

# THE GREENVILLE ENTERPRISE.

Devoted to News, Politics, Intelligence, and the Improvement of the State and Country.

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## Selected Poetry.

### The Sword of Robert Lee.

BY "MOIRA."

Forth from the scabbard, pure and bright,  
Flashed the sword of Lee!  
Far in the front in the deadly fight,  
High o'er the grave, in the case of right,  
Its stainless sheen, like a beacon light,  
Led us to the victory.

Out of its scabbard, where full long  
It slumbered peacefully—  
Roused from its rest by the battle song;  
Shielding the feeble, smiting the strong,  
Guarding their right, avenging the wrong—  
Gleamed the sword of Lee!

Forth from the scabbard, high in the air,  
Reseach Virginia's sky—  
And they who saw it gleaming there:  
And knew who bore it kneeling to swear  
That where that sword led they would dare  
To follow and to die.

Out of its scabbard—Never hand  
Waved sword from stain as free,  
Nor purer sword led braver band,  
Nor braver band had a cause as grand,  
Nor cause, a chief like Lee!

Forth from its scabbard! how we prayed  
That sword might victor be!  
And when our triumph was delayed,  
And many a heart grew sore of aid,  
We still hoped on while gleamed the blade  
Of noble Robert Lee!

Forth from its scabbard! all in vain!  
Forth flashed the sword of Lee!  
'Tis shrouded now in its sheath again,  
It sleeps the sleep of our noble slain,  
Defeated, yet without a stain,  
Proudly and peacefully.

\*Father A. J. Ryan, author of the celebrated lines on the "Conquered Banner."

From the Charleston News.

## ROBERT EDMUND LEE.

### The Career of the Great Captain.

#### BIRTH AND LINEAGE.

Robert Edmund Lee, was born at Stratford, Westmoreland County, Va., January 19, 1807, in the room where Richard Henry and Francis Lightfoot Lee were born. Deceased from the Lees of Ditchley in England, one of whom married one of the daughters of Charles II by the Duchess of Cleveland, his family has been distinguished in Virginia for two hundred years. Two of his grand-uncles were signers of the Declaration of Independence. His father was the famous "Lighthorse Harry" of revolutionary fame, who served terms in the Federal Congress, and as Governor of Virginia, and whose first wife was also a Lee. Robert E. Lee was of the issue of a second marriage—the second son of Henry Lee and his wife Anne, daughter of Charles Carter, of Shirley.

#### AT WEST POINT.

At the age of 12 his father died, and he was placed by his mother in the Military Academy at West Point, where he remained four years, graduating in 1829, second in a class of eighteen, since remarkable for the brilliancy of their records. The young cadet was at once appointed to a lieutenancy in the Corps of Topographical Engineers. In 1832 he was married to Miss Custis, the daughter of George Washington Parke Custis, the adopted son of General Washington, and thus became proprietor of the celebrated Arlington estate. By this marriage he had four sons and three daughters. For years Mrs. Lee has been unable to walk, but has borne her affliction with a Christian fortitude and patience which wonderfully sustains her under her present sore bereavement.

#### THE MEXICAN WAR.

Through the uneventful years of military life between his appointment and the Mexican war, he rose only to the rank of captain. His singular capacities had impressed themselves strongly on his superiors, however, and when General Scott invaded Mexico, Captain Lee was appointed chief engineer of the army under General Wool. In this branch of the service, General Lee, like the great Bonaparte, won his first recognition, and General Scott instantly advanced the young officer, to whose skill he attributed the reduction of Vera Cruz. He was placed on the general staff, and directed almost exclusively the engineering operations of the army of invasion. In every action sub-

sequently fought during the campaign, General Scott takes occasion to mention the skill, enterprise and wonderful judgment of his young aid. Lee received two promotions for his services in the campaign. In 1847 he was brevetted Major in recognition of his brilliant co-operation at Cerro Gordo; and later, at Chapultepec and Contreras, he was raised to the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

#### RETURN TO WEST POINT.

He was furthermore honored with the post of superintendent at West Point, retaining his field-rank. In this position he remained three years, working energetic reform and augmenting the efficiency of the institute by wise measures and profitable suggestions to Congress. Through his recommendation, the course of study, which had hitherto covered but four years, was increased to five, rendering it as complete and rigorous as those in Europe. In the midst of this brilliant administrative career, Congress authorized the raising of two cavalry regiments, and of the second Colonel Lee was appointed lieutenant-colonel. The regiment was commanded by Albert Sidney Johnson. The regiment, when organized, in 1855, was sent to Texas, and remained on duty on the southwestern border until 1859, fighting Indians and performing general garrison duty. On the occasion of

#### THE FAMOUS JOHN BROWN RAID

at Harper's Ferry, Colonel Lee was assigned to the command of the forces sent to suppress the outbreak. He arrived there during the night of October 17, 1859, finding Brown and his motley crew of supporters entrenched in the engine-house, and closely besieged by Captain Simms and the Maryland militia. Colonel Lee brought with him ninety marines and two pieces of artillery. He took possession of the armory ground, close to the enemy's position, and put his forces in camp. At 7 o'clock on the following morning, he ordered an assault upon the engine-house, which was carried by the impetuosity of the marines, two of whom, however, were wounded, and one insurgent shot. Brown was struck in the face with a sabre, and afterward bayoneted; but survived to expiate his crime upon the gallows.

#### SECESSION—HIS RESIGNATION.

In 1861 Colonel Lee rejoined his regiment at San Antonio, Texas, and remained there until the firing on Sumter. On the 20th of April, 1861, Colonel Lee, after a service of twenty-five years, resigned his position in the United States Army, sending his letter of resignation to General Scott, at Washington. It was in the following terms:

ARLINGTON, VA., April 20, 1861.

General—Since my interview with you on the 18th instant, I have felt that I ought not longer to retain my commission in the army. I therefore tender my resignation, which I request you will recommend for acceptance. It would have been presented at once, but for the struggle it has cost me to separate myself from a service to which I have devoted all the best years of my life, and all the ability I possessed.

During the whole of that time—more than a quarter of a century—I have experienced nothing but kindness from my superiors, and the most cordial friendship from my comrades. To no one, General, have I been as much indebted as to yourself for uniform kindness and consideration, and it has always been my ardent desire to meet your approbation. I shall carry to the grave the most grateful recollections of your kind consideration, and your name and fame will always be dear to me.

Save in defence of my native State, I never desire again to draw my sword. Be pleased to accept my most earnest wishes for the continuance of your happiness and prosperity, and believe me most truly yours,  
R. E. LEE.

To his sister, the wife of a United States officer, he wrote:

My Dear Sister—I am grieved at my inability to see you. \* \* \* I have been waiting for a more "convenient season" which has brought to many before me, deep and lasting regret. We are now in a state of war which will yield to nothing. The whole South is in a state of revolution, into which Virginia, after a long struggle, has been drawn; and though I recognize no necessity for this state of things, and would have forborne and pleaded to the end for redress of grievances, real or supposed, yet in my own person I had to meet the question whether I should take part against my native State.—With all my devotion to the Union, and a feeling of loyalty and duty

of an American citizen, I have not been able to make up my mind to raise my hand against my relatives, my children, my home. I have, therefore, resigned my commission in the army, and save in defence of my native State—with the sincere hope that my poor services may never be needed—I hope I may never be called upon to draw my sword.

#### IN THE CONFEDERATE SERVICE.

This was the only "definition" of his position ever given by him. His resignation was instantly accepted, and he at once took up his residence in Richmond, as commander of the forces in Virginia, with the rank of Major-General, to which he had been appointed by Governor Letcher. He remained in his State, and set to work to organize the State troops, declining any command that took him into the general service of the Confederacy. At this time Montgomery was the Confederate capital, and the Virginia troops were virtually independent; but, soon after the assumption of command by General Lee, the seat of government was transferred to Richmond, and he was formally recognized as one of the Confederate chiefs, receiving the rank—hitherto unknown in this country—of full general. He was thus placed third on the list of the army roster, Cooper, and Albert Sidney Johnson only outranking him in priority of appointment. He was assigned to command the forces in Western Virginia, to oppose Generals McClellan and Rosecrans. The Confederate campaign in this quarter was feeble, badly managed, and unsuccessful. General Lee was recalled, and, on account of his skill as an engineer, he was sent to examine the defences on the Atlantic coast. For several months, while thus engaged, his headquarters were in Charleston or its vicinity.

#### HIS GREAT VICTORIES.

In May, 1862, McClellan marched up the peninsula. The battle of Seven Pines took place, in which General Joseph E. Johnson was wounded, and General Lee was put in his stead in command of the Confederate forces. Soon followed the great battles before Richmond, from Mechanicsville to Malvern Hill, in which General Lee's name became famous the world over.—In these battles more than 10,000 prisoners were taken—fifty-two pieces of artillery, and upwards of 35,000 stand of small arms. From this time forth all the hope of the people of the South were centered in General Lee.—The whole army was placed in his hands. He it was that ordered all its movements, and was entitled to the credit for the strategy employed. He ordered the movements which resulted in the famous battles of the following August—Cedar Mountain, Second Manassas, &c. On the 3d of September his army crossed the Potomac, and on the 17th was fought the grand battle of Sharpsburg. General Lee always claimed this as a victory. His army, however, returned to Virginia at once. On the 13th of December, 1862, occurred the battle of Fredericksburg, one of the most complete successes of the war. In 1863, May 2d, the battle of the Wilderness was fought. The success here, too, was complete, but Jackson fell. Here, too, General Lee showed the greatness of his heart in that celebrated letter to the dying chieflain, in which he said that for his country's sake he could wish it had been himself instead of Jackson that had been wounded. On the 4th of May the battle was renewed, and resulted in the defeat of the Federal army and its retreat, with a loss of 17,000 killed, wounded and prisoners, fourteen pieces of artillery, and 30,000 stand of arms. This was called the battle of Chancellorsville. General Lee again marched northwards. He went in Pennsylvania with his little army, and there on the 2d and 3d of July, 1863, fought the bloody battles which, though rather drawn battles than victories for either side, much more seriously damaged that army whose losses could not be repaired. In May, 1864, occurred the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House, &c. General Grant was constantly repulsed, but as constantly renewed his flank movement until he landed upon the banks of the James. There were many battles of more or less importance during 1864, and the beginning of 1865. April 2d, 1865, occurred the evacuation of Richmond, and began the retreat of General Lee's army from Petersburg. April 9, he surrendered a skeleton of an army to overwhelming numbers.

#### HIS LAST ILLNESS.

The remote and real cause of his death, (according to his physicians, Drs. Barton and Madison,) was the long continuance of depressing influences incident to the crushing responsibilities which were upon him during the last year of the war, the disastrous termination of the struggle for the cause he so dearly loved, and the afflictions of his native South since the surrender. As he saw his little army gradually melt away before the countless hosts opposed to them, and compelled to yield at last to overwhelming numbers and resources; as he witnessed the sufferings of his "poor boys," as he was accustomed to call them, and thought of the condition of their families and of the South; as his mails have been flooded ever since with most piteous letters from maimed soldiers or from the widows and orphans of the noble men who followed him, he has borne a calm exterior, and struggled for the good of his State and the South with a heroism surpassing any which he ever displayed on the field of battle. But the very fibres of his great heart have been gradually wearing away, until they have at last broken, and the vital spark has fled. Both of his eminent physicians concur in the opinion that General Lee had died rather from moral than physical causes; that his physical development was well nigh perfect, and that there was no merely physical reason why he might not have lived for years to come. The immediate cause of his death was, in the opinion of his physicians, "mental and physical fatigue, inducing venous congestion of the brain, which, however, never proceeded as far as apoplexy or paralysis, but gradually caused cerebral exhaustion and death."

#### HIS LAST HOURS.

On Wednesday, September 28th, he was more than usually busy. After attending chapel service, as he always did, he spent the whole morning attending to various matters connected with the interests of the college. At 4 o'clock P. M. he went to a meeting of the vestry of his church, over which he presided. Matters of great importance to the interests of the church were under consideration, and the meeting was protracted for three hours. Returning home just in time for tea, he was sitting at the table with his family when he was suddenly attacked, and became apparently speechless and incapable of motion. The next morning he rallied,

#### FAREWELL TO HIS TROOPS.

The next day General Lee took formal leave of his army in the following address:

#### HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, April 10th, 1865.

After four years of arduous service, marked by unsurpassed courage and fortitude, the Army of Northern Virginia has been compelled to yield to overwhelming numbers and resources.

I need not tell the survivors of so many hard-fought battles, who have remained steadfast to the last, that I have consented to this result from no distrust of them; but feeling that valor and devotion could accomplish nothing that could compensate for the loss that would have attended the continuation of the contest, I have determined to avoid the needless sacrifice of those whose past services have endeared them to their countrymen.

By the terms of agreement, officers and men can return to their homes, and remain there until exchanged. You will take with you the satisfaction that proceeds from consciousness of duty faithfully performed, and I earnestly pray that a merciful God will extend to you His blessing and protection. With an unceasing admiration of your constancy and devotion to your country, and a grateful remembrance of your kind and generous consideration for myself, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

R. E. LEE, General.

#### IN A NEW POSITION.

In August, 1865, General Lee was made president of Washington College. His name and fame soon made that a popular institution. In this position he has since remained, closely confining himself to the duties it imposed, until driven last spring, by failing health, to seek recuperation in travel.—The janet he then took, for the first time since the termination of the war, through the country he had so heroically defended, it was characterized by a series of ovations which he found it impossible wholly to avoid, and hardly he looked upon as a violation of his self-imposed pledge to avoid such demonstrations.

#### CAUSE OF HIS LAST ILLNESS.

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#### and as there were no decisive indications of paralysis or of apoplexy, it was hoped that the attack would prove nothing more serious than a temporary nervous prostration. All of the indications seemed favorable to his recovery until last Monday. He spoke but little, and that only in answer to questions concerning his physical condition. But this showed that he had recovered the power of speech. His intellect seemed entirely clear, and he gave most unmistakable evidences that while he lay for the most part in a stupor, to which the medicines given him no doubt largely contributed, he was, when aroused, entirely conscious. He seemed so much better on Saturday that Dr. Madison playfully said to him: "General, you must make haste and get up from this bed." "Traveler is getting lazy, and you must make haste and give him the exercise he needs." The General fixed his eyes steadily upon him and shook his head very emphatically, as if to indicate that he did not expect to ride "Traveler" again. On Monday he became suddenly worse, and despite the best efforts of his medical skill as the country affords, and the fervent prayers of anxious hearts, he gradually sank until Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock, when he breathed his last. The nature of his illness was such that there was no opportunity for protracted conversation with him, and he uttered no word which can be seized on for sensational reports of his last hours. He was stricken at the post of duty. He fell with the harness on, and his calm, quiet death is a fit termination of his noble life.

#### True Charity.

Night kissed the young rose, and it went softly to sleep. Stars above, and pure dew drops hung upon its bosom to watch its sweet slumbers. Morning came with its dancing breeze; they whispered to the young rose, and it awoke joyous and smiling; lightly dancing to and fro in all the loveliness of youth and innocence. Then came the ardent sun-god sweeping from the East, he smote the young rose with his scorching rays, and it faded. Deserted and almost heart-broken it dropped to the dust in loneliness and despair.—Now the gentle breeze which had been gamboling over the sea, pushing on the home-bound bark, sweeping over hill and dale—by the neat cottage and still brook, turning the old mill, fanning the brow of disease, and frisking the curls of innocent childhood—came tripping along on her errand of mercy, and when she saw the young rose she hastened to kiss it and fondly bathed its forehead in cool refreshing showers, the young rose revived, looked up and smiled in gratitude to the young breeze; but she hurried quickly away, her generous task was performed, yet not without reward; for she soon perceived that a delicious fragrance had been poured on her wings by the grateful rose; the kind breeze was glad in heart, and went away singing through the trees. Thus true charity, like the breeze, gathers fragrance from the drooping flowers she refreshes, and unconsciously reaps a reward in the performance of her offices of kindness, which steals on the heart like a rich perfume, to bless and to cheer.

#### How Monkeys are Caught.

From the chapter of Menageries, in Olive Logan's "Before the Foot Lights and Behind the Scenes," we make the following extract: "Monkeys are such cunning creatures, one would suppose them more difficult to catch than other wild animals. Pitfalls will take a lion, and the famished monarch of the forest will, after a few days' starvation, dart into a cage containing food, and thus be secured. But how are monkeys caught?—The ape family resembles man.—Their vices are human. They love liquor and fall. In Dufur and Sannar the natives make fermented beer, of which the monkeys are passionately fond. Aware of this, the natives go to the parts of the forests frequented by the monkeys, and set on the ground calabashes full of the enticing liquor. As soon as the monkey sees and tastes it, he utters loud cries of joy, that soon attract his comrades. Then an orgie begins, and in a short time the beasts show all degrees of intoxication. Then the negroes appear. They are too far gone to distract them, but apparently take them for larger species of their own genus. The negroes take some up, and then begin immediately to weep and cover them with kisses. When a negro takes one by the hand to lead him off, the nearest monkey will cling to the one who thus finds a support, and endeavor to go off also. Another will grasp at him, and so on, till the negro leads a staggering line of ten or a dozen tipsy monkeys. When finally brought to the village they are securely caged, and gradually sobered down; but for two or three days a gradually diminishing supply of liquor is given them, so as to reconcile them by degrees to their state of captivity.

#### A TRADE A FORTUNE.

If parents would consider the welfare and happiness of their children, they would choose the virtuous mechanic, farmer, or honest trader, as companions and helpmates, instead of the rich, who aside from their income, have no means of subsistence. How often does this question arise, and from religious parents, too, in choosing companions and suitors for their daughters: "Is he rich?" If the daughter answers, "Yes, and can live without work," the parents are pleased.

#### A PENNSYLVANIA PAPER TELLS OF A "NOTE SHYDER" IN MEADVILLE.

A Pennsylvania paper tells of a "note shyer" in Meadville who keeps the trunk containing his securities near the head of his bed, and lays awake to hear them draw interest.

#### A GOOD CAUSE MAKES A STOUT HEART AND STRONG ARM.

How many bitter quarrels, the source of deplorable divisions in families, might be avoided or cut short at the outset by a little reflection. Even if charity did not induce us to forgive our brethren, should not self-interest oblige us to do so? Do you know of any one who ever gained anything by giving himself up to bitterness and revenge? To break with one's own kindred is to break those natural ties with which God has bound us; it is to impoverish and despoil our own life. And so it is, to some extent, to break with any one; for "have we not all one Father?" and is not every man thus our brother? [American Messenger.]

#### The End of Four Great Men.

The four great personages who occupy the most conspicuous places in the history of the world, are Alexander, Hannibal, Caesar, and Bonaparte.

Alexander, after having climbed the dizzy heights of ambition, and with chaplets dipped in the blood of millions, looked down upon a conquered world, and wopt that there was not another world for him to conquer—set a city on fire and died in a scene of debauch.

Hannibal, after having, to the astonishment and consternation of Rome, passed the Alps, and after having put to flight the armies of the mistress of the world, and slipped "three bushels of golden rings from the fingers of the slaughtered knights," and made her foundation quake, fled from his country, being hated by those who once exultingly united his name to that of their god, and called him Hina Baal, died at last in a foreign country, by poison administered with his own hand, unlauded and unwept.

Caesar, after having conquered eight hundred cities, and dyeing his garments in the blood of one million of his foes; after having pursued to death the only rival he had on earth, was miserably assassinated by those he considered his dearest friends; and in that very place the attainment of which had been his greatest ambition.

Bonaparte, whose mandates kings and popes obeyed, after having filled the earth with the terror of his name—and after having deluged Europe with tears and blood, and clothed the world in sackcloth—closed his days in lonely banishment, almost literally exiled from the world, yet where he could sometimes see his country's banner waving over the deep, but which did not and could not bring him aid.

#### WATER IS THE STRONGEST DRINK.

It drives miasms. It is the drink of lions. Samson never drank anything else. The beer money would soon build a house.

#### THE EFFECT OF THE PROHIBITORY LAW IN MASSACHUSETTS HAS BEEN TO DOUBLE THE MANUFACTURE OF MALT LIQUORS IN BOSTON.

ILLINOIS claims to have grown more rapidly in population during the past ten years than any other State in the Union.

#### IF WE ONLY KNEW HOW LITTLE SOME ENJOY THE RICHES THEY POSSESS, THERE WOULD NOT BE SO MUCH ENVY IN THE WORLD.

Be not affronted at a jest. If one throw salt at thee, thou wilt receive no harm, unless thou hast sore places.

#### THE CONTEMPLATION OF CELESTIAL THINGS WILL MAKE A MAN BOTH SPEAK AND THINK MORE SUBLIMELY AND MAGNIFICENTLY WHEN HE DESCENDS TO HUMAN AFFAIRS.—CICERO.

We often omit the good we might do, in consequence of thinking about that which is out of our power to do.

An exchange says that a roasted onion bound upon the pulse on the wrist, stops the most inveterate toothache in a few minutes.

It is an interesting sight to see a young lady with both hands in soft dough and a mosquito on the end of her nose.

An Irishman was challenged to fight a duel, but declined on the plea that he did not wish to leave his mother an orphan.

The most direct method of determining horse power—stand behind and tickle his hind legs with a briar.

An old Greenland seaman said he could really believe that crocodiles shed tears, for he had often seen whales blubber.

MAN may be a worm; but a glance at the dandies proves that he is not the worm that never dyes.

LIFE sometimes hangs by a single thread, but not long—hemp and fifteen minutes does the business.

WHEN a man is sleepy, what sort of transformation does he desire? He wishes he were a bed.

Don't use a microscope to see the evil around you; but magnify all the good you see.

Most misfortunes can be turned into blessings by waiting the tide of affairs.