Miners' Journal.

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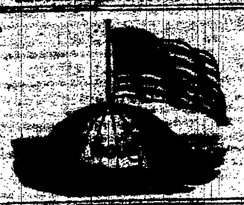

ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICAN SLAVERY.

Twenty-five years ago, Joseph Thomas, then Cashier of the Miners' Bank, declared that Russia was gradually advancing on the high road to subjugation, while the United States was gradually sinking into a state of helplessness. But how few there were who saw danger in the former, and how few there were who could see the light of the present! Russia is now free! At the head of the nation, and the United States is convulsed with a Great Rebellion, created by the Slave Power for the purpose of propagating that institution and rearing up a more slave-barbarian Slave Empire. These are opinions of history, and show the far-seeing observation of our friend, Joseph Thomas.

We allude to this subject now for the purpose of introducing the following extract of a letter to the N. Y. *Evening Post*, showing the delight the emancipation has caused in Russia:

ST. PETERSBURG, June 16, 1861.

Interesting ceremonies took place to-day in the presence of the entire Imperial family, at the residence of Alexander II. A characteristic episode occurred in the instance of a number of serfs—workmen in the factories—who had been liberated by the recent decree. They presented the Emperor with bread and salt on a gold plate, and delivered with it an address noticeable for its brevity. It reads as follows:

"Gracious Sovereign and Liberating Father:

"We thank thee for thy signal benefits to us, for the liberty thou hast bestowed upon us. Night and day we pray for thee; our wives, our children, our grandchildren, and our great-grandchildren will pray for thee. May the God of mercy preserve thee and give thee strength and firmness to achieve the loving work, so that all thy children and subjects may be united by thee as one family the name in future generations, even as we now bless the name of our liberating Father."

The plate of bread and salt was presented to the Czar by an old serf of about seventy years of age, who told the monarch he was on earth that God was to survive."

The ceremony took place in the Kremlin, and the people afterwards begged permission to see their "mother," as they term the Empress. She responded to the call by appearing on the balcony.

The public man who opposes the eradication of Slavery from our land during the present Slaveholder's Rebellion, will go down to his grave execrated by every friend of humanity as a monster unfit to live and breathe the air of Freedom.

THE New York *Tribune* is the most enterprising, successful and independent Political Journal published in this country, and we may say, in the world. Of course it excites the envy of the other press, particularly in our cities, and on every occasion offered they pitch into it, which only increases its circulation among the people. Many of these papers charged all the misfortunes of Bull Run on the *Tribune*; and "Gen. Greeley" offered his resignation last week. Since then the *Tribune* keeps "poking fun" at these presses, as follows:

"We deeply regret to perceive that Mr. Thurlow Weed deems it necessary, at the present momentous crisis, when the very existence of the nation hangs trembling in the balance, to attack one of the members of the Cabinet, as especially responsible for the deplorable catastrophe of Bull Run. Is it not possible for us all to lay aside personal animosities and partisan quarrels in this moment of fate, and to forget everything else in a supreme, unquestioning, hearty effort to secure the Republic from the perils that menace it with destruction? For the sake of everything that is dear to the patriot, let us forget things past, and prove that now at least our duty to our country is superior to every other consideration."

"We continue to notice the varied advice which the journals give for the successful prosecution of the war. The *N. Y. Times* discovers the great cause of all the evils of the army in "fraudulent administration of the Commissariat" and suspects that Mr. Alexander Cummings of Philadelphia is deep in these frauds. We believe, however, that Mr. Cummings has had no connection with the Commissariat Department; nor is any evidence adduced to prove that this department has been at fault. No doubt, there has been much suffering among the volunteer regiments for want of regular and sufficient supplies of food; but in every case it has been owing to the neglect of the regimental and company officers. When the *Times* asserts the contrary it should take care to support its allegations by conclusive testimony, or else it cannot long maintain its present eminent position as the chief reformer and strategical leader of the forces of the Union."

"Plans for the future conduct of the war are still produced by some of the leading journals of the country. The *N. Y. Times* thinks that a new campaign should be instantly commenced by attacks upon the Southern Atlantic and Gulf Ports. In fact, the *Times* says, there is not a single Southern city which is out of our mercy. Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, and New Orleans, might one and all be captured by a small naval and military force. The *Evening Post* thinks that a flying squadron, carrying a thousand to fifteen hundred troops, should at once menace every assailable point along the Southern lines; Charleston, Savannah, Pensacola, Mobile, and New Orleans are accessible to gunboats, and the two last can be captured. Mr. Thurlow Weed also, that veteran of journalism, while dividing the blame of Bull Run between the *Tribune* and "the Blairs," states that on a future occasion he will indicate the means and the measures whereby we may retrieve all. We presume that the Government and Gen. Scott will carefully weigh all the advice which is thus proffered, and we have no doubt that such parts of it as shall seem truly judicious will be adopted and acted upon."

A RARE TRAITOR.—The greatest traitor we have in the North is Bass—and it is doing our Army more damage than the troops under Gen. Beauregard and Jeff Davis. The official reports prove that Col. Miles of the regular army was drunk at Centreville, while the battle was progressing, and his drunkenness was the cause of the delay in the reserve forces, which if they had come up in time, would in all probability have saved the battle.

Congress has been compelled to pass a law closing up the Rum Shops at Washington City.

At Harrisburg, while our troops were there, the Mayor was compelled to close up the bars, to prevent a riot among the soldiers.

If such are the evils of the Rum Shops, so prominently set forth by these orders, why in the name of humanity do not the people demand that these establishments should be closed up forever?

Rum is the Great Traitor in the North, and those can never be called loyal to the Union who patronize our soldiers and destroy their usefulness in the field, by furnishing them with liquor.

When the above had been placed in type we perceive that Col. Miles has demanded an official investigation into the charges made against him.

AFFECTING INCIDENT.—The *N. Y. Tribune* says that "a pathetic incident at the Capitol to-day is worth noting. Two gentlemen named Rock, one of whom lives in Massachusetts, the other in New York, having sons in the South, and hearing that a young man of their name had been taken prisoner, came on last night, and to-day obtained permits to visit the jail. Curiously enough, they met at the door and entered together. The Massachusetts man, hastily recognizing his son a prisoner, and the other at his own son, told him that he was married, against his will, in Virginia; and that the child was born after the separation. The two boys, who had been playmates in their youth, and who had met in the army, fell into each other's arms, and wept like children. The fathers looked on in silence. Then the Massachusetts man, with a sudden impulse, turned to the other, and said: 'Mr. Rock, I have always been a Democrat, but I am a Republican now. I will vote for Lincoln as long as I live.' The other replied: 'I am a Democrat, and will vote for Douglas as long as I live.' Then they shook hands, and parted, the one to his duty in the army, the other to his duty in the jail."

GEN. PATTERSON'S ADDRESS TO THE 6th REGIMENT.—A friend handed us the following Farewell Address of Gen. Patterson to the 6th Regiment, Penna. Volunteers, near Charlestown, on the 21st of July:

Officers and Soldiers of the 6th Penna. Volunteer Regiment:—I wish to say a few words to you before taking your leave. Ever since your arrival in Philadelphia, I have had you under my command, and have watched you closely, but am very happy to say, with but few exceptions, (and on these occasions committed or otherwise,) and am happy to say that you have faithfully done your every arduous duties honestly, faithfully and to my entire satisfaction. As to your Colonel, JAMES NAGLE, I have very little to say. I know him well, and know him to be a good soldier and leader, and there is no regiment in the whole army that I placed more confidence in than the 6th Pennsylvania. With these few remarks I bid you farewell, and hope you may meet with such a welcome in Pennsylvania as only Pennsylvanians know how to give. Farewell.

The remarks were received with cheers for the General, and also for our gallant Colonel.

THE TARIFF AS REVISED.—The bill as it has passed the Senate, places the rate of duties on a few of the necessaries of life, as follows: Coffee, 2 cents per pound; refined and loaf sugar, 4 cents per pound; molasses, 2 cents per gallon; tea, 15 cents per pound; salt, 8 cents per bushel. The duty has also been taken off of iron, ore is fixed at 9 cents per hundred. Manufactured iron is also taken off the list, and will be charged with duty at the rate of 24 per cent. ad valorem. Railroad