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Mr. Holden versus Gov. Vance— The Issue What is it?

"The Standard is an independent, conservative paper, and is not the organ of either Presidents, Governors or Generals. It is due to Gov. Vance himself, as well as to the Standard, that we should state that he does not agree with us in our views on the subject of peace. He is as anxious as we are to see an honorable peace established at as early a day as possible; but he regards peace movements among ourselves, with no overtures of the kind from the north, as premature and injudicious. That he is honest and patriotic in these views, we have no doubt. Our views are well known to our readers. We believe that mere fighting will not bring peace. We are for speaking among the people and in the public councils for an honorable peace, while our soldiers in the field are fighting for peace. We think there can be no harm and no danger in our people responding to those in the north who are anxious for peace. We hold that peace movements, if we are ever to have peace again, must begin some time and somewhere; and that the two governments are so inflamed by the war spirit, and so intent on mere physical triumphs, that unless the people of the two sections rise up and demand that mental and moral means shall be resorted to, to close the war, those means may not be employed, and the war may be prolonged indefinitely. These views of ours may be erroneous, but they are honestly entertained. They do not separate us from Gov. Vance, for both of us hold that we cannot cease to fight as long as we are invaded. * * * Gov. Vance and the editor of the Standard are still on friendly terms, personally and politically; and we see no reason why we should not remain so."—*Raleigh Standard, July 29th, 1863.*

Afterwards Mr. Holden charged that an effort was being made in the army and by the administration to "beat Gov. Vance," and he said:

"We do not believe these machinations against Gov. Vance will succeed. We believe he will stand by his friends. He has never yet proved false to his pledges or to his friends."—*Raleigh Standard, August 19th 1863.*

Still later: "The Observer charges that the Standard and its party, expect to put up a candidate against Gov. Vance next summer." * * * We deny the charge and call for the proof. * * * We are a friend of Gov. Vance, and expect to remain so while he adheres to conservative principles; and how could we, under such circumstances, go about to 'put up' a candidate against him next summer?"—*Raleigh Standard, November 25th 1863.*

On the 22d day of February, 1864—on the same day that the "Holden Hook and Ladder Company" was parading Mr. Holden at Newbern, under the emblem of a "Silver Grey Fox"—Gov. Vance, by special invitation, was addressing an immense concourse of his fellow citizens, who had assembled to hear him, at Wilkesboro, on the condition of the country. In his speech, Gov. Vance said:

"A certain discontent has pervaded and a funeral gloom hung over the community engendering, if we credit a wide rumor throughout the State, a notion that we must have a Convention, that we must secede from the Southern Confederacy; that we must repudiate the whole thing, and go back and do our first work over again."

"A Convention is proposed by some. I have no denunciation to make of those who are moving this question. They are as sound men no doubt as I am—as you are—as any body—they are my friends; but I think it is wrong."

"If you think, fellow citizens, that proper efforts have not been made during this warfare to obtain the peace which you desire, why there cannot be any earthly objection to such efforts being made. I have been in favor of them myself, and from time to time have so advised the President. * * * But I beg you to recollect, that there is a lawful and legal

way pointed out by the Constitution of your country, and any effort you make in this way will be right and proper."—*Gov. Vance's Speech.*

Now here is the record. It discloses that up to the 29th of July, 1863, by Mr. Holden's own statement, that he and Gov. Vance were both anxious for peace, both honest and patriotic, as Mr. Holden claimed; that they differed in their views as to the mode of making a peace movement—Gov. Vance proposing to do it through the government—Mr. Holden, by meetings of the people; but, as Mr. Holden said, this difference did not separate them, and they remained personal and political friends.

On the 19th of August, Mr. Holden artfully charged others with machinating against Gov. Vance, and came out as his champion, to repel the attempts to divide them; and in full set phrase expressed his confidence that the Governor "will stand by his friends;" declaring for him that "he has never yet proved false to his pledges or to his friends."

According to Mr. Holden, then, Gov. Vance was true on the 19th of August.

On the 25th of November, Mr. Holden indignantly denounced the accusation that he would "put up" a candidate against Gov. Vance; declaring that he expected to support him, together "with a vast majority of the people of the State."

As the matter thus stood, it was hoped and believed by the good people of this State, that this summer there would be no political excitement—that Gov. Vance would be re-elected without opposition. His political opponents were willing, for the general welfare, to let the election go by default; and all appeared smooth, so far as any excitement growing out of the gubernatorial election was likely to occur. But in this moment of universal satisfaction, Mr. Holden, acting upon that self-conceited, self-consequential, self-important and self-inflated prompting which has been the bane of his life, begins to stir the mud—to raise a mere issue—a convention scheme—professedly for the purpose of peace; but secretly, for the purposes of Mr. Holden; and on the 3rd of March he develops the whole scheme, plot and contrivance, by putting himself—Mr. Holden—up for Governor of North Carolina! This is the whole operation. A more cunningly contrived political scheme for personal and selfish objects, party history has never furnished. In pursuing this course, Mr. Holden has ignored the general desire of the people for quiet. He has started a division in his own party, when no other party was inclined to oppose his candidate. He has ignored his obligations of party fealty, and in the broadest sense of the term "put up" SELF, above all other considerations.

We have heard of people "putting up," after taking a severe emetic. In this sense the people of North Carolina, in August, will "put up" Mr. Holden—and that so thoroughly, that for all time thereafter he will be "put" down, for any further purpose of selfishness and mischief.

We shall look hereafter more particularly into the issue Mr. Holden has raised in this contest.

BUTLERISM.

We have heard recently an account of a characteristic act of B. F. Butler's which we give, suppressing names. It would seem that the daughter of a most distinguished citizen of North Carolina, now deceased, had married a gentleman who died recently at or near Washington City. The bereaved widow, anxious in her affliction to enjoy the society of a much loved sister, obtained for this sister and for a niece residing with her—a permit from the Yankee Government for these ladies to enter the Yankee lines without question. Butler, through whom, perhaps, the permit

passed, addressed a note, to the lady requesting to be informed when she proposed setting out, so that he might be prepared to receive her, etc., etc. The lady, with the true spirit of a Southern woman, who fully appreciates Butler, returned the note with the endorsement that Miss— had never asked any favors from General Butler, and could never receive any at his hands. In due time she started, but when she reached Fortress Monroe, the book was poked at her, and she was required to take the Yankee oath of allegiance, which, refusing to do, she was turned back, although the permission sent her to visit her bereaved sister specially stated that she was to do so without question.

Thus it is that Butler resents the natural loathing felt for him by every true man and woman at the South, even to the extent of violating the faith of his government pledged to two high-toned and accomplished ladies. Surely a Government that retains Butler must be lost to all sense of shame and of self-respect. This is a matter of comparatively recent occurrence.—*Wilmington Journal.*

OBEYING ORDERS TO THE LETTER.

When the Yankees returned from Bottom's Bridge, some weeks ago, after their futile effort to release the prisoners in this city, the infamous Col. Spears alighted at the residence of a well known family in New Kent and demanded to see the young ladies. When they appeared, he asked, in a bullying tone, if any of the negro soldiers had been there?

The ladies replied in the affirmative. "What did they do?" inquired Spears. "They stole everything they could lay their hands on," was the answer. "Was that all?" "No," said the ladies, "they used in our presence such language as we never heard before, and hope never to hear again." "Very well," said Spears, in a tone of supreme satisfaction, "they did their duty, and obeyed their orders to the very letter."

Think of this, citizens of Virginia! It is no fiction, but a well authenticated fact. "They obeyed their orders to the very letter." At another house, inhabited by a widow lady, these negroes acted so outrageously that the lady, beside herself with indignation, seized a stick and struck one of them with it. The black rascal immediately floored her with a blow over the head with the butt of his musket, and left her for dead, lying in a pool of her own blood.— This also is a fact. The unspeakable misery of these outrages is that there seems to be no remedy for them, or no disposition to afford it.—*Rich. Whig.*

THE CURSE OF NATIONS.

Men live rapidly in revolution. The changes of politics are not more rapid than the phases of society.— Hate, cruelty, avarice, all the dark passions stalk forth from their secret lurking places in the human heart into "broad light of day." Restraints are removed. Material sufferings abound, but there is a greater suffering still. Philanthropy departs. Patriotism grows cold.— Confidence is destroyed. Man is armed, not with a club against his brother's life, but with the mean instinct of extortion, speculation and avarice. The shrine of Mammon is erected; his followers jostle each other in the race to lay their offerings at his feet. The curse of war is seen in the mutilation of the body but the Divine wrath is more fearfully illustrated in the visible empire of the evil one over the hearts and wills of men. It is an aggravation of war, that persecution is not confined to the public enemy.— Churches desecrated, women insulted, granaries burned, agricultural implements destroyed—these we now expect from a vandal foe. But the sorrow that sinks deeper still is

the disappointment with those of our own country and our own people.

Famine, pestilence and war were the dreadful alternatives presented for the punishment of his sins to the monarch of Israel. "I am in a great strait. Let me now fall into the hands of the Lord, for very great are His mercies, but let me not fall into the hands of man." Pestilence was his choice.

Three months was the period when he was to be "destroyed before his (thy) face, while that the sword of his (thy) enemies overtaketh him (thee)." Three years we have suffered from the modern Philistine. May it be God's will that our redemption may be near at hand.—*Guardian.*

GEN. FORREST IN ACTION.

A correspondent of the *Mobile Advertiser*, describing the cavalry fight of Gen. Forrest in Mississippi, writes:

"This may be designated as the battle of Prairie Mound, in the course of which the enemy, with three regiments, one behind the other made a most magnificent charge upon a single regiment of Col. Jeff. Forrest's brigade, and while this regiment was sustaining the fearful onslaught, fighting the enemy, who had charged, in full confidence from the superiority of numbers, right through and even past our lines, our men were engaged with them in a hand-to-hand encounter, and their artillery had of course ceased to play upon us.— Here and there might be seen one of our side contending with five or six of his foemen at a time; the Gen. himself and some of his staff and other officers being distinguished for personal achievements that would well serve to remind one of the famous warriors of the olden time.— He seemed everywhere present in the very heat of the fray—at one time striking down with his powerfully wielded sword one of three men with whom one of his aids was contending, and at another by a well aimed thrust of that weapon, is so remarkably effective in his hands, saving the life of a private. It is stated beyond cavil that no less than three of the enemy were slain by his own powerful arm. He had two horses of his own killed under him, besides one belonging to his gallant and efficient Adjutant General Major Strange."

FROM THE COAST.

A gentleman from Florida informs the Savannah Republican that a blockade running schooner, with an assorted cargo, ran into Deadman's Bay about ten days ago and came to anchor. She was soon boarded by a party of Tories and deserters, who helped themselves to all they could carry off. The captain not liking the neighborhood, weighed anchor and was passing out of the Bay, when the vessel ran aground. The blockaders, seeing her in distress, put out to her in launches, when the crew, seeing them approach, applied a slow match to a lot of powder in the hold, poured turpentine over the deck, set it afire and put out to the shore. The Yankees coming along side, boarded the vessel and were hard at work putting out the fire, when the powder below exploded, blowing the whole party—numbering from twenty five to thirty—to "kingdom come."

The new King of Greece begins to appreciate the difficulties of his position. Mobs are frequent, calling for the downfall of the Ministry; the sittings of the Assembly are turbulent, almost ending at every meeting in personal conflicts among the members; the public treasury is empty, and it is contemplated to assist it by appropriating the pension money of the seamen; and the King is not yet in possession of his stables, as the artillery corps refuse to give them up to him.

PUBLIC MEETING IN BOWAN.

A meeting of a portion of the lady citizens of Rowan was held in Salisbury, on Monday afternoon, the 28th of March, to consider the propriety of taking action in regard to resolutions passed in camp some time since, by a meeting of some of the gallant Knight's Errand, of the 8th Regiment N. C. Troops, respecting certain pretended grievances, slights, etc., etc.

On motion, Miss Sultanna Swan was called to the Chair, and Miss Dulcinea Nightingale appointed Secretary. The Chairman (rather chairwoman) having stated the object of the meeting as above set forth; on motion of Miss Artimena Thrillingpaper, a Committee of three, consisting of Miss Alcinda Fairchild, A. F. Pensive, Denara Graceful, was appointed to draft resolutions for the consideration of the meeting.

The Committee, after due deliberation, reported through their Chairman, Miss Sultanna Swan, the following Preamble and Resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, It has been a time-honored custom among the daughters of our land, to observe the recurrence of leap year, which they have been taught to believe, is their own proper prerogative, sanctioning harmless acts of coquetry and trifling advances to chosen lovers: And whereas, the chivalrous Knights of 8th Regiment N. C. Infantry, whose prowess and deed of daring have long since earned them a place in all feminine hearts, have seen proper to call attention to the fact of said occurrence, complaining at the same time, that heretofore, letters have been suffered to remain long months unanswered, while the adored idols of their hearts: idols in whose constancy they had reposed implicit confidence, have, one by one, suffered themselves to be led to the hymental altar by gray-haired widowers, bachelors and upstart militia officers, who, by the way, have no men to command. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we are determined to avail ourselves of the privileges bequeathed to us, by our grand-mothers, who, no doubt, regarded this institution of leap year, in much the same spirit that the English Barons at Runnymede regarded the Laws of England.

Resolved, That we are glad a proper occasion has presented itself for us thus publicly to declare our unqualified disapprobation of the course of those *Locustical* damsels, who have submitted to the presence of those snobbish, *bullet-fearing* militia officers. And although we cannot regard those faint-hearted maidens, who have united their destinies with gray-headed widowers, with the same condemnation, yet, we say to them, they have our pity.

Resolved, That we are determined never to cross that *Rubicon*, which separated our present state from the state of matrimony, unless some gallant soldier, who has fought and suffered in his Country's cause, should volunteer his aid as our guide.

Only a gallant spirit that has endured the hardships and storms of campaign after campaign; withstood the terrible on-set of battle after battle; drunk in the music of whistling minnies; only with such a hero, would we be borne to some distant elysium, in the arms of a heaven born Peri.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be sent to the Carolina Watchman, with request to publish.

On motion, the meeting adjourned *sine die*.
DULCINEA NIGHTINGALE, Sec.

We have just seen a file of the *Old Dominion*, published at Norfolk, embracing dates of the 16th, 17th and 18th. The *Old Dominion* hoists the name of Abraham Lincoln for the next Presidency of the United States; spreads itself for Lincoln—Lincoln first and last. This editor's extreme partiality for Lincoln and his Government, and his enthusiastic advocacy of Lincoln's claims for re-election, may be owing, in a great measure, to a letter which he parades conspicuously in his editorial column, F. W. Seward, acting Secretary of State, informing the said editor that the *Old Dominion* newspaper has been selected for publishing the Acts, Regulations, &c., &c., and that the editor will please send his paper regularly to the Department of State. Taken in connection with this letter, the editor's exhortation to the people in behalf of "the best Government the world ever saw" is "werry affectiu."—*Daily Bulletin.*

A BOLD RUN.—By a late Nassau paper we notice the arrival at that port of the schooner J. Davis, 23 tons, Captain Gordon, from Wilmington, N. C., with 23 bales cotton and 36 bbls. tar and pitch. Leaving the Yankee blockaders wholly out of the account, it was a bold thing of Captain Gordon and his little crew, to venture upon the voyage at this time of the year in such a tiny cockleshell.—*Wilmington Journal.*

He who passes his life without frequent self-examination, is like one who commits himself to the deep without first looking to the strength of his vessel.