

Lincoln Patriot.

"IN DISSENSIONE NULLA SALUS CONSPICIATUR"—CÆSAR.

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LINCOLN PATRIOT.

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Extracts.

We copy the following beautiful lines, by George P. Morris, from the New York Mirror, which have been set to music by Henry Russell. They are on a hazy subject, it is true, but no matter, they have a sweet simplicity, which is the more valuable, because seldom found in modern poetry. [Port. Courier.]

THE OAK.

Woodman, spare that tree!
Touch not a single bough!
In youth it sheltered me,
And I'll protect it now.
'Twas my forefather's hand
That placed it near his cot;
There, woodman, let it stand,
Thy axe shall harm it not.
That old familiar tree,
Whose glory and renown
Are spread o'er land and sea,
Woodman, forbear thy stroke!
Cut not its earth-bound ties;
Oh, spare that aged oak,
Now towering to the skies!
When but an idle boy
I sought it grateful shade;
In all their gushing joy
Here, too, my sisters played.
My mother kneed me here:
My father pressed my hand—
Forgive this foolish tear,
But let that oak stand!
My heart-strings round thee cling,
Close as thy bark old friend!
Hear still the wild-bird sing,
And still thy branches bend.
Old tree! the storm still brave!
And, woodman, leave the spot;
While I've a hand to raise,
Thy axe shall harm it not.

From the New York Mirror.

NEW ENGLAND.

New England! dear New England!
My birthplace proud and free;
A traitor's curse be on my head,
When I am false to thee!
While rolls the bright Connecticut,
In silver to the sea—
While old Wachusett rears its head,
I will remember thee!
By every recollection dear,
By friendship's hallowed tie,
By scenes engraven on the heart,
By love that cannot die,
And by the sweet, the farwell kiss
Of dearest Rosalie,
New England—dear New England!
I will remember thee!
I may not climb thy misty hills,
At purple eve or morn,
Nor bind among the laughing firs,
The yellow sheaves of corn.
I may not tread the crags that bear
The thunder of the sea,
But by the bright autumn sky,
I will remember thee!
Though in the far and sunny south,
The eyes of love may shine,
And music at the revel chime,
And beauty pour the wine,
I will not listen to the harp,
Nor join the revelry,
But in the fountain plunge my cup,
And drink a health to thee!
And when from weary wanderings,
At length I hasten back,
How kindly will I tread again,
How kindly will I tread again,
The old familiar track,
And if my Rosalie true,
(And false she cannot be),
New England! in thy mountain stream
I'll drink again to thee!

An old money grub in the city of Glasgow, who discounted bills for his friends when the promise to pay had been applied by a friend to cash a small bill for him, when old Discount required an additional security. The friend who little expected a request of the kind, got into a violent rage. "Security, sir! I'll give you the devil for security." "Well, then, just bring him forward; and, as I never have seen the gentleman, get two decent men to say that it really him, and you'll get the silver."

PETITE PARODY. We find the following in an exchange paper. Who the author is we know not. This however, though a very small specimen, is certainly not a bad one, of his parodizing powers. Let him try again, "Large articles from little toe come grow."

LINCOLN PATRIOT.

Mr. Irish's Letter from Texas.

We publish below, extracts from the Letter of Mr. Irish, in Texas, to his father in Union. We are informed that he kept no regular journal, and therefore had to trust wholly to his memory for the correctness of the dates, consequently there may be some inaccuracies on that point, but the general particulars may be relied on as facts.

I shall now return to the time that I wrote you from Alabama, directly after which I went to New Orleans, where I staid ten days. From there I proceeded to Natchitoches, on my way to Texas, where I met a gentleman named Almonso Barr, when I accompanied to his residence near San Augustine, and with whom I resided from July 5, to Oct. 17th 1835; when I joined a company of volunteers, for San Antonio or Bexar, against the Mexicans; which place we reached Nov. 4.

We remained inactive, with the exception of a few trifling skirmishes, in several of which I was engaged, till Nov. 26th, when a spy brought word that a reinforcement of Mexicans 600 strong, was within 6 miles of Bexar.

The hostile and confusion in the Camp caused some delay of the Infantry; but Col. James Bowie with 30 horse, on the first alarm, threw himself between the approaching enemy and the town. The reported reinforcement proved to be a foraging party, from the town, 150 strong, with whom the cavalry under Col. Bowie, had a smart engagement of about half an hour, when 300 of our Infantry reached the scene of action. The enemy was also reinforced by 600 men. A charge was instantly ordered by our commander which was made with great confusion; and the Mexicans were routed with great confusion, and we pursued them till we were fired on from the town. Our loss was 3 slightly wounded; that of the enemy 10 killed, 2 taken prisoners, wounded unknown. In this action I for the first time heard the groans, and beheld the agonies of death, by the hand of man, which greatly shocked my feelings.

Nothing further occurred worthy of notice till the morning of Dec. 1st, when at the dawn of day, we made a descent upon the fortified town of Bexar, with about 300 men; commanded by Col. Milheim. We advanced within 60 yards of the enemy's works, where they sheltered from their fire by the houses, which were of stone. The fortification consisted of batteries, thrown across the streets at their entrance into the public square. They were from 12 to 15 feet high with a ditch in front. There were also port holes made in the backs of the houses, fronting the square. We dug port holes through the walls of the houses, wherever they would bear upon those of the enemy.

Divisions of men were sent to different houses, some of which fronted the streets, with their end on the square. Things continued thus till the 5th at 3 o'clock A. M. when a Division of men forced their way through the barricaded door of a house, that fronted the square, without the loss of a man. The enemy commanded the house till day light, when a few well directed fires from our deadly rifles, drove them to the fort on the opposite side of the river, leaving us in possession of the town.

A capitulation was soon agreed upon, by which the Mexicans were to deliver up the fort and all public property, in 6 days. In this engagement our loss was 7 killed and 15 wounded, that of the enemy 100 killed and wounded. The only injury I received was a slight wound in the neck, from a musket ball.

According to the capitulation at the end of 5 days we had the pleasure of seeing 1100 Mexicans leave the fort for Rio Grande. The force of the enemy could not have been less than 1700 men while ours did not exceed 550.

I shall now give a short description of the stone houses, at San Antonio, which may be interesting. They are built of undressed rock, and a sort of unlashed lime dug from the earth. The walls are generally 33 inches thick and 20 feet high. The width of the houses is generally from 20 to 25 feet, the length is various, often long ranges with partitions, in which are neither doors or windows. The roofs are also singularly constructed. Instead of rafters, beams extend from one end to the other, about a foot apart. A covering of shingles, resembling staves, follows, over which a course of small stone, and then a thick coat of mortar, which hardens in the sun till a complete roof is formed. Their Churches and Missions are built of the same materials, with arched roofs, instead of rafters and shingles. They have also high steeples, with several bells in each. The walls of the poor, are miserable low huts, formed by placing round poles with one end in the ground, in a high straight line, as near together as possible, 7 or 8 feet high, over the centre extends a large ridgepole, supported at each end by a forked stick, let 2 or 3 feet into the ground; from this rafters extend to the poles which compose the walls, covered with straw, or mortar, with which also the walls are daubed. In these are no floors, except the ground.

About the 20th of Dec. I left San Antonio for Labadea, where I arrived in 5 days. On the 15th March, the company to which I belonged, was ordered to the Mission 27 miles off, to secure some property, consist of 1000 mules and horses, to take some Mexican slaves prisoners; before the advance of their army, then lying at St. Patrick, on the River Noras, 65 miles from the Mission. We reached the place at 3, 32 in number. In the morning our business was arranged except recovering some goods which the Mexicans had re-

turned 8 miles below; and which our captain determined to secure. Myself and 6 others were left to guard the prisoners and property, while the other 15 being joined by 4 or 5 citizens, proceeded on their expedition below. When within a few hundred yards of the place where the goods were deposited, they were met by 30 or 40 Mexicans and Indians. A skirmish ensued, in which the Americans drove the enemy without any loss to themselves. Our return, however, to within about a mile of the Mission, where we had been left with the prisoners. The guard was left with the baggage, till the company could go to the Mission, and send a wagon for that, which we could not otherwise remove. They had been gone a short time, when we discovered a party of 60 or 70 whites and Indians, advancing upon us. Finding it impossible to reach the rest of our company, we took shelter in a thicket on the river. On coming up the hostile party divided, one part surrounding the thicket, in which we were, while the other, went in pursuit of our company, a part of which was still in view. Another skirmish followed, in which the enemy was repulsed, and one American slightly wounded. The Mexicans, who were in the thicket, for the convenience of the firing the hostile party left us.

This was the first time, I ever heard the horrid yells of the savages, when exasperated and seeking revenge. The moment we were left to ourselves, I endeavored to persuade them to me to cross the river; but to no effect. I then resolved to swim the river myself; but when I ascended the opposite bank, I found before me a high prairie, without a shrub for concealment. I then recrossed, entirely below the enemy, where a thicket came on, when I bent my course for the Mission. I arrived within half a mile of the place, I went round so as to come in from the opposite side. I came to the outer house, where I listened for some time, without hearing the least noise, which convinced me that our men were safe; knowing them to have plenty of liquor with them, which had it been in the hands of the Indians, would have produced great rioting. I concluded that our men were in the Mission, and closely beset by the enemy, which proved to be the case. I therefore resolved to go to Labadea, as soon as possible, to procure assistance. On the road I fell in with the guard, I had left in the thicket, on their way to Labadea. When I arrived with 9 miles of Labadea, we met a body of Americans on their way to the mission, having received an express for assistance some hours before. I proceeded to Labadea where were about 300 men. The next day orders were received from Col. Fanning, to abandon the place. An express was sent from the Mission for our men who were on the march to return to Labadea with all possible speed, as the former place had fallen into the hands of the enemy. A few days after having discovered a body of Mexicans encamped within 5 miles of us, we concluded to retreat to Victory, a small town on the Warlike, about 25 miles off; or which we took up our march on the day following. On our way, after proceeding about 6 miles, we discovered a small party of the enemy on our left. We halted on the company. The enemy where we remained an hour or two. We proceeded a short distance from thence when we saw a large body of horse on our right. We were immediately formed for battle; and sent them a few rounds of canister when they made a maneuver to throw themselves in front us; seeing which our commander ordered us to march to the timber about a mile distant. The force seeing this advanced upon us, both the cavalry and Infantry which had now come up. A sharp engagement ensued, in which the Mexicans were repulsed with the loss of 200 men. Our loss was 7 killed and 63 wounded. This engagement lasted three or four hours in which they had greatly the advantage being on the rising ground, while we were in a hollow, and numbering also upwards of 2000 men, we were not more than 300. They had an Artillery consisting of 7 pieces, which was silent some time before the close of the action, owing I suppose to the number of wounded of that department. My rifle having become useless, I repaired to a six pounder, and having procured several charges for her, with the aid of a cowardly Irishman, and a brave Pole, I fired twice with good effect, on a body of horse, advancing upon us. Immediately after the repulse of the enemy, we were employed to dig a ditch, at which we continued most of the night. In the morning the Mexicans appeared with several pieces of Artillery and large reinforcements. They hoisted a flag large, which was followed by a capitulation honorable for us to accept, throwing us into their hands. We were taken back to Labadea, closely guarded and allowed about 3-4 of a pound of fresh beef a day. Four days after 60 prisoners were brought in who had been taken on their landing at Copono. On the morning of April 2d we were paraded, for what purpose we knew not. We were then marched out of the Fort, divided into three parties, and led, one company, down the river, the 2d up the river, the third in which I found myself, was taken about 300 yards from the fort, into a pen of about a quarter of an acre surrounded by a high brush fence. We were marched to the opposite side of the pen, with a file of men on each side, when one file halted and we were led round, till our whole line was brought along the fence, and then halted. These maneuvers first intimated to us what was to be our fate. Here Death for an instant stared me in the face. I inwardly cried, Lord have mercy on me! I when a thought occurred to me; I had spent my life in wickedness, and now I was too late for hope; from that moment all fear left me; a desperate indignation took its place. In that awful hour a few impressed exclamations burst from the men; "A Lord have mercy! O Lord! and O God! when a young gentleman from Alabama, said in a firm

tone "Gentlemen, let us meet our doom like men. A young man on my right beginning to cry, I said to him "let us break." he replied "no, it is useless to run we shall all be killed." At this moment I heard the order for our executioners to make ready, and saw their guns presented not ten feet distant; yet such was the strength of my feelings that I remained unmoved. I heard the order to fire; the roar of musketry followed; I remained unharmed. But what a scene presented itself to my view! Those death shrieks still ringing in my ears. Glancing my eyes hastily around, I discovered on my left, about a dozen men who had made their way over the fence. I sprung for the fence as one springing for life; I fell prostrate; but recovering was soon on the other side. A wide spread prairie was now before me, and the only shelter which offered was to the right or left where the other divisions had been marched. I chose the latter. After running about 100 yards I ventured to look over my shoulder; a tall officer with a drawn sword was in pursuit of me; I then threw off my hat and coat; again looking behind I saw that my pursuer had stopped. As I passed near the main part of the town, I saw a horseman start after me; perceiving this I shifted my course more to the right, for the heads of valleys that lay between the town and the division of men I had to pass. On this the horseman wheeled and took after some men running in the prairie. The division before me was now fired on; and seeing several men run nearly for their lives. I shut my course, and soon succeeded in reaching the fences. I bent my course for the river, which I crossed, and proceeded some distance on the bank, when I again saw a river, as I had done five times before, and concealed myself where I remained till dark, when I ventured once more upon the prairie. But, by reason of the great exertions I had made, being unable to proceed, I was obliged to lie down beneath the shelter of a single bush, where I soon fell asleep. How long I slept I know not; as I found myself standing on my feet, awaked, as I thought by the report of a musket; which was frequently the case afterwards. I bent my course for the American settlements, and after 10 days reached the Colorado having seen many of the enemy at a distance, at different times. Here I found a call's head raised by burning the preceding evening, which was the first cooked food I had taken since my escape, having subsisted on raw vegetables. In 2 days I reached the river Brazos, which was swollen to such a degree that I dare not attempt to cross it. I here heard the enemy crossing, and often saw their smoke of food. I therefore returned to the Colorado, where I often saw parties both of Mexicans and Indians. My concealment lasted more than six weeks during which time I procured plenty of provisions from the neighboring farms. On the eighteenth of May I discovered that the Americans had returned to their farms, whom I hastened to meet, being the first person to whom I had spoken since my escape. From them I learned that Santa Anna was a prisoner; also that the Texian army would be there in 2 days. On the arrival of the army I again joined it and went to Labadea, where I witnessed the funeral services of my former companions, whose remains after the massacre had been partly burned. This was by far the most trying scene through which I ever passed. I continued in the army till June 2d, when I procured my discharge, and reached San Augustine the 25th of the same month. The day after my arrival I was attacked with the ague and fever, which lasted more than three months. For the last three weeks I have been rapidly gaining my health, so that I am now able to go work.

I will now give you some description of the Country. The Eastern part is principally timber land; the prairies being small, but as you advance to the west they become much larger, and 30 or 40 miles wide, and more than 100 in breadth. The soil in all parts is extremely fertile, and remarkably free from stones. Abundance of all kinds of stock is raised here without the trouble of feeding it. Game abounds, such as wild horses and cattle, hogs, bears, wolves, catamounts, raccoons, wild cats, and plenty of deer, of which I have seen hundreds in a day. The soil produces readily, cotton, corn, sweet potatoes, turnips, and peaches.

UNPARALLELED BRAVERY OF A WOMAN.

A remarkable instance of courage in a woman is related by the Columbus ("Enterprise") of Mexico. Mr. Matthews, residing five or six miles from that town, was absent from home, and his wife, three small children and a negro, composed all the family in the house. Mrs. Matthews, unconscious of danger, was attending to her usual business, when early in the night, a whistle was two or three times heard at the window, the negro being in the house with his mistress, having just finished making a large fire. When the whistle was heard, the negro pretending to be much alarmed as his mistress, remarked that he would go out and get the axe to defend themselves with, if danger should approach them. He did so, and placed it against the side of the house. In a short time, while Mrs. Matthews was stooping to pick up something she had dropped, the negro caught her by the neck with one hand and reached the other for the axe, swearing he intended to kill her. She rose from her stooping posture, broke from his grasp, and rushed to the door for her gun. Her quick motion and strength, as to be able to get the axe first, led, and, fearing he would lose it, she picked it out as far as she could in the dark, where she thought he would hardly find it. The negro, thinking he could accomplish his purpose without it, again rushed at Mrs. M. with the intention of throwing her into the fire. He threw her on the hearth, but she rose, as she

says, with renewed strength, and strange as it may seem threw him on the floor.

A scuffle for some minutes ensued, when the negro rather getting the advantage, got her out of the house, and by her hair, dragged her some distance in the direction of a pond, where he said he intended to drown her. Having a gate or bars to pass through, she there once more regained her feet, and determined to make another struggle for her life. He here drew a large dirk knife from his pocket, with which he thought fearlessly to wrest it from the other, in which neither succeeded. She finally however, turned her own weapon upon himself, and although yet firmly grasped by each, she succeeded in cutting his throat. He supposed his life was near enough ended, and left her. She immediately gathered up her children, and set out for the nearest neighbor's, where she gave the alarm, and a search for the negro was commenced. He was found alive, the wound not having proved mortal.

TWENTY FOURTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

FRIDAY, JAN. 27.

IN SENATE.

Mr. WRIGHT, the Chairman of the Committee on Finance reported a Bill for the reduction of the revenue. The bill was unaccompanied by a report, and Mr. Wright made some remarks explanatory of the course intended by the Committee. The bill was definite, making a large number of duties items free, from and after the 30th. Among them were mineral salt, coal, jewelry, plated and silver ware, watches, precious stones, teats, sugars, &c. &c.

Wines and all various liquors, one half of the duty to be deducted.

Manufactured iron for the hulls of steamboats free.

Mr. WRIGHT said that this bill did not necessarily conflict with the bill presented in the House. The bill would reduce the revenue about \$2,500,000. Mr. CLAY spoke with fury against this renewed attack on the compromise of 1833.

The bill was then ordered to be printed with the tables accompanying it, and postponed and made the order of the day for Thursday next.

The resolution respecting the counting of the votes for President and Vice President was amended on motion of Mr. CLAY, so to direct the Committee (appointed to consist of Messrs Wright, Clay, and Grundy) to inquire whether any of the electors were ineligible by reason of holding any office incompatible with that of elector, and adopted as amended.

IN THE HOUSE.

ISAAC C. CHARY, Representative elect for the State of Michigan, after debate and by the aid of the previous question, admitted to his seat, Jan. 25, 1837.

The remainder of the day was occupied by an occurrence of which we have seen several accounts. They all agree substantially, however, with the following furnished by a correspondent of the Boston Post:—

The house were proceeding to the consideration of the usual business—private bills—when Mr. Bell of Tennessee, hoped the House would proceed to the consideration of his bill "to secure the freedom of elections." Mr. Jarvis of Maine, said that the gentleman from Tennessee must know that no legislative action whatever could arise on his bill this session, therefore, nothing could be gained by a further prosecution of the bill now, than to gratify personal feelings.

Mr. Bell. That is false, sir.

Mr. Jarvis. I shall hold you responsible for that expression, Sir.

Mr. Mercer, of Va. thought, as this might be of far more importance than it seemed, he wished the two gentlemen now to settle the issue between them, and moved that "the two members pledge themselves to the house that they will not prosecute any further the quarrel now arisen between them, until they have excited much debate and a great deal of feeling."

Mr. Thomas, of Maryland, appeared as mediator on the part of Mr. Jarvis, and Mr. Peyton, on the side of Mr. Bell.

The debate assumed as many aspects as a chameleon on a cloudy day. Mr. Glascock gave a commentary on the "Code noir," or, as he called it, the code of honor. Mr. Briggs, of Mass. was fearful of the results and pictured bloody murder before him in case it was not decided now.

Various other members had various ideas about it, and there was so much variety, that it seemed as though it must be settled in the field. Mr. Peyton made a conditional retraction for his friend in order that Mr. Jarvis might explain. Jarvis said he had not threatened, and did not intend to do so, it was not his character.

Mr. Bell sat eating wafers—seemed agitated—but said nothing.

Several attempts were made to adjourn but negotiated by the House—it began to grow dark and affairs looked terrible blue. Every body proposed a medicine to heal the wound, but they were all without effect. They made the matter no better, but rather worse. I saw in fancy, Messrs Jarvis and Bell, at twenty paces. Just then Wise, of Virginia, appeared and made a speech, the first since his attack on the President—and assumed the responsibility on the part of Mr. Bell, and retracted the offensive language of his friend, and asked Mr. Jarvis for an explanation of his words. Mr. Jarvis said that now he had an opportunity, for the first time, to make an explanation, he would report his words and explain them, which he did; and Mr. Wise said, "I take the responsibility and pronounce for my friend from Tennessee, that the