

To Our Patrons

With this issue of the COURIER ends the 3rd volume. During the past year we have missed one issue. We have not regularly each week to our subscribers, the COURIER. Our whole aim has been to give our patrons a paper worthy of their patronage; we have worked hard, and although a crushing financial panic has swept like a withering sirocco over our whole country, threatening in its cause to submerge all—the COURIER has weathered the storm, and each week it has gone forth to hundreds of homes, filled with reading for all; and now in this the commencement of a new year, we enter upon it with renewed energy and determination to do in the future as we have in the past, our very best to make the COURIER a paper that the people of Franklin will be proud of. Already with this the last issue of this volume, a marked improvement may be observed both in the make up of the paper, and the matter.

We have been cramped in the past by our home subscribers. (The very last ones of whom this complaint should be made) by not paying their subscription, and in the future we must in justice to ourselves, and to those who pay us promptly, demand payment in advance from all. We could give you a much better paper, if so much of our time was not taken up in trying to collect what is owing us. Therefore we hope no one will ask us to send them the COURIER without paying the subscription price in advance, as it will be unpleasant for us to refuse, and unpleasant to the applicant to be refused. We begin the 4th volume with kind feelings for all, and particularly for those who have promptly paid their subscription, and ask that all who receive their paper with a cross mark on it, to remember that their subscription has expired, and to come forward and renew without delay. Again thanking our friends for their kindness in the past, we start out on our new year work.

On Tuesday the 13th Inst., elections were held in the States of Ohio, Indiana, West Virginia, Nebraska, Iowa and Arkansas. In Ohio the Democrats elected thirteen members of Congress and the Republicans elected seven, and carried the State on the Congressional majority by some 26,000—electing the State ticket by 18,000 majority.

In Indiana the Democrats elect eight members of Congress and the Republicans elect five; the Democratic State ticket succeeding by some fifteen thousand majority. In West Virginia the Democrats elect three members of Congress, this being the entire delegation from that State. In Arkansas the new Constitution is carried by some 75,000 majority, and the Democratic State ticket by the same. Nebraska gives 10,000 Republican majority and elects a Republican to Congress. The State only has one representative. The Republicans carry Iowa by between 30,000 and 40,000 majority, and elect eight of the nine members of Congress. The Democrats gain in Indiana, five members of Congress; in Ohio seven, and one in Iowa, and one or two in West Virginia.

The following table shows how the States will be represented in the next Congress that have voted thus far:

	Dem.	Reps.
Maine,	—	5
Vermont,	—	3
North Carolina,	7	7
Ohio,	13	7
Indiana,	8	5
Iowa,	1	8
Oregon,	1	—
West Virginia,	3	—
Nebraska,	33	30
Dem. majority,	3	

It will thus be seen that so far as elections have been held the Democrats have a majority of three members. If this ratio is kept up in the elections yet to be held, for which we have strong reasons to hope, the Democrats will have a good easy working majority in the next House of Representatives of the United States. In this there is abundant and strong grounds to inspire hope and confidence in the heart of the patriotic American citizen. It shows that however far the people of the country may be led from the principles that animated our ancestors, yet there is a point beyond which they will not venture, and when a party attempts to encroach upon the blood bought liberties of our citizens and to go again before the people, the men who have had

the temerity to encroach upon these principles are rebuked in such a manner as to make the event of the rebuke a prominent era in the annals of the Republic. The Alien and Sedition laws enacted during the administration of the Elder Adams, were the cause of his overwhelming defeat for a second term. The same thing has been endeavored to be carried out in this administration in the press gag laws and other odious and tyrannical measures. The people of the country have borne these things as long as they can, and we behold the sequel in almost fabulous Democratic majorities in localities that have hitherto been overwhelmingly Republican.

On the 31 of November the great States of New York, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Alabama and many others vote. Our friends in New York are not only sanguine, but they are buoyant with high hopes of an overwhelming defeat of the cormorants and tyrants of the Grant administration. We hope for the best from all of these States.

A Beautiful Story.

Extract from a speech of Gen. Cullin A Battle, at Tusculumb.

During the winter of 1863-'64 it was my fortune to be President of one of the courts-martial of the Army of Northern Virginia. One bleak December morning, while the snow covered the ground and the winds howled around the camp, I left my bivouac to attend the session of the court. Winding for miles along uncertain paths, at length arrived at the court ground at Round Oak Church. Day after day it had been our duty to try the gallant soldiers of that army, charged with violations of military law; but never had I, on any previous occasion, been greeted by such anxious spectators as on that morning awaited the opening of the court. Case after case was disposed of, and at length the case of "The Confederate States vs. Edward Cooper" was called—charge, desertion. A low murmur rose spontaneously from the battle-scarred spectators as a young artilleryman rose from the prisoner's bench, and in response to the question "Guilty or not guilty?" answered, "Not Guilty."

The Judge Advocate was proceeding to open the prosecution when the Court, observing that the prisoner was unattended by counsel, interposed and enquired of the accused, "Who is your counsel?" He replied, "I have no counsel." Supposing that it was his purpose to represent himself before the court, the Judge Advocate was instructed to proceed. Every charge and specification against the prisoner was sustained. The prisoner was then told to introduce his witnesses. He replied, "I have no witnesses." Astonished at the calmness with which he seemed to be submitting to what he regarded as inevitable fate, I said to him, "Have you no defence? Is it possible that you abandoned your comrades and deserted your colors in the presence of the enemy without any reason?" He replied, "There was a reason, but it will not avail me before a military court." I said: "Perhaps you are mistaken; you are charged with the highest crime known to military law, and it is your duty to make known the causes that influenced your action."

For the first time his manly form trembled and his blue eyes swam in tears. Approaching the President of the court he presented a letter, saying as he did so, "There General, is what did it." I opened the letter, and in a moment my eyes filled with tears. It was passed from one to another of the court, until all had seen it, and those stern warriors who had passed with Stonewall Jackson through a hundred battles wept like little children. Soon as I sufficiently recovered my self-possession, I read the letter as the defence of the prisoner. It was in these words: "My DEAR EDWARD: I have always been proud of you and since your connection with the Confederate army I have been prouder of you than ever before. I would not have you do anything wrong for the world; but before God, Edward, unless you come home we must die! Last night I was aroused by little Eddie's crying, I called and said, 'What the matter, Eddie?' and he said, 'Oh, mama, I'm so hungry!' And Lucy, Edward, your darling Lucy, she never complains, but she is growing thinner and thinner every day. And, before God, Edward, unless you come home we must die.

YOUR MARY. Turning to the prisoner, I asked, "What did you do when you received this letter?" He replied, "I made application for furlough and it was rejected; again I made application and it was rejected; a third time I made application and it was rejected, and that night as I wandered backward and forward in the camp, thinking of my home, with the mild eyes of Lucy looking up to me, and the burning words of Mary sinking in my brain, I was no longer the Confederate soldier, but I was the father of Lucy, and the husband of

Mary, and I would have passed those lines if every gun in the battery had fired upon me! I went to my home. Mary ran out to meet me, her angel arms embraced me; and she whispered, 'Oh! Edward, I am so happy! I am so glad you got your furlough!' She must have felt me shudder, for she turned pale as death, and catching her breath at every word, she said, 'have you come without your furlough? Oh! Edward, Edward, go back! go back! Let me and my children go down together to the grave, but O, for Heaven's sake, save the honor of our name!' And here I am, gentlemen, not brought here by military power, but in obedience to the command of Mary, to abide the sentence of your court."

Every officer of that court martial felt the force of the prisoner's words. Before them stood, in beautiful vision, the eloquent pleader for a husband's and a father's wrong; but they had been trained by their great leader, Robert E. Lee, to tread the path of duty, though the lightning's flash scorched the ground beneath their feet, and each in his turn pronounced the verdict, "Guilty!" Fortunately, for humanity, fortunately for the Confederacy, the proceedings of the court were reviewed by the Commanding General, and upon the record was written:

Headquarters, A. N. V. The finding of the court is approved. The prisoner is pardoned, and will report to his company. R. E. LEE, General.

During the second battle of Cold Harbor, when shot and shell were falling like torrens from the mountain cloud, my attention was directed to the fact that one of our batteries was being silenced by the concentrated fire of the enemy. When I reached the battery, every gun but one had been dismantled, and by it stood a solitary Confederate soldier, with the blood streaming from his side. As he recognized me, he elevated his voice above the roar of the battle and said: "General, I have one shot left; tell me have I saved the honor of Mary and Lucy?" I raised my hat. Once more a Confederate shell crashed through the ranks of the enemy, and the hero sank by his gun to rise no more.

Heaven knows, my countrymen, I loved that cause, but this, in which we are now engaged is no less sacred. We will do our whole duty in this campaign, and if need be, in the moment of death, fire the last shot in our battery for the honor of Mary and Lucy.

[New York Sun.] WHO COOK UP SOUTHERN OUTRAGES.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The Attorney General employed six weeks ago two consummate villain named Hester and Bishop and sent them into Sumter county, Ala., for the purpose of inciting ignorant and vicious men to violence against the negroes. These two scoundrels came into Alabama from the city of North Carolina, disguised as mountaineers, and having with them wigs, kyan and tobacco which they retailed to negroes and poor whites. They talked loudly about what the whites ought to do with the negroes, what they would do if they had a chance, and in this manner sought to elicit expressions of disloyalty from those they had a right to lead. They told the white people of plots to murder them, which they pretended they had heard negroes talking about while they were looking about their shop, and urged the organization of white Leagues and Ku Klux Klans as offices to the negro race. In one or two instances they pretended to know that negroes were assembled in particular localities, and offered to lead the whites to the spot and make short work of the black villains; but they never succeeded in leading even a drunken man into any given parts of this sort. The utmost that they succeeded in doing was, as they allege, to worm out of some negroes the fact that they had been parties to the murder of Billings; that they had overheard the whites plotting it, and had not told for fear. These negroes gave the names of certain whites as the parties who were concerned in the murder, and then in a boastful way to Mobile and obtained warrants for the arrest of the men denounced.

The evidence against these men would warrant a United States Commissioner in holding them one month, yet he commits them and releases them; and now the news is received here this evening that fourteen men, innocent men have been arrested on the affidavits of Bishop and Hester, and doubtless arrest will continue until enough whites are locked up to ensure the election of Charles Anastos Hays to Congress. Hester is one of the fellows who was in Ku Klux trials in North and South Carolina to convict innocent men. He was an applicant for the position of Chief of the Service of the Treasury Department and failing to get it came into THE SUN office to complain of the treatment he had received at the hands of the men he had served. He acknowledged to your correspondent that he was heartily sorry for the part he had played in the Ku Klux business, and declared that many of the persons who had been convicted and sent to the penitentiary were

innocent of any intent to do wrong, having been led astray by designing men. He said that he would never again have anything to do with this sort of business. But it is quite evident that his necessities were such that he was only too glad to take Louisiana Williams' blood money and go down in Alabama to begin anew the work of scattering away the lives and liberties of people in order that the men who had betrayed the country might thereby make political capital for their party in the North. Bishop was one of the bizzarroni who went down from New York to assist Hester and other scoundrels in carrying the election in North Carolina in 1872. It is a fellow whose evidence would not be sufficient to convict a chick noid in a respectable court.



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