The Democratic Watchman.

"STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION."

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THE LIFE-WRECK.

Treading the alleyways dark and damp,
By the flickering light of the feeble lamp,
Breaking the night with her ghostly tramp,
She totters along—alone, alone.
From hovel to hovel, from street to street,
She picks her passage through rain and sleet;
With not a friend in the world to greet,
Not a bonnet to wear, not a morsel to eat,
Not a speck of earth to call her own.

Wearing her life out day by day,
Throwing to-pitch's a soul away,
Shunning for every shame the ray
Of the sun of Heaven, the glorious sun!
Weary of life and afraid to die,
Afraid of the earth, and afraid of the sky,
Afraid of the light, she knows not why,
She woos the night as she heaves a sigh
And thinks of a race that is almost run.

Phantom of life and beauty fled,
Shadows uniting the quick and dead!
I knew her before her soul was wed
To the demon of hatred and despair;
I knew her a happy, thoughtless child,
When she prattled and laughed, and leaped and smiled,
When her heart was pure and her spirits wild,
And all her troubles as light as air.

I knew her again, in womanhood,
When her beauty and wit, no heart withstood—
Grand and lovely, yet gentle and good—
Admired and loved by the wise and great—
Perfect in all that grandeur lends
To native beauty—in all that lends
The crowning gem of a cluster of friends,
A queen in soul and a queen in state.

I know her now—yet I know her not!
Where all but praise from the senseless sot,
Where all that is pure is spurned, forgot,
Nothing know but a holy dread.
Steeped in misery and disgrace,
The eye of man no more can trace,
In that a altered form and shivered face,
A single mark of their ancient grace—
The figure is there, but the woman is dead!

Shades of immaculate woman! when
Shall the curse of God come down on men
For woman's wrongs? for not till then
Shall he atone for thy nameless woes.
When thy oppressor, unbowed, unled,
Shall stalk the earth in terror and dread,
With a wreath of scorpions around his head
To sting the wretch whatever he tread,
Till in uppermost hell he makes his bed,
He may pay a part of the debt he owes

—*Exchange.*

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:

We have reason to be thankful to God for the blessings of peace, abundant crops that industry has been rewarded, and that thus the Commonwealth has been able to do her full duty to herself, to the country and prosperity.

The condition of our finances is as follows:

Balance in Treasury, November 30, 1865	$2 373,668 11
Receipts during fiscal year ending November 30, 1866	5 829,668 54
Total in Treasury for fiscal year ending Nov. 30 1866	8,203,336 68
Payments for same period have been	6 462 303 41
Balance in Treasury, December 1, 1866	1,741 033 27
Amount of the public debt as it stood on the first day of December, 1866	$37,476,258 06
Amount reduced at the State Treasury, during the fiscal year ending Nov 30 1866	
5 per cent loan	$1,828 553 25
4½ per cent. loan	25,000 00
Relief notes	626 00
Domestic creditors' certificates	26 65 1 854,205 90
Public debt, December 1, 1866	35 622,052 16
To wit, funded debt:	
6 per cent. loan	$400 636 00
5 per cent. loan	32,073,092 59
4½ per cent. loan	213,200 00
6 per cent. loan, war act May 15, 1861	2,820,750 00
Unfunded debt, relief notes in circulation	96 625 00
Interest certificates outstanding	14,686 52
" " unclaimed	4,448 39
Domestic creditors' certificates	119 67
	35 622 052 16
Assets in Treasury:	
Bonds Pennsylvania railroad company	$6,600,000 00
Bonds Philadelphia and Erie railroad company	3,500,030 00
Interest on bonds of Philadelphia and Erie railroad company	1,225,000 00
Cash in Treasury	1,741,033 27
	13,066 033 27
Liabilities in excess of assets	22 556,018 89
	35 622,052 16
Liabilities in excess of assets, Nov. 30 1861	$28,149,060 36
Liabilities in excess of assets, Nov. 30, 1866	22 556,018 89
Improvement in Treasury since 1861	5,612,041 47

The extraordinary expenditures during the war and since its close, in payments growing out of it by acts of Assembly, have amounted to upwards of five millions of dollars, which added to the actual payment of the indebtedness of the State, and money in the Treasury for that purpose, shows the revenues above the ordinary expenditures to have amounted to $10 61 ,000, which would all have been applied to the payment of the debt of the Commonwealth in the last six years. A careful attention to the revenues of the Commonwealth, with such just and prudent changes as may be required in the future, and a wise economy in expenditure, will, in my judgment, secure the entire payment of the debt within the period of fifteen years.

The time fixed for the redemption of $23 108,626 24 of the indebtedness of the Commonwealth having expired, I recommend that provision be made for its redemption by making a new loan for that purpose, payable at such periods as the prospective revenues will justify.

I recur, with much satisfaction, to the wisdom, prudence and economy of the representatives of the people, in the management of the finances of the commonwealth during a period of much embarrassment, uncertainty and distress, and congratulate you and them on the near approach of the entire liquidation of the public debt.

Since my last Annual Message, I have drawn from the Treasury, two thousand dollars of the fund placed in the hands of the Governor for secret service and other extraordinary expenses, which I have expended, in payment of my personal staff, and for other purposes, as heretofore, except five hundred and sixty-three dollars and forty eight cents, which I have returned into the Treasury.

I present, for your consideration, the amendments to the Constitution of the United States, proposed to the Legislatures of the several States by a resolution of both Houses of Congress, passed on the 16th day of June last. I was glad that it was possible, without delaying the final adoption of these amendments, to ascertain the opinion of our people upon them, at the general election, in October last. By the election of a large majority of members openly favoring and advocating the amendments, that opinion seems to me to have been abundantly expressed. Indeed, the amendments are so moderate and reasonable in their character, that it would have been astonishing if the people had failed to approve them. That every person, born in the United States, and free, whether by birth or manumission, is a citizen of the United States, and that no State has a right to abridge the privileges of citizens of the United States—these are principles which were never seriously doubted anywhere, until after the Insane crusade in favor of slavery had been for some time in progress. What is called the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, in the Dred Scott case, has made it expedient and proper to reassert these vital principles in an authoritative manner, and this is done in the first clause of the proposed amendments.

The right of prescribing the qualifications of voters is exercised by the respective States, under the Constitution of 1789. Three fifths of the slaves were counted in ascertaining the representative population of the several States. The amendment to the Constitution abolished slavery in all the States and Territories. Though it was formerly otherwise in most, if not all, of the old Southern States, yet for many years past free negroes have not, in any of these, been permitted to vote. At present, therefore, the late slave States would be entitled to count the whole of their former slave population, as a basis of representation, instead of three fifths thereof. This is to say, they would have in the existing ratio about twenty more members of Congress than they had before slavery was abolished, and the free States would lose the same number, making a difference of about forty members of Congress, or, say, one sixth of the whole body. In other words, the treason of the rebellious States, the suppression of which has cost us so many hundreds of thousands of precious lives, and so many thousands of millions of treasure, would be rewarded by giving them a vast increase of political power. This absurdity, the second clause of the proposed amendments, designs to prevent, by the just, equal and moderate provision, that in future, the representative population of each State shall be ascertained by making a proportionate deduction from the whole population thereof, if its laws exclude from the privilege of voting any male citizens, not criminals, of the age of twenty one years. I have yet to learn that any plausible objection can be offered to such a provision.

The third clause of the proposed amendments exclude from Congress and from the College of Electors, and from all offices, civil and military, of the United States, or of any State, persons who, as functionaries of the United States, or as Executive or Judicial officers of any State, have heretofore sworn to support the Constitution of the United States, and afterwards violated their oath by engaging in rebellion against the same, unless Congress, by such a vote of two thirds, shall have removed the disability of any such persons.

The fourth clause affirms the validity of the debt of the United States, and prohibits the assumption or payment of the rebel debt, or of any claims for the loss or emancipation of any slave.

The fifth clause provides that Congress shall have power to enforce the provisions of the other clauses by proper legislation.

That these wise and moderate provisions will meet the hearty approbation of the Legislature, I cannot doubt. If proposed by two thirds of each House of Congress and ratified by three fourths of the Legislatures of the States, the Constitution provides that they should stand as adopted amendments of that instrument.

A question has been raised whether the States lately in rebellion, and not yet restored to their privileges by Congress, are to be counted on this vote—in other words, whether those who have rebelled and been subdued shall be entitled to a potential voice in the question of the guarantees to be required of them for future obedience to the law. So monstrous a proposition is, it appears to me, not supported by the words or spirit of the Constitution. The power to suppress insurrection, includes the power of making provision against its breaking out afresh. These States have made an unjust war upon our common Government and their sister States, and the power given by the Constitution to make war is our part, includes the power to dictate, after our success, the terms of peace and pacification.

The power of Congress to guarantee to every State a Republican form of Government, would cover much more cogent action than has yet been made.

The duty imposed upon Congress, to provide and maintain republican governments for the States, is to be accepted in the broadest meaning of the term. It is not a mere formal or unnecessary provision. The power was conferred and the duty enjoined to preserve free institutions against all encroachments, or the more violent elements of despotism and anarchy. And now that treason has, by rebellion, subverted the governments of a number of States, forfeiting for the people all the rights guaranteed by the Constitution, including even those of property and life, the work of restoration for these States rest with the National Government, and it should be faithfully and fearlessly performed.

By their passage by Congress, and the declaration of the people at the late elections the faith of the nation is pledged to the amendments, and they will be fairly carried out, and their benefits given to the rebellious States. But when the amendments shall have passed into the organic law, should the people lately in rebellion persist in their rejection, and in continued disobedience, and the obstruction of the execution of the national laws, it will be an admonition to the nation that the *animus* and force of treason still exist among a people who enjoy none of the privileges of the government, save of its generous tolerance. With their rejection, all hope of reconstruction, with the co operation of the rebellious States, on a basis that would secure to the Republic the logical results of the war, will have vanished, and the duty must then devolve upon the government, of adopting the most effectual method to secure for those States the character of governments, demanded by the Constitution.

They are without lawful governments—they are without municipal law, and without any claim to participate in the government.

On what principle of law or justice can the rebellious States complain, if after they have rejected the fair and magnanimous terms upon which they are offered brotherhood with us, and a participation in all the blessings of our freedom, and shall have refused, if the government, in the exercise of its powers, should enter anew upon the work of reconstruction at the very foundation; and then the necessity will be forced upon us to dissard all discrimination in favor of the enemies of our nationality, to give us and them enduring freedom and impartial justice.

The Constitution has defined treason, and has given express power to suppress insurrection, by war, if necessary. It has not provided, in detail, the terms to be granted after such a war. How could it do so? It would probably not be contended by the wildest partisan, that these States had a right to be represented in Congress at a time when they were carrying on open war against the government, or that Congress was not then a lawful body, notwithstanding their exclusion. How then have they regained the right of representation? Surely not by simply laying down their arms when they could no longer hold them. The United States have the right, and it is their duty to exact such securities for future good conduct as they may deem sufficient, and the offenders, from whom they are to be selected, can have no right to participate in our councils in the decision of the question of what their punishment shall be.

Practically, common sense determined the question of their right to participate when Congress proceeded in the enactment of laws, after the surrender of the last rebel military force. It was determined again, when the now pending amendments were proposed by Congress. If two thirds of Congress, as now constituted could lawfully propose those amendments, then three-fourths of the States, not excluded from representation in Congress, form a sufficient majority to effect their lawful adoption. It was determined again by the formal sanction of both the great political parties when Congress by an almost unanimous vote, declared the rebellious States without the right of representation in the Electoral College in 1864.

We ought to go on resolutely and rapidly with all measures deemed necessary to the future safety of the country, so that all parts of it may, at the earliest day, be restored to just and equal political privileges.

The annual report of Hon. Thomas H Burrowes, Superintendent of the maintenance and education of the soldiers orphans, will exhibit the present condition and the result thus far of that undertaking. Nearly three thousand of the destitute children of the brave men who laid down their lives that the nation might live, are now not only comfortably provided for and guarded from temptation, but are receiving an education which will enable them to repay the care of the State.

The appropriation made for this purpose, at the last session, has been sufficient to meet all expenses of the financial year just closed. And I recommend whatever appropriation may be necessary, to continue and perfect the system under which the schools are conducted.

There can be no doubt that the appropriation will be made. Were I to select any State interest which I would more warmly commend to your prompt attention and liberality than another, it could be this. All Pennsylvanians are proud of it, and it lies near the hearts of all true men.

Owing to their greater destitution and want of information on the part of their relatives, the orphans of our colored soldiers may require some special attention. Perhaps authority to the State Superintendent, to use, for a short time, the services of an agent, to ascertain their number and claims, and bring them into the schools that may be provided for them, will be sufficient.—The whole number in the State is not large, of whom a few have already been temporarily provided for.

I recommend that provision be made for the maintenance of such of our soldiers as are in poverty, and have been so maimed as to prevent them from securing a livelihood by their labor, by renting buildings at once, or such other means as you may deem wise and proper, until the arrangements proposed by the National Government for their support are completed. They are probably few in number, and is is due to the Commonwealth, that they should not remain in, or become inmates of, poor houses or pick up a precarious subsistance by begging. Patriotic and charitable citizens have done much for them, but speedy and proper relief can only be given them by the systematic and continued benevolence of the Commonwealth. The Legislature can alone afford immediate relief to all of this class of our citizens, and in thus exhibiting gratitude to heroic and faithful men, who did so much for the country, the burden will fall equally on all her people.

By our existing laws juries are selected by the sheriff and commissioners of the respective counties. As these officers are of similar political affinities, the system has always been in danger of being abused for partizan purposes. During the last six years, it has been frequently so abused in many of the counties.

To secure as far as possible, the administration of equal justice hereafter, I recommend that jury commissioners shall be elected in each county, in the same manner as inspectors of elections are chosen, each citizen voting for one jury commissioner, and the two persons having the highest number of votes to be the jury commissioners of the respective county, to perform the same duties, in the selection of jurors, that are now imposed upon the sheriff and county commissioners.

If is impossible to provide, in all respects for the increasing and changing interests of our people, by the enactment of general laws, but to a large extent it is practicable to relieve the Legislature from special legislation which is demanded and occupies so much of its session. Special legislation is generally opposed without due consideration, much of it at the close of the session, and is chiefly objectionable from the partiality with which powers and privileges are conferred.

I again recommend the passage of general laws, when it is at all practicable, and in this connection I recommend the passage of a general law, regulating railroads now existing and the incorporation of new companies, so that so far as possible there may be just uniformity in the franchises granted, and equal facilities afforded to the people of all sections of the Commonwealth.

There are at this time, in various prisons, a number of persons under sentence of death, some of them for many years and it has become a custom that an incoming Governor should not issue a warrent of execution in cases unpaned on by his predecessor, it not unfrequently happens that in many cases, some of which are recent, while some punishment should be inflicted, that of death may appear to the Executive to be too severe.

I earnestly repeat my recommendation heretofore made that provision be made for the reception of such prisoners into the penitentiaries, who may be pardoned on condition of remaining a limited time therein.

I re-appointed Hon C R Coburn Superintendent of Common Schools, on the expiration of his term in June last, and he continued at the head of that Department until the first of November, when he resigned, and I appointed Col J. P. Wickersham.—It is due to Mr Coburn to say that he fulfilled all the duties of his office faithfully and efficiently. It appears from his report that there were in the school year of 1865, 1 893 school districts in the State; 13 146 schools; 16 141 teachers, 725,312 pupils, with an average attendance of 478 656.—The total cost of the school system, for the entire State, including taxes levied and State appropriation, was for the year 1865, $4 195,258 57. The increase in the number of school districts was 26; in the number of schools, 222; in the number of children attending school, 16 932; in the average attendance at school, 18 915, in the total cost of the system, $581,020 02. I invite your attention to the valuable suggestions made in his report, and that of Col Wickersham, and commend our system of public instruction to the continued fostering care of the Legislature.

I herewith present the reports of Col F. Jordan, Military Agent of the State at Washington; Col B H Gregg, Chief of Transportation of S P Bates on military history of our volunteers; of trustees of the Soldiers Gettysburg National cemetery; of the proceedings and ceremony of the return of the flags, on the 4 h of July, in the city of Philadelphia, and of Col James Worrell commissioner appointed under an act relating to the passage of fish in the Susquehanna, and invite your attention to them and the reports of the Surveyor General and Adjutant General.

The Agency at Washington should in my judgement, be continued. It has proved very useful in all respects, and especially to our volunteers and their families.

Four thousand six hundred and ninety claims have passed the Agency during the past year, and three hundred and eleven thousand seven hundred and three dollars has been collected from the Government and transmitted to the claimants free of charge.

It will be necessary to continue the office of Chief of Transportation, as there are unsettled accounts with railroad companies and the National Government, and duties to be performed in the removal and care of bodies of the dead, which require it. An additional appropriation will be required for this Department.

I earnestly recommend, in justice to the living and the dead, that our military history be pushed forward vigorously, and that money for that purpose be appropriated.

The trustees of the State Lunatic hospital represent that it is impossible for them to accommodate and care for the number of patients committed to them under the laws regulating admissions into the hospital and earnestly recomend that provision be made for increasing accommodation.

I need not say that the institution is carefully and economically managed, or to refer to the great good it has produced, and that I cordially unite in the statement and recommendations of the memorial herewith presented.

I invite your attention to the condition of the Arsenal.

It is too small—unsafe as a depository for the large amount of valuable military material kept in it and is, in all respects inconvenient and not adapted to its purposes.

Much inconvenience was experienced during the war for want of sufficient room and safety, and I recommend that the ground be procured and a new and commodious arsenal be erected in or near the Capital of the State.

Since the adjournment of the Legislature I drew my warrent on the treasury for five thousand dollars, appropriated to the National Cemetery at Antietam, and appointed Major General John R Brooke trustee to represent the State. Before the warrant was drawn I appointed Colonel William H Blair and Captain J S Merrill *Lion who examined the ground and made* a full investigation, their report of which accompanies this message. It will be noticed that they report seven hundred and ninety seven bodies of Pennsylvanians that will be removed into the cemetery, and recommend an additional appropriation in which I most cordially unite.

I cannot close my last annual Message without renewing the expression of my gratitude to the freemen of the Common wealth for the hearty approval with which they have cheered the labors of the Executive Office. To have earned such approval by my official conduct, during the last six years, must always be a source of pride to myself and children. With out the consciousness that I were indeavoring to deserve their approval, and without the hope that I should succeed in attaining it, I must have sunk under the responsibilities of my position. It was only a reliance on Divine Providence, and the active; resolute hearty support and zeal of the people, and their representatives, that encouraged me during the dark and terrible crisis through which the country has passed. I tried to do my duty to my country, and I know I was at least faithful to her in her deep distress and I conceived that duty not to be limited to the merely putting of men in to the field to suppress treason and rebellion, and to maintain the national life, and doing everything in my power to sustain the just war forced upon us. I felt also bound, so far as I could, to protect and promote the rights and comfort of our volunteers, after they had left the State, to aid and relieve the sick and wounded, and to care for the transmission, to their bereaved families, of the precious bodies of the slain, and the maintenance and education of their orphans, as honored children of the country.

To have been the Chief Magistrate of this great Commonwealth, during the period through which we have passed, and to have earned and maintained (if indeed I have done so) the confidence and affection of her people and of their representatives, are quite enough to satisfy the highest ambition, and in my retirement from the high trust given me, I pray God that the State may continue to grow in power and strength, and her people in *prosperity and happiness.*

A. G CURTIN

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Harrisburg, January 2, 1867.

THE WORK OF 1776 UNDONE—REVIVAL OF TORYISM.

From the foundation of the Republic all the great statesmen of the country have united in one warning voice "Beware of sectional parties," was the admonition of Washington and Hamilton, of Jefferson and Adams, of Jackson and Webster and Clay, of men of the most opposite creeds. Washington's Farewell address, revised by Hamilton, made this warning a parting bequest to the country. Jefferson spoke of the first agitation of the slavery question as a "*tocsin of the night*," filling his soul with alarm for the future. Clay renounced his party when it assumed a sectional attitude. Webster turned his face from it, and despairing of it.

When the recklessness of secessionism and the virulence of abolitionism brought the country into war, the statesmen of the day warned the country of the difficulties of carrying on republican government amidst the perils of war—and of the terrible necessities that must follow the forcible subjugation of a section of the country.

These warnings were unheeded. The Constitution was set aside, and military authority substituted. The Federal armies triumphed; but instead of restoring the Union success only exhausted its separation. As the situation now reveals itself, not only the words of Washington and Jefferson have been undone. The Federal Government stands to the South in the very attitude that the British Parliament stood towards the Colonies.

We have revived and installed in power the toryism of 1776 with all its pretensions its insolence and tyranny and its hatred of popular rights. We have indeed magnified and exaggerated the toryism of those days. The ministry of Lord North never lorded it over eight millions. It never, while denying representation, sought to impose upon the Colonists the general taxation of the empire, and such a special tax as that on cotton, which now blights the industry of black and white in the South. It never mortgaged the industry of the colonies for three thousand millions of dollars of debt.

Taxation, such as now impoverishes the people under the name of protection, never reached in his day the enormous proportion of ours; and the stamp acts and duties which the colonies resisted were as nothing compared with the excise, the mulcting and tithing of our present internal tax. The standing army of Great Britian, in time of peace, was never as large. The denial of the *habeas corpus*, of jury trial, and of the liberty of the press, was confined to isolated cases. It was left for the toryism of the American Congress to outstrip in every particular the despotic action of the British Parliament which drove the colonies to rebellion.

They think that by the prodigal use of money, the power of a standing army, the multiplication of civil offices, and the clamor of a venal press and an excited and intolerant faction, they can drown reflection on the part of the American people, veil their conduct and conceal their designs. They are mistaken. The spectacle of ten States, once members of our noble Federation possessing a territory as large as civilized Europe, excluded from all share of representative government, taxed to the uttermost, and held down by military power, will speak in language more but persuasive to the American mind. All the traditions of our people, which make up their political creed, are outraged by such a spectacle.

They will arouse and come to the rescue. But the work must go back to the beginning. The whole political battle of the Revolution is to be fought over again! The toryism of to day is more rampant and is more insolent than that which our forefathers fought against. It is more cunning and more odious. It must be met by organization and bold agitation. Let the stigma of toryism rest where it belongs, and let those who would escape it join the ranks of the people.

Let the citizens form clubs organize as Liberty Boys revive the patriotism of revolutionary days take up the old watchwords, "No taxation without representation," "No privileged orders," "liberty of the press and of assemblage," "freedom of commerce." DOWN WITH THE TORY CONGRESS AND UP WITH THE PEOPLE.—*Albany Argus.*

THE ROMANCE OF A DAY.—A few years since a very respectable lady, living not a hundred miles from Winona, called upon one of our leading attorneys and desired his service in procuring a divorce from her husband, who had left her about eight or ten years ago, and during all that long time she had heard nothing from him. The lady was taking the step with reluctance; but it was necessary to transfer some land. The case of desertion seemed so strong that little difficulty was met in procuring the divorce, and the lady made the transfer.—On the evening of the same day the attorney was at Miles' barber shop, when the lady in question entered, accompanied by a gentleman. She uttered an exclamation of surprise as she met the gaze of the attorney, and taking a seat by his side said to him: "Do you know that gentlemen who came in with me?" "No," replied the attorney.—"Well, it's my husband. He came up today on the boat, and we shall be married again this evening." The attorney suggested the propriety of his being present at the wedding, but while the lady was willing he should witness the ceremony, she yet thought that he had been a little too instrumental in separating them. Why the husband was so silent during his long absence we know not. Let that remain among the mysteries.—*Winona* (Minn.) *Republican.*

BROWNLOW'S MESSAGE.—The Louisville *Journal* says a document purporting to be a message of Gov. Brownlow, was sent the other day to the Tennessee Legislature.—There was in it a swearing, blasphemy, cursing, raving or frothing at the mouth. Of course it was a forgery. The forger has not been arrested.

HORRORS OF THE DRY TORTUGAS—A STAIN ON THE AMERICAN CHARACTER

On the Dry Tortugas, the most desolate and barren spot almost known, there languish in illegal prisonment, several hundred State prisoners. Sent thither by military commissions—tribunals that have been denounced by the United States Supreme Court as unknown to and unwarranted by law and from whose commitments that court has released all political prisoners confined in Northern penitentiaries—these men are now undergoing, and have undergone, torture at the hands of brutal officials (disgraces to the uniform of a soldier) that makes life intolerable, and which would, if exposed, rouse the horror and indignation of the civilized world. Confined on this desolate spot, with no means of communication with their friends, many of them entirely innocent of charges for which these military courts, so called," have condemned them, they are exposed to cruelties and punishment at the hands of brutal sergeants and commissioned officers, administered at their caprice and whim for comparisons of which we would have to go back to the Dark Ages, or search the records of the Inquisition.

A short time since we saw a letter from an intelligent State prisoner, confined upon the Dry Tortugas, a man of veracity and character, giving an account of the inhuman and barbarous punishment inflicted, not only on the poor Confederate prisoners confined there, but on the Federal soldiers of the garrison. The recital the writer gave of the facts, of which he had been an eye witness was sickening, and made one blush for humanity. It was a tale of woe that would have melted a heart of stone—the atrocities committed there by United States officials and under the United States flag, flaunting in the idle mockery as the guardian of liberty, the protector of human rights. He gave the names of the sufferers, the dates when the tortures were inflicted, the names of the brutes in human shape who ordered and executed them. It seems that the devilish tyranny of the jailors wreaked itself alike on United States and Confederate prisoners.

In August last, while a party of prisoners were unloading a vessel, some of the crew gave them liquor, and one of the poor unfortunates became helplessly drunk. In this condition he was tied up by the thumbs by order of the officer of the day, and kept suspended for hours, the cords cutting the flesh to the bones, and until the poor wretch, to all appearances, was evidently dying.—Then the commandant, a Brigadier General, accidentally passing, and observing the man's condition, ordered him to be taken down, and he was conveyed to the hospital with one of his thumbs disabled for life.—He had been suspended this way for hours. Could the Russian punishment of the knout be worse than this? Was the thumbscrew applied to Dr. Mudd to extort from him the names of his accomplices in his attempt to escape, severer?

But another case which the writer of the letter saw, and we have done with this shocking recital, for though we could quote other instances of barbarity that would startle the demons in hell, we shrink from the melancholy record. It was that of a United States soldier, who, for some trivial offence, some petty neglect of his equipments, was tied up by the thumbs for hours. Maimed, with the tendons of his arms stretched and displaced, his hands useless and inoperative, he was ordered to pick up a forty pound ball and carry it for a certain number of hours, in the broiling sun. His hands refused their duty—they could clasp nothing, much less lift forty pound shot, and the poor fellow said he could not. He was then ordered to be tied, taken to the end of the garrison wharf and there, bound hand and foot with a rope around his neck, to be ducked, until he promised to carry the ball. The severest punishment known in the British navy when Britannia's marine was noted for its barbarous punishments, was keel-hauling, to which the terrible "cat" was mercy and keel-hauling—dragging a man under the vessel—was industriously the same punishment this poor wretch of a soldier was subjected to by his officers at Tortugas. He was allowed to sink several moments, and then being drawn up, he was asked if he would carry the ball. His mouth and throat being filled with water, he could not at once reply, and was again allowed to sink. A second time he was drawn up, and, making some gesture of assent to the interrogatory of his brutal torturer, he was taken out.

These things, and many similar ones, are perpetrated daily in the enlightened Nineteenth Century on the poor unfortunates at the Dry Tortugas. While Exeter Hall is moaning over the sufferings of the negro slave—while, Plymouth Church and other Raical associations are weeping over the outrages on the freedmen by unrepentent "rebels"—these horrors are being perpetrated on white men, by United States officers, under the United States flag, on that barren island off the coast of Florida. We call upon the United States authorities to investigate these matters, and to send to the Dry Tortugas, a commission of honorable soldiers, officers who are gentlemen, to examine into and report upon the cruelties and barbarities practiced upon those helpless prisoners, and those unfortunate soldiers. Were not our informant a man of veracity, and an eye-witness of what he relates in his letter, we could scarcely credit the details that he sent us. In the name of humanity, let these brutal wretches be called to account.—*Richmond Times.*

THE CHARGE.—A Pennsylvania paper pertinently asks: "Does the poor man remember the good times he enjoyed when James Buchanan was President? Does he remember how easily he supported his family by his labor? Does he remember the silver dollars he received for his work? Has he forgotten the ten pounds of coffee; the twelve pounds of sugar, the twelve pounds of meat, the sack of flour, the twelve yards of muslin, either of which he might then purchase with the proceeds of one day's labor?" All this was before the crusade waged against the South had culminated in rebellion. Southern negroes were fed, worked and provided for by Southern masters. The result has been, that a half a million of white men have gone prematurely to their graves, double that number have been reduced to beggary, and the nation itself borne down with a mountain of debt.

THE UNWISE CHOICE.

BY ALICE CARY.

Two young men when I was poor,
Came and stood at my open door;

One said to me, 'I have gold to give;
And one "I will love you while I live;"

My sight was dazzled; woe is the day!
I sent the young man away;

Sent him away, I know not where,
And my heart went with him unaware.

He did not give me any sighs,
But left his picture in my eyes;

And in my eyes it has always been,
I have no heart to keep it in!

Beside the lane with hedges swept,
Where we parted never more to meet,

He pulled a flower of love's own hue,
And where it had been, came out two'

And in the grass, where he stood for years
The dews of the morning stood like tears,

Still smiles the house where I was born,
Among its fields of wheat and corn,

Wheat and corn that strangers bind—
I reap as I sowed and I sowed to the wind.

As one who feels the truth break thro'
His dream, and knows his dream untrue.

I live where splendors shine, and sigh
For the peace that splendors cannot buy,

Sigh for the day I was rich tho' poor!
And saw the young man at my door!

—*Exchange.*

THIS, THAT AND THE OTHER.

—Women's writes—Postscripts.

—It has been proposed to have a "soup-house" for the poor of Petersburg, Virginia.

—Minister Campbell and General Sherman are at New-Orleans.

—Tea can be easily and profitably cultivated in Georgia.

—Surratt is on his way to the dis United States in the Swatara.

—The Lexington Mills destroyed by fire in 1864, have been rebuilt.

—*Punch's* advice how to kill time—shoot every day.

—A Mr Butts has lifted 2,727 pounds.—This beats Dr. Winship.

—The Central City Bank of Syracuse, N. Y., has suspended.

—*The remaining Fenian prisoners at Toronto*, numbering 32, will be tried at the next *assizes*, beginning on the 10th instant.

—Teams were crossing the Mississippi river on Wednesday, at Muscatine, on the ice, for the first time this season.

—The police of Pithole city cost that borough the sum of six thousand dollars for salaries during the last year.

—C. C. Memminger, ex-rebel Secretary of the Treasury, has been pardoned by the President.

—A St. Louis gentleman lost his wife by death and refused to let her be buried. The Board of Health had to interfere.

—Senator Wilson is visiting the battle-fields near Richmond. He did not do it with his regiment.

—Texas is now the land of promise. Emigration is setting that way from all the Southern States.

—A valuable mine of barytas has been discovered near Marion, Va., immediately on the Virginia and Tennessee railroad.

—The suspension bridge at Cincinnati was opened for general travel a few days ago, in consequence of ice in the river preventing the running of the ferry boats.

—By the careless handling of a pistol, a boy in New Hampshire the other day shot his sister in the hand and barely escaped shooting another in the head.

—It has become a necessity in California, to select only married ladies for teachers, because the unmarried ones cannot be relied on, for any length of time.

—A lady in Saxony, the wife of a barrister, lately committed suicide in order that her husband should get her life insurance money and free himself from debt.

—A girl poisoned by laudanum, in England is said to have been saved by pouring cold water on her face and head, when other remedies were supposed to be of no avail.

—Ben. Holladay's friends and old employees on the overland stage route are going to give him a big silver punch-bowl, with a six-horse *overland coach, all to cost $10,000.*

—Mr. Samuel P. Hawes, a well known citizen of Richmond, and the father of the authoress, Mrs. Terhune, (Marion Harland,) died suddenly in that city on Monday last.

—The Norfolk *Virginian* says that a negro man was *run over by the down passenger train* from Petersburg to Norfolk on Tuesday and knocked clear off the track.

—A bull posted on the walls of a country village announces that a lecture will be delivered in the open air and a collection made at the door to defray expenses.

—A lady asked her gardener why the weeds always outgrew and covered up the flowers.—Madam, answered he, the soil is mother of the weeds, but only step-mother of the flowers.

—A boy entered a stationery store the other day and asked the proprietor what kind of pens he sold. All kinds, was the reply. Well, then, I'll take three cents worth of pig pens.

—In the course of a trial for four fold murder now proceeding in France, the public prosecutor brought into the court the head of the murdered man, which had been buried 13 years.

—Seven negroes broke jail about two weeks ago in Charlotte county, Virginia, of whom only one has been re taken. The negroes in that county are said to be behaving very badly, being unwilling to go to work, thieving, carousing, &c.

—Gen Curtis Lee, the son of General Robert E. Lee, has been elected President and Professor of Mathematics, its appliances, and Military Sciences, in the Maryland Agricultural College. Pay, $2,500 per annum and a residence.

—Two persons of satiric turn met a neighbor and said, Friend, we have been disputing whether you are most knave or fool. The man took each of the querists by the arm so that he was in the middle. Truth, said he, I believe I am between both.

—A two million dollar fire occurred at Vicksburg, Tennessee, on the 22d. About one hundred buildings were destroyed. Two white children and four negroes were burned to death, and six blacks were killed accidentally. The fire originated through carelessness in a barroom.

—Rogers used to relate this story: An Englishman and a Frenchman fought a duel in a darkened room. The Englishman, anxiling to take his antagonist's life, unceremoniously fired at the chimney, and—brought down the Frenchman. When I tell this story in France, pleasantly added the relator, I make the Englishman go up the chimney.

THE CREDITOR'S STRATAGEM.—Four creditors started from Boston, in the same train of cars, for the purpose of attaching the property of a certain debtor in Farmington, in the State of Maine. He owed each one separately, and each one was suspicious of the other of the other, but dared not say a word about it. So they rode, acquaintance, all talking upon everything except that they had most at heart. When they arrived at the depot at Farmington, which was three miles from where the debtor did business, they found nothing to "put 'em over the road" but a solitary cab, towards which they all rushed. Three got in and refused admission to the fourth, and the cab started. The fourth ran after, and got up outside with the driver. He asked the driver if he wanted to sell his horse. He replied that he did not want to—that he was not worth more than fifty dollars, but he would not sell him for that. He asked him if he would not take one hundred dollars for him. "Yes," he said. The fourth man quickly paid over the money, took the reins and backed the cab up to a bank, slipped it from the harness, and tipped it up so that the door could not be opened, and then jumped upon the horse's back and rode off hickety switch, while the insider's were looking out of the window, feeling like singed cats. He rode to a lawyer's and got a writ made and served and his debt secured, and got back to the hotel just as the "insiders" came up puffing and blowing. The cabman soon bought back his horse for fifty dollars. The "solid" men offered to pay that sum if the fortunate one, who found property sufficient to pay his own debt, would not tell of it in Boston.—*Ex*

PRESENTIMENTS OF DEATH.

Heros Von Borcke, who was Chief of Staff to the Confederate General J. E. B. Stuart, and who is writing an account of the war for Blackwood's Magazine, thus refers to a "presentiment of death" which he experienced after the battle of Antietam, when another fight was expected:

"I had heard much and read *much in my* own German and elsewhere of the presentiment of death, and had often speculated upon the matter, his verity, and the mental and physical conditions that might superinduce it, &c.; but this morning I was taken hold of, rather than oppressed, by the conviction that I should be killed before night in the coming battle, and I should have regarded any one as a profane sceptic who had tried to argue me out of it, and prove the foreboding nonsensical upon philosophical principles. Whether the famished state of my body, or the excitements of the last two days acting on my brain, had wrought the presentiment in the mind, it is not worth while to consider; certain it is that I made the most mournful entry in my notebook, at which I cannot now look without laughing, and which is too absurd to be repeated here. I only revert to the fact to show that while in some instances presentiments of death are afterward verified, in others that we do not hear of, probably the greater number, they have no subsequent realization."

NEW ENGLAND SUFFERING.—It is announced that leading manufacturing concerns have stopped in New England and that others contemplate to do so. In consequence, already thousands of working people have been thrown out of employment.—This, by the advocates of prohibitory tariffs, is ascribed to want of adequate protection and straightway they call on Congress to increase the duties on manufactured articles. The trouble is not with the tariff.—The late war impoverished eight millions of the best customers that New England and the West had. It is to this circumstance that the present distress in business everywhere is attributable. If our people have imagined that the desolation and impoverishment of the Southern States would have no effect upon them business wise after the cessation of actual war, or if they imagine that the radical legislation that seeks to overthrow and revolutionise everything the President has done in the way of pacification and reconstruction, will do no harm to the business interests of the country, grievous must be their disappointment.—*Ohio Statesman.*

FEMALE SUFFRAGE.—Senator Wade, of Ohio, has written a letter to Miss Susan B. Anthony, in which he says: "I am now and ever have been the advocate of equal and impartial suffrage to all citizens of the United States who have arrived at the age of twenty one years, who are of sound mind, and who have not disqualified themselves by the commission of any offense, without any distinction on account of race, color or sex. Every argument that ever has been or ever can be adduced to prove that males should have the right to vote applies with equal, if not greater, force to prove that females should possess the same right."

—Thad Stevens says he never believed that Jefferson Davis could be tried for treason. "His offence," says Thad, "was that of a belligerent, not of a traitor." The object of the "great commoner," in taking this position, is to secure a recognition of his territorial scheme. He wants to let Davis escape, under his theory that secession was successfully completed and the Union dissolved. In order to increase the strength of the Radical party by keeping the ten Southern States unrepresented in Congress. To keep the Radical faction in office and power, he is willing to let "the arch traitor," escape punishment. This is exactly his position.—*Patriot and Union*

WORK AND PLAY.—A man who is very rich now was very poor when he was a