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MARTYRS OF SOUTHERN FREEDOM.

Written for the Patriot. BY HARRY HALL.

ROBERT HARPER GRAY.

When he graduated, was on "Napoleon at Waterloo..."

Robert Harper was born in the county of Randolph, North Carolina, on the 10th of January, 1831.

His father was a prominent member of the State Society, of which he was a prominent member.

He entered Davidson College, then a flourishing seat of learning under the charge of the President of the State.

In 1858, he changed his mode of living, and his business as an agriculturist, did not content his mind.

His father, who was one of the most prominent men in his county in the beginning of this century, was commissioned a Brigadier in the war of 1812.

He was a man of fine talents, and of a liberal and generous mind, and was distinguished by a clear, vigorous and brilliant mind.

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Hall. His speech at the commencement of 1851, when he graduated, was on "Napoleon at Waterloo..."

Returning to his father's home, Mr. Gray received at his hands a rich and cultivated plantation in Randolph, only a few miles south of the North Carolina Central Railroad, and a sufficiency of servants to keep and till it.

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ed Colonel, Capt Robert H. Gray, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Capt. C. G. Cole, Major. Captain Gray was personally popular not only with his own men but with the officers and privates of the regiment.

His personal courage was not surpassed by any, and he afterward evinced in the camp and on the field extraordinary tact, skill and ability in governing men and in handling his regiment in actions.

Scarcely were the new officers broken into the harness of the war-horse, when the booming of cannon announced the commencement of the terrific and dreadful battles around the Southern capital.

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And exhausted, upon the hard ground to sleep, he had often, in his dreaming, heard the voices of his loved wife and his dear little Alek and, in the bliss of the moment, he, time and again, fancied, that he beheld that other child, as

"It lay upon its mother's breast, a thing bright as a dew-drop when it first descends, or as the plumage of an angel's wing. Where 'ery tint of rainbow beauty blends."

Now, the ecstasy of the dream was to be realized in all the pleasantness of reality. A few days' travel, and the father stood at the threshold where he beheld his three jewels—wife, son and babe!

But his stay was not of long continuance. In sixty days, recruited somewhat, though not by any means well, he hastened to his regiment, which was then returning from the first Maryland campaign and resting on the hills around glorious old Winchester.

From that place they soon fell back to the south bank of the Rappahannock. There they awaited the expected advance of the Yankees. As winter began to blow cold, they came. The battle of Fredericksburg was fought and a splendid victory won by our veteran soldiery. Gray and his men were foremost in the perils of that bloody day, and new chaplets of martial renown wreathed their brows as the sun went down on the heights of that ancient borough.

That was the last scene of conflict, through which Col. Gray was to pass. His weakened constitution, instead of rallying and improving, was continually growing worse and worse. He ought not to have attempted to open that severe season in camp. Had he been in his usual health, the trial would have been perilous for one of his naturally feeble constitution. But he was, nevertheless, all hilarity and cheerfulness; and, in the memory of his associates, those were golden days. He was highly companionable, genial and engaging. He was now more the idol of his men than ever before.

All delighted to gather around him in his tent, or anywhere he might be in the quarters, to listen to his conversation and enjoy his wit. And around the mess-table, one of his fellow-officers tells me, he made himself the most agreeable companion he ever met. Not only his agreeableness impressed them, but his infinite fund of learning amazed them. At almost every meal, to which he sat down, he had some piece of Greek, Latin or English poetry to repeat, which seemed, from his appropriateness, to have been coined for each special occasion. He had a few books with him, but he did not read a great deal. He was often occupied in writing. He composed short stories, and occasional ditties, to amuse himself, and, then, destroyed them. Among his scraps, which he left in his portfolio, a gem of poetry was found, that persuades me he was conscious that he would not live long:

"Weep not for me, let not a tear, Save those of joy alone, Bedew the cheeks of loved ones here When I am dead and gone."

What, though in death, this mortal flesh Is to corruption given, I know that God will raise it up To live with Him in Heaven.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Table with columns for RECEIPTS FROM JAN. 1ST TO SEPT. 30TH, 1863. Includes Treasury notes, War tax, Patent fund, etc.

Table with columns for EXPENDITURES DURING THE SAME PERIOD. Includes War Department, Army, Navy, etc.

Table with columns for BALANCE IN TREASURY. Includes Treasury notes, War Department, Army, Navy, etc.

Table with columns for THE PUBLIC DEBT (EXCLUSIVE OF FOREIGN LOAN). Includes Government bonds, Treasury notes, etc.

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EXECUTIVE ENCROACHMENTS.—Several of the measures and resolutions introduced the present session of Congress bear on their face the conflicting intentions of limiting or extending the Executive authority.

The provisions of the Constitution in the main are plain and clear. A liberal construction,—a little stretching beyond,—is insisted upon on the one side; strict adherence to the letter of restraint is jealously demanded on the other.

The constitution of the Executive Department was infinitely the most difficult part in creating our present government. To give it such power as should make it useful, with such restraints that it should not become dangerous; to make it efficient, independent and strong, yet prevent its subverting everything by its union of military and civil power, by its influence of patronage, office and favor, was not an easy task.

It is in the watchfulness of Executive power and the preservation of every restraint and guard which the Constitution has provided that our security lies. Good motives should always be supposed to exist, till the reverse is ascertained. Good intentions may be the pretence, but the objects of their existence, cannot justify it.

To guard against the dangers of good intentions, real or pretended, is the aim of the Constitution. Yet still claims—so fair, so plausible, and patriotic, whose object is alone the public good, meet with unresisting compliance? The extension of Executive authority finds no advocate in the list of champions of human freedom.

Their uniform and steady purpose has been to limit and restrain it. Popular and representative right have ever been at war against prerogative. Its contest for ages has been to rescue liberty from the grasp of Executive power. All that could be gained from the imprudence, the weakness, the necessities of this power has been gathered and hoarded as the very jewels of liberty.

Let us not disregard constitutional restraints for pretences of public safety or high public interest. Limitations and qualifications of authority, and the just divisions of political power, are the very essence of republican institutions. The separation of departments as far as practicable, and the preservation of clear lines of division between them, is the fundamental idea of our Constitution.

Shall we attempt now to simplify the necessary complications of our government which establishes restraints on the government as well as governed? Where will it stop? Shall it be in the arbitrary rule of the Executive? The simplest governments are despots.

Under this caption the New York Daily News publishes the following answer to an article in the Tribune: "The Tribune with ill-timed factiousness adopts the jocular vein in alluding to the misery and destitution supposed to prevail throughout the South."

There is, doubtless, already a very general...