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The Muse.

DEATH OF OUR DARLING

JOHN P. MITCHELL.

The wind was dark and blighting,
The earth was cold and low,
When death our heart was smiting
With a crushing weight of woe.

Our darling child was dying,
Her breath was pale and slow,
While we vainly tried to soothe
The angel hands were flying.

White angel hands were flying,
To take our love away,
We could not help beseeching
Our God to let her stay.

As death's cold hand drew nearer
In the cruel, cruel strife,
She only seemed to sever
The angel hands were flying.

Oh, then we felt our weakness
When her eyes were turned in vain
Imploping us, in weakness,
To ease her fearful pain.

And while our hearts were melting
Her angel hands were flying,
Her hands were melting written,
To immortality.

Within the clouds of life were snapping,
Her hands were melting written,
Her hands were melting written,
To immortality.

Then while we mourned in sorrow,
That our love's one is so near,
Celestial light we borrow
From Jordan's farther shore.

For, by Faith, we saw her landing
From Jordan's chilling tide,
And now we see her smiling
By the West Redeemer's side.

Howland, Pa., Feb. 23, 1863.

Miscellaneous.

1776!

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another; and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them; a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; and that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its power in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments, established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly, all experience bears witness, that the people are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right; it is their duty to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future safety. Such has been the patient suffering of the colonies, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former system of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object, the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these States. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused to assent to laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation, till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature—a right inalienable to them, and fundamental to the rights of the people.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused, for a long time after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the State remaining, in the meantime, exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose, obstructing the laws of naturalization of foreigners, refusing to pass others to encourage their migration hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people and eat out their own substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independent of and superior to the civil power.

He has combined, with others, to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed soldiers among us;

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefit of trial by jury;

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offenses;

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its borders, so as to render it more oppressive and more tyrannical; and for introducing the same oppressive rule into these colonies;

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our government;

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun, with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow citizens taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms. Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince whose only character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attention to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time, of the attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarranted jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them, by the ties of our kindred, to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and of common humanity.

We therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that as free and independent States, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and do all other acts and things which independent States may of right do. And, for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

The foregoing declaration was, by order of Congress, engrossed, and signed by the following members:

JOHN HANCOCK,
NEW HAMPSHIRE,
Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert T. Paine, Elbridge Gerry.

RHODE ISLAND,
Stephen Hopkins, William Ellery.

CONNECTICUT,
Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, William Williams, Oliver Wolcott.

NEW YORK,
Wm. Floyd, Philip Livingston, Francis Lewis, Lewis Morris.

NEW JERSEY,
Richard Stockton, John Witherspoon, Francis Hopkin, John Hart, Abraham Clark.

PENNSYLVANIA,
Robert Morris, Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, John Morton, George Clymer, James Smith, George Taylor, James Wilson, George Ross.

DELAWARE,
Cesar Rodney, George Read, Thomas M'Kean.

MARYLAND,
Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, Charles Carroll of Carrollton.

VIRGINIA,
George Wythe, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Jr., Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton.

NORTH CAROLINA,
William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, John Penn.

SOUTH CAROLINA,
Edward Rutledge, Thomas Heyward, Jr., Thomas Lynch, Jr., Arthur Middleton.

GEORGIA,
Buttyn Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, George Walton.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN IN 1849.

The following is a remarkable speech, delivered by Abraham Lincoln, in 1848. In the arrangement of this speech, Mr. Lincoln will find his own counterpart.

Let him (the President) answer fully, fairly, and candidly. Let him answer with facts, and not with arguments. Let him answer as he would answer as Washington would answer. As a nation should not, and the Almighty will not be evaded, so let him attempt no evasion, no equivocation.

But if he cannot or will not do this—if any pretense, or no pretense, he shall refuse to do it—then I shall be fully convinced of what I more than suspect already that he is deeply conscious of being in the wrong; that he feels the blood of his war, like the blood of Able, is crying to heaven against him; that he ordered Gen. Taylor into the midst of a peaceful Mexican settlement, purporting to bring on a war, that originally having some strong motive—what, I will not stop now to give my opinion concerning—to involve the two countries in a war, and thus, upon the exceeding brightest of military glory, that attractive rainbow that rises in showers of blood—that charms to destroy—the plunged into it, and has swept on and on, till disappointed in his calculation of the ease with which Mexico might be subdued, he now finds himself he knows not where—how like the half insane mauling of the lower dream is the whole war part of the last message!

All this showed that the President is, in no way satisfied with his own position. First, he takes up one, and in attempting to argue into it, he argues himself out of it, then seeks another, and goes through the same process, and then, confused at going able to think of nothing new, he snatches up the old one again, which he has some time before cast off. His mind tumbled beyond his power, is running hither and thither like some frantic creature on a burning surface, finding no position on which it can settle down and be at ease.

Again, it is a singular omission in this message that it nowhere intimates when the President expects the war to terminate. At the beginning Gen. Scott was by the President directed to discontinue it, and to discontinue, for nothing that peace could be conquered in less than three or four months. But now at the end of twenty months—during which time our armies have given us the most splendid successes—every department, and every private and public officer and private, regular and volunteer, doing all that men could do, and hundreds of things which it had ever been thought men could not do—after all this, the same President gives us a long message, without showing us that as to the end, he has himself even an imaginary one. As I have before said, he is bewildered, confused and miserable perplexed man.

A miser who was asked why he had married a girl from his own kitchen, said that "the Union was attended with a double advantage—it saved him not only the expense of a wife, but the taxes on a servant."

A STABILIZING DISCLOSURE.

The Syracuse (New York) Courier publishes the following, furnished to it by the gentleman to whom it was addressed. Although a Republican in his politics, he was not vile enough to sanction the infamous scheme recommended to destroy the liberties of the country, and consequently he made the exposure. Let our Democratic friends look out. Such secret organizations for the atrocious purposes indicated most probably exist in every State:

—Utica, April 9, 1863.

"Mr. —, N. Y.—You will excuse me for addressing you, a stranger to me, from what I hear of you as a man of high integrity. We are both loyal men, and as such are friends at sight. My object in addressing you on this occasion is to know if there can be organized in your town a loyal League of Friends. You are perhaps aware that our Loyal Leagues of this State are to hold a State Convention at this place on the 27th instant. I am informed that your League is in process of formation. I dare say you know there are two Leagues—one public, and another secret—the former civil and the latter military in its plan, and from what I am told of your peculiar abilities, I especially wish you to take part in the latter.

It is essentially necessary that this organization should be speedily effected. The increasing boldness and numbers of the Copperheads in this State are such that they must be put down before the next Presidential election, or they may outvote us at the polls. Their clamor about free speech, arbitrary arrests and the Constitution is misleading the people. We must not be too careful or timid about the measures necessary to keep them under. It may be that the military forces of our inner Loyal Leagues, in co-operation with the Government, may be effectively used against them in certain localities.

Having been chosen by our friends in New York City as traveling agent for Central New York, I shall soon give you a call. I am not able to name the day at this time, but will advise you of my visit in time for you to call in a few favorable moments for consultation. Do not twine any squeamish Republicanism—only the most radical. I shall then communicate to you the signs, mystic grips and other workings of our order. Let me hear from you.

Yours truly,
E. L. ROBERTS.

WHY I AM A DEMOCRAT.

1st. Because I believe in the Constitution as it was formed by the fathers of the Republic, and under which our country has prospered, as no other nation has prospered for eighty years, or since the end of the war of the Revolution, and would have prospered more, and been united still, had not Abolitionism, with its frantic teachings, obtained possession of the Government.

2d. Because I am opposed to any infringement on the right of laborers to possess the fruits of their own industry.

3d. Because I believe in the right of free speech, without which we are worse than slaves.

4th. Because I am opposed to a consolidated government which would reduce the people to the condition of serfs or subjects.

5th. Because I am opposed to the rule of abolitionism, with the enemy to our glorious old Constitution, calling a covenant with death and a league with hell.

6th. Because I am opposed to frauds in government contracts, which have been so many and so great, during the war, as to beguile calculation, and seem to have gone unpunished.

7th. Because I am opposed to all interference, from whatever source, with the right of suffrage.

8th. Because I am in favor of freedom of press and the free election of those who can best govern our government.

9th. Because I am in favor of equal rights in all the States, as guaranteed by the Constitution, and as interpreted by the Supreme Court.

10th. Because I am opposed to emancipation proclamations making free the slaves of the South, and leaving them to the mercy of the South, while the South, as one man against the North, has divided the North against itself.

11. Because I believe that the salvation of our Government can be attained only by the elevation of the Democratic party to the control of the Government, which while it had the power, maintained the dignity of the nation at home and abroad.

Philadelphia, May 13, 1865.

LAOCHS CORRESPONDENCE.—The Chicago Tribune says that the following laconic dispatches lately passed between Gen. Halleck and Hooker.

Halleck to Hooker, May 1st.—"Make no further movement until you report your situation. What are you?"

Hooker to Halleck (immediate answer). "I am minding my own business."

Halleck to Hooker, Sunday, May 3rd.—"Did you better report your position?"

Hooker to Halleck (immediate answer). "Did you not better let me alone?"

HOOKER.

LOYALTY AND DISLOYALTY.

These terms, naturally foreign to our language as well as to the spirit of our institutions, have become engrained upon our common dialect by the constant repetition of them by the abolition press—a press alternately bigoted and fawning.

Since we are compelled to use this jargon borrowed from courts, by these malignant tendencies of power, let us consider what meaning has been attached to it by republicans. It is a matter of some curiosity, if not of importance, to know what now-a-days constitutes loyalty. After a long and minute inquiry and observation, we are happy to be able to satisfy our readers, and we herewith furnish a table of signs and symbols by which they can always tell a number one loyal man, as well as a disloyal wretch.

SIGNS OF LOYALTY.

1. Below about the negro at all hours and at all places.
2. Pocket as much money and as many fat calves as you can.
3. Gas about your patriotic volition, like the old Pharisee did about his piety.
4. Justifying everything the administration does, and avers that every man is a traitor that don't agree with you—even if all his sons are in the army while you are pocketing fat jobs.
5. If there is any more money or plunder grab it all in a Capern.
6. Abuse democrats like pickpockets.
7. Grab more money.
8. Nigger! Nigger!
9. More money.

SIGNS OF DISLOYALTY.

1. Drawing a distinction between the government and the administration—sustaining the one at all times—opposing the other when it does right, and rebuking it when it does wrong.
2. A meeting at all times that because the rebels have violated the laws of the land, it is no justification for us to violate them.
3. Fighting and forwarding means for the Union, the Constitution and the laws and ignoring abolition schemes for the negro.
4. Stronically urging a policy that will make the reunion of the States possible, instead of fostering measures to widen the breach.

These are the signs of loyalty and disloyalty furnished by the republicans themselves.—Cleveland Plaindealer.

BRUTAL DRUNKENNESS.

A morning paper thus shows up a scene of drunkenness. When will people stop the abuse of liquor, and use it properly?

The effects of habitual drunkenness, in all their horrid forms, may often be seen at the Central S. Union. Some scenes of sent man kind to be very foolish and silly; others, revengeful, mad and boisterous; some excited, loathing, disgust; others, pity. One of the latter classes came up before the magistrate at the Central last evening. A female, one looking—very cheek country girl from West Chester, lovely to look upon, once the idol of a mother—the pride of a father—now with hair disheveled, eyes bloodshot, and stamped upon her brow, was standing before the public as an outcast, revolting and diseased.

"What is your name?" Asked the magistrate.

"Maudie McCon, sir."

"Drunk again?"

"That's my business."

"Where did you come from?"

"West Chester."

"Have you been?"

"In Prison sir."

"Not for any crime, sir. I was put in the being drunk; I was in the right month, sir."

"What, eight months, for being drunk only?"

"Yes, the men kept me there so, just because they liked me."

The prisoner, of course, only supposed the keepers of the prison liked her. Had she seen her self in a mirror all her ideas of beauty, that fit through her doped imagination, would have dropped, like the grandly feathers of a peacock when he looks at his feet.

The miserable prisoner commenced screaming and screaming at the top of her voice; she commenced twisting and cutting around her arms, and while she was, receding from her pained fangs, and horrid hissing, she was carried down stairs and placed into a cell. Such a scene as a vol. all at once, on the evils and horrors of drunkenness.

By a late decision of the Commission of Internal Revenue, old debts which have been considered heretofore hopelessly lost, but which have been paid within the time covered by the return of income, must be returned as taxable income. Debts considered as hopelessly lost on the 31st of December, 1862, may be deducted in making the present return, and if afterwards paid must be returned as income in the next return after such payment.

FLAVS said that if men should rise from the dead and read their epitaphs, some of them would think they had got into the wrong grave.

EXTRAORDINARY BUTLER.—We have had referred to us the exciting details of a battle fought a few days ago at Shawneetown, Ill., between infantry and artillery, which resulted in a complete victory in favor of the attacking party. The causes which led to the war are briefly stated. A gentleman who desired to do the State some service, had sought and obtained a commission as Colonel of volunteers, whomsoever he named his house to a tenant of the farming persuasion. He had not long occupied the premises until the Colonel had reason to believe that her longer stay would not be creditable to his house, and he at once set to work to have her vacate.

But, as is well known, a woman has a will as a general rule, and this proved no exception. Having situated in the matter of contract and possession, she positively refused to leave. Persuasion, entreaty and threats were tried and exhausted to no purpose. The Colonel, determined to carry his point at all hazards, planted a battery consisting of one 5 pounder, within point blank range, yet it was no go, and the Colonel opened a brick bat away in his own house three shots not directly through it. The Maltese stood over ground bravely for a time, until the fire becoming too hot, she changed her position retired to the back yard, and there formed a new line of battle.

The firing of artillery ceased, and the Colonel cautiously advanced to reconnoitre in force. Discovering that the enemy had been dislodged by his artillery, he advanced within the house, when the enemy opened a rapid fire upon him with a revolver, at short range, clipping locks of hair from both sides of his head, and perforating his clothing.

Having emptied his pistol the Col. opened fire in reply with a six shooter, exhausting all his shot, without materially hurting the enemy, who, becoming much demoralized, hung out a flag of truce, and sued for peace, which was made—much like it almost always is between belligerents—on the very terms proposed before the war commenced. She vacated the house, and produced great excitement in Shawneetown.

VALLANDIGHAM'S ADDRESS TO THE OHIO DEMOCRACY.

MILITARY PRISON,
CINCINNATI, OHIO, May 22, 1863.

To the Democracy of Ohio:

I have been from my native State for no crime save Democratic opinions and free speech to you in their defense, and about to go into exile, not of my own will but by the imposition of an arbitrary and tyrannical power which I cannot resist, allow me a parting word. Because despotism and arbitrary force so will it, I go within the Confederate lines. I will understand the purpose of this order. But in vain the malice of enemies shall thus continue to give color to the calumnies and misrepresentations of the past two years. They little comprehend the true character of the man with whom they have to deal. No order of banishment, executed by superior force, can release me from my obligations or deprive me of my rights as a citizen of Ohio and of the United States. My allegiance to my own State and Government I shall renounce, wherever I may be, as binding in all things, just the same as though I remained upon their soil. Every sentiment, expression of attachment to the Union and devotion to Constitution—to my country—I have ever cherished or uttered, shall abide unchanged and untraced till my return. Meanwhile, I will not doubt that the people of Ohio, awaiting a moment before either the threats or the exercise of arbitrary power, will, in every trial, prove themselves worthy to be called freemen.

C. L. VALLANDIGHAM.

WEBSTER ON THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

Daniel Webster while in Congress and at a period when free discussion of the acts of the administration was sought to be restrained, offered the following in defense of the freedom of speech:

"Important as I deem it to discuss, on all proper occasions, the policy of the measures at present pursued, it is still more important to maintain the right of discussion in its full and just extent. Sentiments lately springing up, and growing popular, render it necessary to be explicit on this point. It is the ancient and constitutional right of this people to canvass public measures and the merit of public men. It is a household right, a freeman's privilege. It has been enjoyed in every house, cottage and cabin in the nation. It is not to be drawn into controversy. It is understood as the right of breathing the air and walking the earth. Belonging to private life as a right, it belongs to public life as a duty, and it is the last duty which those whose representative I am shall find me to abandon. This high constitutional privilege I shall defend and exercise this privilege within this House, and in all places, in time of war, in time of peace, and in all times. Living I will assert it, should I leave no other legacy to my children, by the blessing of God I will leave them the inheritance of free principles, and the example of a manly, independent and constitutional defense of them."

The shortness of life is often owing to the irregularity of the liver.

A JOKER FOR A RULER.—The Washington Correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette writes the following:

The town has been laughing over a new story about the President.

A worthy and very pious minister it seems, had recently, by means unknown, secured from the confines of the confederacy, though very much disgusted with its temporal, he had high respect for its spiritual condition. Their rules were praying men; and J. D. Davis himself was an earnest Christian, and was constantly in the habit of seeking the Divine blessing on all his undertakings. "I tell you," he exclaimed, "God always answers sincere and fervent prayers, and it is because Mr. Davis and so many of his people take so humbly bowed before the Throne of Divine Grace that he has vouchsafed them so many mercies, and so signally prospered their cause."

But, interpreted the practical preacher, with whom he was conversing, don't you see that they pray on this side for success just as earnestly as the rebels do it here for success? I am sure that he will go west and take command of a new military department to consist of the free State west of the Alleghenies, and his chief business will be the enforcement of the conscription act."

Of course General Butler, as not gone to Washington "for nothing." That he will get a command no one doubts, although he has withdrawn from New Orleans on account of his brutal and disgraceful conduct in that Department. The Administration want just such men to do their work; and the chance which he belongs are freely permitted to look in the sunshine of official favor, while such gallant and devoted spirits as Mr. O'Connell, Franklin and Fitz John Porter, are kept out of service and prevented from doing battle for their imperiled country. Gen. Butler, therefore, need not wait long for something to "turn up," as his valuable services, soon be rewarded with a good command, by those who fully appreciate his character and abilities.

THE SUNDAY.—"I noticed," says Dr. Franklin, "a mechanic among others, at work on a house erecting but a little way from my office, who always appears in this and cheerful smile, for every one he met. Let the day be ever so cold, gloomy or sunless, a happy smile danced like a sunbeam on this cheerful countenance. Meeting him one morning, I asked him to tell me the secret of his happy flow of spirits. 'My secret, doctor,' he replied, 'is that I have got one of the best wives, and when I go to work she always has a kind word of encouragement for me, and when I go home she meets me with a smile and a kiss, and then tea is sure to be ready; and she has done so many little things through the day to please me, that I cannot find it in my heart to speak an unkind word to anybody.' What an influence, then, have women over the heart of man, to soften it and make it the fountain of cheerful and pure emotions! Speak gently then, a happy smile and a kind word of greeting after the toil of the day are over, cost nothing and go far toward making a home happy and peaceful."

IN consequence of Gen. Hall's military order, and the fact that no sort of play is to be allowed in the coming municipal election of Indianapolis, Ind., the Democrats have withdrawn all their candidates, even for the schools. Not a Democrat will consent to be a candidate. Every Republican candidate, even down as low as for the dog pound, will therefore be elected.

THE Commission appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts to consider and decide on the best temporary defenses for Boston, have been actively engaged during the past week in hearing the opinions of various men of science, naval officers and engineers, and on Saturday went down the harbor and examined the different points which commands the channel.

IT is said that the government makes money by coming nickel cents, now the demand is so great. These coins are said to be really worth only 35 cents per hundred. There are now at least six times as many in the hands of the public as are really needed and speculators and hoarders will bring on a crash.

A Country paper says that the best "sewing machine" in the world is one about seventeen years old, who wears gaiter boots and a pocket to put her wages in.

THE SHORTNESS OF LIFE.—The shortness of life is often owing to the irregularity of the liver.