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Select Poetry.

THE DRAFTED WIDE-AWAKE.

I was a glorious Wide-Awake,
All marching in a row;
And wore a shily oil-cloth cap,
About two years ago.
Our torches flamed with tar-pentine,
And filled the streets with smoke;
And we were sure, what's night come,
Recession was a joke.
O, if I then had only dreamed
The things that now I know,
I ne'er had been a Wide-Awake
About two years ago.

I said the South would never dare
To strike a single blow;
I thought that they were weaker than
About two years ago.
And so I marched behind a rail,
Armed with a wedge and maul;
With honest Abe upon a flag,
A kilted man and tall.
O, if I then had only dreamed
The things which now I know,
I ne'er had been a Wide-Awake
About two years ago.

My work was good, my wages high,
And bread and meat was low;
The silver jingled in my purse
About two years ago.
In years my wife and children dwell,
Happy the long day,
And war was but the faintest curse
Of centuries far away.
O, if I then had only dreamed
The things which now I know,
I ne'er had been a Wide-Awake
About two years ago.

My wife sits pale and weeping now,
My children crying low;
I did not think to go to war
About two years ago.
And no one now will earn their food,
God help them when I lie in death
Upon the bloody soil!
O, if I then had only dreamed
The things which now I know,
I ne'er had been a Wide-Awake
About two years ago.

One brother's bones lay buried in
Near the Andalusian's bow;
He was a sturdy, hardy lad,
About two years ago.
And where the Chickasawmy
Moves slow towards the sea,
Was left another's wasted corpse—
I am the last of three.
O, if I then had only dreamed
The things which now I know,
I ne'er had been a Wide-Awake
About two years ago.

Just now I saw my torch and cap,
Which once made such a show;
They are not now what once they seemed
About two years ago.
I thought I carried Freedom's light,
In that sticky, flaming brand;
I've learned I bore a brandy torch—
That wedge has split the land.
O, if I then had only dreamed
The things which now I know,
I ne'er had been a Wide-Awake
About two years ago.

AUSTRIAN DESPOTISM.

We copy the following articles from the *Affersonian*, published at West Chester, Pa. In order to show our readers, what our rulers are at. These things are done by orders of the man who has an oath "registered in heaven, to protect and defend" our constitutional rights. Could he destroy them more effectually had he sworn to do so? The Governor who thus allows the citizens of a State to be dragged beyond its borders, is unfit for the place he holds.

Another outrage from the Constitution. On Monday last, a virtuous citizen, respectable citizen of Waynesburg, in this county, was arrested by Provost-Marshal Bell, brought to West Chester, and committed to our prison for the night. Next morning, before an application could be made to Judge Butler for a writ of habeas corpus, he was hurried off by the Marshal, and incarcerated in Fort Delaware, where he will probably be detained by "the powers that be," for a few months and then discharged, without trial or opportunity of vindicating himself.

The offence is said to be the usual one which Abolitionism alleges against all men who claim and exercise the constitutional rights of freedom of thought and speech—"Disloyal practices and Discouraging enlistments!" There is no just ground on which to base such a charge against Mr. Bender. He may express himself freely as to the purposes and doings of Abolitionism, and the present national Administration. All this, he, with every other white freeman, has a right to do. But as to "discouraging enlistments," it is a base fabrication of bitter and unprincipled partisans. If Anthony Bender had been disposed to discourage enlistments, he would not have conveyed one of his sons 21 miles to join Durell's Battery of the Ringgold Artillery, with which he is now serving in the army, nor would he have permitted another son to rally with the militia, under the late call of Gov. Curtin!

If Mr. Bender had been guilty, he would not have been sent to a Fort, but been tried and punished in our Court, under the State Law which imposes a severe penalty upon this offence; and his hurried removal to a Military Fort, will be regarded as an admission of his Abolition enemies, that he is an innocent man.

"Hail Columbia, happy land."

ANOTHER VICTIM OF AUSTRIAN DESPOTISM RELEASED.—Some two months or more ago, DENNIS HOKEY, an honest hearted Irishman, of New London, this county, was kidnapped by a couple of Marshal Millward's deputies, and carried off to Fort Lafayette, where he has been confined until recently, when he was discharged without a hearing or trial. At first it was stated that he had been arrested for resisting the enrolling officer; but the Marshal of New London, although a Republican, promptly gave the lie to this allegation, by a public card stating that Dennis' conduct towards him had been as proper as that of any other person enrolled by him; and then it became known that the offence was—advocating the Constitution, and opposing Abolitionism, which Black Republicanism construes into "disloyal sentiments and discouraging enlistments!"

Dennis' arrest was after this fashion: Some ten days prior to its occurrence, two strangers, hailing from the city, called at his house—entered into conversation with him—professed to admire his little property—talked about buying it—asked about some of his neighbors—got on to the war and Abolition—and, after telling him they would bring their father out to look at the lot, as it was for him they wished to purchase, they went off. A few days subsequent they returned; told Dennis they had brought their father with them as far as the village of New London where they left him on account of sudden illness; and then, after some further conversation about the lot, proposed that he should get into the carriage and go with them to New London and see the father. He at once, without making any change of clothing, except to put on a coat, walked with them out to the road; all got into the carriage, which started immediately at a rapid rate—not towards New London, but to the Baltimore Central Railroad, and thence by railroad to Philadelphia, from which place he was forwarded to Fort Lafayette.

Such is an illustration of Government as administered by the subordinates of President Lincoln, within the limits of the peaceful and loyal State of Pennsylvania, where the courts are all open and the laws unobstructed! We will probably be able, hereafter, to give other facts bearing on this unmitigated outrage, when it is not unlikely a couple of bitter and malignant Abolitionists of Penn and New London, who have a spite at Dennis because he is an Irishman and a Democrat, will find that if they have been instrumental in inflicting a great wrong upon an innocent man, they have, at the same time, rendered themselves justly odious in the minds of all honorable, fair-minded citizens.

A SIGNIFICANT LETTER.

We take the following letter from the *New York Herald*, of the 16th inst. There is not the least doubt but that, Chase, Sumner, & Co., desire to have things just as the writer relates them, and it has always been our candid opinion, that if these men had the least idea that our country would be reunited at the end of this struggle, and that it would be impossible for them to prevent it, they would not vote another man or a dollar to continue the struggle; but would stand amazed at their wickedness and folly, and flee from the face of their wronged and outraged countrymen. Read the letter:

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16, 1862.
The Secret of General McClellan's Removal—The Radicals Execute a Coup d'Etat—They Declare that if the Proclamation is Withdrawn no More Supplies will be Furnished to the Army—What Took place in Important Cabinet Councils—The President Surrenders to the Radicals—Mr. Chase Master of the Situation—Seward, Blair and Smith to Wide-Awake, &c., &c.

It is rumored here that the removal of Gen. McClellan from supreme command, and the substitution of Gen. Burnside in his place, has a secret history which it will be well for the public to understand. It is the direct result, it is said, of the verdict of the people in the recent elections, and was brought about by a formidable cabal organized by the radical politicians of this city, in and out of the Cabinet. As soon as the result of the elections was definitely known, a meeting of the Cabinet was held, at which, it is understood, President Lincoln announced to the assembled members that in his opinion the result was a verdict against the radical policy, and especially against the emancipation proclamation, and that Mr. Seward, Mr. Blair and Mr. Smith echoed his words and arguments. It is said that as soon as the conservatives in the Cabinet had expressed their views, Mr. Chase calmly and deliberately told Mr. Lincoln that there were two courses open for him.

If he withdrew the proclamation and discarded the policy he had been pursuing since it was issued, the war would be promptly stopped, assuring him at the same time that upon the opening of Congress Mr. Sumner and Mr. Wade in the Senate, and Mr. Stevens and Mr. Lovejoy in the House, were ready to make a proposition for peace with the Southern confederacy; that not another life should be lost, nor another dollar spent, if this war was to be a war for the restoration of slavery; that as these gentlemen controlled a majority in the Congress which is to govern the country, so far as the appropriations go, for another year, they were in a position to dictate the course of the administration. He besought Mr. Lincoln to continue in the course he had been pursuing, irrespective of the verdict which had been given by the people. Not only must he adhere to the proclamation as issued, and to all its radical features, but he must, moreover, give it the benefit of generals in the field who believed in it. The administration had lost the election because of its non-success in the field, on account of the delay attending the movement of our armies, and the President must now take advantage of the situation to remove those generals who were responsible for the delay, and substitute in their places generals who not only sympathized with the emancipation proclamation, but who would move swiftly and steadily upon the enemy.

It is also stated that Mr. Chase further informed the Cabinet, who were assembled at the boldness of his tone, that the result had been foreseen, and that the emergency had been provided for by the radicals, who had forced the issuance of the emancipation proclamation. We were in the midst of a revolution, and could take no step backwards.

Other Cabinet consultations are known to have followed, and to the surprise of all Washington it is now definitely understood that the radicals have more complete control of President Lincoln than ever before. It is moreover understood that Mr. Seward, Mr. Smith and Mr. Blair are to retire from the Cabinet shortly after the meeting of Congress, and after the annual reports submitted by the separate heads of departments. It would seem, therefore, that we are not only to have a radical policy, but a radical Cabinet and radical generals to carry it into effect.

In connection with this, it is understood that letters were received here from Senators Sumner, Wade, Wilson, Fessenden and the other radical leaders in the Senate, and from Stevens, Lovejoy, Ransom, Conkling and other radicals in the House, stating that if the emancipation proclamation should be withdrawn the war must be stopped, and would be stopped. This formidable abolition cabal, organized against the conservative element that was trying to make itself heard at the White House, did not fail to produce a great impression on the mind of the Chief Executive.

Patriotic and honest to a fault, and still obliged to yield to the radicals, who so thoroughly hold the sway, the President found himself in a most cruel dilemma. The appropriations that have been made and that will be made at the coming session of Congress will carry Mr. Lincoln to the end of his term of office. It is stated that his advisers have succeeded in impressing him with the idea that there is no potency in the present election, save as an expression of the people; that it can in no wise affect the conduct of the war or the supplies of the government, and that it is not meant as a rebuke to the emancipation proclamation.

It is reported in well informed circles here that as soon as the result of the election in your State was known to the President he was disposed to kick the radicals overboard and withdraw the proclamation, but was met by the unexpected dilemma into which the radicals had provided to plunge him. It was stated that the republicans still had an immense majority in the House and in the Senate; that the revocation of the proclamation would be a signal for the immediate stoppage of all supplies to the government for continuing the war; that a war for the perpetuation of slavery ought not to cost one dollar or one life, and that the President must make up his mind either to continue in the course he was pursuing or recognize the Southern confederacy.

This is stated here to be the secret of the removal of Gen. McClellan. Mr. Lincoln has surrendered unconditionally. The Cabinet is to be recognized on a radical basis; the generals in the field are to swear by the proclamation, or else they must go, and the radicals, who the people had fondly hoped were to be consigned to oblivion, will hereafter rule the roost at the White House.

If these reports are to be believed, the administration is more firmly committed to the radicals than ever, and the removal of General McClellan is a foretaste of the policy we may expect it to pursue hereafter.

It is believed here that the President is all right; that his object is to conduct the war under the constitution, and finally restore the good old Union as it was; but it must be confessed that he is at the mercy of the coming Congress for the supplies by which alone the war can be prosecuted. The excitement here is intense, and everyone is watching with much curiosity and no little anxiety the development of the radical plot against the Union. No one can at present foresee the result of its success; but I am assured by persons high in the councils of the republicans that the principal members of that party, in their over anxiety to serve the irrepressible nigger, would have promptly come out for peace and the recognition of the Southern confederacy in case Mr. Lincoln had withdrawn his proclamation and retained General McClellan in command.

The Surrender of Harper's Ferry.

REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

The investigating Commission, in the case of the surrender of Harper's Ferry, after examining the facts, came to the following conclusions:

In the case of Colonel Ford, charged with improper conduct in abandoning the Maryland Heights, the Commission, after a careful hearing of the evidence produced by the Government and that relied on by the defense, and a due consideration of the arguments offered by counsel, find:

That on the 5th of September, Colonel Ford was placed in command of Maryland Heights by Col. Miles. That Col. Ford, finding the position unprepared for a siege, earnestly urged Col. Miles to furnish him means by which the Heights could be made tenable for the small force under his command, should a heavy one be brought against him. That these reasonable demands were, from some cause, unknown to the Commission, not responded to by the officer in command of Harper's Ferry.

That subsequently when the enemy appeared in heavy force, Col. Ford frequently and earnestly called upon Col. Miles for more troops, representing that he could not hold the Heights unless reinforced. That these demands were feebly or not at all complied with. That as late as the morning of the 13th, Col. Ford sent two written demands to Col. Miles for reinforcements, and saying that with the troops then under his command he could not hold the Heights, and unless relieved or otherwise ordered, he would have to abandon them.

That as late as 11 o'clock, A. M., of the 13th, a few hours previous to the abandonment of this position, Col. Miles said to Col. Ford that he (Col. Ford) could not have another man, and must do the best he could, and if unable to defend the place, he must spike the guns, throw them down the hill, and withdraw to Harper's Ferry in good order.

The Court is then satisfied that Col. Ford was given a discretionary power to abandon the Heights as his better judgment might dictate; and it believes from the evidence, circumstantial and direct, that the result did not to any great extent surprise nor in any way displease the officer in command at Harper's Ferry.

But this conclusion so much relied upon by the defense, forces the commission to a consideration of the fact—did Col. Ford, under the discretionary power thus vested in him, make a proper defense of the Heights, and hold them, as he should have done, until driven off by the enemy?

The evidence shows conclusively that the force upon the Heights was not well managed; that the point most pressed was weakly defended as to numbers, and after the wounding of the Col. of the 12th regiment, New York Infantry, it was left without a competent officer in command. Col. Ford not himself appearing, nor designating any other who might have restored order and encouraged the men; that the abandonment of the Heights was premature is clearly proved.

Our forces were not driven from the hill, as full time was given to spike the guns and throw the heavier ones down the cliff, and retreat in good order to Harper's Ferry. The next day a force returning to the Heights found them unoccupied, and brought away uncollected four abandoned guns and a quantity of ammunition.

In so grave a case as this with such disgraceful consequences, the Court cannot permit an officer to shield himself behind the fact that he did as well as he could, if

in doing so he exhibits a lack of military capacity. It is clear to the Commission that Col. Ford should not have been placed in command on Maryland Heights; that he conducted the defense without ability, and abandoned his position without sufficient cause, and has shown throughout such a lack of military capacity as to disqualify him in the opinion of the Commission, for a command in the service.

The Commission has approached a consideration of this officer's conduct in connection with the surrender of Harper's Ferry with extreme reluctance. An officer who cannot appear before a court-martial to answer or explain charges gravely affecting his character; who has met his death at the hands of the enemy, even upon the spot he disgracefully surrendered, is entitled to the tenderest and most careful investigation. This Commission has accorded Col. Miles, and in giving a decision only repeat what runs through our 500 pages of testimony, strongly unanimous upon the fact, that Col. Miles' incapacity, amounting to almost imbecility, led to the shameful surrender of this important post.

Early as the 15th of August he disobeyed the orders of Major General Wool to fortify Maryland Heights. When it is surrounded and attacked by the enemy, its naturally strong positions are unimproved, and from his tactical neglect, to use the mildest term, the large force of the enemy is almost upon an equality with the small force under his command.

He seems to have understood, and admitted to his officers, that Maryland Heights is the key to the position, and get he placed Col. Ford in command, with a feeble force—makes no effort to strengthen them by fortifications, although between the 5th and 14th of September there was ample time to do so—and to Col. Ford's reported demands for means to strengthen and additional reinforcements, he makes either an inadequate return, or no response at all. He gives Col. Ford's discretionary power as to when he shall abandon the Heights—the fact of abandonment having, it seems, been concluded on in his own mind. For what this unhappy event really occurs, his only exclamation was to the effect that he feared Col. Ford had given up too soon—although he must have known that the abandonment of Maryland Heights was the surrender of Harper's Ferry. Thus leaving the key of the position to the keeping of Col. Ford, with discretionary power, after the arrival of that capable and courageous officer who had waived his rank to serve wherever ordered, is one of the more striking facts illustrating the incapacity of Col. Miles.

Immediately previous to, and pending the siege of Harper's Ferry, he paroled rebel prisoners, and permits—indeed, sends them to the enemy's headquarters. This, too, when he should have known that the lack of ammunition, the bad conduct of some of our troops, the entire absence of fortifications, and the abandonment of Maryland Heights, were important factors they could, and undoubtedly did, communicate to the enemy.

Sixteen of these prisoners were paroled on the 13th, and a pass given them in the handwriting of Col. Miles, while a rebel officer by the name of House, after an escape, is retaken, and subsequently has a private interview with Col. Miles, is paroled, and after the surrender appears at the head of his men among the first to enter Harper's Ferry.

The Commission has remarked freely on Col. Miles, an old officer who has been killed in the service of his country, and it cannot, from any motives of delicacy, refrain from censuring those in high command, when it thinks such censure deserved. The General-in-Chief has testified that Gen. McClellan, after having received orders to repel the enemy invading the State of Maryland, marched only six miles per day, on an average, when pursuing this invading enemy. The General-in-Chief also testifies, that in his opinion, General McClellan could and should have relieved and protected Harper's Ferry, and in this opinion the Commission fully concurs.

The evidence thus introduced confirms the Commission in the opinion that Harper's Ferry, as well as Maryland Heights, was prematurely surrendered. The garrison should have been satisfied that relief, however long delayed, would come at last, and that a thousand men killed in Harper's Ferry, would have made a small loss, had the post been saved, and probably saved two thousand at Antietam.—How important was this defense we can now appreciate.

It is not necessary to accumulate evidence from the mass that throughout scarcely affords one fact in contradiction

to what each one establishes, that Colonel Miles was incapable of conducting a defense so important as was this of Harper's Ferry. The Commission would not have dwelled upon this painful subject were it not for the fact that the officer who placed this incapable officer in command should share in the responsibility, and in the opinion of the Commission Major General Wood is guilty to this extent of a grave disaster, and should be censured for his conduct.

Of the 37,000 men composing at that time the whole of Lee's army, more than one-third were attacking Harper's Ferry. And of this, the main body was a Virginia. By reference to the evidence it will be seen that at the very moment Colonel Ford abandoned Maryland Heights his little army was in reality relieved by Gen. Franklin and Sumner's corps at Cramp-ton's Gap, within seven miles of his position, and that after the surrender of Harper's Ferry no time was given to parole prisoners before 20,000 troops were hurled from Virginia, and the entire force went off on a double quick to relieve Lee, who was being attacked at Antietam. Had the garrison been slower to surrender, or the Army of the Potomac swifter to march, the enemy would have been forced to raise the siege, or would have been taken in detail, with the Potomac dividing his forces.

The Great Abolition Procession.

The "Nine Hundred Thousand" Coming.

(From the New York Express.)

It is with feelings of the supremest satisfaction that we are enabled to announce that the Nine Hundred Thousand Men whom the *Tribune* promised would be forthcoming to swell the grand armies of the Union, as soon as the President's Abolition Proclamation was issued, will arrive in this city (over the left) from Central New York, New England, &c., sometime in the course of next week, in the following:

- Grand Procession,
- Provost Marshal, with aids, in Lincoln Green.
- Senator Sumner, of Massachusetts, escorted by Claiborne, d'Afrique.
- Provost Marshal,
- Gov. Andrew, of Massachusetts, with the Knights of Altona-Land.
- Contra-Band
- Managers of the Underground Railroad, two abreast.
- Provost Marshal.
- Joshua R. Giddings, Fred. Douglass (black man) and Abney Kelly Foster, representing the Three Graces.
- Strong-minded Women.
- Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.
- Sergeant Fitzgerald, of the Corcoran Legion.
- Band—"Hail, old Hat,"
- More Contrabands.
- Sup't of the Negro Schools at Fort Royal.
- Provost Marshal.
- The Labelers of Gen. McClellan, buting a file.
- Aunt Slavery, led by Uncle Tom Fremont.
- More Shoddy Contractors.
- The Ghost of Magna Charta.
- Goddess of Liberty with a broken Constitution.
- Knights of the Order of Fort Lafayette.
- Provost Marshal.
- The moral remains of the late Hades Corpsus, Esq.
- Provost Marshal.
- Full Beavers, Mourners, &c.
- Provost Marshal.
- Army Speculators.
- Field Marshal Horace Greely and Staff with Assistants bearing Pandora's Box.
- Tableau—Representing servile Insurance—Young St. Domingo—Apotheosis of Toussaint L'Ouverture, &c.
- Provost Marshal.
- The Genius of Disunion.
- Banner with the inscription, "Let the Union Slide."
- Band.
- Air—"John Brown's body lies mouldering in the grave, &c."
- Provost Marshal.
- Rev. Dr. Cheever, with a Man and Brother Delegates from Exeter Hall.
- Postage Stamps.
- Wide-Awakes.
- Contrabands.
- Provost Marshal.
- More Wide-Awakes.
- Nine Hundred and Ninety Nine Thousand and Substitutes.

Adam was fond of his joke, and when he saw his sons and daughters murdering one another, he dryly remarked: "Eye, that if there had been no apple, they would have been no painting."

The common brightness of the world is closely connected with and dependent upon the exercise of mutual benevolence.