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THE UNION FLAG.

Jonesboro', Tenn. May 1, 1868.

G. E. GRISHAM,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Poetry.

Hurrah! For General Grant!

Hurrah! for Old Appomattox! Hurrah for General Grant!
With him we whipped the rebels, and a song for him we chant.
We'll rally round his battle-flag, the flag of Union true,
And drive the Rebel Gray again before the Loyal Blue;
O! he knows the Boys in Blue! Yes! he knows the Boys in Blue,
And with ballots as with bullets he will find them ever true;
And the Greybacks as the Copperheads will learn the truth anew.
That our Yankee lads will ne'er forget the wearing of the Blue.
They may weep for Stonewall Jackson, and of Lee they still may vaunt,
While we shout for old Appomattox, and vote for General Grant!
They sympathize with Davis and uphold his beaten crew,
But no Rebel Gray shall ever stay the loyal Boys in Blue,
O! we trust the Boys in Blue! O! we know the Boys in Blue,
And they'll never flinch, nor give an inch, while work they have to do;
So, bring on your Rebel Gray again, and give us but a view,
And we'll show you that we don't forget the wearing of the Blue!

Miscellaneous.

An Eloquent Passage.

The finest thing George D. Prentice ever wrote is this inimitable passage: "It connot be that earth is man's only abiding place. It cannot be that our life is a bubble cast by the ocean of eternity to float a moment upon its waves, and sink into nothingness. Else why is it the high and glorious aspirations, which leap like angels from the temple of our hearts, are forever wandering unsatisfied? Why is it that the rainbow and cloud come over us with a beauty that is not of earth, and then pass off to leave us to muse on their loveliness? Why is it that the stars which hold their festival around the midnight throne,' are set above the grasp of our limited faculties; forever mocking us with their unapproachable glory? And finally, why is it that bright forms of human beauty are presented to our views and taken from us; leaving the thousand streams of our affections to flow back in an alpine torrent upon our hearts? We are born for a higher destiny than that of earth. There is a realm where the rainbow never fades;—Where the stars will be spread out before us like the islands that slumber on the ocean, and where the beautiful beings which pass before us, like shadows, will stay forever in our presence."

Scientific Waggery.

Professor, Agassiz, after a prolonged study of the vertebral column of fishes, has come to the astounding conclusion that "men, like other animals, have tails." Of course, the little fact that these appendages are not visible, either to the naked eye or under the microscope, has no weight in refuting the assumption. Science needs no support from the sense of senses. It is melancholy, however, to think that man, with all his boasted civilization and culture, is inferior to the dogs in one regard—he has not sufficient control over his tail to wag it, no matter how joyous his sensations may be. And he is equally unlucky in the Dundreary hypothesis, for the newly discovered human tail is not sufficiently developed to allow it to wag him. So things look exceedingly blue in all directions.

KU KLUX MURDER!

THE BUTCHERY OF HON. G. W. ASHBURN IN GEORGIA!

HE IS SHOT DOWN LIKE A BRUTE!!!

Letter from a Son of the Murdered Man!!

DETAILS OF THE HORRID CRIME!!

[The following letter from young Ashburn, son of the Hon. G. W. Asnburn, member of the Georgia Constitutional Convention, who was recently murdered in Columbus, in that State, by Rebel-Ku-Klux Cut-Throats, and with whom we have had the pleasure of an acquaintance for several years past, will be read with interest by our numerous Union readers. We have every reason to believe that his statement is correct in every particular. It gives us an idea what the Ku Klux organization is gotten up for. Is it not time for Unionists throughout the country—both white and colored—to prepare to meet these murderers? If Andy Johnson is not convicted of high crimes and misdemeanors and deposed, as he *should* be, this rebel-butchery throughout the South will be but the beginning of the end.—EDS. UNION FLAG.]

ATLANTA, GA., April 21st, 1868.

To G. E. GRISHAM, *Editor Union Flag:*

Dear Captain:—You have heard and seen no doubt the accounts of father's death. Incorrect statements are being circulated trying to cover the chivalry of Columbus. It was one of the most brutal and inhuman acts ever recorded by mortal pen. It occurred in that city about 1 o'clock on the morning of the 31st ult. A large mass-meeting was held that night, in Temperance Hall, for the purpose of listening to a speech from Rev. Henry M. Turner, colored. About eighteen hundred persons were crowded into the spacious room, a goodly share of whom were white. The speaker was accompanied on the platform by father, Hon. J. H. Caldwell, and Rev. C. W. Parker. The speaker (Mr. Turner) held his audience entranced for over two hours, and his speech was one of his best efforts. He was frequently interrupted by the heartiest applause from all parties, even the *bitterest rebels* admitting that he made many very good points in his allusions to the Democratic party. At about half-past 11 o'clock the assemblage dispersed and every body seemed to be in the best of humor. I was not there myself, being in Atlanta on business. My brother (Theodore) was there—he says he never knew a meeting in that place to break up in a better spirit than that did. The after part of the programme, however, had not been played. Laughter and cheering were made to give place to other emotions and feelings—these were of the basest and most fiendish description. Father left the hall in company with others, and went to his boarding house. After writing a few lines to some of his friends in regard to the prospect of ratifying the Constitution he had done so much in helping to frame, he retired to his bed. Alas! how short was his repose. Only a few moments thereafter, and the house was completely surrounded with a number of fiends in human shape, in every conceivable disguise, with black faces, made to cover the blackness of their deed. They broke down the doors, rushed in upon him, and after lighting a few parlor matches, commenced firing balls from several loaded pistols until they riddled him almost to pieces, having received seven shots. In the meanwhile father attempted to escape at one of the doors but was met by some of the same villians, and, in trying to flee from their grasp, was either knocked down or shot back until he was fearfully bruised and literally torn to pieces with balls, from the effects of which he died. The only faults any one could charge him with was his loyalty to his beloved country, and the belief that *Congress* was *right* in its plan of reconstructing the South. The rebels had threatened to kill him on several occasions, simply because he was allied to Congressional reconstruction. Thirteen of these "nice dandy young gentlemen" were arrested by the military, but were released on $2,500 bail, and the newspapers (rebel) of Columbus, so thoroughly in sympathy with them that they suppress the publication of their names.

The statement, and also the diagram of the house in which he was killed, is as correct as can be given. None of these devils have been found, and it appears to have been a concerted thing between the parties themselves and the police. Every body knows if it had been otherwise, so many pistol reports, screams of the women, &c., would have aroused the police. The colored people were most excited; it would take little to avenge his death. They came in squads from the country for miles, and the sober white men are much exercised.

"Long trail of ills may pass unheeded, dumb,
But vengeance is behind, and justice is to come."

"ONE ENEMY LESS."

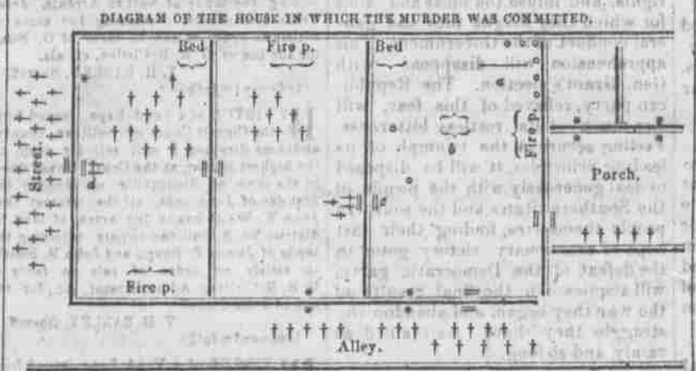
The above is the heading of an atrociously libelous article from the Macon *Messenger*.—Any ass can kick at a dead lion, and many do so who generally go on two legs. This is the thanks the *true loyal people* get from the so-*called* respectability, rebel party of Georgia.

The above I hope you will publish in your good paper and show to the people of Tennessee, (I mean the loyal people) that it is the same rotten cry of Secessionists uttered in 1860 and 1861.

I remain yours tru'y, &c.

G. P. ASHBURN.

DIAGRAM OF THE HOUSE IN WHICH THE MURDER WAS COMMITTED.



* Windows,
‖ Doors,
† Ruffians,
a Where father fell,
b A Center Table,
c The door from which the shots were fired,
d The door where the entrance was made,
e Bullet holes in the wall, ceiling and floor.

Home.

How few men have homes. Most have some place where they sleep, and take their meals, where their wife and children live, but it is a boarding and lodging house, not a home. Home is where the heart is, and the heart of too many men is away from their hearthstone, nor near it. Recently, not a thousand miles away, a man was kept in by the terrific storm. His business was in no ways urgent. He could stay with his family just as well as not; but the hours long before nightfall was intolerable. The children made a noise, his good wife wanted some little things done for the comfort of the household and more than that she wanted to sit by his side for one week-day hour, and talk as they did before they were wed.

Alas for the woman! those days will never come. Your husband will come to his home to eat, to sleep, and to die, but at no other time. His fellowship is with men in the shop, in the counting-room, perhaps the saloon, not with you.

Where is the trouble? Sometimes with the wife. No one man can live with disorder. With mismanagement, with fretfulness, with faultfinding, with complaining, and be happy.—*Buffalo Gazette.*

The Bolivar *Bulletin* (Conservative) wisely entreats the people to keep out of the Kuklux Klan.

The Presbyterian Split in Kentucky.

The Lexington *Observer*, of Saturday, says:

The West Lexington Presbytery (Assembly), which has been in session in the Second Presbyterian Church in this city since Tuesday night, adjourned yesterday. Under the orders of the last General Assembly, the ministers and elders refusing to adhere to the Presbyteries recognized by the General Assembly, were given until this spring to renew their membership with these Presbyteries or be dropped from the rolls. We are informed that none of the ministers belonging to the other West Lexington Presbytery appeared at meeting. We presume the division in the Presbyterian Church in Kentucky is permanent.

So will it be everywhere where rebels and copperheads predominate, and admit rebels, stained with murder, to the pulpit.

United States Securities Held by Savings Banks.

The Comptroller of the Currency has information that three hundred savings banks in the New England States and in New York, having one million and seventy-seven depositors, hold $100,000,000 of United States Bonds and $15,000,000 of National Bank stock as investments.

If Unionism is right, then we should be radical Union. There is no middle ground.

[From the Knoxville Whig.]

Who are the Most Loyal?

Those who rebelled against our Government, and who fought against the Union until their weapons of warfare were wrenched out of their hands, are now endeavoring to make the impression, all over this country, that they are the only loyal people now in our land. The rebel *preachers* who "fired up the Southern heart," until thousands of their victims were slain, and who have filled the whole country, North and South, with mourning and lamentation, are still publishing *incendiary* sentiments, in hopes of retrieving "the lost cause."

Hear what the Rev. Rebel Brillhart, of the Church South, on the Jonesboro' circuit, is publishing to the people. A few days ago he said to Mr. Huffines, Sr., that "the Southern people (meaning the rebels) are the most loyal people in the country." This same Brillhart also stated to John M. Bowman that "the people who owned *Confederate* money ought to hold on to it, for doubtless it would yet be good; and that all who lost their negro slaves during the war would get pay for them when the Southern people once more gained the power." What do our Union people think of this? Are they willing to be taxed to redeem Confederate money, and pay for the negroes who were set free by the emancipation proclamation? This is the doctrine that these rebel preachers of all denominations are now promulgating and striving to inculcate the same in the hearts of the people, young and old.

This same Brillhart stated in the presence of George Ryan, W. Wilcox, and Judge Folsom, in Elizabethton, Carter county, that "the Legislature of this State, at its last session, had passed a law making it criminal to call a black man a negro." This was done doubtless to injure the members of the Legislature.

To show the real feelings of this man Brillhart, in reference to his rebelism, I will refer to a little incident that took place a short time ago, in Carter County, near Elizabethton, at the house of Isaac Tipton. After family worship, probably on Sunday morning, Mr. Brillhart requested one of the young ladies to play a tune on the piano. The young lady, thinking that sacred music would be the most appropriate for the time and the occasion, commenced to play a hymn, but the *sainted* Brillhart told her to play *Dixie*, as he always felt quite happy when he heard that good old song sung or played."

I could write much more, but the above shows the *animus* of the rebel heart.

In all the newspapers published by the Church South, that we have any knowledge of, the reader can find letters and editorials filled with libelous and slanderous articles against the Methodist and other loyal Churches. In a letter published in the Baltimore *Episcopal—Methodist*, of March 28th, dated Emory, Va., 18th, by that *pure* and *chaste* man, Rev. J. Atkins, he makes the following inquiry: "How is it that the citizens of Baltimore and Maryland, with their known *Conservative* sentiment and feelings, continue in connection with the Northern M. E. Church, which has of late become so entirely *partizan*, *political* and *radical*, as to link her destinies with one of the most cruel and relentless parties ever known in this or any other country."

This is the language of the Church South by their traveling, *partizan*, *political* and *rebel* agent. This same man, we were informed months ago, said in a speech delivered for the benefit of the Southern Confederacy at Loudon, that "the Southern Confederacy must be established if it took all the blood of the Union men, women and children of East Tennessee."

This same "meek spirited" Reverend, said, that "there is no use of the Methodist Episcopal Church organization in the Southern States." What a change has come over this man Atkins! He visited the reorganization of the old Methodist Church at Athens, in June 1865, and doubtless would have joined our Conference, but he was unable to undergo the washing and regeneration that our Church required. This same liberal-minded, kind-hearted, just, and generous man(!) "charges the M. E. Church with a mob-spirit." Never was a more false and vindictive charge made, and he knew it; yet, prompted by a spirit bent on mischief, he gives loose reins to his evil nature.

He further says that the Church South is proscribed, and the doors of Churches are closed against them, &c.

Now look on the other side, and see how *beautiful* matters look from another stand point. The Rev. H. J. Cramley, on the Abingdon circuit, Va. in a few miles from where Mr. Atkins writes his letter, asks the privilege of one of the churches in the town of Abingdon, but is promptly denied; and even the doors of the Court House are locked against him, just because he is a loyal man and a minister in the old Methodist Church, "O, consistency, thou art a jewel!"

The same *loving* and *virtuous* man charges the loyal ministers of all denominations with being connected with a political secret organization. Now *Jeemes*, how many "Kuklux Klans" have you organized in your extensive field of labor, in the last few weeks? You can't cover up your tracks by charging what is not true upon others. I will guarantee that no minister of the loyal school is connected with any secret organization—that is contrary to the teachings of God's word.

L. F. DRAKE.

Jonesboro', Tenn., April 3rd, 1868.

The *National Republican*, published at Augusta, Georgia, one of the most loyal of our Southern exchanges, approves the order of General Meade, and thinks that it was issued not a moment too early. We append what it says:

As might have been expected, the Democratic party squirms desperately under Gen. Meade's order forbidding the publication of articles tending to procure intimidation, riot or bloodshed. They have lived and prospered so long by pandering to the vilest passions of the mobs, by exciting prejudice and counselling proscription against all who dared to differ with them, that it is not to be wondered at that they now feel that their vocation is gone. The assassination of Ashburn has at last been productive of one good result; it has awakened the military authorities to the necessity of putting a stop to the exhortations of those who have been constantly preaching sedition and threatening assassination. These editors and preachers had gone on so long in their career of licentiousness, that they appeared to forget that there was any power anywhere to curb them, and they are now reminded, as they were sometime after the close of the war, when they were so decorous and submissive, that the trumpeter who sounds the charge may be held equally guilty with him who strikes the blow.

No conquering government on earth has shown such forbearance as ours to those who were continually counselling resistance to its laws. Its toleration verged upon weakness desiring for the sake of the people, to restore them to their former condition of peace and equal rights, it found itself assailed at every turn by the disseminators of treason and sedition. It made no resistance to their attacks—it uttered no prohibition, until the vile teachings of the press and the stump culminated in murder. Had it not been for such teachings, the difficulties of the present situation would have never existed, or would have been removed long ago. The forbearance of the government has increased its own embarrassments and the disquiet of the people, and it should have put some restraints long since to the incendiarism of the Democratic press, which maligned it and libeled its officers with impunity. We are glad that, at last, some curb is to be put upon it, though, on account of its forbearance, the malignant spirit that the press has fostered will survive, and will burst forth when the restraint shall be removed.

The Hon. Luke Poland of Vermont has addressed a letter to the Governor of that State on the subject of impeachment, in which he expresses the belief that Mr. Johnson will be deposed. Judge Poland gives expression to the settled conviction of the country. He says:

"I do not think we have, in our articles, really charged the President with his greatest offense, his steady and persistent efforts to prevent restoration of the Southern States upon any of the plans Congress has proposed.

The distinguished representative from Vermont concludes as follows:

"The result cannot, I think, be doubted. We have done and borne all that could be to avoid the issue, but it has come, and there seems to be no disposition here to avoid meeting it calmly and bravely. I have no fears of present political evils from it. I honestly believe it the most popular act of this Congress. I trust that no political lesson will be taught by it, except that under our constitution the government is in the hands of the people; that the President has no kingly prerogative that he can set up over them without being accountable for it to the constitutional tribunal.

Wealthy Colored Men.

A Nashville (Tenn.) paper publishes quite a long list of colored men in that city, who have accumulated property ranging in the several cases from $6,000 to $50,000. Many of them bought their freedom and that of their wives and children before the war.

An exchange asks, Why is Andy Johnson like a track? Because he leaves next month."