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## Dark Memories of Old Andersonville

James Callaway in The Macon Telegraph.

Dr. J. M. Curry, in his Civil History of the Confederate States, says:

"One of the most singular illustrations ever presented of the power of literature to conceal and pervert, to modify and falsify history, to transfer odium from the guilty to the innocent, is found in the fact that the reproach of disunion has slipped from the shoulders of the North to those of the South."

On the prison question also we have permitted the North to transfer the odium of cruelty to prisoners to the South, when the reproach rests upon the North. Nor can it slip from her shoulders the odium of her policy. The facts are slowly coming forth.

When Ben Hill delivered his Andersonville speech in the United States Senate in reply to Blaine, it was thought he had for all time spilled the secret that her magnanimity, her generosity, and misrepresentations against the South concerning treatment of Federal prisoners.

But the war wages on us yet. The G. O. P. objects to a monument to Capt. Wirz.

The raising of battle flags was a generous act, tending towards a "more perfect" union, and it is strange that the State Superintendent of Public Instruction Hon. Alfred Bayliss, of Springfield, Ill., should issue a pamphlet in 1906 holding the South up to scorn for her cruelty to prisoners.

Professing Bayliss used his pamphlet in his public schools. Hence, we should study the prison history of the South, and when investigated the fact is revealed that the South's efforts to release and relieve the prisoners stand forth like high monuments, as testimony to her magnanimity, her generosity, her unceasing humanity.

Let us look into the prison history of the Confederacy.

On July 22, 1862, the cartel was adopted. All prisoners were to be released in ten days after capture. The very day after this act of exchange was signed Maj.-Gen. John Pope, on July 23, 1862, issued orders that allowed his soldiers to shoot as spies and as enemies of the United States government all Virginia farmers who were found tilling the soil or sowing grain or cultivating crops on farms within his rear, and even inside his lines. Hundreds were shot in the field before the Confederate government could arrest such conduct and get Pope's orders rescinded. America in later years, became incensed even to making war on Spain because Gen. Weyler issued similar orders in Cuba. Did Weyler take his cue from Gen. Pope, the illustrious example that he pleased Weyler that he ordered his own walk along the same path?

By persistent effort of our commissioners, the cartel lasted one year. The Confederacy during this time, in the condition of such prisoners as had returned, was intense in her desire for exchange, and the Confederacy was unprepared for the action of Stanton, order No. 209, breaking the cartel. By this order Federal prisoners were not to be exchanged or even paroled. If paroled they were forced back into the Federal army. This order, No. 209, caught the Confederacy unprepared to meet the prison problem. The cemetery at Andersonville was founded on this order. It was like passing sentences upon Federal prisoners for the North knew that the Confederacy was without medicines and doctors and not equipped to care for prisoners. Hence, Mr. Davis and Col. Ould, the commissioner of exchange, put forth every effort to get rescinded order No. 209, and finally succeeded on the largest authority in dealing with Maj. Mulford, United States agent of exchange. Everything was done to emphasize the fact that we were scant of food, of doctors, of medical to hold captives.

It is interesting history to follow the Confederate authorities in their effort to abate prison suffering. Col. Ould, from the day the cartel was disregarded, pleaded for medicines and physicians, offering to pay the Federal cotton for the same. The Federal captives needed these. No replies were made to Commissioner Ould.

In 1864 prisoners increased fearfully at Andersonville, and to care for them became serious. No medicines for sick, no proper food. To relieve the prisoners and acquaint the Lincoln cabinet with prison conditions and the need of exchange and medicines and physicians, a delegation of prisoners were sent to Washington at urgent request of Capt. Wirz. Those Federal soldiers and prisoners went on that mission of mercy and came back and reported "failure." They told the prisoners their own government had abandoned them, and exchange or medicines they would not get from Stanton. This created despondency among the prisoners. It is to be hoped the fate of those who went on that mission was such as should befall heroes and brave men. A monument should be erected to them, thus illustrating the efforts of the Confederacy on the side of humanity.

These heroes met the same answer as Alexander H. Stephens, who was sent on a mission in behalf of the prisoners, authorized by Mr. Davis to plead for exchange, and failing in that to secure medicines and needful supplies for such as were kept in confinement. But Mr. Stephens was not allowed to see Lincoln as he hoped. Mr. Stephens always declared his mission in behalf of the prisoners had not been a failure had he been allowed to see Mr. Lincoln. Stanton stopped him at the "outer guard," to use Mr. Davis' language. Admiral S. P. Lee, U. S. N., commanding the blockade squadrons at Newport News, communicated with the Washington government, stating the object of Mr. Stephens' mission. To quote President Davis' own words: "Your mission is simply one of humanity, and has no political aspect." A most pathetic picture that—the vice president of the Confederacy himself feeble, but the humanity's sake on a rugged tour to Washington to appeal to Lincoln's cabinet to save life!

In the summer of 1864, by order of the Confederate government, Robert Ould offered to pay for medicines and hospital supplies. Also salaries of Federal surgeons, to be paid for in cotton delivered or directed by the Federal government. All in vain. No exchange, no parole, no medicines, no Federal surgeons.

But our seal did not cease here. In the summer of 1864 our government offered to deliver all the sick, wounded, emaciated, 15,000 in all, at Savannah, without exchange, without equivalent, for humanity's sake. Six months lapsing, then in November, 1864, Federal ships came and bore off to Northern homes 13,000 soldiers, and brought us not a single "old man," not one. The death rate was at its highest from May to November, 1864, and Mr. Ould insisted on no delay in accepting "the gift." But what a fatal gift it proved to be! It was the death

story" shackles. Oh, that "fatal gift" of 13,000 sick! After that gift, it was as if sentences of death were passed upon all our prisoners.

Reference has been made to marching the well prisoners to Florida and the refusal of the gunboats to accept them.

But there was a second march to Florida. In the winter of 1865 orders came from Gen. Howell Cobb to take the Andersonville prisoners to Jacksonville, then in possession of the Federal. Capt. John C. Rutherford, the lamented Macon lawyer, had charge. The prisoners were marched in sight of Jacksonville and the order given: "Go to your own quarters, they receive you or not," and our soldiers withdrew, and thus closed Andersonville, except Lieut. Easterlin, of Company B, Third Georgia Reserve, was placed in charge of the sick and feeble at Andersonville, and thence came when the surrender came.

The "fatal gift" and Stanton's conduct during the "retaliatory period" from the arrival of the 13,000 emaciated until the close of the war, was the cause of the refusal of a relief fund, Mr. I. A. Berensford Hope, Member of Parliament, sent over some little of blankets to the thin and Confederate sufferers. Stanton sent them back.

Percy Grey, the English historian, speaking of prison treatment on both sides, says: "But, after all, the Federal prisoners did not die so wantonly as the Confederate prisoners, and the North was without excuse for inflicting cruelty and hardships. If the sick Federals perished for want of medicines and hospital supplies, it was the fault of their own government."

Grey further says: "The Confederate report of starvation for the Confederates was largely, unbolting corn meal, cow peas, sour cane syrup, a little flour and such beef as could be purchased. But there was no discrimination as to rations. The prisoners got what was issued to Confederates. The death rate at Andersonville was 25 per cent, and our men were likewise stricken with diarrhoea, the cause of the greatest number of deaths."

Capt. Wirz, to whom a monument will be erected, had deep sympathy for the prisoners, and sometimes had hot words with Gen. Winder and his supporters. They always replied that they were doing the best they could.

But to the writer it was always queer that parole was not permitted to their own prisoners, and queerer still that medicines were refused, along with surgical and hospital supplies, so patiently pleaded for by Maj. Ould and the Confederate authorities.

Andersonville and Capt. Wirz are in the public eye at this time, because the Georgia Division U. S. C. have undertaken to erect a monument to Capt. Wirz, against which the Grand Army of the Republic has taken action and appealed to Gen. S. D. Lee, to prevent it.

"Not even a Christian burial of the remains of Capt. Wirz has been allowed by Stanton, who still lies side by side with those of another and acknowledged victim of the military commission, the unfortunate Mrs. Surratt, in the party of the former jail of this city." So wrote Louis Shade, atorney for Mrs. Wirz, in 1867.

Capt. Wirz was a physician by profession, and was born in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1822. He emigrated to America in 1849. He served as a private in the battles of Manassas and Bull Run, where he was severely wounded in the arm. He was appointed inspecting officer of the Southern prisons. He was sent to Europe by President Davis, bearing secret dispatches to Mason and Sildell, in January, 1864. He was assigned to duty at Andersonville.

Alexander H. Stephens says in his war history that "The men at the head of affairs at Washington are responsible for all the prison sufferings in the South." "All the sufferings and loss of life during the entire war growing out of the imprisonments on both sides are justly chargeable to but one side, and that is the Federal side. Had Mr. Davis repeated offers been accepted, no prisoner on either side would have been confined in prison."

Mr. Stephens further says: "To avert the indignation which the open avowal of the policy not to exchange prisoners would have excited throughout the North and throughout the civilized world, the false cry of cruelty towards prisoners was raised against the Confederates. This was but a pretext to cover up their own violation of the usages of war in this respect among civilized nations."

Again Mr. Stephens declares in his "War Between the States": "The efforts which have been so industriously made to fix the odium of cruelty and barbarity upon Mr. Davis and other high officials under the Confederate government in the matter of prisoners, in the face of all the facts, constitute one of the boldest and baldest attempted outrages upon the truth of history which has ever been essayed."

Jefferson Davis, writing from Beauvoir December 10, 1888, said: "In the matter of prisoners throughout the war, the Confederacy did less than it would, but the best it could; and in return received the worst which could be meted out to it."

The English government appropriated \$20,000,000 to rebuild the Boer homes destroyed by its armies, but no homes were ever rebuilt in the South. Gen. Lee died "a prisoner on parole." The North should pension all Confederate widows whose husbands died victims to Stanton's policy of non-exchange, for the North refused exchange and allowed no aid, no relief. The odium of this prison business is not ours; the reproach belongs to the North.

## ROOSEVELT THE CHOICE

Rank And File May Force Him To Run, Leaders Say.

Washington Post.

Despite the positive announcement of the President on the night of the election in 1894 that he would not be a candidate for another term, there is a growing conviction in the highest Administration circles that a situation easily may develop which will eventually lead to his renomination by the Republicans at the National Convention next year.

Members of the Cabinet are beginning to entertain this opinion and so are men lower down in the official scale. But it is not restricted entirely to this class, for public men who would prefer to see some one else nominated share it, and are even disposed to predict, with a show of confidence, that the President will be the choice of the Convention.

As a general proposition, the suggestion that Roosevelt would be nominated to succeed himself was scoffed at by leading members of the Administration a few months ago, but to-day it is met with more complacency, and by some it is regarded as almost inevitable. Time alone, of course, may vindicate their judgment.

It is regarded as a foregone conclusion by Republican leaders that Col. William Bryan will be the Democratic nominee next year. That in itself is considered one of the best reasons for the President's renomination, for, in the opinion of these men, it would be vitally essential to Republican success. But they contend there are other potent reasons thereof.

For example, in his message next winter he will renew his recommendation for a graduated inheritance and income tax. He will also repeat his suggestion for Federal regulation of corporations engaged in inter-State traffic of all kinds. He will also insist upon the necessity of further legislation respecting the railroads. It is not to be expected that all these reforms will be effected at the next session of Congress.

Much of the work will be unfinished when the Convention meets, and it is anticipated that in the event the President's hold on the public esteem is not weakened by that time, there will be an irresistible pressure for his renomination. Although the President has declared he would not be a candidate again, it is not to be supposed he would refuse to accept the action of the Convention as decisive and refuse to interpret it as a rebuff from his promise on the night of the last election.

A public man—a Senator, in fact—who expects to have his State endorse the candidacy of one of the men prominently mentioned.

"Although we expect to secure instructions for our favorite son, I really have no expectation that anybody else than Roosevelt will be nominated. Personally I am not what you would call a Roosevelt man. Moreover, I believe that the equivalent of two full terms is enough for any President. Nevertheless, it is impossible for me to close my eyes to a situation which should be obvious to every one who can see things as they are. Of course, the President will keep on insisting that he is not a candidate and will not be, but that will not effect of his repeated disclaimers probably will be to intensify the demand for his renomination."

## MAKES COWBOYS' BOOTS.

Why the Plainsmen Want High and Sharp Pointed Heels.

Kansas City Star.

In Olathe, Kan., there is a factory which makes 20 pairs of "cowboy boots" each week. Each pair of these boots is made to order. The company has a catalogue of all the styles of boots and ranches throughout the Southwest tell the cowboys how to take measurements of their feet. These are sent to the factory and the boots made and sent out.

A "cowboy boot" is in a distinct class by itself. The top is done in leather, and fancy lines and curves sewed into the leather, and above everything else the heel must be at least two inches high, must curve inward from the back and the bottom of the heel must be very small.

A cowboy takes especial pride in two things, his hat and his boots. He often pays \$5 for his hat, and the best of the cowboy boots are \$15 to \$20. The ordinary shoemaker cannot make a boot to suit a true cowboy; he cannot get the heels right. And so the cowboy sends away for them, and pays a big price and express charges besides.

The factory in Olathe employs 50 men. All of them are well-to-do, and some of the shoemakers were brought from Germany and England especially to work in that factory.

Cowboys say they have high and sharp pointed heels to their boots not because of vanity and pride but as a matter of convenience. The high heels prevent the heels from passing through the stirrups and they are also a brace when the ground is rocky and uneven. As the stirrups get away from the cowboy sinks his sharp heels into the soil and this prevents him from slipping.

## Cat Jumped Into Big Wheel.

Toledo Blade.

A cat which has adopted the plant of the Sandusky Foundry and Machine Company as her home, undertook to jump through the flywheel on the engine. The cat got caught in the spokes, was whirled around 80 or 90 times and then through the window.

With eight lives still to her credit, she hoisted her tail and started on a swift run to find another home.

## The Plucky Observer Force.

Danville Register.

The pluck of the editorial and mechanical force of The Charlotte Observer is worthy of record. Yesterday morning while the paper was getting out a fire broke out in the building in the same building, but the very fellows went ahead after a temporary stop and brought out the paper in good time.

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