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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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The Christian Maiden.

"Away with her—she blasphemes the gods—let her be cast to the lions!"

It was a high day in Carthage. The sun shone with unclouded splendor on the white palaces that glittered along the beautiful bay of the Numidian city. The streets were thronged with the populace in gala dresses, for it was a festival in honor of the gods. Towards the great hall of justice a crowd poured continually, though the avenues leading to it were blocked up; but rumor had gone abroad that a Nazarene maiden was that day to be tried, and the public curiosity was alive to behold her demeanor and hear her fate.

Within the hall there was scarcely room to stir. A dense mass of spectators filled it to suffocation, and it was with difficulty that the officers could keep the crowd from encroaching on the space reserved for the judges. The most intense excitement pervaded the apartment. The audience, as if impatient of control, heaved to and fro, and more than once an ineffectual attempt was made to rush on the prisoner, while ever and anon the shout would rise from the crowd.

"Away with her—she blasphemes the gods—let her be cast to the lions!"

The object of this angry cry was a girl, scarcely yet in her eighteenth summer, and surprisingly beautiful. She stood at the bar with clasped hands and uplifted eyes, her lips moved as if in prayer, apparently regardless alike of the howls of the mob and the angry looks of the judges.

"Wilt thou sacrifice? Again I ask thee, wilt thou sacrifice?" said the praetor sternly; "remember, to refuse is death—the emperor's inexorable."

The maiden convulsively wrung her hands, and a large tear drop started in her eye. A breathless silence ensued. Notwithstanding the cries for blood, the spectators were agitated by many and various emotions. Some were secretly favorable to the new religion, and others pitied the accused on account of her youth and beauty; but at least one-half of the audience were bigoted Pagans and threatened for her death. These being the most brutal, had the ascendancy, as in every popular tumult. But all kept silence now, and with the feelings of suspense which ever attend the crisis of another's fate or our own.

To the maiden, those few moments of silence were crowded with recollections. The events of her whole life rushed past her. She saw once more the pleasant valley where she had spent her childhood. She heard its cool waters, the rustle of its palm trees, the tinkling of its sheep bells on the distant hill. Then other associations rose up before her. She saw herself attacked by angry wild beasts, and saved only by the javelin of a chance traveller, a young Numidian hunter.

The gratitude deepening into love, which ensued; the mutual pledge of fidelity until death; their separation in consequence of his entering the army, and being ordered to the German frontier with his cohort, moved before her like scenes in a magic phantasmagoria. Then came her conversion to Christianity, her secret baptism in an upper chamber, her persecuted and secret life, her arrest and imprisonment, and now this scene! She felt that she stood alone, with no friend or relative to advise; an orphan, poor, and of a despised religion. Oh! if her brave soldier had been there, she knew she would have one reason to lean on in this terrible crisis. But no pitying eye looked on her from the crowd, and no voice rolled betwixt her and her bold lover. Yet though thus deserted, her faith did not forsake her. In earnest prayer she sought strength from heaven, and He who stood by Polyarp among the lions heard her cry. The momentary weakness brought on by her recollection of how many dear ties yet bound her earth, disappeared, and she looked firmly at the judge, her form erect, and her eyes like that of Stephen when he confronted his murderers.

"Wilt thou sacrifice? I ask for the third and last time," demanded the praetor. "Cast into the altar of Jupiter, and thou shalt be saved. Refuse, and thou diest ere high noon."

The spectators bent eagerly forward and held their breath, to catch the maiden's answer.

"I am a believer in Christ," she said calmly. "I can no longer call the Nazarene. I can no longer call him a false god. Do with me as you please."

There was something so meek, yet dignified and courageous in these words, that the mob's fury was in a moment choked in admiration. But their heathen prejudices and thirst for blood soon attained the ascendancy of better feeling. A low sullen murmur ran through the crowd like the half stifled growl of a famished wild beast, which gradually deepened into a shout; and then came exclamations and cries for vengeance.

"Away with her—she blasphemes the gods—let her be cast to the lions!" roared the angry multitude.

"Thou hast chosen thy fate," said the judge, rising. "Away with her to the lions."

The maiden turned deadly pale, but though only a weak woman, she evinced no other signs of horror or fear. When the soldiers approached to seize her, she shuddered for an instant, as if she already felt the fangs of the lion; but immediately this trace of emotion vanished, and she signed for them to lead on. Yet there was still left one mortal feeling in her bosom. As she stepped from the bar she shrouded her face in her veil to conceal it from the gaze of the crowd.

"To the lions with her! Let her be cast to them at once. Hail for the amphitheatre!" shouted the crowd, rushing tumultuously after the condemned maiden, struggling and fighting with each other to get near that they might spit upon the prisoner, and now and then lashing themselves into a fury so great that it was with difficulty the soldiers could keep the mob from tearing her limb from limb. The slight frame of the maiden now shook, perceptibly with terror, for though she had nerved herself to face the lions, her virgin delicacy shrank from being made the victim of a coarse and brutal rabble.

In this manner her conductors struggled through the streets, until in sight of the amphitheatre. Here at the corner of one of the ways, they were met by a vast crowd composed of the lowest mob of the city, who, hearing of the condemnation of a Nazarene, had gathered together ripe for mischief. Led on by some of the vilest of their demagogues, they had resolved to assault the officers who had charge of the prisoner, that they might sacrifice her more summarily than by the lions in the arena.

"Stand back!" said the captain of the guard, unsheathing his sword, as he saw the threatening aspect of the crowd.

"Down with him!" cried one of the rabble, hurling a missile at his head. "Give us the prisoner, or you die with her."

"Close in, men, close in!" shouted the officer, undauntedly. "You pay with your lives for the safety of the prisoner."

The little band gathered in a compact circle round the maiden, and prepared to maintain the unequal contest.

"Down with them all," shouted one of the most prominent of the rioters, "soldiers and prisoners—they are all secretly Nazarenes. Down with them!"

With these words, he headed a rush of the crowd, that bore back the scanty band of the soldiery like feathers that are swept by the gale. Stones and bricks, meanwhile filled the air, and though the soldiers were defended by shields, several were wounded. The prisoner in this onset, would have fallen a victim to the missiles of the mob, but for two of the more humane of the soldiery, who covered her with their bucklers. Thus pushed back by the rabble, the guards retreated against the wall of a neighboring house, and being now covered in the rear, essayed with more hopes of success to make good their stand until succor should arrive from the city legions.

But the fulfillment of this hope was soon apparent. The mob swelled rapidly, extending down the thoroughfares on either hand. The whole city seemed up. There were doubtless among the crowd many who were secretly favorable to the prisoner, and a still greater number who wished not to see her perish, except by a lawful death, but the more violent, if not most numerous, had attained the temporary ascendancy, and the others, uncertain of their power, were afraid to move in her behalf.

More than half of the guard had now fallen; the others were worn out and wounded. The soldiers now began to murmur.

"Why should we die to protect, for an hour or two, the life of a Nazarene?" cried one of them. "Comrades, let us surrender her to the people."

A sullen murmur of assent ran along the scanty ranks, and the mob, hearing the mutinous words, desisted and broke into huzzas. The maiden saw that her hour had come, and sank shuddering to her knees, lifting her agonized eyes to heaven in a last appeal. Suddenly, over the deep roar of the huzzas, rose the trumpet of cavalry, and the pavement seemed to the kneeling girl to rock beneath her, under the tramp of many horsemen. She started to her feet with sudden hope. The shouts of the populace had ceased simultaneously, and now was heard, close at hand, the clatter of hoofs and the shrill sound of the trumpet. Like a flock of sheep awaiting the approach of wolves, stood the late riotous mob; now silent, with black faces and standing agape at the sudden apparition of the horsemen. Down they came, the solid earth

shaking under them; while far in the van, on a barbed horse, rode their leader.

"Disperse, ye knaves!" he cried, in a tone used to command, as he rose haughtily in his stirrups. "Disperse, or we ride you down." And turning to the left, he waved his sword and shouted "Charge!"

The word struck terror into the populace. For one instant they hesitated, but for one instant only. Up the long avenue, to where it turned to the left, they beheld the glittering lines of cavalry advancing at a gallop, each file wheeling around continuously as if count. Less numbers yet remained behind, and at the sight the stoutest hearts gave way. The cry "fly for your lives," rose on every hand, and dashing into the by-streets or rushing headlong down the main thoroughfare, the mob dispersed with the rapidity of magic. By the time the leader of the cavalry had come up, the street was empty.

Throwing his proud steed back on his haunches as he reached the guard, the commander of the cohort addressed his brother officer—

"We were just in time, I see. I heard on landing that there was riot in the city and the cause, and I galloped at once thither. We are to-day come from Italy, and I bring important news. Diocletian is dead, and the persecutions against the Christians are to be stopped. It is well that we came up as we did."

He would have spoken further, but at this instant his attention was arrested by a shriek from the prisoner and the mention of his own name. He turned quickly round, and for the first his eyes fell on the maiden. Quick as lightning he leaped from his horse, flinging the bridle to the nearest bystander, and rushed towards her.

"Julia! Anthony!" were the mutual exclamations of the lovers as they fell into each other's arms; for it was the Numidian hunter, now risen to high rank, who had thus opportunely arrived to rescue his mistress.

Language would be too weak to describe that meeting. In haste the lover ordered the chariot to be brought to Julia, and by his orders she was conveyed to the house of the praetor, whose wife took charge of the orphan girl. The intelligence of Diocletian's death spread with inconceivable rapidity; and those who were favorable to the Christians now spoke boldly out. The great mass of the influential citizens, as usual, sided with the new order of things. The tide of opinion turned, and the mob finding their ascendancy over, suddenly submitted, like wild beasts confined to the limits of their cage and restrained from harm.

The young officer himself soon became a Christian, his conversion to that faith being doubtless attributable to the example and arguments of Julia.

On the pleasant shores of the Numidian bay stand the ruins of a once splendid palace. Tradition says that there lived the Christian maiden and her gallant husband, the hero and heroine of our story.—*National Magazine.*

DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM.—It will be seen by an advertisement in to-day's paper, that the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb will soon be in operation in this city. An appropriation of \$5,000 a year, was made by the last Legislature, for the education of the Deaf, and Dumb, and Blind. The Principal, Mr. Cooke, brings the highest testimonials of qualification and character, and his management of the pupils, and his intercourse with our citizens, will, we dare say, verify a fact that has been asserted in his behalf. No arrangements have yet been made for the education of the Blind—but we trust the people throughout the State will second the liberal and enlightened action of the Legislature, by causing all the unfortunate of the class provided for, to receive the benefits of this Institution, which promises so much good to the community at large. The present arrangements have been made by the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, to whose discretion the appropriation of the above named sum is committed.—*Raleigh Independent.*

IMPORTANT VERDICT.—We learn from the Albany Evening Journal that in the case of Chancery Rider vs. Artemus Houghton, Daniel C. Sherman, Esq. St. John and John Dietz, Jr., tried before the Circuit Court of Albany County on Friday, the Jury returned a verdict against all the defendants of \$10,000; it having been proved that they were present when in 1841 the plaintiff as deputy sheriff was lynched by a company of Indians for attempting to serve a legal process in the town of Bern, and that they did not in any manner discountenance the proceeding. It will be thus seen that the law in such cases makes no distinction between the designing men who are the mere instruments in perpetrating an outrage of this character, and the men who, by their presence, and by a word, a smile or a nod, encourage or countenance the outrage. All are principals, alike guilty, and subject to the same punishment—even of death, if a murder is committed.—*N. Y. Tribune 4th inst.*

A POSE.—The Providence Gazette asks, "If a man gets too lazy to draw his last breath, can he die?"

The Treaty with China.

The Treaty with the United States and China being yet under the seal of confidence, which has been removed from the greater part of the Documents communicated with the Treaty to the Senate, we have selected from those documents for immediate publication the following paper, which, for all practical uses, will be more interesting to our readers than even the Treaty itself, because it gives our Minister's own view of the character and bearing of the Treaty.—*Nat. Int. From Mr. Cushing to the Secretary of State, Macao, July 5, 1844.*

Sir: I have the honor to enclose to you a copy of the treaty of Wang Hiya, as signed on the 3rd inst.

On examining this document, you will find, in the first place, that, in the description of the contracting parties, the language of the stipulations, and the mode of execution, the style of perfect equality between the United States and China has been sedulously observed; and I may add, that this has been carefully attended to in the Chinese as well as in the English duplicate of the treaty.

You will perceive, in the second place, that this treaty contains many provisions which are not embraced either in the English treaty of Nanking, or in the treaty supplementary thereto, which comprehends the tariff and the commercial regulations.

First. The tariff is amended, by the reduction of the duties on some articles of American production, and by fixing, with greater precision, what goods are contraband, or subjects of monopoly.

Thus he might render all commercial privileges nugatory, by prohibiting the exportation of tea and silk, and the importation of cotton or cotton fabrics; or he might obstruct the commerce in these or any other articles, by making them the subjects of close monopoly, as is now the case with salt.

This is guarded against in the Treaty of Wang Hiya, by making the objects of contraband and monopoly a matter of stipulation between the two Governments. And no modifications of the tariff are to be made without the consent of the United States.

Second. By the English treaties, the Consul is security for the payment of duties, and is bound to prosecute for all infractions of the revenue laws of China. This is to transfer to the British Government the office and responsibility of paying duties, which involves much of regulation and of form in the prosecution of trade, which experience has already shown to be inconvenient to the subjects as well as the Government of Great Britain. All this is avoided in the treaty of Wang Hiya, by making the duties payable in cash, which is perfectly acceptable to the merchant and in accordance with the course of business in China.

Third. New provision is made in the simplest manner for the trade, from port to port, in China.

A ship which, having touched at Canton, has there paid tonnage duties, and discharged a part of her cargo, may proceed with the residue to any other port in China, without being subject to the payment of tonnage duty a second time; and goods which have landed, and paid duty at one of the ports of China, may, at any time, be re-exported to any other port of China, without being subject to any further duty. This latter provision is equivalent to a warehousing system for all the coast of China.

Fourth. Due provision is made for the recognition and personal dignity and security of consuls or any other officers whom the Government of the United States may see fit to appoint for the superintendence of our trade in China.

Fifth. In regard to the payment of duties, various provisions are inserted, for the convenience of our commerce, with respect to the mode of payment, and, among others, that merchandise may be landed from time to time, as may be convenient, duty being paid on the articles only when they are landed, and that vessels may, within a limited time depart if they please without breaking bulk.

Sixth. Citizens of the United States are to have all accommodation at each of the five ports, not only as heretofore in the construction of dwelling houses and magazines, but of churches, cemeteries and hospitals.

Seventh. Provision is made for the employment, by Americans, of persons to teach the languages of the empire; and the purchase of books is legalized; it having been the custom heretofore for the Chinese Government to persecute and oppress such of its subjects as either gave instruction or sold books to foreigners in China; which circumstance has been a great obstacle to the study of the languages of China, and the acquisition of the means of satisfactory intercourse with this Government.

Eighth. All Americans in China are to be deemed subject only to the jurisdiction of their own Government both in criminal matters and in questions of civil right.

I shall have occasion hereafter to enter into these subjects somewhat in detail, and to suggest to the President the expediency of recommending to Congress the enactment of laws in this relation, applicable not only to Americans in China, but in Turkey and elsewhere in Asia, where Americans (in com-

mon with Europeans) are in like manner exempt from the jurisdiction of the local Government.

Ninth. Citizens of the United States in China, and appertaining to them, are placed under the special protection of the Chinese Government, which engages to defend them from all insult and injury.

If the Chinese authorities neglect their duty in this respect, they of course become responsible for all consequences, on complaint being made to the Government of the United States.

To part execution of this and other corresponding provisions of the treaty, particular arrangements are in train for the further security of citizens of the United States residing in Canton, of which a report will be made to you in due time.

Tenth. The vessels of the United States are to come and go freely between the ports of China, and those of any other country with which China may happen to be at war, in full security, not only for the ship, but for all descriptions of Merchandise: the neutrality of our flag, and every thing it covers, being especially guaranteed.

Eleventh. Provision is made for the protection and relief of vessels, stranded on the coast of China or driven by any sort of misfortune into whatever port of China; and also for the restitution of property taken by pirates in the area of China.

Twelfth. Equality in correspondence between civil or military and naval officers of the United States and those of China is stipulated, as also the observance of all courtesy and respect in the correspondence between individual citizens of the United States and officers of the Chinese Government.

Thirteenth. No presents are to be demanded of either Government by the other.

The usage among Asiatic States of giving and receiving presents has been the source of great inconvenience to the United States in those cases even where it has been a mere matter of courtesy. But, as the receipt of presents by the Chinese Government has always hitherto been assumed by the latter as an act of tribute to the Government making such presents it seemed to be well more desirable to abolish the practice at once by a provision of the treaty.

Fourteenth. Ships of war of the United States and their commanders are at all times to be courteously received in the ports of China.

It seemed to me that such a provision would secure to our ships of war all such access to the ports of China as may be needed, either for their own relief or for the protection of the merchant ships and citizens of the United States; while it would be inconvenient to go so far as the English have done, and engage to keep a ship of war, at all times in each of the five ports of China.

Fifteenth. Heretofore no Government (except Russia) has held direct communication with the Court of China. At the present even the British Government does not hold correspondence with the Court of Peking. I insisted upon and obtained a provision for communications between the two Governments.

The article of the treaty does not specify to whom communications from the United States shall be addressed, it being left to the discretion of the American Government to elect whom it will address, not excepting the Emperor.

Upon this point I shall make to you a separate communication, with reference as well to its importance as for the purpose of indicating the parties at Court whom it will be most convenient for the Secretary of State to address, when occasion shall arise.

Sixteenth. In regard to opium, which is not directly mentioned in the English treaty, it is provided by the treaty of Wang Hiya, that citizens of the United States engaged in this or any other contraband trade shall receive no protection from the American Government, nor shall the flag of the United States be advantageously employed by other nations as a cover for the violation of the laws of China. Upon this point also, I shall have occasion to address you a separate dispatch.

I have thus, in a brief manner, indicated some of the peculiar provisions of this treaty. Many of them are new and important.

Some of the English newspapers have commented rather beautifully upon the fact that the English arms had opened the ports of China to other nations, and at the same time have, with suppliant ignorance, ridiculed the idea of a mission from the United States to do that which (it was said) had been already wholly done by England.

I ascribe all possible honor to the ability displayed by Sir Henry Pottinger in China, and to the success which attended his negotiations; and I recognize the debt of gratitude which the United States and all other nations owe to England for what she has accomplished in China. From all this much benefit has accrued to the United States.

But, in return, the treaty of Wang Hiya, in the new provisions it makes, confers a great benefit on the commerce of the British empire; for the supplementary English treaty stipulates that any new privileges conceded by China to other nations shall be enjoyed also by the United States.

so by England, and there is a similar provision in the treaty of Wang Hiya; and that, whatever progress either Government makes in opening this vast empire to the influence of foreign commerce, is for the common good of each other and of all Christians.

The details of the treaty are not yet completed, and some incidental questions remain to be arranged.

I shall dispose of these matters as soon as possible, in order to transmit the treaty, and all the correspondence, and various other particulars of the negotiation, in season, if possible, to be laid before the Senate at the opening of the next session of Congress.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,
C. CUSHING.

Hon. John Nelson, Sec.

News From Oregon.

The Western (Mo.) Journal, of the 4th ult., contains some intelligence from Oregon. It is anticipated that there will be a large emigration from Missouri in the month of May ensuing, for the Oregon Territory. Major T. M. Adams is on the spot, acting as agent for the Spring Company; he is ready to furnish information on all points connected with the subject to those who apply to him. Men have returned from Oregon who have given pictures of that country which are anything but favorable.

There is a rumor from the mountains that the Yutes have killed all the traders among them, after having heard of the massacre of their chiefs in Santa Fe, also, that two traders have been killed at Fort Laramie.

The emigrants who went out the past season have made a great change in business, and money now circulates on the Columbia as well as on this side of the mountains; and every thing begins to assume the appearance of civilization, business, trade, and refinement.

Slavery—The Constitutional Question.

We copy the following from the New York American, of Jan. 24, that our readers may learn the manner in which the opponents of the extension of slavery, at the North, entertain the Constitutional Question, and the spirit and manner in which their views are sustained:

The case of Delia Webster, convicted in Kentucky and sentenced to imprisonment for decaying away slaves, has excited no little sympathy at the North, mainly because of the act of the sufferer. Yet crime—if crime there be—knows no gender, and a violation of law by a woman is not less an offence than by a man.

We copy to-day from a Louisville paper the evidence upon which this woman was convicted. Certainly there seems to have been no passionate excitement in the case, no arming of law; and if under what they conceive to be conscientious impulses of duty, men or women will run the hazard of Penitentiaries and state Prisons in the slave states, for a clear and unobjectionable violation of the laws thereof, we cannot perceive that they thereby entitle themselves to the sympathy of just and law-abiding people in the free states.

We have bound ourselves by the Constitution that slavery, within the states where it exists, shall be the concern of those states, and of no others; and if, in despite of this obligation, people will go to the slave states and interfere with slaves unlawfully, they must take the consequences.

We are the more strenuous on this point, because, from the very good faith with which we desire to observe all the clear obligations imposed upon us by the Constitution in the matter of slavery, we derive our strongest argument for resisting the extension of the slave domination and slave representation one title beyond the strict letter of the law. What is written in Scripture, and should be sacredly observed; but, beyond that precise record, not an inch of ground will we ever concede to slavery.

Dean Swift says a woman may knit her stockings, but not her brow; she may dress her hair, but not her eyes; curl her hair, but not her lips; thread her needle, but not the public streets.

SINGULAR DEATH.—The Yarmouth, Mass., Register states, that an infant about four months old, son of Mr. William Peck of that place, was found dead in the cradle, with a large cut belonging to the family on his breast and neck, and which no doctor could find the true and satisfactory event.

An exchange paper says that a lad of fifteen, who smokes about nine cigars, smokes cigars, chews tobacco, drinks wine, or falls in love with a lady much older than himself, is "rotten before he is ripe."

On Friday evening last, a small dog named through the suburbs of our village, and acceded to Mr. McElroy's request, who was one of his own species, which were sent from thence to the residence of E. Green, Esq. (two miles from town) where he was kept and he was killed, after attacking several male. It behoves every one to be upon their guard, as the disease seems to have been spread over a large section of country, and is responsible to some where, which may make its appearance.—*Greenfield Standard, 7th inst.*