

THE COLUMBIA DAILY PHOENIX.

\$1 a Month, in Advance.

"Let our just Censure attend the true Event."—Shakespeare.

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By J. A. SELBY.

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THE COLUMBIA PHOENIX,

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BY JULIAN A. SELBY.

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Wordsworth on Idiots.

The literary men and readers of forty years ago, will remember how much the laugh of the critics was against Wordsworth for making an Idiot Boy the subject of a Poem. Wordsworth has lived through the laugh, and the scorners are all now dumb. He is now acknowledged as, perhaps, the greatest contemptive poet that ever lived. Wordsworth took no heed of the critics, but steadily pursued the bent of his own genius, and it is in highest proof of his genius that he did so. He was silent, and continued to grow in strength. But he has left us a fine letter on this seemingly insane choice of a subject for poetry, written with the care, and the fidelity which mark all his letters, occupied with a vindication of the poet, at least, understood himself well. The remarks mainly turn upon a suggestion of his correspondent, a friendly writer, that the subject is not a pleasurable one. Wordsworth thus clears the ground of many choking weeds of criticism in a consideration of this question: "Human Nature above Individual Opinion."

"You begin what you say upon the 'Idiot Boy,' with this observation, that nothing is a fit subject for poetry which does not please. But here follows a question, Does not please whom? Some have little knowledge of natural imagery of any kind, and, of course, little relish for it; some are disgusted with the very mention of the words pastoral poetry, sheep or shepherds; some cannot tolerate a poem with a ghost or any supernatural agency in it; others would shrink from an animated description of the pleasures of love, as from a thing carnal and libidinous; some cannot bear to see delicate and refined feelings ascribed to men in low conditions in society, because their vanity and self-love, tell them that these belong only to themselves, and men like themselves in dress, station, and way of life; others are disgusted with the naked language of some of the most interesting passions of men, because either it is indelicate, or gross, or vulgar; as many fine ladies could not bear certain expressions in the 'Mother' and the 'Thorn,' and, as in the instance of Adam Smith, who, we are told, could not endure the ballad of 'Clym of the Clough,' because the author had not written like a gentleman. Then there are professional and paternal prejudices for evermore. Some take no interest in the description of a particular passion or quality, as love of solitariness, we will say; genial activity of fancy, love of nature, religion, and so forth; because they have little or nothing of it in themselves; and so on without end. I return then to the question, please whom? or what? I answer, human nature as it has been and ever will be. But, where are we to find the best measure of this? I answer, from within; by stripping our own hearts naked, and by looking out of ourselves towards men who lead the simplest lives, and most according to nature; men who have never known false refinements, wayward and artificial desires, false criticism, effeminate habits of thinking and feeling, or who,

having known these things, have outgrown them. This latter class is the most to be depended upon, but it is very small in number. People in our rank in life are perpetually falling into one sad mistake, namely, that of supposing that human nature and the persons they associate with, are one and the same thing. Whom do we generally associate with? Gentlemen, persons of fortune, professional men, ladies, persons who can afford to buy, or can easily procure books of half a guinea price, hot-pressed, and printed upon superfine paper. These persons are, it is true, a part of human nature, but we err lamentably if we suppose them to be fair representatives of the vast mass of human existence. And yet few ever consider books but with reference to their power of pleasing these persons and men of a higher rank; few descend lower, among cottages and fields, and among children."

He then rises to a contemplation of the poet's calling—"to rectify men's feelings, to give them new compositions of feeling, to render their feelings more sure, pure and permanent; in short, more consonant to nature, that is, to external nature and the great moving spirit of things." He further justifies his selection of the Idiot by the humanity of the lower classes—as a manifestation, in a most striking form—personal care—of unsophisticated feeling.

"To this I can only say that the loathing and disgust which many people have at the sight of an idiot, is a feeling which, though having some foundation in human nature, is not necessarily attached to it in any virtuous degree, but is owing in a great measure to a false delicacy, and, if I may say it without rudeness, a certain want of comprehensiveness of thinking and feeling. Persons in the lower classes of society have little or nothing of this; if an idiot is born in a poor man's house, it must be taken care of, and cannot be boarded out, as it would be by gentlefolks, or sent to a public or private receptacle for such unfortunate beings. Poor people seeing frequently among their neighbors such objects, easily forget whatever there is of natural disgust about them, and have therefore a saner state, so that without pain or suffering they perform their duties towards them.

"I have often applied to idiots, in my own mind, that sublime expression of Scripture that 'their life is hidden with God.' They are worshipped, probably from a feeling of this sort, in several parts of the East. Among the Alps, where they are numerous, they are considered, I believe, as a blessing to the family to which they belong. I have, indeed, often looked upon the conduct of fathers and mothers of the lower classes of society towards idiots as the great triumph of the human heart. It is there that we see the strength, disinterestedness, and grandeur of love; nor have I ever been able to contemplate an object that calls out so many excellent and virtuous sentiments without finding it halloved thereby, and having something in me which bears down before it, like a deluge, every feeble sensation of disgust and aversion."

"Mr. Smith," said the counsel, "you say you once officiated in a pulpit—do you mean that you preached?" "No, sir; I held a candle for a man who did." "Ah, the court understands you differently. They supposed that the discourse came from you." "No, sir, I only threw a light on it."

OUR CITY.—A correspondent of the New York Herald, writing from this city, says:

Augusta has been latterly the great depot for the blockade running business, the coast cities being deemed unsafe. Here were accumulated vast quantities of exports and imports, cotton, tobacco and other staples to go out, and clothing and other goods which had arrived. Nearly all the stores appear to be well stocked, and prices, now a safe currency is available low. Rebel money, of course, is worthless, the most stupid niggers won't take it as a gift. State bank money of Georgia and South Carolina is received at a discount. Greenbacks at par, and if you offer a dollar one for a ten cent article you are liable to receive ninety cents back in silver, which is plentier here than I have seen it for three years and a half. The markets are well supplied, except in some unprocurable articles. At the Planters' Hotel we get plenty of meats and vegetables, milk, berries, tolerable lodging and fair attendance, for \$3 per day; but we must dispense with butter and condiments, wash without soap, and put up with poor bread and worse coffee. The captures here embrace vast amounts of powder and the rebel mills intact.

LOST.
A PAIR of GOLD SPECTACLES. They were dropped at the back door of the Ration House, on the corner of Mr. C. A. Bedell's Lot. A reward will be paid to the finder, if required, with the thanks of the owner, who cannot well afford to lose them. Inquire of JOHN MCKENZIE, or leave them at this office.
June 15.

A. L. SOLOMON,
Second door above Shiver House, Plain St.
General Commission Merchant
and Dealer in Foreign and
Domestic Merchandise
and Country Produce.

CONSIGNMENTS from manufacturers and planters will receive my usual prompt attention.
Just received and now in store:
2,000 lbs. clear BACON SIDES.
800 HAMS and SHOULDERS.
10 bbls. FLOUR.
100 bushels SALT.
CRUSHED SUGAR.
BROWN
Chewing and Smoking TOBACCO.
BAGGING TWINE.
ENGLISH AXES.
Bates HICKORY STRIPES.
" FANCY PAINT STUFF.
" Colored DOMESTIC.
A. L. SOLOMON,
June 15 6 Commission Merchant.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
COUNTRY PRODUCE of all kinds will find READY SALE at the corner of Assembly and Plain streets. Full prices paid to those bringing in produce.
Citizens will find on hand, at all times, a FULL SUPPLY of COUNTRY PRODUCE, at REASONABLE RATES.
HARDY SOLOMON,
June 14 6* At Lewis Levy's Corner.

**GROCERIES,
DRY GOODS, &C., &C.**
KENNETH & GIBSON,
At Robert Bryce's Old Stand,
A CHOICE ASSORTMENT of Goods, consisting in part of:
1,200 lbs. choice BACON.
7 bbls. FLOUR.
100 boxes No. 1 HERRINGS.
5 English Dairy CHEESE.
5 bbls. BUTTER CRACKERS.
5 boxes FAMILY SOAP.
5 " CORN STARCH.
6 doz. BROOMS.
500 yards pure Madder PRINTS.
500 " Checked English ALPACA.
100 " CAMBRIC.
500 " superior LONGCLOTH.
ASO,
COLOGNE, JELLIES, BLACKING.
Windsor Soap, Hair and Tooth Brushes.
Dressing and Fine Tooth Combs.
Sweet Oil, Gent's Paper Collars.
Sugars, Locks, Smoking Pipes.
And various other articles too numerous to mention.
June 12

A gentleman at a whist party, when he proposed going home, was urged to stay a little longer. "Well," he replied, "perhaps I may as well; my wife probably is already as mad as she can be."

Dwelling House for Sale.
ONE of the largest and best appointed DWELLING HOUSES in this city, with extensive and complete Stables and Servants' House, &c., for sale. Apply any day, between 1 and 3 o'clock, at the South-east corner of Marion and Lady streets, opposite the Presbyterian Church.
June 15 6*

City Taxes.
I WILL attend daily, from 9 a. m. to 12 m., at the Council Room, (formerly Odd Fellows' School-room,) for the purpose of collecting CITY TAXES. In view of the urgent necessities of the City Council, it is hoped that all tax-payers will be prompt.
A. G. BASKIN,
June 8 City Clerk.

Headq'r's Provisional Brigade,
COLUMBIA, S. C., JUNE 9, 1865.
To the Freedmen:
THE time has come for you all to do your best to show that you are fit to be free men in this great Republic. Observe sacredly the marriage tie. Learn to read and write. No one must leave his wife, children or aged parents while he can assist them. Thieves and idlers and people strolling about the country will be punished. Be present, and quiet, and orderly. If you have trouble, report it to the military authorities. This year you cannot do much more than get a living for yourselves and families; those will get the best pay next year who work the best now.
Let no one be either proud or ashamed of the form or color that God has given him. Be proud of the chance to do for yourselves and for each other.
(Signed,) A. S. HARTWELL,
June 10 Brevet Brigadier-General.

Headq'r's Provisional Brigade,
COLUMBIA, S. C., JUNE 9, 1865.
GENERAL ORDER NO. 13.
WHEREAS certain persons have announced to these colored people formerly their slaves and still remaining on their tenements that they must quit, with no provision made or attempted for said colored people to obtain shelter or work, it is hereby ordered that no person shall turn off from his place or house those colored people who have lived with him and still desire to remain with him and do what they can.

Any person or persons violating this order, and turning out from their houses these people, to become paupers upon the community, will be forthwith arrested and reported at these headquarters for trial. Cases of colored people residing on the places of their former masters, and behaving improperly or refusing to work with fair terms offered, will be reported for action of the military authorities.
By order of A. S. HARTWELL,
Brevet Brig. Gen.
Official: Geo. F. McKay, Lieut. and A. A. G. June 10 6

Headq'r's Provisional Brigade,
COLUMBIA, S. C., JUNE 9, 1865.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 12.
THE attention of this command is called to existing orders against marauding and foraging. Officers and men are farther ordered to avoid all unnecessary discussion on public matters with those who, after these years of blood and suffering, still do not acquiesce in the result of battle and in the policy of the General Government. Courtesy to all is the part of a soldier. Information will be given whenever desired. Sympathy for those in sorrow and affliction is felt by no one quicker than by the soldier; but no soldier can forget what he has fought for, and what his brothers have died to support—the Union, Constitution and laws and free Government—now, as the result of the war, accorded to all classes; nor can he forget the dignity of his Government and his own dignity as its representative, in dealing with those who now either secretly or openly scoff at those sacred principles.
Contracts between masters and servants will set forth in words the freedom of the latter, and will be witnessed by a United States officer and by a civilian. It is for the interest of the people that these relations be amicably adjusted without delay. Cases of difficulty will be examined and tried by military authorities.
No privileges or advantages whatsoever will be granted those who do not declare their allegiance to the United States Government, acting in good faith according to that declaration.
This order will be published to the entire command.
By order of A. S. HARTWELL,
Brevet Brig. Gen.
Official: Geo. F. McKay, 1st Lieut. and A. A. G. June 9

Headq'r's United States Forces,
CITY OF COLUMBIA, S. C.,
MAY 27, 1865.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 4.
IN order to prevent any disturbance which may arise from the improper use of intoxicating liquors, it is hereby ordered that, for the present, no intoxicating liquors will be sold or given away to any citizen or soldier, unless permission is granted from these headquarters. Any one found guilty of disobeying this order, will not only have his goods confiscated, but will be subject to punishment by military law.
By command of
Lieut. Col. N. HAUGHTON,
Commanding Post.
W. J. KYLE, Lieut. 25th O. V. V. I. and Post Adjutant. may 29

Headq'r's United States Forces,
CITY OF COLUMBIA, S. C.,
MAY 27, 1865.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 3.
ALL citizens having in their possession any property that rightfully belongs to the United States Government, according to the terms of surrender of Gen. Jos. E. Johnston, C. S. A., to Gen. W. T. Sherman, U. S. A., will immediately report the same to these headquarters.
Persons having mules, horses and wagons, will, for the present, be permitted to retain the same for the purpose of carrying on their work. Any person failing to comply with this order within a reasonable time, will not only be deprived of any further use of said property, but will also subject themselves to punishment by military authority.
By command of
N. HAUGHTON,
Lieut. Col. 25th O. V. V. I.
Com'dg City of Columbia, S. C.
W. J. KYLE, Lieut. 25th O. V. V. I. and Post Adjutant. may 29

Headq'r's United States Forces,
CITY OF COLUMBIA, S. C.,
MAY 27, 1865.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 2.
INFORMATION having been received at these headquarters of the existence of armed bands of marauders infesting the country and committing depredations on the property of peaceful citizens, it is hereby ordered that all persons composing such will be considered and treated as outlaws, and if caught, will receive the severest punishment of military law.

The United States Government is desirous of protecting all peaceful and law-abiding citizens, and they will confer a favor on these headquarters, and do justice to themselves, by giving any information they may have in their possession respecting the names and movements of such bands, and, if possible, aiding in their capture.
The time has arrived when it behooves every citizen to do all in his power to assist the military forces of the United States to restore peace and harmony throughout the land.
By order of
Lieut. Col. N. HAUGHTON,
25th O. V. V. I., Com'dg U. S. Forces,
City of Columbia.
W. J. KYLE, 2d Lieut. 25th O. V. V. I. and Post Adjutant. may 29

Headquarters, Northern District,
DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
CHARLESTON, S. C., April 25, 1865.

Circular to Planters, &c.
NUMEROUS applications have been made to me for information as to the policy to be adopted on the subject of labor.
All can understand the importance of making a crop the present season, and foresee the misery and suffering consequent upon its failure.
In the present unsettled state of the country, and in the absence of any recognized State authorities, I find it my duty to assume control of the plantations near the military lines, and order as follows:
1st. The planters, after taking the oath of allegiance, will assemble the freedmen (lately their slaves) and inform them that they are free, and that henceforth they must depend upon their own exertions for their support.
2d. Equitable contracts in writing will be made by the owners of the land with the freedmen for the cultivation of the land during the present year.
Payment will be made in kind, and the allowance of one half the crop is recommended as fair compensation for the labor, the landlord furnishing subsistence until the crop is gathered.
These contracts will be submitted to the nearest military or naval commander for approval and endorsement.
When the above requirements are complied with, protection will be granted as far as military necessity will allow; but where no contract is made, the crop raised will be considered forfeited for the use of the laborers. Should the owners refuse to cultivate it, they will be considered as endeavoring to embarrass the Government, and the land will be used for colonies of the freedmen from the interior.
JOHN P. HATCH,
June 1 Brig. Gen. Commanding