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NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

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POETICAL.

THE ENCHANTED ISLE.
BY CLARENCE W. BURNER.
From Arthur's Home Magazine.
The sun stands on Lethe's brink, and gazes
With eyes that seem the white
Bright, deep in that liquid gloom she
Traces
A world, enchanted isle:
And forest, bird and flower, engraven
As delicate in grain
By elfin architects at even
Sketching on the frosted pane.
She sits in Agrippa's glass, surveying
The wrinkled past more,
And, companions of our childhood
"Hail"
Found the old schoolhouse door.
And round these depths glow white with up-
turned faces,
Such as, when dreams are o'er,
We hunt us, while rapt fancy gazes
When eyes can see no more.
Beneath those waves, like Lebanon's, made
By forms that in their shine,
A mad voice, in accents melancholy,
Chants songs of auld lang syne.
And on memories of those forms angelic
Which heaven of earth could make,
Ye muse away, while the simplest riddle
Yokes every heart-string ache.
But still, as more for other objects caring,
Her eyes incessant roam,
And she views a little combing, hearing
"The sunshine of her home."
And when to worlds where there is no more
Searing,
She turns to look through fears,
As that in the crown of night is
Sifting,
A beckoning hand appears.

Miscellaneous.

Will We Pay Off the National Debt?

A good many people have been employed during the past week of Homeless penniless spendthrift dragged with a "Plan for paying off the National Debt," sticking out of his neck. For it has not only been proposed by some of our journals, but our rich men have together to the number of 150,000 or thereabouts, contribute \$20,000 each to extinguish our debt, but a score or more of the rich men aforesaid have actually refused in writing to perform their part of undertaking provided only that the other 149,980 or thereabouts do theirs likewise. A couple of million dollars have already been secured towards the tripling of \$32,000,000,000. That this amount will be still further reduced is very probable if, by active canvassing, \$10,000,000 were secured, as I have said, and then, of course, with the \$22,000,000,000 to collect, the debt would be extinguished, and it should be clear. Each man in all countries should be so prone to pay other people's debts, and our rich men so given to suggest their means on sentimental principles that the success of the scheme is assumed to be beyond question. When it succeeds, we shall owe a statue to the brilliant genius who suggested it, and to the appreciative journals which fostered it to maturity. If, however, it should chance to fail—and it must be remembered, that all deserving and plausible enterprises will fall sometimes—it may be behind it a residuum not unworkable in its thought.

Tragedy before in the history of this country a national debt was forced upon us by war. Each time it was paid off. In each case peace led to increased expenditures, increased needs, and consequently gradual reduction, and at last comparative freedom of indebtedness. For the time war has bequeathed us a debt—this time much vaster than any previously incurred or dreamed of. The question arises, shall we follow the precedent, and go to work to pay off this debt as we paid off the one of the Revolution and of 1812? Shall we follow the European precedent, and content ourselves with paying the interest regularly, leaving the principal practically irremediable?

There is no sounder maxim in political economy than this, that a man cannot invest his money better than in paying his debts. Now the national debt is the debt of all of us. Every man is bound, in person and property, to pay his share of it. Every foot of land in the country is mortgaged for the payment of the interest, and the Government, as trustee for the creditors, will enforce the mortgage inexorably. Every dollar's worth of property, whether real and personal, is liable to be seized and sold to pay that interest. If this incumbrance on our property had been created in consequence of some accident, personal liability—the failure of a debtor, the loss of crops, unsuccessful speculations, or the like—the impulse of every sound and careful person would be to go to work to pay it off so as to transmit an unincumbered estate to his heirs. Many might be unable to do this. But all would like to do it, and nearly all would try. Is there any reason why individuals should deal differently with their share of the national debt?

It is urged that posterity will benefit by the result of the war, and ought therefore to bear its share of the cost. We don't affect much concern for posterity, and think it may be left to look out for itself. The question is whether it is better for this generation to go on paying taxes at the rate of two or three hundred millions a year, or to make an effort and, by a present sacrifice, get rid of them altogether.

The late Mr. COBDEN, one of the best friends this country ever had, described our Congressional financiers as Bourbons who had learned nothing from experience. And certainly the Internal Revenue law is worthy of legislators who had never heard of such a thing as a system of taxation. It seems to combine every possible defect. It is not productive; it has cost us only yielded \$102,000,000, and we doubt, after all that has been said, whether it will yield \$200,000,000 net this year. It is monstrously oppressive upon some localities and some branches of trade and industry, while others escape altogether. And it is so cumbersome and complicated that, while it opens the door to vast frauds, the expense of collection will probably exceed 12½ per cent. Those statements will be of course denied by officials. But let us wait till we get the returns. It will be urged that the law is to be amended, and that a commission has been appointed for the purpose of suggesting improvements. No doubt. If the system lasts so long we may rely on the law being altered at every session of Congress for the next twenty years. It may be improved too. But that a revenue law will be passed which shall not be unfairly oppressive on this or that class, and shall at the same time be productive, and can be administered honestly and for a reasonable cost, is what no man can believe who realizes the vast diversity of interests existing among a people spread from the Rio Grande to the great Lakes; and from the Pacific to the Atlantic; and who possesses the least knowledge of the past administration of the custom house and post office system in this country. There will be constant efforts made by one section or another to shift its proper share of the common burden upon other shoulders, and Congressional combinations will frequently secure success to such efforts. An army of tax-gatherers swarm through the country, like Loo's disbanded veterans, plundering friend and foe alike. The sums extorted from the people will be prodigious; the revenue received by Government disproportionately small. Honest men will find it hard work to pay their taxes and earn a living. Rogues will laugh at assessors. The resources and vitality of the country are so great that it is beyond the power of legislation, however bad, to stop the national progress altogether. But it will unquestionably be retarded, and this will be the case, in spite of all the improvements which can be made in the law.

On the other hand, it must be confessed that the problem—how to avoid the necessity of taxation by paying off the debt—is one of such difficulty that at first glance every one is disposed to pronounce it insoluble. Still it will do no harm to keep always in view that we ought to solve it if we can, and that as a people we have done many things which had been pronounced impossible. It is well to remember that the bulk of the debt does not begin to mature till three, five, and eight years hence, so that there is plenty of time for reflection. Attention may be directed to the operation of a sinking fund on a large scale: an institution provided for by law, but thus far not called into existence by the Government. It might be well to inquire whether a system of commutation of taxes could be devised with due regard to the interests of Government and tax-payers; such a system, for instance, as would enable a tax-payer, whose average annual

taxes were \$1,000, to get rid of them forever or for life: or for two or more lives by paying \$10,000 or any other sum. If this could be accomplished a large number of persons would doubtless avail themselves of the opportunity of wealth to purchase impunity from taxation, and the national debt would be reduced in proportion. A thorough study of the principles of averages might enable statisticians to capitalize the annual tax of men starting in life in almost any vocation; and in many cases such persons might be able and willing to accept the capitalization, and discharge their share of the debt in full.

All such schemes are mere crudities as yet involving no mean difficulties. But the advantage of getting rid of the internal taxes, if it can be by any means accomplished, is so palpable that no excuse need be offered for groping in that direction in search of a road toward that end.—Harper's Weekly.

Negro Suffrage.

Matthew Stevenson, of Tennessee, wrote, in 1854, in an address to the people of his State, exposing the wrongs and evils of slavery: "We hold it wise policy in every government to make it the interest of all its subjects to support, defend and perpetuate its civil institutions." No one will doubt the justice of this sentence; and as, in this country, the people are the government, it must be held to the people's interests that all should have equal rights before the law.

The question whether negroes shall vote is getting very general discussion at this time. Southern Union men are, without exception, so far as we know, in favor of giving to the black man precisely the rights possessed by any other man. We have spoken with a number of persons born and bred in the South, and have found them all of one opinion on this question. So far as anything has been lately published by Southern Union men on the subject, we remember nothing of a contrary tenor. A letter from General Gantt, of Arkansas, dated the 5th instant, is the latest and perhaps the clearest definition of Southern loyal opinion on this question. Gen. Gantt says:

"That the negro is needed at the South, that he is capable of culture and improvement, is certain; and that self-protection will compel the South to protect and improve him is reasonable to suppose. That all loyal men should accord to him the principle of suffrage and equality before the law, is becoming a wide-spread conviction, and will gain strength the more narrowly it is scrutinized.

As to suffrage for the colored free man, he once had it in the South. It was taken from him, not because he was unworthy of it, but because his exercise of it rendered the slaves around him discontented, and endangered the slave fabric by his future influence. But now that slavery is destroyed, need men be afraid of the freedmen? What do the people want? The perpetuation of liberty by whole some laws. What more jealous and watchful sentinels could it have than those who themselves had come up from bondage, or learned of its horrors, with perhaps many exaggerations, from the traditions of their fathers?

"What is the duty of the nation; what the interest of the Southern white man in this connection? The elevation of the black. What strong or incentive could you give him for commendable effort than the protection of equal laws, and the right to suffrage which he prepared himself to exercise it?"

General Gantt says truly that the negro once enjoyed suffrage at the South. In every Southern State exceptatory and secession South Carolina, the right of suffrage was originally held and exercised by "all free men." The Declaration of Rights prefixed to the Constitution of Delaware, and part of that document, declared:

"Every freeman having sufficient evidence of permanent common interest, with an attachment to the community, hath a right of suffrage."

The Constitution of Maryland provided:

"All freemen above twenty-one years of age, having a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county in which they offer to vote, and residing therein, and all freemen, having property in this State above the value of thirty

The New Constitution of Missouri.

The following are the leading features of the new Constitution of Missouri, just adopted by a majority of the people:

It declares Missouri a free State forever.

It establishes the equality of all men before the law.

It prohibits legislation interfering with the personal rights of men on account of their color.

It declares that Missouri shall ever remain a member of the American Union.

It excludes from the ballot-box and from office traitors, rebels, rebel sympathizers, guerrilla marauders, bushwhackers, and their aiders and abettors.

It in like manner excludes those who enrolled themselves as disloyal or as Southern sympathizers, to avoid militia duty.

It provides for an efficient registration of voters, thereby securing the exclusion of illegal voters.

It removes the rule requiring treason to be proved by at least two witnesses, and leaves it to be proved as any other crime.

It invites immigration from Europe by extending the elective franchise to those persons of foreign birth who have, more than one year before an election, declared their intention, according to law, to become citizens of the United States.

It forbids private, local and special legislation, which for 30 years has cursed the State, and brings the State under a uniform system of general laws.

It prohibits lotteries.

It forbids the Legislature making compensation for emancipated slaves.

It stops the creation of corporations by special acts, with enormous and dangerous powers, and requires all corporations to be formed under general laws.

It prohibits the creation, renewal or extension of the charter of any bank of issue.

It protects the interests of the people by imposing upon stockholders individual liability for the debts of corporations.

It secures an efficient system of common schools for the free education of the children of the State.

It gives increased facilities for its own amendment, and allows the people a direct vote upon every amendment proposed.

Proposed Amendments to the Tax Bill.

Somebody proposes the following new amendments to the Tax Bill:

For kissing a pretty girl, \$1.
For kissing a very homely one, \$2—the extra amount being added, probably, for the man's folly.
For ladies kissing one another, \$2.
The tax is placed at this rate in order to break up the custom altogether, it being regarded by our C's as a piece of inexcusable absurdity.
For every flirtation, 10 cents.
For every young man who has more than one "girl," he is taxed \$5.
For courting in the kitchen, 25 cents.
Courting in the sitting room, 50 cents.
Courting in the parlor, \$1.
Courting in a romantic place, \$5; and 40 cents for each offense thereafter.
Seeing a lady home from Church, 25 cents for each offense.
Seeing her home from the Dime Society, 5 cents, the proceeds to be devoted to the relief of disabled army Chaplains.
For a lady who paints, 50 cents.
For wearing low-necked dresses, \$1.
For each curl on a lady's head above ten, 5 cents.
For an unfair device for entrapping young men into matrimony, \$5.
For wearing hoops larger than eight feet in circumference, 8 cents for each hoop.
Old bachelors over thirty, are taxed \$10; over forty, \$20; over fifty, \$50, and sentenced to banishment in Utah.
Every pretty lady to be taxed from 25 cents to \$25; she is to fix the estimate of her own beauty. It is thought that a large amount will be realized from this provision.
Each boy baby, 50 cents.
Each girl baby, 10 cents.
Families having more than eight babies are not to be taxed; and for twins, a premium of \$40 will be paid out of the fund accruing from the tax on old bachelors.
Each Sunday loafer on the street corners or about church-doors, to be taxed at his full value, which is about 2 cents.

Religious.

—God knows what keys is the human soul to touch, in order to draw out its sweetest and most perfect harmonies. They may be the minor strains of sadness and sorrow; they may be the fuller notes of joy and gladness; God knows where the melodies of our nature are, and what discipline will call them forth. Some with plastic songs must walk in lowly paths; all life's weary way; others in lofty hymns shall sing; others, but joy, as they tread the mountain-tops of life; but they all unite without a discord or a jar, as the ascending anthem of loving and believing hearts finds its way into the chorus of this redeemed in heaven.

—Six things are requisite to a happy home: Integrity must be the architect, and tidiness the upholsterer. It must be warmed by affection, lighted up with cheerfulness, and industry must be the ventilator, renewing the atmosphere and bring in fresh salubrity day by day; while over all, as a protecting canopy and glory, nothing will suffice except the blessing of God.

—An important event in the way of church reconstruction, South, is the recent organization of an annual conference of the M. E. church in East Tennessee. Bishop Clark, having constituted the conference by the transfer of six ministers from conferences of the local States, admitted into it no less than forty-three ministers from the Southern Methodist Church. The new conference starts with a membership of 9,404 and has preachers stationed in Tennessee, N. Carolina and Georgia.

—The Rev. Frederick A. Schöffel died at Greensboro, Pa., on the 19th ult., aged seventy-seven years. He was one of the pioneers of the German Reformed Church in Southern Pennsylvania. He preached entirely German, until his congregation became English in his hands. There remains but one congregation of all that be served that retains a motley of German.

—It is stated that Miss Gladstone, sister to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has subscribed \$5,000 towards the Wiseman testimonial; that she will give a similar sum for ten years to come, and that she has further promised to give \$5,000 a year towards the augmentation of the income of the new Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster.

Agricultural.

Raising Calves.

When fresh cows sell from forty to fifty dollars each, is it not worth consideration whether it will not be good policy to raise some calves, especially if we have good stock to raise from? Last season I raised two, and the spring I started three more. I consider early spring the best time to start them, as they will require but little care until fall.

A calf that I am going to raise I never let suck the cow. It is much easier to learn it to drink before than after. I have had them drink alone without the aid of the finger, before they are twelve hours old; and after the second day have but little trouble with them, as they drink freely if they turned out with the cows they were troubled with; neither have I to put straps around the nose, with lead nails in, to prevent their sucking, as they know nothing about it.

The first two weeks I give them milk drawn from the mother of the calf. After that the cud comes, when I give them a little cake-meal, brand and salt, mixed with water about milk warm. It is better to scald the meal and let it soak twelve hours before feeding. If any is left, feed it on something else and make fresh for the calves every time, as it will sour.

About this time they will eat a little hay, and clover is best. As soon as there is enough grass for them to get a bite, I turn them out; and I soon slack off their feed.

A small enclosure, with water and shade, and where horses or cows are not permitted to run, is the most suitable.—Cor. Germantown Telegraph.

Remedy for Cracked Hoofs.

"Take a piece of copper, four inches long and two inches wide, and drill eight holes, four in each end, so as not to interfere with the crack, and screw it flat to the hoof, across the crack. Then take a hot iron with a sharp edge, and burn the crack, at the edge of the hoof, till it goes through to the quick. After this let the horse run on pasture, and it will begin to heal up in a few weeks. This remedy I have tried, and it did the work. I have a very fine horse, and I worked the crack all the time. Care should be taken to close the crack tight before the plate is fastened on."

Corn Suckers.

A correspondent of the New England Farmer gives his testimony as follows:

"I have worked on several farms, and on some of them we cut the sucker away at the second hoing; on others we did not cut them away at any time. Where we left them the ears were small, and where they were cut off the ears were large and full."

Colored people voted in Pennsylvania, till 1838; in Connecticut they voted till 1817. In New York, originally, white and black stood upon the same ground, the right to vote in both being dependent upon a property qualification. About the year 1820, an amendment to the Constitution abolished this property test as regards the white man, but left it un repealed as regards the blacks. This is to say, it was a half reform.

Within the memory of man no living negro voted regularly in North Carolina and Tennessee. In the former State, it is related that a wealthy slave-owner secured his election to Congress by setting free a considerable number of his slaves who went to the polls and voted for him in a body. In Tennessee, a man well known in his day, was first elected to Congress by negro votes. John Pettit, of Indiana, said in his place, in the Senate, in 1854:

"Many of the States have conferred this right (of suffrage) upon Indians; and many, both North and South, have conferred it upon free negroes without property. Old Cave Johnson, of Tennessee, an honored and respectable gentleman, formerly Postmaster-General, and for a long time a member of the other House, told me with his own lips that the first time he was elected to Congress from Tennessee (in 1838) it was by the votes of three negroes; and he told me how. Free negroes in Tennessee were then allowed by the Constitution of the State to vote; and he was an iron manufacturer, and had a large number of free negroes as well as slaves in his employ. I will recollect the number he stated. One hundred and forty-four free negroes in his employ went to the ballot-box and elected him to Congress the first time he was elected."

In Maryland, colored men voted until 1833. In North Carolina, as we have said, they originally voted.—Judge Gaston, in a legal opinion, in 1838, said:

"The very Congress which framed our Constitution (the State Constitution of 1776) was chosen by freeholders. That Constitution extended the elective franchise to every freeman who had arrived at the age of twenty-one, and paid a public tax; and it is a matter of universal notoriety that under color, claimed and exercised the franchise until it was taken from free men of color, a few years since, by our amended Constitution."

The Union men of the South show themselves true conservatives, when they declare in favor of universal suffrage, and refuse to make distinctions on account of color merely. They have the matter in their own hands, for the States declare who are to exercise this right in each. If they want peace and prosperity, they must look to it that all men shall have equal rights.—N. Y. Eve. Post.

We wonder how much Alexander H. Stephens would give now if he had never uttered the following, which he did in a speech in Congress some years since:

"The Nebraska bill was under discussion. In his conclusion, in Fort Warren he will have time to consider those words. He then said:

"Well, gentlemen, you make a good deal of clamor on the Nebraska measures; but it don't alarm us at all. We have got used to that kind of talk. You have threatened before; but have never performed. You have always caved in and you will again. You are a mouthing, white livered set. Of course you will oppose; we expect that; but we don't care for your railing. You will hiss, but so will adders. We expect it of adders, and we expect it of you. You are like the devils that were pitched over the battlement of heaven into hell. They set up a howl of discomfiture, and so will you. But their fate was sealed, and so is yours. You must submit to the yoke, but don't chafe. Gentlemen, we have got you in our power. You tried to drive us to the wall in 1850, but times are changed. * * * You want a woolling, and have come home fleeced. Don't be so imprudent as to complain. You will only be slapped in the face. Don't resist. You will only be fished into obedience."

It is said that an extensive plot to rob the banks and exchange offices in Toronto has recently been discovered, and in consequence all those establishments are now closely guarded. These attempts are made by the unprincipled skeddaddlers and bounty jumpers who have found in Canada protection and congenial spirits.

The New York World, which outdid itself in abuse of Andrew Johnson when he was Vice-President, now says that "the country has reason to congratulate itself that this high-minded statesman is at the head of affairs."

It is reported that the government has discovered a large batch of letters from Fernando Wood, Ben Wood, the Seymours, and various other persons in the North, among the rebel archives seized in Richmond. It is further said that these letters, when published, will startle the community, showing as they will the complicity of the writers in the devilish work of the rebellion.

HANG DAVIS OR ABOLISH CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—The Universalist having been censured for intimating that Davis should be hung, replies: "After the excitement has passed, and Jefferson Davis is hung, we may be sorry! But in all soberness, let us say, if Jefferson Davis is not hung, the hand that in this land ever after signs a death warrant should drop from its socket. If he is pardoned, let every prison door open."

How have the mighty fallen! How are the proud laid low! Just think of the daughter of Pinckney—the very essence of South Carolina aristocracy—relieving rations from the Government of the United States! Such is the fate of Charleston! Such the result of secession. Pride, passion, vanity, must ever meet their sad, but merited end.

THE EXTRA PAY OF SOLDIERS.—Attorney General Speed has decided that volunteers who enlisted for one, two or three years, under the statute of July 6th, 1864, are entitled to the bounties promised them in proportion to the time of service actually rendered.

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The qualifications of an elector shall be every free white man, and no other person," &c.

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