

Sergeant Freeman

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The Children's Hour.

BY HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW.

Between the dark and the daylight,
When night is beginning to lower,
Comes a pause in the day's occupation,
That is known as the Children's Hour.

I hear in the chamber above me
The patter of little feet,
The sound of a door that is opened,
And the voices soft and sweet.

From my study I see in the lamplight,
Descending the broad hall stair,
Grave Alice, and laughing Allegro,
And Edith with golden hair.

A whisper, and then a silence;
Yet I know by their merry eyes
They are plotting and planning together
To take me by surprise.

A sudden rush from the stairway,
A sudden raid from the hall,
By three doors left unguarded
They enter my castle wall!

They climb up into my turret,
Over the arms and back of my chair;
If I try to retreat, they surround me,
They seem to be everywhere.

They almost devour me with kisses,
Their arms about me entwine,
Till I think of the Bishop of Bingen
In the Mouse-Tower on the Rhine.

Do you think, O blue-eyed banditti,
Because you have scaled the wall,
Such an old moustache as I am
Is not a match for you all?

I have you fast in my fortress,
And will not let you depart,
But put you down into the dungeons
In the round tower of my heart.

And there will I keep you forever,
Yes, forever and a day,
Till the wall shall crumble to ruin,
And moulder in dust away!

Douglas as a Union Man.

(From Harper's Weekly.)

In his recent striking speech upon reconstruction, Mr. Arnold of Illinois—who in the last Congress introduced the bill establishing the freedom of the Territories, and during this session, the resolution for a constitutional amendment abolishing slavery—recounts in a graphic and picturesque manner many of the incidents in our recent history. The whole speech will be read with peculiar interest as a review and defense of the present Administration. We have room but for one or two passages which the friends of Mr. Douglas will see with especial satisfaction:

"No so impressive an inauguration as that of Mr. Lincoln has occurred since the inauguration of Washington. He had been threatened with assassination, and the rebels had intended his murder as he passed through Baltimore. On his arrival here he found the public offices filled with traitors. Strange as it may seem, the rebel generals Lee, and Joe and Albert Johnson, and Ewell and Hill, Stewart and Magruder, Pemberton and Winder, held in March and April, 1861, leading positions in our Army. Traitors were every where. The citizens of Washington were a large portion of them, in sympathy with the rebels. Secession had been preceded by secret conspiracy, concocted by those holding the highest official trusts. It had been veiled by perjured professions of loyalty. On Mr. Lincoln's arrival here these were the men he found in all the public offices, and he was encircled on every side by spies and traitors. None who witnessed it will ever forget the scene of that inauguration. Standing on the eastern front of the Capitol, the Judge of the Supreme Court, the Senate and House of Representatives, the high officers of the army and navy around him, a mingled crowd of traitors and patriots, with many an eye looking searchingly into his neighbor's to learn whether he gazed upon a traitor or a friend; standing there amidst scowling enemies with murder and treason in their hearts. Lincoln was cool and determined. He read his inaugural in a voice clear and

distinct enough to be heard by twice ten thousand people. When with reverent look he swore by the Eternal God that he would faithfully "preserve, protect, and defend" the Constitution, his great rival Douglas stood, not by accident, at his side. Douglas knew, perhaps, better than the President himself, the dangers and difficulties which surrounded him. He was observed to whisper in the ear of Mr. Lincoln, and I believe gave to the President the assurance that in the dark and difficult future he would stand by him and give him his utmost aid in upholding the Constitution and crushing treason and rebellion. Nobly did Douglas redeem that pledge. After the rebel attack on Sumter, he boldly made the well-known declaration that there could now be but two parties, patriots and traitors. Had he lived he would have supported the President with all the vigor and energy peculiar to his character."

It will not be forgotten that at the inauguration ball Mr. Douglas entered with Mrs. Lincoln on his arm, and remained near her and the President during the evening. Indeed the conduct of Mr. Douglas at that time, and until his death, showed his sincerity in the following remark, which Mr. Arnold reports:

"Here I will pause a moment to state a most remarkable prediction made by Douglas in January, 1861. The statement is furnished to me by General C. B. Stewart, of New York, a gentleman of the highest respectability.

"Douglas was asked by Colonel Stewart (who was making a New Year's call on Mr. Douglas) 'What will be the result of the efforts of Jefferson Davis and his associates to divide the Union?' Douglas replied, 'The cotton States are making an effort to draw in the border States to their schemes of Secession, and I am too fearful they will succeed. If they do succeed, there will be the most terrible civil war the world has ever seen, lasting for years. Virginia will become a charnel house; but the end will be the triumph of the Union cause. One of their first efforts will be to take possession of this capital to give them prestige abroad, but they will never succeed in taking it; the North will rise en masse to defend it; but it will become a city of hospitals; the churches will be used for the sick and wounded; and even this house and the Minnesota block (now the Douglas Hospital) may be devoted to that purpose before the end of the war.' Gen. Stewart inquired 'What justification is there for all this?' Douglas replied, 'There is no justification nor any pretense of any. If they will remain in the Union, I will go as far as the Constitution will permit to maintain their just rights, and I do not doubt but that a majority of Congress will do the same. But,' said he, rising on his feet and extending his arm, 'if the Southern States attempt to secede from this Union without further cause, I am in favor of their having just so many slaves, and just so much slave territory, as they can hold at the point of the bayonet, and no more!'

Alabama Moving toward the Union.

A meeting of citizens was held on the 13th of March at Huntsville, Ala., to devise means for the restoration of Alabama to the Union, and bringing back to the State law, order and social harmony. The attendance consisted mostly of men who have a deep interest in the welfare of the State. Two speeches were made, one by the Hon. Jere Clemens, who sat in the United States Senate when Jeff. Davis was a fellow Senator, the other by the Hon. D. C. Humphreys. The spirit of the meeting may be gathered from the following extract from Mr. Clemens' speech:

"We propose to call upon the Governor of the State to convene a Convention, for the purpose of rescinding the Act of Secession. How far the Governor will pay respect to our action, I cannot say.

To be candid, I think he will pay it none. In calling upon him, we avoid the charge of precipitancy, and follow the constitutional method. After that, we have the right to call upon our inherent rights—to act for ourselves. Falsehood, fraud and crime took us out of the Union. They told us that Secession was necessary to save slavery. During the ten years preceding the rebellion, the State of Alabama had not lost ten slaves a year. We had rebellion, and the consequence now is, that there is not one man in the State of Alabama who can say he has the title to a single negro. Not all of us have a title to anything. The practical result is Emancipation. Cotton, they said, was King—would secure us recognition and independence. The result is, Confederate money is worth five cents on the dollar. They said that civil liberty and State rights would be secured by secession. The first act of the Confederate Congress deprived the people of the right to select their President. If a man owned twenty negroes, he was excused from military duty. If a man had ten starving children, he was not. The man who owned the negroes could stay at home with his wealth; the man with starving children must leave them and go to the battlefield. You and I may have had some fear of the success of the Confederacy. Thank God there is now no prospect of its succeeding."

Before the meeting closed Mr. Clemens again took the floor and said:

"In 1861, shortly after the Confederate Government was put in operation, I was in the city of Montgomery. One day I stepped into the office of the Secretary of War, General Walker, and found there, engaged in a very excited discussion, Mr. Jefferson Davis, Mr. Memminger, Mr. Benjamin, Mr. Gilchrist, a member of our Legislature from Lowndes county, and a number of other prominent gentlemen. They were discussing the propriety of immediately opening fire on Fort Sumter, to which Gen. Walker, the Secretary of War, appeared to be opposed. Mr. Gilchrist said to him: 'Sir, unless you sprinkle blood in the face of the people of Alabama, they will be back in the old Union in less than ten days!' The next day Gen. Beauregard opened his batteries on Sumter, and Alabama was saved to the Confederacy."

Mr. Humphreys occupied a little different ground, but he was equally in earnest for a return to the Union. He said:

"The people of Alabama say that the State was precipitated—wrongfully precipitated—out of the Union, and that they are willing to take their stand in the old Union—that Government in which they always found prosperity—which gave them strength at home and abroad. Since the action of France does any one think that an alliance with her would have restored popular rights, secured States' rights? Does any man say so? From the time I left Virginia our army has been continually retreating—the Union army steadily advancing; territory has been continually lost. True, our army has stood and fought valiantly for it; but it cannot stand against superior power. What territory can now be said to be with in the power or under the control of the Confederacy? From the time this rebellion began up to the present, Davis and Benjamin have not had an idea that the States of the South could stand unaided by foreign powers. You haven't thought of that, but it is true. That was the position taken by them at the incipiency of the rebellion. Such is still their belief."

The meeting adopted strong Union resolutions. Alabama never went willingly out of the Union. The conspirators "sprinkled blood in the face of her people," and while they were yet blind with it, her authorities committed her to the action which has cast her so dearly.

"Drive out the rebel forces that oppress her, and she will hasten back to the Union. She looks longingly at the old Stars and Stripes, and though the bayonets of her oppressors

that if our armies only half meet the expectations that wait upon them this spring and summer, Alabama will speedily be back again, one of the cherished States of the Union.—Oregon.

Voices from the Dead.

OSWEGO CITY, April 20.

ED STATESMAN: Will you please publish these few extracts from the writings of some of America's great men. Possibly they will find their way to the heart of some copperhead. By so doing you will oblige an old democrat:

WASHINGTON TO LAFAYETTE.—"I hope my dear friend, the time will soon come when we will become a community of free States." —Also, "United we stand; divided we fall."

JEFFERSON TO LAFAYETTE.—On slavery: "When I reflect that God is just, I tremble for my country." Also, "The Constitution admits new States, but nowhere permits secession."

MADISON.—"The convention that framed the Constitution, voted expressly against permitting the withdrawal of a State from the Union—therefore, *secession is treason*."

MONROE.—"If the States were separated, it would prove the failure of democratic principles."

JACKSON.—ON NULLIFICATION: "By the Eternal, the Union must and shall be preserved." Also, "Let no man march under any flag but the old Flag."

POLK.—"The greatness and power of the government depend on the perpetuity and unity of the States, and a separation would be deplored by all good men."

I could quote from other able men, but I have confined myself to extracts from the Presidents that were democratic in heart and principle. I want these extracts published for general use, particularly for young campaigners to meet the copperheads with. Don't call them democrats any more, but spell it *demagogues*. I deny their being democrats, and will prove it this summer.

J. B. HOWARD.

HEROES AND MARTYRS.—REV. E. H. CHAPIN, of New York, thus speaks of the "un-named" men who fall on the battlefield, whose names are associated with no personal distinction, in his lecture on "Heroes and Martyrs." It is beautiful, and truly eloquent:

"Death on the field of honor!"—This, too, is the record of a thousand unnamed men, whose influence upon other generations is associated with no personal distinction, but whose sacrifice will lend undying lustre to the nation's life. And yet these martyrs are remembered by name. Go visit the mourning homes of the land; homes of wealth and plenty, some of them, but richer now by the consecration of sacrifice. But many of these are homes of toil and obscurity, from which the right hand of support has been taken, or the youthful prop. Poor and obscure!—but there the unknown fallen have names, and riches of solemn, tender memory. And what heraldry on palatial walls more glorious than the torn cap and the soiled uniform that hang in those homes where the dead soldiers come no more? What aristocratic legend refers to a prouder fact than that which shall often be enacted in the still Summer fields where he labored, and by the winter fireside where his place is vacant. "He fell in the great war for the Union and against Secession!" Sleep, sleep, in quiet, grassy graves, wherever the symbols that you loved so well shall cover and spread over you—by day the flowers of red, white and blue; and by night the constellated stars—while out of those graves the falter harps of the nation and of times to come."

A gentleman was agreeably surprised the other day to find a plump turkey served up for dinner, and inquired how it was obtained. "Why, sir," was the reply, "that there turkey has been roosting on our fence three nights, so I this morning seized him for that; but, there are clear evidences