

Pine Bluff, Ark. Feb. 12 1878
Dear Judge,

Help comes in very gratifying
No person has sent in any
thing in a way of notice
unless they have taken pains
to eulogize you in the
highest, Judge you are in
the hearts of the good American
people, because you are
a humanitarian as well
as a Christian. I have
and my letter, came to me
with a full heart, I enclose
you a clipping from the
Daily Gazette showing
you how our white friends
are exercised for help and
cannot do any thing, although
here in the South where
they the Whites get help. The
help does not reach the
Colored people, they divide
among themselves and sell
to the Nigger charge him up
with it and take it out of
his crop in the fall
I am your true friend

A. M. MIDDLEBROOKS,
PINE BLUFF, ARK.

The following paragraph is from a leading editorial in the Nashville, Tenn. *American*, on the death of Gen. Butler:

In our statute books many holidays are decreed. It was an egregious oversight that one on the occasion of the death of Ben Butler was not foreordained. It should be a day of merry-making. The "Beast" is dead. The cymbals should beat and the tin horn should get in its exultant work. Butler has gone where he can issue no more orders making the rape of Southern women a gala pastime. He has gone where there

are no more spoons to be stolen. He has gone where it is not in his power to order hanged Southern gentlemen for alleged treason against Butlerism. Good-bye, Ben! You strutted through a few temporal triumphs; now rest, if you can, in the brimstone glare of hell fire.

The *American* is the leading and most influential Democratic newspaper in Tennessee, a State that makes great profession of loyalty to the Union and has just re-elected Senator Bate to the U. S. Senate, who has boasted that he believed he was right when fighting the Union and still believed so, that he never had apologized for it and did not propose to do so in the future. He wanted but four words on his tombstone, viz: "He believed in secession." All of which is said and printed in the interests of peace and to prevent rekindling the embers left by the war.

We occasionally reproduce extracts from Southern newspapers and the speeches of statesmen to show the spirit that still lingers in the hearts of some of their leading and most influential people. The deaths of Grant, Sherman and Sheridan elicited some disgracefully malignant speeches and articles, but none of them have equalled those that have appeared since the death of Gen. Butler. The following is from the Nashville, Tenn., *American*, the leading Democratic newspaper in Tennessee:

Old Ben Butler is dead! Early yesterday morning the angel of death, acting under the devil's orders, took him from earth and landed him in hell. In all this southern country there are no tears, no sighs, and no regrets. He only lived too long. We are glad he has at last been removed from earth, and even pity the devil for the possession he has secured.

If there is a future of peace in store for Ben Butler, after his entrance upon eternity, then there is no heaven and the Bible is a lie. If hell be only as black as the good book describes it then there are not the degrees of punishment in which some Christians so firmly believe. He has gone, and from the sentence which has already been passed upon him there is no appeal. He is already so deep down in the pit of everlasting doom that he couldn't get the most powerful ear trumpet conceivable to scientists and hear the echoes of old Gabriel's trumpet, or fly a million kites and get a message to St. Peter, who stands guard at heaven's gate.

In our statute books many holidays are decreed. It was an egregious oversight that one on the occasion of the death of Ben Butler was not foreordained. The "Beast" is dead. The cymbles should beat and the tin horn should get in its work.

Such comments are the best testimonials to the efficiency and fidelity with which Gen. Butler performed his duties during the war.