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## ART. I.—THE SECESSION OF THE SOUTH.

THE SECESSION OF THE SOUTH AND A NEW CONFEDERATION NECESSARY TO THE PRESERVATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTY AND SOCIAL MORALITY.

[It is unnecessary for us to say how far we agree or disagree with the sentiments of our correspondent "Python," who has, during the past two years, prepared a series of papers, which have been very widely read and commented upon.

In the conduct of the REVIEW, it is the fixed and invariable habit of the editor to allow contributors to express their sentiments boldly and without reserve, and he has never hesitated, in the same spirit, to give publication to the reply as well as to the attack, *it being understood that the pages of the REVIEW are always open to the discussion of questions involving the rights and duties of the South.*

In the particular matter of Mr. Douglas, the Republican party, etc., we may, however, have occasion to say something in the editorial pages of the present issue of the REVIEW, which will indicate a shade of difference between our correspondent Python and ourself.—ED.]

SIR : Having unfolded the designs of Black-republicanism, and traced their sequences politically, to the subversion of the Republic and the establishment of Empire, and socially, to the prostration of the domestic altar and the universal spread of concubinage ; ending on the one hand, in dictatorial tyranny, and on the other hand, in the most iniquitous pollutions ; as the inevitable fruits of a government without a constitution, or a principle of conservatism, and of a society without a patriarchal institution, or an element of subordination ; let us now consider the consequences to be derived, in both respects, from the Southern Secession of a new Confederation.

it was necessary to remove all her wales, the sheer-strake, and a considerable portion of her top-sides. Large quantities of fungus covered her timbers. The *Isis*, built in 1840, seven years afterward, had seventy-eight timbers taken out rotten; all the ceiling in the hold: mast-steps, and timber-strakes, were also decayed. Several other cases, even of a recent date, might be cited to show that the British navy is not rot-proof; but we will turn from the navy to the merchant service.

The West India Mail steamers Clyde, Tweed, Tay and Teviot, all first-class vessels, built without regard to cost, within the past six years, in consequence of dry rot, have had to be repaired at an expense of \$300,000. There is little doubt that dry rot is more general among British than American shipping, and that the latter last longer because built of more durable materials. The British generally fasten and season their ships more carefully than we do, and provide them with better pumps, and heavier ground tackle, and to these, not to the superiority of timber, may be attributed their age. We refer to the mercantile marine alone; our navy, we contend, though small, is the model navy of the world in the durability of its ships, and to keep it so, is the object of exposing any of its defects that may come to light, with a view of having them guarded against in future. The *Scientific American*, which copied the facts in relation to the *Minnesota* from the *Traveller*, will probably be as much surprised as we were to see that they have been urged as an argument against the durability of American ship-timber.—*Boston Traveller*.

## 2.—SLAVERY IN BRAZIL—THE PAST AND FUTURE.

A very interesting letter recently appeared in the *Charleston Mercury*, written by a correspondent at Rio Janeiro, who signs himself J. R. H. It exhibits the empire of Brazil as affected by slavery in a manner which has never been done before, and we commend the letter to the attention of our readers:

"Brazil and the Southern United States of North America are the only sovereign governments of the Western Hemisphere that protect, by law, the institution of African slavery, Cuba being but a colony of Spain. The progress and present condition of this empire, so rich with nature's choicest gifts, are then to us matters worthy of investigation. Unfortunately, at the outset, we encounter the difficulty of obtaining information, and it becomes necessary to draw one's inference from works written either by Northerners or Europeans. The volumes of Herndon and Gibbon relate more directly to the Amazon and its tributaries, while Maury's letters are glowing word-pictures of what that region might be. The best American book is, perhaps, by Kidder and Fletcher, two missionaries who came to Brazil to distribute Bibles and preach to sailors. It is not a part of my intention to consider the amount of good done, and the number of Catholics converted by these gentlemen—though the dropping of Bibles in Brazilian highways would seem to promise the same success as the attempt to catch sparrows by sprinkling salt on their tails. Messrs. Kidder and Fletcher—for it is impossible to separate the two in their joint authorship—have what may be mildly called, 'free-soil' tendencies, and all, therefore, they say on the subject of slavery, must be taken *cum grano salis*.

"The slave-trade with Africa was finally and positively suppressed in 1850, and so far as I can learn, there is now no natural increase to the slave population of the country. The planters of Brazil are sorely put to it for labor, and slaves are as valuable as they are with us. Advocates for the re-opening of the trade with Africa are numerous, and a journal of Rio Janeiro advises it as the only remedy for the growing evil.

"The exports of Brazil are valued at sixty millions of dollars, about half what our cotton crop sells for, yet Brazil has over three millions of slaves, about the number we have. Hence we make more of our labor than she does. There has been an undeniable increase in the amount of her productions since 1850, due doubtless to the improved expertness of the negroes in cultivating the land, and the increased investments in coffee estates over those of sugar and cotton. This decided improvement in the agricultural returns of the country has been receiv-

ed by abolitionists as an omen of total emancipation—upon such sandy foundations do these emissaries of Exeter Hall and New-England agrarianism build their castles in the air. A Brazilian gentleman, not interested in agriculture, one who had travelled both in our country and in Europe, assures me that this probability is so remote as to become an impossibility so long as the present form of government lasts. The suppression of the African slave-trade, and the utter absence of natural increase, may obliterate slavery; but that a country will hasten the consummation of such disaster to the very source of her commercial existence, I am not willing to believe—a country ruled by a man who is not the mere expedient of party exigencies, but the constitutional representative of a nation of slaveholders. Unfortunately, the constitution of Brazil makes all men equal, if they be free, be they black men or white men. The levelling effects of such laws need no demonstration. Plunge Brazil into a political revolution, and destroy the present Imperial government, and her army, composed for the best part of free negroes, will soon dictate its terms of emancipation to the nation, and the empire be converted into another Venezuela.

“The decrease in the slave population of this country may be attributed to other causes than that of climate. The inequality of the sexes has had undoubtedly its fatal effects. Marriage, it may be presumed, is hardly an institution where there is but one woman to every three men. This, I am told, is the case among the slaves in Brazil. A race so placed can neither improve in morals or in numbers. A little foresight in the introduction of a larger proportion of females from Africa would have prevented this evil—an evil that exists to a frightful extent in Cuba, where a generation of slaves is exhausted in seven years. If the present ratio of decrease is to continue in this empire, we may expect it to assume an increased per-centage. The demand for labor in the city of Rio de Janeiro is already depopulating the plantations, in its immediate vicinity. When once in town, the slave has greater opportunities of making money wherewith to buy his freedom—a right given him by the civil law of the land. Once free, he may become a Prime Minister; he generally, however, degenerates into a soldier in the Imperial army, and becomes, instead of a producer, an idle and perhaps dangerous consumer.

“The Amazon region with that of its tributaries must remain undeveloped until slave labor finds its way to the banks of those mighty waters. The tendency of that labor is at present to pass from that portion of the empire to the coffee-growing provinces of the South. Attempts to introduce other than African labor have been fruitless in their results. We, who are blessed with even a less tropical climate, need no assurances of the probability of such a failure. The rich bottom lands of the Amazon harbor, amidst their luxuriant vegetation, cause miasmas that are deadly to the white man. The sun, that scorches with untempered fervor the hill-sides of the Parahyba, is not the one the blue-eyed Teuton would prosper and labor under. Had Brazil twenty millions of slaves Amazonia might become indeed a paradise. With the Anglo-American as the master of the soil, and with that race as his bondsman, which God has given us in earnest trust for their welfare, she might realize all that her natural fertility suggests. As Brazil is, she has not the power to wrestle with European prejudices. A race which has so large an admixture of caste has not the essential qualities of progressive development; hence ignorance, superstition, and social and political inharmoniousness; and with all of these, worst of all, licensed amalgamation, the raising up a hybrid race with titles to rule and govern—a nation who, as people, never had, or never can have either a history or a literature.

“Men who have been years in Brazil deem that this is the time when she stands upon the mountain-top of her prosperity, and that in a few years more she will commence to descend into the valley of decay. Certain this is, her existence depends upon the development of her slave labor, and the increase of her wealth is to be measured by its welfare and extension. England’s omnipresent navy is hard by to prevent the introduction of more slaves, and we have an occasional old frigate or truculent little brig to lend a hand. Motives of political and domestic economy may induce us to prohibit the introduction of slaves

into our own country, but the soundness and constitutionality of the policy of forcing our opinions upon another nation (a weaker one, too) with shot and shell, is to be questioned. When, through the agency of her navy and her diplomacy, England may have reduced Brazil to the condition of her own Jamaica, we presume she will rest contented ; but it is for us, at least of the South, to say how far we will share in the hellish work. To us who have struggled for wiser provisions, the example of the present condition of Brazil may warn us of the dangers we have escaped, amidst the storms of fanaticism which have beset us. May we, too, be taught the value of truth, unity, and boldness, in maintaining our rights in the future."

### 3.—SLAVE LIFE PREFERRED BY NEGROES.

A few days ago, Ben. H. Baker, Esq., says the *Montgomery, Alabama, Mail*, visited the city, and caused to be introduced a bill, in the Legislature, by which twelve free negroes are allowed to become slaves. The bill passed both Houses, and was signed by the Governor—the speedy transaction of the affair being caused, mainly, by the entire confidence which members of both Houses (in which he has frequently served, hitherto), have in the personal integrity and fine intelligence of Mr. Baker. The facts are briefly these : these negroes, men, women, and children, have been reared by Mr. Young Edwards, of Russell county, and have always lived with him as servants. Lately, some one informed these negroes that, being free, the Sheriff would be required to expel them, under a provision of the Code, within thirty days. At this they were greatly alarmed, and protested that they were unwilling to leave their master, and were perfectly willing to remain as his slaves, and in fact preferred it. Mr. Baker visited the negroes, explained to them their position and rights fully ; and the upshot was, they induced him to come and lay their case before the Legislature, asking it to allow them to become the slaves of Mr. Edwards. The bill was accordingly passed. It provides that the Probate Court of Russell shall have the negroes brought before it, and diligently take testimony to ascertain if any undue influence has been used to obtain their consent to become slaves ; and upon being satisfied that they, wittingly and with full knowledge of their rights, desire to enter a state of servitude, shall decree them to be the slaves of the person they may choose to be their owner.

These negroes know what their own best interest is. They will be better fed and clothed than ever Horace Greeley or Lucy Stone was, before those worthies made money by shovelling the filth of fanaticism ; they will be better rewarded for their labor, than any operative in any cotton mill, in all Lawrence ; and, in sickness and old age, forever, will be tended carefully, and surrounded with all necessary comforts. And so they don't choose to go into the wretchedness, privation, and squalor of free negro life in the North.

### 4.—THE OLD TOWN OF GOLIAD, TEXAS.

Those who have lived for some years in this State, are acquainted with the history of the old town of Goliad or La Bahia. It was founded at an early period after the arrival of the Spaniards in Texas. The town is on the west bank of the San Antonio river. It once contained near three thousand inhabitants. During the war between Spain and Mexico, Gutierrez was besieged in the Mission by a large Spanish force, but beat them off.

The missionary priests had in charge a large number of Indians. These were controlled by overseers, and compelled to work. Many of them acquired considerable property in cattle and horses. By frequent intermarriages with Mexicans, and casualties, these tribes have almost disappeared.

Goliad was at one time a place of business. The trade carried on between it and the Rio Grande towns was by no means inconsiderable. It was a sort of half-way house between different points for the transfer and barter of merchandise and various products. There was a custom-house near the old Mission fort, the ruins of which yet remain.

The church proper consists of an oblong room, about twenty by eighty. It is now used for worship. The church fixtures and adornments are plain and un-