

The Superfluous Man.

It is ascertained by inspection of the registers of many countries, that the uniform proportion of male to female births is 21 to 20; accordingly, in respect to marriage, every twenty-first man is naturally superfluous.—Smith's Treatise on Population.

The Winter Winds may Wildly Rave

The winter winds may wildly rave,
Lost Earth, o'er thy place of rest,
But Love, thou hast a better grave,
Deep in a faithful woman's breast.

General Lee's Views.

From the New York Herald of the 29th ult., we extract the following interesting account of an interview between General Robert E. Lee and Mr. Thomas M. Cook, the special correspondent of the Herald:

THE GENERAL A NATIONAL MAN.

The conversation then turned into other channels, and finally touched upon the prospect for peace. And here a very noticeable form of expression was used by the General. In speaking of the probable course of the Administration towards the South, the General remarked that "if we do" so and so. I immediately called his attention to the expression, and sought an explanation of the sense in which he used the pronoun "we," but obtained none other than a marked repetition of it.

INTRODUCTION.

It was certainly embarrassing to me, on introducing the object of my visit, to say that I intended to lay his political views before the public, as his military career had already been his reply—I am a paroled prisoner—once appealed to my sympathy. A frank, generous man, how far may I properly question him without touching upon his views of honor in reference to his parole? But when he added, "I have never been a politician, and know but little of political leaders—I am a soldier—let me say. I assured him that I had no desire to offend his sensibility, or tempt him to violate any presumable obligation under his parole; but that, being prominently identified with the rebellion, his views on the questions arising out of that rebellion would be of great interest at the present moment, and doubtless of great importance and influence in the settlement of the troubles agitating the country, and with this view only I called upon him. He replied that the prominence he held was sought by himself and distasteful to him. That he preferred retirement and seclusion. But was ready to make any sacrifice or perform any honorable act that would tend to the restoration of peace and tranquility to the country.

GENERAL LEE AND THE REBELLION.

The general's attention was directed to his written and spoken determination to draw his sword in defense only of his native State, and the inquiry was raised as to what he considered the defense of Virginia, and what degree of deliberation he thought ought to be exercised. He stated that as a firm and honest believer in the doctrine of State rights, he had considered his allegiance due primarily to the State in which he was born, and where he had always resided. And, although he

was not an advocate of secession at the outset, when Virginia seceded he honestly believed it his duty to abide her fortune. He opposed secession to the last, foreseeing the ruin it was sure to entail. But when the State withdrew from the Union he had no recourse, in his views of honor and patriotism, but to abide her fortunes. He went with her, intending to remain merely a private citizen.

When he resigned his commission in the United States army, he had no intention of taking up arms in any other service antagonistic to the United States. His State, however, called for him, and, entertaining the fixed principles he did of State sovereignty, he had no alternative but to accept the service to which he was called. When he made use of the declaration, that has been so extensively quoted of late, he had accepted only a commission from Virginia. Subsequently, when Virginia attached herself to the Southern Confederacy, the same political impressions impelled him to follow her, and when he accepted service under the rebel Government, he did so on the principle that he was defending his native State. And yet, by the act of accepting such service, he was bound in honor to serve in any part of the Confederacy where he might be called, without reference to State lines; and the reconciliation with his former avowed ally, if any were necessary, were found in the fact that Virginia, standing or falling with the other Southern States, in defending them, he was defending the one to which he considered his allegiance primarily due.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HIS SURRENDER.

As to the effect of his surrender, he was free to say it was a severe blow to the South, but not a crushing blow. It was of military, not political significance. Asked, was not that surrender a virtual surrender of the doctrine of State rights. By no means, the General replied. When the South shall be wholly subdued there will then undeniably be a surrender of that doctrine. But the surrender of a single army is simply a military necessity. The army of Northern Virginia was surrendered because further resistance on its part would only entail a useless sacrifice of life. But that army was merely a part of the force of the South. When the South shall be forced to surrender all its forces and returns to the Union, it indubitably by that act, surrenders its favorite doctrine of secession. That principle will then be settled by military power.

STATE RIGHTS.

On this question of State sovereignty, the General contends that there exists a legitimate cause belli. In the convention that formed the organic law of the land, the question of defining the relative powers of the States, and their relation to the general government was raised, but much discussion was dropped and left unsettled. It has remained so unsettled until the present time. This war is destined to settle it at rest. It was unfortunate that it was not settled at the outset; but as it was not settled then, and had to be settled at some time, the war raised on this subject cannot be considered treason. If the South is forced to submission in this contest, it is of course only to be looked upon as the triumph of Federal power over State rights, and the forced annihilation of the latter.

THE SOUTH ANXIUS FOR PEACE TWO YEARS.

With reference to the war in the abstract, the General declared it as his honest belief that peace was practicable two years ago, and has been practicable from that time to the present day, whenever the general government should see fit to seek it, giving any reasonable chance for the country to escape the consequences which the exasperated North seemed determined to impose. The South has, during this time, been ready and anxious for peace. They have been looking for some word or expression of compromise or conciliation from the North, upon which they might base a return to the Union. They were not prepared, nor are they yet, to come and lay for terms; but were ready to accept any fair and honorable terms, their own political views being considered. The question of slavery did not lay in the way at all. The best men of the South have long been anxious to do away with this institution, and were quite willing to-day to see it abolished.

THE CONSERVATIVE SENTIMENT OF THE NORTH.

The conversation which had been greatly protracted, so much so that I became uneasy for fear of trespassing on time that I had no right to claim, terminated with some allusions to the terms of peace. Here there was, perhaps naturally and properly, more reticence than on any other topic. But it was plain from what transpired that the only question in the way of immediate peace was the treatment to be accorded the vanquished. Everything else, by implication, seems to be surrendered. Slavery, State rights, the doctrine of secession, and whatever else of political policy may be involved in the strife, is abandoned, the only barrier to an immediate and universal suspension of hostilities and return to the Union being the treatment the national authorities may promise those who have been resisting its power and paramount authority.

IT IS PROPER TO SAY THAT THIS WAS NOT STATED BY GENERAL LEE, BUT IS SIMPLY AN INFERENCE FROM THE CONVERSATION THAT TOOK PLACE ON THAT TOPIC.

On the contrary, that General Lee seemed very cautious in regard to terms. In order to get at his views, if possible, I suggested the conservative sentiment of the North, which proposed a general amnesty to all soldiers and military officers, but that the political leaders of the South be held to a strict accountability. "Would that be just?" he asked. "What has Mr. Davis done more than any other Southerner, that he should be punished? Is it true he has occupied a prominent position as the agent of a whole people, but that made him no more nor less a rebel than the rest."

GEN. LEE'S PERSONAL WISHES FOR THE FUTURE.

In taking leave of the General I took occasion to say that he was greatly respected by a very large body of good men at the North, and that as a soldier he was universally admired, and that it was earnestly hoped that he would yet lead an army of United States troops in the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine. He thanked me for the expression of Northern sentiment towards himself, but as for more fighting, he felt that he was getting too old; his only desire now being to be permitted to retire to private life and end his days in seclusion. It was, I thought, an evidence of painful sadness at heart that promptly the added expression that he would have been pleased had his life been taken in any of the numerous battle-fields on which he had fought during this war.

THE CUSTIS SLAVES.

While talking on the subject of the abolition of slavery, I remarked that it had lately been charged in some of the newspapers of the North that the Custis slaves, some two hundred in number, who had been left in the hands of the rebels, were being sold to the General Lee's custody for emancipation. The General said this was a mistake. As executor of the will he was required to emancipate these slaves at a certain time. That time had not arrived when the war broke out. It did arrive one or two years afterwards. At that time he could not get to the courts of the country in which Arlington is located to take out the emancipating papers as prescribed by law. But he did take out papers from the Supreme Court of the State in this city, liberating them, and they are so recorded in the records of that court. He sent word of their freedom to the agents at Arlington, and the necessary papers were sent to them at the White House, and to all others that could be reached, and they were all thus liberated, together with a number who were either the General's or Mrs. Lee's private property.

ACCOUNTS FROM THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI BY MAGRATHER, FREE AND OTHERS ARE GOING TO FIGHT OUT OVER THERE.

The scheme was wholly unknown in the South, before its execution, and would never have received the slightest encouragement had it been known; but, on the contrary, the most severe execration. I called the General's attention, at this point, to a notice, that had been printed in the Northern papers, purporting to have been taken from a paper published in the interior South, proposing, for the sum of one million dollars, to undertake the assassination of the President and his Cabinet. The General affirmed that he had never seen or heard of such a proposition, nor did he believe it had ever been printed in the South; though if it had, it had been permitted merely as the whim of some crazy person that could possibly amount to nothing. Such a crime was an anomaly in the history of our country, and we had yet to learn that it was possible of either earnest conception or actual execution.

Hon. Jas. L. Orr. This distinguished Carolinian has recently written the following letter to Hon. W. W. Boyce, which will be read with interest by the many friends of Mr. Orr: From the Newbury Herald.

THE SOUTH NEVER HALF IN EARNEST IN THE WAR.

It was a most singular and remarkable expression to escape the lips of such a man as General Lee, that the South was never half in earnest in this war. I cannot attempt to translate this remark or elucidate it. Its utterance conveyed to me the impression that the South was most heartily sick of war, and anxious to get back into the Union and to peace. The General added that they went off after political leaders in a moment of passion and under the excitement of fancied wrongs, honestly believing that they were entering a struggle for an inalienable right and a fundamental principle of their political creed. A man should not be judged harshly for contending for that which he honestly believes to be right. Such was the position of the vast majority of the people now. And now that they are defeated, they consider that they have lost everything that is worth contending for in the Government. They have sacrificed home, friends, property, health; all on this issue. Men do not make such sacrifices for nothing. They have made the sacrifice from honest convictions.

EXPATRIATION SCHEMES.

And now that they have lost in the issue they feel that they have no interest left in this country. It is the opinion of General Lee that unless moderation and liberality be exercised towards them, the country will lose its best people. Already, he says, they are seeking to expatriate themselves, and numerous schemes are started to go to Mexico, Brazil, Canada, France or elsewhere. He is called upon frequently to discountenance and suppress such undertakings. The country needs these young men. They are its bone and sinew, its intelligence and enterprise, its hope for the future, and wisdom demands that no effort be spared to keep them in the country and pacify them.

GEN. LEE'S STANDPOINT.

It was a most noticeable feature of the conversation that General Lee, strange as may appear, talked throughout as a citizen of the United States. He seemed to plant himself on the national platform, and take his observations from that standpoint. He acknowledged and deliberately, earnestly, but with no show of interest or different from what might be expected from an abject slaveholder in his peculiar opinions.

THE TERMS OF PEACE.

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A NEW REVELATION.

The Atlanta Intelligencer makes a singular statement of events which transpired in Europe, during the progress of the revolution, in connection with the efforts of Messrs. Mason and Sidel, in behalf of the Confederate cause. Our contemporary does not state where the information was derived from, but expresses a belief of the statement, and adds that had the facts been made known at the time, we have reason to believe it was commuted to the treaty making power of the then-existing Confederate Government, peace would long since have been made between the seceding and the United States. The following is the statement:

It is said that after Mr. Mason had addressed several diplomatic notes to Lord Palmerston, or Russell (we do not remember which), he was formally notified that on a certain day he would be received in his diplomatic character, and an audience granted him in London. Two days in advance of the day named for his reception, Mr. Mason repaired to London to await the summons of the British Minister to the appointed conference.

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In taking leave of the General I took occasion to say that he was greatly respected by a very large body of good men at the North, and that as a soldier he was universally admired, and that it was earnestly hoped that he would yet lead an army of United States troops in the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine. He thanked me for the expression of Northern sentiment towards himself, but as for more fighting, he felt that he was getting too old; his only desire now being to be permitted to retire to private life and end his days in seclusion. It was, I thought, an evidence of painful sadness at heart that promptly the added expression that he would have been pleased had his life been taken in any of the numerous battle-fields on which he had fought during this war.

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Dear Sir:—In consequence of the derangement of the mails, I did not receive your letter until a day or two ago. Since your letter was written, events have crowded on each other in rapid succession; but as you request it, I will very briefly give you, without reserve, my views of the present state of the country.

The surrender of the armies under Generals Lee and Johnston, closes the existence of the Confederate Government, and renders further resistance to the authorities of the United States hopeless.

Gen. Johnston, in his official telegram, to Gov. Magrath, says: "I made this Convention (with Gen. Sherman) to spare the blood of the gallant little army committed to me; to prevent further suffering to our people by the devastation and ruin inevitable from the marches of invading armies, and to avoid the crime of waging hopeless war."

We have, then, the highest military authority for concluding, that any further prosecution of the war, by us, would be an act of desperation and folly.

We are exhausted in the gigantic struggle in which we have been engaged; and however humiliating it may be to our pride, we must succumb.

We have left, neither men, money, credit, arms, ordnance, quartermaster or commissary stores. How then can we continue the contest? If we attempt it, our efforts to injure the enemy, for the want of all material of war, will prove utterly impotent; and will certainly bring further ruin and desolation upon our own people and country.

The suggestion that the war may and will be continued in the Trans-Mississippi and our nationality thereby secured, is entirely delusive. If the joint strength and resources of all the States, constituting the Confederacy, have been overwhelmed by the power of the United States, how is it, possible for Texas, Arkansas, and part of Louisiana, to maintain with success the struggle?

Equally delusive and far more disastrous, is the idea that the contest can be continued by guerrilla warfare. Once begun, all the bonds and safeguards of civil society are broken, and murder, robbery and plunder, are introduced into every house. They will have no supplies upon which to subsist, except such as they plunder, mainly from the people they profess to defend.

May heaven deliver us from guerrilla warfare! What then is the proper course for the people of this State to pursue? We have failed to establish our nationality after a long and costly struggle. The arms of the United States are triumphant, which demonstrates the power to enforce upon us their laws and nationality, and can there be any wrong in our accepting the facts as they exist, and yielding obedience to their authority? Have we any alternative before us? It has been shown that we cannot resist their power; and then fruitlessly contest it further?

My decided conviction is, that the people of this State should without further contest or question, and in good faith, submit to the laws and authority of the United States.

I think it would be wise, for the Governor at once to convene the legislature, and that body, doubtless, would take such action, as would relieve every citizen from any embarrassment in pursuing the course suggested.

In the meantime while we are in this transition state, and until the legislature meets, the Governor might by proclamation, order all State troops to be disbanded, except for public purposes and to preserve law and order in their respective localities; and also, advise the people to yield obedience to the laws and authority of the United States.

I am very truly yours, &c., JAMES L. ORR. Hon. W. W. Boyce, Winnsboro, S. C.

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and adds: Had the delusion then been removed from the people's mind of Cotton being King, or of foreign recognition, the war might have closed two years ago, with less advantage to Great Britain and more to the South and the United States than at this late day. But extermination and recrimination are now out of place. "Cotton is no King" was not, and never can be King. This, like some theories of our government, to which the South has given credence, and long maintained—such as are embraced in the doctrines of State Rights and State Homelies—are henceforth to be, and must be considered baseless political fabrics. One people, one government, united for the general welfare at peace, if it will let us with all the world, but united against it whenever assailed. And so we go for a new, and, we trust, a peaceful and prosperous future.

THE CAPTURE OF MR. DAVIS.

Gen. Wilson in command at Macon, has furnished the Secretary of War the following additional particulars of the capture of Mr. Davis: Macon May 13, P. M.

Hon. E. M. Stanton:

Lieut. Col. Hardin, commanding the 1st Wisconsin, has just arrived from Jonesville. He struck the trail of Davis at Dublin, Laurens county, on the evening of the 7th, and followed him closely night and day through the pine wilderness of Alligator creek and Green swamp, via Cumberland to Jonesville. At Cumberlandville, Col. Hardin met Col. Pritchard, with 150 picked men and horses of the 4th Michigan. Hardin followed the trail directly south, while Pritchard, having fresher horses, pushed down the Ocmulgee road toward Hopewell, and thence by House Creek to Jonesville, arriving there at midnight on the 9th. Jeff Davis had not arrived. From a citizen Pritchard learned that his party were encamped two miles out of the town. He made a proper disposition of his men, and surrounded the camp before daylight.

Hardin had camped at 9 p. m., within two miles, as he had afterwards learned, from Davis, the trail being too indistinct to follow. He pushed on at 3 a. m., and had gone but little more than one mile when his advance was fired upon by the 4th Michigan. A fight ensued, both parties exhibiting the greatest determination before the mistake was discovered.

The firing was the first warning Davis received. The captors report that he had been put on one of his wife's dresses, and started for the woods, closely followed by our men, who at first thought him a woman, but seeing his boots while he was running, they suspected his sex. The race was a short one, and the rebel President was soon brought to bay. He brandished a bowie knife and showed signs of battle, but yielded speedily to the persuasion of the Colonel's revolver, without compelling the men to fire. He expressed great indignation at the energy, with which he was pursued, saying he had believed our government too magnanimous to hunt down women and children. Mrs. Davis remarked that the men had better not provoke the President, for he might hurt some of them. Rangan behaves himself with dignity and resignation. The party evidently were making for the coast.

Gerrillas and Freedmen.

Gen. Halleck has issued the following order: HEADQUARTERS MIL'Y DIV. OF THE ARMS, Richmond, Va., May 5, 1865. General Orders No. 6. From and after the 20th instant all persons found in arms against the authorities of the United States, in the States of Virginia and North Carolina, will be treated as robbers and outlaws. Any persons in these States, who assist or advise the organization of guerrilla bands, or a continuation of hostilities against the authority of the United States, will be arrested, tried by the military commission, and punished with death, or otherwise severely, according to the circumstances of the case. All military officers of this division, and especially commanders of posts and districts, will be charged with the preservation of good order within their commands. They will use their influence to reconcile all differences between the freedmen and their former masters, and will assure freedmen that they will be required to labor for the support of themselves and families, but they are free to select their own employers and make their own bargains. They must be made to understand that the Government will protect, but not support them. All classes must be shown the necessity of planting and cultivating crops, this spring and summer, in order to avoid want in the country. To minors not cared for by parents, the apprentice system will be introduced as early as practicable. For children too young to labor, and abandoned by protectors, it is ordered that houses of refuge be established, where they may be cared for and educated. Interest, as well as humanity, require that former masters of the colored race should unite in devising the best measures for ameliorating their condition, and for introducing some system of labor. To this end all military authorities will lend their aid.

Factory Goods.

We will now take all Cottens at our Factory, but up in bagging or stores. Will give lowest price in currency for barter. On bargains for, having at present one yard Usanourge for one pound Cotton. J. J. GREGG & CO. May 1 41 10

For Tax Collector.

The Many Friends of D. A. J. RELL, Esq., respectfully nominate him as a Candidate for Tax Collector at the next election. Oct 13 to 43

For Tax Collector.

The many Friends of Capt. JAMES MITCHELL, respectfully nominate him as a Candidate for TAX COLLECTOR at the next election. SALUDA. May 6 to 50

Notice.

All persons indebted to the Estate of Robert J. D. B. late of Edgefield District deceased, are requested to come forward and make payment; and all persons having any Notes, Papers or Property of any kind belonging to said Estate are requested to hand them in to the undersigned, who is the lawful Administrator; and also those indebted will please pay up immediately, in lawful money of the State, or its equivalent in currency. A word to the wise is sufficient. W. B. SANCHEZ, Adm'r. Mar 31 to 15

Fine Bay Mare.

I desire to exchange a fine BAY MARE, (5 to 6 years old with foal, for a good draft horse—black or dark brown, medium size. Also, two YEARLINGS for a good HIND Cow. JOHN E. DICON. May 16 to 21

Gen. Ewell on the Murder of President Lincoln.

Fortress Monroe, April 6, 1865. Lieutenant General U. S. Grant, Commanding United States Army: GENERAL: You will appreciate, I am sure, the sentiment which prompts me to drop you these few lines. Of all the misfortunes which could befall the Southern people, or any Southern man, by far the greatest, in my judgment, would be the prevalence of the idea that they could entertain any other than feelings of unqualified abhorrence and indignation for the assassination of the President of the United States and the attempt to assassinate the Secretary of State. No language can adequately express the shock produced upon myself, in common with all the general officers confined here with me, by the occurrence of this appalling crime, and by the seeming tendency in the public mind to connect the Southern men with it. Need we say that we are no assassins, nor the allies of assassins; be they from the North or from the South; and that, coming as we do from most of the States of the South, we would be ashamed of our own people were we not assured that they would reprobate this crime. Under the circumstances, I could not refrain from some expression of my feelings. I thus utter them to a soldier who will comprehend them. The following officers—Major Generals Ed. Johnson, of Virginia, and Kershaw, of South Carolina; Brigadier-Generals Barton, Corse, Huntton, and Jones, of Virginia; Dubois, Sommes, and H. R. Jackson, of Georgia; Frazer, of Alabama; Smith and Gordon, of Tennessee; Cabell, of Arkansas; and Marmaduke, of Missouri; and Commodore Tucker, of Virginia—all heartily concur with me in what I have said. Respectfully, R. S. EWELL, Lieutenant-General C. S. A.

A Washington special says: The President has ordered that Ex-Governor Aiken, of South Carolina, shall no longer be considered under arrest. It is understood that there was no just cause for his arrest by the military authorities at Charleston. Major Gen. Sigel having tendered and received his resignation, is now chief editor of the Weekly, a Republican paper published in Baltimore, Md.

Bloody Affair at Alexandria and Lees Ferry—An intoxicated white man and a negro got into a quarrel the other day at Alexandria in DeKalb county, in which the negro was severely beaten. The negro then seized an axe and cut his adversary terribly. He was arrested and brought to Lebanon and put in jail. In a short time the guard detailed to watch him took the prisoner out and strangled his body with balls.—Nashville Press.

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