

# THE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS.

VOLUME I.]

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## THE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS:

BY J. E. BRITTON.

THE TRI-WEEKLY NEWS is published on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at ONE DOLLAR per month, in advance. Single copies Ten Cents. Advertisements inserted at ONE DOLLAR per square, of eight lines or less, for the first, and SEVENTY-FIVE cents for each subsequent insertion, invariably in advance.

[Correspondence of the New York News.]

### The Conduct of Mr. Davis

IN PRISON CONSISTENT WITH HIS FORMER LIFE—HIS DEMEANOR AND LANGUAGE THOSE OF A CHRISTIAN AND A GENTLEMAN—NO EXCUSE OR PROVOCATION FOR HIS BEING PUT IN IRONS—HIS SAFE KEEPING DOES NOT REQUIRE CLOSE CONFINEMENT.

Washington, June 6, 1865.

I need not tell the readers of the News that all the ridiculous stories about Jefferson Davis, that have been set afloat ever since his capture, are pure fabrications, without the least foundation. They have originated, and have been circulated, with the sole design of making Mr. Davis appear ridiculous, and of depriving him of the sympathy which he otherwise would have received. Mr. Davis is our enemy; but he has been captured and is a prisoner; and never before in the history of any enlightened and Christian nation, has there been an instance where a captive has not been treated with kindness and gentleness, with courtesy, and with all that consideration which is due to the rank and the position which he formerly held. It has been reserved for this enlightened nation to treat an illustrious captive, a Christian, a gentleman, a man of refined habits, in a manner so cruel, so barbarous, so unnecessarily severe, as will leave an ineffaceable stain upon our history.

The falsehood about Mr. Davis having been disguised in female apparel is now exploded, and only brings ridicule upon those who believed it. It served its purpose, however, and probably not one in a thousand of those who heard the falsehood have since seen its contradiction. The inhuman treatment which Mr. Davis has received, however, since his incarceration in the dungeons of Fortress Monroe, deserves to be placed before the world in its true colors. I herewith send you the facts as I have learned them.

The conduct of Mr. Davis ever since he has been imprisoned in the Fortress has been exactly what those who were his former associates in the United States Senate would have expected from him. He knew that it was useless for him to struggle against his fate, or to repine at the misfortune that has befallen him. He has, therefore, accepted his misfortune in a spirit of true Christian resignation. He has never given utterance to an angry sentiment, nor used language unbecoming in a gentleman. The man is to be pitied, indeed, who is credulous enough to believe that Jefferson Davis railed at his jailors, or at the Government, that he threw his food at the head of the attendant, that he knocked down two of his guards in succession, and that he violently resisted the guards while they were placing the shackles and manacles on his limbs. Any man of common sense would know that it would do no good to act thus; and Jefferson Davis has never, for a moment, forgotten himself, or the position which he occupies in the eyes of the world. At some time, not far distant, the secrets of his prison house will be revealed.

Mr. Davis is entitled by the usages of nations, to the treatment of a general officer, and to the food and table service pertaining thereto. Every European Government would have recognized that right, and Mr. Davis, knowing that it was his, demanded it, in firm but courteous language. He refused to eat the coarse food brutally thrown down before him; and his right to proper food has since been grudgingly allowed. The placing of the manacles upon his limbs is an outrage for which there is no excuse. He was not violent; he did not knock down either one or two of his guard; he had done nothing affording the slightest pretext or provocation for such an outrage. It was done to gratify the most malignant feelings of revenge and hatred, and it was not authorized by President Johnson. It is pretended that the brutal act was ordered by General Miles, and that it was sanctioned by telegraph by Secretary Stanton. No resistance, except by words, was made to the last indignity. Who, but a crazy man, would

have thought of resisting a party of men composed of an officer, a blacksmith, and four strong soldiers, all armed to the teeth, with eight more soldiers at hand! All these facts, I repeat will one day be known to the world.

And now, how much more would it comport with the honor and dignity of the country; how much more lustre would it shed upon President Johnson's Administration, if General Miles had been directed to take the parole of Mr. Davis not to escape, and then to have allowed him the liberty of the Fortress, and a seat at the General's table? I presume a great many of your readers have seen Fortress Monroe, and remember its internal arrangement. Guarded as the prisoner could be, even with this liberty allowed to him, his escape would be literally impossible. With a guard of sixty vigilant men, twenty on duty all the time, with orders not to let him be out of their sight for a moment, he could not escape, even without his parole. It is not too late to change the manner of his imprisonment even now. It cannot be denied that, up to this time, the indignities that have been heaped upon Mr. Davis and his rigorous imprisonment have not been owing to fears of his escape but in order to wreak vengeance upon him for some fancied complicity of his in the assassination. Even to permit such things is unworthy of a mind like President Johnson's, and it may be hoped that he will put a stop to them.

MALCOLM.

[From the New York Tribune.]

Trying and hanging for treason simply those defeated in our late contest, we do not believe in; nor only because we hold that nine-tenths of the worst and most guilty of them are shielded from such trial by a fair construction of terms of capitulation proposed by Lieut. Gen. Grant, and accepted by Gen. Lee (for what veteran army ever yet gave up its weapons in order to be tried and punished for treason?) but because we are most anxious to hasten and perfect the establishment of Peace and Good Will between the North and South, between the White and Black, and we painfully feel that trying and hanging men for simple treason—now that the Rebellion has utterly collapsed and exploded—would tend to embitter, to exasperate, and to render the ex-Rebels unamiable, inflexibly hostile to any concession of political rights to their late slaves. In short, we feel that hanging men for treason merely—now that Peace is restored on the basis of Reunion—would tend to fix Four Millions of loyal Americans permanently in a state of political impotence and semi-vassalage; while we hope, by a contrary policy, to pave the way to a partial and ultimately thorough recognition of their rights as men and citizens.

We are proud of the fact that no conspicuous Abolitionist in those days when Abolition was generally odious and execrated is now an advocate of hanging for simple treason; while, on the other hand, we recognize none of the present advocates of hanging as, even now, especially anxious that the Blacks shall be recognized by our constitutions and laws as entitled to the common rights of manhood. On the contrary, most of those who clamor for physical demonstrations that Treason is a crime, to be punished like Murder or Arson, seem generally willing that "the nigger" shall take his chance in the "reconstructed" States, with Whites as the only reconstructors, and the ex-Rebels embittered by the executions of their chiefs for treason. Now, these ex-Rebels will vote—it is childish to talk of preventing them, as the Virginia experiment has shown—and they will rule, too, if the Blacks are not enfranchised. As a party, they will be strengthened as well as embittered by every one of their chiefs who may be executed for simple treason. And, since the South is likely to be given up to their rule, it becomes Abolitionists to take care that these rulers do not find in the friends of the Blacks their own most vindictive and sanguinary foes.

So much for our special reasons for activity and earnestness in opposition to hanging for defeated and now impotent treason. But we believe History, Authority and Reason, as well as Humanity, forbid such hanging on general grounds. We do not much favor killing in our time, any how, though we do not on that account hold that legal

penalties, fairly incurred shall remain unexecuted. In the case in point, however, there are special reasons for not hanging, which seem to us of transcendent gravity, and which we trust will not be overborne.

[From the Petersburg News, June 10.]

### The Alleged Indictment of Gen. Lee.

John C. Underwood, an itinerant schoolmaster, from a Northern State, settled many years ago in the county of Fairfax, Virginia, took charge of a country school, and began in a modest way to correct the ignorance of this benighted State. In the course of time he married a very worthy lady of that county, and obtained, through her connections, a large and useful acquaintance in that region, which he improved financially and otherwise. His sentiments on the subject of slavery were obnoxious to the people, therefore, modestly concealed until an opportunity of their safe exposition was afforded, as he thought, at the time of the Fremont campaign we believe, when, in the midst of a few fishermen, he raised a pole at Occoquan bearing a flag inscribed with the name of the Abolition candidate for the Presidency. This was more than his neighbors felt like enduring, and Underwood was forced to leave, to avoid sharper castigation than he had been wont to inflict on the rising heirs of Fairfax.

During the war he was appointed to a judgeship—why, we cannot conceive; probably on the ground that as there was nothing to be done, he could do no harm; but the conclusion of peace leaves him the highest judicial officer in the Eastern District of Virginia; and the first official function of a public nature which he discharges, on the return of peace is to launch against a citizen of this State, the lathets of whose shoes he is unworthy to loose, a proclamation, which, for violence, blasphemy and unfounded aspersion of a brave and chivalrous people beggars imagery and defies comparison.

No sooner had this charge been issued than its object was unfolded in the summoning of a cloud of witnesses before the grand jury, in order to base on their evidence an indictment against Gen. Lee.

Gen. Grant could afford not only to pardon Gen. Lee, but to exhaust the etiquette of conventional respect in all his intercourse with him. The great Army of the Potomac could doff their hats with the involuntary homage of the soldier to genius, courage and chivalry, as the old leader of the Army of Northern Virginia passed their lines after his surrender. The Northern visitors could vie with the residents and natives of Richmond in paying him the most touching marks of respect as he wended his way to his home through the streets of our capital.

The stalwart heroes of Sherman could break out into cheers, not of insult, as they passed his door in their triumphant march. The Government at Washington, which has thought proper to arrest Governors and Ex-Governors, Commissioners and Congressmen, bureau chiefs and blockade-runners, presidents and preachers, has not hid the weight of a finger, or a threat on the man to whom General Grant has given his soldier-word for safeguard. No, the foul deed was left for the congenial performance of an imported Judge, who, after maligning the State whose people gave him bread in his poverty and consequence in his obscurity, summons these people to aid him in hitting to his death their most eminent fellow citizen.

We are glad to say, for the honor of the American people of all States and sections, that no word has been heard in any quarter of sympathy in the prosecution, and we learn from private sources that so great is the indignation among all classes in Norfolk at this attempt to stain their city with so foul a crime, that the friends of Gen. Lee have no apprehension of any unpleasant results from this bulletin of persecution from the pole-raiser of Occoquan.

### Discharge of Prisoners.

The following general order for the discharge of certain prisoners of war has been issued by the President of the United States:

WAR DEPT., ADJ'T GEN.'S OFFICE, Washington, June 6, 1865.

The prisoners of war at the several depots in the North will be discharged under the following regulations and restrictions:

First—All enlisted men of the rebel army, and petty officers and seamen of

the rebel navy, will be discharged upon taking the oath of allegiance.

Second—Officers of the rebel army not above the grade of captain, and of the rebel navy not above the grade of lieutenant, except such as have graduated at the U. S. Military or Naval Academy and such as held a commission in either the U. S. army or navy at the beginning of the rebellion, may be discharged upon taking the oath of allegiance.

Third—When the discharges hereby ordered are completed, regulations will be issued in respect to the discharge of officers having higher rank than captain in the army or lieutenant in the navy.

Fourth—The several commanders of prison stations will discharge each day as many of the prisoners hereby authorized to be discharged as proper rolls can be prepared for, beginning with those who have been longest in prison and from the most remote points of the country, and certified rolls will be forwarded daily to the Commissary General of Prisoners of those discharged. The oath of allegiance only will be administered; but notice will be given that all who desire will be permitted to take the oath of amnesty after their release in accordance with the regulations of the Department of State respecting the amnesty.

Fifth—The Quartermaster's Department will furnish transportation to all released prisoners to the nearest accessible point to their homes by rail or steamboat.

By order of the President of the U. States.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Ass't A. Genl.

**THE CROPS.**—The seasons, so far, have been fine for the growing crops. Where the corn has been properly worked, the prospect is unusually good; but many plantations in this section have been over-run with grass and weeds in consequence of the negroes leaving and refusing to work. We know of instances where negro men, having good homes and plenty to eat and wear, have left the crop just at the time it needed working, and come here to town and lie about the suburbs in idleness; and some of them, rather than work on the plantations, are offering to do a day's work in town for their dinner. Some people may talk as they please, and worship the negro to their heart's content, but those who have been raised with him and understand his habits and disposition, know that, as a general thing, compulsion is necessary to make him work. There is no disposition on the part of former masters to oppress the negro, but there is a disposition to help him along if he will work and be honest.

The wheat crop is light, though the quality is said to be good.

Vegetables are abundant, and the prospect is good for an unprecedented yield of fruit.—*Charlotte Democrat.*

**RECONSTRUCTION IN NORTH CAROLINA.**—The new editor of the *Raleigh Progress* says that he has had a short interview with the late editor, Governor Holden, recently appointed by President Johnson, and that the Governor declares that it is not his policy "to allow those persons who have been notoriously disloyal and prominent in their hostility to the national authority to have anything to do with the reorganization of the State government;" that the enrolment of voters under the limits of President Johnson's amnesty proclamation "will be conducted by men of unquestioned loyalty in every county," especially selected for the purpose. This is according to the Tennessee plan of Andrew Johnson as President Lincoln's military governor. The leading and managing rebels of the South will not be permitted to follow the instructions of Georgia Sanders for some time yet to come. They must wait till their secession teeth are pulled.—*N. Y. Herald.*

### SCHOOL! SCHOOL! SCHOOL!

MISS PHILLIPS respectfully informs her friends that her terms for tuition are \$5 for three months, or \$9 per session, of five months. When her school increases she will reduce the terms to \$6 per session. If requisite she can furnish satisfactory testimonials of character; also qualifications fitting a teacher from gentlemen intimately acquainted with her, whose veracity is unquestionable and position in society unrivaled,—both clergy and other professional gentlemen. Further information she will be happy to furnish if parties will call at the hotel, 3d floor, opposite the Town Hall. June 23/65—6

### OUR TERMS.

For the News, one month, ONE DOLLAR, or in barter for other commodities. All articles necessary, or useful in families, or in business, will be taken in exchange, at fair prices, as usually understood in the market. But for the better understanding of our friends, we present the following schedule of rates, in the case of the most obvious commodities. For one month's subscription to the News, we will receive either of the following, viz:

¾ bushel corn, 1 bushel peas or potatoes.  
24 lbs Flour.  
5 pounds butter.  
5 " lard.  
5 " bacon.  
2 gallons Syrup.  
4 head of chickens.  
8 dozen eggs.

Wood, and provisions generally received at fair market rates.

For single copies, TEN CENTS, or a proportionate amount in any of the above mentioned articles.

Advertisements will be inserted at one dollar per square (eight lines or less) for the first insertion, and seventy-five cents for each subsequent insertion—invariably in advance.

Any friends receiving papers, or arriving with papers or news, from any places not now in full connection by mail, will oblige us specially by reporting to the News office, and will thus aid in preventing exciting rumors.

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TERMS, ONE DOLLAR per month, in advance. Single copies Ten Cents. Advertisements inserted at One Dollar a square, eight lines or less, for the first, and Seventy-five Cents for each subsequent insertion.

### C. & S. C. Railroad.

AS the immediate reconstruction of this road is highly important, all materials of iron, ties and stringers are needed, and their removal is forbidden by any one. April 6/65 WM. JOHNSTON, Pres't.

### The Great Literary Weekly Resumed.

THE proprietors of that long established and popular family journal, THE SOUTHERN FIELD AND FIRESIDE, take great pleasure in informing its numerous friends and patrons, that its publication will be resumed just as soon as the mail facilities of the country will enable them to circulate the same. This is an old paper, published for many years at Augusta, Ga., and is devoted entirely to

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### The Key Stone.

OUR MONTHLY MASONIC MAGAZINE, Will also be resumed at the same time. This Magazine is endorsed, and recommended to the Fraternity at large, by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. As regards matter and typography, it will be equal to any similar publication in the United States.

Terms: Subscription one year, \$3. Address, WM. B. SMITH & CO., Raleigh, N. C.

A limited number of advertisements admitted into each publication. Newspapers generally will please notice. Exchanges respectfully invited to once from all parts of the country. June 1/65.

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