was educated still bind us to the African race; they have still the claim upon us that weakness has upon strength, that ignorance has upon knowledge, that want has upon wealth. Their new relations to us have enlarged the area of our common interests. Before, we were materially interested in their physical and moral well-being only; now we have a still more important interest in their intellectual improvement. However premature and hazardous we may rightly think the enfranchisement of the negroes, we cannot fail to see that it is irrevocable. Whatever danger there may be, comes from their ignorance, not their malevolence, and their ignorance may be enlightened. Education is not dependent upon schools, nor does it necessarily rest upon reading and writing—these are best, but they are not essential, and meanwhile until these can be afforded, let us lose no opportunity of advising and encouraging these simple people in the difficulties and perplexities of their new responsibilities. We need not fear that the African race will ever impose its inferior culture upon the Caucasian—when we voluntarily abandon the field, they may walk in and occupy it, if we should unwisely exclude them from political association with us, and drive them back upon themselves, they will find leaders of their own blood or of ours, and will make their influence felt; but if we resume the personal influence of the past with them, retain their affection and continue to deserve their confidence, they will not be slow to learn that what is our good is theirs, what brings prosperity to us brings it to them, and that as we are able to think better than they, so they will do well to listen to our counsel and support our measures. To gain their confidence, we need not soil our hands with intrigue nor stoop to become sycophants; they have been studying us all their lives and know when we are in earnest; our kindly and sincere purposes towards them will be most appreciated when least demonstrative, and our own position is sufficiently assured to make us absolutely free to approach them frankly, unaffectedly and in the open light of day.

Such intercourse is not inconsistent with either the past or present relations of the two races; it is in harmony with the great law of Christian charity, and is plainly pointed out by the most practical common sense. Once established it can never be again interrupted, because its benefits will be too much appreciated ever to be resigned.

Let equal justice for all be once fairly established, let mistrust and suspicion be dispelled, let law be seated above politics, and truth and justice preferred before party, and the future of the South becomes assured. Then may we widen the basis of our prosperity, enlarge the area of our enterprise, multiply the employments, the interests and the aspirations of our people.

Nature has set no limit to our development; the genial soil of the South would nourish a very much larger population than that now inhabiting it; our facilities for manufacture are abundant, our mineral resources are almost untouched, our harbors and rivers are sufficient for all the commerce of the Atlantic.

We need population and capital—the one will come if we open our doors; the other will follow if we assure it of protection. The thirteen Southern States, excluding Maryland and Delaware, contained in 1860 830,000 square miles and 11,500,000 of inhabitants, which is less than fourteen to the square mile. If all the South were as densely populated as South Carolina, it would contain nearly 24,000,000 of inhabitants; if it were as densely peopled as New England, the number would be 40,000,000 and over. That the population of the South did not progress in the same ratio as that of other parts of the United States, is notorious. Our northern frontier, washed by the living tide which has flowed even up to the base of the Rocky Mountains, has been almost a barrier to immigration. Between 1850 and 1860 the foreign born population of the Northern States increased 2,550,000—that of the Southern States only 325,000, or as eight to one; yet in 1860 at the South, only one acre in every seven was "improved," while at the North one in every five was improved. In Illinois farms were worth on an average twenty dollars an acre, in Alabama nine dollars an acre; yet undoubtedly at the South the best lands only in each State were under cultivation.

It is trite to say that slavery was the cause of this difference, but few who are ready with this explanation have considered in what way slavery prevented immigration. It has been customary to ascribe it to moral causes, to speak of the "instincts of freedom," and other supposed sentimental objections; but this is unphilosophical and untrue. Immigrants had certainly been taught, by the experience of those who had tried it, that the South was not the place for them, but the causes that excluded them were physical and not moral; they were economic and not sentimental. They arose not from any obloquy attaching to labor at the South, but from the fact that here slavery mobilized the laboring population and enabled it to be massed together in large forces, to be rapidly moved from place to place, and to occupy new and rich soils just as soon as these became accessable to immigrants.

Under ordinary circumstances, the native population of a country is permanently seated; attachment to the soil and the ties of family retain it until its density becomes excessive, and emigration is embraced as the alternative to hopeless poverty. If such conditions had obtained at the South, or if slavery here had not been contemporaneous with the extraordinary facilities for transmigration which the present century has introduced, the original slave States would probably have contained to-day the eleven millions which constitute the Southern population, and European immigration would long since have filled up all the rest of our present territory. But when the whole intelligence of the South was intent upon discovering the best and richest soils, its whole capital was available for their acquisition and its whole laboring population ready to occupy them, the immigrant found himself at a hopeless disadvantage. Alone, and without capital or credit, he came in competition with the master of many slaves. Occupying the poorer lands, he earned less and spent more in living than the slave, for combination augments production and economizes consumption.

The mobility of our laboring population not only excluded immigrants from our new territory and prematurely diminished the laboring population of the older States, but in these the slaves became massed together as the competition of the West came to be more and more felt. Thus profitable planting required large capital; small proprietors were at a disadvantage. Free labor was too expensive for both laborer and employer, hence many were forced to emigrate; and so extensive was this emigration that the census of 1860 showed that of the white persons then living in the United States, who had been born in South Carolina, 277,000 only remained at home, while 193,000 were permanently settled in other States. North Carolina retained 631,000 and had parted with 272 000. Virginia retained 1,000,000 and had sent off 400,000 of her native white population.

The same cause practically prohibited manufactures, because manufactures are more dependent than agriculture, even, upon fixity of population. Cheapness of living, uniformity and regularity in the supply of the necessaries of life, are conditions which must be in existence in every locality before manufacturing becomes possible there. These conditions cannot obtain where population is shifting, nor will capital consent to permanent investment where values fluctuate with the movements of nomadic labor.

With the extinction of slavery the South presents to immigration an entirely different aspect. Our native population, no longer migratory, is already beginning to find the country too large, and to conjecture how immigration can be reconciled with conservatism. Our foreign-born citizens, few in number, but intelligent and prosperous, are earnestly and actively engaged in inviting their countrymen to to try their fortunes here, while the attitude towards immigration assumed by our newly enfranchised classes reflects infinite credit alike upon their good sense and their patriotism, and entitles them to participate, throughout the future, in the benefits of a broad and liberal public policy.

Let us everywhere in the South yield to this impulse of the times. The great popular mind has fastened upon immigration as the foremost measure of the day, and its ultimate triumph admits of no question; but in many a private circle, in many an ancient coterie, doubts and apprehensions are still entertained. Many an empty privilege—many a useless custom—the lumbering rubbish which collects in old communities—may be borne away upon this vigorous flood. Some venerable and worthy relics, too, may be lost; but it is better to loose the relics of antiquity than to make no bequests to posterity. The past did its duty and is dead; but we live upon its works. Let us likewise do our duty, that our children may in turn live upon ours. * * * * * *

Fling wide your doors to immigration and compel them to come in—not barbarians, to be beasts of burden, but intelligent, thrifty, liberty-loving men, and healthy, industrious and virtuous women. Welcome all alike, whether they be laborers or capitalists, artisans or merchants. Establish just laws and watch jealously over their impartial administration; see that labor is assured of its earnings; that property is made sacred; that wealth is effectually guarded against public and private assault. Let the inviolability of the person and the sanctity of human life receive the most impressive sanction of our courts; let the public peace be maintained with the truncheon of the policeman, and not the bayonet of the soldier; let the public expenditures be directed to the ends of good government, and not to the nourishment of party.

Long before these things are all accomplished, before even we shall all be of the same mind as to their merit, the tide of immigration will be upon us. Our soil is too accessible and too fertile, and our climate too pleasant and healthful to be passed by for the distant and inhospitable regions, which alone now offer public lands to the immigrant.

Agriculture in the South presents now greater inducements to the farmer than to the planter. Science and mechanical invention are more effective than muscular force. Varied production is more lucrative than the culture of a single staple. The immigrant will find his intelligence appreciated, his skill available, his thrift profitable; our population will become fixed, living will be cheaper, manufactures will be possible, trade will become more active and more ramified. Our country towns will grow, our cities will be multiplied and will become more populous. Occupation and opportunity will be found for all; native talent and industry will find freer scope and larger reward than ever before, while new-comers will no longer be feared as rivals, but will be welcomed as allies.

The dense populations of the Eastern and Middle States can spare us a large number of immigrants, whose education, enterprise and capital will be of vast consequence to our early prosperity. The inducements the South holds out to this class are sufficient to bring them without other invitation, but the people of the South owe it to themselves to meet the first-comers in a manly spirit. It would be unworthy of us to take a mercenary view of such a question, and hence I say nothing of expediency; but it is becoming in us, because it is manly and generous, to give a frank and honest welcome to those who are personally worthy of it, whether they were with us or against us in the past.

After the Revolution, the fratricidal passions which had arrayed Whig against Tory was banished from the heroic breasts of victors and vanquished alike; and we who have so conspicuously imitated the courage of our ancestors, need not be ashamed of emulating their generosity.

The advent of strangers, however welcome they may be, cannot fail to have the effect of drawing closer together all the classes of our native and old adopted population. There is something in old associations which cannot be entirely expelled from the human breast, and we shall all stand more firmly together when in the presence of those who do not share in the memories of the past. With ranks recruited, energies refreshed, hopes elated, we of the South may move forward to the occupation of our future with the assurance which reason gives to those who are provided with the means to command success.

In that future the South will find a destiny which is not yet revealed to us who must bear the burdens of the march. Intrepid in spirit as the South is, resolute in endeavor and bold in achievement as we have proved ourselves to be, the obstacles which still lie before us will not be overcome without great effort and great sacrifice; the sacrifice must be individual, but the effort must be in common. He who is conscious of being worthy of leading must be content to take a place in the ranks; he who is ambitious of being first to scale the wall must abide by the wagons if need be; he who loves solitude must be ready to rush into the thickest of the fray. Thus will personal sacrifice minister to public advantage, and the common good will grow by common effort. Let us array ourselves in a panoply of enthusiasm, proof against the petty darts of prejudice and affectation, and shoulder to shoulder bear down the barriers of ignorance and obstruction; we need no *leaders*, but we will find *representative men;* we need no crowned authority, but we will stand under the banner of truth, of public interest—the ruler of the world, the arbiter of the destinies of nations.

Public opinion is the Melchisidech of our age, receiving tribute from all mankind, allowing empire, or conducting revolution, anointed of God, the King of Peace. Within the limits of its wide influence no wrong can stand uncondemned, no lie can remain unrebuked, but truth, however homely, is made honorable—rights, however humble, are exalted to power.

There the human mind is free; no antique usage nor obsolete tradition fetters human speech, for public opinion can only live in the atmosphere of liberty; it is the spirit of truth, the interpreter of revelation—the only *vox populi, vox dei.* When thought and speech are not free from prejudice and fashion, the domination of party or the dictation of caucus, that which calls itself public opinion is a usurper; for if the mind be not free, truth is imprisoned in her own citadel, and her standard still floating above the outer wall, becomes the emblem of successful falsehood.

To establish among us forever the true and the right, it is only necessary that every man should assert absolute independence of thought and speech, and accord the same to every other man. This is no easy task; it devolves especially upon the young and the brave, the honest-hearted and the humble-minded, for liberty does not come of pride, but of humility; not of strength, but of courage; not of experience, but of aspiration. Upon all sides there is work to be done, error to be exposed, truth to be illustrated. In our courthouses and workshops, upon the marts of commerce, in the fields of agriculture, wherever men are called to labor with the hand or the brain, we need clear heads, strong hearts, steady hands—not to dictate, but to persuade; not to lead, but to encourge; not to control, but to point out. Thus, and thus only, will our whole population advance in harmony and with unity of purpose. A people so moved and being in unison with the great prevailing principle of their times, acquire a momentum in the direction of greatness which is irresistible.

The greatness of a people is not measured in modern times by the altitude of one class above another, but by the common elevation of the whole. Raise high your highest, but leave not the lowly low; let merit be exalted, let intelligence soar among the clouds, but leave no human being to struggle alone with the degradation that drags him still downward; heap no contumely on the head of the humblest aspirant for honor and position. Thus will all unite in building up a glorious future, where all may dwell in happiness and honor. Thus will our public greatness be a perpetual *Te Deum,* for there is a grand harmony in the mingling emotions of a free community. The solemn groundtone of earnest masses, the vast swell of pervading enthusiasm, the whole diapason of human aspirations, pour their united torrent upward and fill the ear of Heaven with man's great *laborare est orare,* while high above the tumultuous concord rises, pure and clear like the treble of a silver bugle, the dominating idea of the epoch.

EASTER CHURCH ELECTIONS.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, RICHLAND.

Wardens—Dr. W. Weston, Mr. Robt. Adams. Vestrymen—J. P. Adams, P. G. Chappell, W. W. White, T. Weston, Colonel W. Adams, Jas. Shoolbred.

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT, MARION.

Vestrymen—Colonel W. S. Mullins, Dr. D. S. Price, Colonel R. F. Graham, Captain A. L. Evans, Major A. J. Shaw. Wardens—Dr. D. S. Price, Colonel W. S. Mullins. Delegates to Diocesan Convention—Dr. D. S. Price, Colonel W. S. Mullins.

CHRIST CHURCH, MARS' BLUFF.

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention—Walter Gregg, F. Mandeville Rogers, E. P. Harllee.

—Under-sea tunnels are attracting the attention of English engineers, and in addition to the projected tunnel under the English Channel, between Dover and Calais, it is now proposed to unite Scotland and Ireland by a tunnel, running from a point on the northeast coast of Antrim, Ireland, to Glenstrona, Scotland, passing through the high rocky peninsula called the Mull of Cantyre. The total length of the tunnel is estimated at fourteen miles three furlongs. The ground through which it would have to be dug, it is asserted, is exactly suited for tunnelling operations, and the sandstone for lining it can be had in any quantity on the Irish side. It is proposed to construct the tunnel for a single line only, the extreme depth being twenty-one feet, and the clear width at the level of the rails fifteen feet. Three lines of rails, to accommodate wide and narrow gauge carriages, however, are to be laid. The time estimated for completing the tunnel is about six years, and the cost $21 250,000. To pay a dividend of five per cent. the road should earn $210 per mile per week.

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SEA GULL.....N. P. DUTTON, Commander.
MARYLAND.....J. V. JOHNSON, Commander.
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