# The Democratic Watchman.

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## Miscellaneous.

### Jefferson Davis's Inaugural Address.

A pretty free account of the inauguration of Jefferson Davis as President of the Confederate States, at Richmond, Va., on the 22d of February, is given in several of the New York and Philadelphia journals, copied from Richmond papers. The following is

THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Feb. 22.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—On this, the birthday of the man most identified with the establishment of American Indedendence, and beneath the monument erected to commemorate his heroic virtues and those of his compatriots, we have assembled to usher into existence the permanent Government of the Confederate States. Through this instrumentality, under the favor of Divine Providence, we hope to perpetuate the principles of our Revolutionary fathers. The day, the memory and the purpose seem fitly associated.

It is with mingled feelings of humility and pride that I appear to take, in the presence of the people and before high heaven, the oath prescribed as a qualification for the exalted station to which the unanimous voice of the people has called me. Deeply sensible of all that is implied by this manifestation of the people's confidence, I am yet more profoundly impressed by the responsibility of the office, and humbly feel my own unworthiness.

In return for their kindness, I can only offer assurances of the gratitude with which it is received, and can but pledge a zealous devotion of every faculty to the service of those who have chosen me as their Chief Magistrate.

When a long course of class legislation, directed not to the general welfare, but to the aggrandizement of the Northern section of the Union, culminated in a warfare on the domestic institutions of the Southern States—when the dogmas of a sectional party, substituted for the provisions of a constitutional compact, threatened to destroy the sovereign rights of the States, six of those States, withdrawing from the Union, confederated together to exercise the right and perform the duty of instituting a government which would better secure the liberties for the preservation of which that Union was established.

Whatever of hope some may have entertained that a returning sense of justice would remove the danger with which our rights were threatened, and render it possible to preserve the Union of the Constitution, must have been dispelled by the malignity and barbarity of the Northern States in the prosecution of the existing war. The confidence of the most hopeful among us must have been destroyed by the disregard they have recently exhibited for all the time-honored bulwarks of civil and religious liberty. Bastiles filled with prisoners, arrested without civil process or indictment duly found; the writ of habeas corpus suspended by Executive mandate; a State Legislature controlled by the imprisonment of members whose avowed principles suggested to the Federal Executive that there might be another added to the list of seceded States; elections held under threats of military power; civil officers, peaceful citizens and gentle women incarcerated for opinion's sake, proclaimed the incapacity of our late associates to administer a government as free, liberal and humane as that established for our common use.

For proof of the sincerity of our purpose to maintain our ancient institutions, we may point to the Constitution of the Confederacy and the laws enacted under it, as well as to the fact that through the necessities of an unequal struggle there has been no act on our part to impair personal liberty or the freedom of speech, or of thought or of the press. The courts have been open, the judicial functions fully executed, and every right of the peaceful citizens maintained as securely as if a war of invasion had not disturbed the land.

The people of the States now confederated became convinced that the Government of the United States had fallen into the hands of a sectional majority, who would pervert that most sacred of all trusts to the destruction of the rights which it was pledged to protect. They believed that to remain longer in the Union would subject them to a continuance of a disparaging discrimination, submission to which would be inconsistent with their welfare, and intolerable to a proud people. They therefore determined to sever the bonds and establish a new Confederacy for themselves.

The experiment instituted by our Revolutionary fathers, of a voluntary union of sovereign States for purposes specified in a solemn compact, had been perverted by those who, feeling power and forgetting right, were determined to respect no law but their own will. The Government had ceased to answer the ends for which it was ordained and established. To save ourselves from a revolution which, in its silent but rapid progress, was about to place us under the despotism of numbers, and to preserve in spirit as well as in form, a system of government we believed to be peculiarly fitted to our condition, and full of promise for mankind, we determined to make a new association composed of States homogeneous in interest, in policy and in feeling.

True to our traditions of peace and our love of justice, we sent commissioners to the United States to propose a fair and amicable settlement of all questions of public debt or property which might be in dispute. But the Government at Washington, denying our right to self government, refused even to listen to any proposals for a peaceful separation. Nothing was then left but to prepare for war.

The first year in our history has been the most eventful in the annals of this continent. A new government has been established, and its machinery put in operation over an area exceeding seven hundred thousand square miles. The great principles upon which we have been willing to hazard everything that is dear to man have made conquests for us which could never have been achieved by the sword. Our Confederacy has grown from six to thirteen States; *and Maryland, already united to us by hallowed memories and material interests, will, I believe, when able to speak with unstifled voice, connect her destiny with the South.*—Our people have rallied with unexampled unanimity to the support of the great principles of constitutional government, with firm resolve to perpetuate by arms the rights which they could not peacefully secure. A million of men, it is estimated, are now standing in hostile array, and waging war along a frontier of thousands of miles. Battles have been fought, sieges have been conducted, and, *although the contest is not ended, and the tide for the moment is against us, the final result in our favor is not doubtful.*

The period is near at hand *when our foes must sink under the immense load of debt which they have incurred*, a debt, which, in their effort to subjugate us, has already attained such fearful dimensions as will subject them to burdens which must continue to oppress them for generations to come.

We, too, have had our trials and difficulties. That we are to escape them in future is not to be hoped. It was to be expected when we entered upon this war, that it would expose our people to sacrifices and cost them much, both of money and blood. But we knew the value of the object for which we struggled, and understood the nature of the war in which we were engaged. Nothing could be so bad as failure, and any sacrifice would be cheap at the price of success in such a contest.

But the picture has its lights as well as its shadows. This great strife has awakened in the people the highest emotions and qualities of the human soul. It is cultivating feelings of patriotism, virtue and courage. Instances of self sacrifice and of generous devotion to the noble cause for which we are contending, are rife throughout the land. Never has a people evinced a more determined spirit than that now animating men, women and children in every part of our country. Upon the first call the men fly to arms; and wives and mothers send their husbands and sons to the battle without a murmur of regret.

It was perhaps, in the ordination of Providence that we were to be taught the value of our liberties by the price which we pay for them.

The recollections of this great contest with all common traditions of glory, of sacrfice and of blood, will be the bonds of harmony and enduring affection amongst the people, producing unity in policy, fraternity in sentiment, and joint effort in war.

Nor have the material sacrifices of the past year been made without some corresponding benefits. *If the acquiescence of foreign nations in a pretended blockade, has deprived us of our commerce with them, it is fast making us a self supporting and an independent people.* The blockade, if effectual and permanent, could only serve to divert our industry from the production of articles for export, and employ it in supplying commodities for domestic use.

It is a satisfaction that we have maintained the war by our unaided exertions. We have neither asked nor received assistance from any quarter. Yet the interest involved is not wholly our own. The world at large is concerned in opening our markets to its commerce. When the independence of the Confederate States is recognized by the nations of the earth, and we are free to follow our interests and inclinations by cultivating foreign trade, the Southern States will offer to manufacturing nations the most favorable markets which ever invited their commerce. Cotton, sugar, rice, tobacco, provisions, timber and naval stores will furnish attractive exchanges. Nor would the constancy of these supplies be likely to be distributed by war. Our confederated strength will be too great to tempt aggression; and never was there a people whose interests and principles committed them so fully to a peaceful policy as those of the Confederate States. By the character of their productions they are too deeply interested in foreign commerce wantonly to disturb it.—War of conquest they cannot wage, because the constitution of their Confederacy admits of no coerced association. Civil war there cannot be between States held together by their violition only. This rule of voluntary association, which cannot fail to be conservative, by securing just and impartial government at home, does not diminish the security of the obligations by which the Confederate States may be bound to foreign nations. *In proof of this it is to be remembered that, at the first moment of asserting their right of secession, these States proposed a settlement on the basis of a common liability for the obligation of the General Government.*

Fellow citizens, after the struggles of ages had consecrated the right of the Englishman to constitutional representative government, our colonial ancestors were forced to vindicate that birthright by an appeal to arms.—Success crowned their efforts, and they provided for their posterity a peaceful remedy against future aggression.

The tyranny of an unbridled majority, the most odious and least responsible form of despotism, has denied us both the right and the remedy. Therefore we are in arms to renew such sacrifices as our fathers made to the holy cause of constitutional liberty. At the darkest hour of our struggle the provisional gives place to the permanent government. *After a series of successes and victories, which covered our arms with glory, we have recently met with serious disasters.* But in the heart of a people resolved to be free these disasters tend but to stimulate to increased resistance.

To show ourselves worthy of the inheritance bequeathed to us by the patriots of the Revolution, we must emulate that heroic devotion which made reverse to them but the crucible in which their patriotism was refined.

With confidence in the wisdom and virtue of those who will share with me the responsibility and aid me in the conduct of public affairs; securely relying on the patriotism and courage of the people, of which the present war has furnished so many examples, I deeply feel the weight of the responsibilities I now, with unaffected diffidence, am about to assume; and, fully realizing the inadequacy of human power to guide and to sustain, my hope is reverently fixed on Him whose favor is ever vouchsafed to the cause which is just. With humble gratitude and adoration, acknowledging the Providence which has so visibly protected the Confederacy during its brief but eventful career, to Thee, O, God! I trustingly commit myself, and prayerfully invoke Thy blessing on my country and its cause.

REBEL GUNNERS IN THE LATE FIGHT.—The man who planned the fortifications at Fort Donelson, a civil engineer from New Orleans was the first man killed in the gunboat engagement on the 14th. He was captain of the water battery. About the fourth shot from the 8-inch shell-gun of the St. Louis struck one of his guns, breaking it, and causing a heavy fragment to strike him on the head. Probably there are no better gunners in the United States than worked the different batteries at Fort Donelson on the day of this memorable engagement.—Two of the batteries were commanded by French officers of great practical experience in the art and science of war, and especially that branch of it at which they were then employed. Indeed, it is the boast of many of the rebels: "You Federals can beat us in marching soldiers, but you can't touch us when it comes to shooting at a mark with the big guns. We never let a man fire one of these big guns unless he has had some experience." The idea that prevails too commonly in the North, that Southern artillerymen are not experts, was rapidly dispelled from the minds of all who witnessed the accurate direction of the 64 and 128 pounders aimed at the gunboats on that day.

STILL GOING OUT.—Specie still continues to go out of our country at a rapid rate.—During the week ending on the 15th inst., there was exported from New York the sum of $1,147,795, which, with previous exportations, makes a total of $5,226,877 since the 1st of January. In 1861, the total export of specie from that port, from January 1st to February 15th, was only $202,560!—Thus, for the same brief period, the exportation of this year exceed that of last more than five millions of dollars. This result is rather alarming, but the responsibility for it must rest upon the Black Republican Congress, who, in clear violation of the Constitution and disregard of the teachings of all experience, declare by law that a Government Treasury Note—a mere paper *promise to pay*—is *money*, gold and silver, a legal tender in payment of debts! No more effectual measure for driving specie out of the country would have been suggested or adopted.—*Westchester Jeffersonian.*

## Select Poetry.

### The Infant's Dream.

Oh, cradle me on thy knee, mamma,
And sing me that holy strain
Which soothed me last as you fondly pressed
My glowing cheek to your loving breast,
For I saw a scene when I went to rest,
That I fain would see again.

And smile as you then did smile, mamma,
And weep as you then did weep,
Then fix on me your loving eye,
And gaze and gaze till the tear be dry;
Then rock me gently, and sing and sigh,
'Till you lull me fast asleep.

For I dreamed a heavenly dream, mamma,
While slumbering on your knee;
I lived in a land where forms divine,
In kingdoms of glory eternally shine,
And the world I'd give, if the world was mine,
Again that land to see.

I fancied we roamed in a wood, mamma,
We rested under a bough,
When near me a butterfly flaunted in pride,
And I chased it away through the forest wide,
And the night came on and I lost my guide,
And I knew not what to do.

My heart grew chill with fear, mamma,
And I loudly called for thee,
When a white-robed maiden appeared in the air,
And she flung back the locks of her golden hair,
And she kissed me so sweetly ere I was aware,
Saying, "Come, pretty babe, with me."

My tears and my fears she beguiled, mamma,
And she led me far away;
We entered the door of the dark, dark tomb,
Then passed through its long, long vault of gloom,
Then opened our eyes in a world of bloom,
And sky of cloudless day.

I mingled with the heavenly throng mamma,
With cherub and seraphim fair,
And I saw, as we roved though the region of bliss,
The spirits that came from the world's wilderness,
And there was the joy no tongue can express,
For they know no sorrow there.

Do you think of that poor old man, mamma,
Who came and called at our door,
When the night was dark and the storm was loud,
And his heart was weak and his form was bowed,
And his ragged old mantle became his shroud,
Ere the midnight watch was o'er.

He was in glory too, mamma,
And safe as the blest could be;
He needed no alms in that land of light,
For he walked with patriarchs clothed in white,
And no seraph there had a crown more bright,
Or a costlier robe than he.

Let me go again to that land, mamma,
While slumbering on your knee;
I would live in a land where forms divine
In the kingdom of glory eternally shine,
And the world I'd give, if the world was mine,
Again that land to see.

☞ Many years ago a man appeared in court, whether as plaintiff, defendant or witness, tradition does not inform us. Be this as it may the following dialogue ensued:

Court—What is your name, sir?

Answer—My name is Knot Martin your honor.

C.—Well, what is it?

A.—It is Knott Martin.

C.—"Knott Martin," again! We don't ask you what your name is not, but what it is. No contempt of Court, sir.

A.—If your honor will give me leave I'll spell my name.

C.—Well; spell it.

A.—K-n-o double t, Knott, M-a-r-t-i-n, Martin—Knott Martin.

C.—O, very well, Mr. Martin, we see through it now, but it is one of the most *knotty* cases we have had before us for some time.

☞ The Bedford county Democracy has spoken. At a mass meeting held in the Court House in Bedford, on the 10th inst., the following, among other resolutions, were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the opposition party, by their extraordinary *Horse Policy*, have justly earned the appellation of the "Horse Party," and by that name should be hereafter known in the history of their collapsed organization.

*Resolved*, That those venerable, dilapidated, lame, halt and blind horses, which were purchased for Government service, but died of old age before entering on such service, are entitled to the commiserations of all honest men for their unfortunate association with a band of thieves.

☞ Old Abraham, in the start, at one big swallow, took the whole of the Chicago platform to his inner departments. It was a terrible dose for a human being to gulp down composed as it was of nigger, tariff internal improvements, and a host of other ingrediments fully as poisoneus to the good of the American people as those above named. But old Abraham soon began to get sick at the stomach, and straight way a large number of Abolition quacks began to gather around him with gratutious precriptions but it was no use. The planks of the platform had to come up one after another, until Abraham began to feel quite well. Since then old Abe has been eating considerable democratic food, and he finds that it agrees with him and the country a great deal better.

☞ Lady Yarmouth asked Garrick one day why Love was always represented as a child? He replied: "Because Love never reaches the age of wisdom and experience."

### Message of Jeff. Davis.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 28th.—The following is the message of Jeff. Davis, delivered to the rebel Congress:

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

In obedience to the provision of the Constitution requiring the President from time to time to give to Congress information of the state of the Confederacy, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient, I have to communicate that, since my message at the last session of the Provisional Congress, events have demonstrated that the Government had attempted more than it had power successfully to achieve.

Hence, in the effort to protect by our arms the whole territory of the Confederate States, seaboard and inland, we have seen so exposed as recently to encounter serious disasters.

When the Confederacy was formed, the States comprising it were, in the peculiar character of their pursuits and a misplaced confidence in their former associates, to a great extent destitute of the means for the prosecution of a war on so gigantic a scale as that which it has attained. The workshops and artisans were mainly to be found in the Northern States, and one of the first duties which devolved upon this Government was to establish the necessary manufactories, and in the meantime to obtain, by purchase from abrord, as far as practicable, whatever was required for the public defence.

No effort has been spared to effect both of those ends; and though the results have not equalled our hopes, it is believed that an impartial judgement will, upon full investigation, award to the various departments of the Government credit for having done all which human power and foresight enabled them to accomplish. The valor and devotion of the people have not only sustained the efforts of the Government, but have gone far to support its deficiencies. The active state of military preparations among the nations of Europe in April—the date when our agents first went abroad—interposed unavoidable delays in the procurement of arms, and the want of a navy has greatly impeded our efforts to import military supplies of all sorts.

I have hoped for several days to receive official reports in relation to our discomfiture at Roanoke Island, and the fall of Fort Donelson. They have not yet reached me, and I am therefore unable to communicate to you such information of the past events, and the consequences resulting from them, as would enable me to make recommendations founded upon the changed condition which they have produced. Enough is known of the surrender of Roanoke Island to make us feel that it was deeply humiliating, however imperfect may have been the preparations for defence.

The hope is still entertained that our reported losses at Fort Donelson have been much exaggerated, inasmuch as I am not only unwilling, but unable to believe that a large army of our people have surrendered without a desperate attempt to cut their way through the investing forces, whatever may have been their numbers, and to endeavor to make a juction with the other divisions of the army. But in the absence of that exact information which can be afforded by official reports, it would be premature to pass judgment, and my own is reserved, as I trust yours will be, until that information is received.

In the meantime, strenuous efforts have been made to throw forward reinforcements to the armies at the positions threatened, and I cannot doubt that the bitter disappointments we have borne, by nerving the people to still greater exertions will speedily secure results more accordant with our just expectations, and as favor to our cause as those which marked the earlier periods of the war.

The reports of the Secretaries of War and the Navy will exhibit the mass of resources for the conduct of the war, which we have been enabled to accumulate notwithstanding the very serious difficulties against which we have contended. They afford cheering hopes that our resources, instead of as they were at the beginning of the contest, will, during its progress, become devoloped to such an extent as fully meet our future wants.

The policy of enlistments for short terms, against which I have steadily contended from the commencement of the war, has, in my judgment, contributed in no immaterial degree to the recent reverses which we have suffered, and even now renders it difficult to furnish you an accurate statement of the army.

When the war first broke out, many of our people could with difficulty be persuaded that it would be long or serious. It was not deemed possible that anything so insane as a persistent attempt to subjugate these States could be made—still less, that the delusion would so far prevail as to give to the war the vast proportions that it has assumed.

The people, incredulous of a long war were naturally averse to long enlistments, and the early legislation of Congress rendered it impracticable to obtain volunteers for a greater period than twelve months. Now that it has become probable that the war will be continued through a series of years, our high-spirited and gallant soldiers, while generally re-enlisting, are, from the fact of their having entered the service for a short term, compelled in many instances to go home to make the necessary arrangements for their families during their prolonged absence.

The quotas of the new regiments for the war, called for from different States, are in rapid progress of organization. The whole body of new levies and re-enlisted men will probably be ready and in the ranks within the next thirty days. But, in the meantime, it is exceedingly difficult to give an accurate statement of the number of our forces in the field. They may, in general terms, be stated at 400 regiments of infantry, with a proportionate force of cavalry and artillery, details of which will be shown by the report of the Secretary of War.

I deem it proper to advert to the fact that the process of furloughs and re-enlistments, in progress for the last month, had so far disorganized and weakened our forces as to impair our ability for a successful defence; but I heartily congratulate you that this evil, which I had foreseen, and was powerless to prevent, may now be said to be substantially at an end, and that we shall not again during the war, be exposed to seeing our strength disminished by this fruitful cause of disaster—short enlistments.

The people of the Confederate States, being principallly engaged in agricultural pursuits, were unprovided at the commencement of hostilities with ships, ship yards, materials for ship building, or skilled mechanics and seamen in sufficient numbers to make the prompt creation of a navy a practical task, even if the required appropriations had been made for the porpose. Notwithstanding our very limited resources, however, the report of the Secretary will exhibit to you a satisfactory proportion in preparation, and certainly of near completion, of vessels of a number and class on which we may confidently rely for contesting the vaunted control of the enemy over our waters.

The financial system devised by the wisdom of your predecessors, has proved adequate to supplying all the wants of the Government, nothwithstanding the unexpected and very large increase of expenditures resulting from the great augmentation in the necessary means of defence. The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will exhibit the gratifying fact that we have no floating debt, that the credit of the Government is unimpaired, and that the total expenditure of the Government for the year has been, in round numbers, $170,000,000—than one-third of the sum wanted by the enemy in his vain efforts to conquer us—and less than the value of a single article of export—the cotton crop of the year.

The report of the Postmaster General will show the condition of that Department to be steadily improving, its revenues increasing, and already affording assurance that it will be self-sustaining at the date required by the Constitution, while affording ample mail facilities for the people.

In the Department of Justice, which includes the Patent Office and Public Printing, some legislative provisions will be required, which will be specifically stated in the report of the head of that Department.

I invite the attention of Congress to the duty of organizing a Supreme Court of the Confederate States, in accordance with the mandate of the Constitution.

I refer you to my message communicated to the Provisional Congress in November last, for such further information as it might be useful to lay before you, the short interval which has since elapsed not having produced any material change in that condition, other than those to which reference has already been made.

In conclusion, I cordially welcome the Representatives, who, being recently chosen by the people, are fully imbued with their views and feelings, and can so ably advise me as to the needful provisions for the public service.

I assure you of my hearty co-operation in all your efforts for the common welfare of the country.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

☞ As soon as it was known among the Washington politicians that Mr. Lincoln had appointed Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War, a tremendous delegation of Blacks called upon him and protested in the strongest terms against the appointment of a Democrat to so important a position. "Old Abe" listened to all their arguments in silence, and after they were through, terminated the interview with the following: "Gentlemen, I have been considering the question, for some time, whether I would have *four* Democrats and *five* Republicans in my Cabinet, or *five* Democrats and *four* Republicans. If I could find *four* more Democrats just like Stanton, d—d if I would't appoint them.—Good day, gentlemen.

The Republicans profess to have great respect for the opinions of Mr. Douglas.—Let them reflect over the following expressions made by him, in his speech before the Illinois legislature a few days before his death:

"I will never acquiesce in any [illegible] upon the constitutional rights or institutions of the South.

"If any attempt is made to invade their rights or incite servile insurrections among them, I would be the first to rush to the rescue."

☞ A kind-hearted wife once waited on a physician to get him to prescribe for her husband's eyes, which were sore. "Let him wash them every morning with brandy," said the doctor. A few weeks after the doctor chanced to meet the wife. "Well, has your husband followed my advice?" "He has done everything in his power to do it, doctor, but he never could get the brandy higher than his mouth."

WHAT A WESTERN EDITOR WANTS.—Wanted at this office, a bulldog, of any color except pumpkin and milk; of respectable size, snub nose, cropped ears, abbreviated continuation, and bad disposition—who can come when called with a raw beefsteak, and will bite the man who spits tobacco juice on the stove and steals the exchanges.

☞ In Joe Davis county Ills., a great excitement is made at a series of so called religious meetings, in which people are taken with violent contortions called the "jerks." The disease seems to affect some persons worse than others, for while a few have died the most of them have, after being jerked out of their boots or their senses, ultimately recovered.