

BY D. W. CRAIG.

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For the Argus. Mrs. Elizabeth Barrett Browning. Gave, gave from earth a spirit bright, The lady which here it sweetly tuned

Major General McClellan. The following mention of Maj. Gen. McClellan we copy from the Placerville Republican.

Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan was born in Philadelphia, in the year 1826. At the early age of fifteen, he went to West Point, where he was graduated in 1846.

all the qualities ascribed to Wellington by Napier: "Iron hardness of body, a quick and sure vision, a grasping mind, untiring power of thought, the habit of laborious, minute investigation and arrangement, together with that most rare faculty of coming to prompt and sure conclusions, on sudden emergencies."

REWARDING AN EXAMPLE OF PATRIOTISM. A GALLANT SEAMAN.—In connection with Com. Armstrong's case, the Secretary of the Navy has issued an order which should be printed throughout the country.

"It appears from the testimony taken in Capt. Armstrong's case, that William Conway, an aged seaman, doing duty as Quartermaster in the Warrington Navy Yard at the time of its surrender, when ordered by Lieut. B. Renshaw to haul down the National flag, promptly and indignantly refused to obey the order.

The Department deems it no more than strict justice to William Conway, that this testimonial from the Court in his behalf, should be made known throughout the service.

The right kind of talk in Old Kentucky.

The Winchester (Ky.) National Union, in speaking of the rejoicings of the disunionists and the despondency of the Union men over the repulse of the Federal troops at Manassas, thus effectually nullifies the one and counsels the other:

"No Union men, rally to our country's aid. He who will now falter to come out full and unconditionally for the Union, is a wretch—no worthy to associate with men, but worthy to herd with devils. Let the men of the loyal States swear before high heaven that every dollar of money in the Treasury—every man who can carry a gun, shall be freely given to uphold the government.

The Fighting Force of the South.

The proclamation of the President of the Confederate States of the South, in which he calls for a total levy of four hundred thousand men to cope with the Union forces, is looked upon as an effusion of rebel gasconade.

The aged and curled Aeneas hells, Snuffling of muck and of insolence—all that atrocious population, known as 'poor whites,' which has attained its growth—men of all sorts, shapes and sizes—the masculine incapables of all kinds, the sick and infirm, cripples, blind men, cock-eyed men, pot-bellied men, idiots and imbeciles, (not a few), criminals, and the inhuman odds and ends of humanity generated in slave society, which it is impossible to convert into soldiers.

The Difference.—When Gen. Garnett was killed by our troops in Western Virginia, his body was taken care of, embalmed and sent home to his friends; but when Col. Cameron was killed by the Rebels, the men sent after his body were imprisoned. "Cast not your pearls before swine, lest they turn again and rend you."

Sensuality.—If sensuality were happiness, beasts would be happier than men; but human happiness is lodged in the soul, not in the flesh.

WOMAN'S BEST RIGHT.—The marriage rite.

THE PATH TO PEACE.—We need not repeat that every aspiration of our hearts is a prayer for wise and honorable peace.

The most sacred interests material and moral of the whole people summon us of this generation to the vital work. We must perform the work. The peace and prosperity of the continent and the hopes of the world demand it.

The notion that in order to establish peace we ought to accept the destruction of the Republic as a fact is one of the most shallow and short-sighted and ignoble that ever entered the brain of a free citizen.

Validation of Simon Cameron.

It has become the "vogue" to complain of corruption in the contract departments of the Army and Navy—especially the former; and Secretary Cameron has been of late very roundly accused of sins worse than mere procrastination and carelessness in matters relating thereto.

"In the matter of contracts," says Mr. Forney, "not a contract has been given out by Secretary Cameron which has not met the approbation either of Gen. Scott or the officers of the regular army at the head of the military bureau."

A Patriot.—Hon. James B. McKean has issued the following circular:

Fellow-Citizens of the Fifteenth Congressional District: Traitors in arms seek to overthrow our Constitution and to seize our Capital. Let us go and help to defend them. Who will respond because we lost the battle at Ball Run? Our fathers lost the battle of Bunker Hill, but it taught them how to gain the victory at Bemis Heights.

CONQUER OR DIE.—Mr. Willis writes to the Home Journal that a distinguished civilian who had called upon Gen. McClellan on some matter of importance, concluded his visit by a general comment or two on the state of affairs, venturing a question, at last, as to what McClellan thought of our army's probable recovery from the late defeat.

Gen. Sigel arrived in America in the year 1850, and, having entered as professor in Mr. Dulon's academy, was afterwards married to that gentleman's daughter.

Gen. Franz Sigel. The following sketch of Gen. Franz Sigel, the hero of several brilliant engagements in Missouri, was furnished to the New York Herald soon after the battle of Carthage, in which Gen. Sigel first exhibited to the American people his admirable military genius and skill.

This is not the first time in the military career of Gen. Sigel that he has, with a small force, contended against one vastly superior in point of numbers.

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that his late triumph at Carthage was no lucky accident, but the result of combined experience and thorough training. A writer in one of the public journals, speaking of this officer, says:

He is a thoroughly educated, scientific soldier. I never heard that any person of the numerous military gentlemen from Germany thinks himself superior to him in that respect, and I doubt very much whether any member of our regular army has a right to do so.

Colonel Sigel is comparatively a young man; but his active military life and the experience gained in European warfare eminently fit him for the command in which he has already given proof of rare ability and singular coolness in the hour of danger.

Hon. J. M. Richardson, once Sec'y of State of Missouri, and now a strong Union man, was present at the battle of Carthage, and says that Sigel's courage, coolness, and skill were never exceeded on a battle-field. He told his soldiers they were fighting not only for their own preservation but that of all the Federal forces in southwest Missouri, who, scattered as they were in battalions and regiments over an extended range of country, would be attacked by the rebels one after another with overwhelming forces, and be cut off.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN.—The Louisville Journal publishes a long and able letter from Mr. Holt, late U. S. Secretary of War. He counsels Kentucky to stand by the Union, and urges the importance of strengthening the hands of the Administration.

"While a far more fearful responsibility has fallen upon President Lincoln than upon any of his predecessors, it must be admitted that he has met it with promptitude and fearlessness. Cicero, in one of his orations against Catiline, speaking of the credit due himself for having suppressed the conspiracy of that arch traitor, said, 'If the glory of him who founded Rome was great, how much greater should be that of him who had saved it from overthrow after it had grown to be the mistress of the world?'"

The vigorous measures adopted for the safety of Washington and the Government itself may seem open to criticism in some of their details, to those who have yet to learn that not only has war, like peace, its laws, but that it has also its privileges and its duties. Whatever of severity, or even of irregularity, may have arisen, will find its justification in the pressure of the terrible necessity under which the Administration has been called to act.

THE CITY OF DAMASCUS IN RUINS.—Damascus is now almost a heap of ruins, charred and blackened by fire. A recent visitor says he saw not a soul, except here and there a lazy Arab driving his donkey before him, laden with the debris of the fallen houses. That is what the Turks call rebuilding the quarter.

BEAUTIFUL INCIDENT.—The following is from the Washington correspondent of the Protestant Churchman, "C. M. R.":—There were instances of Christian feeling exhibited on the battle-field of Ball Run, one of which is very affecting. A wounded Federal soldier was hastily carried to a wood, and placed by the side of a dying Georgian. The Georgian, evidently a gentleman, said to him, as they lay bleeding side by side, "We came on to this field enemies, let us part friends," and extended to him his hand, which the other grasped with the reciprocal expression of friendly feeling. They were both Christian men, and they lay with clasped hands on that bloody field, until the hand of the noble Georgian was cold in death.

FARMER OF SWEDEN.—It is no tyranny to prevent the promulgation of treasonable lies. Disloyalty to any Government is treason, and may be given to the enemy by free speech as by active hostility. No Government in the world has given as slight definition to treason as the Government of the United States. In the present rebellion there is a portion of our population who are taking advantage of the mildness of our laws, and uttering sentiments and acting by voice in the rebellion, but, coward-like, they keep themselves within the pale of the law; and, while giving aid and countenance to the rebellion, they dare not venture to do any act that can be made constructive treason.

INJURY IN STORE FOR THE TORIERS OF 1861.—We might name half a dozen newspapers that are manufacturing everlasting infamy to their publishers and editors, and their children to the seventeenth generation. In the century to come, disgrace will cling like the poisoned sliver of Nessus, to the descendants of these men who sympathize with traitors and gloat over their country's disgrace.

THE GULF STREAM.—A naval officer of the United States, who has been engaged several years in the course of his professional duty, in studying the subject of the origin and progress of the Gulf Stream, presents the following propositions of the same; of his observations, and deductions:—It is of subterranean origin. Its progress, in a certain direction and rate, is caused by the shape and revolution of this planet. It is heated by interior volcanic fires, supplied from the igneous portions of the globe. It is fed from beneath by a constant flow of waters. Some of these are the Mediterranean and other adjacent seas. The color, heat, current, motion, animalcules, sedges, taste, odor, and all the other peculiarities, prove it to be subterranean in its origin and progress. The trade winds and the formation of the shore of the Gulf of Mexico, have nothing to do with the origin, characteristics and progress of it.

MISTAKING A FRIEND FOR AN ENEMY.—A letter from the United States steamer Ironsides, dated August 14th, off Savannah, says: "The gun boat is at Charleston, repairing damages to bowsprit, head, etc., caused by the Wabash running into her.—The Wabash mistook her for the privateer Sumter, and was intending to run her down and sink her, but fortunately discovered her mistake in time to clear her, with the exception of the bowsprit, which she carried away."

This life's contradictions are many.—Salt water gives us fresh fish, and hot words produce a coolness.