

Beneath a spreading sycamore
That shades far Carolina's shores.
A colored freedman lay;
The sun was bright, the sky was clear,
The ocean's billows, far and near,
Came leaping up the bay...

The Democratic Watchman.

ennially every year, and must go on for all time until the debt is paid, absorbing and taxing at the rate of six or seven per cent. a year for every hundred dollar bond that is represented in its aggregate.

Now, I am not speaking of this today, anything but deprecating the fearful issue which the madness of partisan hatred and the blindness of our new national debt aristocracy to their own true interests, is fast forcing upon the country. But it is not clear that the people, who have to pay one hundred and eighty millions of dollars a year to this consolidated moneyed oligarchy...

Just think of this annual tax of one hundred and eighty millions for payment of interest on the national debt! This government we have, with its enormous machinery, is a pretty lively business in itself, costing more per capita to the people than the government of England, which we always have regarded as the most tax devouring on earth.

And what has been the course of that Congress which has just ended, and which, behind aristocracy of national debt, refused to override my efforts for a return to sound principles of internal government? Look at the bill giving from four hundred and eighty to six hundred millions of dollars—nominally for black bounty, or as an equalization of bounties to soldiers, but really, as all intelligent men must be aware, to parcel out as a prey among the bounty sharks and claim agents, who are the most reckless and clamorous adherents of the dominant party.

Every effort to increase our annual taxation is resisted, for increased taxes might help to awaken the people from their false dream of prosperity under the way of revolutionary and radical ideas; but no addition to the national debt can be proposed, no further inflation of our inflated currency, which the preponderating votes of the Western States will not be certain to favor.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT BOYS.

Every close observer knows that the proportion of idlers, good for nothing young men has largely increased within the past few years. A number of different causes have been assigned for this effect, and numerous plans suggested to remedy the evil.

Look at the leading men of our country, from the President down, and you will see as a rule it is the men who have learned trades in their youth who have become foremost in every branch of progress and enterprise. The boy who is placed in a store or office usually gets his head full of vanity and self conceit before he has been long in his profession.

For proof of what we say, hear how Nero is taming his fiddle. Charges are made on coffins, not only by undertakers, but by confabos Pachas, Frenchish laughter, and demon like howls of triumph are heard in the halls of Congress, in accompaniment to the sounds of the bell that tolls the funeral of the Constitution.

There was never a better illustration of the truth of the maxim, that the world moves more than the fact that Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts, from his place in the House of Representatives, pronounced the execution of Mrs. Surratt a legal murder committed by the authority of the United States.

The Republican party got into power by arraying the section of the country against the other, and by promising to maintain power, if possible, by keeping the country divided. Hence it may be inferred that they love power more than they love their country; that their party zeal is stronger than their patriotism.

We believe in destiny—in an invisible Power that shapes the course of human events, using men themselves as instruments, and withdrawing them when they begin to cut too deep. The royal dragon who mortally wounded John Hamilton, passed the decree by which Charles I. lost his head.

THE HARD TIMES.

The people at the west are suffering from harder times this winter than they have for several years. The bad crop of last summer has something to do with this, for it will always be noticed in all countries and at all times that the people prosper in the exact proportion as farmers prosper; when it is hard times with them, it is hard times with all.

Such a large share of the responsibility for the present distress, however, is to be found in the unwise legislation of Congress, and this, instead of mending, promises to get worse and worse. Any farmer will testify that he could get along with the prices he receives for his crops and his property, if the prices of articles he has to buy came down proportionately.

The merchant, however, has to charge large prices because he has to pay the whole price of the farmer's produce, and the whole man charges high rates as he has to pay high rates to the importer and the manufacturer. The importer has to charge high rates because he pays a high tariff; and the manufacturer charges high rates because he is "protected" against competition by the same high tariff enacted by Congress.

So, very much of the present hard times here at the west is traceable directly to the policy which divides its labor about equally between the nigger and the New England manufacturer. Double Herald, Iowa.

Ma Davis's Plantation.—A correspondent of the Weldon (N. C.) Star writes from Mississippi: "I mentioned in my letter below Vicksburg, that I had passed John and Jeff Davis's farms. In speaking of the matter, in conversation with a resident citizen, he told me that President Davis and his brother's farms had been confiscated by the government and sold to a negro, a former slave of Jeff Davis, for \$100,000, on ten years' time, and that the negro would clear this year \$50,000 on the land.

The place where the dry good chickens retire to ought to have a dry floor and be kept scrupulously clean, and as the floor is the coldest part of a room, their roosting box ought not to be more than twelve inches high, and to be slanting, which will keep the warm air in the roost.

SINGULAR TERRESTRIAL METEOR.

Calvani gives an abstract of a curious paper by M. A. Mauget, read before the Academy of Science. He states that from May, 1866, the waters of Naples and the adjoining cities began to diminish until June. So far there was nothing remarkable, but about June 29, to the surprise of the inhabitants, the waters of the wells, springs, and rivers or rivulets of the country became suddenly muddy, and diminished most rapidly.

Broken—the golden chrod,
Severed—the silver link;
Never again will the old days
Dance in thy eye and smile.

THE MEN WON'T PROPOSE.
Because they are afraid of the enormous expenses of housekeeping. It requires a little fortune, now, to buy a house, and every article of furniture costs about three times as much as it did years ago.

THIS, THAT AND THE OTHER.
Fashionable—the Bellefonte "Lasses."
Punch thinks the Mormons have Unkilled their Territory.

THE MURDER OF MRS. SURRATT.
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MOVING TOWARDS THE END.
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NERO TUNING HIS FIDDLE.
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