

Good Men to the Rescue.

Dr. Clarke, of New York, whose method of representation in large constituencies we have considered at some length, thinks that the adoption of his system would revive the devotion of aspiring minds for public business. It would, it would place upon it the seal of supreme excellence. In all well-governed countries, politics is a profession which attracts to its study and pursuit the first order of men. In Greece, Aristotle; in Rome, Cicero; in England, Sidgwick; in Florence, Machiavelli; in France, Guizot; in the United States, Hamilton, Jefferson and Calhoun. What an array of illustrious names have appeared in this commanding department of human thought and human exertion! Such central aims always have revolved about them their systems of steady and brilliant planets, moving in beautiful order and shedding benignant light. Their absence, as at this time in this country, shows a darkness in the skies which is too faithfully reflected on earth. We have no philosophical statesmen devoted to this noble science, either in its study in the closet, or in the application of its principles to produce and promote happiness among men. Mere politicians, placemen and lackeys, speculators and jobbers, bribers and takers of gifts, through those avenues of the public service, from which patriots and men of ingenuous character shrink as from pollution. Politics is, accordingly, no longer a path for patriotism to walk in, nor the field of an honorable ambition.

Universal suffrage, which is a most pernicious thing where morality has not advanced, and where ignorance is general, our author thinks, may be trusted under his system to produce the best results of which human nature is capable. It can only operate successfully where the rights of society are placed in their proper relations to each other and the common weal. "Not till the touch of the lead-stone," as philosophers tell us, "has brought each of its several particles into due polar arrangement, does the martial metal obey celestial influences and become the safe guide of the wanderer."

In concluding his essay, the author glances at what he conceives to be the most imminent danger to the republic in the future. It is the alliance of money with politics. Organized capital, represented by banks, railroads and special interests, sways Legislatures and dictates their measures. Even now, he says, railroad corporations are substantially omnipotent in the Legislatures of many of the States; even how the favor of national banks is necessary to carry fiscal measures in Congress; even new attorneys and agents of special interests largely control taxation. The evil thus already existing, and more darkly foreshadowed in the future, can only be hindered by putting the best men in control of affairs. The high scientific mind of the age should be applied to the transcendent object of saving society from anarchy and corruption.

President Grant's admirers in Washington seem to be divided into two principal classes. One hails him as a saviour, and deprecates the sacred legend of *Eccle Homo* by irreverently applying it to the object of their worship. Another sees, in the numbers and pageantry of the inauguration ceremonies, a strong resemblance to "the triumphal glories of Napoleon I." These are ready to exclaim, "Vive l'Empereur!" and those to bow down and worship anything that looks like a king, even King Log. "O judgment! thou art fled to brutish beasts, and men have lost their reason!" Instead of *Eccle Homo*, let them flee for salvation to one of the eminently Christian statesmen fresh from the Mobilier tribulations, the snivelling Harlan, the Pecksniffian Wilson, or the Truthful James, *alias* smiling Colfax. If they want a king, worthy of their adulation, let them not slight "the kind of men who are raised in Massachusetts," Oakes Ames, who knows how to make spades and place stock where it will do most good; or Butler, who is equally at home in insulting innocence, stealing spoons, or defending roguery.

Nothing uncommon these days for editors to be, as well as write, leaders. Pat. Walsh, Esq., is editor of the *Chronicle and Sentinel*, and, at the same time, a big man and orator in the Georgia House of Representatives. He was the father of the admirable policy of exempting manufactures from taxation the first ten years of their existence, changing the advocates of that measure from a minority to a majority.

The Houston (Texas) *Union* says that more cattle have perished in that State this winter, by cold and starvation than in any former season of cold weather.

The measure of justice meted out to Credit Mobilier culprits in the Poland report, low as it was, was more than the House could approve. We might commend its action, if its repugnance to adopt the report had been based upon the evident purpose of the committee to screen certain members equally guilty with Ames and Brooks, and to offer up these latter as victims to atone for others' sins as well as their own. But it was not. They disliked to punish the guilty. They feared to establish a new precedent. A follow-fooling with them, and equal though undetected criminality, on the part of many, induced them even to reject the report, and to adopt as a substitute for it a resolution merely condemning Ames and Brooks, and letting off the rest altogether. Even to this latter mild measure there were some dissentient voices, among them Messrs. Elliott and Rainey, from South Carolina. Their vote against the resolution gave rise to a scene which is thus described in the *New York Herald*:

"When the vote was declared, respecting Mr. Brooks, he conspicuously left his seat and went first to Mr. Elliott, the colored Representative from Columbia, S. C., and, in the presence of hundreds in the rear of Mr. Elliott's seat, thanked him at length and emphatically for the vote which he had given, and he then did the like to Mr. Rainey, also from South Carolina, whose seat was in a distant part of the House. This spectacle attracted great attention."

Elliott was counted upon, we have heard, to present the protest against Patterson's taking his seat as Senator. According to despatches, yesterday, Patterson was "sworn in without a dissenting word." What has become of Elliott's indignation at the base uses to which his race has been put? The *Cincinnati Commercial* will have to interview him again in his dainty gown and slippers, and get out a second edition of the famous letter, in which such doughty deeds against Patterson were threatened. So flourishes and fades even the majestic black man!

ENGLAND'S PHILOSOPHY.—The remark is attributed to Bismarck, "What is the good of England? She won't fight." Perhaps the "good of England" is that she doesn't consider fighting the chief good of men or nations. She has had a vast deal of it in her time, and knows what it costs, morally, physically and financially. Yet, although the result of her experience seems to lead her to act in accordance with the injunction of her great dramatist, "beware of entrance to a quarrel," we argue with the *New York Commercial Advertiser*, that if Bismarck should live long enough to see Germany force her to the test, he will have lived long enough to find out that Waterloo may wage war without always winning battles.

SENATOR PATTERSON.—A special despatch to the *Union* says: "Senator Patterson, against whose claim to a seat a protest was presented, Tuesday, was sworn in without a dissenting voice. The protest was not presented in the regular way, but sent in an envelope to Vice-President Colfax. There was only one Republican name to the protest."

State Agricultural and Mechanical Society.

This body has adopted the plan of disseminating at its meetings subjects of interest to the whole country. We observe that the Spring meeting is appointed to be held in Charleston on the first Tuesday in May, and that a number of highly intelligent and cultivated agriculturists have been charged with the duty of opening the discussions on a series of well-selected topics. These essays, we presume, will be reproduced in the agricultural journals and newspapers, and so made accessible to the whole people.

The idea of meeting successively at different points, is a good one. Each place, so visited, will become thereafter a centre of stronger agricultural interest than it was before. We trust that these meetings will be well attended, and that the friendly collision of our highly intelligent farmers and planters, in debate and in comparison of their several stores of facts, will result in wide-spread good.

The majority report of the Credit Mobilier Investigating Committee to Congress may be thus epitomized:

*Resolved*, That Oakes Ames be expelled, because he dared "to tell tales out of school."  
*Resolved*, That James Brooks be also expelled, because he is a Democrat (although the only one of the accused who has made a plausible defence).  
*Resolved*, That nothing be said about Colfax, because his term will soon expire, and, out of office, the scandal will rest on the individual, and not on the party—the "God-and-Morality-party."

Barnum is going to make his animals fire-proof now. The elephant will wear a corrugated iron overcoat, the baboons will have Babcock extinguishers strapped to their backs, while the camels and other animals will be coated heavily with fire-proof paint.

London, February 18.—An extraordinary story concerning the abdication of King Amadeo comes to me from so high a source that I am constrained to believe it is in this effect: The Queen, as everybody will remember, was the Princess Mary, the daughter of Prince Charles Emmanuel del Pozzo della Castellana; she is only twenty-five of age; she is a very devout Catholic; and she is the mother of three children, the youngest of whom, a prince, was born at Madrid only a few days ago. Immediately before the birth of this child, the young Queen was in great distress of mind and in very alarming physical pain; and in her agony of mind and body, she made a vow to the Blessed Virgin, that if, through the 'marry' of God, she was brought safely through the perils that she environed her, she would beg her husband on her knees to resign the throne of Spain and to hasten back to Italy. Her husband was present when—perhaps in delirium—she made this vow, and he made no remonstrance against it. There is no doubt that he has been growing more and more weary of Spain for several months, and the distress and anguish of his young wife, to whom he is tenderly attached, probably strengthened his desire to get rid of his thankless task. Events which happened after the birth of the child—who, in the opinion of its mother, was given her only as a hostage for the performance of her vow—doubtless removed all hesitation which he might have still felt. He and his wife—despite all his noble qualities and all her grace and beauty—had never been able to win over to their side the proud nobles of Spain. Just as in Rome the nobility of the highest rank, with one or two exceptions, side with the Pope, and refuse to attend the Court of King Victor Emanuel, or to give any countenance to his Government, so in Madrid the grandees held aloof from "the foreign adventurer," as they called King Amadeo, while their wives could not be induced to appear in the train of his wife. This alarmed and irritated both of them—not without reason; but they continued to hope that in time the nobility could be won over to their side. The King made a last effort to do this on the occasion of the christening of the newborn child. He asked the Duchess de la Torre, the wife of Serrano, to present the royal infant at the baptismal ceremony. She refused with scorn, and the poor baby would have probably had to suffer the ignominy of being "presented" by a lady of low rank, had not the widow of Marshal Prim, herself a Duchess, consented to leave her mourning retirement and perform the function. I am told there was a terrible scene in the palace that day, and it was then that the King finally yielded to the prayers and tears of his wife, and made to her the promise of abdication, which, as you know, he fulfilled on the 11th of this month. "It is a great honor," said the King in his message to the Cortes announcing his abdication, "to preside over the destinies of a country, however disturbed. I had resolved to keep my oath and respect the Constitution, for I believed that my loyalty to Spain would compensate for whatever errors might be caused by my youth and inexperience. But my good wishes have deceived me, for Spain lives in a perpetual contest. If my enemies had been foreigners, I would not abandon the task; but they are Spaniards. I wish neither to be the King of a party nor to act illegally; but, believing all my efforts to be sterile, I renounce the crown for myself, my son and heirs."

These are plain, sad and bold words; but the Cortes listened to them with scarcely concealed joy, and the abdication was unanimously accepted. There are wheels within wheels; and had the Cortes known all that was within the King's mind, they probably would have listened to his message with emotions of a very mixed character—for I have as yet told only one-half of my story. The King has abdicated, it is true, to please his wife; but if my informants are correct, he did this all the more willingly because he believes that by giving up the insecure throne of Spain he makes a stride towards the throne of Italy. Victor Emanuel's health is extremely precarious, and his death at any moment would surprise no one who knows him; the Crown Prince Humbert is the victim of a nameless disease which makes his life a burden, and from which death may soon relieve him; and his son—the four-year old Prince of Naples—is in such a condition that his life can be protracted only by something like a miracle. These three precarious lives are all that stand between Amadeo and the Italian crown; and even should Victor Emanuel and Humbert die before the baby Prince of Naples expires, Amadeo would have a claim to a regency which would be in fact a sovereignty. The personal relations between Victor Emanuel and Humbert are of the most unhappy character. The latter—whose vices far outnumber his virtues—has cherished a bitter hatred for his father ever since the King, on what he thought was his death-bed, married the woman with whom he had so long lived in adultery, and by whom he had been made the father of several children. Humbert was not shocked by the sins of his father—he is fond of such sins himself—but he was disgusted beyond measure by his repentance and his reparation; and the other day, when the King announced his wish to publicly solemnize the marriage contracted in private with this woman, and to elevate her to the throne, Humbert broke out into a fearful storm of rage, and not only publicly declared that in such event he would leave Italy, but privately sent word to his father that if he did this thing he would lead a revolution to depose him. Victor Emanuel, always weak, yielded for the moment to these threats, and nothing has since been said about the marriage. But I am told that what he now desires is that Humbert should die; that he then should cause his marriage to be publicly solemnized, and his

"Cortes" called Queen for a day; that he then should abdicate in favor of Amadeo as regent or as King. So that the permission of the wife of the latter were added, the secret advice and prayer of his father to leave Spain, and to come back to Italy. Victor Emanuel greatly decried death so long as he is at unity with the Pope. He would withdraw his Government from Rome tomorrow, and restore St. Peter's patrimony to Pius IX, if his Cabinet and Parliament would allow him to do it. Amadeo is a better Catholic than either his father or his brother, and vague dreams float through the brain of the King of a reconciliation effected between Italy and the Papal See with Amadeo on the throne. This all sounds like a romance, you will say; but I have reason—and the best of reason—to believe that it is all true.

Your correspondent at Paris thus writes me under date of the 12th ult: "The intelligence from Spain is producing intense excitement here. If Amadeo abdicates and revolution follows, the course which its friends here predict, we shall see the monarchial party in France even more strengthened than it was by Napoleon's death. France will be warned by Spain's playing the drunken helot. Fusion will be confirmed and the Bonapartists made more willing than ever to support the monarchial party. An immense exodus of priests and wealthy families is expected from Spain if the republic be proclaimed. There is some reason to fear there may be trouble in Lyons and Marseilles if there be established a republic in Spain. We have heard every evening, for the last seven or eight days, that a formidable insurrection has broken out in Lyons. There is no question the Communards are collecting on the Swiss frontier. Cluseret and many Polish military adventurers confederated with him are known to be at Geneva. Impatient spirits in Lyons have for months been longing for insurrection, and it is believed the menaced changes in the municipal organization of Lyons and in the electoral law have produced a degree of irritation in that city which the revolutionary leaders can no longer allay. Moreover, there is as much distress in the lower classes there as there is in Paris."

I should add another fact to the curious information I have already given. It is that shortly after Amadeo's first arrival at Madrid, tolerably conclusive proof was placed in his hands that the plot for the assassination of Prim was known to, if not concocted by, the Duc de Montpensier. The evidence against the private secretary of the Duke—a gentleman who, I believe, is now in the United States—was perfectly conclusive; and that against the Duke himself was very strong. The news of Prim's assassination, it will be remembered, reached the King as he first landed in Spain, and he was very anxious to bring his murderers to justice. He wished the Duke to be informed of the reasons for the accusations against him, and to have him summoned for trial; but he was overruled in this, as in nearly everything else. It is fortunate that Amadeo has gone. He did not have a happy day all the time he was in Spain. He has always been in danger of assassination; he has been twice shot at; he has been once nearly poisoned; and a fourth attempt to kill him was made by throwing missiles from the roof of a building just as he was passing it. Had he remained, he would have lived in constant fear and unhappiness.

In London, opinion is divided as to the chances for the perpetuity of the new republic in Spain. The journals predict its speedy downfall, but they have been saying the same thing for two years about the French republic, and it still lives. In private conversation, many of our public men express the belief that, after all, it may be found that the republic will be the salvation of Spain.

WANTED, AN OWNER.—The singular statement is made, that ten shares of the Credit Mobilier of America, on which is due dividends to the amount of \$5,000, are going begging in Washington city, and that an owner for the scrip cannot be procured. In his testimony before the Credit Mobilier Committee, Oakes Ames swore that he held the stock for Judge Kelley, of Pennsylvania, under an arrangement with the latter. The pig iron Congressman ironically remarked, that if the stock were his, he would like to have it turned over; whereupon honest Oakes took the certificate from his pocket and handed it to the astonished Pennsylvanian. The latter refused to retain it, and gave it to the Chairman of the Committee. Judge Poland now wishes to know what he shall do with it. Ames and Kelley both swear that they don't own it, and neither will touch it with a forty-foot pole. Judge Poland says that it is not his property; he doesn't wish it charged that he "holds" Credit Mobilier stock, and proposes to turn it over to the sergeant-at-arms. The latter refuses to receive it, and says he doesn't wish to furnish material for an investigating committee. If it be forced upon him, he will give it to the conscientious fund of the Government. A short time ago, it would not have been hard to find an owner for the property, and it would not have gone begging; but our Solons are a little frightened just now, and are forced to decline many fat presents which they would gladly receive.

NEWSPAPER EXCHANGES.—The House Committee on Appropriations, on Friday, considered the Senate amendment to the post office appropriation bill, and agreed to non-concur in the amendment forbidding the transmission of all free matter so far as the same affects exchanges among newspapers.

Mrs. Alice C. Olymer, the favorite niece and principal legatee of the Cary sisters, died recently at Jacksonville, Fla. She was one of the last surviving members of the family.

Local Items.

THE COLUMBIA PIANIST.—The Rock Island (Ill.) *Daily Argus*, of the 24th ult., thus speaks of Mr. Joseph Hart Denok: "The opening of the second part of the programme, by Mr. J. Hart Denok, with a very difficult composition by Kontaki, entitled 'Le Reval de Lion' (awakening of the lion), was performed in a manner which at once stamped this artist as a pianist of the first rank, and proved him master of the grand Knabe pianoforte, from which he produced an excellent solo and splendidly pyed accompaniment. As an accompanist, Mr. Denok does much towards the success of the company, and, next to Ole Bull, is the genius of the troupe."

"POOR BUCKRA."—As the term "Cracker" is applied to the low class of backwoodsman by the intelligent whites, so is the term "poor buckra," in like manner applied to the same class by the colored people. The term buckra, which is said to have been brought from the Calabar coast, and to have been used originally to mean "white demon," is in general use among the negroes on our Atlantic and Gulf coast. It is also used in the West Indies, and to some extent among the few remaining Florida Indians, to mean white folk, in distinction from black or red people.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LIBRARY.—Senator Robertson tends material assistance to the contemplated Board of Trade library, as will be seen by the following correspondence:

UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER, WASHINGTON, February 25, 1873. GENTLEMEN: I beg respectfully to inclose a list of such documents as are at my control, (which I had forwarded this day to you,) as a contribution to your laudable library enterprise; among them, you will find some valuable scientific works, much sought after, viz: "Report of the Paris Exposition," "Medical and Surgical Report of the Late War," "Smithsonian Report," "Population and Social Statistics," "Solar Eclipse," &c., &c., and many others, valuable as national statistics; others, valuable books of reference.

I trust these may fill a niche in your ineffectual enterprise, which, in after days, may assume grand and commanding proportions, and act as another incentive to bring our venerated city back to its palmist days.

I trust I may not follow the desire for the prosperity of our city and State, in whose bosom not only my youth, but the manhood of my best days have been spent; and I hope yet to witness the day when our people, of all classes and nationalities, will be agreed on one point, and move together undivided for its accomplishment; to wit: The advancement, development and prosperity of our whole broad land—the "home of the oppressed of all nations."

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, T. J. ROBERTSON.

TO MESSRS. JOHN B. PALMER, JOHN AGNEW, JR., JOHN S. WILEY, E. W. SEIBELS and JOHN C. SEEGERS.

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 1, 1873. Hon. T. J. Robertson, Washington.

DEAR SIR: The undersigned, in acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, beg, in behalf of the Board of Trade, to tender you their thanks for the very liberal donation of books (seventy-eight volumes) therein referred to, for our proposed library, and for the interest you express in our enterprise. We are, sir, very respectfully yours, JOHN B. PALMER, JOHN AGNEW, JR., JOHN S. WILEY, E. W. SEIBELS, JOHN C. SEEGERS, Committee on Library.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, March 5, 1873.—*Henrick House*—J. A. Sease, J. W. Campbell, S. C.; Mrs. T. J. Solomon and two children, Mrs. Jones, Sumter; E. L. Miller, S. Moore, Spartanburg. *Columbia Hotel*—J. H. Sawyer, city; C. G. Jaeger, Newberry; W. S. Fell, New Orleans; J. D. Radoliffe, N. C.; Prof. A. Livingston, Virginia; J. M. Walker, W. & A. R. B.; G. W. Thames, H. D. Gibbert, Wilmington; W. Dadey, W. D. Kennedy, S. C.; M. J. Anderson, Aiken; Israel Ottolenger, Sumter; John Wilcox, Jr., Marion; Isaac Holmes, Charleston; Judge M. Moses, Newberry.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. Lyon's Kathairon. Plantation Bitters. D. O. Peixotto & Sons—Auction.

Says a Washington paper: "A rumble, with a tiger, seems to be the most fashionable vehicle for young ladies nowadays. Our belles are getting independent, and with three cheers and a—w mean a rumble and a—tiger they ride up and down the avenue, and make calls without the assistance of those horrid bores called 'lords of creation.'"

SUDDEN DEATH.—We learn that Mrs. Cookroft died very suddenly at her residence in Prosperity, on Monday night last. She had been for some length of time afflicted with dropsy, but up to a few hours of her death showed no unusual pain or approach of dissolution. Her age was seventy-three. *[Newberry Herald.]*

FOUND DEAD.—Mr. Abraham Wicker, an old citizen of this County, living about four miles from town, was found dead, with his head near the fire, on Monday morning last. It is supposed that while making the fire he was taken with a fit. When found life was extinct. *[Newberry Herald.]*

The law office of Mr. J. S. G. Richardson, of Sumter, was partially destroyed by fire, on the night of the 26th. His valuable library was saved but in a damaged condition.

Every heavy burden of sorrow seems like a stone hung round our neck; yet are they often only like the stones used by pearl divers, which enable them to reach their prize and rise enriched. Washington contemplates a grand masquerade ball, the leading feature of which is to be a procession of Congressmen disguised as "Christian statesmen."

Much gayer dresses will be worn on the streets this spring than for many years past.

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