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By D. D. HOCOTT.

TERMS.

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POET'S CORNER.

SONNET—THE SHIP OF STATE.

Here lie the peril and necessity
That need a race of giants—a great realm,
With not one noble leader at the helm;
And the great ship of state, still driving high,
Midst waves, on a lee shore—to the rocks,
With ever and anon some straggling straggle—
The crew against, and fear in every eye,
Yet is the great Providence still high,
And if our cause be just, our hearts be true,
We shall save goodly ship and gallant crew,
Nor suffer shipwreck of our Liberty!
It needs that as a people we arise,
With solemn purpose that even Fate shall yield,
And leave all perils with unbending eye!

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE MESSAGE OF GOVERNOR BROWN OF GEORGIA.

The Georgia Legislature assembled on the 16th instant, and the message of Governor Brown was read.

The Governor recommends a vigorous State policy on the question of relief of soldiers' families, cotton planting, illegal distillation, impressment of provisions, the removal of slaves and desertion from the army. The following is a synopsis of his remarks on general subjects:

The late action of Congress has shaken the confidence of the people in the justice or competency of our financial affairs. The compulsory funding of our bonded millions in forty days at a low rate of interest that is placed on the face of the notes resembles repudiation and bad faith.

Secret sessions on the discussion of important measures, are declared a blighting curse, convenient for canvassing what will not bear the light.

The new Military Bill, he says, is unconstitutional. The conscription of citizens will not fit the army, but they will stay at home detailed, thus depriving the State of her active militia, and placing civil rights subordinate to the military power.

The suspension of the *habeas corpus*, under a pretended necessity, confers upon the President powers denied by the Constitution. The power of Congress to suspend the *habeas corpus* is only implied, and is limited by the express declaration in favor of personal liberty. Congress cannot confer judicial powers upon the Executive, and the warrants to be issued by the President will be in plain violation of the Constitution. If this Act is acquiesced in, the President may imprison whom he chooses. It is only necessary to allege reasonable efforts, and no court will dare investigate the case. The Legislature is earnestly recommended to take prompt action to stamp the Act with the seal of their indignant rebuke.

The Governor reviews the causes of the war, and the question who is responsible and how peace should be sought. He occupies half his message in showing the unchristian character of the war. The Northern Democrats and moderate Republicans are exonerated from causing it. The responsibility rests exclusively on the wicked Republican leaders, who denied the compact of the Constitution, and declared an anti-slavery bill and anti-slavery God. These men obtained possession of the Federal Government, and the South was compelled in self-defense to sever the compact of sovereign States, which wicked men promise to restore by the paradox of force. Under this pretence, the *habeas corpus* has been trampled down, the ballot box overawed, armies used to hold the North and subdue the South.

A change of administration at the North must come before we can have peace. The revolution defends the right of State sovereignty and self-government. We did not provoke the war, and amicable adjustments have been refused. Lincoln has declared Georgia and other States in rebellion against the Federal Government, which was the mere creature of the States, which they could destroy as well as create.

In authorizing war, the North did not seek to restore the Union under the Constitution as it was, confining the Government to the sphere

of its limited powers. They have taken one hundred thousand negroes, which cost us half a million of whites, and four thousand millions of dollars, whilst they seek to repudiate self-government and subjugate the South, and confiscate our property.

The statement of Lincoln that we offer no terms of adjustment is made an artful pretext. It is impossible to say when the war will terminate, but negotiation, not the sword, will finally terminate it. He says we should keep it before the Northern people that we are ready to negotiate when they are ready to recognize the right to self-government and the sovereignty of the States. After each victory our Government should make a distinct offer of peace on these terms; and should the course of any State be doubtful, let the armed force be withdrawn and the ballot box decide. If refused, even a dozen times, renew it. Keep before the North and the world our ability to defend ourselves, which for many years has been proved. Should Lincoln boast of a numerical superiority, let him be reminded of the reply of the King of Israel to Benhadad: "Let not him that girdeth on his harness, boast himself as he that putteth it off."

TWENTY INCH ROBMAN GUN.

This immense gun, the largest ever manufactured, was successfully cast at Fort Pitt Foundry, Pittsburg, Pa. on the 11th instant. The weight of metal was 180,000 pounds, and the moulds were filled in twenty-five minutes from the tapping of the furnace. The gun will weigh 115,000 pounds when finished, the total length being over twenty feet, three inches, and that of the bore seventeen and a half feet. The maximum diameter will be sixty-four inches; the minimum thirty-four inches. The projectile used by this monster will be a 20 inch solid shot, 1000 pounds weight, or a shell of 775 pounds. The charge of powder will weight from sixty five to eighty pounds. Preparations for manufacturing this gun were commenced as long ago as May last, and the furnace cranes, buildings, and other appliances had to be constructed specially. The mould consisted of a flask made in four pieces, bolted and clamped together, and weighing twenty-eight tons, inside of which was ten tons of sand, placed between the wooden pattern of the gun and the flask. This sand being firmly rammed down, the wooden pattern was withdrawn, and the inner surface of the sand smoothed over and washed with a coating of ground coal, after which the mould was baked in the furnace.

The flask and mould, being ready, were placed in a pit twenty-eight feet and a half deep, at the bottom of which was a sort of grating, upon which a fire was built, so as to keep the mould very hot during the casting. Two immense cranes, each of the capacity of forty tons, were used to lift the gun, and the lathe made expressly to finish it is sixty feet long, costing nearly \$15,000. The gun will be hung upon trunnions placed over the centre of gravity rendering its handling much easier than when supported near the breech. The outlay in manufacturing it is \$30,000. The whole process of casting was accomplished in the most satisfactory manner, without accident or delay of any kind. In the presence of a large number of officers and others, and the gun will be mounted probably within three months in the Narrows, below Fort Hamilton in this harbor. Sixteen men will be able to manage it, and the cost of a single discharge will be seventy-five dollars. The range is not yet ascertained, but it is expected to equal that of the 15inch guns. The design is, however, not so much to produce a long range piece as to construct one that will have enormous destructive powers.

N. Y. Tribune.

STEEL SHIPS. The advocates of the substitution of steel for iron in the construction of ships urge that the change they propose involves the advantages of economy, and increased strength and carrying capacity. The soundness of their theory is about to be tested on a scale which has not hitherto been attempted. Two large ocean going ships, formed of steel—one of them a steamer, built for Messrs. Fraser, Trenholm & Co., the Confederate agents, was launched from the yard of Messrs. Jones, Quigley & Co., of Liverpool. The Chief Constructor of the Navy was attracted to Liverpool by an event of so much national interest, and at a déjeuner or which followed the launch expressed his sense of the importance of the question which the future career of these two vessels might help to solve. He had "a very high" opinion of steel, as compared with iron, for shipbuilding purposes, but he could not pledge himself to any decided course in the matter until he had seen how far the newly launched ships justified the anticipations of their builders.—*Derby (Eng) Mercury.*

THE REGULATION OF COMMERCE.

The Constitution gives to Congress alone the power "to regulate commerce." The words are: "The Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes." At its late session Congress passed a law "to impose regulations upon the foreign commerce of the Confederate States and to provide for the public defence." Having thus, by this law, ordained all the "regulations" for the conduct of our foreign commerce, Congress deemed expedient, it remains only to the Executive to carry them into effect. This was the old fashioned view of the relative duties of the Legislative and Executive Departments, under the Government of the United States, from whose Constitution, the words in the Confederate States Constitution is taken. Let our readers turn to the acts of the United States Congress which we have adopted, and see with what minute detail all the "regulations" of commerce and navigation are carefully provided for. This was done by the Legislature, under the conviction that by its power alone could these regulations be established. But all this, according to the view of our Executive authorities at Richmond, appears to be a very needless, if not a very impertinent pains-taking and assumption. It does not belong to Congress to regulate commerce, but to the Executive Departments to do so. The Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of War are the rightful authorities to regulate the commerce of the Confederate States. In our issue of the 12th instant we published "regulations" to carry into effect the Act to impose regulations upon the foreign commerce of the Confederate States,—signed by C. G. Memminger, Secretary of the Treasury, and James A. Sheldon, Secretary of War. By these "regulations" the power is broadly assumed to legislate upon the whole matter; and twice as many regulations of commerce are prescribed as the Act contains. If these regulations are constitutional, we can see no reason why Mr. Memminger and Mr. Sheldon may not at once put aside Congress, and be the sole authority "to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes." We make these observations simply to chronicle the tendency and course of things.

NEWS FOR THE LADIES.—A glance over a late fashion plate, which comes through the blockade, will inform our lady friends of the styles now in vogue across the water:

First, the bonnet is still sky scraped, very deep from crown to the front, not drooping at all over the face, or masked in gutter style, a la Marie Louise, both of these being now passe. A profusion of flowers, lace and ribbon ornaments these immense head pieces.

The prevailing taste in dress silks seems to be for small figures on solid grounds. Apple green, chocolate brown and Marie Louise blue are the favorite colors. The lower edge of the skirt is always trimmed, sometimes with a puff, edged with a quilting of worsted braid; oftener an elaborate pattern worked in velvet ribbons, and medallions of velvet and lace. The bodies are detached from the skirts, and have double points both back and front. Girdles are worn with plain waistes; they are made of moire, corded with Russia leather, and trimmed with leather buttons. Open sleeves are always worn in full dress. Garibaldi waistes are now made with yokes.

For mourning costumes, linen sets, narrow collars and broad cuffs, stitched with colored thread, are worn. Sleeve buttons are indispensable, jet and gold being the favorite style.—Neck and fancy aprons are worn.

Hoops are still in high favor. Small standing collars and fancy or black velvet neck ties are also worn.

For children's dresses, Sultan plaids are the universal style; these, with Swiss waists, brotelle and postillon girdles, are novelties. Bal-moral booties, laced half way up the leg, and white petticoats, trimmed with red braid, make the little demoiselles look quite *distingue*.—Plaid scarfs are worn by both girls and boys, tied to hang over the left shoulder, or passing through a loop at the waist in front, over the shoulders, and hanging down in the back.

OFFICERS CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE.—The following named officers from South Carolina, appointed by the President, were confirmed by the Senate, during the late session of Congress:

Major Generals—Stephen D. Lee, from August 3, 1863; Wade Hampton, from August 3, 1863.

Brigadier Generals—C. H. Stevens, from January 20, 1864; M. E. Butler, from September 1, 1863; A. Porritt, from September 10, 1863; J. B. Kerlshaw, from February 13, 1862.

LORD PALMERSTON, THE PRIME MINISTER OF ENGLAND.

We find, in the last number of the Westminster Review, the following portrait of the present Prime Minister of England:

In no sense in which the word is used among educated men can Lord Palmerston be pronounced an orator. Neither in language nor in thought does the character of his public speaking ever rise for a moment beyond the level of common place. His manner is singularly ungraceful; his utterance often hesitating; his action quite ungainly. He takes no view of any public question but that which is the most obvious. He does not penetrate, or care to penetrate, beyond the external of anything.—None of his speeches would ever be read except for the present or the historical interest of the subject. No lofty thoughts shine out through the sentences. No great political doctrine is expounded in them. No splendid phraseology, no brilliant rhetoric.

It may be doubted whether (apart from the jocular and humorous bits) the most constant observer of the Prime Minister's career remembered anything more of his eloquence than the general fact that, on such a night, he defended this measure, and on such another occasion he denounced that. Having heard or read the greater number of Lord Palmerston's speeches during recent years, we can recall but one single sentence which seems to us to have risen above the level of the merest commonplace. We cannot understand how anybody who believes that Fox and Pitt and Burke, Canning and Peel and O'Connell, Gladstone, Ellenborough and Bright, were or are orators can apply the title of orator likewise to Lord Palmerston.

Having said all this, does it seem a paradox to say immediately after, that the Prime Minister is the most effective speaker now in the House of Commons? Paradox or not, it is the actual truth. The average of Lord Palmerston's speeches are more successful than those of any other man in the House. He never delivers a speech which can be termed a failure. Like Homer or Pope or Nestor, he says no more than just the thing he ought. He always selects, and, as if by a sort of instinct, not the arguments which are most logically cogent, but those which are most likely to suit the character and the temper of his audience. He speaks always for his hearers, and never for himself; always to affect those he addresses, never for the sake of arguing out any convictions present and passionate in his own mind. He earns the positive affection of the House of Commons by never becoming a lecturer or a bore.

THE PERFUMED MISSTISS.—Southey, in one of his "British dialogues" (No. 4. The Sailor's Mother) introduces a mother bewailing the calamity of her sailor son, and soliloquizing alone a traveler, who remarks:

—old England's gratitude
Makes the maimed sailor happy.

WOMAN

—'tis no night—
An arm or leg—I could have borne with that,
It was no halt, sir, but some cursed thing,
Which burts and burns, that hurt him.
Something, sir,
They do not use on board our English ships,
It is so wicked.

TRAVELER.

Rascals! a mean art of cruel cowardice yet all in vain!

WOMAN.

Yes, sir, and they should show no mercy to them,
For making use of such unchristian arms.

Southey appends the following note, which, with the text, conveys and expresses the opinions then entertained by good Englishmen concerning such means of warfare, as have been improved and applied by the Yankees with their characteristic ambition of improving on the evils of others.

Note.—"The stink-pots used on board the French ships. It would be right and humane to employ means of destruction could they be discovered, powerful enough to destroy fleets and armies; but to use anything that only inflicts additional torture on the sufferers in war is altogether wicked.

What say the successors of Southey, the Laureate of England, and his Parnassian companions concerning Yankee warfare? Has Tenyson touched the war at all? He intervened for Poland. He has more readers and kinsmen here than in Poland.

It is said that Washington Irving realized on his works the sum of \$205,383. Since his death, to September 30 1863, the sum of \$34,273 has been received by his executors.

A fall of 108 feet—thirty-five higher than Niagara—has been discovered on the Columbia River, where the volume of water is as large as that at Niagara, in one unbroken sheet.