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POETRY.

A NATIONAL ANTHEM.

The following patriotic effusion, from the pen of Geo. P. MORRIS, Esq., was sung at the Great War Meeting, held in the City of New York, a short time since:

Arm and on—ye Brave and Free!!

Freedom spreads her downy wings
O'er all created things:
Glorious to the King of Kings!
Bend low to him the knee:
Bring the heart before His throne—
How to Him and Him alone—
He's the only King we own!
And he has made us free!
Chorus—Arm and on—ye brave and free!
Arm and strike for Liberty!

The holiest spot a smiling sun
Ere shed his genial rays upon,
Is that which gave a WASHINGTON
The dawning world to cheer!
Sound the clarion peals of Fame,
Ye who bear Columbia's name—
With existence freedom came—
It is man's birth-right here.
Chorus—Arm and on—ye brave and free!
Arm and strike for Liberty!

Heirs of an immortal sire,
Let his deeds your hearts inspire—
Weave the strain and wake the lyre,
Where your proud altars stand:
Hail with shouts and loud hurrahs,
Streaming from a thousand spars,
Freedom's rainbow flag of stars,
The symbol of our land!
Chorus—Arm and on—ye brave and free!
Arm and strike for Liberty!

THE BIBLE.

What taught me that a great first cause
Existed ere creation was,
And gave an universe its laws?
The Bible.

What guide can lead me to that power,
Whom conscience calls me to adore,
And bids me seek him more and more?
My Bible.

When came I first of all to know
The origin of human woe,
When all was ruin here below?
My Bible.

And in this awful drear dismay,
When hope herself refused a ray,
What tells me God was still our stay?
My Bible.

Since the arms of mercy then extend
To draw me to my God, my friend,
What can my gratitude expand?
The Bible.

And while life flies in gay career,
And pleasures hail each coming year,
What can enhance my sprightly cheer?
The Bible.

When all my actions prosper well,
And higher hopes my wishes swell,
What points where truer blessings dwell?
The Bible.

When passions with temptations join,
To conquer every power of mine,
What leads me then to power divine?
The Bible.

When pining cares and wasting pain,
My spirits and my life-blood drain,
What soothes and turns e'en these to gain?
The Bible.

When crosses and vexations tease,
And various ills my bosom seize,
What is it that in life can please?
The Bible.

When horror fills my soul with fear,
And naught but dread and gloom appear,
What is it then my mind can cheer?
The Bible.

When impious doubts my thoughts perplex,
And mysteries my reason vex,
Where is the guide that then directs?
The Bible.

Then may my mind be made to see
What now I am, and yet may be,
By reading often seriously—
The Bible.

And when affliction's fainting breath,
Warns me I've done with all beneath,
What can compose my soul in death?
The Bible.

THE MEN OF WAR.

The following extract from a chronicle of the progress of the Oregon question in Congress, which is furnished by the *New York Herald*, is pretty good. The manner in which it relates the discomfiture of the war-hawks in the Senate may possibly affect the risibles of our readers:

26. And the war party, in the beginning, in the Senate, derided the men of peace as cowards, and as traitors; and the people, jealous of their rights, looked on in doubt, and the peace men bowed their heads in silence, and in tribulation of spirit.

27. But the Chief Councillor of the tribe of South Carolina, named Calhoun, deputed by them to plead for peace, stood up in the face of his enemies, and defined his position.

28. And Colquitt, of the Georgians; and Haywood, a gallant man of the tar burners of North Carolina; and Mangum, whose surname was Willie, rallied in the debate.

29. And a great discussion between the war party, and the men of peace succeeded, and was prolonged many days.

30. And Colquitt handled Breese of Illinois without gloves, showing that though a man of peace the Georgian would suffer no man to snub him with "want of nerve."

31. And Breese was as gentle thereafter as the summer-winds among the roses of Sharon.

32. And Allen declared that the "hearts of the people must be prepared for war," and proclaimed that the Philistines were as weak as the "unborn infant reposing in the lap of the past," and that they were cowards who would not go to war for the whole or none.

33. And Calhoun twigg'd him, and Colquitt twigg'd him, and Mangum twigg'd him, and he was scored upon every hand by every man in fear and trembling; and towards the end of the second day, Allen and Hannegan (a warrior of the tribe of Indiana) fell upon him right and left.

34. But he battled them with great skill, and finally told Allen that his place in the foreign chair of the Senate was too much for his capacity. And Allen was quiescent for a time.

35. And as the debate progressed, Daniel, surnamed Dickinson, of York State, fell upon Daniel, surnamed the God-like, of Massachusetts, and brought in a speech of Charles Jared of the House, to sustain his attacks upon old Black Dan, who gave notice that he should call the Senator to account by-and-by, which, in the Chaldaic, signifieth too soon for your comfort.

36. Meantime, Benton, surnamed Old Bullion, for his love of gold and silver, came out for a division of Oregon and for peace.

37. And Cass, a bona fide General, came into contact with him, in which the General burst his boiler, and great was the explosion.

38. And Hannegan came to his aid with great fury, but Benton regarded him as an old lion regardeth a young lion who hath not yet a mane.

39. And the war men stood aghast, for they had looked peradventure, to the support of Benton, a great high priest among the tribes of Jonathan.

40. After which, McDuffie, the right-hand man of Calhoun, described the country in dispute as a region blasted by the God who made it; and showed the title of the Philistines to be good to a part, from the settlements of the Hudson's Bay men.

41. A wily set of men, who deal in skins of beavers, making a savory dish of their meat.

42. And after that, Daniel surnamed the God-like, gave notice that he would speak of the lesser Daniel and Charles Jared, of the other assembly of the great Sanhedrim.

43. And the next week, the aforesaid Daniel spoke for two days, waxing warmer and warmer, until at length he denounced Charles Jared a liar, and the lesser Daniel the endorser of a liar.

44. And Daniel, of York State, essayed to reply, and did, as well as could be expected; having gained the great point of satisfying himself that Daniel the God-like,

45. Was a used-up expounder of the constitution.

46. And the debate, at last, was brought to an end; and the Senate was about to speak for peace, for the men of peace waxed stronger and stronger, and the war men had waxed weaker, and weaker, like Saul of old.

47. And Allen, seeing that the notice to the Philistines would be such as to lead to "an amicable adjustment."

48. Rebuked the Senate and declared that "his voice was still for war."

49. And Crittenden, of the Hunters of Kentucky, reproved the great war chief before the world, and reduced him to submission.

50. And the peace men took the notice out of the hands of the war party, and passed it as a measure of peace.

51. It is stated in the annual report of the American Temperance Union, that no less than 60,000 seamen have signed the pledge in this country.

52. A few days ago, two Irishmen, near Chicago, Ill., drank a quantity of whiskey on a wager. The result was, one died on the spot, and the other is not expected to live.

Public Worship.

It is sometimes said, in extenuation of the neglect of public worship, that the time abstracted therefrom is not lost, but spent in religious reading, devotion, and other duties adapted to the sanctity of the Lord's day. Such duties, however, are by no means equivalent to the neglected one, if there is opportunity and ability for its discharge. Public religious exercises are one thing, private are another. They are distinct duties. Neither can properly be made a substitute for the other, except under circumstances of imperious necessity. When the Church calls, the Christian's duty is in her public assembly, and not in his private room, though it be a closet of prayer. The scripture requisition of public worship, and the special divine promises made to it, urge a claim upon him which he cannot innocently disregard. The Church has a claim upon him as one who is to contribute to the due celebration and efficiency of her holy offices. The community has a claim upon him for his good example. The principle on which he acts in neglecting public worship is one which would in its consequences be altogether destructive of such worship. What is the privilege of one in this matter is the privilege of all. If one can do as well by attending to religious duties at home, so can others. In every view of it, in itself and its consequences, the wilful neglect of public worship must present itself to the reflecting Christian mind as without excuse, offensive to God, and dangerous in its influence on individual character, and on the welfare of society and the Church.

Captain Fremont.

A LETTER dated, Bay of St. Francisco, has just been received from this indefatigable officer, who has done so much towards making us acquainted with the best routes to Oregon, and with the character of portions of that terra incognita. He has explored the southern shore of the great Salt Lake, one of the most noted features of the country west of the Rocky Mountains. He corrects some prevalent errors with respect to the immense Basin (or Valley) in which the great Salt Lake is situated.—Instead of being a barren SANDY PLAIN as has been supposed, he found it traversed by ranges of lofty mountains covered with luxuriant and well wooded fields, and roamed over by numerous herds of deer and the mountain sheep. He adds this highly important discovery:

"I shall make a short journey up the eastern branch of the Sacramento, and go from the Plamath lake into the Wahlahmath valley, through a pass alluded to in my report; in this way making the road into Oregon far shorter, and a good road in place of the present very bad one down the Columbia. When I shall have made this short exploration, I shall have explored from beginning to end this road to Oregon."

ADVICE TO MEN IN DEBT.

Ascertain the whole state of your affairs. Learn exactly how much you owe. Be not guilty of deceiving yourself. You may thus awaken suspicions of dishonesty, when your intentions were otherwise.

Deliberately and fully make up your mind, that come what will, you will practice no concealment or trick which might have the appearance of fraud. Openness and candor command the respect of all good men.

Remember that no man is completely ruined among men until his character is gone.

Never consent to hold as your own, one farthing which rightfully belongs to others.

As you are at present in circumstances of great trial, and as many eyes are upon you, do nothing rashly. If you need advice, consult only a few.—Let them be disinterested persons of the most established reputation.

Beware of feelings of despondency. Give not place for an hour to useless and enervating melancholy. Be a man.

Reduce your expenditures to the very lowest amount.

Care not to figure as others around you.

Industriously pursue such lawful and honest arts of industry as are left to you. An hour's industry will do more to begot cheerfulness, suppress evil humors, and retrieve your affections than a month's moaning.

If you must stop business, do it soon enough not to involve your unsuspecting friends.

Learn from your present difficulties the utter vanity of earthly things.

Two Dutchmen, who built and used in common a small bridge over a little stream which ran through their farms, had a dispute concerning certain repairs which it required after a time, one of them declining to bear any portion of the expense necessary to the purchase of two or three planks. Finally, the aggrieved party went to a neighbouring lawyer, and placing ten dollars in his hand, said, "I'll give you all dish moneys, if you'll make Hans do justice mit de bridge?" "How much will it cost to repair the bridge?" asked the honest counsellor of the determined litigant.—"Well, den, not more ash five tollar," replied the Dutchman. "Very well," said the lawyer, pocketing one of his notes and giving him the other, "take this, and go and get the bridge repaired; it's the best course you can take." "Yaas," said the Dutchman, slowly, "y-a-a-s; dat ish much better as to quarrel mit Hans;" but as he went along home, he shook his head frequently, as if unable after all quite clearly to see how he had gained anything by going to law.

Mexican Despatch.

The following is an extract from a despatch directed to the President of Mexico, by General Mejia, dated April 3d:

DESPATCH.—"To all with judgment and without excitement produced by wrath, or rather by patriotism that burns in the breast at seeing the 'Star Spangled Banner' floating over the waters of the Rio Grande. (I let pass the first moments, and calmness being re-established,) I urged that with that river between us, our spears and bayonets could have no unjustifiable advantage over those of the invaders, and that it would be only exchanging shots, and useless shedding of blood, and damage to the city whose buildings were very frail. These reasons made me wait for General Ampudia, and joining our forces enable us to give a decisive blow, with a certainty that not a single Yankee would escape.

Notwithstanding, I have taken all precautions, rising fortifications to cover the whole line, I have also strongly attacked the morale of the enemy;—introducing anarchy between the two Generals, and disgusted them with each other; and Gen. Worth, the only man of knowledge, has asked for his transports, and if he goes away, as I believe he will, Taylor will remain, who is more despicable than any Mexican traitor. I have also encouraged desertions from the army, and from the 25th ult., to date, 26 soldiers and 4 slaves, have passed over to us, notwithstanding all their precautions. In short, the triumph of our arms is past all doubt, either with all our troops or with those I have. Should the enemy pass the Rio Grande, THEIR TOMB IS OPEN."

A Frighting Irishman.

As the Boston Assessors, in the discharge of their duties, were on Wednesday visiting the inhabitants of Ward One, they called at the house of a patriotic Irishman, who seemed rather alarmed at their entrance, not knowing what could be the object of their visit—but his anxiety was quieted, and indeed he seemed quite delighted, when told that they were only taking the names of the houses with a view of raising taxes.

"Taxes?" said he, "did you say Taxes? you shall have my name, any how, for Texas and Mexico, both!"

As they were leaving the house, he followed them, exclaiming,—

"An' tell me now, how many men you are going to raise for Texas,—an' shure, I'm ready to fight against the Mexican fellows at any time of the day. When shall we be wanted?"

This mistake of the Irishman was a natural one, and we much fear that he is not the only one in this country who will find the words *Taxes* and *Texas*, to be synonymous terms. They are alike in sound and signification.—*Boston Journal*.

THE GAMBLER'S CLOSE OF LIFE.—The *Church of England Quarterly Review* points a moral deduced from the life of a notorious gambler, known in England as "Riley of Bath," to all persons who may be induced to engage in this unlawful and dishonorable profession. Riley was both accomplished and gifted, and he for a time, lived a life of the most gorgeous luxury and extravagance. He was the company of sovereigns; he squandered with profusion, amounting to necessity, and won it by a good fortune that seemed connected with the supernatural. Nor was he free from generous or daring sentiment. He, on one occasion, risked an entire colossal fortune, on the hazard of the die against a Russian estate, the slaves on which he was desirous of restoring to freedom.—He succeeded in his attempt, and accomplished his desire. Subsequently he ran a brief course of dazzling splendor; he lived in palaces; continued to play; became unlucky, & found fortune, wealth and friends desert him. At length the once possessor of millions was seen wandering through the streets of London, naked, famished and penniless; he who had feasted emperors and fared sumptuously every day, died of absolute starvation in one of the miserable alleys of the great metropolis.

Churning Butter.

Every good house wife knows that at times, for some peculiar causes, much difficulty is experienced in making the cream into butter. A lady writer in the *Indiana Farmer*, recommends the following course in such cases:

I wish to inform my sister butter makers of the means I used, which so successively removed the difficulty. I churned, perhaps three hours to no purpose and then tried to think of something I had read in the *Indiana Farmer*, or some other periodical. I could not remember precisely, but recollected the reason stated was the cream being too sour. I then thought of soda, (pearlash I presume would do as well) and dissolved a large teaspoonful in a pint of warm water, and as I poured it in, churning at the same time, it in a moment gradually formed into a beautiful lump of solid sweet butter.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

Official Despatches from General Taylor, confirming in all important particulars the accounts we have already published of the two recent Battles on the Rio Grande.

We have received at an hour too late for any special remarks upon them, says the *Washington Union*, of Monday night, the official despatches from the War and Navy Departments. We lose no time in laying them before our readers. It will be seen that they confirm substantially the accounts already published.

HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION, }
Point Isabel, Texas, May 7, 1846. }

Sir:—I respectfully report that I shall march this day with the main body of the Army, to open a communication with Major Brown, and throw forward supplies of ordnance and provision. If the enemy oppose my march, in whatever force I shall fight him. Occasional guns are heard in the direction of Matamoros, showing that every thing is right in that quarter.

Yesterday the recruits under Lieutenant McPhail arrived here. After filling up the companies of the permanent garrison, (A. 1st art'y and G. 4th art'y.) the remainder of the detachment, with its officers, was placed under Major Manroe's orders to assist in the defence of the depot. The men are yet too raw to take the field, though efficient for garrison defence. They will be permanently assigned as soon as practicable.

The four companies of the first infantry are hourly expected, and will be a seasonable reinforcement. The first shipment of volunteers from New Orleans may also soon be looked for. Their arrival will enable me to open the river and free our communications.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
Z. TAYLOR,
Brevet Brig' Gen. U. S. A. Com'g.
The Adjutant General of the Army,
Washington, D. C.

HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp at Palo Alto, Texas, May 9, 1846.

Sir:—I have the honor to report that I was met near this place yesterday, on my march from Point Isabel, by the Mexican forces, and after an action of about five hours dislodged them from their position, and encamped upon the field. One light battery, was the arm chiefly engaged, and to the excellent manner in which it was manoeuvred and served is our success mainly due.

The strength of the enemy is believed to have been about six thousand men, with seven pieces of artillery, and eight hundred cavalry. His loss is probably at least one hundred killed. Our strength did not succeed, all told, twenty-three hundred; while our loss was comparatively trifling—four men killed, three officers and thirty-seven men wounded, several of the latter mortally. I regret to say that Major Ringgold, 3d artillery, and Captain Page, 4th infantry, were severely wounded. Lieutenant Luther, 2d artillery, slightly so.

The enemy has fallen back, and it is believed has repassed the river. I have advanced parties now thrown forward in his direction, and shall move the main body immediately.

In the haste of this report, I can only say that the officers and men behaved in the most admirable manner throughout the action. I shall have the pleasure of making a more detailed report when those of the different commanders shall be received.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Z. TAYLOR,
Brevet Brigadier General U. S. A. commanding.
The Adjutant General, U. S. Army,
Washington, D. C.

HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp at Resaca de la Palma,
3 miles from Matamoros,
10 o'clock, P. M., May 9, 1846.

Sir:—I have the honor to report that I marched with the main body of the army at 2 o'clock, today, having previously thrown forward a body of light infantry into the forest, which covers the Matamoros road. When near the spot where I am now encamped, my advance discovered that a ravine crossing the road had been occupied by the enemy with artillery. I immediately ordered a battery of field artillery to sweep the position, flanking and sustaining it by the 3d, 4th, and 5th regiments, deployed as skirmishers to the right and left. A heavy fire of artillery and of musketry was kept up for some time, until finally the enemy's batteries were carried in succession by a squadron of dragoons and the regiments of infantry that were on the ground. He was soon driven from his position, and pursued by a squadron of dragoons, battalion of artillery, 3d infantry, and a light battery, to the river. Our victory has been complete. Eight pieces of artillery, with a great quantity of ammunition, three standards, and some one hundred prisoners, have been taken; among the latter, General La Vega, and several other officers. One General is understood to have been killed. The enemy has recrossed the river, and I am sure will not again molest us on this bank.

The loss of the enemy in killed has been most severe. Our own has been very heavy, and I deeply regret to report that Lieut. Inge, 2d dragoons, Lieut. Cochran, 4th infantry, and Lieut. Chadbourne, 8th infantry, were killed on the field. Lt. Col. Payne, 4th artillery, Lieut. Col. McIntosh, Lt. Dobbins, 3d infantry, Capt. Hoos and Lieut. Fowler, 5th infantry, and Capt. Montgomery, Lieuts. Gates, Selden, McClay, Burbank, and Jordan, 5th infantry were wounded. The extent of our loss in

killed and wounded is not yet ascertained, and is reserved for a more detailed report.

The affair to day may be regarded as a proper supplement to the cannonade of yesterday; and the two taken together, exhibit the coolness and gallantry of our officers and men in the most favorable light. All have done their duty, and done it nobly. It will be my pride, in a more circumstantial report of both actions, to dwell upon particular instances of individual distinction.

It affords me peculiar pleasure to report that the field work opposite Matamoros has sustained itself handsomely during a cannonade and bombardment of 160 hours. But the pleasure is alloyed with profound regret at the loss of its heroic and indomitable commander, Major Brown, who died to-day from the effect of a shell. His loss would be a severe one to the service at any time, but to the army under my orders it is indeed irreparable. One officer and one non-commissioned officer killed and ten men wounded, comprise all the casualties incident to this severe bombardment.

I inadvertently omitted to mention the capture of a large number of pack mules left in the Mexican camp.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Z. TAYLOR,
Bt. Brig' General U. S. A. Com'g.
The Adjutant General of the Army,
Washington, D. C.

HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Resaca de la Palma, May 11, 1846. }

[ORDERS No. 59]

1. The commanding General congratulates the army under his command upon the signal success which has crowned its recent operations against the enemy. The coolness and steadiness of the troops during the action of the 8th, and the brilliant impetuosity with which the enemy's position and artillery were carried on the 9th, have displayed the best qualities of the American soldier. To every officer and soldier of his command, the General publicly returns his thanks for the noble manner in which they have sustained the honor of the service and of the country. While the main body of the army has been thus actively employed, the garrison left opposite Matamoros has rendered no less distinguished service by sustaining a severe cannonade and bombardment for many successive days.—The army and the country, while justly rejoicing in this triumph of our arms, will deplore the loss of many brave officers and men, who fell gallantly in the hour of combat.

General Twiggs will assume command of the corps of the army near Matamoros, including the garrison of the field work. He will occupy the former lines of the army, making such dispositions for defence and for the comfort of his command, as he may deem advisable. He will hold himself strictly on the defensive until the return of the commanding General.

By order of Brig. Gen. Taylor,
W. W. J. BLISS,
Acting Adjutant General.

HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Point Isabel, (Texas), May 12, 1846.

Sir:—I am making a hasty visit to this place, for the purpose of having an interview with Commodore Connor, whose squadron is now at anchor off the harbor, and arranging with him a combined movement up the river. I avail myself of the brief time at my command to report that the main body of the army is now occupying its former position opposite Matamoros. The Mexican forces are almost disorganized, and I shall lose no time in investing Matamoros, and opening the navigation of the river.

I regret to report that Major Ringgold died on the morning of the 11th inst. of the severe wounds received in the action of Palo Alto. With the exception of Capt. Page, whose wound is dangerous, the other wounded officers are doing well. In my report of the second engagement, I accidentally omitted the name of Lieut. Dobbins, 3d infantry, among the officers slightly wounded, and desire that the omission may be supplied in the despatch itself.

I am under the painful necessity of reporting that Lieut. Blake, topographical engineer, after rendering distinguished service in my staff during the affair of the 8th inst., accidentally shot himself with a pistol on the following day, and expired before night.

It has been quite impossible as yet, to furnish detailed reports of our engagements with the enemy, or even accurate returns of the killed and wounded. Our loss is not far from 3 officers and 40 men killed, and 13 officers and 100 men wounded; while that of the enemy has, in all probability, exceeded 300 killed; more than 200 have been buried by us, on the two fields of battle.

I have exchanged a sufficient number of prisoners to recover the command of Capt. Thornton.—The wounded prisoners have been sent to Matamoros—the wounded officers on their parole. General La Vega, and a few other officers have been sent to New Orleans, having declined a parole, and will be reported to Maj. Gen. Gaines. I am not conversant with the usages of war in such cases, and beg that such provision may be made for these prisoners as may be authorized by law. Our own prisoners have been treated with great kindness by the Mexican officers.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
Z. TAYLOR,
Bt. Brig. Gen. U. S. A. Com'g.
The Adjutant General of the Army,
Washington, D. C.

HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Fort Polk, Texas, May 12, 1846.

[ORDERS No. 60.]

As a mark of respect to the Chief Magistrate of the Republic, the work constructed at this place to cover the main depot of the Army, will be known as "Fort Polk."

The commanding general takes this occasion to