

## Selected Poetry.

### IN THE DAYS WHEN WE SHALL VOTE.

[Dedicated to the Penna. Woman's Suffrage Society.]

BY H. S. BLADEN.

In the days when we shall vote,  
Coming soon:  
Men and women make a note  
Of the time;  
Of the tune that we shall sing,  
When our votes to poll we bring,  
In the days when we shall vote, coming soon.

For the men who helped us then  
In our need,  
With their word, and purse, and pen,  
And their deed,  
We will muster full and strong;  
We will bring our votes along,  
In the days when we shall vote, coming soon.

And the women, too, who dared  
To be strong;  
Who, for no censure cared  
From the wrong;  
But who boldly keep their place,  
We'll take care to not disgrace,  
In the days when we shall vote, coming soon.

May the papers that were true  
To our aim,  
Never see a cause to rue  
We have won the game;  
But find abundant sales  
For their journals filled with tales  
Of the days when we shall vote, coming soon.  
—Philadelphia Leader.

### THE TREATMENT OF THE SOUTH— ARE THE SOUTHERN PEOPLE TO HAVE PFA EI

During the recent Presidential campaign, while predicting the success of General Grant, we announced that we would demand of the next administration, whoever might be at its head, a return to constitutional government in the Southern States and the restoration to the Southern people of all the rights enjoyed by their fellow citizens in New York, Massachusetts or Illinois. We intend to redeem this pledge, and notwithstanding the apprehensions expressed by some republican journals that the *Herald* desires to excite a conflict between Congress and the Executive we shall continue to urge upon the President the expediency and justice of a reversal of that policy which, after four years' trial, has left the South in a state of anarchy, at the mercy of the worst class of political adventurers and stripped of all semblance of self-government. General Grant has enough sagacity to know that the favorable verdict of November was rendered on his own personal merits, and not on the strength or popularity of the republican policy. There is sufficient evidence to show that the reconstruction policy of Congress is distasteful to the people. During the canvass the republican organs did not attempt to justify the Enforcement act, but claimed that the President was free from responsibility for its passage. The idea was set up that its provisions would never be enforced except in extreme cases, and the complaints of the oppression of the Southern whites were met either by ridicule or bold denial. President Grant will, therefore, understand that in claiming tardy justice for the Southern States at his hands we ask of him nothing in contravention of the popular verdict in the recent election. We claim that the confidence of the people in his own generous impulses, as indicated in his parole of General Lee and his army, and in his famous report on the condition of the South during President Johnson's administration, induced the belief that in his second term of office General Grant would exert himself to restore the ex-rebel States to all their constitutional rights and privileges and to undo the mischief done by the carpet-baggers and their friends in the republican Congress. We insist that this belief materially controlled the result of the Presidential contest.

In the face of the recent events in Louisiana and Alabama no one will deny the evils of the present political condition of the South and the necessity of a speedy reform. In one of these States, through what President Grant calls a "miserable scramble for office," the city of New Orleans has been brought to the verge of civil war. Riot and bloodshed have only been averted by a surrender of all the rights of the State. If Judge Durell did not strain the law and exceed his powers in handing over the Executive office and the State Legislature to the Kellogg party, then the Enforcement act really destroys republican institutions and surrenders the States to the arbitrary will of the Federal government. The act in question gives large powers to the United States Courts. If any colored citizens are denied the right of registration or voting solely "on account of race, color or previous condition of servi-

tude," and by reason of such denial a candidate for any office except for Presidential elector, member of Congress or of the State Legislature, shall be defeated, the United States Circuit or District Court, "concurrently with the State Courts," is given power to count the votes thus excluded, and if they are sufficient to elect the minority candidate, to award him the office. Acting under this provision of the law Judge Durell granted injunctions against the State Board of Canvassers from discharging its functions, placed a new Board in power and thus declared Governor Kellogg and the republican State Legislature elected. Neither Judge Durell nor the Kellogg Board of Canvassers has possession of a single election return; no co-operation has been had with any State Court; no evidence has been taken or offered to substantiate the affidavits of thousands of negroes as to the rejection of their votes, and there is not a particle of proof that any citizens were disfranchised on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude. We repeat, if the Enforcement act has been properly interpreted by Judge Durell the Southern States are at the present moment stripped of all their constitutional rights, and holding their liberties only at the mercy of Federal bayonets. At any time, after any election, the popular verdict may be set aside by any political aspirants who can command the services of a Federal judge and Federal troops. The ballot is a mere farce—the Constitution of the United States nothing more than waste paper—while such an act stands upon the statute books.

In this disgraceful Louisiana fight the participants are all of the same stripe. It is a battle for the spoils among the carpet-baggers, who have fallen out among themselves. Governor Warmoth was the creator of the carpet-bag politicians, who gladly availed themselves of his recklessness and boldness to carry out their schemes. They placed him in office by the authority of the bayonet, and armed him with arbitrary powers to be used in their own service. When his ambition clashed with the aspirations of other leaders there was a division in the party, and while Warmoth endeavored to turn the weapons with which he had been armed, against his former associates, they invoked for his destruction the very power they had used for his advancement. This would be a proper retribution, but, unfortunately, the people of Louisiana are the real sufferers by the disgraceful contest, in their business, in their prospects, in their civil rights. They have no more sympathy with Warmoth than with Kellogg or Casey; but they feel the sorrow and mortification that all citizens of a free government must naturally experience when they find themselves powerless to resist outrageous aggressions upon their rights. The whole of these unfortunate Louisiana proceedings, as well as the attempt of Senator Spencer and his allies to seize upon the Legislature of Alabama in defiance of the will of the people as expressed at the ballot box, and the bare toleration of the outrage by the Federal government show at how low an estimate the liberties of the white citizens of the South are held by those who have assumed the work of reconstruction.

It is unnecessary to comment on the dangerous tendency of special legislation in a country like our own, where the perfect equality of the States as well as of the citizens in all their civil rights, lies at the foundation of the government system. It might have been wise and humane to protect the freedmen in their newly-acquired privileges when the rebellion was just at an end and while the Southern States were in process of rehabilitation. But years have passed since the fall of the Confederacy and of slavery, and it is now time that all the States of the Union, North and South, East and West, should enjoy the same freedom and the same exemption from federal interference in their domestic affairs. The Southern people have done all in their power to prove their allegiance to the national government, their earnest desire to be at peace and to regain the prosperity lost through the insane policy of their leaders. What more can they do to entitle them to a full restoration of all their rights as American citizens? What more ought we to require of them? Some extreme politicians proclaim the desire to hold the South in chains until the generation living when rebellion was hatched shall have passed away; but so uncharitable a policy fortunately finds no favor with the people of the North, and would be destructive of republican institutions should it be attempted. Others justify the continuance of military rule over the Southern

States on the plea that should they be left to themselves the white citizens would strip the negroes of all their civil rights. No doubt in some localities prejudice might for a time discriminate against the colored voter, but prejudice in New York declaimed against the nomination of a Catholic for the office of Governor and would discriminate if it could against citizens of Irish nationality. Why should any one class of citizens receive special protection by the aid of special laws? The evils feared in the Southern States would find their own cure in time, as all such evils do, and should the Southern people be left wholly to themselves to manage their own affairs in their own way without federal intermeddling, negrophobia would soon be as dead in the South as Know Nothingism is in the North.

President Grant may be unable to remedy the evils in Louisiana. The Warmoth party has been beaten, and so far as the deposed Governor is concerned his fate will excite no sympathy except as he represents the outraged sovereignty of the State. But the President must now see clearly that the rights and interests of the white citizens of the South are made the prey of an unscrupulous set of political adventurers, and that the Enforcement act, instead of being simply a protection to the negroes, is used by designing men to destroy the last vestige of liberty in that unhappy section of the Union. \* \*

No act of President Grant's eventful life will win him greater credit and renown than the disenfranchisement of the Southern States. It is in his power to restore freedom and happiness to a large section of our own country. He has already prepared the way by denouncing the acts of the politicians engaged in the "miserable scramble" for office at the South, and by deprecation of the Enforcement act as an extreme and undesirable law. Now let him deal such a final, sturdy blow at carpet-bag policy as he dealt at the Confederacy and he will win for himself a lasting fame second only to that of the Father of his Country.—*New York Herald*, Dec. 11.

### The Troubles in Louisiana.

The troubles in Louisiana, as well as in Alabama, South Carolina and other parts of the South, arise primarily from the reconstruction policy of Congress, or, more properly speaking, from the policy of the dominant radical republican party. In disfranchising the intelligent and leading men of the South, and in elevating the whole mass of ignorant negroes to political power, we find the cause of the present deplorable state of things. The object, as is well known, was to secure the votes of the Southern States so as to perpetuate the rule of the radical republican party. This might be considered altogether unfair in a strictly party or political sense, and it may be that any other party would have used the same advantage for a like purpose. Nevertheless, this feeling has proved disastrous. The world cannot be governed by ignorance. The attempt to govern the South through the mass of ignorant blacks, who were just emancipated from slavery and who were not at all prepared for civic duties, has proved a lamentable failure, as every statesman must have seen it would. But, to make matters worse, the dominant party, in carrying out its policy, flooded the Southern States with carpet baggers, with men of no means or conscience and no feeling of abiding interest in that section of the country. These unscrupulous and needy adventurers were placed in positions of power and trust, while those who belonged to and had a deep interest in the peace and welfare of the South were ostracised. The "miserable scramble" that President Grant speaks of for the spoils of office is among these very adventurers. Still the Federal government appears to adhere to its original policy, notwithstanding the frightful consequences that have resulted from it, for we have seen one faction sustained in Louisiana and another in Alabama, which are in accord with the party in power at Washington, regardless of the will of the people, the right of local self government, or the forms of State law.

Such corruption and anarchy as exist now in the South are not only injurious to that section; not only check its progress and material interests, and, therefore, prove damaging to the business interests of the North, but they are infectious, and must in the end demoralize the whole Republic. It is, in fact, a long step toward centralization, despotism and military rule. It is the way in which all nations have marched the lib-

erties and institutions of which have been subverted or overturned.—*N. Y. Herald*.

### FOREIGN NOTES.

After some time spent in experimenting and contriving, the new gun with which the German army is to be equipped has at last been completed, and the right of manufacturing it given to private establishments, in order to hasten a rapid supply. This weapon will carry about the distance of an English mile with a sure right. It can be made to shoot 26 rounds per minute, which is two more than the Wender gun has been able to accomplish. The weapon itself is very light and easy to be handled. As it is superior to either the Werder or Chasspot gun, it promises to accomplish the object for which it was made. It is understood to be the aim of the German government to furnish the army with this gun as soon as possible, so that at the expiration of three years at most the whole force will be completely equipped. Europe regards this peaceable proposition of the great power with anxious eyes.

From an article in the *Paris Constitutionnel* we learn that England has spent the following sums for her wars from the year 1688 to 1815, the period of her greatest power: 1. The war began in 1688 and concluded in 1697, by the treaty of Ryswick, cost 900 millions. 2. The Spanish war of succession from 1702-1713 cost one milliard 503 millions. 3. The Austrian war of succession, from 1739-1748, one milliard 350 millions. 4. The seven years' war, 1756-1763, two milliards 800 millions. 5. The American war, 1775-1783, three milliards 600 millions. 6. The war of the French Revolution, from 1793-1802, eleven milliards 597 millions. 7. The war with Napoleon, 1803-1815, twenty-five milliards 975 millions. The poor rats kept almost even pace with the wars: In 1748 it was 12,000,000; in 1763, 25,000,000; in 1783, 43,000,000; in 1802, 88,000,000; and in 1815, 137,000,000. Within these 153 years England has, therefore, had sixty-five years of war which have cost her seventy-two milliards 537 millions of francs. Of this sum, 51,725,000,000 were met by the revenues of the country and only 20,210,000,000 by loans.

### EASTERN NOTES.

Mrs. Vanderpoel recently delivered a lecture, on "How women live in New York," in the Cooper Institute in that city. She "was in full dress—that is, half dress." She thought woman's lot harder than man's. America, she said, was once noted for its chivalry, that was in the good old days of the Knickerbockers, when men and women were supposed to be ladies and gentlemen, and when they aided and sympathized with women striving to be industrious and honest. This chivalrous disposition went out from the country when the great influx of foreign population and shoddy aristocracy came and American society became coarse. She then told stories of many girls of her acquaintance who, finding no helping hand in this city, were pressed by poverty to the grave, or to a fate sadder still. The only cure, she said, was to work at honest work wherever found.

The English republican agitator, Bradlaugh, has written a letter to an American correspondent in London, giving his views of the progress and prospects of republican ideas in England. He says: English republican clubs will soon combine to form a national association. He does not favor an alliance with communists. In his opinion, it is perfectly lawful to dethrone the reigning family by Parliamentary means. Bradlaugh claims that republican ideas are having a steady growth throughout that country. If landed proprietors will make liberal concessions, he hopes the republic may be postponed, since he regards the land question as the real battle field in Great Britain. He says:—"The agricultural laborers have been aroused by hunger and misery from political lethargy. Empty bellies think fiercely, and it will require much more than a Bishop of Gloucester's sneer at agitators, or a Duke of Marlborough's threat against malcontents, to check this movement among farm laborers. One of them told me the other day, 'There are hundreds of us who want to join you, if you will come among us and tell us how.' Bradlaugh concludes by advocating perfect religious freedom.