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LETTER OF REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER.

The Executive Committee of the National Convention of the Soldiers and Sailors, to meet in Cleveland, Ohio, on the 17th inst., addressed a letter to Mr. Beecher, requesting his attendance at the Convention to act as Chaplain. Mr. Beecher declines, but sends the following patriotic and encouraging letter:

PEEKSKILL, Aug. 30.
CHARLES G. HALPINE, BREVET BRIG-GEN.; W. SLOCUM, MAJ. GEN.; GORDON GRANGER, MAJ. GEN.—COMMITTEE:

GENTLEMEN:—I am obliged to you for the invitation which you have made me to act as Chaplain to the Convention of Sailors and Soldiers about to convene at Cleveland. I cannot attend it, but I heartily wish it, and all other Conventions, of what party soever, success, whose object is the restoration of all the States late in the rebellion to their federal relations.

Our theory of government has no place for a state except in the Union. It is justly taken for granted that the duties and responsibilities of a State in federal relations tend to its political health, and to that of the whole nation. Even territories are hastily brought in, often before the prescribed conditions are fulfilled, as if it were dangerous to leave a community outside of the great body politic.

Had the loyal Senators and Representatives of Tennessee been admitted at once on the assembling of Congress, and in moderate succession, Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina and Virginia, the public mind of the South would have been far more healthy than it is, and those States which lingered on probation to the last would have been under a more salutary influence to good conduct than if a dozen armies watched over them.

Every month that we delay this healthful step complicates the case. The excluded population, enough unsettled before, grow more irritable; the army becomes indispensable to local government, and supercedes it; the government at Washington is called to interfere in one and another difficulty, and this will be done ineptly, and sometimes with great injustice; for our government, wisely adapted to its own proper functions, is utterly devoid of those habits and unequipped with the instruments which fit a centralized government to exercise authority in remote States over local affairs. Every attempt to perform such duties has resulted in mistakes which have excited the nation. But whatever imprudence there may be in the method, the real criticism should be against the requisition of such duties of the general government.

The Federal is unfit to exercise minor police and local government, and will inevitably blunder when it attempts it. To keep a half score of States under Federal authority, but without national ties and responsibilities; to oblige the central authority to govern half the territory of the Union by Federal civil officers and by the army, is a policy not only ungenial to our ideas and principles, but pre-eminently dangerous to the spirit of our government. However humane the ends sought and the motives, it is, in fact, a course of instruction, preparing our government to be despotic, and familiarizing the people to a stretch of authority which can never be other than dangerous to liberty.

I am aware that good men are withheld from advocating the prompt and successive admission of the exiled States by the fear, chiefly, of its effect upon parties, and upon the freedmen.

It is said, that if admitted to Congress, the Southern senators and representatives will coalesce with Northern Democrats, and rule the country. Is this nation, then, to remain dismembered to serve the ends of parties? Have we learned no wisdom by the history of the last ten years, in which just this course of sacrificing the nation to the exigencies of parties plunged us into rebellion and war?

Even admit that the power would pass into the hands of a party made up of Southern men, and the hitherto dishonored and misled Democracy of the North, that power could not be used just as they pleased. The war has changed, not alone institutions, but ideas. The whole country has advanced. Public sentiment is exalted far beyond what it has been at any former period. A new party would, like a river, be obliged to seek out its channels, in the already existing slopes and forms of the continent.

We have entered a new era of liberty. The

young men of our times are regenerated. The great army has been a school, and hundreds of thousands of men are gone home to preach a true and nobler view of human rights. All the industrial interests of society are moving with increasing wisdom toward intelligence and liberty. Everywhere, in churches, in literature, in natural sciences, in physical industries, in social questions, as well as in politics, the nation feels that the winter is over, and a new spring hangs in the horizon, and works through all the elements. In this happily changed and advanced condition of things no party of the retrograde can maintain itself. Everything marches, and parties must march.

I hear with wonder and shame and scorn, the fear of a few, that the South, once more in adjustment with the Federal government, will rule this nation! The North is rich, never before so rich; the South is poor, never before so poor. The population of the North is nearly double that of the South. The industry of the North, in diversity, in forwardness and productiveness, in all the machinery and education required for manufacturing, is half a century in advance of the South. Churches in the North crown every hill, and schools swarm in every neighborhood; while the South has but scattered lights, at long distances, like light-houses twinkling along the edge of a continent of darkness. In the presence of such a contrast how mean and craven is the fear that the South will rule the policy of the land! That it will have an influence, that it will contribute, in time, most important influences or restraints, we are glad to believe. But, if it rises at once to the control of the government, it will be because the North, demoralized by prosperity, and besotted by growing interests, refuses to discharge its share of political duty. In such a case, the South not only will control the government, but it ought to do it!

It is feared, with more reason, that the restoration of the South to her full independence will be detrimental to the freedmen: The sooner we dismiss from our minds the idea that the freedmen can be classified, and separated from the white population, and nursed and defended by themselves, the better it will be for them and us. The negro is part and parcel of Southern society. He cannot be prosperous while it is unprosperous. Its evils will rebound upon him. Its happiness and reinvigoration cannot be kept from his participation. The restoration of the South to amicable relations with the North, the re-organization of its industry, the re-inspiration of its enterprise and thrift, will all redound to the freedmen's benefit. Nothing is so dangerous to the freedmen as an unsettled state of society in the South. On him comes all the spite, and anger, and caprice, and revenge. He will be made the scapegoat of lawless men.

Unless we turn the government into a vast military machine, there cannot be armies enough to protect the freedmen while Southern society remains insurrectionary. If Southern society is calmed, settled, and occupied and soothed with new hopes and prosperous industries, no armies will be needed. Riots will subside, lawless hangers on will be driven off or better governed, and a way will be gradually opened up to the freedmen, through education and industry, to full citizenship, with all its honors and duties.

Civilization is a growth. None can escape that forty years in the wilderness who travel from the ignorance to the promised land of civilization. The freedmen must take their march. I have full faith in the results. If they have the stamina to undergo the hardships which every uncivilized people has undergone in their upward progress, they will in due time take their place among us. That place cannot be bought, nor bequeathed, nor gained by sleight of hand. It will come to sobriety, virtue, industry and frugality. As the nation cannot be sound until the South is prosperous, so, on the other extreme, a healthy condition of civil society in the South is indispensable to the welfare of the freedmen.

Refusing to admit loyal Senators and Representatives from the South to Congress will not help the freedmen. It will not secure for them the vote. It will not secure any amendment of our Constitution, however just and wise. It will only increase the dangers and complicate the difficulties. Whether we regard the whole nation, or any section of it or class in it, the first demand of our time is, entire reunion.

Once united, we can, by schools, churches, a free press and increasing free speech, attack each evil and secure every good. Meanwhile the great chasm which rebellion made is not filled up. It grows deeper and stretches wider! Out of it rise dread spectres and threatening sounds. Let that gulf be closed, and bury in it slavery, sectional animosity, and all strifes and hatreds.

It is fit that the brave men, who, on sea and land, faced death to save the nation, should now, by their voice and vote, consummate what their swords rendered possible.

For the sake of the freedman, for the sake of the South and its millions of our fellow-countrymen, for our own sake, and for the great cause of freedom and civilization, I urge the immediate reunion of all the parts which rebellion and war have shattered.

I am truly yours,
HENRY WARD BEECHER.

PARLOR JUGGLING.

We notice that many of our popular magazines and periodicals are devoting a portion of their space to the science oflegerdemain for the edification of their younger readers and for general home amusement. We don't propose to go behind anything with ink on it, and consequently we have prepared a number of tricks which will be found not only entertaining, but instructive. In the long autumn and winter evenings they will form a never failing source of amusement. They are susceptible of explanation upon natural principles, and no parent can consistently object to them on the ground that "there is suthin' wrong 'bout 'em." These tricks are not only healthy, but perfectly sure in their results:

THE SPITTOON TRICK.—Take two half-gallon spittoons—white ones are the best—then select a strong red cord—a worsted one if it can be procured—pass the cord entirely through the two holes of the spittoons and give the ends to a gentleman and lady, selected from the company, to hold. Now let a lady seize the spittoons, and sliding each to the opposite end of the cord, bring them together smartly, when they will break in pieces and fall to the floor. This trick is easily performed, and will excite considerable applause.

THE MAGIC STICK.—To do this trick properly you will need a pearl-handled knife and a hard wood stick, some two inches in length. Sharpen the two ends of the stick and then try to crush it endways, either between your hands or by sitting upon it. This, to your astonishment, you will find it impossible to do.

THE FLYING HEN.—Select a large, well fed hen—the color is immaterial, although black is best—and place her in a sitting position on some smooth surface. Then over her, place a paste-board box eighteen by thirty inches. Pound smartly upon the top of the box with a bone-handled table-knife for ten minutes, and then suddenly raise it, when the hen will immediately fly away. This trick can be performed by any person of average intelligence, who gives his whole mind to it.

THE NAIL TRICK.—Take two large wrought iron nails, and wire them together in the form of a cross. It will then be found impossible to swallow them. There is no deception about this.

THE CABLE.—Take a piece of tarred cable about fifteen inches in length, cut it very carefully in two with a sharp knife, and then try to chew the ends together. You can try as long as you like.

THE MAGIC EGGS.—Put twelve fresh eggs carefully into a green worsted bag. Swing the bag rapidly about your head, hitting it each time against the door post. Then ask the company if they will have them boiled, scrambled or fried. It will make no difference which they choose.

THE FOUR JACKS.—Select a pack of cards with plain white backs. Take out the four jacks and burr them before the company, letting them see the ashes. Now shuffle the cards quickly, and holding them in the left hand give them a sharp rap with the knuckles of the right. Then place them on the table with face down, and defy the company to find the jacks. They can't do it.

THE RED EGG.—Choose from the assembled company a young man of light or reddish hair, florid complexion and accommodating disposition, and seat him in a chair in the middle of the room, with the spectators surrounding him. Then direct him to brace himself firmly back, and taking a large hen egg poise it carefully on his nose. Then with a gold-headed walking-cane strike a vigorous, perpendicular blow on the egg. The shell will suddenly pop asunder, exhibiting a remarkable mixture of a yellow and blood red color, (the latter predominating.) This is a singular trick, and will be a great favorite with young ladies.

THE VANISHING CHAIR.—Let some of the company who are in the secret, watch an opportunity when some lady or gentleman leaves the room for a few minutes, and during his or her absence post an individual behind the chair just vacated, with instructions to pull it back suddenly when the lady or gentleman returns and is about to resume the seat. If this is done promptly and skillfully a sudden fall, with collision of the head and floor, will be the consequence. This, when performed at a large dinner-party or assemblage of old people, is a delightful trick, and will create much amusement. The effect of this feat of legerdemain is very curious. If the subject acted upon be a lady, she will probably immediately repeat the same action of leaving the room—and not return. If a gentleman, he will fall into a prolonged fit of silence, with perceptible diminution of appetite at table.

GOOD.—A few weeks after a late marriage, the husband had some peculiar thoughts when putting on his last clean shirt, as he saw no appearance of a "washin'." He thereupon rose earlier than usual one morning, and kindled a fire. When hanging on the kettle he made a noise on purpose to wake his wife easy. She immediately peeped over the blankets, and then exclaimed:

"My dear, what are you doing?"
He deliberately responded: "I've put on my last clean shirt, am going to wash one now for myself."

"Very well," replied Mrs. Easy, "you had better wash one for me, too."

Ten poor men can sleep tranquilly on a mat, but two kings are not able to live at peace in a quarter of the world.

COMMUNICATED.

FOR THE FAYETTEVILLE NEWS.

NOTES AND ITEMS OF TRAVEL IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

Leaving Fayetteville on Wednesday morning, 22d August, I proceeded to wend my way Westward, unfortunately taking the Plank Road, which of all the roads I ever traveled is the most uncomfortable. There is little to interest one between Fayetteville and Carthage; the way is one long monotony relieved only by an occasional clump of woodland flowers or clumps of water-oaks varying from the eternal pines and scrub oaks, wearying the eye with dull sameness, rendered almost intolerable by the nearly impassable roads. The crops are exceedingly poor. Wheat and corn have suffered severely from drought. Wednesday night was spent at the house (thirty miles from town) of a most "worthy" gentleman whose excellent lady entertained us with genuine old fashioned hospitality. There I was fortunate enough to be directed to a dirt road which proved to be a very good one.

Reached Carthage, county seat of Moore, at eleven A. M. Court being in session there was an assemblage of the citizens of that section around the Court House. His Honor Judge Gilliam was presiding, and some of the light fingered freedmen were occupying the attention of the court.

The distinguishing peculiarity of the little collections of people in this village was a serious cast of countenance—singled off in couples, they all seemed, by their earnest gesticulation, to be engaged in the discussion of some grave subject. The condition of the crops are much deplored, and fears of suffering are entertained by the people in consequence of the unfavorable season. Past Carthage the roads begin to improve. The soil becomes firm and disappears, and a few miles farther huge boulders of rock rise from the grounds, moss-grown and gray with the flight of time. The traveller is now fairly into the hill country; "to march up a hill, and then march down again," in the style of the French monarch, is the continuous course. The wretched Plank Road, however, accompanies him and progress is slow, affording ample time for philosophic reflection on the cross-tiles and stormy obstructions of life, and the ups and downs of this lower sphere. Passing into Randolph the country becomes more interesting,—more undulating; still larger boulders of rock are seen; they lie in groups of three and four, and look as if they had been hurled down and riven asunder by some ante-diluvian revolution.

Thursday night brought me to the house of Mr. Page (the accomplished door-keeper of the State Legislature and of the late Confederate Congress,) to whose kind auspices I recommend all weary travellers coming this way.

I was sorry to learn that in this neighborhood unsettled feeling still exists, and the people do not feel secure from molestation by lawless marauders. There, (sixty-eight miles from Fayetteville) the scenery becomes still more beautiful, the hills enlarge into mountains, (2) and fine meadows open upon the sight. The cornfields become larger—owing to the unusual drought the streams are nearly all dry. Dumber Bridge which spans the Uwhatchie River is an excellent structure, a substantial covered bridge, and looks as if prepared to resist the ravages of time. The River is very low and muddy, flowing over a bed of clay soil.

On Friday at three o'clock I was glad to bid a final adieu to the unpleasant plank road. A few miles brought us to the "Dutchman's mountain." Perfectly round and thickly wooded, it rises disdainfully above the surrounding hills. There, from lofty eminences, a fine panorama of nature's exquisite beauties claims admiring attention. Ranges of hills, clad in the full glory of primeval forests, delight the untiring beholder. From one of the highest points three mountains are seen lying off to the distant north-ward—"Shepherd's" and "Mitchell's" mountains; the name of the other I could not ascertain.

Gorges and deep ravines, dark with umbrageous foliage, present, not by any means, the least attractive features of interest. Profuse nature has poured out her rich gifts, and laid her veil of blue mist upon towering peaks. Randolph may well point the finger of pride to her fair and varying scenes.

Friday night I spent at the house of Mr. Reornes; (one hundred miles from Fayetteville) there is a fine mineral spring near—a favorite resort of the people in these parts; the waters are thought to possess great medicinal properties, it is sometimes designated "Moore's mineral springs." Within ten miles "are the Healing Springs," also celebrated for the excellence of their waters. Here the roads are very good, the scenery fine and the water limpid and cold. The nights and mornings are chilly, rendering fire necessary to comfort. My hostess informed me that a blanket was required upon the bed generally through the summer. A few miles from Mr. R.'s I passed over a corner of the "Three Hat's Mountain." Here pines disappear, fine oaks, hickory and sweet gum being the principal growth. The roads become much firmer and better, in many instances the way seems one long bower, the sunlight shimmers through quivering leaves, wild flowers, a species of pink, and the graceful, golden-rod adorns the way-side. In Davidson county immense forests without undergrowth, the trees of enormous size, are penetrated by the winding road. Having forded Abbott's Creek, I arrived at Lexington, the County seat of Davidson, quite a pretty bright little village. There the ruins of the handsomest court house in the State, tell a tale of devastating war, it was burned during the occupation of the Federals. The village presented a gala-day appearance, a large number of people from the surrounding county being on the streets. Trade seemed brisk. I was told it was no unusual sight; that every Saturday a great many people come in to barter.

Left Lexington at half past eleven, A. M. The crops on the way continue thin and parched. About one-half of the usual amount of produce will be garnered in this region. The tobacco crop is very fair. A few miles from Lexington is Yadkin College, situated in a fine old forest upon an eminence commanding a view of the country for miles around. Fulton is a quiet hamlet, situated on the west side of the Yadkin river, the banks

declining gently to the water's edge, and the ferry boat near, and in good condition, rendering the passage over an agreeable change from the carriage. The Yadkin with its usual depth of water is a considerable stream; it is about as wide and bears a strong resemblance to the Cape Fear. Two large shoals are impassable barriers to navigation. A few rods from the ferry stands a grist and saw mill in good working trim. The roads continue good. The forests become magnificent. The soil appears very rich. I saw the trunk of an oak that was five feet in diameter and others nearly as large, standing near.

Saturday, by moonlight, I entered Mocksville, Davie county, nestled among verdore-crowned hills and rejoicing in pure air and excellent water. It well deserves a passing tribute; the village is for the most part built on the principal street running north and south. Though it contains several pretty residences, it bears the impress of the finger of time. Here I am entertained by Col. Austin, the polite proprietor of the Mocksville hotel, and his amiable family. With good fare and good lodging, I have every prospect of a comfortable sojourn. From the upper story windows I catch a glimpse of the Pilot mountain, stretching northward; a couple of miles from here there is a good view of the Pilot mountain.

Monday 26d, Court opens, His Honor, Judge Buxton, presiding. Among other matters, two distressing cases of murder will claim the attention of the court, in one of which a little girl twelve years old, is the only witness to testify against a criminal father. This case has been transferred to Yadkin county. Two men were fined twenty dollars each, for assault and battery, having whipped an old man. To-day several larceny cases will be brought before the court. The drought continues here, and as far as I can hear from.

Wednesday, As I write, a gentle misting rain is softly descending to the lips of the parched earth, refreshing all nature with its cooling influence.

COSMOPOLITANA.

REPRESENTATION AND DIRECT TAXES.

We have so often exposed the falsehood of the assertion made by radicals that the pending constitutional amendment would, in case of its adoption, give equal representation, that we are surprised that newspapers and orators of that party will persist in the attempt to deceive the people by repeating it. The amendment is an open and gross attempt to defraud the people of the South and West in taxation and representation, if the arguments of radicals concerning the present rule are correct. If representation based on the whole number of persons is an unfair rule, why did not Congress, in proposing a change provide a different one?—This it did not do so far as the Northern States are concerned. The practical operation of the rule proposed in the amendment would be to leave representation in the North as it now is. There is not, probably, a single Northern State whose representation would be changed by enfranchisement of the negroes within her limits.

Representation should be based on the whole number of voters or on the whole number of inhabitants. The radicals allege that it should be based on the number of voters, and therefore propose to amend the constitution, but, as we have seen, the rule offered by them will be the same at its operation in the North as the present one. It will require from a third to twice as many more votes in the Western States to elect a member of Congress than it will require in the Eastern States. In this it is seen that it is framed to meet the interests of New England and against the interests of the West.

If representation should be based on the number of voters, why does the rule propose that all who took part in the rebellion may be disfranchised, and yet the States thus disfranchising them be entitled to as great a number of representatives in Congress as if the Confederates were permitted to vote? A large majority of the white adult males in Tennessee and Missouri were rebels. Under the Constitutions and laws of those States they are now denied the privilege of voting, yet the States, under the amendment, would lose nothing in representation by the denial. The amendment offers a premium to minorities, for the disfranchisement of all who supported the Confederacy. By such disfranchisement the radical party, if it can obtain control of the State governments, may perpetuate its own power, and have the full number of representatives to divide among its comparatively few members. This is certainly singular, considering the radical claim that the amendment bases representation on the number of voters. If those States disfranchising negroes, they will, under the amendment, lose in representation, but if they disfranchise white men—it makes no difference how many—they will be entitled to as many representatives as if the whole number of adult white males were permitted to vote. This feature in the scheme was concocted by the "tinkers of the Constitution" to meet the interests of the radical party generally. New England in this was content to share with the rest. Why should the vote of one man in Tennessee or Missouri count as much as the votes of three men in Illinois?

If representation be based on the whole number of inhabitants in the North, why should it not be so in the South? We have seen, under the rule proposed in the amendment, that in the North the number of inhabitants, and not the number of voters, is made the basis. If black republicans believe that all men are created equal, why do they make a distinction between negroes and white men in proposing a change in the rule of representation? If Massachusetts may be represented by the whole number of in-

habitants, why may not South Carolina? of the doctrine of equality of races contended for by the radicals is correct, why may not a South Carolinian represent those who are not voters as justly as a Puritan? Under the proposed rule Massachusetts may, without loss of representation, restrict suffrage to one tenth of her adult male population, but should South Carolina restrict it to one half, she would lose one half the number of her representation.

Under the Constitution, there is the same rule for apportioning representation and direct taxes. The amendment does not touch the latter. It is obvious to every person of common sense that there are much more imperative reasons for changing the rule in regard to direct taxes than the one relating to representation. In proportion to the number of inhabitants, New England has more capital than the Western States. The State of Wisconsin has \$50,000,000 of taxable property, and the city of Boston has \$500,000,000. Wisconsin, with one tenth of the capital, pays more than five times as much direct tax as Boston. Is there a man so lead-en-headed that he cannot see why the rule in regard to direct taxes was left untouched? Will the abolitionists who are now blatant about inequality of representation answer why this glaring injustice to the West was unnoticed in proposing a change of the rule in which the subject was involved?—Chicago Times.

Radicalism in the Northwest—Depression in the South—General Beauregard—Threatening Aspect of Affairs in Missouri.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Radical hostility in the northwest appears to be irrepresible, but not so in the Middle States, where the interests of commerce and finance begin to exercise an influence.

In Virginia and the Carolinas, according to the statements of intelligent and disinterested persons who have just arrived from those states, little hopeful feeling for the political or industrial future is cherished. Deferred hope has given place to despondency.

The recuperative process in industrial pursuits is retarded by a vague apprehension of evils which are expected from continued radical ascendancy and tyranny.

Notwithstanding all this, the north prospers. The opening of the fall trade in the northern cities is marked by a large demand from the south in anticipation of the cotton crop. New England receives a large portion of the avails of this trade. All her manufactures flourish and are in demand at enhanced prices. Should the cotton crop fall short of two millions and a half of bales, the apparent and promised prosperity will disappear.

It appears that General Beauregard has been more profitably employed in Europe than in military pursuits. It is understood that his mission in relation to the affairs of the great New Orleans and Northwestern railroad company has been successful.

I learn that the conservatives in the west are putting in nomination for state and other offices highly respected and popular officers of the United States volunteers, whose services during the war are universally acknowledged. This will serve to counteract the secret military association got up by Governors Oglesby and Morton, the object of which is to overawe the people at the polls.

Governor Oglesby excites the people to renewed hostilities, and pledges himself for an army of two hundred thousand men to sustain the radical party in Missouri against the conservatives, in case of expected troubles at the November elections, and in the canvass now commenced.

A NEW CIVIL WAR.—General Butler has been making a speech at Gloucester. The synopsis of his points sent us by telegraph, contains two open threats of a new civil war, if the people of the North do not stand by Congress, and prevent the restoration of the Union. The Massachusetts Radicals, he says, "will march, and woe to him that opposes them!" These threats by the Radicals will assuredly frighten nobody into the support of their policy; they will only strengthen the growing feeling that it is high time the Union was restored, and the whole country again under the protection of the Constitution. The longer a settlement is deferred, the more bad blood will be stirred, and the more difficult it will become for these dangerous and incendiary Radicals to yield a quiet obedience to the laws.

"This war," says the valorous and chivalric Butler, "must be settled by those who fought it," meaning, we suppose, such formidable and victorious commanders as the two most conspicuous Massachusetts generals, Butler and Banks. A shining record these illustrious opponents of a settlement have, in comparison with Gen. Grant, General Meade, the hosts of really fighting officers who have signed the call for the Cleveland Soldiers' Convention, to endorse the policy of the President! Could there be a greater stretch of impudence than for this Big Bethel blunderer, this digger of the Dutch Gap ditch, this fugitive to and from Fort Fisher, this "bottled up" Butler, the scorn of General Grant—could there be a greater piece of impudence than for him to spout charges and innuendoes that the fighting generals do not approve the President's policy?

Blanks for sale at this Office.