



The Union as it was. The Constitution as it is!

TRUSTEES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF GEORGETOWN, D. C.

THE LATE MASSACRE

From a lengthy article in the New York Evening Post, the highest Republican authority among the press of the country, we select the following exact paragraphs in relation to the late disaster at Fredericksburg:

"The more we learn about the recent butchery of our gallant soldiers, the more terrible does it become. It is a sad and sad to think that the total loss in killed and wounded is not less than fourteen thousand men; and it is by no means certain that the enemy lost even a thousand. The attack seems to have been ordered in the most complete ignorance of the enemy's position and strength. It is almost incredible that men should be ordered to certain death as our brave fellows were, and that more so than a military commander could dare advise such a wholesale murder, and yet himself be allowed to live.

"How long is such intolerable and wicked blinding to continue? What does the President wait for? We hear that a great, horrible crime has been committed; we do not hear even that they should be removed from the places to which they have shown themselves so incapable of filling. What does the President wait for? He knows who is in fault; he knows whose ignorance, or incapacity, or treason it was which has brought upon the American people. Let him do his duty, and that at once; let him show the people, who look to him, that he conceals nothing that he protects no guilt, that he favors no incapacity, that he stands before us no criminal and no justice."

"This was the temper of the radical press when our late calamity at Fredericksburg was announced, but since the report of Gen. Burnside, matters have radically changed. Now the same extreme abolition press is at a loss for terms sufficiently expressive to speak its admiration of 'the gallant, magnificent Burnside.' By assuming the responsibility for the sudden death of thousands of our brave soldiers, and of the heroic men who were ever faced 'a full mouthed battery,' he has, at once, become the idol of the extremists. This is more strange than the lamentable massacre alluded to. Screen those in power, who are responsible for our failures, and the entire army may follow the fate of the victims of Fredericksburg. All speculations of the sad scene itself, and the memory of the individual and collective valor of those who fell, are suddenly forgotten, in admiration of the 'magnanimous soldier,' who acknowledged himself responsible for their deaths. How many ways success these radical papers struggle to take by the throat and force upon us their views. Who was the author of this sacrifice (provided it suited their partisan purposes), but now the most extravagant laudation is bestowed upon him, and all because he has been duped into an assumption of responsibility intended to extenuate the really guilty party. But these partisans forget that Gen. Burnside was not allowed to satisfy the inquiring people; nor do they satisfy the thousands of widows and orphans made by the late disaster. They may partially succeed in their efforts to bamboozle the people, in shifting the guilt of the Fredericksburg massacre from one to another, but they cannot escape the naked truth itself—the liberal butchery of some of our most abandoned soldiers, whose names will stand like angels, stamped in heaven."

"Amidst the deep damnation of their taking off, Hallock, on his first visit to Gen. Burnside, informed him that 'political necessity required him to advance,' and that the authors of it should be relieved from public scorn, because of the load of guilt previously incurred. But the murder will out; Burnside's report is evidently a screen to shield the really guilty parties, and this is already beginning to be exposed. Among the many proofs of this we select the following special from Washington to yesterday's Gazette:

"Burnside's report continues to be regarded as an administrative necessity rather than simply a military statement."

**JAMES SHEPARD KNOWLES**

"This distinguished dramatist, whose death in his seventy-eighth year, was announced by the late foreign arrival, visited this country twice, his last visit occurring in 1855. He made a professional tour through our principal cities, appearing in the leading characters of his own productions. In this city he played an engagement, assisted by Miss Emma Wheeler, afterwards Mrs. Mason, an actress of the first order of talent. During that engagement Mr. Knowles appeared as Virginia, Master Walter in the Hunchback, William Tell, St. Pierre, in the Tale of Mantua, and other characters of his own creation. He was not an actor of much ability, but his deserved reputation as an author gave him a respectful hearing. On his behalf a tragedy of 'Voice Preserved,' in order to give telling characters to himself and to Mr. A. A. Adams and Miss Wheatley, who volunteered for the occasion. Mr. Knowles appeared on this occasion as Pierre; Mr. Adams as Jaffer and Miss Wheatley as Belvidere. The house was crowded and an old pattern of the drama informs us—the acting of the two young Americans was most effective. Adams, many of our readers will remember, subsequently became the foremost genius of the American stage. He died his last acting in this city in 1851, and died in Cincinnati the March of that year. Mrs. Mason also died in her and Adams' death, the profession lost two of its most gifted actors, whose places are not likely to be supplied by any of those who are strutting their 'brief hours upon the stage.'"

NEWS ITEMS

WHO ARE THE TRAITORS?

Governor Pierpont, of West Virginia, has appointed a commission to hold on Wednesday, the 21st inst., for a meeting of Congress in the seventh district, composed of the counties of Alexandria, Adams, Lincoln, and Wayne. The mayor of Alexandria, is named as being the candidate.

Mr. Adams, our minister to England, just transmitted to the President of the Royal National Life Boat Institution, by the direction of the resident Lincoln, the sum of one hundred pounds, (say five hundred dollars), as a donation to the general fund, and also about one hundred silver dollars more to be distributed among the crew of one of the boats which were wrecked on the British coast, some months ago.

In a case before the courts of New York last week, it appeared by testimony given by the late Captain, Marston, belonging to the Schooner "The Raleigh," that the vessel was employed for one hundred and sixty days, for the purpose of conveying to the rebel forces in the West Indies, having \$60,000 and the loss of the vessel was \$100,000. It is stated that the vessel was employed for one hundred and sixty days, for the purpose of conveying to the rebel forces in the West Indies, having \$60,000 and the loss of the vessel was \$100,000.

It is announced that Mr. Thurlow Wood has disposed of his interest in the Albany Evening Journal, and will retire from the editorial profession. He was, for many years, and during that time distinguished himself by his ability, activity and fidelity to principle.

A dispatch to Nashville states that the small pox was raging at Richmond on Friday to such an extent that compulsory vaccination was recommended by the authorities, and that all persons coming to the city were required to be vaccinated.

A serious affair occurred at Evansville, Ind., on Sunday night, when a party of soldiers from the Cavalry had been ordered to march to a point near the city, and on the way they were fired upon by a party of rebels. The result was the death of one soldier and the wounding of several others.

A detachment of Gen. Cluseret's brigade, which is stationed at Norfolk, Va., and on Dec. 19th, at Harpersville, in the County of Virginia, captured a rebel train of three hundred and fifty tons of supplies, and destroyed it. The train was on its way to the rebel forces in the West Indies.

GENERAL SIGEL'S EVIDENCE

Anticipated Raid into Kentucky.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.—A flag of truce crossed the Rappahannock this afternoon with a communication from General Lee, the purport of which has not been made public, but probably relates to some refugees who are anxious to come into our lines, and other unimportant matters.

Richmond papers of yesterday and today have found their way to the Rappahannock river, and are being distributed to the rebel forces in the West Indies. It is stated that the rebel forces in the West Indies have received a large quantity of supplies from the Rappahannock river.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Gen. Sigel was examined today by the court-martial at Richmond. He was charged with the failure of his army to capture the city of Richmond, and with the loss of the city to the rebel forces. He was acquitted of all charges.

REBEL MOVEMENTS IN ARIZONA.

Hindman's Soldiers Join the Federal Army.—The soldiers of the Confederate Army in Arizona have joined the Federal Army. The soldiers were ordered to join the Federal Army by the Federal Government, and they have done so.

RESULTS OF JESTING IN BUSINESS MATTERS.

A letter from Prague, of October 31st, mentions a curious affair, which proves that jesting in business matters may sometimes cost dear. A fortnight ago a hop dealer of the neighborhood entered the counting-house of a large merchant at Prague, with whom he had had commercial relations. The latter asked him how his business was going on, and he replied: "I am doing so little that I am almost inclined to enter your services as a clerk."

DIED.

Departed this life, at her residence, East Walnut street, Philadelphia, on the 21st inst., at the age of 78 years, Mrs. Elizabeth W. Smith, nee Smith, widow of the late John W. Smith, a native of Pennsylvania. She was the daughter of the late John W. Smith, and was married to the late John W. Smith on the 15th of June, 1825. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was a devoted Christian. She is survived by her husband, and several children.

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