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MEMPHIS APPEAL

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DREAD IN MEMPHIS.

MEMPHIS, TENN., May 16.—As everybody and all their friends have their eyes on this city just at present, I think perhaps a short communication from here might be appreciated by your readers. Every one here, or almost every one, is living in daily, almost hourly, expectation of the yellow fever making its appearance; but, for myself, I don't see why they should apprehend it so early. The city is in a pretty fair sanitary condition, though there are parts that might be materially improved in that respect. They are busy now laying sewer-pipes and repairing old sewers. A thing, I think, that should not be tolerated at present. Business is somewhat depressed, but fair considering the condition of the public mind. Everything you buy here costs about as much again as it does in Louisville, even southern vegetables and fruit; and if you go into a store to buy an article of clothing the merchant tells you the price—and it is a price—and don't seem to care whether they sell or not. I can't say what is the cause of this don't-care style they have—whether it is purely indifference, or a lurking dread, which causes it. They have some strange laws here; for instance, gambling-houses run open and above board, any one goes in who may see fit, without any fear. The stores are open on Sunday the same as any other day; that is, the groceries and dry goods stores, while the barber-shops are not allowed to open at all on this day, and if you want to smoke or buy a piece of tobacco, it cannot be had. I must say that the ways of this place are very strange. The town to-day is in quite a stir. It is Decoration day. The graves of the Confederate soldiers at Elmwood cemetery are to be decorated, and there are several picnics going on at the various groves and parks. It is indeed an odd day for such festivity, especially with an epidemic staring them in the face. I can't say that there is any danger here; but, to be on the safe side, I would advise all who are not compelled to come here to remain away, for it would be quite difficult to get away if the fever should break out.

A KENTUCKIAN.

We copy the above from the Louisville Courier Journal, of Wednesday, and must say with some surprise, since that paper exchanges with the APPEAL, and its editors must be intelligent from our columns as to the condition of commercial and public affairs here generally. Under these circumstances, the admission to its columns of a communication so full of misrepresentations is without excuse. There is not a word of truth in it. There is neither dread nor apprehension here because there is no more cause for either than there is in Louisville, perhaps not so much, since we have accomplished an amount of sanitary work that might well have been duplicated in that city for the sake of its general public health. Memphis never was so free from febrile diseases, of whatever character or name, never was in so clean a condition, never had a soil so free of pollution or saturation with fecal matter, never was so well drained and her people never were so intelligent or so willing to be guided in sanitary matters as now. The amount of sanitary work done since February would seem fabulous to persons abroad. By the end of this month we will have put down twenty-five miles of sewerage and perhaps thirty miles of under-drain pipes, and more than thirty-five hundred privies have been emptied, disinfected and filled up with fresh earth, besides which the bedding, clothing and furniture of all infected premises have been destroyed by fire, and with it more than three hundred houses. Business, so far from being depressed, was never better at this season of the year, and it is a gross untruth that any stores—dry goods, grocery or any other—are kept open on Sunday; and it is equally untrue that our merchants sell at prices higher than those of Louisville, Cincinnati, New York or Chicago. Any bill that can be purchased in either of these cities can be duplicated here, freight and insurance only added. This is wholesale. In our retail stores clothing, hats, shoes, millinery and groceries are sold as cheap as anywhere else on the continent; added to which we can claim for our merchants not only the politeness which is an essential part of the training of all good salesmen, but an enterprising spirit that challenges the commendation of all visitors to our city. As to morals we can reasonably claim that Memphis is no worse than any other city. We have gamblers and prostitutes. They are found everywhere. But here they are under the strict surveillance of a vigilant police, by whom the festering corruption which they express is kept out of sight—to suppress them were as impossible here as in the moral horse-racing State of Kentucky. Memphis is a clean, live, go-ahead city which can neither be killed by epidemics nor by lies. The people who trade with us know us, and they are cognizant of these facts—facts, many of which have been given to the country by the agents of the National board of health who have been with us ever since October last, and have kept pace with the extraordinary efforts we have made to accomplish, not only a surface cleaning, but going twenty feet into the soil, have made that better for health than it has been since the day DeSoto first sighted the Mississippi river. The editors of the Courier-Journal should not have allowed themselves to be imposed upon even by "A Kentuckian." They are not all like George Washington. At least the one whose letter we call attention to is not. He misrepresents Memphis from the first word to the last.

HAND ON THE STALWARTS.

Another outrage mill has ceased to grind for want of grist. A few weeks since Whittaker, the negro cadet at West Point, was found one morning fettered and manacled. On close inspection it was found that the ears of the somber and ebony youth were considerably disfigured. The impression at once obtained that a couple of southern cadets, the sprigs of old "slave drivers," still believed that the negroes were slaves and that Whittaker was a fugitive from one of their fathers' plantations, harnessed him to the floor and marked him with a crop, a slit and an underbit, the family mark for the bleating sheep, the grunting porkers and "the cattle upon a thousand hills." Many were the crocodile tears shed over the Ethiopian's damaged tympanum. The shirt upon which the precious blood of the outraged youth trickled was carefully folded up and was to be unfolded during the campaign. Whittaker was to be placed in a chariot and driven through the northern States, and the hypocrites were to fall upon his bosom and hang diamonds upon his auditory apparatus and weep copious tears over the outrage inflicted upon the sweet boy by the southern barbarians. Whittaker was in the secret, and the juvenile rascal played his part well. His suspicions at once fell upon Cadet M'Donald, from the third Alabama district, and Cadet Blake, from Arkansas. For a while it seemed that the white cadets were doomed and that Whittaker was to be made a martyr. But this villainous scheme, concocted for party purposes, has come to grief. The engineer is again hoisted upon his own petard. While the Republicans were congratulating themselves upon the success of their craft and device for firing the northern heart with a new flame of sectional hatred, the exposure came, and great has been the reaction. It is now demonstrated beyond the possibility of doubt that the whole alleged outrage is nothing but a deep laid plot conceived by Whittaker himself. He wrote the notes of warning to himself, and it is now believed that he was aided in tying and detaching his ears by those who wished to create a sensation for party purposes. Of course Whittaker will be expelled in disgrace, and the young cadets from the south he sought to blast will rejoice in his shame. The proof is so conclusive that the northern papers, irrespective of party, unite in confessing that the scheme has miscarried, and that there is no cause for suspiciousing any of the white cadets. The outrages alleged to have been committed against Whittaker are like most of the outrages charged upon the southern people, who no more committed the outrages upon Eliza Pinkston than the southern cadets committed the outrage upon Whittaker. Yet this vile old termagant is held up as a martyr to the brutality of the southern whites.

During the riots in Memphis in 1868 Frances Thompson appeared before the investigating committee, and swore that she was ravished a dozen times by the white rioters who were killing the negroes. The congressional committee heard her tale of horror amid sighs and groans. Frances Thompson's testimony was published in the northern papers. The Radical press and speakers fired the northern heart by showing how often this poor, innocent, virtuous woman was ravished by the white rioters. But a few years afterward Frances Thompson was arrested for outraging a white girl, and it was then proved what had long been suspected, that Frances Thompson was a perfect, well-developed man, who was so mortified at the exposure that he died of a broken heart. During the canvass for the Presidency the outrage mill will be repaired, lubricated and put in motion to grind out falsehoods about the cruelty of the southern whites toward the poor, defenseless blacks. But these accusations are as false and baseless as those made by Whittaker, Frances Thompson and Eliza Pinkston, but they will be repeated by Radical partisans and be believed by the ignorant masses. The cases to which we have referred furnish a general illustration of the way in which negro outrages in the south have been worked up whenever the Republicans wanted something to perpetuate sectional hatreds. Whittaker's case is simply the logical development of a host of similar performances, which have cast so much undeserved odium upon the people of this section, who, as a matter of fact, have none but kindly feelings toward the colored race. In former days men's ears were cropped as a brand of disgrace for crimes, and Whittaker will carry with him to his grave the mark of disgrace, inflicted by his own hands. The trouble of the negro cadets at West Point have become public nuisances. Every negro cadet whines about his treatment. The sons of the old Abolitionists and the extreme Radicals of the present day refuse to associate with the black cadets and offer them every indignity. This demonstrates that there can be no social equality between the races. The negroes should be given a military education, as colored officers should command colored troops in time of war, but this education should be acquired at colored schools, for it has been demonstrated at West Point, as elsewhere, that the Caucasian and African can never be forced into social equality.

TURKEY THE COMING DANGER.

The position of public affairs in Turkey has become so difficult that it is plain, to every observer of what is going on, that further trouble in Europe must come from the results of the Turkish authorities hurrying stubbornly and wilfully on "the road to ruin." The recent disastrous war with Russia has imparted no wisdom, and has inculcated no prudence. *Kismet*—it is fate—says the follower of the prophet and of his predestinarian teachings. Like all whom "the gods first make mad," after dooming them to destruction, though chastened harshly in the school of adversity, the Turks, as was the case with the French Bourbons before them, have learned nothing and forgot nothing. Their conduct toward the various peoples under their sway has in many instances, been worse since the war than it was before, their pecuniary necessities stimulating further monetary exaction and unjust seizures of the property of those who are so unfortunate as to be subject to their unscrupulous sway. Disaster appears to have given increased bitterness to the religious bigotry, and the most lamentable cruelties are the consequence. From Greeks, Armenians, and other christians, come complaints of wrong and suffering that must certainly end in arousing the sympathies of christian nations. Some of the most important provisions of the Berlin treaty still remain a dead letter. Their observance is urged by the contracting powers, and the sultan's government promises attention with perfect acquiescence, and even issue their *Hukms*, or edicts, with solemn directions and perceptions to have the things done they have engaged to perform. But the edict is the end as well as the beginning—not an effort is made to perform what it commands; not an official enforces a single one of its provisions. The powers urge and renege, the Turks promise in words, but effectually, though passively, resist in practice, and so wrong and injustice continue, and the work that is destroying its authors goes on and evidently will do so until some catastrophe brings the end. The Berlin treaty was arranged under an expectation that the Turks would willingly work, for their own welfare, together with those who had preserved their nation from being destroyed by Russia. This natural expectation was an entire mistake. The Turks, now that the exigency of direct danger is absent, only hate their deliverers for the efforts they are making to put them in a condition of safety for the future. Turkey had two enemies; the provisions of the Berlin treaty provided for safety from only one, the Russian. The other enemy of the Turks—the Turks themselves—was not provided against. More and more the Turkish government is abrogating old customs and privileges, and centralizing all power within itself. The religious fanaticism of the people so favors these strides of the head of their religion toward increasing despotism that there is no popular check to this grasping after personal power by the sultan and his complaisant courtiers and implementers. The consequence is that the Turkish rule is on the verge of extinction, the vessel of state is among the rocks, and billows and breakers are around it. There is none on board that can steer, and no friendly help is admitted from the life-boats that have put off to save the vessel in its extremity. Then why not leave the viciously foolish to perish in their wilfulness? The grand difficulty is that this cannot be done; the cargo is too valuable, and too many peoples are seriously interested in the contents of the doomed wreck. Constantinople is one of the most important strategic positions in the world. The Danube, the Black sea, the Mediterranean, approach to Egypt, the Suez canal, the proposed Indian railroad by the Euphrates, the access of Russia to the Mediterranean sea through the Dardanelles—all are within reach of the power that holds Constantinople. In the hands of a weak power like Turkey there was no danger to European interests from the occupants of Constantinople; but where would the safety of those interests be with Constantinople in the hands of Russia, Germany, France, England or Austria? "The sick man," as Turkey has long been called, may die—the world would be the gainer; but how to distribute his effects? There lies the difficulty, and thence arises the danger that still threatens the peace of Europe from the approaching dissolution of the Turkish power.

A WARLIKE WIDOW

Shoots and Kills a Neighbor for Cutting Grass on Her Lot.

CINCINNATI, May 20.—A cold-blooded murder took place this morning near the village of California, six miles up the river from Cincinnati. Mrs. Slinger, a widow, about thirty years of age, went out to cut some grass near the residence of Mrs. Bateman, also a widow. Mrs. Bateman ordered Mrs. Slinger to leave it. It appears she refused. Whereupon Mrs. Bateman went back to her house, got a double-barreled shotgun and deliberately fired its contents into the face and breast of Mrs. Slinger. Mrs. Bateman then coolly went back to her house. The murder was witnessed by two men in a field near by. Mrs. Bateman was arrested. Intense excitement has been aroused, and the women of the neighborhood have made threats of lynching the murderer.

Smothered in Time.

MILTON, PA., May 20.—Another fire this morning caused the greatest excitement, but the flames were put out before much damage was done.

HOW MANY are there in this land enfeebled by costiveness? Thousands are sufferers. To them Dr. Cheek's liver invigorator is a special boon. Do not delay using it.