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PRINCIPLES, not MEN.

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### THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

[The following correspondence was published in Richmond for the satisfaction of our friends and relatives of Confederate soldiers now held as prisoners of war in Northern prisons. Deceiving that the information it contains is of equal importance to the friends and relatives of Federal prisoners of war now held in Southern prisons, we transfer it to our columns, hoping that our authorities at Washington will be able to make a counter statement showing that this long continued imprisonment of brave soldiers is not entirely their fault.]

The Richmond Sentinel of September 1st contains the following important correspondence:

### TO THE RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS CONFINED IN NORTHERN PRISONS:

On the 22d of July, 1862, the Cartel of Exchanges was agreed upon. The chief, if not only, purpose of that instrument was to secure the release of all prisoners of war. To that end, the fourth article provides that all prisoners of war should be discharged on parole in ten days after their capture, and that the prisoners then held, and those hereafter taken, should be transported to the points mutually agreed upon, at the expense of the capturing party. The sixth article stipulates that all prisoners, of what ever arm of service, are to be exchanged or paroled in ten days from the time of their capture, if it is practicable to transfer them to their own lines in that time; if not, as soon thereafter as practicable.

From the date of the cartel until July, 1863, the Confederate authorities held the excess of prisoners. During the interval deliveries were made as fast as the Federal Government furnished transportation. As ready as the enemy always has been to bring false accusations against us, it has never been alleged that we failed or neglected to make prompt deliveries of prisoners who were not under charges, when he held the excess. On the other hand, during the same time, the cartel was openly and notoriously violated by the Federal authorities. Officers and men were kept in cruel confinement, sometimes in irons of doomed cells, without charges or trials.

In July, 1863, the enemy, for the first time since the adoption of the cartel, held the excess of prisoners. As soon as that fact was ascertained, a demand for delivery was made by the Federal authorities, they demanded an equal number in return. I endeavored frequently to obtain from the Federal agent of exchange a distinct avowal of the intentions of his Government as to the delivery of prisoners, but in vain. At length on the 20th of October, 1863, I addressed to Brigadier-General Meredith, the following letter, to wit:

RICHMOND, Oct. 20, 1863.—Brigadier-General S. A. Meredith, Agent of Exchange: Sir—More than a month ago I asked your acquiescence in a proposition, that all officers and soldiers on both sides should be released in conformity with the provisions of the cartel. In order to obviate the difficulties between us I suggested that all officers and men on both sides should be released, unless they were subject to charges, in which event, the opposite Government should have the right of holding one or more hostages if the release was not justified. You stated to me, in conversation, that this proposition was very fair, and that you would ask the consent of your Government to it.

As usual, you have as yet made no response. I tell you frankly, I do not expect any. Perhaps you may disappoint me, and tell me that you reject or accept my proposition. I write this letter for the purpose of bringing to your recollection my proposition, and of dissipating the idea that seems to have been purposely encouraged by your public papers, that the Confederate Government has refused or objected to a system of exchanges.

In order to avoid any mistake in that direction, I now propose that all officers and men on both sides be released in conformity with the provisions of the cartel, the excess on one side or the other to be on parole. Will you except this? I have no expectation of an answer; but perhaps you may give one. If it does come, I hope it will be soon.

Respectfully your ob't serv't.

RO. OULD, Agent of Exchange.

On the 29th of October, 1863, I received from Gen. Meredith a communication informing me that my proposal of the 20th was "not accepted." I was insultingly told that if the excess of prisoners was delivered they would be wrongfully declared exchanged by me and put in the field. To show how groundless this imputation was, it is only necessary for me to state that since then I have repeatedly offered to give ten Federal captives for every Confederate soldier whom the enemy will show to have been wrongfully declared exchanged.

From the last named date until the present time there has been but few deliveries of prisoners, the enemy in each case demanding a like number in return.

It will be observed that the Confederate authorities only claimed that the provisions of the cartel should be fulfilled. They only asked the enemy to do what, without any hesitation, they had done during the first year of the operation of the cartel. Seeing a persistent purpose on the part of the Federal Government to violate its own agreement, the Confederate authorities, moved by the sufferings of the brave men who are so unjustly held in Northern prisons, determined to abate their fair demands, and accordingly, on the 10th of August, 1864, I addressed the following communication to Major John E. Mulford, assistant agent of exchange, a charge of flag of truce boat, which on

the same day I delivered to him at Varina, on James River:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Richmond, Va., Aug. 10, 1864.—Maj. John E. Mulford, Assistant Agent of Exchange:

Sir—You have several times proposed to me to exchange the prisoners respectively held by the two belligerents, officer and man for man. The same offer has also been made by other officials having charge of matters connected with the exchange of prisoners. This proposal has heretofore been declined by the Confederate authorities, they insisting upon the terms of the cartel, which required the delivery of the excess upon either side upon parole. In view, however, of the very large number of prisoners now held by each party, and the suffering consequent upon their continued confinement, I now consent to the above proposal, and agree to deliver to you the prisoners held in captivity by the Confederate authorities, provided you agree to deliver an equal number of Confederate officers and men. As equal numbers are delivered from time to time they will be declared exchanged.

This proposal is made with the understanding that the officers and men who have been longest in captivity will be the first delivered, where it is practicable. I shall be happy to hear from you as speedily as possible whether this arrangement can be carried out.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

R. OULD, Agent of Exchange.

I accompanied the delivery of the letter with a statement of the mortality which was hurrying so many Federal prisoners at Andersonville to the grave.

On the 20th of the same month, Major Mulford returned with the flag-of-truce steamer, but brought no answer to my letter of the 10th of August. In conversation with him I asked him if he had any reply to make to my communication, and his answer was that he was not authorized to make any. So deep was the solicitude which I felt in the fate of the captives in Northern prisons that I determined to make another effort. In order to obviate any objection which technicality might raise as to the person to whom my communication was addressed, I wrote to Major-General E. A. Hitchcock, who is the Federal Commissioner of Exchange, residing in Washington city, the following letter, and delivered the same to Major Mulford on the day of its date. Accompanying that letter was a copy of the communication which I had addressed to Major Mulford on the 10th of August:

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 22, 1864.

Major-General E. A. Hitchcock, U. S. Commissioner of Exchange:

Sir—Enclosed is a copy of a communication which, on the 10th inst., I addressed and delivered to Major John E. Mulford, assistant agent of exchange. Under the circumstances of the case, I deem it proper to forward this paper to you, in order that you may fully understand the position which is taken by the Confederate authorities. I shall be glad if the proposition therein made is accepted by your Government.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

RO. OULD, Agent of Exchange.

On the afternoon of the 30th of August, I was notified that the flag of truce steamer had again appeared at Varina. On the following day I sent to Major Mulford the following note, to wit:

RICHMOND, August 31, 1864.—Major John E. Mulford, Assistant Agent of Exchange:

Sir—On the 10th of this month I addressed you a communication, to which I have received no answer. Major General E. A. Hitchcock, U. S. Commissioner of Exchange enclosing a copy of my letter to you of the 10th inst. I now respectfully ask you to state in writing whether you have any reply to either of said communications; and, if not, whether you have any reason to give why no reply has been made? Respectfully your ob't serv't.

RO. OULD, Agent of Exchange.

In a short time I received the following response, to wit:

FLAG OF TRUCE STEAMER NEW YORK, Va., Aug. 31, 1864.—Hon. R. Ould, Agent of Exchange: Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of to-day, requesting answer, &c., to your communication of the 10th inst. on the question of the exchange of prisoners.

To which, in reply, I would say, I have no communication on the subject from our authorities, nor am I yet authorized to make answer.

I am, sir very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. MULFORD, Major and Ass't Ag't of Exchange.

I have thus fully set before you the action of the Confederate authorities in relation to a matter which lies so near your hearts, and how it has been received by the enemy. The fortunes of your fathers, husbands, sons, brothers and friends are as dear to those authorities as their persons are precious to you, and I have made this publication not only as illustrative of Federal bad faith; but also that you might see that your Government has spared no effort to secure the release of your gallant men who have so often fronted death in the defense of our sacred cause.

RO. OULD, Agent of Exchange.

August 31, 1864.

WHAT WILL CHASE AFTER MARCH.—Mr. Seward's little bell will cease.

Mr. Lincoln's jokes will cease.

Mr. Stanton's prison certificates will cease.

Mr. Well's long nap in the naval department will cease.

A great host of fraudulent contractors and corrupt office holders and Government spies and military stragglers of the Burbridge and Carrington school will cease.

THE PLATFORMS.—The Platform of Lincoln: "The abandonment of slavery."

The Platform of the people: "The abandonment of Lincoln.—By Felix C. Cozier.

### THE GREAT CRIMINAL TRIAL.

THE PEOPLE OF THE Supreme Court of the UNITED STATES, versus THE ABOLITION PARTY. 1864.

Indictment drawn up and presented by the workingmen of New York, representing the "toiling millions" of the United States of America. It is charged against the defendant in this case, (the Abolition party,) that—

It has consigned to untimely deaths five hundred thousand human beings, the great majority of whom were working men—producers, contributors to the wealth of the nation.

It has arrayed brother against brother, and pitted the father against the son in mortal combat.

It has deluged the land in blood—whitened the fields of the South with the bones of the slain.

It has brought grief and sadness to nearly every fireside.

It has opened up broad avenues for speculation and plunder of the public finances.

It has deranged the currency of the country.

It has enlarged beyond all necessity the public debt.

It has taxed the present generation beyond all precedent, and entailed burthens that will fall with crushing weight upon unborn millions.

It has taken from industrial and productive pursuits over two millions of men.

It has shielded the rich from the clutches of repeated "drafts," by the payment of sums (to them petty and insignificant) to the Government; while it has compelled the toiling masses to enlist, for the plain reason that their actual necessities required it for the immediate support of their families.

It has given us shipplasters, green paper and petty postage stamps for the common currency of the country.

It has created a fluctuating and uncertain standard of value.

It has used the people's money without legal authority, in useless and vain attempts to better the condition of the negro, at the expense of the white race.

It has inaugurated schemes to thwart the plans of the Almighty in co-mingling the races.

It has allowed defaulters and defrauding contractors, paymasters, public officers and even private individuals, to swindle the people out of millions of dollars, and has dared to send some of them on foreign expeditions as a reward for their sociality.

It has ignored well established laws of Congress.

It has disregarded the Constitution under the plea of "military necessity."

It has taken the edicts of the President as laws of the land, which laws they contravened.

It has indemnified public officers from suits at law for damages on account of outrages upon the rights of citizens.

It has arrested good and true men and patriotic citizens without legal authority; dragged them from their homes, friends and families; sent them beyond the limits of the State in which they resided; incarcerated them in bastilles, and falsely denounced them as traitors.

It has trampled down the great bulwarks of civil liberty, the freedom of speech and of the press.

It has abolished the writ of habeas corpus, a right which no other enlightened Government under heaven would seek even to abridge.

It has set aside our system of trial by jury, and substituted arbitrary power for the laws of the land.

It has declared military control where the civil tribunals were in the faithful discharge of their legitimate duties.

It has created unnecessary departments in the General Government, thus causing more expenses, increased taxes, and heavier burthens for the people.

It has organized new States from the mere fragments of the original; admitted members from these so-called States to seats as members of Congress.

It has sent its spies and informers through the principal cities and towns, to listen to and report the murmurings of the people touching the manner in which the Administration is conducting the affairs of the country.

It has regarded opposition to the Administration as opposition to the Constitution and Government, than which there can be nothing more false.

It has inaugurated a system by which one tenth of the citizens of a State, instead of a majority, may form a State Government.

It has prohibited the circulation of newspapers in the United States mails because they criticised and opposed the acts of the Administration; it has actually suspended their publication, and placed a censorship over the press and the telegraph.

It has circulated falsehood and suppressed the truth.

It has multiplied, to an indefinite extent, the number of subordinate officials, simply to appease the persistent appeals of mere demagogues and political paupers.

It has disregarded the reserved rights of the States.

It has invoked a spirit of mob-law, which has developed itself in the principal cities in the destruction of life and property.

It has destroyed immense amounts of public and private property; imposed on industry burthens too grievous to be borne; enriched the few at the expense of the many; overflowed our hospitals with disabled men, and crowded our streets with life-long cripples.

It has inflamed all the baser passions of the human heart.

It has established "National Banks" in

every nook and corner of the land, a system of finance universally repudiated by the people.

It has allowed military officials to interrupt our system of election by ballot.

It has intermeddled with the religious institutions of the country.

It has attempted to disgrace representatives of the people in Congress for daring to express their honest sentiments in regard to the war and its consequences.

It has scoffed at every proposition submitted to Congress for an honorable settlement of our national troubles, and stigmatized all peace propositions as "dishonorable."

It has declined to restore the Union unless the Southern States will abandon slavery, thus making the will of the President, instead of the Constitution, the law of the land.

In a word, having filled half a million of graves, and filled the country with millions of widows and orphans, it now refuses to make peace or restore the Union until white men and negroes are reduced to a common level—until our heretofore proud white Republic shall become a disgusting mass of mongrels and hybrids.

Democratic Meeting in Tyrone.

The Democracy of Tyrone and vicinity met at the Hall on Saturday evening, September 10th, 1864, and formed a McClellan and Pendleton Club, No. 1, by electing the following officers:

President—M. H. Jolly.

Vice Presidents—J. R. Heed and Wm. Darnley.

Secretary—W. T. Henderson.

Treasurer—Jacob Deahl.

Executive Committee—J. T. McVey and James McFarland.

The following resolutions were read and adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, in the painful exigencies of the times, we are drawing near to another election; and believing a change in the Administration is essentially necessary, we have—

Resolved, That we fully endorse the nomination of George B. McClellan as our standard bearer in the coming contest. We believe if he is elected he will administer the Government in such a manner as will restore peace, prosperity, and tranquility to our unhappy and bleeding country.

Resolved, That we point with pleasure to the nomination for Vice President of George H. Pendleton—a gentleman of ability, liberal acquirements, and unstained reputation, and worthy of our support.

Resolved, That we favor an armistice and a cessation of hostilities in order to terminate the terrible slaughter of our men and avoid the utter bankruptcy of our nation, and prevent the erection of a military despotism on the ruins of civil liberty.

Resolved, That we denounce as infamous the conduct of Abraham Lincoln in refusing to consent to an exchange of prisoners except on conditions that the South give up their recaptured slaves, which by laws of nations we have no right to ask; that by this preference for the negro to the white man, he consigns over thirty thousand brave soldiers to a prolonged captivity in the unhealthy climates of the South, and thousands to a lingering death; for which impartial history will hold him responsible.

Resolved, That we are in favor of the Union as it was and the Constitution as it is, which embodies the right of trial by jury, free speech, free press, and free religious opinions.

The meeting then adjourned to the following Saturday night.

(Signed by the officers.)

Perhaps it will not be useless to remind some gentlemen that the election next November is to determine, not simply whether we have a Union, but whether we have a Constitution; whether we are to be ruled by law, or ruled by a party. The issue is equally momentous at home as abroad. Whether we shall have a Union is a question about which the Southern States have something, and indeed a good deal, to say; whether we shall again have a Constitution is for us alone. Every man in Delaware, Maryland, and Kentucky, who is not a Republican is not a free man; neither free to talk nor to act; perhaps not free to think, for our Republican friends have added to the constitutional definition of treason the crime of "His and Hers." To restore those men to the position of citizens of the United States is one of the great objects of the Democracy. If some differ from it on other points, they can certainly agree on that.

No matter what they think of the rights of States, they agree with us about the rights of individuals; no matter what they believe of the wrongs of States, they know their own.—World.

Massachusetts is truly a highly favored State. In all other States, volunteers who enlist in old regiments are compelled to serve out their full term without respect to the expiration of the time of the regiment; but the Government allows special favors to that State, among which is the important one of allowing all the men to be mustered out when the regiment has been three years in service. Some of the men have not been six months in the service. This is a scandalous piece of favoritism to that State, and is naturally exciting great indignation in the army.—World.

### A Proclamation from a Presidential Joker.

ABRAHAM'S INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS PROVOG MARSHALS.

The following comes to us from the "City of Brotherly Love," and has not been published in the government or official papers, from which fact some may be inclined to doubt its genuineness. We are disposed to believe that it is the production of some "Copperhead" wag, who has not the fear of the "widow maker" before his eyes:

1. As your office is one that is unknown to the Constitution of the United States, you must endeavor to impress the people, as much as possible, with the dignity and importance of your official position by evincing as much contempt as you can for the foolish, old-fashioned laws of the States, which are now entirely obsolete, being unfitted for the exigencies of the times.

2. You are to speak continually and in all places of the odious, infamous, execrable, infernal and damnably doctrines of State Rights.

3. Never under any circumstances allude to the Constitution, and if you hear the word from any man's lips arrest him immediately.

4. It is disloyal practice for any man to allude to the exploded mode of trial by jury—arrest all such.

5. Accuse all Democrats of every "crime under heaven, and if the scoundrels presume to argue with you arrest them."

6. All who talk about liberty of speech and press are traitors—arrest all such.

7. All who prate about the habeas corpus are enemies of the Government—arrest them.

8. Studiously avoid the word freedom, except as applied to negroes—arrest all who are guilty of such disloyal practices.

9. Use, whenever you can, the ear-splitting words, "loyal" and "supporting the government," but always in such a way as to mean the subversion of the miserable old government and the support of my new system. If you hear any man use the words in any other connection arrest him.

10. It is opposing the government for any man to speak of restoring the Union as it was—arrest such.

11. It is disloyal for any man to speak of my feet or otherwise allude to me except in praise of my personal beauty, and of my emancipation policy—arrest them.

12. If you hear any man say that I used to read of such conduct on the part of the Huns, and the Caucaasians, how our blood would boil with patriotic indignation. But now when they are every day occurrence at our own doors—when the victims are children of the same patriotic sires with ourselves, and perhaps blood of our blood—we are not even allowed to express our indignation! How art the mighty fallen!

When we "free born Americans" used to read of such conduct on the part of the Huns, and the Caucaasians, how our blood would boil with patriotic indignation. But now when they are every day occurrence at our own doors—when the victims are children of the same patriotic sires with ourselves, and perhaps blood of our blood—we are not even allowed to express our indignation! How art the mighty fallen!

The Hartford Times has a letter from its editor at Chicago, which says:

"There is throughout the West a wide-spread and growing feeling of dislike toward New England. I find this feeling to be bitter, and that it is largely shared in by the party, Western Republicans as well as Democrats. The feeling that to New England fanaticism the country is largely indebted for this calamitous war, and that Eastern men have been getting an undue share of its profits, while the West has sustained the conflict with its blood and treasure, is more generally entertained and freely expressed than is pleasant for me to hear. In this sweeping condemnation, there is liability that but little justice will be done to those in the Eastern States who have never countenanced fanaticism, but have suffered from its persecutions. If, by any unopinionated fate, Lincoln should be re-elected and the South gain a separate independence, there is but little hope that the West would consent to remain with New England.

CALAMITY ON LAKE ERIE.—A VESSEL, SUNK WITH ALL ON BOARD.—The Rochester Evening Express of the 1st has the following:

The great storm that swept over Ohio last Friday afternoon, was particularly severe on Lake Erie, and reports of serious marine disasters are anticipated.

The scow Mayflower, that sailed from Cleveland on Friday morning, laden with coal for Toledo was capsized at dusk, carrying down the captain, his wife and three children, and his sister, together with two of the crew, eight in all.

The only soul saved was Sanderson, a boy, who clung to the topmast, which remained out of the water for several hours, until rescued by a passing tug. When the vessel went down, the captain's wife was seated on the quarter-deck, holding her infant in her lap, and her two-year-old little girl by the hand. The oldest child, a little boy, was asleep below."

WAR UPON WOMEN.—In the National Convention, the venerable Gov. Wickliffe, of Kentucky, said:

"He knew of a case in which thirty fire women of the highest character had been dragged from their homes in his State and imprisoned, and the newspapers were forbidden to publish the fact to the people of the United States. But he, here, at the risk of arrest, published the fact, and denounced the tyranny that accomplished it as the most vile under the sun."

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that a barefooted boy need not put a Government stamp on his big toe before he "stamps" it. Considering the high price of shoe leather this is a very important decision.