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THE NEWS.

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CASE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS IN CONGRESS.

THE REPORT ON THE SUBJECT.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the resolutions of the House of Representatives of April 9th and 30th, 1866, instructing the committee to inquire into the nature of the evidence implicating Jefferson Davis and others in the assassination of President Lincoln, and also whether any legislation is necessary in order to bring such persons to a speedy and impartial trial, if it should appear that there was probable cause to believe that said persons, or any of them, are guilty of inciting, concerting or procuring the assassination of the late President of the United States, and also whether any legislation is necessary in order to bring said persons to a speedy and impartial trial for the crime of treason, submitted a report to the House yesterday. The report is very long, and contains a number of letters and documents belonging to the official records of the late Confederacy, now in possession of the War Department, relating to what was termed the "secret service" of the Confederacy.

With regard to the trial of Mr. Davis, the committee are of the opinion that there are no obstacles to a speedy and impartial trial which can not be removed by legislation. The evidence in possession of the committee connecting Jeff. Davis with the assassination of Abe Lincoln, justifies the committee in saying that there is *probable* cause to believe that he was privy to the measures which led to the commission of the deed, but the investigations which have been made by the War Department and by the committee, have not resulted in placing the government in possession of all the facts in the case. The committee are of the opinion that a further investigation will result in a full development of the whole transaction. The examination of the captured rebel archives, though not complete, has gone far enough to throw light upon the general policy of the rebel authorities, which in many particulars involved a total disregard of international law, and of the usages of civilized war.

The committee in this connection give a detailed history of the course pursued by the Confederate Government towards slaves found in the ranks of the Union army. Most of this is taken from the published orders of the Confederate States War Department. In summing up this part of the report the committee says: "The declarations made and the acts done in pursuance of the declarations are conclusive proofs of the brutal and malignant feelings by which the leaders of the rebellion were controlled, and rendered it not only possible, but probable that they would at once engage in projects for the destruction of the chief men of the Republic."

A considerable portion of the report of the committee is devoted to the evidence in the case of C. C. Clay, Jr. Clay's letter to President Johnson, dated November 23d, 1865, is quoted, wherein he denies having been in Canada at the time of the assassination. This the committee says is shown to be a falsehood, according to evidence before them. They say the falsity of the statement goes far to show that he has some reason for attempting to conceal the fact as to the time when he left Canada; and inasmuch as the statement was made in orde to relieve him from the charge contained in the President's proclamation, it has a s rong tendency to connect him with complicity in the deed. A number of letters are produced to show that Clay was in Canada at the time, and also that he was the originator of the various raids on the northern border of the United States. The first allusion in point of time made to the presenoe of Cluy in the South, among all the papers in possession of the Government yet examiued, is a letter dated at Richmond, March 8th, 1865, and written by H. L. Clay to C. C. Clay Jr. The statement of Clay that he has never known any of the persons accesed and convicted of participating in the assassination of President Lincoln is shown to be falseby the evidence defore the committee. Clay while in Canada, acted under the following commission:

RICHMOND, Va., April 21, 1864.

Hon. C. C. Clay, Jr., &c.:

Sir—Confiding special trust in your zeal, discretion and patriotism, I hereby direct you to proceed at once to Canada, there to carry out such instructions as you have received from me verbally, in such manner as shall seem most likely to conduce to the furtherance of the interest of the Confederate States of America, which have been entrusted to you.

Very respectfully and truly yours,
JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The committee says it is well established by letter and documents derived from Confederate sources, that Clay, under this commission, was instrumental in organizing and executing, with more or less success, the raids upon the cities and towns along the border, the [illegible] for introduction of pestilence, the organization of conspiracies to liberate the prisoners confined in Camp Douglas, Chicago, to destroy our commerce on the rivers, lakes and ocean, and finally to thwart and overthrow our Government by inciting a new rebellion in the North.

It is also ascertained that Jacob Thompson, Beverly Tucker, George N. Sanders, W. C. Cleary, Bennett H. Young and R. J. Stewart were all employed in Canada as secret agents for the Confederate authorities.

In proof of this, the committee produces a large number of letters, orders and dispatches which passed between these men and the officers of the Confederate Government at Richmond, showing that they were acting directly under its authority, and that they received orders to make the raids and other offensive demonstrations on the northern border of the U. S.

Testimony taken at the trial of the assassins, together with that taken by the committee, justifies them in the inference that the murder of President Lincoln was procured by the use of money furnished by the C. S. Government. The remarks said to have been made by Mr. Davis, on the receipt of the intelligence of the death of President Lincoln is in harmony with the conversation of his agents, Thompson, Tucker, and others, as given by Richard Montgomery, a witness who was before the committee, and also a witness in the trial of the conspirators.

Thompson told Montgomery, in 1864, that he could have the tyrant Lincoln put out of the way at any time. He said he had his friends all over the Northern States, and it required but the nod of his head to have them do anything he wanted done. Clay is said to have talked in a similar vein of the assassination of Lincoln. The committee says there is substantial harmony between the evidence furnished by the official documents found in the hands of the C. S. authorities and the testimony of the various witnesses brought before the committee as to the participation of Messrs. Davis, Thompson, Clay, Cleary and others, in the scheme for the assassination of the President.

With reference to the testimony in possession of the bureau of military justice, taken by Judge Holt, and on which President Johnson based his proclamation, the committee make the following statement: "When the committee entered upon this investigation in April last, the evidence in the War Department, if accepted as true was conclusive as to the guilt of Jefferson Davis. The Judge Advocate General had taken the affidavits of several persons who professed to have been in the service of the C. S. Government, and who had been present at an interview between Messrs. Davis, Suratt and Benjamin.

"Those affidavits were taken by the Judge Advocate Gen'l in good faith, and in the full belief that the persons making them were stating that only which was true. The statements made by these witnesses harmonize in every important particular with facts derived from documents and other trustworthy sources. The committee, however, thought it wise to see and examine some of the persons whose affidavits had been taken by Judge Holt. Several of the witnesses, when brought before the committee, retracted entirely the statements which they had made in the affidavits, and declared that their testimony, as given originally, was false in every particular. They failed, however, to state to the committee any inducement or consideration which seemed to the committee a reasonable explanation for the course they have pursued. The committee are therefore not at this time able to say, as to the result of their investigation, whether the original statements of these witnesses are true or false. But the retraction made by some of them deprives them of all claim to credit, and their statements so far impeach or throw doubt upon the evidence given by other witnesses whose affidavits were taken by Judge Holt, that the committee in the investigation which they have made, and in this report, have disregarded entirely the testimony of all these persons whose standing has been so impeached. On the other hand the committee have relied very largely upon documents found in the C. S. archives, and have introduced only the testimony of these persons whose reputation for truth and veracity has not been impeached by any of the investigations that have been made. Nor has it been the purpose of the committee to draw unnatural or forced inferences from the trustworthy testimony which they have examined, but rather to present a truthful statement of facts."

PARISIAN FASHIONS IN NEW YORK.

To say that New York is Paris in miniature is to say that it is very gay, that its women are well dressed, that there is plenty of out-door amusement and very little real happiness.

This is what is beginning to be said of New York, and in a measure it is true. There are a great many traveled people in New York now who wish to be extremely Parisian. There are three times the number of wealthy people there were five years ago; whole additional neighborhoods of fine houses, notwithstanding that building has been slow, and six times the number of thorough-bred horses and stylish vehicles of every description, from the knowing dog cart to the fancy wagonette.

On fine afternoons, Fifth avenue, from Fourteenth street to the Central Park gates, is crowded with these elegant equipages, while the Central Park itself, alive with brilliant turn-outs and richly-dressed women, rivals Rotten Row, or even the Bois de Boulogne.

The fashionable restaurants—Delmonico's and Maison Dore—are no longer visited principally by men, or even by men accompanied by ladies. Ladies themselves go alone, singly or in couples, order their *petite* dainty, and finish up with ice cream and strawberries, a cup of coffee or a bottle of wine, and pay their own bill—not a small one—with all the nonchalance in the world. Between one and four o'clock, fully as many ladies will be found in either of the places above mentioned as gentlemen, and their quiet, assured, "at home" air, shows that they are used to it.

Moreover it is getting to be very fashionable for a lady to invite a party of her friends to dinner, or, as it is styled, to "lunch" at her favorite Restauranteur's. The number rarely exceeds six, including the hostess, and gentlemen are rigidly excluded. The costliness of these feminine banquets may be imagined, but the edibles are not by any means confined to essences, ice cream, and syllabubs—the food which poets consider the best adapted to lovely women—on the contrary, plump partridges and spring chickens are discussed, it is said, with great relish, and an intense appreciation shown of the excellence of the cookery.

But in spite of all this apparent pleasure, foreign airs graft very ill on American habits and manners. The women take to it easier than the men. Married women, three-fourts of them, seem to consider it the height of happiness to "board" in a great wilderness of a hotel, or boarding house; spend two hours every morning dressing and frizzling their hair, and the rest of the day promenading, shopping and taking "lunch" at Delmonico's, or ices at Parkinson's. By the way, Parkinson is a Philadelphia man; he has just paid forty-five thousand dollars for a three years' lease of a new building on Broadway, near Amity street.

The married men have to succumb to the prevailing fashion, but they generally do it under protest. Somehow, they think of a wife as of their mother, in connection with a house, and care, and affectation, and housewifery duty, and they feel a sense of disappointment in being thrown back again upon boarding house life and the clubs.

Then the American is essentially a money making race, and life does not go as easy with them as it does with the Parisians. They are full of cares and anxieties, and they want the gentle influence of home, wife and children to counteract the exciting and demoralizing tendencies of the outside world. Deprived of them they become careless, indifferent to family and social obligations, frequently hard drinkers, or involved in a hundred wild political or financial speculations.

The dress of woman keeps pace with the luxury which is to be seen everywhere. It is amazing where all the money comes from to support so much extravagance. Coming down the steps of a large establishment the other day, was a lady dressed in a rich mauve silk, with a shining ribbed surface like satin. A large and magnificent lace mantle enveloped her entire person; a little cap, or what they call a bonnet, of blue crape, was perched on the top of her head, and festooned about it were strings of pearl beads, which descended in three large rows, upon her bosom.

The theory that ozone and ontozone are two opposite electrical states of oxygen, and that ordinary oxygen is composed of the two opponents balancing each other, has led to the theory that all matter is in this condition, and several important observations have been made which go to sustain the view.

Among the Emperor's improvements in Paris is the leveling of the Hill of the Troaders. The ground is mined, and four mines are sprung at once by an electrical battery. About two acres are raised at each explosion, and cars are ready on a temporary railway to carry off the earth thus loosened.

The force of the explosion of gunpowder is greatly increased when the powder is previously heated nearly to its point of decomposition. This may partially account for the bursting of guns after long firing.

From the New York Herald.

THE LATE CONGRESS.

THE INFAMOUS AND UNBLUSHING CORRUPTION OF THE PRESENT CONGRESS.

"The Congressmen assembled at Washington afford us a new and brilliant illustration of the old adage, that whom the gods would destroy they first make mad. The vote by which these madmen increased their salaries from three thousand dollars a year caps the climax of unblushing corruption. The force of total depravity can no further go. This vote shows that the present Congress is lost to all sense of shame and all considerations of decency. The members of the Senate did not dare to put themselves upon the record by the yeas and nays; but that was merely a matter of partisan precaution. As they have suppressed all evidence to the contrary, we are bound to believe that all who were present voted for this infamous resolution, which not only raises the salaries of members of Congress for the future, but has a retrospective bearing, and gives them five thousand instead of three thousand dollars for the session about to close.

History may be searched in vain for a parallel to the corruption, extravagance, robbery and profligacy of this Congress. It is a vast job or aggregation of jobs. It is controlled by jobbers, and every measure that it passes is more or less a job.

In many countries such proceedings as those of the present Congress would be followed by an armed revolution. Here it will cause a revolution also, but in a different way. At the fall elections there will be an uprising of the people that will overwhelm these public plunderers and supply their places with honest men. The political events since the war have fully aroused the masses, and the iniquities of this Congress will be the issues at the elections. Nothing can save these Congressmen or the party which upholds them. They must meet their constituents face to face at the polls and receive the popular judgment upon their transgressions. Then let them explain their jobs and their profligacy, if they can. No loud talk about Copperheads and sustaining the war will save them now. They will no longer be able to divert public attention from their corruption by shouting themselves hoarse with denouncing traitors and hypocritically praising the patriotic soldiers, in whose company they are not worthy to exist. They must face the issues which they have themselves created. Elected as union men, they have proved to be the worst disunionists; pledged to economy and reform, they have indulged in the most licentious extravagance. At last, apparently quite desperate of consequences, they vote themselves higher pay, and they decree that this increased salary shall be paid to them from the commencement of the session that has been passed in concocting a series of the most flagrant jobs that have ever disgraced our history. We call upon the people not only to take care of these Congressmen at the coming elections, but to watch how they spend their ill-gotten gains in after-life. They are the grand jobbers of the country. We cannot compare them to any former corruptionists; for they have stolen millions where others have been satisfied with a few thousands. They are not like Judas Iscariot; for he sold himself too cheaply in the estimation of these worthies. But their names will be remembered like that of Benedict Arnold, who also sacrificed his country for his love of lucre; and their children and their children's children will be ashamed to say that their ancestors belonged to the infamous Thirty-ninth Congress."

THE WORLD'S KILLED IN BATTLE.—It has been customary since the close of the war to style it the bloodiest one in the history of the world; but the following paragraphs, clipped from our exchanges, may astound those who are not familiar with history:

At the taking of Jerusalem, by Titus, 1,000,000 Jews died by slaughter and famine.

Marius, in one slaughter of the Teutons, near Aix, left 20,000.

Cassius at one time slaughtered thirty-seven thousand inhabitants of Selencio.

Probus put to death seven hundred thousand Gauls, upon reducing their country.

Belisarius once had to kill three hundred thousand people to stop a revolt in the city of Constantinople.

The Jews of Antioch got mad at one time and killed over one hundred thousand of the other inhabitants.

At the three days' battle of Chalons over one hundred thousand Huns were killed, with proportionate numbers of the Gauls and their allies.

Gibbon estimates that in the various crusades five millions of Europeans lost their lives.

HAVE COURAGE.—Have the courage to obey your Maker, at the risk of being ridiculed by man.

Have the courage to prefer comfort and propriety to fashion, in all things.

Have the courage to acknowledge your ignorance, rather than to seek credit for knowledge under false pretences.

Have the courage to provide entertainment for your friends, within your means—not beyond.

Have the courage to tell a man why you will not lend him your money.

HOW HE TURNED IT OFF.—The N. York *Leader* thus relates an exploit of Mr. Hind, the actor:

He was playing in a piece, somewhere out West, where a brigand, confined in prison, files off his fetters with a tool supplied him by an accomplice; climbs to the top of a wall, gets one leg over, and is then shot by three dreadful soldiers, who rush in just when his escape seems certain.

This scene is very exciting. As the brigand works at his fetters the audience begin to sympathize with him, and when he gets them off and painfully mounts the wall, they think it a pity that he should not secure his liberty when he has so nearly attained it.

One night Hind was appearing, as I said, in this part. He filed his fetters to slow music. He climbed the wall. He threw one leg over it. Then he waited for the soldiers to shoot him, as any respectable brigand would have done under the circumstances.

The soldiers rushed out, aimed their muskets at the ceiling, as soldiers usually do, and pulled the triggers, but the guns would not fire.

Hind sat patiently until the prompter had supplied the soldiers with another set of guns. But it was of no use. The guns would not shoot. A third set were procured, but with no better result. The prompter's boy had neglected to load the muskets.

Hind, like our Adams, decided that something must be done. Paying no further attention to the soldiers, he stiffened himself, fell heavily from the wall, rolled over to the foot-lights, raised himself upon his elbow, stared at the audience, choked a little and exclaimed: "Good heavens! I have swallowed the file!"

After this sublime exclamation all that remained for him to do was to give the usual kicks and lurches, die in the good old legitimate style, and so end the piece and receive the congratulations of his friends.

I never look at Hind without thinking of this story. It ought to have made him immortal. An actor who could furnish such a finale is capable of anything.

Miss McLush rarely walks. When she does, it is with the deliberate majesty of a Dido. Her small, plump feet melt to the ground like snow-flakes, and her figure sways to the indolent motion of her limbs with a glorious grace and yieldingness quite indescribable. She was idling slowly up the Mall one evening just at twilight, with a servant at a short distance behind her, who, to while away the time between his steps, was employing himself in throwing stones at the cows feeding upon the Common. A gentleman, with a natural admiration for her splendid person, addressed her. He might have done a more eccentric thing. Without troubling herself to look at him, she turned to her servant and requested him, with a yawn of desperate *ennui*, to knock that fellow down! John obeyed his orders; and, as his mistress resumed her lounge, picked up a newhandful of pebbles, and tossing one at the cow, loitered lazily after.

Such supreme indolence was irresistible. I gave in—I—who could never before summon energy to sigh—I—to whom a declaration was but a synonym for perspiration—I—who ever thought of love as a nervous complaint, and of women to pray for a good deliverance—I—yes—I—knocked under. Albina McLush! Thou wert too exquisitely lazy. Human sensibilities cannot hold out forever!

I found her one morning sitting at twelve, with her eyes wide open. She was just from the bath, and her complexion had a soft, dewy transparency, like the cheek of Venus rising from the sea. It was the hour, Lurly had told me, when she would be at the trouble of thinking. She put away, with her dimpled forefinger, as I entered, a cluster of rich curls that had fallen over her face, and nodded to me like a water-lily swaying to the wind when its cup is full of rain.

"Lady Albina," said I, in my softest tone, "how are you?"

"Bettina," said she addressing her maid, in a voice as clouded and rich as a southwind on an Æolian, "how am I to-day?"

The conversation fell into short sentences. The dialogue became a monologue. I entered upon my declaration. With the assistance of Bettina, who supplied her mistress with cologne, I kept her attention alive through the incipient circumstances. Sympathies were soon told. I came to the avowal. Her hand lay reposing on the arm of the sofa, half buried in a muslin *foulard*; I took it up and pressed the cool soft fingers to my lips—unforbidden. I rose and looked into her eyes for confirmation. Delicious creature! she was asleep!

I never have had courage to renew the subject. Miss McLush seems to have forgotten it altogether. Upon reflection, too, I'm convinced she would not survive the excitement of the ceremony—unless, indeed, she should sleep between the responses and the prayer. I am still devoted, however, and if there should come a war or an earthquake, or if the millennium should commence, or if any thing happens that can keep her waking so long, I shall deliver a declaration, abbreviated for me by a scholar-friend of mine, which, he warrants, may be articulated in fifteen minutes—without fatigue.

Ice is worth two pence a pound in London and other large cities in England.

ONE OF GOUGH'S STORIES.—At a political meeting the speakers and audience were very much disturbed by a man who constantly called for Mr. Henry. Whenever a new speaker came on, this man bawled out, "Mr Henry! Henry! I call for Mr Henry!

After several interruptions of this kind at each speech, a young man ascended the platform, and was soon airing his eloquence in a magnificent style, striking out powerfully in his gestures, when the old cry was heard for Mr. Henry.

Putting his hand to his mouth like a speaking trumpet, this man bawled out at the top of his voice, "Mr Henry! Henry! Henry! I call for Mr. Henry to make a speech!"

The chairman now rose and requested the audience if the gentleman would refrain from calling for Mr. Henry, as that person was now speaking.

"Is that Mr. Henry?" said the disturber of the meeting. "Thunder! that can't be Mr. Henry. Why, that is the little cuss that told me to holler!"

Mr. Gough adds, that in telling this story to a man who could never be made to see the "point" of a joke, after studying a few minutes the man asked him: 'Well, Mr Gough, what did he tell him to 'holler' for?'

SHOCKING BARBARITY.—A private letter gives some details of the case of child-murder in Medina, N. Y., (already reported,) in which a clergyman named Joel Lindsley whipped his little boy to death because he would not say his prayers. The jury, after examining the corpse, said 'they never saw such a sight before, and asked Joel what he whipped the child with. He said a shingle, sometimes with the flat side and then with the edge; but, oh, such a sight! his little fingers were all in strings, the nails gone and the bones broken, his legs all a jelly, and the bottoms of his feet blistered, and pieces of flesh gone out of them, his shoulders and neck and the sides of his head all black. They looked around and found a tub full of bloody clothes to soak; and the verdict was murder."

SAD AND BEAUTIFUL.—Ex-Gov. Vance, of North Carolina, in a recent address before the literary societies of the North Carolina University, spoke as follows:

"No monuments of victory are for us, no national jubilee can we celebrate, no songs of triumph can our maidens sing, or garlands of glory weave; there is no welcoming of returning conquerors, nor erecting of triumphal arches for us, to console us for our great suffering. We are all alone with our great defeat and that heavy sorrow which, 'never flitting, still is sitting, in our household;' and all that we have left for our comfort is the sad yet tender light which plays around the memory of those who died to make it otherwise."

A WISE ENACTMENT.—By the new act to amend the postal laws it is provided that postmasters shall return to the writers, free of cost, all letters not delivered or called for, when requested so to do by the person mailing them. Persons mailing letters may write on them a request to the postmaster to return the letter to them if not delivered in any number of days they may choose to mention, and it is made the duty of the postmaster to do so.

THE BEST YET.—The American, (N. Y.) Times tells the best story yet concerning recent freaks of the lightning: A person, whose name it did not learn, was sitting inan open shop door, when, apparently, two flashes met directly over his head, and passed down his body, nearly stripping him of his clothes, and threw his shoes some feet in the air. Strange to say he was not killed, but only received slight damage.

NATIVE BORAX.—A lake about two mies in circumference, from which borax is obtained in extremely pure condition and in very large quantity, has recently been discovered in California. The borax hitherto in use has been procured by combining boracic acid, procured from Tuscany, wth soda. It is used in large quantities in England, the potteries of Staffordshire alone consuming more than 1100 tons annually.

The famous Mexican guerrilla chief, Cortini, is reported as having died from internal bleeding caused by being hurled from his horse while flying from the Imperial troops under Gen. Overa.

The man who objects to the adornment of Confederate graves would scarcely hesitate to violate them. —*Prentice.*