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PRINCIPLES, not MEN.

TERMS—\$1 25 per Annum, if paid in advance.

VOL. XXXIV.—WHOLE NO. 1787.

CLEARFIELD, PA. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1863.

NEW SERIES—VOL. IV.—NO. 23.

Miscellaneous.

AN OLD LADIES ADVICE TO HER SON.—“Now, John, listen to me—I’m older than you, or I could not be your mother. Never do you marry a young woman, before you have contrived to happen to be around four or five times before breakfast. You should know how late she lies in bed in the morning. You should take notice whether her complexion is the same in the morning as in the evening, or whether the wash and towel have robbed her of her evening bloom. You should take care to surprise her, so that you may see her in her morning dress, and observe how her hair looks when she is not expecting you. If possible, you should be where you can hear the morning conversation between her and her mother. If she is ill-natured and snappish to her mother, so she will be to you, depend on it. But if you find her up and dressed neatly in the morning, with the same smiles, the neatly combed hair, the same ready and pleasant answers to her mother, which characterized her deportment in the evening, and particularly if she is lending a hand to get the breakfast in good season, she is a prize, John, and the sooner you secure her to yourself the better.”

The Springfield Republican is one of the few Administration papers that is blessed with a few grains of common sense, as witness the following, which contains more wisdom than will be found in the N. Y. Tribune for a whole year.—*Er.*

“There is a general jubilation in the Republican papers over the assumed death of the Democratic party. They had better not take that for granted. A party that has just thrown more votes than ever before in every State except Massachusetts, * * * and has been beaten only by the most extraordinary efforts, can hardly be considered quite dead. * * * The moral of the political situation of the Republican leaders is that they have no such excess of strength as to make it safe for them to be reckless or defiant as to means and measures; that they are still on trial before the American people as to their ability and integrity in the conduct of the government, and that they can only hope to obtain a renewed lease of power by demonstrating that they can and will use it for the general welfare, rather than for private and partizan ends.”

STONEWALL JACKSON'S ADMISSION INTO HEAVEN.—I was much amused at the rebel prisoner's account of Stonewall Jackson's admission into Heaven. They were strong admirers of Gen. Jackson, and especially of the success of his flank movements. “The day after his death,” said they, “two angels came down from Heaven to carry Gen. Jackson back with them. They searched all through the camp, but could not find him. They went to the prayer meeting, to the hospital, and to every other place where they thought themselves likely to find him, but in vain. Finally they were forced to return without him. What was their surprise to find that he had just executed a splendid flank movement, and got into heaven before them.”—*Cor. Boston Recorder.*

HOW IT WORKS.—A widow in Western New York, whose husband was killed in the war, had left her by him a note for about five thousand dollars secured by mortgage. At the same time she owed in Canada a debt of less than \$4,000. Under the legal tender law she is obliged to take greenbacks for what is due her in New York, while she is obliged to pay specie or its equivalent for the sum she owes in Canada. The five thousand dollars is not of course, sufficient to pay this debt. The widow don't clearly understand it, and has lost faith in “Old Abe's” proposition that it is easier to pay a large debt than a larger one.

“MISFORTUNES NEVER COME SINGLY.”—A soldier of the 16th regulars, a native of Philadelphia, at the battle of Chickamauga was struck with a piece of shell in the right eye, cutting out the entire eye, then passing under the bridge of the nose and destroying the sight of the left eye, and he is now perfectly blind, though in the prime of life. In the same action in which he lost his eyesight, he had a father and three brothers killed, leaving out of a whole family only himself and his aged mother.

What is the difference between a milkmaid and a swallow?
One skims the milk and the other skims the water.

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Shocking Scenes on the Confiscated Plantations.

There appears to have been no exaggeration in the accounts already given in regard to the condition of the negroes at the various contraband camps in the Mississippi Valley. Congregated at these depots, without employment, deprived of the food to which they have been accustomed, and often without shelter or medical care, these hapless creatures perish as if swept off by pestilence. Wm. D. Butler, a delegate of the U. S. Christian Commission, writes to Rev. Dr. W. G. Elliot as follows, respecting the negroes who came into Vicksburg after the surrender by Gen. Pemberton, mostly from beyond Jackson:

“About the first of August the military authorities became alarmed lest a pestilence should break out among them and extend to the army. Peremptory orders were issued to at once remove across the river all negroes, of every age and sex, whether sick or well, who were not in some employment. One morning I went out to inform a certain Lieut. W—, who, with an inadequate force, was executing the order, that one of them in the Baptist Church was dead, and that another, a woman, was lying behind a fence, dying.—He told me that he had detailed, for the purpose of removing the negroes, 20 army wagons; that he had hauled them, well, sick, and dead, with all their traps to the river, where he had a steamer to convey them across to a point opposite the lower part of the city; that he had one wagon to haul the dead, and that some days he found as many as twenty; that in one house he found six dead bodies, with living ones sitting and lying around them, apparently unconscious of their situation. Holes were dug on the river's bank and the dead buried. The searching out and removal of these negroes consumed about fifteen or twenty days. About three hundred were thus removed to the low grounds opposite Vicksburg, and there left in the weeds without any shelter, under the care of a man who was appointed to organize them into a camp, and separate small boxes from the rest—in general to do what he could for their relief. He was soon taken sick, and a certain Captain — was appointed to take charge of all the contrabands in and around Vicksburg. The captain was soon prostrated by disease, and was conveyed across the river in a skiff, whence he made his way to a house adjoining that of the United States Christian Commission. Here he was invited to our house, where he was still remaining when I left the city. The chaplain told me that these negroes had suffered and were still suffering untold want and wretchedness; that nearly 400 had died since he had taken charge of them; that from 16 to 20 die daily. Sometimes they would crawl off into the weeds and die, where their bodies would be found only by the stench which arose from their decay.—That there was no white men with them but a nephew of his; that rations were furnished them by the government, but sometimes he had difficulty in getting them over the river; that once they were five days without receiving any food, and the negroes in their despair threatened to kill him, thinking the fault was his. He also stated that they had no shelter or tents except brush, to shield them from the sun, or storm, or dews of night. Capt. A— stated that there were in this camp 2,000; at Young's Point, 8,551; on Papaw Island, where he purposed gathering most of them, 2,800; and on Black's plantation, on the Yazoo, 2,400—in all over 16,000.—One morning I went among the wretched masses where they were hauled to the bank of the river, preparatory to being sent across. I tried in vain to find some women who were able to work, as we wished their labor at our house. All were either sick or taking care of the sick. I saw nothing but one sad scene of misery. I hope you may be able to do more for these suffering, ignorant beings than is in my power to devise, and that God may bless your efforts.”

FAILURE OF THE FREE LABOR COTTON PLANTATIONS.
Correspondence Cincinnati Commercial, [Rep.] Goodrich's LANDING, Sept. 24, 1863.
“A ride over the adjoining plantations has satisfied me that cotton-planting by Northern speculators is a failure; not a failure, probably, on the part of the speculators, considering the high price of cotton, but, so far as the development of the country under the operation of free labor is concerned, an utter failure. Several plantations will prove an exception to the general rule. Mr. Grochon, on Dr. Carson's plantation, immediately adjoining Goodrich's, has 1,000 in cotton and 200 in corn. But for the ravages of the army worms (which are pretty general on all the plantations) he would have raised over a bale to the acre. I have heard of other

plantations but have seen none equal to his, and I think the ground planted will not average one-half a bale to the acre.
The scheme itself, so far as it is intended to be carried out by inexperienced parties at the North, is a failure; and it is not only a failure; but according to the theory of its friends, it is eminently unjust to the poor negroes. It proves nothing. If it was intended to show that the negro is as profitable working for hire as working by compulsion, it fails; because he works by compulsion here. If it was intended to show that the resources of the country can be developed by free labor it fails; because those who have the matter in hand have not this object in view. If the object was, as I supposed it to have been, to show that the negro is a self-supporting institution, it fails; because he has been deprived of the important element of “free will,” and has been made a tool for Northern speculators.
“If the African is incapable of doing anything for himself—if he needs the control and direction of the Anglo-Saxon—we had better leave him where we found him; but if he is capable of enjoying freedom—he should certainly not be used as a mere money-making machine by the believers in cotton.”

OUR PRISONERS AT RICHMOND.
So much has been said about the treatment of our prisoners in Richmond that we are induced to give the following correspondence, as throwing some light upon the subject. The correspondence was forwarded to Gen. Meredith, the Federal Commissioner, by Mr. Ould, the rebel Commissioner.

QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
C. S. MILITARY PRISON,
RICHMOND, VA. Dec. 30, 1863.
COLONEL:—Having heard a complaint from headquarters that the provisions received from your government were not issued to the Federal officers confined in this prison, and that your fellow prisoners with you have suffered in consequence thereof, you will please state the facts of this case and at what time the provisions arrived, when they were received by you, and whether issued in proper quantities; also request Colonel Boyd to state at what time he saw the provisions issued at Belle Isle. I have the honor to be, Colonel, Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) J. THOMAS, Capt. and A. A. Q. M.

Lieutenant Colonel, J. M. Sanderson, Prisoner of War, Richmond, Va., C. S. Military Prison.
LIBBY, Dec. 3d, 1863.
CAPTAIN:—In answer to your note of this date I would state that as far as I can recollect, you personally offered, on Sunday Nov. 22d, to distribute to the officers in this prison 27 barrels, containing pork, salt, beef, flour and corn meal sent by the Baltimore American relief fund; but having no convenience for issuing it, I declined receiving it. On the following day, however, I inspected, in company with other officers, and directed Mr. Burnham, your assistant, to issue it in rations of half a pound per man to the two officers acting as commissioners for the purpose, and I can cheerfully state that the instructions thus far have been faithfully complied with, and these provisions have been issued in addition to the regular rations allowed us by the authorities here.
Very respectfully yours,
J. M. SANDERSON, Lt. Col. U. S. A.

LIBBY PRISON, RICHMOND,
Dec. 4th, 1863.
Capt. C. McRae Selph, A. A. Q. M.:
SIR:—In answer to your communication of this date referring to statements that have been made in regard to the distribution of clothing and rations sent to Richmond by the United States Government for Federal prisoners of war, the committee in charge of the distribution of clothing, desire to submit the following statement:
When the committee entered on their duties, Nov. 10, only a small supply of clothing had been received at Richmond. To secure an equitable distribution of this to those who were most needy, and to ascertain what future consignments would be required for their comfort, it was deemed advisable to make an inspection of all the prisoners. A careful inspection was therefore made of all the prisoners of war on Belle Island and in Richmond, and a record made of the condition of each article of their clothing. While this was in progress, issues of blankets and such clothing that had been received, were made to the most needy. Since the arrival of the last lot, Nov. 22d, two members of the committee have been constantly engaged in the distribution, which is now almost complete. The committee is un-

able to prepare a statement of the amount of clothing issued in time for this communication. Statements in detail will be prepared, however, as soon as possible, of the amount of clothing received and issued, and to whom issued, and the amount required to fully supply the wants of the prisoners of war now here, a copy of which we respectfully request may be forwarded by flag of truce to the proper United States military authorities. A shipment of clothing is now being made to Danville sufficient to supply the wants of the prisoners of war at that place. The committee take pleasure in stating that every facility for the inspection of the prisoners and the distribution of the clothing has been afforded them by the rebel military authorities.
The duties of the committee were limited by the order putting them on duty exclusively to the distribution of clothing. The fact that rations forwarded by the United States Government and societies in the North were being issued to prisoners of war on Belle Isle, and in the prisons in Richmond, has, however, frequently come under the observation of members of the committee, while in the discharge of the duty assigned them.
Very respectfully, your obedient servants,
A. VAN SCHROEDER,
Lieut. Col. A. I. G., 14th A. C.
H. B. HUNTER, Lt. Col., 123d O. I. V.
J. F. BOYD, Lt. Col. and Q. M.
JAS. M. SANDERSON,
Lt. Col. and C. S. V. A. C.

THE REBELS REFUSE TO RECEIVE FURTHER SUPPLIES FOR UNION SOLDIERS.
BALTIMORE, Dec. 13.
The following dispatch was received at an early hour this morning:
FORTRESS MONROE, Dec. 12.
C. C. FULTON, Baltimore American:—
Please give notice that the rebel authorities decline receiving any more packages or provisions for the Union prisoners, so that parties interested may refrain forwarding any more goods to this point.
B. F. BUTLER, Gen. Commanding.
Rev. Mr. Torrance, who went to City Point with Dr. Clement C. Barclay, returned this morning. He had an interview with Capt. Hatch, who was sent from Richmond to meet him. He informed him of the above decision of the rebel government, and gave as a reason therefor, what they alleged to be an imputation on their honor by the press and government authorities that they were not delivering the goods forwarded in good faith to prisoners, and asserted of his own knowledge the officers in Libby Prison, from the immense supplies they had received, could set a table from their stores in hand equal to any hotel in the United States. He admitted that there had been some irregularities in the supplies at one time, but that the officers who had been guilty of neglecting prisoners had been promptly removed and punished. As to the bad condition of the prisoners returned to Annapolis, he said they were extreme cases of consumption, and that it was a grave error on the part of the authorities to have allowed such prisoners to return. For the present nothing would be received but letters and inclosures of money, and Southern money had better be sent.

SUCCESSFUL BLOCKADE RUNNING.—A letter from Newbern, (N. C.) dated on the 5th inst., says:
The Wilmington papers are full of advertisements offering for sale goods by the cargo that have run the blockade.—Sugar is selling at three cents per pound, and other goods in proportion. (Owing to the immense inland traffic, all the railroads from Wilmington are at work night and day, to the exclusion of all other business, conveying supplies to the rebel army, and goods into the interior.)
Over 200 steamers and vessels belonging to different lines are engaged in running the blockade into this one port. Governor Vance says in his recent message that the State of North Carolina, which is largely engaged in this business, has received clothing enough through this channel to clothe her troops to JANUARY, 1865.
PROOF OF MARRIAGE.—It not unfrequently happens that clergymen in marrying a couple, omit to give a certificate of the marriage, or to make any registration of it. Such evidence is rendered especially important just now, as in the case of the death of a soldier, the widow must have a certificate of marriage before she can receive a pension. A New Jersey paper, in speaking of this subject, as it respects that State, says:
Upon searching the records within the past year for marriage, nearly half the unfortunate widows have been turned away with the remark: “The clergyman performing the ceremony has neglected to comply with the law.”
Since this accused war commenced there have been 1,775,000 men called into service by the Federal Government.

[From the Buffalo Courier.]
THE END OF ANOTHER VIRGINIA CAMPAIGN—McCLELLAN.
Richmond is safe for another winter. Sixteen months ago the army of the Potomac, 90,000 strong, lay within twenty miles of the rebel citadel, while 200,000 men—nearly the whole strength of the Confederacy were gathered in front to resist its advance. The Peninsula was abandoned, and with it the opportunity of the army for usefulness and success. Its career since then has been a long struggle with a great mistake: It has marched, countermarched, advanced, retreated, fought, dug, labored, endured and bled, simply to demonstrate that the mind which directed its movements was possessed by a huge blunder. Ten times over that demonstration has been made, but the blunder has added stubbornness to stupidity, and the army of the Potomac has paid the penalty. In July, 1862, McClellan on the James river gave occupation to almost the entire force of the rebellion. Since that time, with the army moved to the front of Washington, a third of the rebel force has sufficed to keep it at bay, and twice has been strong enough to drive it north of the Potomac. This result was clearly foreseen by the best military men in the country, and we ask attention now to the impressive words in which Gen. McClellan implored Halleck to rescind his fatal order, withdrawing the army from the James.
The following is McClellan's letter:—
BERKLY, Va., Aug. 4—12 M.
Maj. Gen. Halleck, Commander in Chief:
Your telegram of last evening is received. I must confess that it has caused me the greatest pain I ever experienced, for I am convinced that the order to withdraw this army to Aquia Creek will prove disastrous in the extreme to our cause. I fear it will be a fatal blow. Several days are necessary to complete the preparations for so important a movement as this, and while they are in progress, I beg that careful consideration may be given to my statement. This army is now in excellent discipline and condition. We held a debouché on both banks of the James River, so that we are free to act in any direction, and, with the assistance of the gunboats, I consider our communication as secure.
We are twenty-five miles from Richmond, and are not likely to meet the enemy in force sufficient to fight a battle until we have reached fifteen to eighteen miles, which brings us practically within ten miles of Richmond. Our largest line of land transportation would be from this point twenty-five miles, but with the aid of the gunboats we can supply the army by water, during its advance, certainly to within twelve miles of Richmond. At Aquia Creek we would be seventy-five miles from Richmond, with land transportation all the way. From here to Fortress Monroe is a march of seventy miles, for I regard it as impracticable to withdraw this army and its material, except by land. The result of the movement would thus be to march 145 miles to reach a point now 25 miles distant, and to deprive ourselves entirely of the powerful aid of the gunboats and water transportation. Add to the certain demoralization of this army, which would ensue, the terrible depressing effect upon the people of the North, and the strong probability that it would influence foreign powers to recognize our adversaries; and these appear to me sufficient reasons to make it my imperative duty to urge, on the strongest terms afforded by our language, that this order be rescinded, and that so far from recalling this army, it may be promptly reinforced, to enable it to resume the offensive.
It may be said that there are no reinforcements available. I point to General Burnside's forces; to those of Gen. Pope, not necessary to maintain a strict defense in front of Washington and Harpers's Ferry; to those portions of the Army of the West not required for a strict defense there. Here, directly in front of this army, is the heart of the Rebellion. It is here that all our resources should be collected to strike the blow which will determine the fate of the nation. All points of secondary importance elsewhere should be abandoned, and every available man brought here, and the military strength of the Rebellion is crushed. It matters not what partial reverses we may meet with elsewhere; here is the true defense of Washington; it is here on the banks of the James River that the fate of the Union should be decided.
Clear in my conviction of right, strong in the consciousness that I have ever been, and still am actuated solely by love of my country, knowing that no ambitious or selfish motives have influenced me from the commencement of this war, I do now, what I never did in my life before, I entreat that this order may be rescinded. If my counsel does not prevail, I will with

a sad heart obey your order to the utmost of my power, devoting to the movement, one of the utmost delicacy and difficulty, whatever skill I may possess, and may God grant that I am mistaken in my forebodings. I shall at least have the internal satisfaction that I have written and spoken frankly, and have sought to do the best in my power to arrest disaster from my country.
GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major General.
REBEL WOMEN.
The army correspondent of the Chicago Journal (Ab.) in one of his letters from Tennessee, says:
I shall never be done admiring the patriotic and undying devotion of the women of the land, but I must tell you that the rebel women of the South are worthy in everything but a sacred cause of their Northern sisters. There is nothing they will not surrender with a smile; the gemmed ring, the diamond bracelet, the rich wardrobe. They cut up their rich carpets for soldier's blankets without a sigh; they take the fine linens from their persons for the bandages.
When 4000 of Longstreet's men came up to Nashville, prisoners of war, about the roughest, dirtiest and wildest set of fellows the sun ever shone on, and a flight of stairs in the building they occupied fell, killing and wounding a large number of them, you should have seen the fair young traitresses come forth from the old aristocratic mansions, bearing restoratives and delicacies in their hands, mingling in the dingy crowd, wiping away the blood with their white handkerchiefs, and uttering words of cheer; you should have seen them doing this, with hundreds of Union soldiers all around, and smiling back upon the rough blackguards of rebels as they left. But in all this there was a defiant air, a pride in their humanity strange to see. Of a truth they carried it off grandly.
And almost all those girls were in mourning for dead rebels, brothers, lovers and friends, whom these same girls had sneered into treason and driven into rebellion, and allowed all the South with their graves, and the least they could do was to wear black for them and flaunt black from the window blinds. Clothed by their souls in sackcloth! I said they were worthy of their sisters in the North in all but a righteous cause, but I said wrong. There is a bitterness, there are glimpses of the Pythoness, that makes you shrink from them. But they are fearfully in earnest; they are almost grand in their self-sacrifice. Oh, that they were true and loving daughters of the dear old flag.

So writes an Abolition correspondent.—Did he ever reflect that Abolition proclamations, confiscation acts, and the position of the Abolition party that there shall be no Union except with the final obliteration of slavery, have made those Southern women so bitter and defiant?—*Lancaster Intelligencer.*

A SENSIBLE MAN.
The thanksgiving proclamation of Governor PARKER, of New Jersey, has been much condemned as a model of its kind. In calling the people to thanksgiving on the last Thursday of Nov., the Governor talks like a man of sense, as follows:
Let us thank God for abundant harvests;
Let us thank Him for preserving us from pestilence;
Let us thank Him that order has been maintained, and the laws respected and obeyed within our borders;
Let us thank Him for victories achieved by the armies of the nation;
Let us thank Him for the manifold mercies and blessings he has freely bestowed upon us; for life and health; for Christian institutions and privileges; for his revealed Word; and especially for the gift of His Son, the Saviour of the world, who continually maketh intercession for us.
While we offer thanks, let us also pray that God will give us hearts to pity and relieve the poor; that He will give consolation to the widow and orphan who sorrow for the heroic dead; that He will preserve in safety our brave soldiers in the field; that He will soon remove the rod of our chastisement; that He will give wisdom to those in authority; that He will change the hearts of our enemies, and so order events that peace may be speedily restored, and the now discordant sections of the nation be again united.

WANT OF COAL AT LOUISVILLE.—The coal question is agitating the people of Louisville, Ky., more, just now, than the war. The war is not at their doors, but the coal famine is, and the great question is, how to avoid it. It is proposed that the city council order the Mayor to borrow, on the credit of the city, an amount sufficient to purchase 700,000 bushels of coal, to be delivered to the citizens at cost. Coal, it is said, can be purchased at Cannelton, in barges, at 13 to 14 cents per bushel.—It is now selling at 60 cts. per bushel.

Let us thank Him for preserving us from pestilence;
Let us thank Him that order has been maintained, and the laws respected and obeyed within our borders;
Let us thank Him for victories achieved by the armies of the nation;
Let us thank Him for the manifold mercies and blessings he has freely bestowed upon us; for life and health; for Christian institutions and privileges; for his revealed Word; and especially for the gift of His Son, the Saviour of the world, who continually maketh intercession for us.
While we offer thanks, let us also pray that God will give us hearts to pity and relieve the poor; that He will give consolation to the widow and orphan who sorrow for the heroic dead; that He will preserve in safety our brave soldiers in the field; that He will soon remove the rod of our chastisement; that He will give wisdom to those in authority; that He will change the hearts of our enemies, and so order events that peace may be speedily restored, and the now discordant sections of the nation be again united.