

## The South.

From the *Examiner* (Democratic, Eng.), Flying Post, January 1861.

### THE MAGAZINES.

"The Convulsion of America" is the most conspicuously interesting article in Blackwood for January, and it is the best interesting and able diagnosis of the late American Republic which has yet appeared. It is frank and outspoken, and Mr. Bright's recent speech at Rochdale will have given the Americans the opinion of the anti-English party—the opinion of those who, with the faith of fanatics, still believe in those democratic institutions which we refuse to fall down and worship—this article will give them the judgment of the country at large. The author goes plainly where England stands in their civil war, and what she thinks of British institutions in general, and says all what she thinks of the spirit in which, on the part of the North, this war is being carried on for the maintenance of those impractical institutions.

We believe Blackwood only expresses the general sentiments of Englishmen when it disowns relationship with "the performers in the absurd and barbarous dances which the Americans now enter into round its idol of Freedom." We are more than ready to accept every word of "Mammon Jimble"; when it denounces every virtue worth the name before the separation between North and South; and adds that "every day tends to justify a judgment and policy of the South in withdrawing from a system the results of which are what we contemporaneously witness." Public opinion in this country has considerably changed since poor Sir James Russell was called to account for referring to the bursting of the Republican bubble. And we say, "We are all ready to join in a dissolution of absolute Government; but when did any civilized state Government show less regard for our indulgence than the American Republic? Is King Mob a more agreeable or remittible despot than King Francis?"

The gravest charge against absolutism is, that it may place the liberties of the people and the conduct of public affairs in the hands of weak and incapable men. But to what extent can we look for traitors in the ranks fit to wield the destructive weapons in the obscure and commanding man whose decrees now stand in the place of public law in the North? It may be said that at least he is the choice of the nation. But was he chosen by the intelligence of the nation? Or, to take lower ground, does he represent the material interests and responsibilities of the nation? Not at all; he is the choice of a numerical majority of people who have derived the principal advantages to themselves from the sum of Europe.

Are the best Americans willing to accept Mr. Alabamian Lincoln and Mr. W. H. Seward as their best men? If not, can they submit better men? If they cannot, what other proof is needed of the infelicities of their boasted institution? An imbecile exists above a rascal, purposes multitude below, linked together like a kite tied to a balloon, and drifting at the mercy of the air currents, while responsibility, moderation and sense are pushed aside, and dragged helplessly along. The Model Republic! A gallant army whose energies have been displayed chiefly in flight—a treacherous, whose judges are overlooked by enemies—disinherited patriots, that requires to be bribed with eight per cent.—a united nation, where the elements of dissolution are ripe—a practical people, who are spending more than they possess for an object which they cannot attain—such are a few of the results of the most remarkable institutions that have been recommended for our imitation, as immense improvements, on our own."

On the question looming not far in the distance—the recognition of the Southern Confederation, *Rue de l'Asile*, "What reason is there that we should longer sacrifice our own interests and the interests of justice, to an extreme contumacious for the mortal irritability of an arrogant people? If we are at any rate, even of the number of the South, let us lead do something to secure the independence of the South. And the South, so far as we can see, deserve recognition, independence and sympathy. Their only crime has been a desire to take no further part in a system to which not even the letter, far less the spirit of the law can prove that they were bound by any principle stronger than convenience and the operation of which they declare to have been intolerable oppressive. It is natural that they should object to such a system. Individuals, as they are, have a right to their destinies independent of a Cabinet, and much as that of the North, when, as they have shown, they can do so much better for themselves."

Our Union and devotion have been shown not merely by the Southern troops, but by the entire population. They appear to bear their privations with uncommon cheerfulness and courage. They make no querulous appeals for sympathy nor complaints of neglect. They speak of successes with modesty and express a kind of vindictiveness prominent in the measures of their enemies. A war between England and the North, will, at least, have the good effects of shortening the sufferings and hastening the independence of a people who are proving themselves very capable of self-government, who will, once assume a creditable position among nations, and who will act as a permanent check on Northern turbulence. As a companion article we give a sketch of a number of cases of a traveller who spent six months last year in the country giving an interesting particular of the state of health of the people to the English Crown, of their trade and commerce, and of their relations with the mother country, in many respects certainly not what they ought to be.

### THE THREATENINGS OF HUNGER.

There is a half-masted apparatus thrown out of employment on an almost daily basis in Lancashire alone, and some section on the part of the British Government, to put an end to the American war—so far as the claims before the Hon. Mr. Massy, M. P., their representation in the House of Commons, etc., go, that is to say from these Thirty Thousand who have given up their posts. The echo of the "I am a Briton" from the One Hundred thousand who have given up their posts in Lancashire, etc., showed the other day, had become so great that the Minister of State to his face, in the necessary measures of relief, at the expense of the Government. The Mr. Sharp and the others, who are known to have got significant promises of aid, otherwise, before the French Chambers, must have been equally successful as Mr. Massy, as far as the British House of Commons, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, etc., are concerned. He has, however, known of employment have been cut off by the war, and the capital, as well as the rest of England, France, and not with out some loss, in order of history needs to be remedied. The are more to be dreaded than a foreign war, and in view of the new prospect of some such war, as it stands upon the stage, there are indications, indications that a strong pressure is about to be brought to bear on the two governments, to force them to break the blockade, and especially the case of the rebel Confederacy.

Parliament and the French Chambers are both in session by this time, and upon their action,

thus, hang events, the far-reaching results of which no man can foretell. The middling classes of the British people, we think, are with us, but with the upper class, it is difficult to break up the upper middle, the danger is, that the middling class must be crushed between the upper and lower middle. As to France, similar influences, there, may be working out similar results. The Emperor, apparently, is with us, but whether he can withstand the cry for work and bread, is a question the near future must determine.—*N. Y. Express.*

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