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By D. D. HOODT.

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FOOT'S CORNER.

THE TWO ARMIES.

BY HENRY TIMMONS.

Two armies stand enrolled beneath
The banner with the starry wreath;
One, facing battle, blight and blast,
Through twice a hundred fields has passed;
Its deeds against a ruffian foe,
Stream, valley, hill and mountain know,
Till every wind that sweeps the land
Goes glory laden, from the strand.

The other, with a narrower scope,
Yet led by not less grand a hero,
Hath won, perhaps, as proud a place,
And wears its fame with equal grace.
Wives march beneath its glittering sign,
Fond mothers swell the lovely line,
And many a sweetest bride has blushed
In the young patriot's generous flush.

No breeze of battle ever fanned
The colors of that tender band,
Its office is beside the bed,
Where throbs some sick or wounded head.
It does not count the soldier's loss,
But plies the needle and the broom;
And, by a thousand peaceful deeds,
Supplies a struggling nation's needs.

Not in that army's gentle night
Dreath and the deadly light;
It serves the son's the husband's hand,
It plies the lover's flinty brand,
It fills the banquet, warms the cold,
It does not count the soldier's loss,
And sometimes lifts the veiled child
To its own lofty trust in God.

When Heaven shall blow the trump of peace,
And bid this weary warfare cease,
Their several missions nobly done,
The triumphs ceased, and tribulation won,
Both armies, from their toils at rest,
Alike may claim the victor's crest,
But each shall see its dearest prize
Stream softly from the other's eye.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PRESIDENT MESSAGE

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States of America.

You are assembled under circumstances of deep interest to your country; and it is fortunate that, coming, as you do, newly elected by the people, and familiar with the condition of the various localities, you will be the better able to devise measures adapted to meet the wants of the public service, without imposing unnecessary burthens on the citizen. The brief period which has elapsed since the last adjournment of Congress has not afforded sufficiently opportunity to test the efficacy of the most important laws then enacted, nor have the events occurring in the interval been such as materially to change the state of the country.

The unjust war commenced against us, in violation of the rights of the States, and in usurpation of power not delegated to the Government of the United States, is still characterized by the barbarism with which it has heretofore been conducted by the enemy. Aged men, helpless women and children, appeal in vain to the humanity which should be inspired by their condition, for immunity from arrest, incarceration or banishment from their homes. Plunder and devastation of the property of non-combatants, destruction of private dwellings and even of edifices devoted to the worship of God, expeditions organized for the sole purpose of sacking cities, consigning them to the flames, killing the unarmed inhabitants and inflicting horrible outrages on women and children, are some of the constantly recurring atrocities of the invader. It cannot reasonably be pretended that such acts conduce to any end which their authors dare avow before the civilized world, and sooner or later Christendom must mete out to them the condemnation which such brutality deserves. The sufferings thus ruthlessly inflicted upon the people of the invaded districts has served but to illustrate their patriotism. Entire unanimity and zeal for their country's cause has been pre-eminently conspicuous among those whose sacrifices have been greatest. So the army which has

borne the trials and dangers of the war, which has been subjected to privations and disappointments (tests of manly fortitude far more severe than the brief fatigues and perils of actual combat) has been the centre of cheerfulness and hope. From the camp comes the voice of the soldier patriots invoking each who is at home, in the sphere he best may fill, to devote his whole energies to the support of a cause in the success of which their confidence has never faltered. They, the veterans of many a hard fought field, tender to their country, without limit of time, a service of priceless value to us, one which posterity will hold in grateful remembrance.

In considering the state of the country, the reflection is naturally suggested, that this is the third Congress of the Confederate States of America. The Provisional Government was formed, its Congress held four sessions, lived its appointed term, and passed away. The permanent Government was then organized, its different Departments established, a Congress elected which also held four sessions, served its full constitutional term and expired. You, the second Congress, under the permanent Government, are now assembled at the time and place appointed by law for commencing your session. All these events have passed into history, notwithstanding the threat of our prompt subjugation, made three years ago, by a people that presume to assert a title to govern States whose separate and independent sovereignty was recognized by treaty with France and Great Britain in the last century, and remained unquestioned for nearly three generations. Yet these very governments, in disregard of duty and treaty obligations which bind them to recognize as independent, Virginia and other Confederate States, persist in countenancing, by moral influence, if not in aiding by aid and partial action, the claim set up by the Executive of foreign Government, to exercise despotic sway over the States thus recognized, and treat the invasion of them by their former limited and special agent as though it were the attempt of a sovereign to suppress a rebellion against lawful authority. Unquestioned advantage has been taken of our present condition, and our rights have been violated, but vessels of war detained in ports to which they had been invited by proclamations of neutrality, and in one instance our flag also insulted where the sacred right of asylum was supposed to be secure; while one of these Governments has contented itself with simply deprecating by deplimentary representations the conduct of our enemy in the constantly recurring instances of his contemptuous disregard of neutral rights and flagrant violations of public law. It may be that foreign Governments, like our enemies, have mistaken our desire for peace, unreservedly expressed, for evidence of exhaustion, and have thence inferred the probability of success in the effort to subjugate or exterminate the millions of human beings who, in these States, prefer any fate to submission to their savage assailants. I see no prospect of an early change in the course heretofore pursued by these Governments; but when this delusion shall have been dispelled, and when our independence, by the valor and fortitude of our people, shall have been won against all the hostile influences combined against us, and can no longer be ignored by open foes or professed neutrals, this war will have left with its proud memories a record of many wrongs, which it may not misbecome us to forgive—some for which we may not properly forbear from demanding redress. In the meantime it is enough for us to know that every avenue of negotiation is closed against us; that our enemy is making renewed and strenuous efforts for our destruction; and that the sole resource for us, as a people secure in the justice of our cause, and holding our liberties to be more precious than all other earthly possessions, is to combine and apply every element of power for their defence and preservation.

On the subject of the exchange of prisoners I greatly regret to be unable to give you satisfactory information. The Government of the United States, while persisting in its failure to execute the terms of the cartel, make occasional deliveries of prisoners, and then suspend action without apparent cause. I confess my inability to comprehend their policy or purpose.—The prisoners held by us, in spite of human care, are perishing from the inevitable effects of imprisonment and the homesickness produced by the hopelessness of release from confinement. The spectacle of their suffering augments our longing desire to relieve from similar trials our own brave men, who have spent so many weary months in a cruel and useless imprisonment, endured with heroic constancy. The delivery, after a suspension of some weeks, has just been resumed by the enemy; but as

they give no assurance of intent to carry out the cartel, an interruption of the exchange may recur at any moment.

The reports of the Departments, herewith submitted, are referred to for full information in relation to the matters appertaining to each. There are two of these on which I deem it necessary to make special remark.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury states facts justifying the conclusion that the law passed at the last session for the purpose of withdrawing from circulation the large excess of Treasury notes heretofore issued, has had the desired effect; and that by the 1st July the amount in circulation will have been reduced to a sum not exceeding \$230,000,000. It is believed to be of primary importance that no further issue of notes should take place, and that the use of the credit of the Government should be restricted to the two other modes provided by Congress, viz: the sale of bonds and the issue of certificates bearing interest, for the price of supplies purchased within our limits. The law, as it now stands, authorizes the issue by the Treasury of new notes to the extent of two thirds of the amount received under its provisions. The estimate of the amount funded under the law, is shown to be \$300,000,000, and if two thirds of this sum be released, we shall have an addition of \$200,000,000 to our circulation, believed to be already ample for the business of the country. The addition of this large sum to the volume of the currency would be attended by disastrous effects, and would produce the speedy recurrence of the evils from which the funding law has rescued the country. If our arms are crowned with the success which we have so much reason to hope, we may well expect that this war cannot be prolonged beyond the current year, and nothing would so much retard the beneficent influence of peace on all the interests of our country, as the existence of a great mass of currency not redeemable in coin. With our vast resources, the circulation, if restricted to its present volume, would be easily manageable, and by gradual absorption in payment of public dues would give place to the precious metals, the only basis of a currency adapted to commerce with foreign countries. In our present circumstances I know of no mode of providing for the public wants which would entail sacrifices so great as a fresh issue of Treasury notes, and I trust that you will concur in the propriety of absolutely forbidding any increase of those now in circulation.

Officers have been appointed and dispatched to the Trans-Mississippi States, and the necessary measures taken for the execution of the laws enacted to obviate delays in administering the Treasury and other Executive Departments in those States; but sufficient time has not elapsed to ascertain the results.

In relation to the most important of all subjects at the present time, the efficiency of our armies in the field, it is gratifying to assure you that the discipline and instruction of the troops have kept pace with the improvement in material and equipment. We have reason to congratulate ourselves on the results of the legislation on this subject and on the increased administrative energy in the different bureaus of the War Department, and may not unreasonably indulge anticipations of commensurate success in the ensuing campaign.

The organization of reserves is in progress, and it is hoped they will be valuable in affording local protection without requiring details and detachments from active force.

Among the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary of War, your attention is specially invited to those in which legislation is suggested on the following subjects, viz:

The tenure of office of the general officers in the provisional army; and a proper discrimination in compensation of the different grades;

The provision required in aid of invalid officers who have resigned in consequence of wounds or sickness contracted while in service;

The amendment of the law which deprives officers in the field of the privilege of purchasing rations and thus adds to their embarrassment, instead of conferring the benefit intended;

The organization of the general staff of the army, in relation to which a special message will shortly be addressed to you, containing the reasons which compelled me to withhold my approval of a bill passed by your predecessors at too late a period of the session to allow time for returning it for their reconsideration;

The necessity for an increase in the allowance now made for the transportation of officers traveling under orders;

The mode of providing officers for the execution of the conscript law;

The means of securing greater dispatch and

more regular administration of justice in examining and disposing of the records of cases reported from the courts-martial and military courts in the army.

The recent events of the war are highly creditable to our troops, exhibiting energy and vigilance, combined with the habitual gallantry which they have taught us to expect on all occasions.—We have been cheered by important and valuable successes in Florida, Northern Mississippi, Western Tennessee, and Kentucky, Western Louisiana and Eastern North Carolina, reflecting highest honor on the skill and conduct of our commanders, and on the incomparable soldiers whom it is their privilege to lead. A naval attack on Mobile was so successfully repulsed at the outer works that the attempt was abandoned, and the nine months' siege of Charleston has been practically suspended, leaving that noble city and its fortresses imperishable monuments to the skill and fortitude of its defenders. The armies in Northern Georgia and in Northern Virginia still oppose, with unshaken front, a formidable barrier to the progress of the invader; and our generals, armies, and people, are animated by cheerful confidence.

Let us, then, while resolute in devoting all our energies to securing the realization of the bright auspices which encourage us, not forget that our humble and most grateful thanks are due to Him, without whose guidance and protecting care, all human effort are of no avail, and to whose interposition are due the manifold successes with which we have been cheered. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Richmond, May 2d, 1864.

YOUNG WOMAN'S KISSES.—The notion of prolonging life by inhaling the breath of young women, observes Mr. Wadd, was an agreeable delusion easily credited; and one physician who had himself written on health was so influenced by it, that he actually took lodgings in a boarding school that it might never be without a constant supply of the proper atmosphere. Philip Thicknesse, who wrote "The Valetudinarian's Guide in 1776, seems to have taken a dose whenever he could. I am myself, says he, turned of sixty, and in general though I have lived in various climates, and suffered severely both in body and mind, yet have always partaken of the breath of young women, whenever they came in my way. I feel none of the infirmities which so often strike the eyes and ears in this great city (Bath) of sickness, by men many years younger than myself.

RULES FOR STUDY.—Professor Davis, the eminent mathematician in conversing with a young friend of his, upon the importance of system in studying, as well as in everything else, took a piece of paper and wrote off for him the following important rules:

1. Learn one thing at a time;
2. Learn that thing well;
3. Learn its connections, as far as possible, with all other things;
4. Believe that to know everything of something is better than to know something of everything.

The ruler of Cashmere has recently taken stringent measures to prevent the further manufacture of the inferior shawls which are now sent in such large quantities to Europe, so possibly made as to be nearly unsaleable. In the city of Siroo Nugger or Cashmere, there are seventy thousand persons engaged in their manufacture.

Freemasons may be curious to know their strength in the world's population. From very accurate statistics, we can state that in the New and in the Old World there are 6258 lodges, with 500,000 active members. The number of non-active and those who have withdrawn is nearly 3,000,000.

A gentleman was speaking, the other day, of the kindness of his friends in visiting him. One old aunt in particular visited him regularly twice a year, and stayed six months each time.

A London surgeon recently put a dog to sleep with chloroform, and taking out a piece of his skull, has inserted a watch crystal, through which he can see the changes in the brain produced by sleep.

Water is to be brought from the River Jordan to baptize the English Prince.

M. Alexandre Vattemare died recently in France.