

# SOUTH WESTERN BAPTIST.

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PROPRIETORS.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives  
of the Confederate States:

At the date of your last adjournment the preparations of the enemy for further hostilities had assumed so menacing an aspect as to excite in some minds apprehension of our ability to meet them with sufficient promptness to avoid serious reverses. These preparations were completed shortly after your departure from the seat of government, and the armies of the United States made simultaneous advance on our frontiers, on the western rivers and on the Atlantic coast in masses so great as to evince their hope of overbearing all resistance by mere weight of numbers. This hope, however, like those previously entertained by our foes, has vanished. In Virginia, their fourth attempt at invasion by armies, whose assured success was confidently predicted, has met with decisive repulse. Our noble defenders, under the consummate leadership of their general, have again, at Fredericksburg, inflicted on the forces under General Burnside the like disastrous overthrow as had been previously suffered by the successive invading armies commanded by Generals McDowell, McClellan and Pope.

In the West obstinate battles have been fought with varying fortunes, marked by frightful carnage on both sides, but the enemy's hope of decisive results have again been baffled, while at Vicksburg another formidable expedition has been repulsed with inconsiderable loss on our side and severe damage to the assailing forces. On the Atlantic coast the enemy has been unable to gain a footing beyond the protecting shelter of his fleets, and the city of Galveston has just been recovered by our forces, which succeeded not only in the capture of the garrison but of one of the enemy's vessels of war, which was carried by boarding parties from merchant river steamers. Our fortified positions have everywhere been much strengthened and improved, affording assurance of ability to meet, with success, the utmost efforts of our enemies, in spite of the magnitude of their preparations for attack.

A review of our history during the two years of our national existence affords ample cause for congratulation and demands the most fervent expression of our thankfulness to the Almighty Father who has blessed our arms. We are justified in asserting, with a pride, surely not unbecoming, that these Confederate States have added another to the lessons taught by history for the instruction of man; that they have afforded another example of the impossibility of subjugating a people determined to be free, and have demonstrated that no superiority of numbers or available resources can overcome the resistance offered by such valor in combat, such cheerful endurance of privation as have been conspicuously displayed by our people in the defence of their rights and liberties. The anticipations with which we entered into the contest have now ripened into a conviction, which is not only shared with us by the common opinion of neutral nations, but is evidently forcing itself upon our enemies themselves.

It will mark the history of the present year, by resolute perseverance in the path we have hitherto pursued, by vigorous effort in the development of all our resources for defence, and by the continued exhibition of the same unflinching courage in our soldiers and able conduct in their leaders as have distinguished the past, we have every reason to expect that this will be the closing year of the war. The war, which in its inception was waged for forcing us back into the Union, having failed to accomplish that purpose, passed into a second stage, in which it was accepted to conquer and rule these States as dependent provinces. Defeated in this second design, our enemies have evidently entered upon another, which can have no other purpose than revenge and thirst for blood and plunder of private property. But however implacable they may be, they can have neither the spirit nor the resources required for a fourth year of a struggle uncheered by any hope of success; kept alive solely for the indulgence of mercenary and wicked passions, and demanding so extensive an expenditure of blood and money as has hitherto been imposed on their people. The advent of peace will be hailed with joy. Our desire for it has never been cooled. Our efforts to avoid the war, forced on us as it was by the lust of conquest and the insane passions of our foes, are known to mankind. But earnest as has been our

wish for peace, and great have been our sacrifices and sufferings during the war, the determination of this people has with each succeeding month become more unalterably fixed, to endure any sufferings and continue any sacrifices, however prolonged, until their right to self-government and the sovereignty and independence of these States shall have been triumphantly vindicated and firmly established.

In this connection, the occasion seems not unavailing for some reference to the relations between the Confederacy and the neutral powers of Europe, since the separation of these States from the former Union.

Four of the States now members of the Confederacy were recognized by name as independent sovereignties in a treaty of peace, concluded in the year 1783, with one of the two great maritime powers of Western Europe, and had been, prior to that period, allies in war of the other. In the year 1778 they formed a Union with nine other States under articles of Confederation. Dissatisfied with that Union, three of them, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia, together with eight of the States now members of the United States, seceded from it in 1789, and these eleven seceding States formed a second union, although by the terms of the Articles of Confederation express provision was made that the first union should be perpetual. Their right to secede, notwithstanding this provision, was never contested by the States from which they separated, nor made the subject of discussion with any third power. When, at a later period, North Carolina acceded to that second union, and when, still later, the other seven States, now members of this Confederacy, became also members of the same Union, it was upon the recognized footing of equal and independent sovereignties, nor had it then entered into the minds of men that sovereign States could be compelled, by force, to remain members of a confederation into which they had entered of their own free will, if, at a subsequent period, the defense of their safety and honor should, in their judgment, justify withdrawal. The experience of the past had evinced the futility or any renunciation of such inherent rights, and accordingly the provision for perpetuity contained in the Articles of Confederation of 1778 was omitted in the Constitution of 1789. When, therefore, in 1861 eleven of the States again thought proper, for reasons satisfactory to themselves, to secede from the second union and to form a third one under an amended constitution, they exercised a right which, being inherent, required no justification to foreign nations and which international law did not permit them to question. The usages of intercourse between nations do, however, require that official communication be made to friendly powers of all organic changes in the constitution of States, and there was obvious propriety in giving prompt assurance of our desire to continue amicable relations with all mankind. It was under the influence of these considerations that your predecessors, the provisional government, took early measures for sending to Europe Commissioners charged with the duty of visiting the capitals of the different powers, and making arrangements for the opening of more formal diplomatic intercourse.

Prior, however, to the arrival abroad of those Commissioners, the United States had commenced hostilities against the Confederacy by despatching a secret expedition for the reinforcement of Fort Sumter, after an express promise to the contrary, and with a duplicity which has been fully unveiled in a former message. They had also addressed communications to the different Cabinets of Europe, in which they assumed the attitude of being sovereign over this Confederacy, alleging that these independent States were in rebellion against the remaining States of the Union, and threatening Europe with manifestations of their displeasure if it should treat the Confederate States as having an independent existence. It soon became known that these pretensions were not considered abroad to be as absurd as they were known to be at home, nor had Europe yet learned what reliance was to be placed on the official statements of the Cabinet at Washington. The delegation of power granted by these States to the Federal Government to represent them in foreign intercourse had led Europe into the grave error of supposing that their separate sovereignty and independence had been merged into one common sovereignty, and had ceased to have a distinct existence. Under the influence of this error, which all appeals to reason and historical fact were vainly used to dispel, our Commissioners were met by the declaration that foreign governments could not assume to judge between the conflicting repre-

Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, Judge ye.

TUSKEGEE, ALA., THURSDAY, FEB'Y 5, 1863.

sentations of the two parties as to the true nature of their previous mutual relations. The governments of Great Britain and France accordingly signified their determination to confine themselves to recognizing the self-evident fact of the existence of a war, and to maintaining a strict neutrality during its progress. Some of the other powers of Europe pursued the same course of policy, and it became apparent that by some understanding, express or tacit, Europe had decided to leave the initiative in all action touching the contest on this continent to the two powers just named, who were recognized to have the largest interest involved, both by reason of proximity and of the extent and intimacy of their commercial relations with the States engaged in war.

It is manifest that the course of action adopted by Europe, while based on an apparent refusal to determine the question, or to side with either party, was in point of fact an actual decision against our right and in favor of the groundless pretensions of the United States. It was a refusal to treat us as an independent government. If we were independent States, the refusal to enter into with us the same international intercourse as was maintained with our enemy was unjust, and injurious in its effects, whatever may have been the motive which prompted it. Neither was it in accordance with the high moral obligations of that international code whose chief sanction is the conscience of sovereigns and the public opinion of mankind, that those eminent powers should decline the performance of a duty peculiarly incumbent on them, from any apprehension of the consequences to themselves. One immediate and necessary result of their declining the responsibility of a decision which must have been adverse to the extravagant pretensions of the United States, was the prolongation of hostilities to which our enemies were thereby encouraged, and which have resulted in nothing but scenes of carnage and devastation on this continent, and of misery and suffering on the other, such as have scarcely a parallel in history. Had those powers promptly admitted our right to be treated as all other independent nations, none can doubt that the moral effect of such action would have been to dispel the delusion under which the United States have persisted in their efforts to accomplish our subjugation. To the continued hesitation of the same powers in rendering this act of simple justice towards this Confederacy is still due the continuance of the calamities which mankind suffers from the interruption of its peaceful pursuits, both in the old and the new worlds.

There are other matters in which less than justice has been rendered to this people by neutral Europe, and undue advantage conferred on the aggressors in a wicked war. At the inception of hostilities the inhabitants of the Confederacy were almost exclusively agriculturists; those of the United States, to a great extent, mechanics and merchants. We had no commercial marine, while their merchant vessels covered the ocean. We were without a navy, while they had powerful fleets. The advantage which they possessed for inflicting injury on our coasts and harbors was thus counterbalanced in some measure by the exposure of their commerce to attack by private armed vessels. It was known to Europe that within a very few years past the United States had peremptorily refused to accede to proposals for abolishing privateering, on the ground, as alleged by them, that nations owning powerful fleets would thereby obtain undue advantage over those possessing inferior naval forces. Yet no sooner was war flagrant between the Confederacy and the United States, than the maritime powers of Europe issued orders prohibiting citizens from bringing prizes into their ports. This prohibition directed with apparent impartiality against both delinquents, was in reality effective against the Confederate States alone, for they alone could find a hostile commerce on the ocean. Merely nominal against the United States, the prohibition operated with intense severity on the Confederacy, by depriving it of the only means of maintaining, with some approach to equality, its struggle on the ocean against the crushing superiority of naval force possessed by its enemies. The value and efficiency of the weapon which was thus wrested from our grasp by the combined action of neutral European powers in favor of a nation which professes openly its intention of ragging their commerce by privateers in any future war, is strikingly illustrated by the terror inspired among the commercial classes of the United States by a single cruiser of the Confederacy. One national steamer commanded by officers and manned by a crew who are debarré by the closure of neutral ports, from

the opportunity of causing captured vessels to be confined in their favor as prize, has sufficed to double the rates of marine insurance in Northern ports and consigned to forced inaction numbers of Northern vessels, in addition to the direct damage inflicted by captures at sea. How difficult, then, to overestimate the effects that must have been produced by the hundreds of private armed vessels that would have swept the seas in pursuit of the commerce of our enemy, if the means of disposing of their prizes had not been withheld by the action of neutral Europe!

But it is especially in relation to the so-called blockade of our coast that the policy of European powers has been so shaped as to cause the greatest injury to the Confederacy, and to confer signal advantages on the United States. The importance of this subject requires some development.

Prior to the year 1856, the principles regulating this subject were to be gathered from the writings of eminent publicists, the decisions of admiralty courts, international treaties, and the usages of nations. The uncertainty and doubt which prevailed in reference to the true rules of maritime law, in time of war, resulting from the discordant and often conflicting principles announced from such varied and independent sources, had become a grievous evil to mankind. Whether a blockade was allowable against a port not invested by land as well as by sea; whether a blockade was valid by sea if the investing fleet was merely sufficient to render ingress to the blockaded port "evidently dangerous," or whether it was further required for its legality that it should be sufficient "really to prevent access," and numerous other similar questions had remained doubtful and undecided.

Animated by the highly honorable desire to put an end "to differences of opinion between neutrals and belligerents, which may occasion serious difficulties and even conflicts," (I quote the official language,) the five great Powers of Europe, together with Sardinia and Turkey, adopted, in 1856, the following "solemn declaration" of principles:

1. Privateering is, and remains abolished.
2. The neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war.
3. Neutral goods, with the exception of contraband of war, are not liable to capture under enemy's flag.
4. Blockades, in order to be binding, must be effective; that is to say, maintained by a force sufficient really to prevent access to the coast of the enemy.

Not only did this solemn declaration announce to the world the principles to which the signing powers agreed to conform in future wars, but it contained a clause to which those powers gave immediate effect, and which provided that the States, not parties to the Congress of Paris, should be invited to accede to the declaration. Under this invitation every independent State in Europe yielded its assent; at least, no instance is known to me of a refusal; and the United States, while declining to assent to the proposition which prohibited privateering, declared that the three remaining principles were in entire accordance with their own views of international law.

No instance is known in history of the adoption of rules of public law under circumstances of like solemnity, with like unanimity, and pledging the faith of nations with a sanctity so peculiar.

When, therefore, this Confederacy was formed, and when neutral powers while deferring action on its demand for admission into the family of nations, recognized it as a belligerent power, Great Britain and France made informal proposals about the same time that their own rights as neutrals should be guaranteed by our acceding, as belligerents, to the declaration of principles made by the Congress of Paris. The request was addressed to our sense of justice, and therefore met immediate favorable response in the resolutions of the Provisional Congress of the 13th August, 1861, by which all the principles announced by the Congress of Paris were adopted as the guide of our conduct during the war, with the sole exception of that relative to privateering. As the right to make use of privateers was one in which neutral nations had, as to the present war, no interest; as it was a right which the United States had refused to abandon and which they remained at liberty to employ against us; as it was a right which we were already in actual enjoyment, and which we could not be expected to renounce *flagrante bello* against an adversary possessing an overwhelming superiority of naval forces, it was reserved with entire confidence that neutral nations could not fail to perceive that just reason existed for the reservation. Nor was this confidence

misplaced, for the official documents published by the British Government, usually called "Blue Books," contain the expression of the satisfaction of that government with the conduct of the officials who conducted successfully the delicate business confined to their charge.

These solemn declarations of principle, this implied agreement between the Confederacy and the two powers just named have been suffered to remain inoperative against the menaces and outrages on neutral rights, committed by the United States with unceasing and progressing arrogance during the whole period of the war. Neutral Europe remained passive when the United States, with a naval force insufficient to blockade, effectively, the coast of a single State, proclaimed a paper blockade of thousands of miles of coast extending from the capes of the Chesapeake to those of Florida, and encircling the Gulf of Mexico from Key West to the mouth of the Rio Grande. Compared with this monstrous pretension of the United States, the blockades known in history, under the names of the Berlin and Milan decrees, and the British orders in Council, in the years 1806 and 1807 sink into insignificance. Yet those blockades were justified by the powers that declared them, on the sole ground that they were retaliatory; yet those blockades have since been condemned by the publicists of those very powers as violations of international law; yet those blockades evoked angry remonstrances from neutral powers, amongst which the United States were the most conspicuous; yet those blockades became the chief cause of the war between Great Britain and the United States in 1812; yet those blockades were one of the principal motives that led to the declaration of the Congress of Paris in 1856, in the fond hope of imposing an enduring check on the very abuse of maritime power, which is now renewed by the United States in 1861 and 1862, under circumstances and with features of aggravated wrong without precedent in history.

The records of our State Department contain the evidence of the repeated and formal remonstrances made by this government to neutral powers against the recognition of this blockade. It has been shown by evidence not capable of contradiction, and which has been furnished in part by the officials of neutral nations, that the few ports of this Confederacy, before which any naval forces at all have been stationed, have been invested so inefficiently that hundreds of entries have been effected into them since the declaration of the blockade; that our enemies have themselves admitted the inefficiency of their blockade in the most forcible manner by repeated official complaints of the sale, to us, of goods contraband of war, a sale which could not possibly affect their interests if their pretended blockade was sufficient "really to prevent access to our coast," that they have gone farther, and have alleged their inability to render their paper blockade effective as the excuse for the odious barbarity of destroying the entrance to one of our harbors by sinking vessels loaded with stone in the channel; that our commerce with foreign nations has been intercepted not by the effective investment of our ports, nor by the seizure of ships in the attempt to enter them, but by the capture on the high seas of neutral vessels by the cruisers of our enemies whenever supposed to be bound to any point on our extensive coast, without enquiry whether a single blockading vessel was to be found at such point; that blockading vessels have left the ports at which they were stationed for distant expeditions, have been absent for many days and have returned, without notice either of the cessation or renewal of the blockade; in a word, that every prescription of maritime law, and every right of neutral nations to trade with a belligerent under the sanction of principles heretofore universally respected, have been systematically and persistently violated by the United States. Neutral Europe has received our remonstrances and has submitted in almost unbroken silence to all the wrongs that the United States have chosen to inflict on its commerce. The Cabinet of Great Britain, however, has not confined itself to such implied acquiescence in these breaches of international law as results from simple inaction, but has in a published dispatch of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, assumed to make a change in the principle enunciated by the Congress of Paris, to which the faith of the British Government was considered to be pledged; a change too important and too prejudicial to the interests of the Confederacy to be overlooked and against which I have directed solemn protest to be made after a vain attempt to obtain satisfactory explanations from the British Government. In a published dispatch from her Majesty's Foreign Office, to her Minister at Washington

under date of the 11th February, 1862, occurs the following passage:

"Her Majesty's Government, however, are of opinion that assuming that the blockade was duly notified and also that a number of ships is stationed and remains at the entrance of a port sufficient really to prevent access to it; or to create an evident danger of entering it or leaving it, and that these ships do not voluntarily permit ingress or egress, the fact that various ships may have successfully escaped through it (as in the particular instances here referred to) will not of itself prevent the blockade from being an effectual one by international law."

The words which I have italicized are an addition made by the British Government of its own authority to a principle the exact terms of which were settled with deliberation by the common consent of civilized nations, and by implied convention with this Government, as already explained and their effect is clearly to reopen to the prejudice of the Confederacy one of the very disputed questions on the law of blockade which the Congress of Paris professed to settle. The importance of this change is readily illustrated by taking one of our ports as an example. There is "evident danger" in entering the port of Wilmington from the presence of a blockading force, and by this test, the blockade is effective. "Access is not really prevented" by the blockading fleet to the same port, for steamers are continually arriving and departing, so that, tried by this test, the blockade is ineffective and invalid. The justice of our complaint on this point is so manifest as to leave little room for doubt that further reflection will induce the British Government to give us such assurances as will efface the painful impressions that would result from its language, if left unexplained.

From the foregoing remarks you will perceive that during nearly two years of struggle in which every energy of our country has been evoked for maintaining its very existence, the neutral nations of Europe have pursued a policy which nominally impartial has been practically most favorable to our enemies, and most detrimental to us.

The exercise of the neutral right of refusing entry into their ports to prizes taken by both belligerents, was eminently hurtful to the Confederacy. It was sternly asserted and maintained.

The exercise of the neutral right of commerce with a belligerent whose ports are not blockaded by fleets sufficient really to prevent access to them, would have been, eminently hurtful to the United States. It was compassionately abandoned.

The duty of neutral States to receive with cordiality and recognize with respect any new confederation that independent States may think proper to form was too clear to admit of denial, but its postponement was eminently beneficial to the United States and detrimental to the Confederacy. It was postponed.

In this review of our relations with the neutral nations of Europe, it has been my purpose to point out distinctly that this Government has no complaint to make that those nations declared their neutrality. It could neither expect nor desire more. The complaint is that the neutrality has been rather nominal than real, and that recognized neutral rights have been alternately asserted and waived in such manner as to bear with great severity on us, and to confer signal advantages on our enemy.

I have hitherto refrained from calling to your attention this condition of our relations with foreign powers for various reasons. The chief of these was the fear that a statement of our just grounds of complaint against a course of policy so injurious to our interests might be misconstrued into an appeal for aid. Unequal as we were in mere numbers and available resources to our enemies, we were conscious of powers of resistance in relation to which Europe was incredulous, and our remonstrances were therefore peculiarly liable to be misunderstood. Proudly self-reliant, the Confederacy knowing full well the character of the contest into which was forced, with full trust in the superior qualities of its population, the superior skill of its soldiers, and above all in the justice of its cause, felt no need to appeal for the maintenance of its rights to other earthly aids, and it began and has continued this struggle with the calm confidence ever inspired in those who with consciousness of right can invoke the divine blessing on their cause. This confidence has been so assured that we have never yielded to despondency under defeat, nor do we feel undue elation at the present brighter prospect of successful issue to our contest. It is, therefore, because our just grounds of complaint can no longer be

(Concluded on 4th page.)

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The S. W. Baptist.

TUSKEGEE, ALA.:  
Thursday, Feb'y 5, 1863.

AGENT.  
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Notice the Red Cross (X) Mark.

Those whose terms of subscription are about to expire, will find on the margin of the paper a red cross mark. We adopt this plan to save the expense of writing and forwarding accounts.—We will give some two or three weeks notice in this way, so that subscriptions can be renewed. Look out for the Red Cross Mark.

The Beginning of the End.

Speculations in regard to the future have failed so frequently to be verified by fact that we are somewhat chary of venturing any thing in that direction. Nevertheless we are as much entitled to an opinion in regard to the signs of the times as any other journalist. We shall therefore venture some opinions, based upon existing facts, in regard to the probable termination of this unhappy struggle.

That a powerful revolution in public sentiment has set in, in some of the northern States, cannot be disguised. Sentiments have recently been uttered in public speeches by prominent men, in more than one northern State, which, six months ago, would have been regarded by the Washington despotism as downright treason. Mr. Lincoln has been boldly denounced as having subverted the Constitution, trampled upon the law, crowded northern prisons with innocent victims; and his emancipation proclamation is held up as an act of usurpation and fiendish barbarism which has no parallel in the history of modern times. The party which elected him, and the men who rule him are branded as the real traitors to the country, and are to be held responsible for this unnatural and cruel war. It is predicted by some of these speakers that if he attempts to enforce this proclamation, it will not be three months before war will visit their own hearthstones. There are indications in the West, that the public mind there is rapidly maturing for a secession from Yankee thralldom.—An ex-governor of New Jersey has openly declared that there is now no union, and that all the States that once formed that union is now "as they were before the adoption of the Constitution;" that they are now sovereign and independent, and free to choose their own future destiny.

But if it be said, that all this may mean something, or it may mean nothing, and that notwithstanding all such utterances, both parties at the North are in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war—we answer, true; but the objects for which these two parties are prosecuting the war are so radically different as must in the end produce a serious rupture between them, if they are serious in what they say. The radicals affirm that slavery must be exterminated before the Union can be re-constructed—the Democrats and conservatives affirm that such a policy cannot and ought not to restore the Union. Already four northern States have distinctly taken ground against the radical measures of the administration, and Kentucky has solemnly protested against these measures by her State authorities; and the administration is so far committed to them, that it is difficult to conceive how it can recede. Mr. Lincoln has, after the utmost deliberation, as he says, put his signature to a proclamation, which the opposing party declares to be the death-knell of the Union, and which they affirm, justifies the South in every measure of resistance which she can command. And be it remembered that this opposing party will have a majority in the next Federal Congress. Now, is there any likelihood that either of these parties will recede from the position it has taken? Is not the difference too radical ever to be compromised? But if no compromise can be effected, what must be the result?—Only one of two things: either the war must close in a few months, or be transferred from Southern to Northern soil.

But then take another view of the question. The New England States entered this war for the sole purpose of abolishing slavery. Under the hypocritical and specious plea of preserving "the best government the world ever saw," she adroitly concealed her real purpose, and succeeded in duping the Western people into a war with the best commercial friends they ever had. The great body of the Western portion of the Lincoln government entered the war with the sole purpose of "preserving the Union," and thus securing to themselves the privileges of trade down the Mississippi river. Interference with our domestic institutions came not within the per-

view of their designs. So long as Mr. Lincoln adhered to this single purpose, a purpose which he announced to the world in his inaugural address and first message, so long did the West give to his war measures a hearty and almost unanimous support. They flocked by hundreds of thousands to his standard, and gave him by far the best fighting men he had. But when, through the persistent efforts and wily tricks of New England diplomacy, he changed the policy of the war, into a grand crusade of murder, plunder, and devastation, the west for the first time awoke to the enormity of the crime to which they were a duped party by Yankee chicanery. When Lincoln lent his ear to New England counsels, he lost his hold upon the real strength of the Northern States. And we can at least give a shrewd guess as to what men will do when they find themselves the dupes of knaves and tricksters.

And still farther—the financial policy of New England, which has at length triumphed in the Federal Congress by the adoption of the highest protective tariff known in the history of the United States, is not more antagonistic to Southern, than it is to Western, interest. They are an agricultural people as well as we. Free trade is therefore as essential to their prosperity as it is to ours. But the enormous national debt created there by this war, will furnish the pretext to increase that tariff to more than double its present rates. This will still further stimulate Eastern manufacturing interests, in the same ratio that it will drain Western productions. In other words, should the Western States still remain parties to the Lincoln government, they will be but "the hewers of wood and drawers of water" for New England. The Western people will have at least four fifths of the war debt to pay, directly or indirectly. Is it at all wonderful, then, with these facts staring them in the face, that distinguished Western politicians have already sounded the note of alarm, and plainly told the people there, that in the event Mr. Lincoln persists in his present purlind policy, "they must look out for themselves?" The establishment of a Western Confederacy will be one of the results of this revolution, sooner or later.

On the whole, the Southern people have but to remain united and firm—to so strengthen our armies that no decided success shall be achieved by the abolition army for the next four months—to frown down every thing that would tend to demoralize our army in the field, or distract our people at home—and above all, to commit our cause with an unflinching trust to Him whose right arm has already gotten us a hundred victories—we have but to do this, and we verily believe that our "right is far spent, and that the day" of our political redemption "is at hand." Let every hand be busy, let every heart be prayerful, trustful and courageous, and "the Lord do as seemeth him good?" We are almost over our Red Sea. Our baptism of blood is well nigh completed. The shining shore of deliverance is already in view. If we are but true to ourselves and to our God, it will not be long before we shall stand upon that shore, and sing the triumphant song: "Thy right hand, O Lord, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O Lord, hath dashed in pieces the enemy." The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw the sword, my hand shall destroy them. Thou stretchedst out thy right hand, the earth swallowed them. Sing ye to the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously." A.

The Exemption Bill.

From present indications we should judge that the Exemption Bill passed at the last Congress, will be entirely repealed, and thus subject every person within the prescribed ages to the operation of the Conscription Act, or that it will be so modified as to leave no margin for the charge of unjust discriminations. It cannot be disguised that the Bill as it passed the last Congress was obnoxious to this charge, and that it has produced much discontent both in the army and in the country. It is both wise and patriotic in Congress to repeal it, and if any exemptions are made at all, let them be such as shall need no labored defense before the army or the people. We believe our people almost unanimously are perfectly willing to bear any burdens which the maintenance of this war can impose, provided these burdens can be so adjusted as to be made equal upon all classes.

By the way, the repeal of the Exemption Bill will throw into the field sundry editors and army correspondents, according to whom, up to date, the Confederate authorities have been guilty of little less than a series of blunders from the start, and the move-

ment of our armies have been disastrously wrong. May not the most favorable results be augured from the accession of such a prodigious amount of military skill and dashing gallantry to our army? Too long has the country been deprived of that masterly counsel in war, and impetuous bravery in battle, essential to our final success. With what unanimity and cheerfulness will these military giants drop the quill and grasp the sword and musket and show to their admiring countrymen how easy it is to execute on the field what they have so persistently planned on paper! Whoever else may chafe and fret under the operations of a law which is to augment the Confederate army so extensively, they will enter the lists with exulting shouts, and show by experiment what they have so long been attempting to teach to our "wooden head" generals. Room for the "Knights de la Mancha," that the world may see how the thing can be done in a trice!

We are informed that by an Act of the last Legislature, the county of Macon was transferred to the Southern Chancery Division, of which Division, our old fellow-citizen, N. W. Cooke is the Chancellor.

For the South Western Baptist.  
Personal Improvement.

A LAY SERMON.

An eminent writer has said that human nature is composed of three elements, viz: the Physical, the Intellectual, and the Spiritual; or, the Body, the Mind, and the Soul.

A clear comprehension of these distinctions, although not yet formally recognized by philosophers, lies at the root of successful self-culture—the one work which it is our duty to perform in this state of existence.

It is the Christian duty of every living human soul to govern himself so that this life shall result in that greatest of human achievements, *character*; an achievement, indeed, not entirely possible without constant supernatural aid and direction.

This term *character* implies the development of our entire nature to its best capacity. Body, Mind, and Soul must be governed according to the laws established by the Almighty for the direction and control of each; and these laws, when obeyed in their full extent will result in health, physical, intellectual, and spiritual.

But let us consider the relative importance of these three great components of our mysterious nature.

The Body is an accident, so to speak of this life. It will last its proper time; it may be "three score years and ten"—God knows—but at most its duration is comparatively limited. Short though its life may be, almost boundless capacities for happiness or suffering are bound up in it. Hence its health is important. Its appetites, passions and lusts must be kept in due subjection by a strong hand; and, above all, we must beware of making the provision for the body the great end of life. For we have higher enjoyments and more intense sufferings than those of the body. They are those of the mind. It has been asked "who can minister to a mind diseased?" The mind, or intellect, doubtless belongs to the soul rather than to the body. Its cognitions will last through the endless cycles of eternity. How important, then, that it be filled with beautiful and virtuous images: that it be trained to find every where "the foot prints of the Creator;" and that it be taught always to discern the voice where-with "the heavens declare the glory of God!"

But the mind, great as it is in its capacities and endurance, is not the most important element of man. Christ did not die to save minds. The *Soul*! who can estimate its worth? "Says the Mediator, 'what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?' The soul shall live forever.

If, now, the soul be incomparably the most important element of one being, as it certainly is, with how much care ought we to guard its well-being! How shall we provide for it? Not by riches, for these "take to themselves wings and fly away." Not by fame, for it is a breath more fleeting than the wind. Not by honors, for all these shall turn to dust when the unseen Messenger shall lay his icy finger upon our heart. None of these reach beyond the confines of time.

The soul must be fed on the bread of life, "of which if a man eat he shall never hunger." It must find its consolation in the "peace of God, which passeth all understanding."

"Tis religion that can give Sweetest pleasures while we live; 'Tis religion must supply Solid comfort when we die. After earth, its joys will be Lasting as eternity! Be the Living God my friend! Then my bliss shall never end."

Wicked hopes, like unskillful guides, mislead the unwary.

For the South Western Baptist.  
IN CAMPS AT PORT HUDSON, LA.  
January 23d, 1863.

Editors BAPTIST: Every thing is quiet here. The army here, at Port Hudson, are in fine health and spirits. We have expected, and hopefully looked for a visit from the Yanks but as yet they have withheld from us the pleasure of forming their acquaintance.—Gen. Banks is said to be fortifying very strongly, at Baton Rouge, twenty miles below here. It seems that he, Gen. Banks, is anticipating an attack from the army of Port Hudson. Our pickets extend to within a few miles of Baton Rouge, and are daily bringing in deserters from the Federal army. Three were brought in to the general (Gardner) yesterday, and being questioned as to why Gen. Banks has not made an attack upon Port Hudson, answered, "that the army at Baton Rouge had come to the conclusion not to fight against the South any longer; that a regiment had laid down their arms and every officer in it had resigned in disgust." And it was rumored last evening that a brigade had thrown down their arms. It seems that the poor deluded creatures are becoming convinced of the utter impossibility to subjugate the South. A wise conclusion.

The Yankee gunboat Essex comes up within sight of our batteries once a week, but always halts before coming in range of our guns. We are looking and listening daily for her destruction. There are secret movements on hand which will most likely send her in the same direction taken by the Cairo—(looking for beavers in the bottom of the Mississippi.) Peace is the general topic here. The majority think that the war will close in time to plant a heavy cotton crop. God grant it may be so, and that our own loved Confederacy may soon hold a high position among the nations of earth.—That the stars and bars may float triumphantly upon the breeze proclaiming to the world freedom and equality.

Very respectfully &c.,

For the South Western Baptist.

LYNCHBURG, VA., Jan. 21 1863.

Messrs Editors: The chaplains at this place are now making an effort to establish a *Library and Reading Room* for the sick and wounded soldiers here. Will you be kind enough to bring the subject before your readers for us? Our hospitals are quiet extensive and of course a majority of their inmates are from other states, you must be largely interested, then, in anything done for them. Many soldiers remain here for several months, convalescing or recovering from extreme exhaustion or watching the slow progress of a healing wound. Time hanging heavily on the hands of such men, the great danger is that they may find occupation worse than idleness, unless something better is provided. They are all eager for something to read. How often have the soldiers from Ala., La., Ga., and the Carolinas sought for "any thing to read" from me!

Allow me to suggest to you, who may be likely to have friends here, that you subscribe to your papers, those especially you've been accustomed to, as members of the household, and send them to us. They will love to read over those familiar names—even in the advertisements—suggestive of home, and thoughts of home will have a softening and elevating influence.

Neighbors might make up collections of books and express them, and those who prefer it can remit money to me with which to purchase. We could wish that all classes of christians would feel an interest in the undertaking for we desire the literature of every denomination to be well represented, so that each soldier might be able to find the books he loved to read when at home.

Newspapers will greatly aid us by noticing this letter, and we will feel specially obligated to any editors who may consent to receive and forward contributions, all which should be directed "Soldiers Library," Lynchburg Va.

JNO. L. JOHNSON.

Post Chaplain, Lynchburg.

For the South Western Baptist.

The work of the Lord progressing among the Soldiers.

RICHMOND, VA., Jan. 29, 1863.

DEAR BRO HENDERSON: The accounts which come to us from various portions of the Army are most cheering. While the judgments of the Lord are abroad in the land many are learning righteousness.

Rev Mr Waggoner, chaplain of the 56. Va Regiment Volunteers inform me that "about one hundred of his regiment have professed conversion since he has been in the service."

Rev A. M. Grimsley, colporter, writes "I am still trying to labor on here, (West Va.) and am not without encouragement. One man told me yesterday that my work had been instrumental in leading him to the feet of Jesus and spoke of the tract entitled "Prepare to meet thy God," as having aroused him from his indifference and sin.—Another said that the tract, "Are you ready?" had, with the Divine blessing,

saved him. Thus day from day I hear glad tidings of souls turning to God, and I am willing to toil on in the Master's service."

Rev. Robert Lewis, colporter in Tennessee army: "For four months I have been laboring among the soldiers out here—have travelled (mostly by private conveyance) 2,000 miles—distributed 15,000 tracts, 500 hymn books and hundreds of Testaments; besides preaching the gospel whenever opportunities presented."

Rev. J. L. Johnson, post chaplain at Lynchburg: "I am satisfied that a very large number of the religious men in the hospitals here are Baptists, and of course, are very fond of being visited by Baptists. Can't you send us another good man? Bro. Trevillian does well but you ought to have two colporters at this point. I am more and more inclined to think that the distribution of tracts is the very best means of reaching soldiers."

Bro C. A. Mills has recently been commissioned to labor at Lynchburg. He and Bro. G. C. Trevillian, with the chaplains and pastors of the city, will afford a very good supply for the hospitals.

Rev G. W. Rogers, chaplain, Price's division in Mississippi: "We have had two delightful revivals since we came to this State, and I have baptized thirty eight soldiers. The Lord is greatly blessing us. Can you supply us with tracts?"

It will be pleasant to your readers to know that the contributions to our Board are largely increasing. Within less than half a month our receipts have been about \$5,000. Petersburg, Va., where the "Evangelical Tract Society" is located, raised for us a few days ago \$1,229.00. The Jews in Richmond gave me upwards of \$300 while a liberal sum is now being raised from officers in the departments of the Government, Congress men, &c.

A. E. DICKINSON.  
Gen'l Sup't, &c.

From the Christian Index.

Painfully Interesting Letter.

CREEK AGENCY, CREEK NATION, }  
Nov. 10th 1862 }

REV. M. T. SUMNER,

Our Sec'y, &c., Marion, Ala.

MY DEAR BROTHER: It is my painful duty to inform you that I can no longer occupy the mission property here.—Deeply as I regret it, "a [military] necessity is laid upon me," to vacate this beloved place and go to Texas.

The Indians, in some way, and for a cause that I cannot comprehend, have been shamefully neglected—unfed, unpaid, unclad, unarmed, and deprived of the assistance of white troops that had been promised them by solemn treaty; and, in consequence of these things, together with the short-comings of an intemperate Brigadier, they have been defeated upon their Northern border, and compelled to retreat to Scullyville, Choctaw Nation, some fifty miles South of me.

Gen. Hindman is falling back South of the mountains, in Arkansas, and I do not think he will make a stand nearer than 80 mile Southeast of me, unless the enemy should attempt to take Van Buren or Fort Smith. Although I am satisfied that this will be a successful manoeuvre on his part, yet it would be greatly for me under all the circumstances to remain here until after that battle. I have remained here alone for sometime, the only white person North of the Arkansas river, and not one Southern sentinel, to my knowledge, between me and the enemy.

Last Saturday and Sunday at least one hundred negroes stole their masters best horses, and ran to Kansas—some of them in open day, and there were none to oppose, as Col. McIntosh's regiment were all South of the river. I sent Mrs. Buckner to Mico, forty five miles South, and was thinking I would still hold on, hoping for a favorable change; but my confidential friend and brother, Col. D. N. McIntosh, visited me yesterday, for the purpose of advising me to make all possible haste to Texas, with whatever of my property I can move, as his regiment has only half rations for four days, and should the enemy come, he will have to fall back sixty miles. It is more than likely those negroes will conduct a band of the savage enemy to this place; and, in that event, no mercy will be shown to women and children. You can have but a faint conception of the war in the Indian country. I am at a great loss what to do, but it is certain I shall start for Paris, Texas, in a few days, unless I am killed or captured. I can take but one wagon load of property and will be compelled to abandon the most, including my library—the gradual growth of more than thirty years—for I must take the necessities of life.—My "flight" will be "in the winter time," without one tablespoonful of salt, sugar, coffee, or salt meat of any kind.

I am constantly expecting my servants to run, and can get no one to assist me. There is not a bushel of corn for sale between here and Texas and the road is already lined with emigrants from this and the Cherokee Nation. You may think I have been extremely unwise in continuing here so long; but my dear brother, the cause of the Creek mission has been the idol of my heart for fifteen years. I buried

the wife of my youth on this precious field; and, when she was dying, I promised her that the Lord enabling me, I would spend my life in laboring for the cause of Indian missions. How it wrings my heart to give up this field. But the will of God be accomplished.

When I came here, in 1848, I sacrificed my property in Kentucky; and now that I am compelled hastily to leave, I must sacrifice it again. The first was upon the altar of my religion, and the second upon the altar of my country. I should not complain—I have no tears to shed over secession, and can but wish I had done more for religion.

Should I get to Paris, will add a postscript to this letter.

Very affectionately, your brother,  
H. F. BUCKNER.

From the Religious Herald.

Grace in the Army.

Camp Sam Miller, Jan 5.

DEAR BRETHREN—Amidst all the excitement and duties of camp life, in this border county, where our men are kept almost continually on the alarm by the threatened incursions of the enemy, it is pleasing to be able to inform your readers that a revival of religion is now going on in the 22d regiment of Va., volunteers, of which I am chaplain. The camp is located near the Sicks Grove Baptist church; and some two weeks ago we opened a series of meetings in their house of worship for the benefit of the regiment; and although we were interrupted by the regiment being suddenly ordered to Lewisburg to meet a threatened advance of the enemy, yet the work of grace did not stop, but as soon as we returned to camp seemed to increase. Many noble soldiers are now inquiring the way of life; eight have been baptized, and a number of others have professed hope. Four persons from the neighborhood of the church have been baptized, and two others received for baptism. On last night a larger number of soldiers came forward for prayer. And I hope that this good work will still go on until hundreds of this noble regiment shall share in the blessings of salvation. I have been greatly aided by the assistance of brother M. H. Rees, a Baptist minister now serving as one of the musicians of this regiment. I have been serving this regiment for seven months as chaplain, and while it has been almost on a constant march, for hundreds of miles, with frequent conflicts with the enemy, yet, through the courtesy of the gallant officers, every facility has been offered me to labor for the spiritual benefit of the men, who seem to esteem it a privilege to attend the preaching of the gospel of Christ. Wm FISHER.

Baptists and the Struggle for Independence.

A few days since a distinguished Presbyterian Doctor of Divinity enquired of the Rev. James B. Taylor, D. D.: "Can you explain to me how it is that there are so many Baptists in the army? I have been chaplain from the beginning of the war, and it seems to me that a large proportion of all the religious men with whom I have met were Baptists. Is it that your people are so numerous, or that they are patriotic?"

Bro. Taylor replied, that "they were both numerous and patriotic." In one regiment from Georgia there were, some time since, six hundred Baptists. In a regiment from Alabama there were thirteen Baptist ministers. Baptists were the first to enter the army with Bibles and tracts. Most of the organizations of later date would never have a being but for the mighty impulse which our denomination gave to this subject. A learned and eloquent Presbyterian clergyman, at a great Union mass meeting of Christians, held in Richmond, Va., remarked; "As long as the Southern Confederacy shall endure the Baptists will be honored for the work they are now doing in the camps and hospitals. Their men are everywhere to be seen scattering by millions leaves from the tree of life, among our brave men."

I have called attention to this subject with no disposition to excite denominational pride; on the contrary, let us be humble that with such a field and with such a Saviour, we have done so little. Nor would I reflect for a moment on the intelligent zeal and enterprise of other religious denominations. They have done nobly, many of them co-operating most liberally with us. My design in these lines was to urge upon the church a good beginning; we should not falter in this work. Let us remember our dear brethren in the army, pray for them, write them loving letters when we have opportunities, and, above all, let us send them pious ministers and the word of God, that they may be comforted and established in the faith. Thus will we accomplish a work in which Gabriel might well delight, and as long as the Southern Confederacy shall endure—and God grant it may last to the end of time—we shall be remembered and honored for having given a moral tone to this great revolution.—Christian Index.







(Continued from first page.)  
misinterpreted that I lay them clearly before you. It seems to me now proper to give you the information, and although no immediate results may be attained, it is well that truth should be preserved and recorded.—It is well that those who are to follow us should understand the full nature and character of the tremendous conflict in which the blood of our people has been poured out like water, and in which they have resisted unaided the shock of hosts which would have sufficed to overthrow many of the powers which by their hesitation in according our rights as an independent nation imply doubt of our ability to maintain our national existence.—It may be, too, that in future time, unfriendly discussions not now anticipated shall unfortunately arise between this Confederacy and European power, the recollection of our forbearance under the grievances which I have enumerated, may be evoked with happy influence in preventing any serious disturbance of peaceful relations.

It would not be proper to close my remarks on the subject of our foreign relations without adverting to the fact that the correspondence between the Cabinets of France, Great Britain and Russia recently published, indicates a gratifying advance in the appreciation by those governments of the true interests of mankind as involved in the war on this continent. It is to the enlightened ruler of the French nation that the public feeling of Europe is indebted for the first official exhibition of its sympathy for the sufferings endured by this people with so much heroism, of its horror at the awful carnage with which the progress of the war has been marked and of its desire for a speedy peace. The clear and direct intimation contained in the language of the French note, that our ability to maintain our independence has been fully established was not controverted by the answer of either of the Cabinets to which it was addressed. It is indeed difficult to conceive a just ground for a longer delay on this subject after reading the following statement of facts contained in the letter emanating from the minister of his Imperial Majesty:

"There has been established, from the very beginning of this war, an equilibrium of forces between the belligerents, which has since been almost constantly maintained, and, after the spilling of so much blood, they are to-day, in this respect, in a situation which has not sensibly changed. Nothing authorizes the provision that more decisive military operations will shortly occur.—According to the last advices received in Europe, the two armies were, on the contrary, in a condition which permitted neither to hope within a short delay advantages sufficiently marked to turn the balance definitively, and to accelerate the conclusion of peace."

As this government has never professed the intention of conquering the United States, but has simply asserted its ability to defend itself against being conquered by that power, we may safely conclude that the claims of this Confederacy to its just place in the family of nations cannot long be withheld, after so frank and formal an admission of its capacity to cope, on equal terms, with its aggressive foes and to maintain itself against their attempts to obtain decisive results by arms.

It is my painful duty again to inform you of the renewed examples of every conceivable atrocity committed by the armed forces of the United States, at different points within the Confederacy, and which must stamp indelible infamy not only on the perpetrators, but on their superiors, who having the power to check these outrages on humanity numerous and well authenticated as they have been, have not yet, in a single instance of which I am aware inflicted punishment on the wrong doers. Since my last communication to you, one General McNeill murdered seven prisoners of war in cold blood, and the demand for his punishment has remained unsatisfied. The government of the United States, after promising examination and explanation in relation to the charges made against General Benjamin F. Butler, has, by its subsequent silence, after repeated efforts on my part to obtain some answer on the subject, not only admitted his guilt but sanctioned it by acquiescence, and I have accordingly branded this criminal as an outlaw and directed his execution in expiation of his crimes if he should fall in the hands of any of our forces. Recently I have received apparently authentic intelligence of another general by the name of Milroy, who has issued orders in Western Virginia for the payment of money to him by the inhabitants, accompanied by the most savage threats of shooting every recusant, besides burning his house; and threatening similar atrocities against any of our citizens who shall fail to betray their country by giving him prompt notice of the approach of any of our forces, and this subject has also been submitted to the superior military authorities of the United States, with but faint hope that they will evince any disapprobation of the act. Humanity shudders at the appalling atrocities which are being daily multiplied under the sanction of those who have obtained temporary possession of power in the United States; and who are fast making its once fair name a by-word of re-

proach among civilized men. Not even the natural indignation inspired by this conduct should make us, however, so unjust as to attribute to the whole mass of the people who are subjected to the despotism that now reigns with unbridled license in the city of Washington, a willing acquiescence in its conduct of the war. There must necessarily exist among our enemies perhaps a majority, whose humanity recoils from all participation in such atrocities, but who cannot be held wholly guiltless while permitting their continuance without an effort at repression.

The public journals of the North have been received, containing a proclamation dated on the first day of the present month, signed by the President of the United States, in which he orders and declares all slaves within ten of the States of the Confederacy to be free, except such as are found within certain districts now occupied in part by the armed forces of the enemy.

We may well leave it to the instincts of that common humanity which a beneficent Creator has implanted in the breasts of our fellow-men of all countries, to pass judgment on a measure by which several millions of human beings of an inferior race, peaceful and contented laborers in their sphere, are doomed to extermination, while at the same time they are encouraged to a general assassination of their masters by the insidious recommendation "to abstain from violence unless in necessary self defence." Our own detestation of those who have attempted the most execrable measure recorded in the history of guilty man, is tempered by profound contempt for the impotent rage which it discloses. So far as regards the action of this government on such criminals as may attempt its execution, I confine myself to informing you that I shall, unless in your wisdom you deem some other course more expedient, deliver to the several State authorities all commissioned officers of the United States that may hereafter be captured by our forces in any of the States embraced in the proclamation, that they may be dealt with in accordance with the laws of those States providing for the punishment of criminals engaged in exciting servile insurrection. The enlisted soldiers I shall continue to treat as unwilling instruments in the commission of these crimes and shall direct their discharge and return to their homes on the proper and usual parole.

In its political aspect, this measure possesses great significance, and to it in this light, I invite your attention. It affords to our whole people the complete and crowning proof of the true nature of the designs of the party which elevated to power the present occupant of the Presidential chair at Washington, and which sought to conceal its purposes by every variety of artful device, and by the peridious use of the most solemn and repeated pledges on every possible occasion. I extract in this connection as a single example, the following declaration made by President Lincoln, under the solemnity of his oath as Chief Magistrate of the United States, on the 21st of March, 1861:

Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States, that by the accession of a Republican Administration, their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed, and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so; and I have no inclination to do so. Those who nominated and elected me, did so with full knowledge that I had made this and many similar declarations, and had never recanted them. And, more than this, they placed in the platform for my acceptance, and as a law to themselves and to me, the clear and emphatic resolution which I now read:

"Resolved, That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States, and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of powers on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depends; and we denounce the lawless invasion by armed forces of the soil of any State or Territory, no matter under what pretext, as among the gravest crimes."

Nor was this declaration of the want of power or disposition to interfere with our social system confined to a state of peace. Both before and after the actual commencement of hostilities, the President of the U. States repeated in formal official communication to the Cabinet of Great Britain and France, that he was utterly without constitutional power to do the act which he has just committed, and that in no possible event, whether the secession of these States resulted in the establishment of a separate Confederacy or in the restoration of the Union, was there any authority by virtue of which he could either restore a disaffected State to the Union by force of arms or make any change in any of its institutions. I refer especially for verification of this assertion, to the dispatch-

es addressed by the Secretary of State of the United States under direction of the President, to the Ministers of the United States at London and Paris, under date of 10th and 22d April, 1861.

The people of this Confederacy then cannot fail to receive this proclamation as the fullest vindication of their own sagacity in foreseeing the uses to which the dominant party in the United States intended from the beginning to apply their power, nor can they cease to remember, with devout thankfulness, that it is to their own vigilance in resisting the first stealthy progress of approaching despotism that they owe their escape from consequences now apparent to the most sceptical. This proclamation will have another salutary effect in calming the fears of those who have constantly evinced the apprehension that this war might end by some reconstruction of the old Union or some renewal of close political relations with the United States. These fears have never been shared by me, nor have I ever been able to perceive on what basis they could rest. But the proclamation affords the fullest guarantee of the impossibility of such a result; it has established a state of things which can lead to but one of three possible consequences; the extermination of the slaves, the exile of the whole white population from the Confederacy, or absolute and total separation of these States from the United States.

This proclamation is also an authentic statement by the government of the United States of its inability to subjugate the South by force of arms, and as such must be accepted by neutral nations, which can no longer find any justification in withholding our just claims to formal recognition. It is also in effect an intimation to the people of the North that they must prepare to submit to a separation now become inevitable, for that people are too acute not to understand that a restoration of the Union has been rendered forever impossible by the adoption of a measure which, from its very nature neither admits of retraction nor can co-exist with union.

Among the subjects to which your attention will be specially devoted during the present session, you will no doubt deem the adoption of some comprehensive system of finance as being of paramount importance. The increasing public debt, the great augmentation in the volume of the currency, with its necessary concomitant of extravagant prices for all articles of consumption, the want of revenue from taxation adequate to support the public credit, all unite in admonishing us that energetic and wise legislation alone can prevent serious embarrassment in our monetary affairs. It is my conviction that the people of the Confederacy will feel the need of taxation, on a scale adequate to the maintenance of the public credit and the support of their government. When each family is sending forth its most precious ones to meet exposure in camp and death in battle, what ground can there be to doubt the disposition to devote a tithe of its income, and more, if more be necessary, to provide the government with means for ensuring the comfort of its defenders? If our enemies submit to an exorbitant exorbitant commodity they produce, and to the daily pressure of the tax gatherer, with no higher motive than the hope of success in their wicked designs against us, the suggestion of an unwillingness on the part of this people to submit to the taxation necessary for the success of their defense is an imputation on their patriotism that few will be disposed to make, and that none can justify.

The legislation of your last session, intended to hasten the funding of outstanding Treasury notes, has proved beneficial as shown by the returns annexed to the report of the Secretary of the Treasury. But it was neither sufficiently prompt nor far reaching to meet the full extent of the evil. The passage of some enactment, carrying still further the policy of that law, by fixing a limitation not later than the 1st of July next to the delay allowed for funding the notes issued prior to the 1st December, 1862, will, in the opinion of the Secretary, have the effect to withdraw from circulation nearly the entire sum issued previous to the last named date. If to this be added a revenue from adequate taxation, and a negotiation of bonds guaranteed proportionately by the several States, as has already been generously proposed by some of them, in enactments spontaneously adopted there is little doubt that we shall see our finances restored to a sound and satisfactory condition; our circulation relieved of the redundancy now productive of so many mischiefs; and our credit placed on such a basis as to relieve us from further anxiety relative to our resources for the prosecution of the war.

It is true that at its close, our debt will be large; but it will be due to our own people, and neither the interest nor the capital will be exported to distant countries, impoverishing ours for their benefit. On the return of peace the untold wealth which will spring from our soil will render the burden of taxation far less onerous than is now supposed, especially if we take into consideration that we shall then be free from the large and steady drain of substance to which we were subjected in the late Union through the instrumentality of sectional legislation and protective tariffs.

I recommend to your earnest attention the whole report of the Secretary of the Treasury on this important subject and trust that your legislation on it will be delayed no longer than may be required to enable your wisdom to devise the proper measure for ensuring the accomplishment of the object proposed.

The operations of the War Department have been in the main satisfactory. In the Report of the Secretary, herewith submitted, will be found a summary of many memorable successes. They are justly ascribed, in large measure, to the reorganization and reinforcement of our armies under the operation of the enactments for conscription. The wisdom and efficacy of these acts have been approved by results, and the like spirit of unity, endurance and self-devotion in the people, which has hitherto sustained their action, must be relied on to assure their enforcement under the continuing necessities of our situation. The recommendations of the Secretary to this effect are tempered by suggestions for their amelioration, and the subject deserves the consideration of Congress. For the perfection of our military organization no appropriate means should be rejected, and on this subject the opinions of the Secretary merit early attention. It is gratifying to perceive that under all their efforts and sacrifices of war, the power, means and resources of the Confederacy for its successful prosecution are increasing. Dependence on foreign supplies is to be deplored, and should, as far as practicable, be obviated by the development and employment of internal resources. The peculiar circumstances of the country, however, render this difficult, and require extraordinary encouragements and facilities to be granted by the government. The embarrassments resulting from the limited capacity of the railroads to afford transportation, and the impossibility of otherwise commanding and distributing the necessary supplies for the armies, render the control of the roads under some general supervision, and resort to the power of impressment, military exigencies. While such powers have to be exercised, they should be guarded by judicious provisions against perversion or abuse, and, as recommended by the Secretary, under due regulation of law.

I especially recommend in this connection some revision of the exemption law of last session. Serious complaints have reached me of the inequality of its operation from eminent and patriotic citizens, whose opinions merit great consideration, and I trust that some means will be devised for leaving at home a sufficient local police without making discriminations, always to be deprecated, between different classes of our citizens.

Our relations with the Indians generally continue to be friendly. A portion of the Cherokee people have assumed an attitude hostile to the Confederate Government; but it is gratifying to be able to state that the mass of intelligence and worth in that nation have remained true and loyal to their treaty engagements. With this exception, there have been no important instances of disaffection among any of the friendly nations and tribes. Dissatisfaction recently manifested itself among certain portions of them; but this resulted from a misapprehension of the intentions of the Government in their behalf. This has been removed, and no further difficulty is anticipated.

The Report of the Secretary of the Navy, herewith transmitted, exhibits the progress made in this branch of the public service since your adjournment, as well as its present condition. The details embraced in it are of such a nature as to render it, in my opinion, incompatible with the public interests that they should be published with this message. I therefore confine myself to inviting your attention to information therein contained.

The Report of the Postmaster General shows that during the first postal year under our Government, terminating on the 30th of June last, our revenues were in excess of those received by the former Government in its last postal year, while the expenses were greatly decreased. There is still, however, a considerable deficit in the revenues of the Department as compared with its expenses, and although the grants already made from the general Treasury will suffice to cover all liabilities to the close of the fiscal year, ending on the 30th of June next, I recommend some legislation, if any can be constitutionally devised for raising the revenues of that Department during the ensuing fiscal year, in order to avoid too great a reduction of postal facilities. Your attention is also invited to numerous other improvements in the service recommended in the report, and for which legislation is required.

I recommend to the Congress to devise a proper mode of relief to those of our citizens whose property has been destroyed by order of the Government in pursuance of a policy adopted as a means of national defence. It is true that full indemnity cannot now be made, but some measure of relief is due to those patriotic citizens who have borne private loss for the public good, whose property in effect has been taken for public use, though not directly appropriated.

Our Government, born of the spirit of freedom and of the quality and independence of the States could not have survived a selfish or jealous disposition making each only careful of its own interest or safety. The fate of the Confederacy under the blessing of Divine Providence depends upon the harmony, energy and unity of the States. It is especially devolved on you, as representatives, as far as practicable, to reform abuses, to correct errors, to cultivate fraternity and to sustain in the people a just confidence in the Government of their choice. To that confidence and to the unity and self-sacrificing patriotism which has marked the on-coming and has brought our country into a condition at the present time such as the most sanguine would not have ventured to predict at the commencement of our struggle. Our armies are larger, better equipped and more thoroughly armed and equipped than at any previous period of the war. The energies of a whole nation, devoted to the single object of success in this war, have accomplished marvels, and many of our states have, by a beneficent Providence, been converted into blessings. The

magnitude of the perils which we encountered have developed the true qualities of our people, thus gaining for the Confederacy from its birth a just appreciation from the other nations of the earth. The injuries resulting from the interruption of foreign commerce have received compensation by the development of our internal resources. Cotton grown on our soil has been the life for the manufacture of powder and promise increase of product. From our own foundries and workshops, from our own armories and workshops we derive, in a great measure, the warlike material, the ordnance and ordnance stores which are expended so profusely in the numerous and desperate engagements that rapidly succeed each other.

Cotton and woolen fabrics, shoes and harness, wagons and gun carriages are produced in daily increasing quantities by the factories springing into existence. Our fields, no longer whitened by cotton that cannot be exported, and devoted to the production of cereals and the growth of stock turn out purchased with the proceeds of cotton. In the homes of our noble and devoted women, without whose sacrifice our success would have been impossible, the noise of the loom and of the spinning wheel may be heard throughout the land. With hearts swelling with gratitude let us then join in returning thanks to God and in beseeching the continuance of his protecting care over our cause and the restoration of peace with his manifold blessings to our beloved country.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.  
Richmond, January 12, 1863.

THE BOOK OF JOB.—The book of Job is generally regarded as the most perfect specimen of the poetry of the Hebrews. It is like picturesque in the delineation of individual phenomena, and artistically skillful in the didactic arrangement of the whole work. In all the modern languages into which the Book of Job has been translated, its images, drawn from the natural scenery of the East, leave a deep impression on the mind. "The Lord walketh on the ridges of the cloud towering high beneath the force of the wind." "The morning red has colored the margin of the earth, and variously formed the covering of the clouds as the hand of man holds the yielding clay." The habits of animals are described—as, for instance, those of the wild ass, the horse, the buffalo, the rhinoceros, and the crocodile, the eagle and the ostrich. We see "the pure ether spread during the heat of the south wind, as a melted mirror over the parched desert."

The poetic literature of the Hebrews is not deficient in variety of form, for while the Hebrew poetry breathes a warlike enthusiasm from Joshua to Samuel, the little book of the Gleaner Ruth presents us with a charming and exquisite picture of nature. Goethe, at the period of his enthusiasm for the East, spoke of it "as the loveliest specimen of epic and idyl poetry which we possess."

Humboldt's Cosmos.

In the way of duty, you may expect the Lord to come and work your deliverance: "They shall not be ashamed that wait for me."

**Business Cards.**

**N. GACHET,**  
Attorney at Law,  
TUSKEGEE, ALA.  
Office at the old stand east of Brewer's (now Kelly's) Hotel.  
July 24, 1862.

**G. H. GACHET, N. L. MAYES, N. H. ABERCROMBIE,**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,  
Tuskegee, Macon County, Alabama.  
Will practice in the Courts of Macon, and the surrounding Counties; in the Supreme Court of Alabama, and in the United States District Court at Montgomery.  
Office upstairs in Echols' new building—  
December 15, 1862.

**G. W. GUNN, L. STRANGE, JAMES ARMSTRONG,**  
Attorneys at Law and Solicitors in Chancery,  
Tuskegee, Alabama.  
Will practice in the Courts of Macon, Russell, Chambers and Tallapoosa Counties. Last Supreme Court of Alabama, and in the United States District Court at Montgomery. Prompt and careful attention will be given to all business entrusted to them.  
Office first floor next the Presbyterian Church, Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 19, 1863.

**J. H. CADDENHEAD,**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
Loachapoka, Macon County, Ala.,  
Will practice in Counties of Macon, Montgomery, Tallapoosa, Chambers, and Russell.  
June 13, 1861.

**MEDICAL NOTICE.**  
Dr. W. R. BRISKELL has located at his father's residence, where he can be found at all times when not professionally engaged. He respectfully tenders his services, as a Physician and Surgeon, to the surrounding country.  
July 10, 1862.

**SCHEDULE**  
OF  
**Tuskegee Rail Road.**  
FIRST TRAIN leave the Depot in Tuskegee at 8.15 a. m., connecting with a Train for West Point and Columbus.  
Second Train leave at 11.15 a. m., connecting with a Train for Montgomery.  
Third Train leave at 5 o'clock, p. m., connecting with a Train for West Point.  
N. B.—No Train in this Rail Road connects with one passing Loachapoka at 3.27 p. m., for Montgomery.  
G. W. STEVENS,  
Superintendent.

**HOWARD COLLEGE.**  
Faculty for the Year 1861-2.

REV. H. TALBIRD, D.D., President,  
And Professor of Moral Science.  
A. B. GOODHUE, A. M.,  
Professor of Mathematics and Nat. Philosophy.  
D. G. SHERMAN, A. M.,  
Professor of Ancient Languages and Literature.  
REV. T. W. TOBEY, A. M.,  
Professor of Intellectual Philosophy.

Professor of Chemistry and Natural History.  
**THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.**  
REV. H. TALBIRD, D.D.,  
Prof. of Pastoral Theology & Ecclesial History.  
REV. T. W. TOBEY, A. M.,  
Brown Professor of Systematic Theology.

**THE NEXT SESSION.**  
The next session will open on Tuesday the first day of October, 1861.  
In order to meet the exigencies of the times young men and ladies will be admitted next session to pursue an irregular Course of Study, or a Course preparatory to a regular Course, provided the applicant has sufficient maturity and attainments to do so with profit to himself.  
Daily instruction in Military Tactics, by Drill and Lectures will also be furnished.  
The present elevated standard in the regular Classical and Scientific Courses will be maintained.

**EXPENSES.**  
Tuition, per term, of 12 months, in advance ..... \$25 00  
Incidentals ..... 2 00  
Room and Board ..... 3 00  
Coal ..... \$6 00 to 8 00  
Board, per month ..... \$12 00 to 14 00  
Washing ..... 1 00  
J. W. GARROTT,  
President Board of Trustees:  
J. B. LOVELAKE, Secretary.  
Marion, Aug. 29, 1861.

**HOWARD COLLEGE.**  
DEAR SIR—Your attention is respectfully invited to the following resolution passed by the Board of Trustees of Howard College, at their annual meeting, viz:—  
"Resolved, That the Treasurer of Howard College be authorized to receive the Coupon Bonds of the Confederate States in payment of the Principal of all Subscriptions or Debts due to the Endowment Fund of the College, and that he be instructed, by circular letter and advertisement, to notify the Bearer to the College of this resolution of the Board."  
In accordance with my instruction, in the above resolution, I add to this Circular, in the hope that you may find it convenient at an early date to liquidate your indebtedness to the Howard College. Any communication addressed to me at this place will receive attention.  
Respectfully yours,  
D. R. LIDE, Treas. H. Col.  
Marion, Ala., Sept. 26, 1861.

**SCHOOL NOTICE.**  
ON Monday 6th January 1862,  
JAMES F. PARK will re-open a School for Boys, in Tuskegee. Only a limited number of pupils can be received, as there will be no Assistant. The Scholastic Year will be divided into three Sessions of thirteen weeks.  
Tuition will be at the following rates per Session:  
First or Lowest Class ..... \$10 00  
Mental arithmetic, Primary Geography with Spelling, Reading and Writing ..... 12 00  
Geography, Grammar, (English) Written Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, Latin common ..... 14 00  
Latin Classical, Rhetoric, Geography, History with any of the above studies ..... 18 00  
Higher Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Latin, Greek or French ..... 20 00  
Parents and Guardians will confer a favor by making application for admission into the School previous to the commencement of the Session.  
Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 26, 1861.

**Medical College of Georgia,**  
AT AUGUSTA.  
THE Thirtieth Session of this Institution will open on Monday, the 18th November next.  
Anatomy, J. F. CAMPBELL, M. D.  
Surgery, L. A. DODGE, M. D.  
Chemistry, Joseph Jones, M. D.  
Medical Jurisprudence and Therapeutics, J. P. GARVIN, M. D.  
Institutes and Practice, L. D. FORD, M. D.  
Physiology, H. V. S. MILES, M. D.  
Obstetrics, J. A. M. M. M.  
Adjunct Professor of Obstetrics, ROBERT CAMPBELL, M. D.  
W. H. DODGE, M. D., Clinician Lecturer at City Hospital.  
S. B. SHAW, M. D., Professor to Professor Anatomy.  
H. V. S. MILES, M. D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.  
Lectures, (full course) \$100.  
Matriculation Fee, \$5.  
The College building has been thoroughly renovated, and many additions made to form a complete Medical School.  
J. P. GARVIN, Dean.  
September 18, 1861.

**IMPROVED**  
**NON-CORROSIVE,**  
**CONFEDERATE**  
**WRITING FLUID**  
Manufactured Wholesale & Retail,  
BY  
**W. S. BARTON,**  
TEACHER'S EXCHANGE,  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.  
Sept. 11, 1862.

**ALABAMA**  
**MARBLE WORKS,**  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA.  
**NIX, YOUNG & NIX,**  
(SUCCESSORS TO H. W. HENDERSON.)  
MONUMENTS, MANTLES,  
TOMBS, Railings,  
GRAVE STONES, Furniture Work,  
and Tablets.  
All Work Warranted to give Satisfaction.  
Feb. 22, 1861.

**NO TASTE OF MEDICINE!**  
**BRYAN'S TASTELESS VERMIFUGE.**  
Children dying right and left!  
Mothers not as yet healed!  
Know that wormy infants kill  
Their mothers, and their mothers die!  
But the Vermifuge will save  
Your pale darling from the grave.  
MORMON MARK VERMIFUGE.—Shall the Child die, or the Worm?—Remember, a few doses of Bryan's Tasteless Vermifuge will destroy any number of worms, and bring them away without pain. Price 25 cents. Sent by Mail, 50 cents. 16 Beekman Street, New York.  
Sold by C. POWELL, Tuskegee, Ala.  
July 26, 1860.

**NEW BOOKS.**  
J. N. FURBER, by the author of "The Lampbrush," &c., &c. Fifty Years Out of the World, by J. N. FURBER.  
The Marble Faun, by Nathaniel Hawthorne. New edition, a novel of great interest.  
The Habit of Good Society, a hand book for ladies. The Private Correspondence of Alexander von Humboldt. Edited by the author of "Asien Unde." A Life for a Life, by the author of John Hall's "Recreation."  
Reminiscences of Rufus Choate, by Edwin G. Parker. Tinsley, Hall, & Thos. Hood.  
Mary Banyan, by the author of Grace Tremaine. And many other new books, just received and for sale by J. N. FURBER, No. 20 Market St.  
July 5, 1860.