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The Eastern Mail (Vol. 14, No. 23): December 13, 1860

Ephraim Maxham

Daniel Ripley Wing

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OUR TABLE.

ELLIS ON THE SABBATH.—The National Book on the Sabbath; illustrating its four grand designs, and proving its obligations, showing that the Seventh Day Sabbath is the first day of the week, and what hour Sabbath time should begin. Portland: Bailey & Noyes.

The above full title leaves but little to be said of the design of the work, which is apparently an exhaustive argument for the observance of the Christian Sabbath. We commend it to a careful reading by all, whatever their views.

ARTHUR'S HOME MAGAZINE.—The January number has two charming steel engravings—admirable in design and execution—'The Morning Bath,' and 'May's Happy New Year,' and numerous wood engravings of curious and pretty devices for the ladies. Enough is known of this work and its editor—T. S. Arthur and Virginia Townsend—to render it unnecessary to say much in commendation of the literary department, but we shall next week present our readers with a story from its pages, which may be regarded as a fair sample of its quality. Published by T. S. Arthur & Co., Philadelphia, at \$2 a year and a liberal discount to clubs: eight copies will be furnished for \$10.

NORTH BRITAIN REVIEW.—The contents of the November number are as follows:—1. Modern Thought, its Progress and Consummation. 2. The Disturbances in Syria. 3. Leigh Hunt. 4. The Spanish Republics in South America. 5. Province of Logic and recent Logicians. 6. Lord Macaulay's place in English Literature. 7. American Humour. 8. Revivals. 9. The Martyrdom of Galileo. 10. The Sicilian Game.

The first article is a very able one and fittingly matches the leader in the last Westminster Review. From opposite standpoints—Evangelical and Rationalist—the position of those six Churches of England divines, who have recently taken cover together, is bombarded with logical shot, until it would seem that there was hardly a inch of ground for them to stand on. The second article discusses the causes and ultimate consequences of the disturbances in Syria. The article on Leigh Hunt is genial and just. The fifth article is a review of Hamilton's late work. The sixth is a defense of Lord Macaulay. In the seventh John Bull shows that he appreciates the humor of Brother Jonathan. Reviews are estimated quite differently from what they were in a recent number of the Westminster. The article on Galileo gives us many new facts.—The last article is devoted to a review of the European political chess board.

This is an excellent number of this able work, and every article will be read with much interest on this side of the big water.

The four great British Quarterly Reviews and Blackwood's Monthly, are promptly issued by L. Scott & Co. 54 Gold Street, New York. Terms of subscription—For one of the four Reviews \$3 per annum in advance. For two \$5; for three \$7; for all four \$10. Blackwood's Magazine \$3; Blackwood and three large discount to clubs. In all the principal cities and towns, these works will be delivered free of postage. When sent by mail, the postage on any part of the U. S. will be but 24 cents a year for 'Blackwood,' and 14 cents a year for each of the Reviews.

LADIES' REPERTORY.—The December number has two beautiful embellishments—each excellent in its way.—'Benevolence,' and a portrait of Ann Hasseltine Jackson, the first wife of the distinguished missionary. The number is filled with good reading, well written stories, which enforce useful lessons; also essays, good poetry, interesting sketches, etc. A new volume will commence with the next number, which the publishers promise, shall in many respects be superior to any preceding one. The work has always been noted for the superiority of its engravings and it is not easy to conceive how these can be excelled; but the subscribers are told to expect better things even in this department. Published by Poe & Hitchcock, Cincinnati, at \$2 a year. J. P. Magee, Boston, agent.

THE BOY AND THE ECHO.—A boy walking through a wood, happened to bark like a dog, an accomplishment which he had taken pains to acquire, and was surprised to hear an answer in his own tones.

'Doggy! doggy!' said he, and there was a quick reply of 'doggy, doggy.'

'Who are you?' called the boy.

'Who are you?' was the response. To the clear voice of the questioner, he replied:

'Why, George Thompson!' and this was repeated more than once, in such a mocking manner that he grew angry and exclaimed:

'What a fool you are!' The echo responded: 'What a fool you are!'

The little fellow ran home in a pet, telling his father how a boy had mocked and abused him in the woods. His father then explained the principle of the echo. Will our young readers ask their parents what an echo is?

Well, one child has asked his mother that question, and a friend sends us the answer, with the child's own idea of an echo.

'Mother, what makes the sound when I speak where there is a hill, or rock near?'

'Your voice displaces the air, causing it to vibrate and strike against the hill or rock, the same as if you were to beat against a drum, or any object with a stick lightly, producing sound.'

'But what makes the words I say, come back?'

'It is those words which produce the sound?'

'Oh! I know; they mark the hill, and God rings them!'

In a recent liquor case, in Bangor, where a large quantity had been seized while lying in store, George G. Hathaway, under the provision of the Liquor Law, put in a claim to all the packages, about 200 in number, as having been in possession of them at the time of the seizure and having a lien for warehouse, trucking and freight. Several other individuals filed claims similar to that of Mr. Hathaway. Judge Humphrey, on Saturday gave a decision returning to Mr. Hathaway about 75 packages and declaring the balance forfeited to the city.

LEWISTON REPUBLICAN.—Mr. H. C. Johnson, editor and proprietor of this paper, finds his labors so well appreciated that he has been induced to enlarge it, and this week it appears with each page a column wider and a proportionate increase in length. The Republican is a spicy, readable paper, and we are pleased to see this evidence of its prosperity.

The Natchez Free Trader proposes the suspension of the payment of Northern debts as one of the remedies for the times. It proposes that each debtor shall pay into the State Treasury the amount of the debt due his Northern creditor; the State of Mississippi to issue her bond for it, payable when hostilities are over.

Upon this the Natchez Courier remarks:—

'The idea of more Mississippi bonds is rather peculiar. She issued two sets, and repudiated them both; she was sued in her own courts upon them, after she had invited suit, and judgment rendered against her, and she repudiated the judgment; and she issued another set to defend those who, she expected, would defend her; and she was sued upon that claim—judgments obtained—and those judgments remain unpaid to this hour.'

THE REIGN OF TERROR.—It is a fact which strikingly indicates the excitement of feeling at the South, that one of the most eminent scientific men now living at the North—a man who was born at the South, and is thoroughly conservative—recently had a narrow escape from being hung as an abolitionist, while passing through Mississippi! His offence was the expression of a hope that the Union would be preserved! We presume that the following, from the Providence Journal, refers to the same gentleman, who made to several persons similar statements with regard to society at the South:

'An intelligent gentleman, whose name we are not at liberty to mention, but who is well known throughout the whole country, has recently returned from a tour through some of the Southern States. He is himself a native of a slave State, and so far as he has any prepossessions in favor of either section of the country, they are partial to the South rather than to the North. He has travelled extensively in Europe, and he says that he never saw, even in Austria, such a reign of terrorism, such a despotism, as he has witnessed in his journey. Conservative Union loving men are awed into silence. A gloom hangs like a pall over society. Men who in their hearts dissent from the opinions of the secessionists are now ruled as with a rod of iron, and speak in whispers, and with the utmost caution.'

Our friend says that on reaching a certain place he saw a number of men near the telegraph office talking earnestly about some item of news which had been received, and he ventured to ask what it was. He was told that some of the federal officeholders at Charleston had resigned. He mildly expressed his regret that they had done so. What was his astonishment to see a gigantic fellow approach him and with oaths threaten to hang him as an abolitionist. He explained that he was no abolitionist, and that he was a Southerner by birth, and was allowed to go on his way at last.—But for a while danger loomed imminent, and not a man among all the company of bystanders uttered a word of remonstrance against the giant who threatened him.

The testimony of our friend is only a confirmation of evidence which comes from many sources that freedom of speech and of thought is now denied in many parts of the South, not only to Northern men, but also to Southern men who are in favor of the Union. This is the price that the South is paying for following the lead of its Yanceys and Toombses. How delightful must be a permanent residence in such a country. Does any one suppose that independent and high-minded men will consent to remain long under such a tyranny? And yet there are men at the South who are expecting a large emigration from the North in case of secession.

A letter from Charleston says:

'At present the United States Arsenal here is guarded by a Charleston volunteer company, whose services the Government (being without troops of its own) accepted. It is prearranged that when secession shall have been declared, the Charleston Volunteers will consider their term of service under the General Government up; and it is not unlikely that the order of things will be reversed, and the arsenal, with 30,000 stand of arms, delivered over to the State of South Carolina. Certainly, South Carolina may well assure Mr. Buchanan that she has no quarrel with him. Why should she quarrel with an Administration that thus makes rebellion easy?'

The number of arrests of 'dangerous and suspicious characters' at New Orleans has become so great that the newspapers are denouncing those who instigate or make the arrests. One paper says that seven-tenths of the arrests are prompted by spleen, prejudice and revenge.

The War Department distributed 500,000 stand of arms in the slave States during the last year; but a less liberal proportion in the free States. One hundred thousand dollars worth of muskets of old pattern, which cost \$14 were recently sold for \$2.50 each, when they might have been easily supplied with modern improvements. Perhaps they will be sold to government again at full price after being altered at slight expense.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.—This old favorite, as is well known, is issued in two forms—weekly and monthly—and either way cannot fail to commend itself as an agreeable and profitable visitant. We see only the monthly, which is a large sized octavo—handsomely printed and filled with agricultural and miscellaneous reading nicely adapted to meet the wants and tastes of the great majority of farmers and their families. It is pitched neither too high nor too low, but is full of plain, practical suggestions, such as are of every day use among those to whom it goes. We regard it as one of the best publications of the kind in the country, and in saying this we think we but echo the opinion of all who are acquainted with it. The price of the weekly is \$2, and of the monthly, \$1. Published by Nourse, Eaton & Tolman, 34 Merchant's Row, Boston.

Senator Iverson said the other day in the Senate that the South was determined to secede and would do so if all the 'Personal Liberty Acts' were repealed.

He denounced Governor Houston of Texas for not calling the Legislature together and added—

'If he will not yield to that public sentiment some Texas Brutus may arise to rid his country of this old hoary-headed traitor.' (Great sensation.)

One of the speakers at a secession meeting in Charleston, said that—

'Texas would at last join the Southern Confederacy by the time that old Sam Houston had his throat cut.'

TEMPERANCE MEETINGS.—Rev. W. G. Hobbs, editor of the Maine Son of Temperance, will speak to the people, on the subject of temperance, at the Town Hall on Saturday and Sunday evenings, Dec. 15th and 16th. See that he has a full house on both occasions.

SOUTHERN PROGRAMME.—Parley, of the Boston Journal, under date of Washington, Dec. 10th, says—

'The programme of the Southern Disunionists is probably to leave the federal relations in the hands of Commissioners for settlement, which will not interrupt the collection of the revenue or postal arrangements, and thus avoid a collision. Then the border States will endeavor to bring about a pacification by pro-

posing terms to the North, and threatening to form a Southern Confederacy if terms are not accepted. Meanwhile the financial promises are to be tightened and Northern men promise demonstrations of popular sentiment sympathizing with the South.'

GOOD SLEIGHING is now at the service of everybody hereabout, and everybody is busy with it.

TICONICO ENGINE CO. are arranging for a festival at Town Hall on New Year's eve. They are laying the foundation broad enough for a good time, and nobody need doubt that they will have one.

The Republicans of Nevada, California, introduced an original feature into the celebration of their late political victory. Having fired two hundred guns, they laid a train of powder, of seventy-five pounds, from the foot of Main street to Commercial street, to represent the Pony Express, and it made pony time, certain; and after that they gave three times three cheers for the Pony Express.

MAINE TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this body will be held at Augusta on the 15th of next month. It is very desirable that there should be a full attendance of the friends of Temperance. Petitions to the Legislature are in circulation, asking for amendments to the liquor law, and these will be discussed at that meeting.

The Milledgeville Recorder (Georgia) proposes the following as a remedy in the Union:—'Whenever a fugitive slave is lost by being sheltered under the unconstitutional law of a free State, let the General Government pay the owner the full value of his lost slave, and also (as this is in fact drawing upon the National Treasury to pay a Northern debt) let the General Government pay to the South an equal amount out of the Treasury, to be added to the educational funds of the several Southern States.'

Could the National Treasury stand the drain and the money be judiciously expended, we are inclined to think well of the above plan, for thereby two good objects would be ultimately accomplished—the extinction of slavery and the education of the poor whites at the South.

A DEMOCRATIC OPINION OF THE MESSAGE.—The following, from the Lewiston Democrat, is concise and pointed as to Mr. Buchanan's position:

According to his argument, things have come to a most pitiable pass, from which there is nothing but a completely inflexible General Government to relieve us. He first shows that the South has suffered great wrongs, enough, one might reasonably say, to justify secession. He then argues that there can be no such thing as Constitutional secession. After this he declares that should a State see fit to secede, the Federal Government possesses no power to restrain the rebel State. This is surely a strange kettle of fish! A State is wronged, but has no Constitutional right to secede; yet should she conclude to secede, there is no Constitutional power to restrain her.

We cannot believe that the plan of pacification offered by the President will meet with any general acceptance. It requires that the Republicans yield everything, while the South is to yield nothing.

MATTERS AT WASHINGTON.—Perley, of the Boston Journal, under date of the 6th inst., writes as follows:—

If these 'cotton rising' gentlemen are determined to leave this Union, why should the people of the Northern States make concessions to them? The merchants of Charleston have indoctrinated them with an idea that with free trade they can become a mighty, prosperous people. And they only talk about personal liberty bills, the harangues of our small fanatics, the armed occupation of Kansas, &c., as a pretext for going. It is a knowledge of this determination to 'emasculate' that has made many conservative Republicans avow their determination to make no compromises.

Yet all give the necessity for conciliation, and for giving no pretext to Southern angry words. This has prompted the almost general consent to the appointment of the conciliation committee, and will doubtless make those who serve on it act with great prudence and discretion. It is doubtful, however, whether they can agree on a harmonious report that the House will confirm, although several of the 'chivalry' are declining to give the light of their fractious countenances.

The honorable gentlemen in Congress from the fractious States, who so nonchalantly decline to aid in the transaction of business, have no scruples about receiving their pay for services rendered as Senators or Representatives. And Senator Manuel A. Otero, who represents the Territory of New Mexico, with its slave code, all ready to become a State in the 'Southern Confederacy,' has already presented half a dozen petitions for relief from the United States, for certain hidalgos of his viceroy.

We also find that Hon. A. B. Longstreet, appointed on Howell Cobb's recommendation to attend the International Statistical Congress, which met at London in July last, did nothing to entitle him to the generous payment of his 'little bill.' The South Carolina found on taking his seat that another delegate was of African descent, so he retired in high dudgeon, and Lord Brougham showed him up for so doing. Yet the Honorable delegate presented his account which was paid, but the Secretary of the Treasury tells us that his refusal to earn his pay received the entire approbation of his government.

The Herald's correspondent says:—

'I learn from a direct source that the men are already picked and are principally concentrated in Charleston, who are to be assigned the duty of taking Fort Moultrie. Ladders for scaling the walls are constructed, and other preparations are made for the attack. The assaulting party are only awaiting orders to strike. In the meantime the fort is manned with a weak force in numbers, with strict orders from the President to act only on the defensive, which deprives them of the privilege of preparing to meet an enemy who approaches them under the pretence of peace, when effective preparation will be out of the question.'

It is stated by some persons here that Gen. Scott advised the President, some time since, to strengthen Fort Moultrie; but instead of complying with this advice, the President caused the troops stationed there to be ordered to California, when there were plenty of other troops who could have been detailed to that

duty. Northern people here, as well as Southern, are writing letters denunciatory of the administration for what they allege to be its dilatoriness in the present state of affairs.'

From the New York Times correspondence.

'Several gentlemen, arrived from the South to-day, report the excitement as intense, and the people wild with passion. At Charleston, Major Anderson was refused the privilege of sending to the arsenal for supplies, and his officers were sent back without them because percussion caps were sent for; and a guard was subsequently stationed about the arsenal. According to the most accurate accounts, Anderson has only sixty or seventy-five men, and is poorly supplied. The government, although appealed to personally by the friends of Major Anderson, who fear for his personal safety, and know his determined character, absolutely refused to send an additional force; and vague rumors are whispered about that notification will be given of an intention to take the fort, by South Carolina, and that the government will order an evacuation, yielding the property without a contest, to prevent a civil war.'

CAUCUS OF SOUTHERN SENATORS.—There was a caucus of Southern Senators on Saturday, of which the correspondent of the New York Herald gives the following account:

Washington, Dec. 8, 1860.—The caucus of Southern Senators was fully attended to-day. Mr. Iverson being the only one absent. Vice President Breckinridge was present. Governor Powell of Kentucky, offered a series of resolutions in favor of delay, mutual concessions, and the preservation of the Union, and supported them in an able speech, which produced a good impression. No formal reply was made, and the remainder of the session was conducted in a more social, conversational manner. Nothing looking to a practical result was done except by Senator Powell, and his resolutions were not adopted. Another meeting is to be held, but it does not appear that anything in the form of a compromise that could be satisfactory to the cotton States will pass.

Hon. F. H. Morsk is a member of the Congressional Select Committee, of one from each State, to settle the difficulties between the North and South. This is an honorable position, and Maine is well represented.

The Washington papers publish an opinion from Attorney General Black, sustaining the right to secede. The opinion was called for by the President, but Judge Black's friends condemn its publication, because it will damage his chances of confirmation for the Supreme Court, when it comes before the Senate.

Prof. O. S. Fowler, of New York, will commence a course of lectures at Town Hall on Friday evening, Dec. 21st.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press says:

'President Buchanan yesterday announced to a gentleman of high standing, that he would collect the revenues at all hazards, if any Southern seceding State attempted to assume the power of the Federal Government in this respect. He complained bitterly of the ingratitude of South Carolina in rushing out of the Union, but avowed his determination to obey the laws. When asked if he would use force, he answered: 'I will obey the laws. I am no warrior—I am a man of peace—but I will obey the laws.' We shall see if he will do his whole duty in this important crisis.'

Col. Craig of the United States army, has been detached from his position in the War Department and ordered to California, and it is alleged, because he has resisted the removal of United States army to Southern cities.—Col. Craig himself states that Secretary Floyd is gradually filling the Southern armories, and is about to make a sale of 100,000 stand of arms. Per contra, I hear that within a few days past the Secretary of War has sent forward to California some 40,000 stand of arms.

The tone of the English press on Mr. Lincoln's election has occasioned some unpleasant reflections to the disunionists, who, in their vision of cotton for King, have supposed Great Britain would be a good subject. Their eyes will get opened before long.

Mr. Douglas is preparing to address the Senate on the present emergency, and will take distinct ground that secession involves war and its calamities, and that that fact must be confronted by the men who are now precipitating the cotton States into revolution. He thinks it wiser to face the whole issue, and let the people see the consequences, than to blink it until the people see the real crisis is upon us.

According to the Census returns, the present white male population of South Carolina above twenty years of age is about 47,000. Statements representing that 65,000 have been enrolled in the militia are necessarily erroneous.

Mr. Botte, in his letter, says he will not have anything to do with the wickedness of secession. He thinks Virginia will not secede. He says the position of South Carolina is that of a bold, plain, daring, flat footed rebel against the Government and treason to the rest of the States. He thinks the only question involved in the South Carolina imbroglio is whether it is worth while to keep her in the Union. He believes the Federal law should be enforced in South Carolina, and his letter is generally quite bitter on the seceding party.

The Mobile Mercury is informed by a gentleman, who belongs to the vigilance committee in northern Texas, that the distant public is not informed of the extent of the hanging in that region, that he has been in correspondence with committees in other counties, and he estimates that no less than two hundred and fifty persons have suffered death by hanging. 'This is too outrageous to be believed. There is no use in talking about barbarism, if it is half true. Barbarism in these days don't begin to come up to such crimes.'

The N. Y. World says the President's message bears internal evidence not only of being the production of different minds, but of interpolations and alterations introduced too late to allow the document to be recast into a homogeneous whole. Parts of it are so wholly inconsistent with other parts; the general texture of ideas is so incongruous with some of the reasoning, that it would be amusing, if its topics were not so serious, to dissect out the paragraphs engraved by the cabinet, and conjecture the arguments for which they are substituted.

A CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY.—A correspondent of the Columbus (Ga.) Times advocates that the proposed Southern Confederacy shall be organized as a 'Constitutional Monarchy.' Republicanism, he thinks, has been tried and found wanting, and the only

safety of the South is in a 'strong government.' A correspondent of the Enquirer, published at the same place, thinks that if the South wants a king it should 'get a descendant of George the Third.' Mr. Bartow, a secession leader in Georgia, advocates a 'strong, consolidated government' and the abolition of all State governments in the Southern Confederacy.

Foreign Items.

VENICE.—The Torino correspondent of the London Times writes:—'There is a universal feeling that a compromise with Austria about Venice is an utter impossibility, and that war must needs break out at the very earliest beginning of next spring. I know some men who deem it unwise to put off the contest even for these few months, for they think that Austria is not unlikely before next February or March to recover from the utter prostration into which she is now fallen; but wiser men, like General Torr, well know that the question of Venice is almost sure to involve in the quarrel those stolid Germans who think that their 'natural' frontier is in the heart of Italy, and that 'the Rhine is best defended on the Minico.'

It is stated that, in a private communication lately addressed to Victor Emanuel, the Emperor of the French intimates that if, within a period, King Francis does not evacuate Gaeta, the French fleet will no longer interfere with the operations of the Sardinian squadron against the city. The Piedmontese Government appears to look upon the French intervention along the Roman frontier as a blind.

All the arrangements are declared to be perfect for having in London, in 1862, an international Exhibition on a scale still more imposing than that of 1851. The movement commenced with the Society of Arts, and to show the spirit with which the proposal has been received, it is sufficient to mention that the guaranty fund now amounts to \$363,000, subscribed by 661 persons. This guaranty fund is £100,000 more than was deemed sufficient to inaugurate the Hyde Park Exhibition.</

