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MYSTERIES AND MISERIES

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OF

ARKANSAS;

OR,

A DEFENCE OF THE LOYALTY OF THE STATE.

BY A REFUGEE. pseud. of

J. William Demby  
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ST. LOUIS:

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## DEDICATION.

To those who may be considered my friends, I feel under no particular obligations, but at all times will be most happy to serve them. To those who may be considered my enemies, I feel no particular hatred or malice, but at all times will be most happy in forgiving and extenuating.

Therefore, with the highest regard for friends, a decent respect for honorable enemies, and the lowest contempt for dishonorable ones, those pages, with whatever of merit they may possess, are most respectfully dedicated to friends and foes, by the

AUTHOR.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 27, 1868.

## TO THE READER.

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Kind reader, did you ever think, in this boasted country of freedom of thought, of speech, and of the press, you would witness men, women and children, driven out of their homes with the cruelty of savages, for entertaining opinions inherited from their fathers and taught in every social circle? You, perhaps, did not, but such is the legitimate consequence of all national convulsions and political volcanic eruptions like that in which we are now involved. Both sides are justifiable in silencing or driving out all internal enemies; therefore, all sensible and reasoning men know how to acquiesce, with the best grace, on both sides of the question, and leave results in the end to be determined by the immutable laws of destiny. Abuses must inevitably arise amidst such vast complication.

Being impelled by the force of circumstances, and controlled by a sense of duty to my imperiled country, I abandoned a comfortable home and domestic felicity to become a refugee under the banner I was taught by my revolutionary sire to love, when so often dandled upon his aged lap, and affectionately impressed with the admonition to never raise in malice my hand or voice against it.

I was admonished, I am happy to say, not in vain. Would to God the boys of my country were early taught to respect old age and the wisdom of our sages and fathers! In that event we would have been saved the disgrace and crime of civil war. You can read these pages, and think as you choose of them and their

AUTHOR.

ARKANSAS LOYALTY,  
 DEFENDED AND DISCUSSED,  
 AND  
 SCATTERING SHOTS AT VARIOUS POINTS.



When a people acknowledge allegiance to a Government, and manifest it in every manner within their power, they necessarily and very naturally expect by way of return for that allegiance, protection of life and property against their enemies, whoever they may be, whether domestic or foreign!

When a Government fails to afford that protection for which Governments are created, such a Government can not of right and justice hold as guilty of disloyalty, those who for lack of such protection, have been conscripted into the ranks of the enemy! A people who are left helpless — bound hand and foot — in the power of their enemies, are related to Government not unlike children who are devoured by vultures in sight of their parents, to whom they look imploringly but in vain for relief! No one can fully appreciate such a condition but he whose civil liberties, tattered and torn, have been bared to the pitiless peltings of an unrestrained and vindictive political storm! Yes, he whose life and every sacred tie is the forfeiture of professed allegiance to that now to him lost, but once loved Government, is most sensible of the blessings a good Government

bestows and most entitled to its compassion and commiseration! Let us look and see if there be a people whose tale of woe echoes a response to the above. Shall we look towards the States in this once happy country, within whose limits a restless and determined spirit of revolution has not gained the ascendancy, thereby recklessly precipitating all alike, friend or foe to the measure, headlong into the vortex of common ruin? No it is not in those States where the protecting and wholesome influences of civil law and order have not been violated and disregarded by a madened mob, that we are to look for a people having the highest claims for their attachment and loyalty. But it is to a people conditioned relative to their Government like the loyal citizens of Arkansas are, and have been since the first appearance of this civil and political *mania* in which we are all involved, we are to look for a true response to our picture.

Arkansas never seceded by the will of the people, if they had been consulted honestly and squarely and left free to exercise their deliberate judgment, the honor and escutcheon of the State would not have been disgraced by rebellion. She became the amphitheatre of the vaulting rebel army west of the Mississippi. Beaten back from the soil of Missouri, the rebel forces, by their presence in Arkansas, kept the union sentiment smothered, and drove out by every conceivable mode of force all visible sympathy for the Government. Her citizens having been left to their fate, ground down beneath the abominable rule of crazy and deluded men, could exercise no will of their own at home. Thousands of them became refugees from their homes and families, seeking shelter wherever it was to be found. Many failed to find shelter from the pursuit

of their persecutors. In their attempt to extricate themselves from the intolerable despotism with which they were surrounded, they were often shot in the attempt, or run down with blood hounds—forced into the defence of that, which they hated most, and against that, which they had not yet learned to hate—they had to choose between life and death. Many brave fellows have met death either by hanging or shooting, rather than disown allegiance to that Government, which to this day has failed to afford that relief their families most need—that of security at home. This failure on the part of the Government is not presumed to have been caused by any special or intentional neglect of the interests of the loyal citizens of Arkansas by the Government itself. But owing to some unaccountable mode of managing affairs by those who represented the Government, the loyal citizens of Arkansas have been injured rather than otherwise by the movements of federal troops in the State. Union men would have suffered much less if they had not have been so often deceived by the approach of those to whom they hopefully looked for redemption.

An invading army in a foreign country—where all the citizens are avowed enemies—may retire and leave the citizens conditioned as they were relative to their own Government—but not so in this case. The loyal citizen in a rebel State is placed between two fires—and flanked beside. If he professes loyalty and manifests sympathy for the Union army, he does it at the sacrifice of his safety when they retire, which he has no assurance they will not do. In that case he is sure to be dealt with by the rebels. If on the other hand he appears unfriendly towards the Union troops, he is certain of nothing better, and often

he finds but little favor arising from Union professions. Thus it is that loyalty to the Government in a rebel State can only be expected really from men of uncommon nerve. Few men are possessed of moral courage enough to publicly commit themselves to a cause surrounded with the dangers of Unionism in Rebellom! It costs our northern friends nothing, but rather they are well paid for their loyalty. Not so with the loyal citizen who may at this unfortunate time have his home in the "sunny south," it costs him his all for the time being, and is often but little rewarded for it or encouraged in any attempts he may make to redress his wrongs upon the enemies of the country.

If the loyal citizens of Arkansas had been furnished with the means of defence, as they were in Missouri, there is no doubt but they would have rid themselves of the rebel dynasty about the time the conscript law was being put into force. Those of little nerve and resolution in the Union cause, and also those who were of strong secesh proclivities, had mostly been enrolled in the volunteer service, leaving those at home who were either strong Union, or disposed to prefer that side of the question, if forced to fight at all. This was the state of things when that grand Union victory came off at the Pea Ridge battle, about fourteen months ago. That battle decided the matter in Arkansas if the Federal forces had have followed up the victory and advanced to the Capital. The rebel forces entire, with all their available means, were marched out of the State in "double quick," east of the Mississippi, to Corinth, where it was thought the great Waterloo battle of this war was to come off.

About this time the Conscript law was enacted, and was to be enforced some time during the summer, if not com-

plied with earlier. Gen. Hindman was sent, or "went upon his own hook" to the State, to enforce that law and organize troops under it, a short time previous to the capture of Memphis. At that time there was no respectable number of rebel troops in the State—only a few Texans.

Gen. Curtis had reached Batesville, on White River, from whence we were satisfied he would advance to Little Rock. He had an army in numbers at his command sufficient to swallow—so to speak—all the rebels in the State. We knew there was nothing to oppose his advance but a few stragglers, called Texas Rangers, armed with butcher-knives and miserable old shot-guns; and if there was a battery of artillery in the State at all, it was too insignificant to be feared, even by men armed with shot-guns.

Then, what other idea could Union men have, but that they would be saved by these friends, now in virtual possession of the State, if they (the friends) would but only lay hold of it. Yes, the citizens were so certain of being redeemed from the Hindman despotism, and wrenched from the jaws of conscription, that even many secessionists were rejoicing at the prospect of delivery from so intolerable rule. But, lo! the sad disappointment. Like stranded sailors, left upon the rocks to perish, they look, but look in vain, for an approaching vessel that is to rescue them, as it were, from the jaws of death!

In the meantime, Union men had taken measures to resist conscription, which they were satisfied could not be enforced in the State if the Federal army advanced to and held Little Rock. In such an event, the petty tyrants occupying that place would be foiled of their power, and

must necessarily fall back into Texas, or at any rate, not short of Red River. In that case, the Union men could have collected from all parts of the State, where they were concealed by thousands in every available swamp and mountain, in order to screen themselves from their conscripting enemies. Certain points of safety could have been gained, where they could have formed themselves into companies and regiments. Instead of the thousands that were conscripted into the rebel service, subject to the command of Hindman, enabling him to crush, hang, and shoot loyal men, brigades could have been formed and commanded by Arkansas patriots, that would have sent rebeldom howling beyond the limits of the State. That could have been easily effected, which every sensible man in Arkansas knows, after Memphis came into our possession, and White River was opened, which furnished, in connection with railroad, a never-failing line of transportation to Little Rock

As an evidence of the number of Union defenders that could have been enlisted in the State at that time, if the Federal army would even have held possession of White River, so as to form an accessible point of refuge, we have only to glance at the number of recruits which came within the lines at Batesville, and marched to Helena with the army. There were four full companies, one of which was raised by and came off boldly under Capt. Williams, from Conway county, just above Little Rock, on Arkansas River, and marched a distance of over one hundred miles to the Federal army at Batesville, through and by these same Texas Rangers, who, it appears, were so formidable in the estimation of the victorious army of Pea Ridge. It is well-known that, if the army had remained

there, or advanced into the State, as it should have done, instead of a battalion, regiments and brigades could have been raised. The writer of this knew, of his own personal knowledge, a number of companies organizing for the purpose of making their way to the Union army from middle Arkansas. He was also instrumental in effecting a secret organization, as a true test among Union men of known integrity, which had not only extended throughout a large portion of the State among the citizens, but had been successfully introduced into the rebel army. Of which organization, and the political necessity for such an institution, more will be said under the proper head.

We are assured, by those who were present at Batesville, and witnessed the efforts that were made to organize Arkansas troops in that region during the time Gen. Curtis remained, that several thousand could have been raised, and all assurances of guarantee, in bonds or any other obligation required, were offered and insisted upon; but Gen. Curtis gave a decided cold shoulder, saying that "he wanted no more troops, the United States did not need them." Many, who had come in and offered their services, returned home disgusted, and were conscripted into the rebel service; many others went to the woods and swamps, and concealed themselves for months, and are still there; while others joined regiments from other States, thus giving power and credit to other States, to the disparagement of Arkansas.

Those who did remain and organize were the four companies we give the history of in this work, under another head; the reader is referred to their fate. They did not calculate to go to Helena when they marched from Batesville, but expected to remain on White River, as promised

by Curtis. In that, like other things, they were deceived, sold and committed, and could not retrace their steps.

Arms and ammunition were all the people lacked; if they had been furnished the means, they would soon have cleared the country of guerrillas, and enemies generally. Gen. Curtis, no doubt, knew that; to say he did not, is to say nothing in his favor as a General, or man of sense; but perhaps he knew, also, such encouragement and stimulus to the loyalty of Arkansians would most seriously interrupt, if not entirely thwart, some other operations and projects, in which he and his friends were more particularly interested. The success of Arkansas troops at home, if properly provided with the means, will now, and would then, have shamed those who have been so long doing nothing in that region for the suppression of the rebellion. It is no fault of the soldiers, but of those who control them, that nothing or so little has been done, either by Arkansians or others.

It cannot be argued, consistently, as a defence to these complaints, that the loyalty of these men could not be sufficiently established to justify the entrusting them with arms, for they did and could give a thousand times better evidence of honesty and sincerity than many of their brethren from the North, who have, in many instances, surrendered and abandoned posts and public property most dastardly. Indeed, if charges, disgraceful dismissals, and courts martial are any evidence, we have an abundance to go to show, in connection with the so current reports of traitors North, a frightful list of the most consummate treachery.

Why, it is respectfully asked, did not the garrison of Arkansas troops, in the late attack upon Fayetteville, sur-

render to the superior force hurled against them? Our Northern brethren have often ignominiously surrendered under much more favorable circumstances. Southern men know too well their doom, if captured by those whom they have come out boldly against, therefore they will fight with equal desperation to resist, that the rebels will to take them.

As before stated, there can be no doubt of the fact, that throughout the greater portion of the State there was an upheaving in favor of the old Union; but, alas for loyalty in the South! these poor fellows were overawed, and compelled to submit to the remarkable and strange ordeal of being shot by those they considered their friends. Thousands of them are in the rebel army, and would gladly give up all but life to be free; many have lost their lives in attempts to escape. Those poor fellows, who, in great numbers have attempted escape, but have been captured and shot, are sad warnings to others to submit to their fate as best they can.

When the fleet arrived in White River under Col. Fitch for the purpose of supplying Gen. Curtis' army, Union men were assured beyond a doubt the day of their delivery was at hand. Indeed the whole country, enemies as well as friends, were preparing for the event, the former either calculating on their exodus to Texas or protection at home from Union men, while the latter were secretly congratulating themselves upon their speedy and permanent delivery.

Between Col. Fitch and Gen. Curtis in their abortive attempt to form a junction, was consummated, either intentional or otherwise, one of the strangest and most extraordinary military blunders. The same remark applies

with equal force to the long delay of the army at Batesville. Little Rock and that whole region of country bordering on the Arkansas River could have been invested without any serious difficulty or opposition during the time—about two months—then wasted. It is not intended by these remarks to impugn the motives of those having command, or to dogmatise upon the conduct of any one; but merely to show the facts, in order that we may the more clearly see the difficulties, with which Union men in Arkansas were surrounded.

It does seem if our friends in the Union army and the people of the loyal States could but fully appreciate the feelings, the desires, and the destitute condition of the loyal people in the Rebel States, they certainly would unite in a more energetic line of operations against the common enemies of the Government. They certainly would—for the time being at least—lay aside all party and personal animosities, and concentrate all the combined force and power of a great people to re-establish that state of things, which we all are now so sensible of the loss of.

When we take an impartial retrospect view of the general conduct of affairs in this unfortunate family quarrel, from its incipency to the present day, we are forcibly impressed with a sense of inconsistencies and incongruities, not anticipated perhaps by many at the commencement of hostilities. From the long and unaccounted for delays in the movements of troops, victories never having been closely and pressingly followed up, the Rebels always being advised of contemplated moves, and allowed ample time to provide formidable defences, one would naturally conclude that complicity or coalition to some extent or other existed between those in command of the respective forces.

These facts relative to the movements in the field, taken in connection with the abominable and disgraceful conduct of unscrupulous politicians in the rear, is well calculated to weaken the faith of the long oppressed Unionists of the South. They are holding out with a degree of endurance and resignation only equaled by the indomitable energy of the Rebels.

One great barrier to the success of the Government is in its not encouraging enterprising Union men, by giving them the means of defence and authority to act offensively in their own way, untrammelled by the control and orders of strangers, ignorant not only of the topography of the country, but even the feelings and impulses of the people. Those who inhabit a country, can wage war a great deal more successful in that country, than those who are entire strangers. As an instance we have only to consider the success of the Rebels. If the inhabitants are serviceable in giving information to an army, and are so indispensable as guides, how much more efficient and successful would be an army of such informants and guides? Those facts are obvious; no one can fail to see that if the federal Government had have sought out and given power and place to southern talent, as the Rebel Government has done, the Rebels would have been met face to face in hostile array by those they dread most. The Rebels entertain more fear of the arms and influence of a small band of what they please to style "tories and traitors," than of a whole regiment of "Yankees." It may be objected to, but it is believed to be true nevertheless, that the talent for fighting as well as for every other capacity of Union men South will compare favorably with any given number of Union men North. It is not true, as has been alleged by some,

that sensible men all went into the Rebel cause. The Rebels know better than that, but there are those among our Northern friends, who are little posted enough to think so; at any rate they act as though they believed it. It is true however, that all or most all of those who had been installed into office and filled public stations, did either publicly declare for the Rebellion and act with or under its authority, or act out the prayer of "Good Lord, good Devil, dont know whose hands I'll fall into." It would not be very complimentary however to the Government cause to assume, that none but the fools of the South were in favor of it.

Who are to govern and control the future local affairs of these States? Most certainly those who have shown themselves the most loyal to the United States, are entitled to, and should of right have the preference. If there cannot be enough of that material, and of the proper quality, found in those insurrectionary and rebellious States for the purpose of local Government, then it follows beyond a doubt, that those States must be held as subjugated provinces. That is to say, if there is not a Union basis of sufficient dimensions in the South, upon which to re-establish the old Union, then the idea may as well be abandoned as a chimera. To assume the proposition of importing into the South its local rulers, is to assume at once a form of Government not Democratic.

If law and order is ever established, and the Government authority permanently and properly respected upon Republican principles again in the South, it must rest and have its existence based upon the resident loyal material of those States. This is a fact, it is believed, no one will deny. The legitimate conclusion is decidedly sug-

gestive. Will the National authorities benefit by it? That remains to be seen.

Most of the Rebel States, we presume, have had representatives of more or less influence, who have, to some extent, represented the interests of loyal men in their respective States; but Arkansas, unfortunately, with all her acknowledged loyalty, has not been represented, to our knowledge, by any one at the seat of government. She has not even been of consideration enough to entitle her to occupation by the Federal forces when she was abandoned by the Confederates, and so published to the world by Governor Rector, who recommended in a proclamation, that she, in connection with other States and Territories west of the Mississippi, set up for themselves. Her loyal citizens who were necessitated to abandon their homes on account of their faith, were, as alluded to before, not public characters of any particular note, but mostly private, unassuming citizens, who did not feel themselves capable, under such disadvantages, of effecting anything in her behalf with those having authority at the Government department. Having been abandoned to the mob by all their State and Federal representatives, the people were left as sheep without a shepherd. In this condition they have been hunted down and sacrificed by the insatiable wolves of Southern madness! Those who sought refuge within the lines of the National army offered their services as soldiers, and asked to be marched against their enemies, who were desolating their homes. With what success and encouragement they met, in thus rallying to the old and glorious standard of their much loved country, it remains for us to examine in another chapter.

After this chapter had been written, we had the pleasure of seeing an article—which appeared in the *Missouri Democrat*—published by some gentlemen from Arkansas, who, we are happy to find, coincide so substantially with our own views, and the facts in relation to Arkansas affairs. As an evidence of the correctness of the views and facts set forth in our present effort at a public defence for the loyalty of Arkansas, we embrace the opportunity to add the testimony of these gentlemen by introducing their article to our readers.

We are satisfied that not only these gentlemen agree with us, but the entire Union sentiment of the State, as well as perhaps a large portion of those who may be set down as rebels. To them, as citizens of the State, we confidently appeal, having not the least doubt of the result.

The gentlemen who published the article will observe we have made some corrections as to time and place, which, we presume, were overlooked. We also take the liberty to make some additional statements, but the main facts, as far as stated by them, remain unaltered, and are correct.

## ARKANSAS.

ITS CONDITION AND PROSPECTS—WHAT THE GOVERNMENT  
SHOULD DO.

STATEMENT BY REFUGEES.

*Editors Missouri Democrat:*

The undersigned, refugees from Arkansas, beg leave, through the medium of your paper, to call attention to their State, believing that neither the public nor those in authority correctly understand the condition and sentiments of the people, or properly appreciate the advantages that would arise from its early occupation. The true condition of public sentiment cannot be made

apparent without going back to the commencement of the rebellion, and giving a brief statement concerning it as it then existed, and has manifested itself from that time to the present, and the advantages to be gained by occupation become more evident when that is correctly understood.

We may safely say that at the meeting of the convention three-fourths of the inhabitants north of Little Rock and west of Black River were opposed to revolution, and if protection could have been afforded, would to-day have been fearless defenders of the Union. They elected Union men to the convention, who, at its first sitting, successfully opposed secession; but they had no party organizations, and hoping some mode of compromise would be adopted, mostly remained mere spectators of passing events.

Not so the insurgents. They had their secret and public organizations; numbered among their adherents the politicians and principal officers of the State, who were determined, active and vigilant.

Their first violent measure was the notorious robbery, at Pine Bluff, of a large lot of army commissary stores, in transit up the Arkansas River, destined for the forts out West, and strictly legitimate in purpose. This adventure was conscientiously opposed by many who were in favor of secession. They contended that, inasmuch as the people had taken no steps toward seceding, and as we were yet a portion of—what they pleased to call—"the old compact of a rotten thing, called a Government," the move was premature, and an outrage. The leading spirits had discovered the apathy and unwillingness on the part of the people to do anything rashly, and as their cause was a desperate one, they at once resolved on desperate measures, as an effectual means of involving the people in common with themselves in such a manner as to render some action by them necessary for the safety of the State.

No sooner had this brilliant achievement of robbery at Pine Bluff been heralded abroad, than the people of Helena, with a similar spirit, determined upon the capture of the Arsenal at Little Rock. By the time they reached Pine Bluff, on their way up the river, the chivalric and invincible boat-robbing crowd, flushed with recent success, were enthusiastic to join in the attack on the Arsenal. They proceeded accordingly to Little Rock, and demanded of the commandant, Capt. Totten, its surrender. After telegraphing to Washington for instructions, he quietly handed it

over to the mob, who took possession, and in a few days had Fort Smith also. \*

In the meantime the most earnest, threatening, and fiery appeals were made through the press for a convention to decide upon the fate of the State. An election was held, the convention met in Little Rock, and, after a desperate effort on the part of the friends of secession, it finally adjourned without any decisive action.

After all this robbery and plunder of the Government property and State's treasury, the State, of course, was fully committed to rebellion, but still in advance of an ordinance of secession by the people. It became evident that something more must be done before they could gain sufficient strength to accomplish their purposes. They, to this end, spared no pains, nor hesitated at any falsehood, to inflame the public mind. At this juncture of affairs, the Fort Sumter tragedy came off, which capped the climax of their maddened efforts, and gave a fresh impulse to public passion. The convention was now hastily called together a second time to sanction their acts, and to place the State alongside with others, which had and were now likely to make the fatal leap into the cess-pool of secession!

At this sitting, delegates from the rebel Congress and sister States presented themselves; accompanied by numbers of zealous rebels from various parts of the Confederacy. Speeches were made, resolutions adopted, and pledges given. Finally, by taunts, threats, and promises, the members, with one exception, were brought to vote for secession.

Then the militia were enrolled, vigilance committees appointed, volunteers called for, inflammatory harangues made at villages and cross-roads, and editors vied with each other in pouring vials of wrath upon the heads of the "Lincoln Government," and heaping abuse upon every one doubting the ability of *one* of the chivalry to match five of the "vandals" in a single combat.

Men reared in a cooler climate began to emigrate; assassinations occurred; men were boxed up and sent North, hung by mobs, and denied the rights of burial. In fact, every means which ingenuity, barbarism, and cruelty could devise, were used to create a public opinion favorable to their cause, and strike terror to the hearts of their opposers.

The effect upon the Union element was to force the out-spoken to leave the country, the cautious to render unwilling assent and aid, while the timid came out avowedly on the side of treason.

The Federal reverse at Wilson's Creek, and the advance of Price to the Missouri river, stimulated the rebels and nerved them for renewed activity ; and from that time until their defeat at Pea Ridge, so absolute was their power and so despotically did they use it, that it was worth a man's life to express a doubt concerning the final success of the Confederacy. But when the defeat at Pea Ridge was believed, and it was known that Price had abandoned the State, treason was rebuked, loyalty took courage. Things gradually changed, until acts of the rebel Congress, and particularly the conscript act—which was always unpopular—could be publicly criticised with safety.

This was the condition of public sentiment in that portion of the State first-named, at the time the Army of the Southwest arrived at Batesville. Union men hailed its arrival with delight, and loyal feelings, long concealed by the iron rule of despotism, crushed, but not destroyed, manifested themselves as the belief gained ground that the State was to be occupied and held. Rebels thought the day of judgment had come, and losing faith in the success of rebellion, flocked in large numbers to take the oath of allegiance, and claim protection under the old flag. So great was the change that it is confidently believed, if, after the capture of Memphis, White River had been opened, and an adequate force stationed at Little Rock, ten thousand Arkansians could have been raised for the defense of the State. This course was not adopted. T. C. Hindman, whose energy is known to be equaled only by his want of principle, having been placed in command by the Confederate authorities, made the Arkansas River his base of operations, and with three or four regiments of Texans under his command commenced conscripting. He scattered them in small parties throughout the State, organized the outlaws from Missouri and the reckless at home into guerrilla bands, pillaged loyal citizens, and harassed the Federal army.

Thus matters stood on the first of July, 1862, when Gen. Curtis moved towards Helena, after which Hindman had things very much to his own liking.

Many Union men followed the army ; more, not being willing to leave their families, took to the woods. Rebel Home Guards were organized ; the State was declared under martial law ; conscripts were dogged from their hiding-places, and forced into insurgent camps ; many, caught trying to escape, were shot ; while others, including gray-haired old men, were confined in

prisons, and subjected to every indignity and abuse which their maddened and inhuman persecutors could invent. Ladies were counseled not to associate with the deserted wives and children of Union men; and instances are reported, where, even, orders were issued prohibiting millers from grinding for them!

It was not enough that the people were compelled to act in concert with the rebels; if possible, every loyal feeling must be crushed from their bosoms.

The result was, that in October, Hindman had collected, armed, and subsisted an army of over twenty thousand men, fortified Arkansas River, and was threatening southwest Missouri. But the defeats sustained at Prairie Grove and Arkansas Post disheartened and demoralized his troops. Thousands have deserted; some have made their way to the Federal lines, while others banded together in swamps and mountains, where they now remain, patiently waiting for the arrival of national forces. Several regiments of Texans have returned home, leaving the effective rebel force in the State reduced to a few thousand. The army has disappeared, but it has left the inhabitants without the means of subsistence. Many are now suffering for food, especially among those suspected of Union sympathies. They have been foraged upon more pitilessly than their rebel neighbors, and have not received Confederate scrip in return, consequently they have not been able to refurnish themselves, and are completely at the mercy of their enemies. Could the reader pass through the State at the present time, he would travel through neighborhoods without seeing a man who was not either old or infirm. He would see women, accustomed from infancy to comfort and plenty, scantily clad, in many cases barefoot, chopping wood, driving oxen, and attending to various kinds of out-door labor, while they with their children were subsisting upon cornmeal and a small allowance of meat, which they are compelled to keep concealed to prevent guerrillas from robbing them of. He would find neighborhoods which could not furnish a wagon or animal suitable for farm work. He would find families without salt, or the means of procuring it; sick, without medicine or medical attendance, and all oppressed with unremitting fear. He would find widows and orphans, who had seen their natural protectors, guilty of no crime, dragged from their embrace at midnight, to be hung but a short distance from their own dwellings. And could he but gain the confidence of those deserted women, he might find many a father, husband, and

brother, who has lain in the woods since last summer. This is no overdrawn picture; it represents a condition of society which now exists in Arkansas.

Knowing the extent of the loyal sentiment which existed in the State at the outset;

Knowing that it has manifested itself on all occasions when it could be done with safety;

Knowing that individuals in hundreds of instances have sacrificed everything that man holds dear, to preserve unbroken their obligations to the Government;

Knowing the terrible suffering which the people have experienced during the past twelve months, and the destitution which now surrounds them—

Is it unreasonable to conclude that large numbers would rejoice at the occupation of the State by Federal troops; and if assured that it would not again be abandoned, that thousands would come forward to defend it against treason.

One regiment of Arkansians is now recruiting for the Federal service. Two others are full and in the field. A battalion of six months' volunteers has been mustered out, and large numbers have joined regiments from other States, many of which have been recruited outside of our lines, and some in such close proximity to the enemy's forces that strong escorts have been required to enable them to get into camp.

But there are other reasons why forces should be sent to the Arkansas River, besides occupying territory, encouraging loyalty, and relieving the distressed. The position is important. So long as the rebels hold it, Texas is secure. They command Arkansas, and threaten Missouri and the Indian Territory. Occupy it ourselves, Missouri is safe, with a force sufficient to control her domestic enemies; the Indian Territory, and Arkansas north and east of the line occupied, will need very little assistance, while Texas will be menaced. Supplies can be sent more cheaply by way of White and Arkansas Rivers than they can by the positions now occupied by the Army of the Southwest, and the line of defence will be along a navigable river, rendering flank movements more difficult, and uninterrupted communication more certain.

The fact that the rebel, Price, who has the confidence of the insurgents in Arkansas and Missouri to a greater degree than any General in the Confederacy, has been ordered west of the Mississippi, renders it important that this move should be made at once.

If he is allowed peaceably to occupy Little Rock, another season will be spent in bush-whacking and pillage; if not, he will be compelled to fall back into Texas to organize his forces, where he has less influence, and where it will be next to impossible for him to receive aid from his sympathizers in Arkansas and Missouri. We do not ask this course to be adopted, simply because it will promote the interests of our citizens. We know that all national movements should be made subservient to the best interests of the nation, independent of local claims, but we consider it a duty which should always be recognized by the executive authorities, to protect and succor all loyal citizens, when it can be done without prejudice to general interests. And this we consider a move from which the Government will derive great advantages, independent of the benefit which will occur to Arkansas.

J. M. JOHNSON,  
JAMES LOUGHRIDGE,  
C. C. BLISS, Batesville, Ark.  
E. C. POWELL,  
A. B. FRYREAR, St. Francis Co., Ark.

## REMARKS ON ORGANIZATION.

IN UNITY THERE IS STRENGTH.

### RESOLUTIONS, Etc.

It is a maxim of universal application, and its truth is everywhere demonstrated: In unity there is strength. Then it is recommended to Arkansas Unionists, in the most earnest terms, that they at once adopt and persistently pursue the principle taught in the maxim.

The success of the rebels is owing, in a great measure, to their decided unity of action. By that means, aided by falsehood and terror, they succeeded in destroying the country; cannot we now, in turn, restore the country by unity of action, the promulgation of truth, the administration of justice, and wholesome measures?

It is honestly believed we *can*, and who will not say we *will* do it? Then, Arkansians, in whatever condition you may be in—at home or abroad, a refugee or a soldier—come up like men and patriots to the work. Show your Northern brothers your worth and your ability, your appreciation of good government, and your unfaltering determination to sustain it under all circumstances and at all hazards. Show them you have a just appreciation of their loyalty and motives, in so nobly and gallantly defending the escutcheon and honor of the nation; but,

at the same time, ask them not to forget that in Southern veins there flows blood not in any particular dissimilar to that of their own, always bearing in mind the fact that our unfortunate family quarrel had its origin in, and is supported by, the overheated and excited blood common to both sides of the house! Let us, through every reasonable and pacific channel, consistent with humanity, love of country, and duty, endeavor to bring our wayward brethren of our State once more to the fold from whence they have so madly strayed. Civil war, in its most modified form, is deplorable enough, then let us not wantonly and maliciously add anything to its horrors. Oh! that our rebellious and crazed brothers could but see, as there is no doubt many of them do, the untold misery, degradation, and crime their folly is engendering over this once prosperous and happy country! It is to be hoped, at least of the most honorable portion of them, that they will desist, and unite their influence with their more sober neighbors in bringing to an end a strife that can never end in anything for them but utter destruction, if persisted in. It is extreme folly in any people to stubbornly insist upon their own destruction. It is a brave man who knows best how to surrender when overpowered; a coward, and a fool beside, may fight even unto death, and all to no good purpose, either for self or any one else. True bravery consists more in honorably surrendering, than recklessly fighting under a conviction of great disparagement and ultimate destruction.

It is, therefore, earnestly hoped that our misguided neighbors and once happy friends will no longer insist upon the possibility or practicability, necessity, or anything else appertaining to the success of the so-called

Southern Confederacy. All such ideas are highly chimerical, and owe their origin to that restless and reckless class of ambitious minds popular governments have always been cursed with.

All men of observation are, and have been for some time past, fully satisfied of the stupendous error committed by the South, in resorting to secession as a remedy for real or supposed grievances. The falsehoods and misrepresentations, of every phase and grade, which have been paraded and promulgated in order to palm it off on the people as lawful and just, and to enlist and secure their support of it, is a commentary well calculated to bring a blush of shame to the face of all decent and intelligent men and women! Who then, making any pretension to honesty or decency, will longer indulge in speculations concerning the probable success of such a heterogeneous bundle of absurdities and falsehoods? Set it down, as recorded in unmistakable characters, the everlasting overthrow and disgrace of this unparalleled rebellion is inevitable. The combined powers of circumstances are against it, and in favor of the great principle of unity under the old stars and stripes. Though the unity of the rebels, alluded to before, enabled them to get up the rebellion, and so well demonstrate the fact of the principle, yet it is equally obvious that the lesser unity cannot overcome the greater. Consequently the great unity of States, combined under a common banner, with inexhaustible resources and supplies, fighting with unabated determination, *must* and *will* succeed; while it is equally true that a combination of States, however well united and vigorously disposed, without internal resources, and irretrievably cut off from external supplies, must necessa-

rily accept such terms of capitulation ultimately as may be dictated by the greater and stronger unity. Such are the facts, and we leave rebels and patriots to make the application as it may best suit them.

Unless a well-digested plan of co-operation among Unionists is adopted as a rule of action in the conduct of affairs in the State, nothing can be successfully achieved for its speedy redemption. There already exist plans for operations, no doubt specially concocted by selfish and designing parties; but public interest in Arkansas has suffered so much from such sources, that it behooves the people to look well to men and measures about to be introduced under the newly inaugurated state of affairs. Some system must be adopted by which concert of action can be obtained among those who are known to be reliable. Such a system is known to thousands, and should be understood by all loyal citizens. It is therefore urged upon all, as highly important, to have steps taken in all parts of the State, at as early a day as practicable, to establish this league permanently, and have the members thoroughly instructed in their duties. The organization alluded to in another portion of this work is well adapted to our purpose, and can be modified if necessary to suit events. All who wish further information upon this subject can be enlightened by calling upon the author of these hints.

Secret organization is maintained as an indispensable necessity in the organizing of the new state of affairs being inaugurated in the South. As elsewhere remarked, the Union sentiment must form the basis of restoration. The question naturally arises, how are we to measure that basis correctly? In order to do so it is apparant to all, we must

know individuals, and there is no other method of knowing them so advisedly in this connection, as through some Cabalistic system of recognition founded upon proper vouchers. If some such system had have been adopted universally by Unionists South, and understood and respected by the Federals as the *only* test of loyalty, and to the sanctity and virtue of this conventional method of recognition all had been honorably bound — much time, blood, and treasure would have been reserved for other occasions of deadly strife in the future. That is to say, such an “institution” would have been a blessing not only temporarily and locally, but permanently and Nationally. This may seem wild and visionary to some people, but much thought upon the subject has culminated and forced the above conclusions. That is however too late now for remedy, but Arkansians can benefit, and it is to be hoped will benefit by speedy and earnest action. Self-defence and preservation demands of us to be up and doing. We are placed between two powers, each it seems to crush out our very vitals. Shall we tamely submit to a course of procedure, even on the part of our friends—if we have any—which brings to us for the present naught but insult, and promising nothing in the future but eternal vasalage? No, not if we are true to ourselves, our families, and our country. As loyal men and patriots, lovers of our Government—as true to its principles as the magnet to the pole — let us stand up truly united as one in defense of our common rights under its protecting shield and banner. Ask respectfully of those in power, what we honestly conceive we are entitled to, if it is refused, appeal to that great arbitrator public opinion, insist upon it in every reasonable and *legitimate* manner, and if in the end our

appeal and honest efforts effect nothing, we can be assured of one thing — we did our duty. We need have no fears if we stand for the right. Good men will see and appreciate our claims. It remains for us to set forth and maintain those claims, and have confidence that all will be well. Though we have been insulted, kicked and buffeted, we may yet be able by perseverance and honesty of purpose, to place ourselves in a respectable attitude before those of our countrymen, who now seem to be unconcious of our worth and integrity, and who have the power, if disposed, to keep us in the back ground.

It is useless to discuss at length the great and important necessity for a Union Association. Every one, it seems, must be convinced that concert of action among the loyal men of Arkansas is highly necessary for the promotion of their interests and the welfare of the State.

Some respectable refugees met in St. Louis some time ago, and held “an informal meeting,” at which some resolutions were passed, a copy of which accidentally fell into our hands, which we most cheerfully endorse, and hope they will not be permitted to rest in silence, lost to public good.

Inasmuch as the objects to be obtained, as set forth in these resolutions, are a part and parcel of what is contended for in these pages, we take the liberty to re-publish them, and recommend to the consideration of Union men, “The Rules and Regulations of an Arkansas Union Association,” set forth in the same card from which we copy :

#### PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, Our State is at this time in active rebellion against the lawful authorities of the United States, society demoralized, the rights of property disregarded, and loyal men compelled to flee

from their homes for safety, leaving their families unprotected and unprovided for, while lawless bands roam the country for pillage, subjecting women and children to every abuse and indignity which brutality urged on by fiendish hate can invent;

*And, Whereas,* Believing that the Federal authority will soon be resumed, many are industriously endeavoring to create the impression that all the talent and intelligence of the State are in sympathy with the insurgents, thereby rendering it necessary for the executive authorities to place the civil and military powers entirely in the hands of non-residents;

*And, Whereas,* We know that there are competent men, who are now, and ever have been, true to the Government, having placed their property and their lives upon the altar of their country, worthy to fill places of trust, and peculiarly fitted for them, both by their knowledge of the country and of the character and wants of the people; *Therefore, We,* ISAAC MURPHY, J. M. JOHNSON, JAMES LOUGHRIDGE, of Huntsville, Ark., and C. C. BLISS, of Batesville, Ark., agree to form ourselves into an organization, to be known as the "ARKANSAS UNION ASSOCIATION," for the promotion of the following objects:

1st. To render all the aid in our power to loyal refugees from our State, and their families in the State, or elsewhere, by procuring for them employment, and, if necessary, the means of subsistence; by giving information, and protecting them against wrongs and abuse.

2d. To try to win to the cause of the Government all whom we believe to have rendered unwilling aid to the Rebellion.

3d. To prevent the unlawful interference with the persons or property of all citizens of our State, whether loyal or disloyal, thereby causing the Government to be respected, lessening the causes for private revenge, and, if possible, checking the increase of that deadly hatred which exists between the opposing factions.

4th. To secure the appointment of such men to fill the military and civil offices of the State as are competent, firm supporters of the Government, energetic, faithful, prudent, honest, and humane, and in all cases, when practicable, citizens of the State.

5th. To secure a punishment for the guilty commensurate with their crimes, to protect the innocent, and restore confidence to the timid.

In addition to the foregoing, the following preamble and resolutions, published in St. Louis last March by the same gentlemen, contain so nearly the sentiments approved of and maintained in this feeble attempt at a vindication of Arkansas and her rights, that the liberty is taken to give them a place also in our effort. At the same time tendering our most cordial sympathies and co-operation with those gentlemen in their efforts so manfully put forth; also the proper acknowledgement for the use made of them in these pages.

#### MEETING OF LOYAL REFUGEES.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 25, 1863.

*Editors Missouri Democrat:*

At a meeting of loyal refugees, held at the Everett House, March 23d, C. C. Bliss, of Batesville, presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

JAS. LOUGHRIDGE, President.

C. C. BLISS, Secretary.

WHEREAS, Our State is in rebellion against the Government of the United States—suffering from the ravages of civil war, and the oppressions of an unbridled despotism, which has robbed us of our property, driven us from our homes, and brought our wives and children to destitution. Whereas, we consider this a struggle in which the interests of the aristocratic slaveholder are in antagonism to the true interests of the masses. Whereas, we consider it a duty to support that Government which secures the greatest blessings to the greatest numbers, And whereas, we believe, if the Independence of the Southern Confederacy is successfully established, that *oppression, ignorance and destitution* will be the lot of nine-tenths of the people of the States embraced in it; therefore

1st. *Resolved*, That we believe the salvation of the masses at the South and the welfare of their posterity depend upon the earnest and vigorous prosecution of the war by the united strength of the Government, until the objections for which it is carried on are accomplished; and that notwithstanding the distress it has brought upon us and our families, and the sacrifices its continuance will cost us,

we wish for *no peace* which does not bring with it the re establishment of Federal authority over every foot of territory now controlled by insurgents.

2d. *Resolved*, That it matters not so much to us *how* the rebellion is put down as that *it is put down*; therefore, although we may not approve every measure pursued by the Government for its suppression, that we regard it as a sacred duty which we owe to our families, to our posterity, and to the cause of humanity, at this time of our country's peril, to render it our unqualified support, and reserve our criticism for time when the dangers are past and our liberties safe.

3d. *Resolved*, That we regard it the true policy, and consequently the duty of the Federal authorities to occupy Little Rock and open the navigation of the White and Arkansas rivers at the earliest practicable moment, thereby succoring thousands of Union families now suffering from oppression and destitution—fostering the Union sentiment in the northern and eastern portion of the State, and winning to the support of the Government thousands who are lending unwilling aid to the rebellion.

4th. *Resolved*, That we earnestly entreat all citizens of our State who have or are now rendering unwilling aid to the rebellion, to co-operate with us in our endeavors to prevent robbery and murder, to restore confidence and quiet among our maddened and terror-stricken citizens, and if possible lessen in some degree the horrors of civil war.

5th. *Resolved*, That we look with pain and contempt upon men in the free States—themselves and loved ones removed from the horrors of war, secure in the enjoyment of quiet and plenty—who, by their opposition to the Government, are aiding the rebellion, and prolonging the miseries of our families, now nearly driven to despair by destitution and suffering.

6th. *Resolved*, That we deplore the existence, in the Federal army, of officers and privates, whose avarice and unjustifiable ambition so far exceed any genuine feelings of patriotism as to cause them to step aside from the objects they have sworn to pursue, to add a few dollars of pillaged wealth to their private fortunes, and waste valuable time in bickering about who shall have the honor of directing movements in the next battle; thereby bringing the Government to reproach, and delaying peace—prayed for in so much misery, with so many tears.

7th. *Resolved*, That we wish, so far as possible, the offices, both civil and military, in our State, to be filled by loyal Arkansians, for the following reasons: First, They feel a deeper interest in the State than non-residents can. Second, They understand better the condition and wants of the people. Third, They deserve them for the sacrifices they have made for their principles.

There are many good men in the State, even among those who were foremost in the *talking*, not *fighting*, ranks of the rebellion, who could, and no doubt will, use their influence to replace, as far as practicable, the former good feeling and common interest in the glorious Union of the States.

## ARKANSAS VOLUNTEERS.

THEIR HISTORY AND PRESENT STATUS IN THE UNION ARMY, WITH OCCASIONAL SHOTS AT LONG RANGE.

From the breaking out of the rebellion down to the present time, there has been a constant stream of refugees flowing to the Union lines. Wherever they met with the Union soldiery, they attached themselves to the army, or rendered in some other manner all the assistance they could to the cause. There is scarcely a regiment from Missouri in which there is not a number of Arkansians, and many are to be found in regiments from other States. Being thus absorbed, as it were, in non-existence, they have no share in the glory and fame their bold hearts and strong arms may aid in achieving. It is said in the rebel service, there are no better soldiers than those from Arkansas. It may as truly be said of those who are willing to fight for the Union, that they have shown a willingness equal to all opportunities ever afforded them.

If all the men, who are in the Union army from Arkansas, and all those who would have joined it if saved from the rebel conscript, could have been collected together, organized, properly armed and equipped, and officered from their own State by men of their own choice, and then turned loose upon their rebel neighbors, with authority to deal with them in their own way, Arkansas would have been long since, to say the least, as clear of rebels as Missouri. The fact is, the latter has been, and no

doubt is now, as much Secesh as ever the former was ; but while the one received the assistance and protection of the Government troops, and arms for her militia, the other was left a prey to the insanity of a deluded mob. If Arkansas had been furnished, as Missouri was, with the means of self-defence, no one acquainted with the facts can doubt the result. But wounded, bleeding and helpless, she lies prostrate before and in sight of her friends, vainly imploring their succor, whilst no formidable obstacle intervenes ! The occupancy of Arkansas would have prevented raids into Missouri, thus benefiting the interests of both.

Such then is, and has been, the deplorable condition of Arkansas during the rebellion. What her condition was previously we will attend to at another time and under the proper head.

We will now more particularly speak of things which occurred in Helena, Ark., relative to the sad story of loyal men. In narrating the sad scenes of misery and death connected with this subject, exaggeration is scarcely possible. We fail of language and idea when we contemplate the picture. We would fain obscure it all, but justice to both the dead and living demands an utterance of facts !

When the army fell back on Helena from White River, as stated in a previous chapter, a number of citizens who had collected within the lines of the army left their families behind and marched to Helena. They were influenced to go with the idea of soon being able to chastise their enemies, who they knew would not allow them to remain at home in peace after the sympathy they had exhibited for the "invading Yankees."

Gen. Curtis promised them that they should be considered "mounted infantry," enlisted for six months. They were allowed their own horses, and when he could not furnish forage, they would be allowed to go and forage for themselves on the country. They were armed as infantry, but as they expected to have the privilege of going out and operating against the enemy in their own way, they chose to have their own horses, in order the more readily and rapidly to move over the country. When they came to Helena they organized four companies, and through an oversight on the part of the officers, a young fop of a lieutenant from the North succeeded in getting the appointment of Lieutenant Colonel—not because he was the man best calculated, or in any manner acceptable by the men, but because he was a pet of General Curtis. On reflection they discovered their error. They attempted holding an election, which resulted in the almost unanimous election of an Arkansas man, and by way of a silencer, a severe rebuke from their Lieutenant Colonel, now installed in power over them.

With this, commenced dissatisfaction, which continued to increase as general disappointment became more apparent. They soon discovered that they could draw no forage for their horses, neither were they allowed to go out and provide it, or traverse the country in pursuit of food and the enemy, as was promised. They were forced to the necessity of sacrificing their horses for whatever they could get for them. Numbers were stolen, and some died. The men, themselves, soon became sick, dejected, and miserable. Death came to the relief of many, while others lingered, and became invalids. The idea of

remaining through the summer inactive, and hopeless of returning home, in such a place as Helena, would strike most any one with a sense of terror. Not that Helena, under ordinary circumstances, would be so undesirable, but as these men were situated, and stood related to Helena, it was anything to them but a desirable place. They came off from their homes with the Union army, buoyant with the hope of being armed and supplied with the means of redressing their wrongs. With them, the love of country was paramount to every other consideration; they left their homes and families exposed to the will of their enemies, in order that they might co-operate with their friends in staying and checking up the progress of the devastating influences being brought to bear by a reckless foe against their country.

All these fond hopes and pleasant dreams of returning home victorious, and then sitting down in peace, once more surrounded with security and safety from molestation, were doomed to be realized only in "masterly inactivity," and loathsome confinement in Helena for long and tedious months.

Once, during this time, those of them who were well enough to go were marched on foot with a scout to Clarendon, on White River, where, if they had been permitted to remain, their friends, who were desirous of coming in, could have found refuge. But about the time Union men began to come in, the expedition was ordered back to Helena, without effecting anything for the Union cause. They could, if permitted, have cleaned the country of guerrillas.

They came to Helena in July, when the army took possession of that place, and were, after remaining about

four months, sent up to St. Louis, where they were mustered out the first of January last. From which place they have scattered out, the writer knows not where, but supposes the few who are left to tell the tale of their woe have attempted to return to their homes, perhaps even at the risk of capture and death. One thing is certain: they came out of service with no disposition to return. They were unable, during their whole term of service, to render any assistance to their families or friends, whom they had left helpless in the hands of their enemies.

After writing the above, further information in respect to these men goes to show their feelings still to be that of men believing themselves to be the objects of bitter disappointment and mis-treatment. Who they blame with their misfortunes, or whether any one, we are not advised. Undoubtedly, as stated before, they went out of the service with little disposition to re-enlist. They would have gone into other Arkansas organizations entirely satisfied, if they had received that encouragement their loyalty entitled them to.

Their history served as a great draw-back on enlistments; no one, acquainted with the facts, felt much inclined to either enlist, or influence others to do so. The non-resident fop, who Gen. Curtis placed over them as a commander, against their will, was a death-blow to their feelings, and the whole course of his conduct and manners was such as to increase their hatred. In order to have felt right, and been prepared to act for the best interests of the men and the service, they should have been under the command of the man who was one of them in interest and feelings, and who could have been appreciated and respected as worthy of command.

These facts all go to show, conclusively, the little interest taken in loyal citizens, and the disposition, on the part of those in command, to put forward certain pets, to the obvious detriment of the service. The programme of Governor Phelps, in these matters, has been pretty much of the same character.

True, these men were fed, clothed and paid by the Government, also protected within the lines of the army. But was that the main consideration with them? By no means; they had a higher purpose in view—that of acquiring from the Government the implements of war, and the opportunity to use them in their own time and manner against their enemies. Such were the desires of those good and loyal citizens, and if they had been gratified the results would have been no doubt highly satisfactory to the Government and all loyal citizens. That might, however, have brought out some Arkansas latent talent in successful competition with those who wish to monopolize all the places, power and glory of conquering the rebels, to the utter disparagement of every body, it seems, hailing from the South.

About the time the Union forces reached Helena, Col. W. James Morgan, of Missouri, arrived, with authority from the War Department to raise in Arkansas a regiment of "mounted Rangers." He opened a recruiting office on Main street, about the middle of July. Recruits came in daily from the vicinity, and quite a number were recruited and sent down from Memphis. Refugees from the country, young and old, came in for protection and exhibited a willingness to enlist. Colonel Morgan, desirous of counting heads, recruited all who presented themselves, regardless of age or physical ability. They

underwent no surgical examinations, neither were their enlistment papers made out and properly authenticated — a matter, however, which could have been attended to satisfactorily if things had gone on uninterrupted under Morgan's control. Among those recruits almost every grade of physical condition were represented, from the aged and infirm to the puny and effeminate boy. All were taken in under the banner of the "Rangers" with flattering promises. Everything they could wish or ask for were seemingly to be realized. Things went on swimmingly — the Colonel flattered the boys with an unstinted measure of promises, and congratulated himself upon his complete success. He imported from St. Louis, with no doubt good intentions, quite a number of "youths of promise" and "straps," to fill the places of honor and profit in his prospective command. He was, of course, to constitute the grand centre around which those satellites were to revolve in their respective orbits. They could have been made quite useful, too, if their centre had not been removed. Their aid in recruiting, organizing and bringing in their respective influences, was all very well, and perhaps essential, but not as commanders necessarily. Those who can labor in a cause the most effectual are entitled to the choice favors and places. Arkansians certainly on that ground were entitled to preference, but these were not the opinions entertained in reference to Arkansians by some concerned in getting up the "Rangers," and also in controlling their affairs after the change of name took place.

Col. Morgan unfortunately, like a good many others about the time we are speaking of, became afflicted with a disease familiarly known among military gentlemen

South as "cotton on the brain." He became a subject of interest to some gentlemen whose business it was to take charge of such patients. In a short time, perhaps about the first of October, he was sent up to Washington to undergo treatment.

From the best information received upon the subject, it appears that, in a short time after his arrival in Washington, he died of the disease — a military death. At any rate, he never returned to his command over the "Rangers." Many others, we presume, met with a similar fate; but that all died, as some may suppose, who became affected with this very peculiar disease of the cotton regions, we seriously doubt. There are those, within our knowledge, who, we supposed, labored under the most serious attack, but at last accounts were still living. We believe honestly, however, that a correct diagnosis of their cases would have shown them to be desperate; but, owing to their not falling into the hands of the doctors, they became convalescent. The Colonel was not so fortunate, and the "Rangers" have had ample reasons to regret his misfortune.

Upon the removal of Col. Morgan, the "Rangers" and their affairs were taken charge of by John S. Phelps, who had, just a short time before, arrived in Helena, as Military Governor of Arkansas. He changed the title to that of 2d Arkansas Cavalry. The 1st, being then about raised, were, of course, entitled to the figure. Two companies, "A" and "B," had been some time previously mustered in with Lieutenants, Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. Bundy, the fop before spoken of, being the mustering officer, who, it must be honestly recorded, made the whole ceremony farcical, inasmuch as he utterly disregarded the

law upon the subject. The facts can be amply shown by the men themselves.

Company "C" lacked only one or two of their minimum, but, upon Col. Morgan's removal becoming known, the men, no longer thinking themselves bound, began to scatter, and soon there remained so few that they were turned over to the other companies, in which, by this time, by order of the Governor, Captains had been elected and commissioned, and one of them appointed to the command of the then so-called 2d Arkansas Cavalry.

Several companies had been recruited in Missouri from Arkansas refugees, and others might have been raised from the same source, but the Governor of that State, it is said, forced them into Missouri regiments, thus preventing any recruits for us from that quarter. No additional recruiting could be done in Helena, not even enough to fill the vacancies occasioned by death, which now began to become of alarming frequency. The Governor, himself, became sick, and eventually went away, refusing to order or permit these men to go where they could have been increased in numbers, and improved in health.

They were in a condition more deplorable, and were more neglected, than the infantry before mentioned, and whose tale of woe we have noticed in this chapter.

Arkansas volunteers' tale of woe and mortality in Helena is truly appalling, unprecedented among any other troops within our knowledge. Physically and mentally dejected, under bitter disappointment and blighted hopes, new diseases were contracted and old ones aggravated, producing incurable complications, ending either in immediate dissolution, or a lingering and painful semi-existence! Their hospital accommodations and medical

attention were better adapted to produce, than remove disease. Many of them really were murdered.

In a word, they were left to their fate—that of dying in Helena, many of them away from their families and all that was dear to them on earth, unhonored and unsung. No dear wife, mother, or sympathising sister, waiting beside their death couch, to smooth their dying pillow, and wipe from their cold brow the damp of death; to follow them to their last resting-place, and point out the spot to future inquiring friends, by some mark of remembrance! Others had their families with them; wretched, indeed! objects of pity, misery, and want.

Their fate is the more to be deplored because they died thus, and not as they desired. If they had been armed and equipped, and sent against their enemies, they could have met death in any form without a murmur. They would have felt, in the discharge of their duties upon the field of strife, that death, under such circumstances, was alike honorable to themselves, and consoling to their bereaved families and friends. They came as refugees for safety, they became soldiers in order that they might assist in chastising those who forced them to seek that refuge; but, up to the date of the writing of this page—6th of April, 1863—the few who remain above the sod are still in Helena, of no use to themselves or country, daily imploring, through pain and grief, of those in authority, release from a condition extremely intolerable.

It might, perhaps, be urged by some, that, inasmuch as these unfortunate men were fed, clothed, and paid as soldiers, but not exposed to the bullets of the enemy, they should be content, and think themselves fortunate. It may be justly replied, that negroes were fed, clothed,

and paid also by the Government, and are now receiving all that these loyal citizens ever received, and indeed even more, for they are recommended to be remembered and provided for in the kindest manner, *en masse*. Indeed, they are enlisted and cared for a great deal more tenderly recently, than white men in some quarters. That may be satisfactory, yes, even a boon! to a degraded being like the Southern slave, but is that all American freemen desire? You insult them, when you tell them they should be content with the trifling consideration of merely being allowed to live, and that, too, on soldiers' fare, deprived of and positively denied any opportunity to achieve for themselves a share in the laurels due to all brave and honest soldiers. The privilege of being permitted—so to speak—to remain within the Union lines, protected from the rebels, and insulted and jeered at from every corner by those who thus protect, is anything but that which fills the bill with Arkansas Union men. They consider their claims to respectable treatment, as loyal men, equal to that of anybody else; and we hope they have been so treated everywhere else but in Helena. It is their *special* treatment in that place of which we complain, and our apology for devoting so much of our space and time to the subject.

When testimony was being elicited relative to the condition and discipline of the so-called Arkansas 2d, in defence of an alleged desertion therefrom, before a division court-martial, held in the town of Helena, the honorable president of that not over erudite body said, in a very petulant and disrespectful manner, right in the face of the facts, that "it was not possible that the Federal authorities would have permitted the presence of an

unarmed *mob* in the place for the space of eight months, under the color of soldiers." Such were the facts, notwithstanding—except the disrespectful allusion in the term "mob"—to which the living and the dead can amply testify. The blindness, and determination not to see, or, at any rate, not to care, of those whose business it became officially, were so obstinate and inexorably fixed as to be utterly immovable by any force that could be brought to bear upon the subject. It is truly said, "that none are so blind as those who will not see." And as regards the allusion to these men as an "unarmed mob," it is hurled back with indignation to the source from whence it emanated. Nothing can exceed the utter contempt loyal and high-minded citizens of Arkansas must entertain towards these "pumpkin-rind" gentry, whose souls are so closely encased as to admit of no visible evidence of their being possessed of one. They are so engrossed with self—cotton and negro on the brain—that they can find neither heart nor time to consider the woes and miseries of their unfortunate Union brethren of the South. We cannot suppress our emotions of indignation when we so often see around us those, who are not our superiors in any particular, but, in many instances, our inferiors in all that constitutes a true man, arrogating to themselves all loyalty, the special prerogative of rule and authority.

It cannot be disguised, there is an inclination, if not a studied outside determination, to disparage the merits of loyal Arkansians. It has been the case, we believe generally, but it may have been owing perhaps to their association. "Poor Tray," it will be remembered, was badly treated for such a reason. The argu-

ment is forcible. Let that be as it may, we will leave the question open to future inquiry.

In justice, however, to the many good and judicious thinking gentlemen of the army with whom we have had the pleasure of conversing and associating, during our long and intolerable sojourn in Helena, we are constrained, and with pleasure embrace this opportunity, to record our testimony in acknowledgment of their expressed sympathy and manly respect. We have no disposition to detract from any one, but the law of self-defence applies to Arkansians as well as others.

After what may seem a digression from the history of the 2d Arkansas Cavalry, we will return and say that all hope of filling up the regiment had long been given up. No recruiting could be done in Helena—in fact no one felt, or could feel under the circumstances, a disposition to increase the miseries of refugees by decoying them into the kind of snare in which we found too many already. Sickness and death, with all their concomitant evils, attending a worse than Calcutta confinement—worse, because murdered by piecemeal—began the work of desolation. Mismanagement ruled supreme. With neither a commander or completed organization, no equipments or arms for service, all were left to imagine the end of such a state of affairs.

The Governor, John S. Phelps, made an entire failure, as all other efforts proved abortive, in procuring arms, and after various promises, never complied with in scarcely any particular, we were attached—unarmed

and dismounted as we were — to a brigade, and called upon to perform duty as though we were armed and equipped for the service. Such an act on the part of a Governor, or any other military authority, is unprecedented. Unarmed militia, not even organized as a battalion, not even two companies filled to the maximum — just think of it — attached to a brigade for service. When asked why such an outrage and unmilitary like act was committed, the reply was, "to get rid of being troubled with you." If that is a fair specimen of military governorship, then the Government would do well to dispense with such functionaries.

Why were we kept in Helena when every one knew there was no possible chance to augment our numbers, but on the other hand, must become demoralized and reduced? That is the question we are particularly interested in having answered to our satisfaction. The Quasi-Governor-Esquire-Secretary-Adjutant-General-Col., or Mr. Somebody-else, must be the culpable parties, either jointly or otherwise. The guilt rests somewhere, and in justice to the injured living men, the memory of the dead, the desolated homes, unprotected widowed mothers and beggardized orphans, a substantial and satisfactory explanation is due, if not in addition remunerative measures on the part of Government in behalf of the thus injured citizens! There has been a criminal neglect on the part of somebody in this matter, and the public should be apprised of where and with whom the guilt rests. Loyal people of Arkansas have suffered quite enough from unavoidable consequences of the rebellion, and should not be subjected

to additional and even more intolerable treatment at the hands of those to whom they appealed for relief under the protection of the Government.

During the entire period of our confinement in Helena, recruiting has been going on successfully for Arkansas organizations in the Union army, operating on and in the vicinity of the upper border of the State. The Arkansas 1st Cavalry, a fine regiment, has long since been in the field, doing good service; and at this writing the 1st Arkansas Infantry is nearly or quite completed, and has been engaged recently. We are also assured that there are numbers now in that region still, who wish to enroll in the service if guaranteed proper attention and treatment.

These are facts well understood by Arkansians, and should bring a blush of shame to the face of those who have been instrumental in preventing us from affiliating with friends anxiously awaiting an opportunity to assist in the good work of filling up and bringing out our regiment complete.

Refugees have found the route towards Missouri the most practicable, hence numbers have been and are still making their way into our lines northward. Our friends in the interior, and in fact from all parts of the State, have been conscripted and sent mostly in that direction to operate—hence a more favorable opportunity to abandon the enemy and fall into our hands. But it has always been very hazardous to reach us at Helena from the interior; many good fellows have lost their lives in the attempt. In fact it has been generally understood and often remarked, since our fate has

been known among Union men, that they had "rather go to Hell than Helena."

Arkansians are not alone in recrimination against the "masterly inactivity" of the Helena department, but throughout the entire forces one voice of general complaint could be heard. With them, however, the case was different in every particular from us, especially as they were fitted out with all that was necessary for their comfort and improvement as soldiers, while we, as the boys termed it, were only "web-footed cavalry, fit only to pack oats to feed horses for others to ride." Having no equipments suited to our arm of the service, we could make but little or no progress in drill. Neither officers nor men could be much improved, therefore our time was passed off in a manner useless to ourselves and country. The time of the few who could be reported for duty was mostly occupied in attentions to the sick, fatigue duty, burying the dead, &c. Discipline and moral conduct among the recruits were generally good, until dissatisfaction and lost confidence superceded all other influences, and reduced them to thorough demoralization. No one, who understands correctly the nature of the volunteer service, can fail to see the results that must, and always will follow, under such an abominable course of treatment and management as our narrative sets forth. Raising a regiment of Union troops in Helena was about as absurd an idea, as placing a ship-builder in prison, furnished with only material enough to commence the structure, with the expectation and demand of him that he complete it without further assistance.

Inasmuch as we have no wish or desire to unjustly injure or prejudice the good name of any one, but simply desire to give facts to the public concerning a matter in which we feel deeply interested, privately and publicly, we therefore feel it due to Col. Morgan, who has been named in connection with our story, to state what we believe to have been his feelings and intentions in raising the "1st Arkansas Rangers." It is believed that Col. Morgan intended well, and would have succeeded to the satisfaction of all concerned, if it had not been for untoward circumstances attending him, of which he could have but little idea. If he had remained with us, he could, and no doubt would, have made his promises satisfactory to all concerned. His object was to collect together as rapidly as possible a nucleus of recruits, upon the basis of which he could make an appearance calculated to create a favorable impression, and around which he could rally an influence. Whatever discrepancies may have been committed, either in enlistments or promises to individuals, he could subsequently have cleared up without any difficulty, or detriment to the service. But, unfortunately, as we believe, for the recruits and those engaged in raising them, just at the time when two companies, "A" and "B," were being organized and captains selected, Col. Morgan was placed under arrest and removed. The so-called Military Governor took charge of our affairs, and, in a speech to us, remarked: "That he came to us as a father; that he would protect and look after our interests, and foster us as orphans driven from home and deprived of our legitimate inheritance.

We might trust in him ; all should be well." All the facts in the case of his administration over our affairs go to show our "orphanage," under his guardianship, anything but that of a *good* father's protection. We deem it more intolerable than that of the worst of step-fathers !

We are not an apologist for Col. Morgan, or any one else, when we say that our condition was rendered less desirable in consequence of the change ; and we will take occasion to add, that he manifested a kindly disposition toward Arkansians as he became acquainted with them, and seemed to appreciate their assistance and influence in organizing the "Rangers." And his downfall can be justly attributed to that notorious greed after money-making, which seemed to every observer in the army at Helena to be alarmingly prevalent, from the highest commanders down to the private soldiers. This is, of course, no excuse for him or any one else, but examples set in high places have their relative force for good or evil, and should be dealt with and considered accordingly.

It has been alleged, and there is much evidence of the truth of it, that the long delay and "masterly inactivity" of the forces at Helena and that region, were owing in a great measure to "cotton on the brain." The writer of this was present during the whole time in which these speculations were going on, made many observations, and possessed himself of a number of facts going conclusively to show what has been so often alleged to be true—"going into the army to make money." As before intimated, precedent in high quar-

ters, natural love of making money, bad discipline and consequent demoralization, all conspired to overcome the weakness of many, who in some instances became so bold as to "own up" and declare their acts justifiable.

While upon this subject we cannot refrain from entering a solemn protest against the pilfering habits soldiers have generally been permitted to contract and practice with impunity, in the army of the South-west, especially in and near Helena. No good soldiers will either defend or practice such a course of conduct. Private property of friend or foe should in no manner be interrupted by soldiers, unless by special order from proper authority, and then only for Government use, not for private purposes in any case. The practice of permitting soldiers to straggle from camp or line, and commit depredations at their own will, is not only a burning shame and disgrace to the National army, but a violation of the principles and laws for which we suppose it to be fighting. Nothing demoralizes more the soldier, or disaffects and alienates the sympathies of citizens more; it is to be deprecated by all good soldiers and citizens as a practice unworthy Union soldiers. Of guerillas or other lawless rabble, nothing better could or can be expected, but men fighting for law and order, plundering indiscriminately, certainly presents a novel feature in moral ethics, and just appreciation of law and decency. The rebels have respected private property more strictly than we have, in many instances, and it is to be regretted that such is the fact, for it not only injures our cause but often

involves the Government in unnecessary liability and censure.

It is no part of the duty of a soldier to decide as to the loyalty or disloyalty of unarmed and helpless citizens, neither is it brave or honorable to molest and desolate the private homes of women and children. The Union soldier is not sent on such a mission, but to pursue, vanquish and destroy our enemies in arms, if possible and necessary, from the face of the earth. When that is done, and not until then, will the rebellion cease. Every improper act on the part of the Union soldiery is magnified by the rebels, and made a scape-goat for their own bad conduct.

Innocent and harmless men are more frequently the sufferers by these outrages than otherwise, for the reason that designing knaves always busy themselves against such parties, in order to gain a point for self. It is a notorious and well-known fact among Union men, that they feel such conscious rectitude and honesty of purpose, in reference to the National authorities, as to be little inclined to be constantly making protestations of loyalty; while their wily and unprincipled secesh neighbors are busy ingratiating themselves into favor by false representations and promises.

If our Northern friends were good judges of human character—as they should be, taking such responsibilities as some of them do—they certainly could distinguish better between men. Southrons cannot be so deceived by each other; hence, the necessity and propriety of their being clothed with power by the Government, as agents, detectives, etc.

The indulgent reader will please excuse the long digression from the main thread of the story, relative to the immediate affairs of the *mortal*—not *immortal*—2d Arkansas Cavalry. We say mortal, because theirs has certainly been a case of sad mortality. We say not immortal, because they have been hindered by circumstances, over which they had no control, from an opportunity of acquiring immortal honors upon the field of strife, and not because of the lack of material for such an achievement. There was, and is now, some as good material for fighting purposes as ever enlisted under any banner; but the sad story of their fate pleads their defence, and if their ardor has cooled down to some extent, humanity and justice demand their acquittal. But, to-day, we are prepared to say, the men who are living and well, notwithstanding all the provoking insults they have received, are still ready, willing, and patiently waiting an opportunity to redeem their lost prestige. Place them in the true status of United States soldiers, under such officers as they wish, and such as they ought to have, and turn them loose in Arkansas, connected with all the Arkansas troops, thus forming a brigade of the proper material for that soil, and, depend upon it, they will achieve more for themselves, and the interests of the Government, than double the amount of any other troops ever sent, or that ever will be sent, to that State.

Time still rolls on, and brings nothing to the relief of the poor, unfortunate 2d Arkansas Cavalry. Yes, over nine months in Helena, under the color of soldiers, with "blue britches" on, and still a-foot, neither

mounted nor armed; with almost a daily report of one or more less in number, gone to join departed and forgotten comrades!! Forbearance has long since ceased to be a virtue in the 2d Arkansas, and a thousand and one conjectures are daily circulated in regard to their fate and history, in which they are alone so much interested, no one else seeming to care a straw for either the men or their calamities, only to have an occasional detail for some such duty as negroes are more suited to perform.

Well, after many long and painful days, weeks, and months of suspense, thinking each day would bring some good news for the notorious Arkansas 2d, at length a promise was obtained from Gen. Prentiss, to the effect that, in four days, if Gen. Grant's order did not come to hand—which had been looked for and expected for many weeks—he (Prentiss) would issue an order himself. The four days passed off, and, in the night of the fourth, actually for once did the Arkansas 2d receive the benefit of a fulfilment of a promise, in the following order:

	HEAD QUARTERS DISTRICT OF EAST ARKANSAS, }
	<i>Helena, May 2d, 1863. }</i>
SPECIAL ORDERS }	"
No. 69. }	

The Commanding Officer of 2d Regiment, Arkansas Cavalry, will turn over to the proper Officers all Government property in the possession of his Regiment without delay, and will forthwith embark, with his entire command, on transports, and proceed to St. Louis, Mo., and report to the Commanding General of the Department of the Missouri, that the Regiment may be consolidated with some other Arkansas Regiment.

Quartermaster Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

BY ORDER OF MAJOR-GENERAL PRENTISS.

JAMES O. PIERCE, A. A. A. G.

In accordance with the order, "the command" was shipped to St. Louis, and reported to Gen. Curtis on the 8th of May. He assigned them to Benton Barracks, where they still are, this 30th of May—undisposed of, a mere handful, a remnant of two companies, neither ever having been filled to the maximum, and not enough in both, of sound men, if consolidated, to entitle one to the full quota of company officers.

There are six commissioned officers under pay with this handful of men, who are equally as much demoralized, in regard to the interests of the service, as the men are. There is not that congeniality existing among them which is proper between officers of the same command. In a word, the whole affair, men and officers, under existing circumstances, should be separated by disbandment, thus giving each a chance to rid himself of the stigma of belonging to such an abominable fraud upon the Government, and the honest men ensnared with it. The men are so utterly disgusted and dissatisfied that they will disaffect others with whom they may be associated; therefore, connecting them with others in their present state of mind will prove detrimental to all.

#### COMPANY "C," OF THE SECOND ARKANSAS.

As an evidence of the great injustice complained of, in regard to our detention and utter uselessness in Helena, we wish to notice in this place the condition of Co. "C," under Capt. Carpenter and Lieut. Orr, raised of Arkansas refugees, in southern Missouri. The company is healthy, cheerful, and in first-rate spirits, have done good service, is well cared for, and fully respected in the command where they are doing service. All this is owing to the

men with whom they are associated, and the proper region and atmosphere being allowed to them.

If we had been sent to the same region eight months ago, and our good "father" of a Governor had taken as much interest in us as in seeking honors and office out of the State, to the entire neglect of his duties in the State, we could, to-day, be numbered proudly among the active and efficient regiments in the field, an honor and credit to the loyal people of the State we represent.

There is no disguising the fact, and it is notorious, that the Military Governorship of Arkansas so far has been a farce, played at the expense of, and no benefit to, the people. A jurisdiction of three or four miles around Helena, a headquarters poorly represented, and a good portion of the time not represented at all, constituted the sum and substance of the Military Governorship of the State of Arkansas. If the State cannot afford a man capable of filling the place better than John S. Phelps and his New York Ichabods, then, in the name of the people, sink it at once!

#### COMPANY "Q."

Under this head, attention is drawn to another squad of humbugged loyal men, who have been in Helena since the early part of last summer, and came with us to this city recently.

They were enrolled, and pretended to have been enlisted, by one Montgomery, under an order of Gen. Curtis, authorizing him to raise a company, as a beginning of the 1st Arkansas Infantry, for three years. At the first, about twenty were brought in, and no additional recruiting has been done since. Their number

has been reduced by death and otherwise to perhaps less than half. They have been attached to the notorious "Second," doing nothing for themselves or country. Montgomery has long since disappeared, and gone to a field of "better pay." The men say they were never legally enlisted or mustered into the service, which there is good reason to believe is correct. They were deceived, and held in Helena under the hope of a better day.

The doctrine held in Helena, by novices in military science, relative to enlistment, is: that anything with blue clothes on, and fed by Government, is a soldier; whether competent or legally mustered is no matter—blue clothes, grub, and pay is all that is necessary. A good portion of the enlisting at Helena was done upon that principle.

This squad of men are good fellows, and it is a shame to keep men conditioned as they are. They should be disbanded at once. They were given the letter "Q" as a nick-name.

Since the above was written, they have been sent by order to the 1st Arkansas Infantry, in South-western Missouri.

All the Generals in Helena, who were informed of the true condition of the 2d Arkansas Cavalry, and asked for an opinion in regard to it, decided unquestionably for its disbandment or consolidation. Gen. Hovey, Gen. Washburn, and Gen. Gorman endorsed to that effect on several documents forwarded through them to Gen. Grant. We copy one of these endorse-

ments as a specimen. The reader will see it recommends a clean sweep. Arkansas troops are considered worthless:

“The Government would save money, and could lose nothing, by mustering all the Arkansas troops out of the service.

“Approved, and respectfully forwarded.

“W. A. GORMAN,

“*Brigadier General Commanding.*”

All admitted and recommended that something should be done, but no one did anything but make admissions and promises. Gen. Gorman's recommendation, however, amounts to a direct insult and slander to all loyal men in the State; but “the Second” has become so accustomed to such insults that they would be willing to accept a recommendation for disbandment at the hands of even the devil himself! No compliment in this, however, is intended for Gen. Gorman.

He remarked, on a certain occasion, that he “had not seen more than two or three Arkansians that could read and write; they were generally more ignorant than the negroes.” On another occasion, when a couple of Union men were introduced to him, and endorsed for by an officer, in order to communicate some intelligence in regard to rebel affairs in the interior of the State, he indignantly remarked that he had “three or four negroes to bring him news, who sleep nearer to the rebels than anybody else, and consequently better posted than anybody living out there and coming within our lines.” He was in very high repute with the rebels; so much so, that they were in much “grief” at his being

removed. The writer is personally acquainted with a noted rebel, whom Gorman employed and sent out of the lines on a mission, a part of which was to procure cotton. The party alluded to boasted much of the money made in the enterprise; and no doubt they were well paid on both sides. These things could be enlarged upon, if necessary, but enough; and in this place we only alluded to it in order to show the general character of those who are the traducers of loyal Arkansians.

The other Generals named, as also Gen. Prentiss and others who might be named in that district, it is believed were differently disposed, their fault consisting chiefly in not making the proper use of troops of such undoubted importance to their commands, and of such general interest to the Government, as Southern men must necessarily be. Gen. Gorman added insult to injury, thus rendering himself particularly obnoxious.

Gen. Curtis, when reported to in St. Louis, inquired, "Why Gen. Prentiss did not dispose of us; he thought he could have done so as well as not." Gen. Prentiss *did* dispose of us; he sent us up to St. Louis "to get rid of us," as Governor Phelps did when he had us attached to a brigade in Helena, as before stated. It remains now to be seen what will be done with us in this Department. Perhaps sent off somewhere else "to get rid of us."

Well, it is truly said, that it is a long lane that never ends; but, whether our story ends or not, we can be assured of one thing: "a crisis has been reached."

Instead of another order "to get rid of us," there is actually an order for consolidation of companies "A" and "B." The following is an extract from said order:

HEAD QUARTERS ST. LOUIS DISTRICT, }  
*St. Louis, Mo., May 31, 1863.* }

SPECIAL ORDERS, }  
 No. 121. }

IV.....In accordance with orders received from Head Quarters, Department of the Missouri, by endorsement on letter of A. F. Eno, Adjutant General and Secretary of Arkansas, of May 28th, 1863, Companies "A" and "B," of 2d Arkansas Cavalry, will be consolidated immediately into one Company, to be called Company B, 2d Arkansas Cavalry.

In compliance with orders, Capt. A. B. Freeburn, of Company B, 1st Lieut. A. A. Irwin, of Company A, and 2d Lieut. Andrew J. Garner, of Company B, will be retained as the officers of the consolidated Company.

Capt. James W. Demby, of Company "A," and 1st Lieut. Harley S. Wait, of Company B, will be mustered out of service of the United States.

Capt. D. W. Cheek, A. C. M., St. Louis, Mo., District, will make the consolidation named in the order.

BY ORDER OF BRIGADIER-GENERAL DAVIDSON.

HENRY C. FILLEBROWN,  
*Capt. and Ass't Adj't Gen'l.*

On the 2d day of June the consolidation was made, and the supernumerary officers mustered out, according to order of War Department No. 86, in a day or two thereafter.

We have now arrived at a point in our story, where a hope may be expressed of a change of fortune in the prospects of the 2d Arkansas Cavalry. Our story may be tedious to the unconcerned, but, to those who are interested, much remains untold. It is those, alone, who feel the weight of oppression, who are capable of

appreciating any degree of relief that may come to their assistance.

With that view of the case, we hail with delight any move whatever—though it is not, in our judgment, what we wished and thought best—calculated to place loyal Arkansians, as soldiers, in a condition equal to their merits. We feel thankful, indeed, that something has been done, trusting that we may not have reason to complain so much in the future; we congratulate those who are finally relieved, and hope for the good success of those who remain to share and conduct the future glory or shame of the much-slighted Arkansas Second.

If this Company is well equipped, as we learn and hope it will be, and the officers do their duty, the recruiting prospects for the Regiment will brighten, and large additions of men can soon be made. The Regiment ought and *must* be completed, or Arkansians will lose much credit that might otherwise be gained. Come up, then, to the work; let every good man, who has influence, exert it in the cause.

This is only a beginning; a great deal yet remains to be done, before a regimental organization can be effected. We have yet to do the work, which would have been done long since if things had been different. The facts have been stated, complained of, and commented upon quite enough; let us now endeavor to repair, if possible, that damage which we have suffered in the past.

Something must be done; we must have some one appointed, either from the State or elsewhere, to look after the interests of Arkansas. A Military Governor,

or some other officer, endowed with authority and gifted with a proper disposition, should at once be sent to the work. We much prefer a man who is a citizen of the State, and will rather reluctantly accept any other; but the man who is capable and honest will be thankfully received, temporarily, come from where he may. But we have a man, one as true as steel, who did not flinch or in the least falter, in one of the most trying scenes. When everybody else in the convention cowered beneath the wrath of the mob, and basely deserted the honor of their country, he stood alone, coolly and calmly in his conscious rectitude, and, to his immortal fame and credit be it recorded, cast his vote against the secession of the State! Not only should this act of his be recorded, but his name should be indelibly written upon the hearts of the people, and his statue should forever occupy a niche in the temple of fame!

The reader, perhaps, may be incredulous, and no doubt some are ready to say, Arkansas never had such a man within her borders. Any one, who will take the trouble to examine the record, will learn that the convention lacked one of being unanimous; that one was the individual we introduce here. He may be seen at any time, and by all who wish; and as long as there remains a particle of magnanimity in the minds of Arkansians, his memory will be revered. Not that he achieved anything for the people, in so manfully resisting the pressure brought to bear upon him, does he deserve so much, but because he manifested a quality so rare in public men, and exhibited such a high degree

of tenacity in the right. All true and good men admire his qualities; even his enemies are compelled to respect him.

Reader, that man should have the honor of Governor of Arkansas! He is the man, and Arkansas will hail his appointment with pleasure.

Before closing this chapter, it is thought proper to take some notice of certain "suggestions," and their bearing upon the subject of consolidation, relative to the 2d Arkansas and its officers.

It will be observed, in the order for consolidation, that these words are used, "by endorsement on letter of A. F. Eno, Adjutant General and Secretary of Arkansas, of May 28th, 1863." Now, the fact is, it is very doubtful indeed whether such an official exists. The legality for it is, to say the least, rather apocryphal. The letter alluded to as endorsed was written at Helena by this doubtful authority, and forwarded to the Department of Missouri. In this letter certain "suggestions" were made, relative to the consolidation of Companies A and B, of 2d Arkansas. These "suggestions" are carried out in the order to the letter throughout, as far as they go.

Now, the point we wish to make is this: why was that doubtful authority accredited in St. Louis, when it amounts to just nothing in Helena? Could not these "suggestions" have been made in the latter, and carried out, as well as in the former-named place? Why should this doubtful authority, which had long since turned us off "to get rid of us," and therefore had no further control over us, have more weight than the recommend-

ation of all the Generals in Helena, as shown elsewhere? As Gen. Curtis inquired, why did not the "suggestions" influence Gen. Prentiss to consolidate us? The reasons are obvious to all who understand the facts.

"A high-toned gentleman, who would bring influence into the command," it was desired should be put in, and others who were, perhaps, somewhat inimical to this quasi Arkansas Governorship—who "suggests"—were to be got rid of, are among the prominent and leading strings played upon in the drama of consolidation.

It is all right, however, if it turns out for the better; if otherwise, we can but acquiesce.

#### THE FIRST ARKANSAS CAVALRY AND FIRST ARKANSAS INFANTRY, REFUGEES, &c.

In regard to the true condition and feelings of other Arkansas military organizations, it has not been in our power to learn much of the facts. Having no personal knowledge of the men or officers, or how they have generally fared in the service of their country, nothing can be stated here definitely.

In the absence of anything more to the point, and as we wish to mention something more than we have yet said, relative to the Arkansas troops, who have been and are doing such valuable service in north-western Arkansas and southern Missouri, we take the liberty to introduce to our readers the following correspondence, for the correctness of which we cannot vouch, but give it as we find it.

The reader will observe from the tone, and some facts, as stated in the correspondence, that there is also in that region a cause for complaint; but, from all we can learn upon the subject, we are inclined to think that all will be well in that direction. Especially, when a new Governor, more to the wishes of the people, is appointed and sent into the State.

### FROM SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI.

ARRIVAL OF TROOPS AT CASSVILLE—THE ARKANSAS BRIGADE—THE CAMP OF THE REFUGEES, &C., &C.

CASSVILLE, Mo., *April 29, 1863.*

*Editors Missouri Democrat:*

For the past few days our little town has presented quite a lively appearance. Troops have arrived from both above and below, while now the town is quite full of soldiers. Major Campbell, with four companies of the 18th Iowa, arrived from Springfield on Thursday last. Colonel Cloud came down on Monday with a section of Robb's Indiana battery and an escort of 2d Kansas.

But by far the most interesting and noticeable sight of the week has been the arrival of the Arkansas brigade, from Fayetteville, with a refugee train of two thousand citizens. Early yesterday morning Col. Harrison, who for the last three months has commanded the post of Fayetteville, came into town accompanied by a few officers and men. He was warmly welcomed by Col. Cloud, and I noticed an expression of gratification and pride on his countenance when the latter told him how well and ably his command had conducted themselves on the extreme outpost of the United States army, and especially how nobly his loyal Arkansians had acquitted themselves in the recent battle at Fayetteville. About noon the train came into town, followed by the 1st Cavalry, who are nearly all dismounted, but tramped along like old veterans; the 1st Arkansas infantry, in their ragged and tattered "butternuts," and a portion of 1st battery and light artillery.

They passed on through town and camped out three-fourths of a mile. The large train of refugees, numbering over one hundred and fifty vehicles, from the splendid family carriages to the rough huge ox-cart,

stopped west of town. On riding through their camp you realize what one so often reads of—"Union refugees" in a suffering condition. There are old gray-haired men, whose only crime is the honor of standing by the flag they fought for in 1812. Old mothers whose only sons are in the Federal army. Young married women whose husbands are fighting to make free homes for the little children that plod wearily along over the rough stony road; contrabands also follow singly, by families and in squads, all going North, where Uncle Abe has promised freedom. Not only the contrabands, but citizens and soldiers were in a starving condition. The train which should have reached Fayetteville on the 20th, never left this post, consequently the command were without supplies until the 25th, the day they started, and received none until the evening before they reached here.

Large as is the number of refugees, it would have been much larger but for the short time given to prepare in. I learn that only three hours' notice of the movement was known to the citizens in Fayetteville, and then a double chain of pickets was thrown out so no person was allowed to pass out before they came away. Col. Harrison kept constantly a strong mounted escort in rear of the citizen train, and not one was injured on the trip up. He constituted Chaplain North, of the cavalry, Commander-in-Chief, and detailed Lieutenants of his command as wagon-masters, thereby securing some show of discipline and order among them. Many of them regret the necessity of having to leave their homes and property, but are pleased to get away from danger of rebel rule and marauding bands of bushwhackers.

Their destination is to them a sealed book. Kansas and Missouri will receive most of them; a few will go to Illinois and Iowa. Thousands have left the State of Arkansas since the Federal army entered, last fall, and thousands more will be compelled to leave, unless our troops take permanent possession. There were many sorrowful countenances among the Arkansas troops at leaving their native State, but, like true soldiers, they go wherever ordered. After having held Northern Arkansas alone for over three months, and gaining such a signal victory over double their number in the recent battle at Fayetteville, it is not to be wondered at, that they thought themselves capable of holding all Arkansas. But when the time comes again for them to re-enter the State, we can assure you they will prove the same valor, patriotism, and bravery, shown during eight months of severe service.

At present the brigade is commanded by Col. M. La Rue Harrison, of the 1st Cavalry, a young, energetic, and efficient officer. Besides raising his own regiment, he has nearly filled a battery, and fully filled and

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equipped the 1st infantry. A second infantry was just in process of formation, to be commanded by Hon. W. M. Fishback, of Fort Smith, but, in consequence of this movement, it will be somewhat delayed. We hope, though, for the good of south-west Missouri, that Col. Harrison will soon be allowed to return and finish the work he has so ably begun; and, if sustained by Government, he will not only form an Arkansas division, but will raise a brigade of loyal men from Texas. May the time soon come when our banner shall wave victorious over the States of Arkansas and Texas, sustained and protected by loyal troops from their own borders.

CASSVILLE.

# DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF ARKANSIANS.

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We declare for neither the North nor the South—no part nor parcel—but our whole country, one and the same, indivisible, now and forever! The States are only subordinates, collectively and jointly forming the integral of one great Nationality! Disintegration of the States we declare among the things that are impossible, and we would here, most earnestly recommend to every American father and mother to think, and have their children think, and act, "as though the Union was so indissoluble and integral that corn would not grow, nor the pot boil, if it should be severed!!

We would first and last declare our undying allegiance to our country, as true and loyal citizens of the United States, and claim to be entitled to all the immunities arising therefrom, and under all the obligations appertaining to such citizenship. We support the Constitution of the United States, and cling to it as the palladium of our liberties. We are Union men, and being convinced that our peace, prosperity and happiness depend upon the preservation of the Federal Union, we are in favor of maintaining it, at all hazards and to the last extremity, with or without slavery. We

uphold the Government of the United States, and declare ourselves to be the friends of its friends, and foes of its foes. We desire to be treated as friends by the patriotic, true and loyal in all the States of the Federal Union.

We recommend the organization of Union combinations, for the purpose of securing the benefit of mutual counsel and advice, and the restoration of law and order; of promoting the general welfare, and securing the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity; of assisting the civil and military authorities, by furnishing reliable information, such as may be needed to guard them against imposition from rebel sympathizers; and of aiding the government of the United States in every way, to the fullest extent of our ability, in suppressing this unjustifiable, unnecessary and monstrous rebellion.

We go for a vigorous prosecution of the war, until the rebels throw down their arms, without conditions, and for depriving the rebel master of his slave, and every other species of property, as one of the measures of punishment for his treason. We heartily approve of, and hereby pledge ourselves to the support of the President of the United States, in all measures deemed needful for the suppression of the rebellion.

We are for depriving disloyal citizens, and seditious office seekers of the Northern States, of all temptation to bid for Southern votes, by establishing the policy, once for all, that no one now in arms against the Government, or in any way in the interest of the rebellion, and especially no disloyal slaveholder, shall ever share in ruling the destinies of this nation at the ballot box,

until at least as much time has elapsed as is required of unbiased and unprejudiced foreigners before exercising the same franchise; or until it shall become evident, that in their family and social circles, feelings of patriotism have supplanted those of treason. And inasmuch as so many of the once honored citizens of Arkansas, have proved themselves recreant, and unable to appreciate a good Government, we cordially invite the lovers of freedom in every land to settle in our midst, and unite with us in perpetuating the blessings of republican institutions. And we do now declare it to be the duty of all Union men, throughout the State, to exert their influence so as to shape our institutions, as to give every possible inducement to immigration.

We do most solemnly affirm, as the result of our lifelong acquaintance, and of our intimate familiarity with all its workings, that the institution of slavery tends to dishonor labor and smother enterprise; is incompatible with an intelligent public policy, sound morality, the safety and permanency of the republic, the development of the resources of the State; that it roots out the industrious, and has the effect of lessening and degrading the laboring white population of the country.

We, therefore, hold it to be the true interests of the people of the commonwealth to abolish slavery at the earliest practicable period within which the emancipation of slaves can be effected, with safety to slaves and justice to loyal masters.

We would, once, have earnestly protested against any outside or inside illegal interference with the

"institution," but inasmuch as its votaries were not satisfied with "well-enough-to-do," and in their madness, sought to destroy the country, we now declare it in the last stages of an agonizing death, and that too, the result of wounds inflicted upon its carcass by weapons in the hands of its friends!

It is furthermore recommended, that citizens of all classes take under consideration the probability of the African, and his descendants, in this country being used by the white race under some other system or systems of labor, more beneficial to both races than that which has prevailed heretofore. Slavery, in its present form, or any other, is barbaric in its character, therefore *must* and *will* disappear, before a great while, throughout the extent of this country, and all others, where the onward march of mind prevails.

These facts being patent and self-evident, we declare it to be the duty of all who value the future, to at once acknowledge the freedom of their slaves, and in good faith set about preparing for the transition from owner to employer, from chattel to laborer. Hesitation and delay is suicidal; why be crushed by the avalanche when timely warned, and you see it descending upon you?

The transition suggested will operate as beneficially as it is easy to adopt; there will in consequence, be no fewer laborers, nor none the less profits. Proper police regulations, and the *lex-loci* established for the new state of affairs, and the old notions entertained about the two races not living in the same country will soon vanish. Under wholesome regulations, time

will soon remove the silly idea and contemptible gabble about "negro equality," and order will spring out of chaos.

It is declared, and honestly believed, that the natural results of the war will be to strengthen the Government, create a powerful and permanent Nationality, will demonstrate the main argument relied upon in defense of slavery—that of the ruling power resting with superior mentality—and the establishment of a new and better social system in the South, between the employed and the employer!

To the consideration of all cool, candid, and thinking men, the foregoing is most respectfully submitted. Who will be so untrue to himself and posterity as to deny the great changes through which we are passing, and refuse to benefit thereby? *Amicus humani generis*—or a friend to the human race—would hope there were none so blind.

## DETECTIVES AND GOVERNMENT AIDS.

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Under this head something should be said relative to the manner of conducting this department of Government service.

In this, as in view of the fighting qualities of residents heretofore shown, nothing can be more evident than the superior qualifications of those intimate with the country and the people. The appointment of men as secret agents, who are totally ignorant, or in a great measure so, of the peculiarities and local character of men and things in the district to which they are assigned for duty, is in every sense detrimental to the best interests of Government, and betrays a lack of wisdom. What would the Mayor of New York think of a man from Arkansas, a total stranger, who should introduce and urge his claims to a position as a police detective in the city? Would he not be considered insane? Undoubtedly, he would, and yet this is a parallel case with most appointments South in Government employ.

Smuggling, and rascallity against the Government in various ways, and to a great extent, are going on, and have been successfully practised between Helena and Memphis, and in those places for several months, and still the main operators are undetected. The parties, their whereabouts, and the *modus operandi*, were well known to substantial friends of the Government—resi-

dents of the country—who reported facts time and again to the authorities, who in turn would generally refer them to the detectives, with whom, nothing satisfactory could be effected, and thus matters would rest. Much evidence existed of complicity between the smugglers and detectives, or, at any rate, the latter would either neglect to benefit by the hints often given to them, or in attempting to ferret the matter upon their own knowledge, would leak out the secret to the guilty parties. Not knowing persons, who to question or address, they frequently made revelations calculated to defeat their whole designs.

We do not intend any particular or special personalities in our remarks, but merely to throw out some hints, with a view of calling public attention to a subject of vast importance to the country. Government cannot exercise too much caution in making appointments in this department of service. The love of making money is so prevalent, and the temptations are so strong, that men who go South—as many do—for gain rather than love of country, are not to be trusted implicitly. The questions almost invariably asked, upon returning North, from a tour of service South, are, “Did you make any money while you was gone?” “You made quite a handsome thing of it, didn’t you?”

Those who live and have their homes down in rebeldom, and have felt the pain and penalties of having to abandon their homes and families, on account of their loyalty, are much less disposed to favor any thing calculated to benefit the rebels, and are, therefore, not so subject to bribery and purchase, as those who offer their services for considerations purely pecuniary—having given no evidence of loyalty, only that of living North. The history of the

war, however, amply bears out the conclusion that living North is no evidence of loyalty.

We are happy to know that loyal Southern men are employed in some instances, and we are happy, also, to know of no instance of treachery on their part, when employed by the Government; hence, we insist upon their being employed in all instances where they can be obtained. It is due to them, in every point of view, and their capability and honesty, in every particular, cannot be doubted by any unbiased mind.

Those who reside in the South, will, usually, answer for secret agents in other portions, much better than non-residents; but it is much more preferable, when practicable, to select those acquainted in the immediate vicinity. Being personally known to those whom they are to watch, can be no objection, if their business is concealed, as it always should be, and they understand their duties.

The same considerations apply with equal force to Provost Marshals, especially as far as relates to the necessity of a knowledge of the people with whom they have to deal. If all were enemies it would be very different. To avoid injustice to the loyal, and to understand how to determine properly between friends and foes, requires a correct knowledge of circumstances, the history and character of individuals. Nothing can seem to us more obvious, and we shall continue to hope for improvement in this, to us, most important department of Government service. The most reliable and efficient should be selected from among residents, as it is believed to be indispensable in the early establishment of law and order. Bad men are more readily obtained, and really good men are often contaminated by office.

Honesty, long practiced in office in *civil* times, may be considered of rare occurrence in our country, if we consider the record of public and private swindles, and also, the fact, that money is the god, and fashion the goddess of the country; then how much more the influence in *war* times, and the necessity of constant vigilance? We are gratified to know, however, and take pleasure in referring to it, that these things are being looked after, and that as well, perhaps, as circumstances will permit. But we wish to add, that too much vigilance cannot be exercised for the safety of the public.

A long opportunity for observation has enabled us to make many discoveries of treachery, especially in Helena and its vicinity, where there seems to have been quite a field for all kinds of operations, guerrillas faring as well as others, and sharing equal in profits. Whose fault it was, we are not prepared to say; it was of such general character, we are not disposed to individualize, but shall as an instance among many that might be given, name some of the particulars of one certain case.

The following note was addressed to a certain General, and signed officially.

General ——— :

SIR: I consider it my duty to state that I am in possession of facts, relative to a band of smugglers, who have their headquarters in Memphis, and have been doing quite a large business in Arkansas. I have been collecting facts and watching movements sometime. I now hold myself ready and prepared to ferret out the whole matter, when detailed and clothed with authority.

Yours most obedient.

The General referred the author of the note to a certain Government detective, who, he said, would be down from Memphis in a day or two. The detective came to Helena,

several interviews were held, but nothing effected. In the meantime, he made several trips to Memphis, doing nothing in the matter to the knowledge of the author of the note, but at length agreed to meet at a certain time on the mail boat, to arrange the matter. The call was made as agreed upon; he was in his state-room—the door closed—when the announcement of the presence of some one was made, he opened the door enough to see who it was, and then abruptly closed it, giving no explanation. Thus ended the negotiation with the detective.

The following note was immediately, thereafter, addressed to the General, who never responded, and at last accounts, the smugglers were doing well; this transpired several months ago:

*General* ——:

SIR: My conference with the detective, to whom you recently referred me, in relation to a certain matter, has resulted in my conviction of another instance of consummate stupidity, or duplicity of action, on the part of Government employees.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient,

The above case shows, to some extent, the indisposition—which we have referred to, and complained of in other pages, so frequently—manifested by some parties to respect and appreciate resident intelligence. The individual who addressed the above notes to the General, is a resident of Arkansas, and held a commission in the army at the time.

As additional evidence in regard to these things, and as an expose of the ignorance of officers, we will close this chapter by giving an account of an incident which occurred last fall, in Helena. Many more of a similar

character could be given, but are preserved for a work which may appear in the future.

A certain Colonel accidentally became possessed of a very peculiar and strangely arranged bundle of sticks. They were found in the vicinity of the town, and considered by the Colonel a mysterious and dangerous scheme of the enemy to communicate intelligence through the lines. The Colonel concealed the bundle carefully, and at once hastened to the Provost's office, in order, if possible, through the assistance of that sagacious and learned official, to discover the secret contained in the mysterious bundle.

The Colonel, the Provost, and a Captain, who was an assistant Provost, and supposed to be quite a connoisseur in mysterious things, especially confiscated whiskey; and also a detective gentleman—imported from north of the Ohio, because of his *intuitive* knowledge of things in "Secessia"—constituted a group, which might have been seen seated systematically around a small table, in a closed back room, seriously engaged in unfolding, counting and measuring the contents of the mysterious bundle, and deciphering the strange cabalistic names written on a piece of paper carefully wrapped around each stick.

There were just *nine* sticks, round and smooth, of fractional differences, from seven to eleven inches in length. There were, consequently, just *nine* strips of paper, and *nine* names, which were as follows: "Abe," "Buck," "Cely," "Dave," "Ed.," "Fanny," "George," "Harry," "Ike." Truly, a mysterious combination! *Nine* sticks of *nine* different lengths, ranging from *seven* to *eleven* inches; *nine* papers

with *nine* different names, commencing with the *nine* first letters of the alphabet—making altogether, perhaps, the most complete puzzle-fool yet discovered in Rebeldom.

After the most astute investigation of an hour or two's duration, a fruitless attempt to dissolve the mystery and account for the "trick of a contrivance," the much puzzled gentlemen adjourned, still carefully concealing the intricate and mysterious bundle from the public eye. This was important, for if anything should be said about it outside, the "rebs" might be notified of what had happened to their "secret telegraph line," and escape the "Yankee trap" which now, perhaps, could be set to catch them. Besides—thought they—if some of these Arkansas Union soldiers should happen to see the mysterious bundle, or hear anything of it, they might reveal the mystery to the "entire satisfaction" of the country and the discomfiture of the gentlemen themselves.

Matters thus rested for some days; in the meantime, however, efforts were made, but no one could be found within the circle of intelligence embracing the arena of the Provost's private back room, who was able to unravel and fully explain the wonders in the bundle of sticks. Many suggestions were offered, and numerous interpretations rendered concerning its probable purposes, by the different gentlemen composing the board of investigation. All arrived at different conclusions, and could not agree upon anything as a finality, or as a true key to unlock the secret—every attempt proving abortive—the result was naturally a dilemma.

The Colonel declared it was "a portion of a new method of telegraphing, invented by the rebels under

great necessity." The Provost entertained the opinion that it was "a species of 'pass,' contrived by the rebels within the lines, to send out by discharged and paroled 'bush-whackers,' giving the strength of the Post." The Assistant Provost rather inclined to the notion that "undoubtedly the writing on the strips of paper was by the hand of a lady, and was therefore used by the fair sex for the purpose of sending their love to their husbands, sweet hearts, etc., in the rebel service."

Our detective gentleman, very naturally, after hearing the learned and critical views of his comrades, assisted by his own *intuitive* understanding, could see his way clear to a discovery of the important secret involved in the mysterious bundle. Accordingly he made an early opportunity to call upon a lady of known rebel proclivities, to whom he addressed himself as a former acquaintance of her husband, who was then absent in the rebel army.

After the usual exchange of ceremonies about family and "horrible war" matters, he introduced his "base of operations" by stating that "he had been thinking a long time about a scheme or plan of communications, by which all information any one wished could be readily transmitted through the lines of the 'Feds,' without the least danger of detection." At the earnest solicitation of the lady, and after some pretended hesitation, he detailed the particulars contained in the mysterious bundle of sticks. The lady remarked, with a smile and inquisitive manner, that "his plan reminded her of a mode the Southern planters had of carrying to town the measure of their Negroes' feet when they went to purchase shoes for them;" adding, "she thought he must have seen some-

thing of that kind somewhere, or certainly he could not be a Southern man."

The reader can guess the looks and feelings of our sagacious and fox-like detective about that time, and the "utter route" of the Colonel, when he received the astounding information, through an immediate and "official report," in these overwhelming words:

"Colonel, the mysterious bundle of sticks is the *d—dest mare's nest* out of hell or rebeldom!!"

## RETROSPECTIVE.

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### REASONS FOR WRITING THE WORK, AND GENERAL CLOSING REMARKS.

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When we commenced writing upon the subjects composing this little work, it was not intended for publication. We merely thought, in the first place, of a written manifest or vindication of the rights of the men belonging to the Second Arkansas Cavalry, who we were identified with, and whose interests and welfare we could not feel at liberty to pass as of no consequence. We thought of laying the whole matter before the General Commanding, as an official communication, asking for his consideration and action in the premises. Under such an idea much of the matter was written, thinking by such means, to awaken an interest in the minds of those in power. Subsequent experience, however, satisfied us such an effort would prove nugatory. On several occasions documents setting forth facts, were forwarded, but to no decided effect.

Our causes for complaint were so obvious, so conspicuous, and indeed, so notorious, yet so little regarded, we could not fail being unfavorably impressed towards those supposed to have charge of our interests. It was certain to all concerned that something was wrong, but there

seemed to be no remedy. It was also evident, that there existed a deep seated error in the minds of many, concerning the true feelings and status of a large portion of the people of Arkansas. To remove this as much as possible, and in justice to those who were so unfavorably connected with the service of the country—as their sad story herein detailed, sets forth—it seemed imperatively necessary to make an appeal to the public. To do so in a manner likely to have the desired effect, or in any degree remedy the wrongs and errors complained of, it required an advocate, perhaps, of more ability than would be found willing to engage in, seemingly, so dubious a task. At best it might prove an ungrateful undertaking, bringing as a reward, neither honor nor comfort. But let all this be as it might, it was nevertheless believed to be the duty of some one to make the attempt, and rely for success upon the justice and merits of the cause.

After mature deliberation, and a consciousness of duty, with a lively sense of responsibilities, individual feebleness to do the cause justice, and a disregard for public criticism, the work was begun, and now as it is ended, such as it is, the public must judge of its merit. It has necessarily been changed in appearance from the original design of publication, and contains some matter rendered very near or quite superfluous, by passing occurrences subsequent to the writing, and the nature of the subjects treated upon.

We have endeavored to avoid personalities, as much as possible, consistent with the facts; our whole purpose being a defense of loyal Arkansians, and justice to the Government. “My whole country, right or wrong,” is our motto.

When under the influence and control of the so-called Confederacy, we were not at liberty to express, either by pen or tongue any opinions adverse to the public standard established by that authority. We have always been impressed with the idea that the "Stars and Stripes" afforded the fullest protection to the liberty of speech and the freedom of the press; but these war times have made it imperative upon the part of the Government, for self-protection, as well as on the part of the rebellion against it, to suppress opposition from tongue and pen, as well as from sword and artillery. That impression relative to the emblem of our liberties and National glory has not been, and we hope never will be effaced from the tablet of our mind by anything real or imaginary on the part of the Government; but an allowance must be made in all cases for the circumstances by which we are surrounded. It seems that it should be obvious to every one, that what would be a wrong at one time, would be a righteous act at another time; and under circumstances of a different character, nothing can be more apparent than the necessity of quite antipodal proceedings.

Many persons complain of tyranny and despotism, as being exercised on the part of the Federal authorities in the suppression of the rebellion. In peaceful days of obedience to law—gone by—such charges against such acts as are undoubtedly perpetrated daily, would be just and forcible, but as things are, and as the unprejudiced mind must observe them—such objections are captious and worthless. It is true, some abuses may, and no doubt are practiced, more or less, by all concerned, but when a country is involved in mortal conflict for and against itself, as our people unfortunately are, it is folly to talk

of abuses. Nothing short of inflexible rigidity, carried out with indomitable energy on the part of the Government, will ever reduce this wide-spread and unscrupulous rebellion. The cry of despotism from loyalists, indicates weakness, or their ignorance of the unavoidable results of war; from rebels the cry will always be proportioned to the energy and determinate acts of the Federals—so long as they don't complain, of course, they are not much hurt.

It will be observed that the rebels invariably cry despotism, and uncivilized warfare, when any of their vital cords are in danger of being severed. It is natural for a wail of agony to burst forth, when pain is experienced—the more they cry, the heavier should be laid on the rod of chastisement. There is such a thing as kindness overcoming evil machinations, and the milk of humanity seems to suggest such a remedy, but a people so imbued with the one idea—that of “victory or death”—as the rebels are, must not only be whipped, but satisfied that they are whipped.

Now, how is this to be done? Our military gentlemen of course know, it would not be allowable to think otherwise. It is presumable, however, that proceedings, generally, are not entirely favorable to that conclusion. There are many things said, no doubt, which are not true, but if we are to credit our senses, and exercise common observation, we cannot help but conclude that all is not right, and that correction is important to our success. “Success,” it may be asked, “does any one doubt it?” In reply, it may justly be remarked, that it is not the justice of a cause which gives it success, but the might and management of its friends. Recrimination or fault-

finding is not our purpose or desire, but we would earnestly labor in an humble manner to remove abuses of privilege and position, and restore, as much as possible, the affairs of our common country to a state of law, order and decency.

When that much desired day will arrive, rests among the secrets of the future, but in the meantime, let us throw as few clogs as possible in the onward path to triumph and complete success of the National cause. Acquiesce and abide the end.

*"Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis. Silent leges inter arma."* —

"The times are changed and we are changed with them—The laws are silent amidst arms."

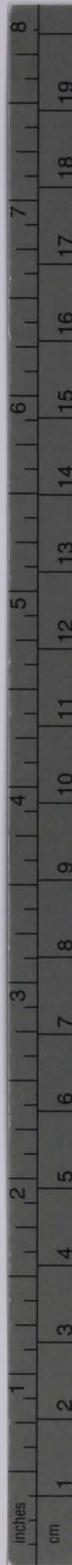


# Kodak Gray Scale

A 1 2 3 4 5 6 M 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 B 17 18 19

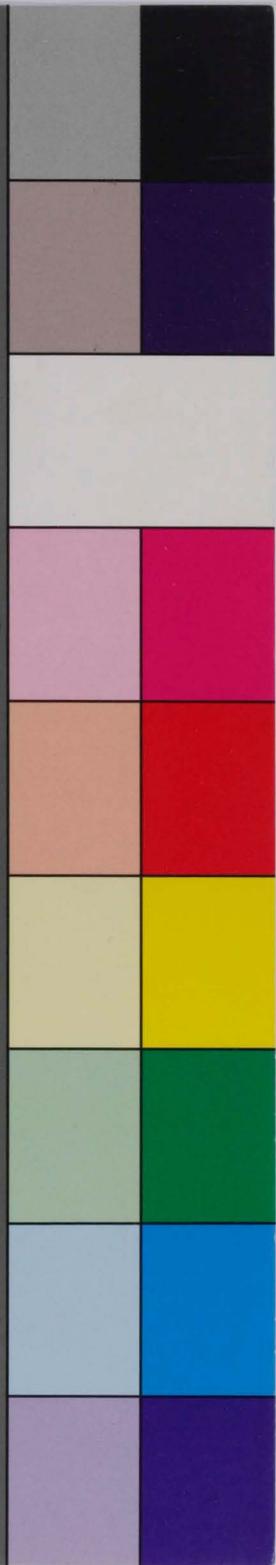


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# Kodak Color Control Patches

Blue Cyan Green Yellow Red Magenta White 3/Color Black



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Target FC-1C

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