



Select Poetry.

MODERN PREACHING.

The Allentown Democrat publishes the following lines dedicated to the war clergy of that borough.

Seven Sabbaths I have spent,
Seven times to church I went,
To seven sermons I have lent
A listening ear, with one intent
To hear the minister present
The truths of the New Testament
And upon those truths content;
And I now, with your consent,
Traffically will represent
The substance of the argument.
The first was but a vain attempt
To justify the President
In issuing a document
Containing the "abandonment"
Condition of a settlement,
Which excited astonishment
As well as sorrow and contempt
The other six were consistent
Upon the first, and plainly meant
To justify the Government
And its three war ministers;
And its four military chiefs;
That to-day was content,
For every minister his dissent,
While none were seen to dissent;
To-day was a water-cure
That heaven ever should have sent
Upon this government,
A greater and a President
So utterly incompetent
And now, to-day I am content
To stay at home and there lament,
Aye, or, or, or, or, or, or, or, or,
The new Abolition line minister;
And to on humble supplicant,
Low in the dust and a supplicant,
Upon the great abandonment,
If you mean punishment,
To-day is your contentment,
And I will now be content,
Without a word of dissent,
Without a word of dissent.

COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.

EDITED BY LEVI L. TATE, PROPRIETOR.
BLOOMSBURG:
Saturday Morning, Dec. 3, 1864.

The Approaching Draft.

The County Commissioners of Columbia county have received orders from the Governor of Pennsylvania, to make an immediate enrollment of all white males between the ages of twenty-one and forty-five, preparatory to a draft about the 1st of January, 1865, for three years for State service.

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to be specified in such notice, when, and where, the said assessors, and commissioners, of the county will meet to review such enrollment.

Third. Any person claiming that he is not liable to military duty, on account of some physical defect, or bodily infirmity, or that he is exempt from the performance of military duty, by any law of this state, or of the United States, may, on or before the day specified in such notice, and not after, deliver to said assessors, an affidavit, stating such facts, on which he claims to be exempt, or not liable to do military duty; such affidavit may be made before any person authorized to administer oaths; and the assessors shall cause all such affidavits to be filed in the office of the county commissioners; and if any person shall swear falsely in such affidavit, he shall be guilty of perjury.

Secunda. When the assessors shall have completed their assessment roll, they shall sign the same, and shall attach thereto, an affidavit, substantially as follows: "The undersigned, assessor, or assessors, of the city, borough, ward, or township, of in the county of, being sworn, or affirmed, say, that they have made strict and diligent inquiry to ascertain the names of all persons residing in the district; that the roll, hereto annexed, is, as near as the deponent, or deponents, can ascertain, a correct roll of all persons residing in said district, who are liable to be enrolled."

SECTION 3. Keepers of taverns, or boarding houses, and masters and mistresses of dwelling houses, shall, upon application of the assessors, within whose bounds their houses are situated, or of persons acting under them, give information of the names of persons residing in their houses, liable to be enrolled, or to do military duty, and every such person shall, upon due application, give his name and age; and if such keeper, master, mistress, or person, refuses to give such information, or give false information, such keeper, master, or mistress, shall forfeit and pay twenty dollars, and such person shall forfeit and pay twenty dollars, to be recovered on complaint of either of the assessors.

SECTION 4. In addition to the persons already exempted from enrollment in the military by the laws of the United States, the following persons shall be exempted from military duty, to-wit: The members of the legislature, and the officers and clerks of the executive, judicial, and legislative departments of the commonwealth, attorney general, state treasurer, surveyor general, and general state librarian, and the judges of the several courts of this commonwealth, sheriff, recorder of deeds, register of wills, probatory, district attorney, and clerks of the courts of this commonwealth.

Every non-commissioned officer, musician, and private, of every uniformed troop raised, who has, or shall hereafter uniformly himself, according to the provisions of any law of this state, and who shall have performed service in such company, or troop, for the space of seven consecutive years, or three years, in active service, from the time of his enrollment therein, shall be exempt from military duty, except in case of war, insurrection, or invasion.

Extract from section 8—Supplement of August 22, 1861.—It shall be the duty of the governor to appoint one competent citizen in each county, who shall be a physician, who, in connection with the county commissioners, or city commissioners, shall constitute a board, three of whom, the physician being one, shall make a quorum, with power to determine who are exempt from enrollment, under this act, and the act to which this is a supplement; and it shall be the duty of the enrolling officer to give notice, by publication in a newspaper of the county, of the times at which such application shall be heard, and to notify said board when they will be required to hear such applications; that all other duties, in reference to the enrollment, shall be performed as directed in the act to which this is a supplement.

It is a base fraud in the abolitionists to say that they are for the Union. They are not for the old and blessed Union or any Union that the nation has ever heard of. They profess to be for some new-fangled thing, that they choose to call the Union as it ought to be. They repudiate the Union given to us by our fathers, and would substitute a device of their own. The word Union should burn their vile tongues like a coal of fire.

IMPORTANT TO COUNTY STOREKEEPERS.—The Baltimore County (Md.) Advocate, says that Hon. J. L. Lewis, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, has decided that "a country store keeper who takes produce in trade for goods, is not required to take a pedlar's license to enable him to occasional take such produce a market for sale. His dealer's license will cover the whole business."

President Lincoln showed a kindly interest in the iteb—many to take—awful to have, plaguey hard to get rid of.

The Army Correspondent.

BY A RETURNED CORRESPONDENT.

GETTING THE NEWS.

The manner in which army intelligence is furnished so early and minutely is, with good reason, a source of surprise and curiosity to the reading public. The telegraph tells of fighting, and before twenty-four hours roll round we have full particulars of the action—who opened the combat, who displayed good generalship, and who did not; when the battle waxed hottest, and where was the turning point; what was gained and what was lost, together with list of the killed, wounded, and prisoners.

The descriptions of the Crimean war, furnished to the London Times by Mr. Russel, excited universal admiration; and when he came to this country at the opening of the rebellion in the capacity of a correspondent, all were on the qui vive to see the person who could "write up a battle" so graphically and in so short a time. The achievements of this able writer have been rivalled by the home talent which has been developed during the progress of the war.

With the exception of a few journals in some of the other cities, the New York dailies are the only ones in this country that maintain a wide and varied army correspondence. When we say the New York dailies, we refer to the Times, Tribune, Herald, and World. Each one of these establishments has a branch office connected with it at Washington, to which all intelligence from the Army of the Potomac is sent and thence forwarded.

The army correspondent, as the first step in his vocation, procures a pass from the provost-marshal of the army; armed with this he comes and goes at will riding to the front, reconnoitering the enemy's position, visiting head quarters, circulating among the camps, conversing with officers, often leading communications from the front of his saddle or the stump of a tree. Bound by no military regulations, tied down to no encampment, welcomed by all he moves from point to point, ready to chronicle anything of a moment which may occur. He is attracted in one direction by the report of cannon, in another by firing on the picket line; now he halts to listen to the story of a deserter or contraband, now reins up his horse to witness a review or participate in a barbecue. Constantly on the alert, he not unfrequently knows more of the dispositions and designs of the enemy than the commanding general learns from his spies. It was an appreciation of this fact which led Gen. —, when he was in command of the Army of the Potomac, to offer a correspondent five thousand dollars if he would penetrate the mystery surrounding Gen. Lee's position and forces.

Moving thus about from place to place, with a roving commission, he learns everything of interest, and soon becomes a complete army encyclopedia. If a new general comes or goes he knows it. If a regiment is transferred from one command to another it is duly chronicled in his note book. If a new piece of ordnance arrives he is aware for what battery it is designed. If a sentinel is shot down at his post, a greyback winged, a deserter caught, a coward drummed out of the ranks, the army correspondent has noted the fact, and all these incidents linked together go to make up a letter. These letters are sent to the Washington office by couriers or private hand, and then forwarded to New York.

Captain Noyes in his recent admirable work, "The Breach and the Battle Field" says of him: "The army correspondent is decidedly an institution. Thoroughly posted as to the latest news at home and at army head quarters, on familiar relations with general and staff officers of the high est grades, the experienced correspondent can scent out an intend move with almost unerring certainty." This statement is remarkably true, for we do not believe that a move has yet taken place in our armies which has not been known of hours or days before by the correspondent, however careful the commanding general may have been to insure secrecy. For some time before the "denouement" at Yorktown, Mr. Raymond, who was then in the field, and other representatives of the press, knew of the projected movement and programme to be pursued by Gen. McClellan. The same was true of the Seven Days' Retreat and the sanguinary engagements at South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville.

When it becomes evident that a move ment is to be made, the correspondent of

each of the papers meet at some designated place, and a plan of operations is decided upon, which assigns one to the cavalry, a second to the right wing of the army, a third to the centre, a fourth to the left, and so on, while the most cultivated writer of the number is allotted the duty of receiving the various accounts and uniting them into one. Arrangements completed, they depart like so many officers from a council of war. At the close of the days' fighting they again assemble, and each writing a rough sketch of what he saw, it is handed to one of their number previously designated, who starts immediately for New York.

CARRYING THE NEWS TO NEW YORK.

Now comes the hardest task, that of outstripping competitors and first reaching New York with the news. So great is the rivalry that every nerve is strained and no regard had to expense; in two or three instances extra trains consisting of an engine and car have been run to Philadelphia. The correspondent of the Tribune, who furnished the admirable report of the battle of Antietam, galloped thirty miles, after the close of the conflict, to the nearest railway-station. He then rode and wrote all night, and reaching the city, finished the latter part of the letter in the office while the first was set up. The courier who conveyed the first news of the battle of Gettysburg to the Times rode John Gilpin style for sixty miles, leaving all his competitors far in the rear. I frequently happen that no preconcerted plan has been followed; when this is the case two or more correspondents of the same paper sometimes find themselves on the way to New York with details of the same engagement.

Various are the shifts resorted to for "getting ahead." On the morning following the first battle of Fredericksburg, the correspondents arrived at Aquia Creek to find that General Burnside had given orders that no member of the press or news of any kind concerning the combat should be permitted to go to Washington. Here was a dilemma which would have baffled any one but a correspondent. But one of them, not to be out-generated in this manner, coolly walked on board of a transport which was soon to leave the wharf, and assuming an official air got off. No sooner was he on board than his rivals missed him, and informed the officials that he had taken passage on the vessel. But they searched in vain for him, and the Tribune published the first full account of the conflict. The Times was enabled to publish a full report of the battle of Chancellorsville a day in advance of all its contemporaries, through the enterprise of its correspondent in chartering a tug at Aquia Creek, which conveyed him to Washington in time for the morning throng.

When Burnside occupied Fredericksburg, in September, 1862, a strong picket line was posted between that place and Baltimore. A correspondent (of the Herald, if I mistake not) succeeded in first getting away with the news. He was, however, brought to a halt by the pickets, and, according as he supposed, the provost marshal, requested a pass. The person thus solicited, on learning his business, replied that he could not furnish a pass but would give him a note to the provost-marshal at Ellicott's Mills, who would do so. He received the sealed letter with a low bow, and a few hours afterwards presented it at Ellicott's Mills. Imagine his surprise on immediately being ordered under arrest. The note was signed by Timothy Jones, and read somewhat as follows: "The bearer represents himself as a reporter. From certain suspicious circumstances, I am strongly of the opinion that he is nothing but a Baltimore secessionist and spy. I think it would be well enough to detain him until he can satisfactorily identify himself." He was detained, and Timothy Jones, was a rival correspondent, proceeded on with his despatches to Baltimore. An attaché of the same paper was out-generated by a similar piece of strategy on the Peninsula. It was at a time when Gen. McClellan, anxious to learn all he could concerning the enemy, gave orders for all copies of Southern papers to be brought to him. Mr. — succeeded in obtaining a copy of the "Richmond Examiner," containing valuable information, and was riding rapidly to the White House to forward it to New York, when he was arrested by a squad of cavalry and placed under guard. A competitor had informed Gen. McClellan of his having the paper.

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RISKS RUN BY ARMY CORRESPONDENTS.

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ally carry them to the front. They are always sure to be on hand wherever there is any fighting going on. The first soldier wounded on the left at the battle of Fredericksburg was hit by a minié-ball, fired at a Times correspondent, who was far in advance of the line of battle, studying the topography of the coming field of strife. Among the very first wounded in the centre was a Herald attaché. A Times man charged with Col. McVicar's cavalry regiment at Chancellorsville, and shot two rebels dead with the borrowed weapon he carried. One of his associates was afterwards wounded at the cavalry engagement near Banks Ford and again had his horse's head taken completely off at Gettysburg by a solid shot. Two correspondents, by dint of much exertion, made their way to Harper's Ferry, when it was beleaguered on all sides. One escaped through the enemy's lines at midnight, and conveyed to Fredericksburg the first intelligence of the surrender of the place. The other escaped by becoming Col. D'Utassy's private secretary, and being paroled in that capacity. Two representatives of the Tribune, one of the Herald, and one of the World, determined on reaching Grant's army at Grand Gulf, attempted to run the Vicksburg batteries. The vessel was destroyed and all taken prisoners. Numerous other examples might be cited, but these are sufficient to prove the falsity of the statement frequently made, that the war chroniclers write their despatches from the rear.

COMMANDING GENERALS AND THE PRESS.

General McClellan gave but little heed to correspondents, assuming that they were possessed of sufficient discretion and patriotism to refrain from publishing news of an injurious character. They were, however, subject to certain restrictions from the War Department. Pope was at first very friendly to the press, tendering to some of its representatives the hospitalities of his quarters. He frequently read over their despatches before they were sent off. But he afterwards took offense, and summarily ordered them all from his lines. Burnside treated them with the utmost cordiality, and won their highest regard and esteem by his manly course. Hooker after having been promoted to the supreme command more through their influence than all others combined, at once turned upon them. The same was true of his chief of staff. Between them they rendered the position of a correspondent such that one could not very well retain it without compromising his self respect. To criticize either Hooker or Butterfield's operations was to sign one's pass to the quartermaster's department at six months' hard labor. It was for this reason that the country has never comprehended how deplorable was the mismanagement and failure at Chancellorsville, and how narrow was the escape of our army from total destruction. The correspondents were held in torture, and did not dare to make known the facts in the case. One who had the courage to publish a true statement of the losses simply, was hunted for days up and down the army, but fortunately for himself could not be found. Buell pursued much the same course toward them in the West that McClellan did in the East. Sherman has followed Pope's example, and Grant Burnside's while Rosecrans tendered them every courtesy, frequently making them his companions in the tent and at the table.

That much harm has been done by the premature publication of plans and other facts is unquestionably true; but so long as the Washington authorities maintain their present attitude toward the press this will continue to be the case. In the Crimean war the correspondents accompanying the allied armies had an acknowledged rank, were supplied with equipage, etc., and held strictly accountable for every line written.

Those in authority at the capital, instead of pursuing a similar course, have made no provision whatever for correspondents, each one being left to shift for himself, to write what he chooses, and in short to do what he pleases. The natural result has been an irregularity and irresponsibility in army correspondence. The people are entitled to and will have the news; but they demand only such as is legitimate, and not detrimental to the cause. If they are furnished with more than this it is because the War Department permits it to appear.

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Interesting Sketch.

How Godfrey Chose His Wife.

"Godfrey, old boy," said Henry Clayton, as he tilted back his chair, and put his feet on the mantle-piece, "when is the wedding to be?"

"Whose wedding?"

"Miss Laura Somers, or Jenny, which is it?"

"I don't know, I'm sure."

"Now don't be mysterious, Godfrey, you are a constant visitor, and all our sex is talking about the match. Don't pretend you have not selected one of the sisters."

"How do you know that either of them will have me?"

"Don't be absurd, old boy. Come, be frank, which is the favorite sister?"

"Well, frankly then, I have visited the family for several months, as you know, but I cannot decide. Laura is certainly the handsomest with her flashing black eyes and queenly manner; but Jenny seems, although the youngest, to be the most womanly and useful of the two. Yet I cannot be sure of that. My entrance is the signal for cordial welcome and smiles, and let me call at what hour I will, they are always dressed, and apparently disengaged. To be sure, I always in the morning have to wait before Laura is visible."

"Pop in unexpectedly, and notice the internal economy."

"Well, I can have that carried to my private account."

"Oh! Laura, I hate to hear you talk so of that private account. It seems so much like cheating father."

"Nonsense! it will stand till I get married, then I can easily save it out of my housekeeping money."

"I shouldn't wish to marry in debt," said Jenny.

The pedler looked at the sisters.

"You had better take this blue bunch, Miss," said he to Jenny. "If it sint convenient to pay for it now, I will call again."

"No, I shall not take them."

"They are very becoming Miss. Look in the glass."

"I wish my hair was light," said Laura, "I'd like to wear blue. Godfrey Horton said last night, that forget-me-nots were his favorite flowers."

Jenny colored, and placing the bunch again in the basket, said, "Come, Laura, decide. You are keeping one waiting, time is probably valuable," and, then passing a chair, she added, "Be seated, sir, you must be tired."

"I am tired, indeed, was the reply."

"I will take that scarlet bunch, and those red camellias, and this white cluster," said Laura.

"But, sister, you can't afford it."

"Yes I can. Godfrey Horton is rich. The old man bit his lip."

"Think," said Jenny, in an undertone, "if you love him, how much it will grieve him, if he should discover this deceit."

"Nonsense! Well I'll tell you how to remedy it. Lend me some money out of the housekeeping funds?"

"Laura! steal from father?"

"There don't preach."

"Miss Jenny, said a servant, entering at that moment, 'the dinner has come.'"

Jenny left the room, and Laura still turned over the gay flowers, while the old man pointed out their various beauties, he in the meantime, was running over the disordered hair, shabby dress, and lazy position, while he mentally contrasted them with Jenny's neat attire.

"Not decided yet?" said Jenny, returning after a short absence.

"No. Come here."

"I can't. Father has sent home a calf's head and I am afraid to trust it with Margaret; I must superintend the dinner, make a pudding, and the parlors must be dusted, and there is my white mull to be finished."

"Before I'd be the drudge that you are," cried Laura.

"Drudge! nonsense! I have time for enjoyment, and father cannot have a comfortable house if some one does not superintend these things. When I marry, you may do it, she laughed merrily."

"As if I should not marry first!" said Laura. "There, I have chosen all I want."

"Shall I call again for the change?" said the pedler. I shall be happy to put the Misses Somers on my list of customers."

"Yes, call again," said Laura.

So the pedler took up the basket, and walked home, three aside his wig, beard, and disguise and wrote an avowal of his hand and heart to Miss Jenny Somers, which was accepted.

Laura Somers had two sources of profound speculation. One was, "Why Godfrey Horton proposed to Jenny, instead of herself?" The other, "I wonder why the old man never called to be paid for those exquisite flowers?"

Gen. Grant telegraphed to Old Abe, congratulating him upon his reelection. We haven't seen Old Abe's response, but we presume it will be in the following style:—"Mr. Grant, I am very thankful for the interest you manifest in my success, but I feel very sorry that your success has not been of such a character that I can return the compliment." This would, indeed, be a good joke!

The Washington correspondent of the Detroit Free Press says that the War Department will recommend Congress to strike out of the Conscription law the clause allowing drafted men to furnish substitutes, and also the one requiring the fifty days notice of a draft. He says that so soon as these changes are effected a heavy draft is contemplated to open the spring campaign with crushing force.

Just Published.—Mrs. Henry Wood's New Copyright Novel, "Oswald Gray."—We have no doubt that this work is excellent; all of Mrs. Wood's works are.—No one surpasses her in this country or Europe. The work is just being published, and will be ready in a few days for sale by T. B. Peterson & Bros., Philadelphia, who are Mrs. Wood's American Publishers. Send for a copy.