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Poetry.



DISSOLVE THE UNION.

Dissolve the Union! Who would part
The chain that binds us heart to heart?
Each link was forged by sainted sires,
Amid the Revolution's fires;
And cool'd—oh, where so rich a flood?
In Warren's and in Sumner's blood!

Dissolve the Union! Be like France,
When "Terror" rear'd her bloody lance,
And man became destruction's child,
And woman in her passions wild
Danced in the life-blood of her Queen,
Before the dreadful guillotine!

Dissolve the Union! Roll away
The spangled flag of Glory's day;
Blot out the history of the brave,
And desecrate each Patriot's grave,
And then above the wreck of years
Quaff an eternity of tears!

Dissolve the Union! Can it be
That they who speak such words are free;
Great God! did any die to save
Such sordid wretches from the grave—
When breast to breast, and hand to hand
Our patriot fathers freed the land?

Dissolve the Union! Ho! Forbear!
The sword of Damocles is there;
Cut but a hair and earth shall know
A darker, deadlier tale of woe
Than history's crimson page has told,
Since Nero's car in blood e'er roll'd.

Dissolve the Union! Speak! ye hills!
Ye everlasting mountains cry!
Shriek out! ye streams and mingling rills,
And ocean roar in agony!
Dead heroes! leap from Glory's sod!
And shield the manor of your blood!

The Election of Lincoln in England. Comments of the London Press.

[From the London Times, Nov. 29.]
The event which has occupied the attention of the United States for the last four years has at length come to pass, and virtually, although not as yet legally, Mr. Lincoln has been elected the President, and Mr. Hamlin the Vice President of the great American Confederacy. The event has been long foreseen, and will surprise nobody who has paid the least attention to American politics. It is the natural reaction against the outrages and excesses of 1855, and 1856, the protest of the freest and best educated part of the American people against the acts of high handed violence and oppression which preceded the advent of Mr. Buchanan to power. If the South has at length found that it is not omnipotent in the councils of the country, that unpleasant discovery is owing to the foolish and intemperate use which the South has made of its prosperity. While demanding the most implicit respect for its own opinions, the South has been ever ostentatious in proclaiming bitter and cynical contempt for the opinions and the feelings of others. Slavery has been defended as the normal and perfect State of human society, and the North has been bitten taunted with its honest industry, and the coarseness of manners which the fastidious Southern planter traces to this cause. While claiming for itself the monopoly of the government of the United States the South has constantly held the language of disaffection, and the United States have been ruled by a party which was perpetually talking of disuniting them.

So far from wondering that these things should have produced the result we have just witnessed, it has long appeared to be impossible that they should not. Man kind, if ruled at all must be ruled either by force or persuasion.—The South could not employ the former, and have long substituted the language of provocation and defiance for the latter. But these and many other circumstances, while they fully account for the change which has taken place, tend very considerably to diminish its significance. Had the South been always reasonable and conciliatory, we must have regarded the election of Mr. Lincoln as evidence of an intolerance of the very institution of slavery which might portend results fatal to the stability of the Union; but the South has really taken so much pains to bring the present result to pass that it has no right to be surprised at its own success.

tenace of ruthless and indiscriminate proscription. There is no need to affix the list of the proscribed in public places, after the fashion of the epical Sylla. The proscription is exactly coincidental with the number of plac-holders. We cannot expect that any argument will reconcile these martyrs to their doom. Then there are the slave owners themselves whose acute sensibilities on the subject of their 'peculiar domestic institution,' whose hatred of the North, and whose fears of the masses of barbarism by which they are surrounded themselves, have led them very much to over estimate the real importance of the change. There can be no slave so stupid and ignorant as not to know that the blow which his master has been talking of and fearing so long has fallen at last and who will not derive from it a far greater degree of confidence than it ought really to inspire. The reign of terror now prevailing in Texas is a sufficient proof of the existence of this spirit of exaggeration, and it may, perhaps, operate to call forth from the slaves some manifestation of feeling, which can have no other result than to rivet fetters already too severe.

We may surmise that the disgraceful traffic in slaves, sure, sooner or later, to follow the institution of slavery itself, will be kept under with a vigorous hand. We may expect to find the Supreme Court of the United States restored, if not to impartiality, to something more like a balance of opinion by the appointment of eminent Republican lawyers, and we may expect to find in the administration of the Territories a spirit which will render the repetition of scenes like those of Kansas impossible.

We know that the friends of the negro have much more to expect from the new President. His powers are very limited, and will be confined within a space much narrower than their strictly legal extent by the same necessity which has made Mr. Buchanan abstain from any attempt on Cuba, and tolerate the anarchy and even the aggressions of unhappy Mexico. For the safety of the Union itself we confess we have no fear. Of course, it will take some time before men can cool down from the bluster which has been so profusely used for electorating purposes to the language of moderation and truth.

Some men have said these things so often that they are ashamed to show how little they believe them, and some so often that they have really learned to believe them themselves. But when the cooler heads of the South begin to consider how imaginary is the injury which they have sustained, how vast are the interests involved, how heavy would be the cost, how considerable the danger of disunion, and how impossible it would be for the Southern States to maintain in the face of the world the strong position they now hold as members of a great American Confederacy, we suspect that the South will think better of it, and turn its activity into the more practical channel of providing Mr. Lincoln with a Democratic successor in 1864.

From the London Saturday Review. A SLAVEHOLDING REPUBLIC.

Nothing can be more rational than the skepticism which leads men of experience to doubt the occurrence of any very great event which is very confidently predicted; and, if the event be an American event, incredulity is increased by the knowledge that the American people have principles of barking which are entirely distinct from their principles of biting. Still there are some symptoms which make it worth while to attend to the contingency of a separation between the Northern and Southern States of the Union. If there is one sign which clearly shows that an American is genuinely uneasy, it is the abatement of his commercial confidence, and we now learn that, as soon as it became more than probable that Mr. Lincoln would be elected to the Presidency, American securities declined seriously in all parts of the United States. It does not seem to be thought for one moment that any act of armed rebellion is meditated by the slaveholders, and they appear to be too divided in opinion for there to be any chance of their concerting a plan of simultaneous resistance. But one or two Southern States, peopled by bigots of more than ordinarily furious temper, have announced that they mean to take a course which is certainly alarming. They propose to instruct the Senators who represent them in the Upper House of Congress to resign their seats, and then they intend to abstain from filling the vacancies. The Senate, in which all States are equally represented, is the knot of the Federal Union, but there do not seem to be any means of compelling an unwilling State to contribute delegates to it, nor is there any known Constitutional fiction by which the empty places can be taken to be filled. The withdrawal of a part of the Senators would amount to a de facto secession much more difficult to deal with, and perhaps more dangerous, than overt treason against the commonwealth.

As soon as it becomes worth while to discuss the establishment of a separate federation of the Slaveholding States, the considerations which suggest themselves are such as to make us wonder at the folly of the undertaking.—The least drawback on it is its expensiveness. At present, the cost of the General Government is most unequally distributed between the North and South; and, though in the Southern section these expenses are much larger than in the Northern, from the greater inaccessibility of the country, the amount contributed by the Slave States to the revenue which pays them is out of all proportion smaller than the amount raised from the States of Free-Soil. This, however, is a trifling reason for valuing the Union, compared with others. Is it possible that the planters do not perceive that their connection with the Northern States has the effect, as it were, of insuring their pe-

culiar institution? Looked at impartially, it is much more like a contrivance for keeping up negro servitude than for weakening it. The utmost outrage with which they are menaced by Mr. Lincoln and the Republicans is a Congressional measure prohibiting the introduction of Slavery into the North-Western Territories of the Union. Even this disadvantage is not necessarily a consequence of the Republicans carrying the Presidency; for Congress is still hostile to the Republicans, and the Southern planters, who are unanimous themselves, and allied with a powerful minority in every State of the North, have a reasonable prospect of even now thwarting their antagonists' policy. But if the Southern States once succeeded in constituting a separate Federation, it is surely clear that every question now pending between themselves and the North would become at once an international question. Every point now at issue in the domestic form of Congress would come under the cognizance of the general society of nations. What sort of division of the unsettled territory now belonging to the United States would ever be agreed upon between the Northern and Southern Federations nobody can pretend even to conceive; and this is the very difficulty which seems to show that the severance could never be effected without bloodshed. It is plain, however, that every attempt of the Southern States to expand beyond the territory absolutely secured to them would be resisted, not simply by their Northern neighbors, but by the whole strength of European civilization. The more reckless spirits of the South are pushing on their quarrel in the belief that, if they were once embarrassed of the Union, they could rend provinces after provinces from Mexico, and fill each successive acquisition with their slaves. But Europe would have a word to say in the matter. It is simply the incorporation of the North with the South which prevents European statesmen from treating the annexations of the United States as avowed extensions of the area of Slavery. They cannot now upbraid a Confederacy, of which more than half the members have to slaves, with conquering and annexing merely in the interest of cotton and negroes, but there would be no scruple about taxing the Southern Federation with designs which it would be at no pains to conceal. Nor is there, we take it, the slightest doubt that the Free States would rather assist than impede the efforts of European diplomacy. The Monroe doctrine would be destroyed by the very fact of secession, and a Northern Union, once divided from the South, would not be long in making the discouragement of Slavery the cardinal principle of its foreign policy. In short, the measure of the dangers of separation is the advantage now derived from disunion. Slavery is sufficiently unpopular in the world for a mere slaveholding Commonwealth to run no small risk of becoming the victim of a general crusade.—But the actual connection of the Southern States with the North has the effect of masking their exclusive devotion to a hated system. The Constitution of the United States, as experience has abundantly shown, can often be so managed as to promote the objects of the slave-owners, and whenever advantage is gained in this way, it is gained without incurring danger, and almost without attracting attention.

The extravagant notions of their own prowess entertained by the Americans of the Southern States has persuaded them that they would lose nothing in military strength and resource by casting off the bondage of the Constitution. We can only say that England is the only country which has had a serious struggle with the United States, and English experience does not bear out the Southern pretensions.—During the Revolutionary War, the English troops scarcely commanded a foot of ground in the North which they did not actually occupy. But, later in the struggle, the South was all but subdued; and had not the inconceivable strategy of the English Generals given a different turn to the issue, it seemed at one time probable that, even if New-England and the Middle States obtained their independence, the mother country would be left in possession of Georgia and the Carolinas, just as she was of Canada and Nova-Scotia.—Similarly, in the war of 1812, nobody in England ever doubted that the Southern States were the vulnerable part of the Federation; nor has the result changed this opinion. The expedition to New-Orleans, though fully given up to destruction by General Pakenham, was exceedingly well planned; and had not the signing of peace in Europe interrupted hostilities, a second expedition on a larger scale, and under better commanders, would assuredly have ascended the Mississippi. It is not, indeed, to be supposed that anybody in England ever doubted, or doubts, the personal gallantry of the Southern whites. Even if the Southerner be somewhat of a bully he is a poltroon. But we in Europe have recently learned to distrust the strength of every system which is based on the depression of a subject population. There were brave men in Italy who were wedded to the cause of legitimacy—such men, for example, as are still grouped around King Francis at Gaeta. But the lesson we have received is, that it is never safe to calculate on the abasement of subjects. The Southerners can hardly disdain the negro as a rebel more than the local Italian despots despised their people as mutineers. If the negro is considered half an animal, the Italian was thought half a woman. "My people," wrote King Ferdinand, "bend their necks and obey." Yet a very slight assistance from without swept away the Italian tyrants; and for our part we do not envy the Southern whites when once a negro Garibaldi is among their slaves.

Among the advertisements in a late London paper, we read that two sisters want washing. When is a pugilist's eye like a cider keg? When it is bunged up.

From the Phila. Bulletin. Hon. J. P. King.

The most sensible Southern utterance yet made touching the crisis, is in a communication to the Georgia Constitutionalist, written, it is understood, by the Hon. J. P. King. We have been waiting for the pressure to bring out some patriotic citizen of eminent talents, who should explain to the South the rationale of secession. So far it has been the blind madness of the Cyclops after his eye was bored out. We say, advisedly, blind madness. There has not been a wise, business-like, comprehensive suggestion from a solitary secessionist. It is the wisdom of the bull who rushes at a red cloth, or the Turk who shoots every man or woman who wears green.

At last, however, a man has spoken. He is Southern enough to see more grievances than really exist; but his clear common sense and knowledge of human nature and history, have not forsaken him. He shows that secession is evil and only evil; that the planters have already lost millions in the depreciation of their property; that the equality in the Territories is mainly an abstraction; that the election of Mr. Lincoln does not really touch one of their interests. As to the Personal Liberty laws; he says that secession is a Japanese remedy for it, by ripping open their own bowels.

He shows most powerfully that whatever their grievances, they are worse out of the Union than in it. The Union itself was a gathering together of "jealous, faithless and sectional" bodies, which gave up the most of the mischief they were doing each other, by becoming united. The judges in the free States have always enforced the Fugitive Slave Law, and the very thing the abolitionists want to do is to dissolve the Union. For the South to do it is to give up their bulwark without a single equivalent.

A most powerful part of this admirable article is the answer to the inquiry as to the reason that the border slave States do not wish to dissolve the Union. Mr. King says it is because they understand the matter better than the cotton States. They know what border struggles are, and they know the North. It is deeply significant that Virginia is not quarreling with Kentucky, nor Kentucky with Indiana, nor Tennessee with Illinois. The effect of a dissolution of the Union would be to render slaves valueless in the border States. They would become free States in self defence, and thus the dissolution of the Union would break up slavery or drive it into the States where white men cannot labor.

Mr. King then shows that Mr. Lincoln has no power to take away their rights, and that the excitement among the slaves is caused by the speeches of their own "unproud declaimers." He closes with Mr. Cobb's address, which he styles, "Conjectures without reason, assertions without proof, conclusions without premises. No revolutionary harangue of Desmoulins, Danton or Couthon was ever better calculated to stir up an excited population to anarchy and blood."

Mr. King reminds us of the best days of the Republic. Once more, we hear one of those voices which have so often delighted us in the South. The race of eloquent, clear-headed, warm-hearted, silver-tongued, comprehensive Southerners has not died out. The North was beginning to feel, under this Wigfall and Iverson, Keitt and Rhetor, dispensation, as if the South would be no great loss; but Mr. King revives us. As long as there is such a man in Georgia, we cannot afford to lose it.

CRUEL, CRUEL WOMAN.

The Marsville Democrat tells of a handsome young widow residing there, who, like all of her class, is pestered with suitors. On Monday last (washing day) one came along. She was up to the elbows in suds, and opened the door with a determination to say something harsh, thought better of it, and said to the handsome young man:

"Good morning, Mr. John Smith; I am very glad to see you, and should be glad to have you come in; but the fact is, I am busy in the kitchen washing."

"Ah, no matter," he answered, "I will sit a little while in there; you can just go on with your work the same; I delight to get into the kitchen, it is so pleasant and homelike."

If he was delighted, so was not the widow. She gave him a chair, and chatted away quite merrily; however, at the same time, seemingly very much engaged with the work before her. Presently she took up a large sized washbasin, and filled full of hot suds from the boiler on the stove, and stepping to a table, took up a bouquet that was lying thereon, and in the most innocent manner conceivable, asked the gentleman if he could tell the botanical name of one of the flowers contained therein. Of course he raised from the chair and stepped forward to examine it. The malicious woman sidly set down the basin in the vacated seat. Then she rivited his gaze with one of her sweetest smiles, and presented to him the bouquet and begged he would keep it for her sake—and bade him resume his seat. He obeyed. That widow has not had a caller in her kitchen since.

The following unique valentine was received by a lady:
"Soft is the down on the butterfly's wing,
It is so soft and meek,
Soft is the voice that my true love does sing
But softer yet is her crimson cheek."

The following is the lady's reply:
"Soft is tatars all smashed up,
As soft as smash can be;
But softer yet is the silly swain,
That wrote that verse to me."

An Irish lover remarked that it is a great pleasure to be alone, especially when your watchart is wid yé.

THE RESIGNATION OF GEN. CASS.

This venerable man has resigned his position in Mr. Buchanan's Cabinet. Let our past differences with him in political opinions have been what they may, we have ever been willing to concede to him the possession of great natural ability, and vast stores of information. He has resigned in consequence of the refusal of President Buchanan to reinforce the gallant Commandant of Fort Maitris, and has shown more pluck than we had given him credit for. The veteran statesman remembers well the instructions he gave Gen. Scott in 1832, when the latter was assigned the command of the forts of the harbor of Charleston. By the terms of those instructions, the hero of Chippewa was empowered to draw unlimitedly upon the national army. Gen. Cass, by his resignation, has been true to his past record, and therefore true to himself.

We presume this will be his last appearance in public life. His age is too great and his health too feeble to permit him longer to participate in the active trying scenes of public life. It may not, therefore, be inappropriate to recall briefly the striking salient points of his career. Born in New Hampshire, he emigrated, about 1805 to the State of Ohio, and settled at Chillicothe. His political career began in the ranks of the Federalists. Subsequently he became United States Marshal. We believe this was the only position he ever held until Monroe appointed him first Indian Commissioner to settle treaties with some of the Northwest Indian tribes, and subsequently Governor of the Territory of Michigan. This latter post he held for many years. During General Jackson's administration he served as Secretary of War. Subsequently he went abroad as Minister to Paris.

Soon after his return from this latter post he became a strong candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. By the combination of his friends with those of other aspirants, the celebrated two thirds rule was adopted, and Van Buren's third nomination was prevented, James K. Polk being declared the winning one. About this time Gen. Cass went into the Senate, where he remained, taking a conspicuous part in its deliberations until he resigned in 1848, after receiving the Democratic nomination for the Presidency.

Mr. Van Buren now repaid the debt of 1844 with terrible interest—running as a separate candidate, and giving the electoral vote of New York to Taylor. Gen. Cass returned to the Senate and served another term. After Mr. Buchanan's nomination, he was tendered the post of Premier, accepted it, and has served out nearly the term of his appointment.—Nothing but some overpowering necessity or strong sense of self-respect, could have induced him with so short a period to run, to resign his place.

His present action, and the motive impelling it, deserve the warmest commendation.—Daily News.

Feminine Devotedness.

At Lyons when that city became the theatre of daily executions, a woman learned by chance that her husband's name was on the proscribed list and instantly ran to avert the impending destruction by securing his immediate flight.—She compelled him to assume her dress, gave him her money and jewels, and had the incredible happiness of seeing him pass unsuspected. A few hours afterwards the officer of justice came to seize him. She had prepared herself to receive them, by putting on a suit of her husband's clothes, and answering also to his name. She was led before the Revolutionary Committee. In the course of the examination her disguise was discovered, and they demanded of her, her husband.

"My husband," she answered, in a tone of exultation, "is out of the reach of your power. I planned his escape, and I glory in risking my own life for the preservation of his."

They displayed before her the instruments of punishment, and charged her to reveal the route her husband had taken.

"Strike," she replied: "I am prepared."
"But it is for the interest of your country that we command you to speak," said one of the committee.

"Barbarians!" she answered, "my country cannot command me to outrage the sacred laws of nature."
Her dignity and firmness awed even the members of the Revolutionary Committee, and a noble action for once overcame their spirit of desolating cruelty!

"Pat can you tell me what is a virgin?"
"To be sure I can, Jimmy."
"Well, thin, will ye be either doin' it?"
"Yes, jist; it's a woman that has never been married at all."
"Be ye in air 't, Pat?"
"Yes Jimmy."
"The saints in heaven be praised then! my mother is a virgin; my father never married her sure."

Old Buck requests the South not to secede while he is President. He says, as an Executive officer, he cannot prevent it. His distressed condition reminds us of a quail from one of the neglected poets of America, in which the poet addresses some boys who threaten to upset his apple cart:

"Boys and gals get off behind,
This horse and cart, it are not mine;
And if this horse should chance to start,
He'd kick up—!—it and break the cart."

"Were you ever cross-questioned?"
"Yes, when questioned by my wife, after spending the evening abroad—cross enough—in all conscience."

To get up the "Conflict of Ages," ask two rival beauties how old they are.

WHO ARE DISUNIONISTS?

The singular spectacle is now presented of Disunionists trying to palm themselves off as Union men, and to fix upon the friends of the Union the stigma of hostility to it.

Nearly all the democratic papers in the North openly sympathize with and aid, as far as they can, the Disunionists of the South.—They greet over every item of intelligence that indicates the triumph of secession, and will be awfully disappointed if the Union should by any chance be preserved. Yet they set themselves up as the true and only friends of the Union.

The Republican papers of the North, on the contrary, are all for the Union. They have taken every opportunity to demonstrate their attachment to it, and are prepared to defend and sustain every constitutional effort for its preservation. Their motto is, "The Union, it must and shall be preserved." Yet the Republican party and its presses are held up as disunionists, the men who are impelling it because they will not agree to abandon the fruits of a hard-earned victory.

It is a notorious fact that nearly every disunionist in the country is a Democrat. Every article written and every speech made against the Union has proceeded from a professed Democrat, nearly all of them from the Breckinridge faction. The disunion speeches furnished in Congress during the present session, have been made by leading democrats, such as Joe Lane, Cingman, Brown, Iverson and Wigfall. They rivalled each other in declarations of enmity to the Union, and their determination not to stay within it under present circumstances; and it is the democratic party, where alone that party has any vitality, which is the backbone of the Disunion movement.

The Republican party occupies the opposite position. It is emphatically the Union party. It stands by the Union and will stand by it, maintaining it against all odds and against attacks from all quarters. If the Democratic party succeeds in severing the Union, it will do it without aid from the Republican ranks, and if the Union is dissolved at all, it will be through Democratic agency. It cannot escape from that responsibility by professing a devotion to the Union it is trying its best to destroy, nor affix the stigma of disunion upon the party to whom the government has been entrusted, and through whom, alone, the Union can be preserved.—Phila. Gazette.

A MAN FLOGGED AND BRANDED.—The West Baton Rouge Sugar Planter of Saturday last has the following:

"Quite an excitement was raised at Grosse Tete, a day or two since, by the apprehension of two men who had been detected in tampering with negroes. One of the individuals got clear of summary punishment from some little extenuating circumstance in his favor; but the other, said to be an Irishman, was tied up, soundly flogged, branded on both cheeks, and ordered to leave—quick!"

WELL CHARACTERIZED.—The New York Evening Post's Washington correspondent says:

"The Message was playfully but quite happily hit off by Mr. Seward, just after the reading, when some friends of the President asked him what he thought of it. 'I think,' said the New York Senator, 'the President has conclusively proved two things: 1. That no State has the right to secede—unless it wishes to; and 2. That it is the President's duty to enforce the laws—unless somebody opposes it.'"

LINCOLN AN INVENTOR.—We were shown at the U. S. Patent Office the model of a steamer combining buoyant air chambers with a steamboat or other vessel, for the purpose of enabling their draught of water to be readily lessened, that they might pass over bars or through shallow water without discharging their cargoes. This method of lifting vessels over shoals was invented by Abraham Lincoln, President elect, for which he received a patent May 22, 1849.—Wash. Star.

The following is a statement of the entire vote cast in the United States, after separating and distributing the Fusion tickets:

Lincoln,	1,786,480
Douglas,	1,354,423
Breckinridge,	784,897
Bell,	605,891

From this, it will be seen that Douglas was the real competitor of Lincoln, and made an amazing run!

An Irishman meeting a countryman, inquired his name.
"Walsh," said the man.
"Walsh," responded Paddy. Are you from Dublin? I knew two old maids there of that name; was either of 'em yer mother?"

"I go through my work," as the needle said to the idle boy.
"But not till you are hard pushed," as the idle boy said to the needle.

Why is the first chicken of a brood like the foremost of a ship?
Because its a little forward of the main-bast.

Why is the man who marries twice like the Captain of a ship? Because he has a second mate.

It is a pleasant thing to see roses and lilies growing upon a young lady's cheek, but a bad sign to see a man's face break-out in blossoms.

There is a man who walks so slow that they say he wears a pair of spurs to keep his shad-ow from treading on his heels.