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TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS.

Person Brownlow, in a recent letter to the Philadelphia Press discloses the following: "There exists a deep-laid scheme to defeat this Government here at the North, and the programme of treason is widening and deepening daily, while the leaders at the South are kept posted in all these movements of Northern traitors;" and that, backed up with numerous organizations of Knights of the Golden Circle, those traitors have now got a net work spread over the entire nation, so minute in details, and so inexplicable in its nature, that even the devil, with all his arts and subtlety, could not elude their grasp.

Ex-Pres. Buchanan, in his late rejoinder to Gen. Scott's letter, in referring to Floyd, says no public arms were ever stolen by him; and further, that in 1860 the Southern States received less, instead of more than the quota of arms to which they were entitled by law.

An appeal to the American people in behalf of the suffering operatives of Great Britain, numerously signed, is published in the columns of the New York papers of Nov. 8th, in which it is stated that the agony of Lancashire is every day becoming more acute and that, before winter is ended, the sufferings of the people will prove the greatest national trial since the Irish famine.

In the jail at Washington, D. C., there are now 216 prisoners—98 of whom are colored and of these 18 are females. The jail building is a rickety old structure, externally an eye-sore to the citizens and, for some length of time past, has been complained of by the grand jury at nearly every term of court.

The Legislature of Missouri, which is now in session, is decidedly in favor of the President's emancipation scheme. The organization of both Houses was effected by the election of emancipation candidates for officers. The Governor, in his message, congratulates the State and its representatives upon the convening, at last, of a loyal General Assembly; advocates compensated emancipation, and recommends the passage of a law providing that the children of slaves born hereafter shall be free, but remain under the care of their owners till they arrive at a proper age.

A recent investigation into the frauds which have been practiced upon the government has disclosed, according to report, that of one million, six hundred thousand dollars, paid out in New York city for recruiting, equipping and drilling volunteers, about one half of the amount has been paid out on fraudulent accounts, and the number of persons engaged in perpetrating the frauds amounted to over one thousand.

The "Rev. Capt. Henry Ward Killem Beecher" says that a good many people raise a cry about the Union and Constitution, as if the two were identical; but the truth is, it is the Constitution which has been the foundation and father of our troubles.

Guatemala protests against the colonization of American negroes within her borders; and the Costa Rica Congress has passed a bill prohibiting the colonization of such persons.

It is stated that on Nov. 24th some of the Federal soldiers in front of Fredericksburg had no shoes to their feet; while others had to appear in cotton drawers, in the absence of pantaloons—not in consequence of lack of "legal tender" wherewith to purchase suitable clothing; but the sheer inattention of those in charge of the commissary department.

From various sources we have the queer news that President Lincoln ordered and has received two dozen guillotines from France. We have seen no contradiction of the report. Conjecture is rife as to the part probable to be cast to them in the present contest. The New York Argus intimates that they were sent to Mr. Lincoln by the Emperor thinking them an appropriate present.

By way of California we have a rumor that six thousand Texans, with twelve siege guns

were marching on Santa Fe by way of Las Vas and Juel pass.

In the late intervention movement, by European correspondence of the London Times and other English journals the French government is awarded the credit of seeking to bring about peace on a basis of the restoration of the Union; while the English government is charged with desiring to protract the war, exhaust the country and to finally secure the success of the Confederates in dividing the Union.

At Fredericksburg, just previous to the late slaughter of the Federals there, the Confederates, impatient of Burnside's delay at Falmouth, sarcastically suspended a banner across one of the streets, bearing the words, "Winter Quarters."

The St. Paul Pioneer publishes a report that one thousand Sioux Indians recently assembled near Devil's Lake and that they expressed a determination to renew the war against the frontier settlers in the spring.

It is reported that certain New York merchants, incensed at the ravages of the Alabama upon American commerce, as a retaliatory step, are fitting out a swift sailing pirate to prey upon British commerce.

Mr. Charles Buxton, member of the Canadian Parliament, son of Fowell Buxton, eminent for his anti-slavery advocacy, at the dinner of the Maidstone Agricultural Association, in Toronto, Canada, on the 5th ult., disclaimed any sympathy with slavery, but spoke strongly in favor of the Confederates. He declared that slavery has really nothing to do with the war.

Horace Greeley lately announced that, if the President could, by putting him in Fort Lafayette and keeping him there, with five hundred more like him, purge the loyal States of traitor emissaries and thereby hasten by a single month the overthrow of the rebellion, he would joyfully be so imprisoned and would not ask for a habeas corpus. The New York Herald, taking advantage of its neighbor's lameness, opens upon the discomfited Horace with a whole broadside—first presuming to infer from the Tribune's declaration, that Greeley's nine hundred thousand abolitionists, who never smelt battle, have been reduced to five hundred by the late elections and are now desirous of being imprisoned in Fort Lafayette to escape the draft. Relentlessly pushing his advantage, Bennett further hopes "that the President will take poor Greeley at his word and shut him up, with five hundred more like him (if so many more like Greeley can be found outside the insane asylums) without delay." Such a step, continues Bennett, would "purge the loyal States" of five hundred and one practical traitors and avowed disunionists; and would not only "hasten by a single month the overthrow of the rebellion," but would absolutely end the rebellion at once. There is no longer a shadow of excuse for the administration, he affirms, if it shall longer neglect its obvious duty in the premises.

A Washington correspondent says that daily men are quietly leaving Washington for "retirement" who have been among the most blatant Unionists—who grew indignant whenever their loyalty was doubted and who seemed to rejoice in nothing so much as in denouncing Secession.

A planter living not far from New Orleans writes that four of his slaves, who had run away to the Yankees, had returned, having had enough of "liberty"—and were glad to come back.

EMANCIPATION AND ITS EFFECTS.

Notwithstanding the isolated condition of the slaves at the South—more particularly since the interdiction of communication with the North in the beginning of the present war—they have not been altogether unadvised of the measures being adopted by the Federal government for their relief from the shackles of bondage. [They had, many of them at least, if reports be true, heard of the first of January

—and were in eager anticipation of its advent, as the great day of jubilee and freedom to them.

In Tennessee, Mississippi, South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, and in fact throughout the entire South—accepting the Lexington (Ky.) Observer as sufficient authority—the joyous tidings of prospective liberty had spread from plantation to plantation, despite all the efforts on the part of managers as well as owners to make it contraband, and so deeply effecting them that it is declared, multitudes of the slaves would not work another day after January first, if they could avoid it.

Even in Kentucky—ostensibly loyal and so exempted from the benign operations of the Proclamation—the Louisville Journal admits that among the slave population the impression prevailed to a considerable extent, that they would be free on the first day of January, under the proclamation of the President of the United States. The Journal also predicates that, if the delusion was not speedily corrected, it would be likely to lead to results disastrous as well to the negroes as to their masters. The African churches are recommended as a more direct medium through which to dissipate the delusion—a delusion in this instance relative to the local operations of the measures only; but in others, and where no question arises as to the applicability of the proclamation, by many degrees more fraught with difficulties and disasters to the slave—that of obtaining a so-called liberty, or immunity from the service of former masters, to be as a mass incarcerated in such a distracted condition of servitude, penury, friendlessness and utter dependence never known to them in their Southern homes.

The ingenuity of very many is now taxed in devising the most effectual remedies for preventing mutinous uprisings among the negroes, other than the setting to work of the colored preachers, throughout the State of Kentucky, with all the zeal they are masters of, to acquaint them with the fact that, notwithstanding all their fond dreams of liberty, being left out of the catalogue of intended guests at President Lincoln's Grand Jubilee Pic-Nic, the cup of their happiness is to be inconspicuously dashed to the ground.

The Lexington Observer proposes that a suitable number of citizens be engaged as an armed and mounted patrol in each county—one half to be on duty during the day, the other half during the night. This patrolling force to be thoroughly organized, having precinct captains, day and night officers and general commandants; to be paid fair wages; and put on duty at the earliest possible moment.

It may well be inquired, if these precautionary measures are demanded to secure the peace and preserve the lives of the people of Kentucky, what preventives will be found adequate in those States further South, where the negro population exceeds the white, even when the latter are all at home?

Such are the initiatory modes recommended for subduing the virulence of incensed blacks, ere the Proclamation of Emancipation had been uttered; and such are the beginnings of those upheavings among the dark myriads of the sons of Canaan, which may yet convulse the land of their bondage and excretion from its center to its circumference.

Whatever results the lapse of time may extort from the President's Proclamation of January first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, now in full force—its effects, for weal or woe, to be ultimately tested by the country—there are not a few whose apprehensions, so far from being confirmatory of the emphatic declaration so pointedly and confidently expressed by Mr. Lincoln in his late message—that

—"We know how to save the Union. The world knows we do know how to save it. We—even we here—hold the power and bear the responsibility"—

regard it as one of the most efficient auxiliaries to intensify the war, infuriate the people

of the South, render all efforts at reconciliation or reconstruction, if possible, more than ever indicative of denigration and bring untold disasters alike upon the authors and the devoted victims of the measure.

THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

The proclamation of President Lincoln, declaring freedom to all the slaves in the Confederate States, and parts of States therein named, is not, as can be seen, a very lengthy document. It is, however, of more importance than any other he has ever issued and will be likely to produce a great change in the operations of the war; some think for the better, while others think otherwise. Our opinion is, that it will bring about a literal fulfillment of certain predictions of the prophets, recorded in the "scriptures of truth," concerning events that would transpire in the "latter days."

THE PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, On the 22d day of September, 1862, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

That on the 1st day of January, 1863, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall be in rebellion against the United States, shall be thenceforth and forever free, and the Executive Government of the United States, including the Military and Naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons and will do no act or acts to oppress such persons or any of them in any effort they may make for their actual freedom, and that the Executive will on the 1st day of January aforesaid issue a proclamation designating such States and parts of States, if any, in which the people therein respectively shall be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any State or the people thereof shall, on that day, be in good faith represented in Congress by members chosen thereto by a majority of the qualified voters of such States, shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such State, or the people thereof, are not in rebellion against the United States:

Now, therefore, I ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy in time of actual rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States, as a fit and necessary war-measure for suppressing the said rebellion, do, on this 1st day of January, 1863, and in accordance with my purpose so to do, publish this proclamation after the period of one hundred days from the date of the first above-mentioned order, and designate as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof respectively are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to wit: Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, excepting the parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James, Ascension, Assumption, Terre Bonne, La Fourche, St. Mary's, St. Martin's and Orleans, including the city of New Orleans; Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, except the forty-eight counties designated as Western Virginia, and the other counties of Berkeley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Anne, Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth; which excepted parts are for the present left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued; and by virtue of the power and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within the designated States and parts of States are and henceforward shall be free, and that the Executive Government of the United States, including the Military and Naval authorities, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons; and I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free, to abstain from all violence unless in necessary self defence; and I recommend to them that in all cases, when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages; and I further Declare and make known that such persons, of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service; and upon this, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution as a Military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 1st day of January, 1863, and of the Independence of the United States of America the 87th.

Signed, ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President.

W. H. SEWARD, Sec'y of State.