

The Family Circle.

THE SECOND LOUISIANA.

By J. B. BOKER.

DARK as the clouds of even, Ranked in the western heaven, Waiting the bright stars to rise...

"Now," the flag-herald cried, "Though death and hell be hid, Let the whole nation see..."

"Freedom!" their battle-cries, "Freedom!" or leave to die!

Hundreds on hundreds fell; But they are resting well; Scourges and shackles strong...

THE TWO RIVALS;

OR THE COMPOSITION PRIZE.

Less than fifty years ago, in a young ladies' school not far from the city of Boston, a prize was offered by the trustees for the best original composition which should be read by the graduating class at the approaching annual examination.

Between Alice Carlton and Jane Bradford, it was generally conceded by the prize-winners, an elegant edition, in green and gold, of one of our best standard poets.

Miscellaneous.

THE PLANTATION INFIRMARY.

A new "Uncle Tom's Cabin" has just appeared in England and this country with the advantage of its graphic and thrilling descriptions and harrowing pictures of slavery.

self-distrust. Consequently, she craved for her child the encouragement and self-confidence which a successful prize essay would be sure to give.

The important day arrived, and Derrick Hall was crowded to its utmost capacity by the friends and patrons of the Derrick Institute, to witness its annual exhibition.

It was now Alice's turn; and when her name was called, she did not rise. The poet had been greatly disturbed from the outset by the thought of facing the unwelcome gaze of the crowd; but her own convictions, as well as her mother's assurances that she had succeeded well in writing her piece, led her to do so.

"No such motive ought to hinder me, or shall," replied Jane; and with a new light in her eye, and a generous glow upon her cheek, she moved quickly to the side of the weeping girl.

It was an admirable theme—"The Uses of Study." As Jane read, her interest in the subject, quickened by her tender compassion for the writer, became deep and fervent.

The prize committee whispered a few moments together; and then the chairman announced their decision. "In adjudging," he said, "as we must, for its rare literary excellence, the offered prize in composition, to that written by Miss Alice Carlton, we desire to say that in our opinion, an equal testimonial should be given to another; and that if two prizes, instead of one, were ours to bestow, we should most heartily give the second to the young lady whose own well-written theme was only surpassed by that which she had the grace and kindness to read for another."

The great question which is to agitate the nation for the next decade after the close of the war is, "What shall we do with the slaveholders?" We of the Northern States are devout believers in ethnology: we know that two diverse races or varieties of men cannot exist together on an equality; that one inevitably swallows up or obliterates the other.

Alice's mother was more anxious, if possible, than Alice herself, that she should gain the prize at the approaching examination. And this arose from no excess of ambition or maternal pride. She knew the secret of her daughter's mental efforts, although Alice seldom spoke of it; and she saw that she often suffered from despondency and a morbid

bed, mattress, or pillow, buried in tattered and filthy blankets, which, huddled round them as they lay strewn about, left hardly space to move upon the floor.

Some very simple-minded individuals have proposed (for what reason is entirely obscure) the colonization of the slaves rather than the masters. Not to speak of the fact that we should then be rewarding treason and punishing loyalty by transferring millions of our most faithful citizens, and paying their lands to traitors, how are we to have the means to procure the vessels for the emigration of four million of human beings?

Spain expelled her Moorish artisans and France her Huguenot laborers, and philosophers think that both countries never recovered the loss. How much cheaper would be for us the repatriation of the slaveholders!

Why, then, will not our philanthropists forgo the idea of the Colonization of the Slaveholders? Looking towards Mexico as the place of settlement?

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to the Republic have been disgraced abroad, disensions at home, and a war costing some \$300,000,000.

Each slave-master has a family, and he is worth to the country his own weight in gold. He is heavily in debt to Northern merchants, and he has cost, and is likely to cost, millions more to the North than he will ever produce.

Of course, human nature should never be despaired of, and, under happier circumstances, the Southern slaveholder might be reformed into an honest and industrious workman.

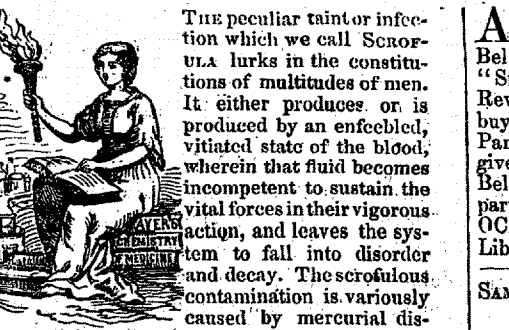
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