

OUR NATION.

BY E. R. S.

Tune,—“Benji on the Rhine.”

How came this mighty nation?  
From whence the germ of power?  
It first appeared on “Plymouth Rock”—  
It came from Europe’s shore:  
Emerging from its weakness,  
And from th’ oppressor’s hand,  
It pluck’d the brightest laurel wreath,  
And claim’d the happiest land.  
It grew in might and majesty—  
In greatness, wealth, and skill;  
And held its future destiny  
Subservient to its will:  
Kingdoms and empires, one by one,  
Came bending to its shrine,  
While gems of art and genius  
In blending beauty shine.  
Beauty, beauty  
In blending beauty shine.  
A change came o’er the nation  
That once was brave and free,  
That boasted of its patriotism—  
Its peace and liberty:  
Whose broad sail kiss’d the ocean breeze—  
Whose steamers plow’d the deep—  
Whose glory lighted distant seas—  
Whose prowess seal’d the deep—  
Whose sons, in war, were valiant—  
In peace, like pillars stood  
To guard the post of human right—  
To bless and shield the good.  
Its banner, every country hail’d,  
And call’d th’ oppressor to come;  
And where protection triumph’d,  
Enjoy a peaceful home.  
Peaceful, peaceful,  
Enjoy a peaceful home.

Ala-lala! our nation  
Has fallen—O how chang’d!  
From justice, truth and liberty  
How fearfully estranged!  
Its honor has departed,  
Its beauty is despoiled,  
Its soaring eagle’s char’d away,  
Its banner is defiled.  
The light of freedom has gone down,  
The son of peace has fled;  
And war’s fell demon marches on,  
With fierce and haughty tread!  
The holy ties of brotherhood,  
He desecrated now—  
Round freedom’s blood-bathed altar,  
Vile sons of Mammon bow!  
Mammon, mammon,  
Vile sons of Mammon bow.  
The peace that fled our nation  
Has won a coronet,  
In its only earthly refuge  
In the land of Deseret.  
Amid the Rocky Mountains  
A Phoenix has appear’d,  
An ensign has been lifted up,  
A standard has been rear’d,  
By men, who, with the help of God,  
A cruel bondage broke,  
And saved a loyal people from  
A base, fraternal yoke.  
The crown of freedom now is placed  
Where freedom’s crown should be;  
And the noblest hearts are shouting  
God, Truth and Liberty.  
Shouting, shouting,  
God, Truth and Liberty.

\*The Governor’s Flag.

G. S. L. City, Oct. 1862.

EXPOUNDING THE LAW.

The Internal Revenue Law, passed at the last session of Congress, notwithstanding its extreme verbosity and intended precision and completeness is found, in its workings, to contain many ambiguous sentences and provisions which not a few of those intrusted with its execution do not readily comprehend, and fearing they may go astray and do themselves, the Government or the tax-payers a wrong, they are constantly, it seems, making applications to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell, for explanations of the law, its intent and meaning in the several instances which they find it impossible for them to act understandingly and safely in the premises. The Commissioner has, thus far, as understood, readily, with the assistance of the Solicitor of the Treasury, complied with the requests that have thus been made, and not only expounded the law in question, as clearly as possible, but has given instructions to the beggled, how to proceed, where the *modus operandi* was not definitely pointed out. His duties, as an expounder, have been exceedingly arduous, and his decisions, explanations and comments have already become quite extensive, and, if continued, will soon be as voluminous, and, perhaps, quite as instructive and interesting as Scott’s commentaries, although some Christians might not consider them equally essential to their salvation.

The right of the Commissioner to make decisions and give instructions for the guidance of his subordinates, in the discharge of their respective duties in the collection of the Internal Revenue Taxes, is not questioned, for it is expressly his right and duty to do so, and without expounding the law would, in many instances, become a nullity, and could not be executed; but while the right to expound the enactment is accorded to Commissioner Boutwell, it is denied as to every officious upstart of a lawyer or interested pettifogger in the country, and every such individual who undertakes to explain the provisions of the odious and oppressive statute, as many consider it to be, to the prejudice of individuals who are not sufficiently informed to understand what is and what is not required of them, in every particular, but are afraid to transact business without consulting an attorney, lest they might do something wrong, ought to be compelled to pay the damage accruing to persons through this ignorant, unjust or unwise counsel, and to pay a heavy pecuniary fine for giving wrong advice, and that without licence. A few lessons of that kind might learn some of the professed law expounders wisdom, and be a material benefit to community.

THE SIOUX-INDIAN WAR.

The Indian war in Minnesota is reported at an end, and that about two thousand Indians surrendered to General Sibley. Little Crow was not of the number of those who surrendered, but, as reported, he departed westward for the Yankton country with a considerable number of his warriors before it was too late. A large cavalry force was sent in pursuit of the vanquished and retreating chief, and hopes were entertained that he would be captured with all his adherents. There were those, however, notwithstanding the flattering reports which were made by General Sibley and by General Pope, commanding the department of the Northwest, announcing the result of the campaign against the Indians, who believed that they have not been very thoroughly subdued; that it will be no easy matter to catch Little Crow, and that more depredations may be expected from the natives of that region inclined to war.

The reports from the scenes of the Minnesota war are somewhat conflicting, but it seems that the Sioux or Dacotah Indians are considerably divided, some being for peace while others prefer war, and, it is reported, that those who are opposed to burying the tomahawk have murdered many of those who have accepted presents from the Government, and have attacked some of the bands who did not and will not join them in the war.

Some of the friendly and peaceably inclined Dacotahs had an interview with General Sibley at the mouth of the Chippewa river, and through them some ninety captives had been returned. They had separated from the war party and feared an attack from their blood-thirsty brethren. They claimed protection from General Sibley, which he promised to extend to them.

A military commission, had, at latest dates, tried several of those who surrendered or were captured, accused of being engaged in the massacre, some of whom had been found guilty, and sentenced to be hung—a mulatto who had distinguished himself by deeds of blood, was of the number.

The inhabitants (by hundreds and thousands,) who fled from their homes on the breaking out of the war, are represented to be returning with their flocks and herds, under the assurance that the war has terminated, which, if not true and a treaty of peace be not made with the disaffected bands and they become reconciled, the settlers on the frontiers may not be as safe as represented.

MORE COMPLAINTS.—The eastern mail has arrived here of late with great regularity, but long and loud complaints are made about newspapers, magazines, etc., “coming up missing,” more frequently than heretofore, and some seem anxious to know the reason, which is, probably, because there is a greater demand for such things along the route than in the summer season. Such has ever been the case, and it is useless to complain for there is no remedy for the evil, and it will have to be endured till Satan shall be bound, and his emissaries banished from the country or ejected from the plains.

CALIFORNIA ITEMS.

It is announced that the Secretary of War has authorized Governor Andrews, of Massachusetts, to accept a cavalry company from California, and notice to that effect has been received in San Francisco, and thereupon a move was made to raise the company forthwith; the members of which are to uniform themselves and provide their own saddles, sabres, revolvers and all equipments excepting horses. To each enlisted man constituting the company the city of Boston is to pay two hundred dollars, which will defray the cost of passage by Panama. The company is expected to be ready to start shortly for the seat of war.

Five of the leaders in the Healdsburg land riots have been sentenced to pay \$500 fine and imprisonment in the county jail for a limited time.

Col. Kerren, of Los Angeles, who was recently arrested and confined at Fort Alcatraz, for alleged disloyalty, soon became weary of confinement, took the oath of allegiance and gave bonds in the sum of \$5,000 as security against the too free use of his tongue, should he have any more secession spasms.

The boiler of the National Flouring mill, San Francisco, exploded on the morning of the 25th ult., killing several persons and seriously injuring many others. The loss was estimated at \$40,000.

On the night of the 24th of October, Henry Wilkinson and Warren Hall, the driver and the road agent of the Colorado Express Company, were murdered at the rancho of Dr. Smith, near Los Angeles, by a man named Gordon, in the employ of the same company. He was after the gold dust in the express boxes, and made his escape.

Large donations continue to be made to the Sanitary Fund throughout the State. The citizens of Sacramento, notwithstanding the great losses they have sustained by floods within the past year have contributed liberally.

It is stated that there are not less than 2,000 acres of all varieties of vines, planted and in bearing, within a circuit of ten miles about Sonoma. The yield is stated at from 350 to 500 gallons per acre this season.

PLUNDERING “OLD ZACK’S” PLANTATION.

A soldier of the 8th Vermont, in a letter published in the Montpelier Journal, gives an account of the plundering, by his regiment, of the plantation of the late Gen. Zachary Taylor, near Baton Rouge, owned by his son Gen. Richard Taylor, of the Confederate army.

The soldier says:

“It is one of the most splendid plantations that I ever saw. There are on it seven hundred acres of sugar cane, which must rot upon the ground if the government does not have it. I wish you could have seen the soldiers plunder this plantation. After the stock was driven off the boys began by ordering the slaves to bring out everything there was to eat and drink. They brought out hundreds of bottles of wine, eggs, preserved figs and peaches, turkeys, chickens and honey in any quantity.

I brought away a large camp-kettle and frying pans that belonged to old General Taylor, and also many of his private papers. I have one letter of his own handwriting, and many from Secretary Marcy; some from Gen. Scott, and some from the traitor Floyd. I brought to camp four bottles of claret wine. Lieutenant — brought away half a barrel of the best syrup from the sugar house, and a large can of honey. The camp-kettle and pans I intend to send home. They are made of heavy tin covered with copper. I think I will send home the private papers by mail, if I do not let any one have them. The camp is loaded down with plunder—all kinds of clothing, rings, watches, guns, pistols, swords, and some of Gen. Taylor’s old hats and coats, belts, swords, and, in fact, every old relic he had is worn about the camp. You and every one may be thankful that you are out of the reach of plundering armies. Here are whole families of women and children running in the woods—large plantations entirely deserted—nothing left except slaves too old to run away—all kinds of the best mahogany furniture broken to pieces. Nothing is respected.”

NEW PUBLICATION.—We have received the first number of the *Reform*, a new periodical published at Geneva, Switzerland, in the German language, by John L. Smith. It contains sixteen pages, and appears to be well got up, and is printed in large type. Its pages are devoted to the dissemination of the light of Zion in that far off land. Success to the *Reform*.

HEALTHFUL OBSERVANCES.

1. To eat when you do not feel like it is brutal—nay, this is a slander on the lower animals, they do not so debase themselves.
2. Do not enter a sick chamber on an empty stomach, nor remain a watcher or nurse until you feel almost exhausted, nor sit between the patient and the fire, nor in the direction of a current of air, nor eat or drink anything after being in a sick room until you have rinsed your mouth thoroughly.
3. Do not sleep in any garment worn during the day.
4. Most grown persons are unable to sleep soundly and refreshingly over seven hours in Summer and eight in Winter; the attempt to force more sleep on the system by a nap in the daytime, or a “second nap” in the morning, renders the whole of the sleep disturbed and imperfect.
5. Some of the most painful ‘stomach aches’ are occasioned by indigestion; this generates wind, and hence distension. It is often promptly remedied by kneading the abdomen with the ball of the hand, skin to skin, from one side to another, from the lower edge of the ribs downward, because the accumulated air is forced on and outward along the alimentary canal.
6. When you return to your house from a long walk or other exhaustive exercise, go to the fire or warm room, and do not remove a single article of clothing until you have taken a cup or more of some kind of warm drink.
7. In going in a colder atmosphere keep the mouth closed, and walk with a rapidity sufficient to keep off a feeling of chilliness.
8. Two pairs of thin stockings will keep the feet warmer than one pair of a greater thickness than both.
9. The night-sweats of disease come on toward daylight; their deathly clamminess and coldness is greatly modified by sleeping in a single, loose, long woolen shirt.
10. The man or woman who drinks a cup of strong tea or coffee, or other stimulant, in order to aid in the better performance of any work or duty, public or private, is a fool, because it is to the body and brain and expenditure of what is not yet got; it is using power in advance, and this can never be done, even once, with impunity.
11. The less a man drinks of anything in hot weather the better, for the more we drink the more we want to drink, until even ice water pales and becomes of a metallic taste; hence the longer you can put off drinking cold water on the morning of a hot day the better you will feel at night.
12. Drinking largely at meals, even of cold water or simple teas, is a mere habit, and is always hurtful. No one should drink at any one meal more than a quarter of a pint of any liquid, even of cold water, for it always retards, impairs, and interferes with a healthful digestion.
13. If you sleep at all in the daytime it will interfere with the soundness of your sleep at night, much less if the nap be taken in the forenoon.
14. A short nap in the daytime may be necessary to some. Let it not exceed ten minutes. To this end sleep with the forehead resting on a chair-back or edge of the table.
15. Never swallow an atom of food while in a passion, or if under any great mental excitement, whether of a depressing or elevating character: brutes won’t do it.—[Hall’s Journal of Health.]

INFORMATION WANTED.—Inquiry is made through the *Millennial Star* for Jeremiah Whitehouse, formerly of the Birmingham Conference, who emigrated to Utah in 1859, and any person having knowledge of his whereabouts will confer a favor by communicating to William Stoker, 7 Coley Street, Reading, Berkshire, England.

Fritz or Fred. Farrer, late from Switzerland, is also inquired after by his friends. He is supposed to be in Tooele county. With him or some of his acquaintances report either to us or to G. A. Smith, Historian’s Office.

THE LAST TRAIN OF THE SEASON.—Capt. Dame’s freight train, some forty or fifty wagons, with a few immigrants, arrived on Wednesday last, Oct. 29th, which was the last train from the Missouri river expected this season. Considering all the circumstances, the immigration this season has been exceedingly prosperous, and attended with less accidents than usual, although there has been considerable sickness among the immigrants and more deaths have occurred, according to the number, than last year.

MUSIC.—The attention of those directly interested, is respectfully called to the advertisement of Prof. Raymond, who offers his professional services as a teacher of music to those wishing instruction upon the pianoforte, melodeon, and organ, and also as an agent for the purchase and importation of pianos, etc., from the east. Mr. Raymond has the reputation of being an accomplished teacher, and will unquestionably give satisfaction to all who may favor him with their patronage.