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DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, NEWS, AGRICULTURE AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

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SELECTED MISCELLANY.

From the Charleston Courier.

MARYLAND.

Maryland is under the foot of oppression She has been threatened, insulted, ridiculed, subjugated. The feeble voice she lifted in protest and defiance has been silenced. Vandal hordes have marched through her chief city, and taken possession of her Capital. Her soil is desecrated by the soldiers of a tyrant and usurper. A sad fate! a terrible woe:

Has it come to this? Has the man who fills the seat of power, whereon Washington once sat, and after which Calhoun aspired, the hardihood and wickedness, thus to demolish the sovereignty of a Commonwealth, thus to trample upon the Constitution he has solemnly sworn to administer?

The North looks on and commends the infamous course of the despot. But the North is in a frenzy of wrath. The North is alarmed at the success and prospects of the movement she derided. The North is mad at the immense loss she has sustained by the destruction of her gainful trade. The North is all absorbed in the end to be attained by the subjugation of Maryland, and she will approve any means that will secure that desirable object. But will the storm of fury last forever? Will there not come a time when the North will calmly consider? They have called into existence power which claims responsibility and scouts at the wise restrictions of law. The obstacles they found in the path that leads, as they foolishly imagine, to the accomplishment of their base purposes, have been pushed out of their way by main force. Under the influence of mortified pride, demoniac anger, envy, hatred, and every evil passion, they have overleaped the bounds set by patriotism and wisdom, ceased their ears to reason, and to the warnings of history, and rushed wildly on. What if the demon power turn against those who have given it life and sent it forth to do their horrid work!

Their President has openly infracted the Constitution by a series of acts which he does not pretend to justify or defend. He has declared war, he has raised an army, he has blockaded ports, he has ruthlessly destroyed property worth millions of dollars. And yet so intent is the howling horde upon revenge and plunder, that they are jubilant over these high-handed acts, and shout on the perjured despot.

It is folly to remonstrate with madmen. The time for argument and appeal is passed. We meet force with force. Soldiers, not statesmen, must decide the question now before the two sections. The slaves of the tyrant have drawn their swords, and content are we to cross blades with them on the bloody field. But they will not rejoice always in the silencing and subjugation of a State. This act bodes evil to them. They have made a terrible sacrifice. They have wantonly in the blindness of their fury surrendered the dearest right of freemen. They have consented to and applauded flagrant usurpations. What are their States more than provinces? If they should provoke the wrath of the corrupt man whose rule they are proud to acknowledge, will he not punish them? And suppose their conduct should call for such an exhibition of his power as Maryland has been forced to submit to, must they not receive the rod without complaint or murmur? In their madness and folly, instigated by malice and lust, they have not contemplated the nature of the cause to which they have given their gold and their lives. They have not seen that the hand which has smitten that State, has given the death-blow to their dearest rights.

There lies Maryland, prostrate and well nigh helpless. Her condition calls for our pity. On this green earth there lives not a people more generous and high minded and brave. Their hearts are true to the South, and deeply do they feel their degradation. They have submitted, but they are not subdued. They are hemmed in by the oppressor's forces, but they are not conquered. No chain that tyrants forge can bind the spirit of freemen. They have not willingly suffered the hurt that has been done their honor. A traitor Governor plotted with a despot President, and the noble, people all unsuspicous of the treachery, fell into the pit these miscreants had digged. They have been miserably betrayed. Woe to the traitors that have deceived and misled the Marylanders, when after the dogged endurance of indignities and wrongs, with a clear conception of the artful plot, and a growing hatred for the base foes that have held them in subjection, woe be to them when the Marylanders rise in their might and go forth to take revenge. They will strike such a blow as tyrants and traitors have never felt since the world was made. They will do a great work in a short time. They will wipe out the marks of the invaders. The day of vengeance is at hand. Maryland is getting ready for her disenthralment. Her night can be do darker. Soon will her morning dawn.

Blockading the North.

Probably nothing has done more to injure the United States in the respect of European nations than Mr. Lincoln's blockade of the Southern States. This act, following so close upon the new tariff, has undoubtedly created the impression abroad that the party in power here is narrow, intolerant and blindly vindicative in all its purposes and plans. The law in relation to blockades is so well understood, and admits of so little doubt as to its requirements, that, to a distant spectator, Mr. Lincoln has placed his administration in a position to be laughed at or despised, according to the temper and disposition of the beholder. A blockade, to be regarded by other nations must be complete—it must be an actual and not a mere paper blockade. And this is what we have not the power to do, even were our Navy ten times as large as it is.—The Southern States have over two thousand miles of ocean and gulf coast, with 249 harbors to be blocked up. We have not over fifty ships of war that we can bring to a blockade. This would give *one* vessel to every *five* harbors which we propose to watch. Who does not see that such a blockade must be a failure and a farce? Such paper blockades have long been repudiated by the international law of civilized nations. And if we attempt to punish violations of it by seizing on the commerce of neutral nations, we shall surely bring on a war between ourselves and them.

England has already directed a large naval force to these shores to protect her commercial interests, and France is about to do the same. Both of these governments have already sufficiently indicated what their course will be; so that this attempted blockade will injure us far more than it will the South. Our own capitalists and ship-owners must be the principal sufferers. We have heretofore enjoyed a monopoly of the coasting trade, which has given employment for an immense number of our ships and our men. All this we shall now lose. The principle that free ships make free goods, which both we and the Southern States are bound to respect, will give the monopoly of trade we have hitherto enjoyed to foreign ships. Northern manufactures which have found their best market in these Southern States, will, under this attempted blockade, be excluded, while the wares of Europe will take their place by being transported in neutral vessels, and by those who have already assured us that our paper blockade would not be respected. Thus is the Administration striking a fatal blow at our own manufactures, at our own commerce. It is a blow dealt at the power and prosperity of the North. And, when that blockade is ended, the pernicious effects will still remain with us. Already has the blockading message given an almost supernatural impulse to manufacturing plans and enterprises at the South; and the longer a blockade should continue, the more and more independent would the South be of us, while we should simply blockade ourselves and lock up the greater part of our manufacturing capital for all time to come.

Mr. Lincoln is now blockading New England, depriving her of employment for her ships and markets for her goods. He is blockading New York in striking down our commerce and locking out our best customers. He is blockading the great West, in depriving her of the natural and most profitable outlet for her productions. And the longer he shall continue such a blockade the worse it will be for us, and the better for the South in the end. Its effect will be to develope the internal resources and skill of the South, and to dig new channels of commerce, which, whatever may be the termination of the political strife, will prevent the diverted currents of trade from ever returning to us. Who does not see that the Administration is effectually and eternally blockading the North? This blockade is a fitting *second act*, of which the Morrill tariff was the *first*, in the Republican drama of the downfall of the American Union, and the destruction of the industry and commerce of the Northern States. The third act will be, if reason ever returns to its deserted throne, the downfall and death of the guilty party which has wrought all this bloody ruin in the pursuit of an abstract folly.—*N. Y. Day Book.*

A Dinner Speech by "Boz."

Than Charles Dickens there is probably no man living who can turn off a neater dinner speech. We give his last, delivered at the residence of the Lord Mayor of London, as reported in the London *Star*.

"Mr. C. Dickens proposed the health of the Lady Mayoress. He said that, being honored with the permission of his lordship, he would venture to remark that since he had been seated at that table he had found it pleasant to consider, reverting as men naturally did to their own pursuits—how ill English literature could afford to part with its Lord Mayors of London. [Cheers.] The literature of English history, losing its Lord Mayors, would lose some of its most notable instances of the public spirit, the munificence, the personal bravery and powers of the good old citizens on that side Temple Bar. The literature of English romance losing its Lord Mayors of London, would lose at one blow its wealthiest London merchant, its most beautiful merchant's daughter, its crossest cook, its best known foreign adventurer, its most profitable investment on record, and its most wonderful cat. [Laughter and cheers.] Similarly, English biography losing its Lord Mayors would lose some of its most notable examples of rewarded perseverance and integrity and some of its highest illustrations of the nobility of self-made men. [Loud cheers.]

"Even the great English satirist, of whom it was well said that his pictures required to be read like books—even he could no more dispense with his Lord Mayor of London than any of the rest, for without him he could neither commit his idle apprentice for trial under circumstances of very touching and powerful contrast, nor reward his industrious apprentice by presenting him at the height of his fame at court. The considerations suggested to him and to all present that the Lord Mayor was not, never had been, and never could be considered complete without a Lady Mayoress. [Cheers.] Among other respects in which the city of London had set a highly civilized and most admired example, was this, that it steadily dissociated from occasions like the present the absured English custom of separating the lords of the creation from the ladies. [Laughter and cheers.]

"He thought that if the male sex were fairly polled they would arrive at the almost unanimous conclusion that they never were so exceedingly wearisome to themselves and never so extraordinarily uninteresting to one another as when they were said, conventionally speaking, to be left quite at their ease. [Laughter.] That abrogation of a bad usage on the part of the city, though it undoubtedly had its roots in the soundest gallantry and good sense, was attended with this inconvenience, that it necessitated the proposing of the Lady Mayoress's health in the Lady Mayoress's presence, and thus rendered exceedingly difficult a task which, from its very acceptable and obvious nature, would almost be easy. On the other hand, according to the great law of compensation which pervarded the universe, it was to be observed that the silent presence was in itself the most eloquent speech that could be made in offering a toast, and was the best illustration that could possibly be given of the virtues and graces of its subject. [Cheers.]

"If he might venture so far to depart from mere state and ceremony as to say on such an occasion as the present that he had long had the honor of an intimate personal friendship with the Lady Mayoress, and that it had been his privilege to see her widely diffusing her excellent influence in another capital—if he ventured on that remark it was to suggest that as the liberality and princely hospitality of the chief magistrate of London could assuredly find no better female representative here, so the most wholesome influence of an English lady could certainly find no better representative there. With the permission of his lordship, he begged to propose to the distinguished guest the health of the Lady Mayoress [Loud cheers.]"

Habeas Corpus.

"Next to personal security," says Mr. Justice Blackstone, "the law of England regards, asserts and preserves the personal liberty of individuals. This personal liberty consist in the power of locomotion, of changing situation or moving one's person to whatsoever place one's own inclinations may direct, without imprisonment or restraint, unless by due course of law.

"By the Petition of Right, 3 Car. 1st, it is enacted that no person shall be imprisoned or detained without cause shown, to which he may make answer according to law. By 16 Car. 1st, ch. 10, if any person be restained of his liberty by order or decree of any illegal court, or by the command of the King's Majesty in person, or by warrant of the council board, or of any of the privy council, he shall upon de- [illegible] counsel, have a writ of *habeas* [illegible] his body before the Court of [illegible] or Common Pleas, who [illegible] whether the cause of his [illegible] just, and hereupon to do [illegible] appertain.

[illegible] of life or by violence [illegible] act of despotism as must at once convey the alarm of tyranny throughout the whole kingdom, but confinement of the person by secretly hurrying him to jail where his sufferings are unknown or forgotten is a less public, a less striking and therefore a more dangerous engine of arbitrary government. And yet sometimes, when the State is in real danger, even this may be a necessary measure. But the happiness of our own Constitution is that it is not left to the Executive power to determine when the danger of the State is so great as to render this measure expedient; for it is the Parliament only, or Legislative power that whenever it sees preper can authorize the Crown, by suspending the Habeas Corpus Act for a short and limited time, to imprison suspected persons without giving any reason for so doing."—Commentaries on the Laws of England, Vol. 1. pp. 135—136.

So our own Chief Justice Marshall, in the case of Bollman, 4 Cranch, 100, says: "If at any time the public safety should require the suspension of the power vested by this act (the power to grant writs of *habeas corpus*) in the Courts of the United States, it is for the Legislature to say so. That question depends on political considerations on which the Legislature is to decide. Until the Legislative will be expressed, this Court can only see its duty and must obey the laws." This was in a case of Treason.

So Judge Story in his Commentaries on the Constitution, sec. 1336, says: "It would seem as the power is granted to Congress to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus* in case of rebellion or invasion, that the right to judge whether the exigency had arisen must exclusively belong to that body."

So in 1807, when great alarm existed as to Burr's conspiracy, a bill was brought before the Senate in secret session to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus*. When brought into the House of Representatives, that body refused to consider it in secret session, and by a vote of 113 to 19 rejected the bill on its first reading. On that occasion Mr. Dana of Connecticut used the following language: "This bill authorizes the arrest of persons not merely by the President or other high officers, but by any person acting under him. I imagine this to be wholly without precedent. If treason was marching to force us from our seats, I would not agree thus to destroy the fundamental principles of the Constitution, or commit such an act either of despotism or pusillanimity."

BRITISH HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT.

We are standing on the lobby of the House. It is four o'clock, and as the members pass in singly, or in groups, we have a capital opportunity of observing them. This assembly, as you know, comprises England's most potent men. See that very youthful-elderly gentleman, with gray whiskers, very erect bearing in spite of a touch of the gout; dressed in the very tip of fashion—rather a dandy—that is Lord Palmerston, prime minister of England. Just behind him is a little, wiry, determined-looking man; there is a cold bearing in his eye; that is "my Lord John Russell," who carried reform, and who is now minister for foreign affairs. Here comes—aye, that is a thoroughbred Englishman, look at him: tall, full form, healthy complexion, clear eye, handsome; that is Sir James Graham. See that man passing up there rapidly dressed in black, with dark hair, pale face; that is Gladstone—the worst part of Gladstone seems to be his legs, they appear to dwindle down almost to nothing, and to be for some other use than walking. There is D'Israeli, with oval face and yellow complexion; but he must have been handsome with his full, dark eye and dark features; he is always well-dressed. This man just passing you, with his deep gray eye, his tall, sinewy frame, is the poet, the novelist, the statesman, the orator; rich, and full of fame; it is Sir Bulwer Lytton. Look again; what a contrast he makes with this Quakery-dressed man, John Bright. But who is the little man walking feebly? That is John Arthur Roebuck. Cobden is not often visible, but there he is to-day with hair a little gray, yet looking as good naturedly and shrewed as ever. Evidently, this evening, something of importance is going on. There stands a splendid-looking fellow. What a handsome man, in the prime of life! That is the Duke of Cambridge, cousin of the Queen, commander-in-chief of the army. Here is an elderly gentleman, with a keen, sharp eye; that is the Earl of Derby. Make way for that little attenuated man, whose limbs almost seem too small to support the burden of his massive head; that is a countryman of ours, John Copely, of Boston, now Lord Lyndhurst. That hale-looking gentleman, passing us, is the Earl of Shaftesbury. How different is that other individual with Scotch plaid trousers, enormous nose and fiery eye; that is the learned Lord Brougham. Here comes a bishop; and how different to the others! You know he is bishop by his silk apron and his shovel hat. But we leave the lobby now, and take a run up to the park.

CONTRABAND NEGROES.

The *Tribune* quite approves of Gen. Butler's decision that negros must hereafter be considered contraband of war: It says:—

Gen. Butler is right. He is a sound lawyer as well as a good soldier. He holds that negro slaves, owned by Secession masters, in Seceded States, are contraband of war. Like the negro himself, the General's postulate stands on two legs, viz:

1. Slaves are property in Virginia, in the language of the law, "to all intents, constructions and purposes whatsoever."

2. They are employed in the Secession States to dig trenches, construct embankments, carry muskets, mount columbiads, and do sundry other things in aid of the public enemy. Consequently, they are as really implements of war, as are the guns they bear for their masters, and the cannon they mount in embrasures.

Gen. Butler, therefore, is right in regarding this peculiar species of property as contraband. Let him continue to treat all negroes caught within his lines as so many muskets and columbiads, and no more think of giving them up to the enemy than he would a cargo of captured shot and shell. The General, who is a practical man, will find this sort of contraband a very convenient article when he gets a little deeper down into the land of Dixie. With the thermometer ranging at 100° in the shade, and earthworks to be piled fifteen feet high, he will find a couple of hundred contrabaud bipeds attached to each regiment capital aids to the pick-ax and wheelbarrow corps. As the General, being a strict constructionist, does not feel at liberty to set these negroes free, he has done the next best thing by setting them to work.

KENTUCKY DRILL.

A gentleman of New York, who has lately visited Harper's Ferry, thus describes, in a letter to a friend, the peculiarities of the Kentucky drill:

One of the State cadets was in their encampment a day or two ago, and while conversing with a tall Kentuckian, expressed his regret that so fine a body of men were so poorly disciplined. "Can't help that," said Kentuck; "we ain't much on follerin' a drum and whistler, but when it comes to tall travellin' after Abe Lincoln's sogers, jest count us in the pile." "See here," he continued; "this is our drill." And taking his bowie from his sheath, he stuck it in a tree with the edge outward; then, marching away a distance of fifty yards, aimed his rifle and split the ball upon the blade.

Their dress is a plain blue shirt-like coat, gathered at the waist, and drab pantaloons. They also wear a black felt hat, turned up at the side The dress of the Alabamians is a dark green coat and gray pants; but the majority wear their flannel shirts without any outside garment. Many of the privates are men of great wealth. In one company—the Governor's Guard—there are no less than thirty men said to be worth a hundred thousand dollars each, and one worth a million and a half. There are editors, lawyers—plenty of the latter, I am told—three or four doctors, one professor, and the balance composed of planters, planters' sons, and gentlemen generally. Taking the regiment through, there are, of course, a goodly proportion of countrymen from the interior of the State who have no particular social position beyond that of plain farmers, but they are all robust, hearty, good horsemen, and I reckon good fighters. In one of the companies their are thirty-eight men who have been marked with pistol shot or bowie knife, about thirty of whom have killed their man in street affrays or duel. One would hardly take them to be such terrible fire-eaters from their quiet bearing here.

THE VERDICT OF THE CORONER'S JURY AT ALEXANDRIA IN RELATION TO THE DEATH OF MR. JACKSON.—Some of the Alexandrix evidently regard the death of Mr. Jackson, the proprietor of the Marshall House, in a very different light from what it is looked upon at the North.—There the Republican journals denounce him as an assassin, and speak of Ellsworth as a martyr; but the coroner's jury empannelled to inquire into the cause of the death of Jackson, with a boldness which not even the presence of hostile troops in their midst could deter, emphatically declared it to be their verdict—"that the deceased came to his death at the hands of the troops of the United States, *while in defence of his private property, in his own house.*"

Does not this verdict afford matter for profound reflection?

ANECDOTE OF WEBSTER.—The London correspondent of the Manchester *Guardian* writes as follows:—The latest American news seems to be regarded as, on the whole, favorable to the possibilities—remote, I fear, at best—of a bloodless settlement of the struggle between North and South. I heard an authentic anecdote, a few days ago, which shows that the probability of violent disruption of the Union was long ago present to the mind of at least one leading American statesman. When Daniel Webster was last in this country, some 15 years ago, he dined one day in society with Sidney Smith.—After a good deal of sparring, in which the reverend wit worked the sore subject of repudiation, from which he had suffered heavily, with many of his friends, he asked Webster—abruptly, as it seemed to the gentleman from whom the story comes, and who was present—whether he anticipated a disruption of the Union at no very remote date. Webster's answer was a prompt and unqualified "Most decidedly." "Will it, in your opinion, be accompanied with bloodshed?" was Sydney's further question. "Most probably," was Webster's answer. Indeed, after the nullification business the chance of Southern secession must always have presented itself as on the cards to all American minds but those of the optimist order, which is not largely represented among statesmen.

THE EFFECT OF THE BLOCKADE.—The New York *Herald* is now engaged in proving that the blockade of Southern ports must prove destructive to European revenues as well as to their business interests. In proof of this it cites the following facts:

Our shipments of tobacco alone to Europe amount to twenty millions annually, upon which some sixty-four millions of revenue are raised, as follows:

British duty on tobacco.	$21,000,000
Dutch duty on tobacco,	20,000,000
French revenue,	18,000,000
Spanish revenue.	5,000,000
Total.	$64,000,000

Here, then, one of the principal sources of revenue is cut off from the maritime nations of Europe, to say nothing of the multitudes who will be thrown out of employment by the stoppage of the manufactories. The exports of turpentine from North Carolina—an articles so necessary to modern civilzation—is also debared.—Add to this cutting off of about $150,000,000 worth of cotton, giving employment in England alone to five millions of of the population, and an amount of injury—commercial, manufacturing and financial—will be inflicted which the leading maritime Powers of Europe cannot stand.

A SCRAP FROM HISTORY.—It is a circumstance somewhat remarkable that Virginia was the eighth State of the thirteen to give in its adhesion to the Federal Constitution in 1787, and is now the eighth State of the South to secede from it. But what is more, her reluctance to leave the Union was only equalled by her original aversion to becoming a part of it, under the Constiution that was presented for ratification. The Convention of 1787 was composed of members, a majority of whom were elected to reject the Federal Constitution; and it was only after the clause declaring that "the power granted under the Constitution, being derived from the people of the United States, may be resumed by them whensoever the same shall be perverted to their injury and oppression, and that every power not granted thereby, remains with them at their will," was inserted in the ordinance of ratification, that six or more of the majority opposed to the measure consented to vote for it. Even with this accession of strength, the Constitution was carried only by a vote of 89 to 79.—*Charleston Courier.*

THE COTTON SUPPLY.—After an experience of more than 50 years of close application, and an expenditure of nearly two millions of dollars in experiments, tending to develop the soil of India as a cotton-producing country, the result attained, as reported to the last Parliament in London, was, "that cotton can be cultivated once in three years only on the same ground," and that before the cotton market in England could be affected to any extent in prices, it would be necessary to have a yearly crop in India of about two millions bales; which would require for its production an extra quantity of forty-two millions acres of land, and an additional increase of between four and five millions of laborers. The characteristic perseverance which the Manchester men have exhibited in their efforts to obtain from India a reasonable supply of cotton, is praiseworthy; but at the same time unquestionably decides that England must look to some other place than India for her supply.

The Duke of Wellington in his youth was a Dublin dandy, and when he was great in after life, and at the head of affairs, kept up his intercourse with his dandy friends, for the purpose of gaining intelligence through their associations and gossiping habits.