UNION FLAG.

VOLUME 3. JONESBOROUGH, TENN. FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1867. NUMBER 1

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e29-1y

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oct61865 tf

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THE UNION FLAG.

Jonesboro', Tenn. May 24, 1867.

G. E. GRISHAM,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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POETRY.

Shall We Gather at the River?

"I will gather you from all nations."

1.

Shall we gather at the river
Where bright angel feet have trod;
With its silver tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God.

CHORUS—Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the Saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

2.

On the margin of the river
Washing up its silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever,
All the happy golden day.

CHORUS.

3.

Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we every burden down,
Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and crown.

CHORUS,

At the smiling of the river,
Mirror of the Savior's face,
Saints whom death will never sever
Lift their songs of saving grace.

CHORUS.

5.

Soon we'll reach the silver river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.

[For the East Tennessee Union Flag.]

MESSRS. GRISHAM & BOYZLE—EDITORS UNION FLAG:—Should God in his Providence spare my life until next July, I will be forty-five years of age, and until the last few days, I have never received an *anonymous* communication, although engaged in public life for a quarter of a century. These letters were sent me through the Post Office in this place; and although they were brief, yet they contained several *innuendoes*, signed "Vox Populi." Why I should be a *target* for some *secret foe* to aim his darts at is unknown to me, but I will be safe in saying to the many intelligent readers of the *Union Flag*, that no gentleman nor lady would be guilty of such a glaring abuse of the rules of propriety and decorum.

The contents of these epistles evinces an *envious* and jealous heart, and one too, bent on mischief. Envy is one of the vilest and blackest principles of the human heart. "It is a weed," says a certain writer, "that grows in all soils and climates, and is one of the most virulent poisons that can be found in the human soul." An *envious* person feels pained in hearing the good character of his neighbor, and those who despair to rise in distinction by their virtues, are happy if others can be *depressed* to a level with themselves. Lord Bacon has said that "a man that hath no virtue in himself even envieth virtue in others; for men's minds will either feed upon their own good, or upon others' evil; and who wanteth the one will prey upon the other." In some respects, a jealous person is an object of pity; but, generally, he is an object of contempt. A jealous individual is always *suspicious*, and is apprehensive of superiority in others, and is always fearful that another will enjoy some advantage which he desires for himself. None but an envious and jealous person will find fault with myself and others, because God so ordered it, that we should be born "on the other side of the Ohio river." I know that that is a good and beautiful country, and many people in East Tennessee, and other parts of the South, found Ohio, and other States in the North, to be very safe and congenial during the war, for they were willing to live there for two and four years, whilst their more unfortunate neighbors were compelled to remain in the South, to aid in crushing out the rebellion, so that when the roar of the cannon and musketry had ceased their deadly strife, they could return to their former homes and not apprehend danger, nor suffer inconvenience.

I have no idea at present of recrossing the Ohio, as I love the beautiful hills, mountains, climate, and all the good and true people of East Tennessee, which is very appropriately called the "Switzerland of America." Yes, this is my adopted home, and I expect to remain here until appointed by the Church to some other field of labor, or until God in His Providence shall give me an appointment in the Paradise above, "where the wicked cease from troubling, and where the weary are forever at rest."

Since 1853, I have been an itinerant minister of the Gospel, and from that time to this, I have endeavored to make the Apostle Paul's rule win—"to know nothing among men save Christ and Him crucified." Christ and all his apostles, in addition to their other teachings, taught the people "to be subject to the powers that be; and to render unto Ceaser the things that are Ceaser's;" and these injunctions are as binding now as when first uttered. No man can be a Christian in deed and in truth, unless he loves his country; and a Christian minister that is not a *patriot*, by precept and example, has not been called by Almighty God to preach the Gospel, all other professions to the contrary, notwithstanding.

In this connection permit me to remark, that every true minister of the Gospel has as much right to exercise his political opinions as any other citzen, and a minister that has no politics is an *anomoly*. When I hear a professed minister of the Gospel say that he has no *politics*, I can very easily tell the position he occupied during the late war, and his *proclivities* at this time.

Many persons who have not given this subject much thought confound the word *politics* with *politician*, when there should be a vast difference made in the definition of the two terms. A *politician* is one who devotes his time to public affairs, and who is ingenious in devising and persuing any scheme of *personal* or national aggrandizement without regard to the *morality* of the measure.

Now, let the reader turn to the word *politics* and he will find a very great difference in the definition of the two terms. Politics, says Mr. Webster, "is that part of *ethics* which consists in the regulation and government of a nation or State, for the *preservation* of its *safety, peace* and *prosperity*; comprehending the *defense* of its *existence* and rights against foreign control, or conquest, the *augmentation* of its *strength* and resources, and the *protection* of its *citizens* in their rights, with the *preservation* and *improvement* of *their morals*." The above definition is the platform upon which I stand, and God being my helper, I intend to use every lawful and religious effort possible to preserve the *safety* and *peace* of our God-given country, and for the improvement of the words of the people.

There is not a minister of the Church of which I am a member, nor a professor in any of our Schools and Colleges, but what occupy the same position. It is the duty of every minister of the Gospel, and every teacher in our schools, not only to teach the principles of morality, but to inculcate the principles of loyalty and patriotism in the young and rising generation; and no *bombastic* threatening nor the withholding of *supplies* can intimidate me, nor cause me to cease my effort in this matter. My trust is in God, and in the good and true people of my country, and I have every confidence to believe that God will put it in the heart of the people to take care of and support all of His faithful servants, our "bread shall be given us, and waters shall be sure."

I am truly happy to say that every effort made upon the part of our enemies to obstruct our onward progress, only has a tendency to make our friends more zealous, and more liberal in our support. This ministerial district is in a better condition, in every respect, than since its organization, and it is destined under God to wield a more potent influence for good than has ever been witnessed. Let the friends of God and our country but stand firm and "quit themselves like men," and God will reward them in time and eternity.

I would say, in conclusion, that these *nameless targets* have no more influence upon me than the barking of a dog has upon a full orbed moon, for I feel assured that I have the confidence of God and of all good people, and in addition to all these, I have a conscience void of offence towards God and man. L. F. DRAKE.

May 22, 1867.

☞ There is a young beau in town who has been so long kept in suspense by his sweet-heart, that he has no need of suspenders.

☞ An affected singer at a concert the other night, was told by a wag in the audience "to come out from behind his nose and sing like other people."

The Conservative State Committee —A Racy Sketch.

The following running commentary upon the members of the Conservative State Committee by the Knoxville *Whig* is decidedly graphic:

The Rebel-Conservative Convention recently held at Nashville reflects its true political character in the appointment of the following "Central Executive Committee:"

Col. John Baxter, of Knox.
Hon. James Jones, of Greene.
Hon. D. B. Thomas, of Humphreys.
Hon. John C. Gaut, of Davidson,
Hon. Wm B. Campbell, of Wilson.
Hon. A. A. Steele, of Marshal.

1. John Baxter, of Knox, has intrigued for the nomination for Governor for twelve months, and him to hold him to the party they had to make Chairman of this Committee. But for this *promotion* he would have bolted, as twelve months is a long time for him to continue on one side of any question. He was once a candidate for the rebel Congress in this district, and was shamefully defeated by a brother rebel. He after that shouldered his gun and went with a company of rebels to Strawberry Plains to kill Union men. His next exploit was a proposition to Jeff Davis through Senator Haynes, to furnish him with a half million of money to go North and *bribe* the Lincoln papers to espouse the rebel cause. And last, but not least, when Burnside came into Knoxville, he made a speech to him and his army, bidding them welcome, and rejoicing over their success. And to cap the climax of an infamous political record he spoke side by side with a rebel negro in the Nashville conclave, who had been imprisoned for stealing money, and said he had been in favor of emancipation for twenty years.

2 James Jones, of Greene, is a Johnson Democrat, and was one of the rebel "bolters" in the late Legislature!

3. Charles S. Cameron, of Shelby, is an Illinois Copperhead, who, as Captain in the Federal army, was dismissed from the service for cowardice and drunkeness, and since that time was expelled from the Tennessee Legislature!

4. Dorsey B. Thomas, of Humphreys, turned rebel during the war—issued a card declaring for the rebellion, and was two years ago beaten for Congress by Mr. Arnell!

5. John C. Gaut, of Davidson, lived in Bradley county during the war—came out in a publication against Lincoln and his war, and advised the people of East Tennessee to stand by the cause of the South, and drive back the Northern hordes!

6. William B. Campbell, of Wilson, like Baxter, has been on both sides, but mostly on the rebel side. He declined a Generalship from the Confederacy *only* on the ground of bad health, and accepted of a Generalship from Lincoln after Buell's capture of Nashville. He resigned that commission—went into the Chicago Convention—came out a convert, and went on the McClellan electoral ticket. During the early stages of the war he wrote letters to Gov Harris favoring the promotion of certain men in the rebel service!

7. A. A. Steele, of Marshall, was a rebel "bolter" in the Legislature, and was expelled from that body. Johnson afterwards appointed him to office, and the United States Senate refused to confirm his nomination.

Was ever such a batch of men thrown together on one committee? The question will come up, Why did they place such men on their Central Executive Committee? We answer, they could do no better as their convention was composed of that sort of men.—*Press and Times.*

Hon. Thaddeus Stevens.

Mr. Stevens has written a letter, taking for his subject the following extract from a notice of Senator Henry Wilson's recent speech near Hampton, namely: "He (Mr. Wilson) said there would be no impediment to Southern representatives in Congress if they elected Union men, and closed his remarks by asserting that he would leave Virginia with the full conviction that a Republican Governor, Legislature, and two Senators would be elected." Mr. Stevens comments on this as follows:

WASHINGTON, April 27.—MR EDITOR: Such articles as this are calculated to do much harm. They throw obstacles in the way of future reconstruction, being quoted and relied on as pledges by the Republican party. Hence much trouble arose from certain expressions contained in a bill which was reported by the Reconstruction Committee in the Thirty-ninth Congress, though never passed. It was perverted by faction and folly, into an argument against the whole party and Congress.

This generally arises from the carelessness of the reporters, and sometimes doubtless from the inadvertence of the speaker. No one should make promises for the party. By what authority does any one say, that by the election of loyal delegates they will be admitted? By what authority does any one say that Virginia will elect two loyal Senators, while in truth there is no Virginia? Much is to be done by the people and Congress before any Representative or Senator or State can be recognized. Who authorized any Senator to say there would be no confiscation?

These things are too flippantly said. I think they had better be gravely pondered. Who is authorized to travel the country and peddle the amnesty? I would say to the most guilty, expect punishment, and then quietude, but first, a mild confiscation, to pay those who have been robbed by disloyal men. These are my wishes, and mine only, perhaps.

THADDEUS STEVENS.

☞ "Dear Miss I have satted my self down to drop you a few loines to inform you of my good heath also I hope those few loines may rech you ingoying the Beast of health but I heard that you was cick yet I was so sorey of it Miss the rose is red the vilents blou Pinkes is Prety But not like you But shugur is sweet But not like you o when this you sea remember mea o how I doo lov you so nothing more at Present I remain as ever your friend "—— right soon."

☞ A young gentleman, who has just married a little beauty, says she would have been taller, but she was made out of such precious materials that nature couldn't afford it.

☞ The girl who lately lost her speech, save to whisper, has since had 140 offers of marriage.

A Calumny Answered.

Governor Brownlow thus disposes of a slander which has been widely circulated by the rebel press.

The Rebel-Johnson organ of Knoxville, known as the *Commercial*, thus speaks of John Baxter having been a candidate for the Reblel Congress.

"Col. Baxter was a candidate at the earnest solicitation, and by the advice of Wm. G. Brownlow, who at that time pledged himself to support the Southern Confederacy, at as early an opportunity as he could do so without disgracing himself in the eyes of both parties."

If Mr. Baxter has authorized the foregoing statement in his party organ or endorse it now that it has been made, I pronounce him *an unmitigated liar and scoundrel.*

The same article, in the same organ, adds:

"And had it not been for the coldness shown Brownlow by the rebels, and earnest pleadings of Judge Trigg and Col. John Williams to prevent him joining the rebel cause, Brownlow would have done as he contemplated at that time and joined the Southern Confederacy."

If Messrs. Trigg and Williams have authorized the foregoing statement, or endorse it now that it has been made, I have to say upon my responsibility that their *love of lying* and their *adaption to scoundrelism*, is only equalled by the *infamy* of the lie falsehood. W. G. BROWNLOW.

We suppose that the rebel organs seek to fix the charge of secession upon Governor Brownlow, for the same reason that the fox who had lost his own tail tried to persuade his fellows to suffer the same operation. Misery loves company.

Buried Alive.

A friend gives us the account of a most terrible case of the burial of a handsome young lady at Jacksonville, Illinois. Sometime last summer, a young lady of seventeen years of age, suffering with the toothache, went to bed with a phial of chloroform for the purpose of quieting her teeth. In the morning she was found to all appearances dead which was confirmed by the opinions of several physicians who were called and examined her body. She was then buried. A few days since her relatives were about to remove from Jacksonville, having located in another State and had the remains of the young lady exhumed, for the purpose of taking them to their new homes. Curiosity prompted them to open the coffin, when they were horror-stricken on finding the corpse turned over, both hands full of hair, and her clothing torn to shreds, revealing the horrible truth that the young lady had been buried alive. The chloroform had placed her in a deep trance, the awakening from which was in her coffin and grave. The lady was engaged to be married at the time of her supposed death. A more heart-stricken case we never remember to have read or heard of.—*Indianapolis Herald.*

☞ A rather strange affair has occurred in Newark, N. J. Theresa Weiss, a married lady, becoming enraged at the conduct of the wife of William Muller, determined to give that lady a chastisement; but for fear of being arrested for the offence, she disguised herself in male attire on Saturday night, a few weeks since, and set out on her mission. Meeting the lady in one of the public streets she immediately set to work flogging her. Strange things do come to pass, and so it seemed in this case, for the husband of Mrs. Weiss, happening to pass that way, observed, as he thought, a man beating a lady, and with true gallantry he unceremoniously "pitched into" the supposed ruffian. After having roughly handled the assailant of Mrs. Muller and helped the latter to escape, he found to his surprise that he had been severely whipping his wife. Mrs. Weiss was arrested for an assault and battery on Mrs. Muller, and held to bail.

☞ Many a true heart, that would have come back like a dove to the ark after its first transgression, has been frightened beyond recall by the savage character of an unforgiving spirit.

☞ A Massachusetts divine, at a recent temperance meeting, alluded to a brother as "the little red-headed Doctor of Divinity who sat in the corner."

☞ One of the Countesses at the last Tuileries ball wore diamonds and pearls around her waist, neck and forehead—and ankles probably.

☞ A shop-keeper was asked how he obtained the appellation of 'little rascal,' he replied, 'to distinguish me from the rest of the trade who are all great racals.'

☞ A very illiterate person in Richmond who applied herself to *mantua making*, had a sign placed over her door, upon which was incribed—"*Jane Smith, Man tormenter.*"