



The Tarborough Press,

BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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POLITICAL.



From the Raleigh Standard.

DINNER

To the Hon. JOHN C. CALHOUN, of South Carolina, at Shocco Springs, Warren county, N. C. September 2, 1842.

Our distinguished guest, accompanied by the Hon. R. M. Saunders and the Hon. J. R. J. Daniel, arrived at Shocco about 10 o'clock, under the escort of a committee appointed to receive him, and met from the large and respectable party there assembled a most cordial and enthusiastic reception. The shortness of the notice—it having been received only thirty-six hours previous to the day of the Dinner—rendered it utterly impossible that even the citizens of our own County could be generally informed of the time appointed for the festival: yet such was the anxiety of the people to see and do honor to this illustrious statesman, that by 12 o'clock from seven hundred to a thousand persons had assembled, all of whom expressed the most profound regret that their friends and neighbors could not be present to partake with them of the great intellectual feast. Never did public servants receive a more heartfelt tribute of respect and admiration from any portion of our people.—Even those of our opponents who were present, left the feast with more than wonted kindness in their hearts and words of praise upon their lips. The unaffected simplicity of manners—the purity of heart and rectitude of purpose, so manifest to all who know Mr. Calhoun, however slightly, won for him a place in the affections of all present.—The ladies, God bless them! looked fairer and lovelier than ever, while their blushing cheeks and excited manner told how anxious they were to honor him whose spotless private character affords so bright an example to the statesman and the citizen.

At 2 o'clock the company sat down to a sumptuous feast, prepared by the worthy Proprietress of Shocco Springs; at which the Hon. John Branch presided, assisted by the following named gentlemen as Vice-Presidents: Weldon N. Edwards, Daniel Turner, Geo. D. Baskerville, Edmund D. McNair, Guston Perry, Wood T. Johnson, Jas. S. Battle, Sam'l L. Arrington, Thos. I. Hicks, W. W. Young, Wm. H. Gray, John J. Bell, A. A. Austin.

After the cloth was removed, the following regular toasts were announced by the President and Vice-Presidents, and drank by the company with great enthusiasm:

REGULAR TOASTS.

1. The Constitution of the United States: Formed by the wise and good men who achieved our revolution: let it not be destroyed in a moment of passion, to accomplish the designs of Party. [Music—Hail Columbia]

2. The memory of WASHINGTON. [Washington's March.]

3. The principles of '98 and '99: Founded upon a true interpretation of the Constitution, sustained by the most illustrious statesmen of our revolutionary era: their maintenance in their original purity is essential to the preservation of our free institutions. [Marseilles Hymn.]

4. The memory of JEFFERSON. [Jefferson's March.]

5. JOHN C. CALHOUN: In early manhood the ardent champion of his country's rights; in his maturer years the stern foe of monopolies and domestic tyranny, however disguised; at all times and under all circumstances the patriot and statesman: North Carolina admires his character, and will remember his services. [Hail to the Chief.]

6. Agriculture, the great interest of the Union: It asks not the protection of Government, but depends on the smiles of Heaven and the industry of the people. [Speed the Plough.]

7. Commerce: All it asks is "Free trade and sailors' rights": Let its friends

beware lest the advocates of protection clip its wings and destroy its usefulness. [Music]

8. A Protective Tariff: The worst foe to Agriculture and Commerce—agrarianism in its most odious form, which robs the many to distribute the spoils to a favorite few. [Music.]

9. E Pluribus Unum: Eternity to the motto, and victory to the flag that bears it. [Star-spangled Banner.]

10. ANDREW JACKSON, ex President of the United States: who, having filled the measure of his country's glory, is now content to spend the remainder of his days in the calm and tranquil enjoyment of the blessings of that Government which he has so much adorned, by a long and illustrious life of public services. [Jackson's March.]

11. The principle of Distribution, which gives to the States that which the wants of the Government require to be supplied by taxation: A policy at war with every dictate of prudence and economy. [Music.]

12. The Republican Banner: Inscribed, in the language of our distinguished guest, with "Free trade—low duties—no debt—separation from Banks—economy—retrenchment—and strict adherence to the Constitution." [Campbells are coming]

13. The American Fair: Whose smiles are alike cheering to the soldier and the statesman. [Haste to the Wedding]

In announcing the fifth regular toast, the President took occasion to refer briefly, but forcibly, to the services of our distinguished guest, and to express the sincere conviction that those who were then assembled to honor a faithful public servant, would be as ready to condemn him when wrong as they were to applaud him when right.

When the cheering had subsided, Mr. Calhoun rose and addressed the company for about an hour in his own peculiar, sententious and lucid manner. He entered into a brief history of the parties, which, originating in the Convention which framed the Constitution, had retained their distinctive characteristics down to the present day. He reviewed the policy of the followers of Alexander Hamilton, whom he complimented as one of the brightest luminaries of our revolutionary era, and proved that they had ever looked to high taxes, union of Bank and State, and a nearer assimilation of our form of Government to that of Great Britain, as the most desirable: while the Republican Party, with few occasional exceptions, had advocated the opposite policy of "Free trade—low duties—no debt—separation from Banks—economy—retrenchment—and strict adherence to the Constitution." As we hope to be able to furnish the public with this whole speech in a short time, we will not attempt a further sketch of it, well aware that none but its author can do it justice. Mr. Calhoun concluded his remarks with the following sentiment:

Nathaniel Macon—the wise, the virtuous, and the patriotic: May his name be forever remembered by the friends of constitutional liberty.

A. A. Austin, Esq., of Halifax, one of the Vice-Presidents, was now called on for a toast, and gave the

Hon. R. M. Saunders—Always the able and fearless champion of Democratic principles: The zeal and ability with which he has sustained her interests, are appreciated by N. Carolina; and he will receive his reward.

Loud and long continued cheering succeeded this toast; and when it had subsided, Gen. Saunders addressed the meeting for half an hour in his most impressive and effective manner; concluding his remarks with the following sentiment:

The Veto Power: Its firm exercise by the President in restraint of bad laws—and by the People in condemnation of faithless representatives. The first is heard in the capitol—the second sounds the death-knell of whiggery at the ballot boxes.

R. A. Ezell, Esq., was next called on, and toasted the

Hon. J. R. J. Daniel—The able and fearless advocate of the enduring principles of '98 and '99: North Carolina delights to honor him.

Mr. Daniel responded briefly to the above; and

George D. Baskerville, Esq., gave the Hon. Charles Shepard: The Democracy of N. Carolina will be proud to call him again into their service.

This toast was received by the company with great applause, when Mr. Shepard rose and enlivened the attention of the audience for half an hour, with one of the finest bursts of eloquence we ever listened to, and concluded with the following toast:

The County of Warren—The ancient bulwark of Carolina republicanism: It adheres to its own principles in doing honor to their great defender.

Thos. Harris, Esq., of Halifax, gave The distinguished President of the Day—the Hon. John Branch—the able advocate of the rights of the people: North Carolina claims him as her own honored son, and delights to cherish him.

The President briefly returned his thanks

to the company for the manner in which this toast was received, and offered the following sentiment:

May we be ever ready when our country calls, to act out the principles we have this day so enthusiastically professed.

Weldon N. Edwards, Esq., being called on, gave

Our sister State, South-Carolina: Well is she entitled to the gratitude of the whole Union for her rich contribution of genius and talent to the councils of the nation.

Sent by Hon. Dixon H. Lewis, of Ala., King's Mountain and Eutaw: The bloody fields of the fame of the two Carolinas, and the monuments of their enduring devotion to human liberty.

By R. C. Pritchard,

John C. Calhoun: Unspotted in private, unimpeachable in public life; in war our heroic guide, in peace our safest counselor; mighty in genius, yet simple in character; vast in thought, yet practical in administration—the People have marked him as the man for the times.

By one of the company,

The proviso to the Bill distributing the proceeds of the public lands: If wrong, it should never have been adopted; if right, it should never have been repealed. The whig party may select either horn of the dilemma.

Many other toasts were drunk, but have not been furnished for publication. Letters from many gentlemen who had been invited to attend, were received, generally declining in consequence of their great anxiety to return home after so protracted a session of Congress.

The festivities of the day were closed with a Ball, and all passed off with the utmost harmony and good feeling.

The only regret expressed by any one present during the day was that we could not have had a longer notice, that thousands might have been present instead of hundreds to enjoy the scene.

LETTERS RECEIVED

From Gentlemen Invited to Attend the Dinner to the Hon. J. C. Calhoun.

Washington, 6th July, 1842.

Gentlemen: Your favor of the 24th ult. communicating an invitation to me to attend a public dinner to be given to Mr. Calhoun, after the close of the present session of Congress, has remained several days without an answer. The heavy news of the death of a near relative and the severe sickness of others, together with that imperfect attention to my public duties which has been entirely compulsory, must be my apology for the delay. The first of these considerations, I am sure you will see, Gentlemen, make it my imperative duty to return to the North, as soon as I can possibly be discharged from my seat in the Senate, and will therefore, constitute a sufficient ground for declining your kind invitation, without suspicion of disrespect to yourselves, or your guest.

Please accept my unfeigned thanks for your attention to me personally, and for the kind terms in which you have made known to me your wishes, and believe me, With great respect

Your fellow-citizen

SILAS WRIGHT, Jr.

Senate Chamber, 30th Aug., 1842.

Gentlemen: I have been honored by the receipt of your kind invitation to be present at a public dinner to be given to the Hon. John C. Calhoun, after the adjournment of Congress, by the citizens of Warren and the adjoining counties of North Carolina. It would afford me great pleasure to accept your invitation, and to unite with you in doing honor to this able, patriotic and distinguished statesman: and it would be highly gratifying to me to embrace the occasion offered to make the personal acquaintance of my fellow-citizens who will be there assembled; but imperative engagements prevent me from enjoying this pleasure.

With sentiments of grateful respect, I remain yours sincerely,

JAMES BUCHANAN.

Washington City, August 16th, 1842.

Gentlemen: I have to make you many thanks for your kind invitation, and the very friendly terms in which it was expressed; and if it was in my power to accept it, it would give me great pleasure to do so; but Congress having been almost constantly in session for a year past, and being to meet again in a few months, I am under the necessity of employing all the interval in a return to Missouri, and for that purpose to set out from this place to the West, the instant I am released from my public duties. Your invitation is so much the more valued by me, as it comes from the part of my native State in which my ancestors lived, and which was the home and residence of the Sage and Patriot, Nathaniel Macon, who was still in the Senate when I entered it, and in whose school I learnt whatever is valuable in my political life. Next to the honor of being named in his will, and honored by a bequest which

serves as a memorial both of his and Mr. Randolph's friendship. I prize most highly among the events of my life, the kind invitation you have given me, coming as it does from the committee of six counties so respectable in themselves and uniting so many titles to my respect and gratitude.

I take great pleasure in congratulating you, Gentlemen, on the present auspicious prospects of the Democratic party, and also in the moderated feeling which begins to prevail in the conduct of party warfare. Parties must exist in every free country; and at times party spirit must run high; but it is always agreeable to see the calm succeed to the storm, and urbanity put an end to the bitterness of party contests, while the identity of parties remain as distinct as ever.

For yourselves, Gentlemen, (among whose names I recognize so many,) and to the counties whose committees you are, I am under the greatest obligations for this mark of your friendship; and beg you to accept my most grateful acknowledgments for it. Very respectfully,

Your obliged fellow-citizen,
THOMAS H. BENTON.

Washington, Aug. 15th, 1842.

Gentlemen: I thank you for your esteemed favor of the 24th ultimo, inviting me to partake of a public dinner to be given to Mr. Calhoun, at Shocco, by the citizens of Warren and the adjoining Counties, immediately after the adjournment of Congress. I sincerely regret the condition of my health will not allow me to be present on the occasion. But for that, I should be most happy to join you in doing honor to a man who is so eminently deserving of honor from a people whose rights he has so nobly defended. I have known him for many years in public life, and though I have had occasion to differ from him in some of his views of public policy; I have always admired the purity of his purposes and the elevation of his views. But if the splendor of his intellectual efforts in defence of the Constitution and of the Constitutional rights of the people eminently command our admiration, his moral worth and his private virtues not less strongly endear him to our hearts. It is this blended character of a great statesman with a good man that makes John C. Calhoun pre-eminently worthy of public honors and of private esteem, and a proud example for universal imitation.

With great respect

I am, Gentlemen,

Your ob't. servant,

A. RENCHER.

Washington, Aug. 29, 1842.

Gentlemen: I regret that I cannot, without serious inconvenience, avail myself of your invitation to attend the dinner you propose to give in honor of Mr. Calhoun, after the adjournment of Congress. No one can place a higher estimate, upon the long and eminent public service, of the illustrious Senator from my own State, than I; and it would have afforded me, the highest pleasure, to co-operate with my fellow-citizens of North Carolina, in paying this tribute of respect to this pure and incorruptible patriot. For thirty odd years, he has been a prominent actor in public life, and in every station where his countrymen have placed him, he has covered himself with honor. As brilliant as has been his public career, the purity of his private life has reflected no less honor upon him. I believe and hope, that the day is not distant, when he will be elevated to the first office in the gift of the nation, and when his high administrative qualities will gain to him, the same enviable reputation that he won as Secretary of War. As an humble individual, about to quit public life, I look to this event as one which will bring untold blessings to the country.

For the kind manner in which you have spoken of my own humble services, in the cause of democracy, I desire to tender to you the thanks of a brother democrat. I hail all such as my brethren, in the common cause of Liberty, Constitution, the Union. I congratulate you, my fellow-citizens, that the good old Republican "North State" has so recently given the death blow to Federal whiggery, and that she has wheeled into her proper position, in the democratic ranks.

Present to your meeting the enclosed sentiment, with my sincere regret that I could not tender it in person.

Respectfully your

Ob't. serv't.

S. H. BUTLER.

North Carolina: The triumph of the Democratic party, in the late elections, shows that this good old State, was and is and always will be Republican in her political faith.

Washington City, Aug. 30th, 1842.

Gentlemen: I had the honor to receive your favor, inviting me to partake with you of a dinner to be given to the Hon. John C. Calhoun, early after the adjournment of Congress, at Shocco Springs.

I appreciate the distinction you have

done me; and I would rejoice to be able to embrace this opportunity to revisit my native State, "the good old North State," and to revive and strengthen that love which the vast multitude of Carolinians, who reside in the beautiful and fertile valley of the Mississippi, have for their mother country, to renew those friendships which were formed in youth, and repeat those recollections which are interwoven with, and form a part of my very being; to rejoice with you, that republican North Carolina has assumed her wonted position, so long and so firmly maintained during the days of that purest and best of men, Nathaniel Macon, whose whole life was but an illustration of her principles and character; and last, not least, to unite with you in doing honor to the Southern Ajax. His private life, without reproach; his intellect, brilliant and unsurpassed; his knowledge of public affairs enlarged and corrected by an experience, and devoted study of our institutions, for near a third of a century; his principles sound and democratic; his nerve and courage unflinching, having no guiding star, but his country's good, he stands prominent before his country, as its pride and ornament and safe reliance.

But justice to my domestic affairs, constrains me to return home, as soon as I am released from my duties in Congress. For nine long and weary months, the majority have kept us here waging a vindictive and fruitless war, with the President, and in undoing their own acts passed at the memorable session of one hundred days in 1841. So short is the time intervening between the close of this and the commencement of the regular session, and so great is the distance I have to travel, that I must decline your esteemed honor.

With sentiments of high regard for each of you personally, I remain, gentlemen, Your ob't. serv't.

J. THOMPSON.

P. S.—Permit me to tender the following sentiment.

The Democracy of North Carolina: Like her own fabled "ship of the Palatines" though enwrapped in flames, it is not consumed; though for awhile submerged, it again rises in all its beauty, and strength, and full and complete in all its proportions.

Washington City, August 24th, 1842.

Gentlemen: I regret that I am compelled to decline the invitation I have received from you to participate in a public dinner, tendered to the Hon. John C. Calhoun, at Shocco Springs, at the close of the present session of Congress. My anxiety to return to my home, after so long an absence, to pay some attention to my private affairs, before the commencement of the next session of Congress, must be my apology for declining your polite invitation to join in doing honor to the distinguished statesman of the South.

Permit me, through you gentlemen, to offer the following sentiment in honor of the glorious victory achieved by the Democracy of your State at the recent election.

North Carolina: The first to nominate, and the first to abandon "Harry of the West."

With sentiments of the highest regard, I remain,

Your ob't. serv't.

WM. M. GWIN.

Richmond, Sept. 1st, 1842.

Dear Sirs: I most gratefully appreciate the honor you have done me, by inviting me to the dinner you are about to give to Mr. Calhoun.—His services and his principles justly entitle him to the distinction—and I should have been happy to have the opportunity of joining in the Festival. But my engagements forbid it.

It would have given me very sincere pleasure also, to visit the Old North State—and to take such worthy citizens and such staunch Republicans by the hand.

I thank you every way for the compliment your invitation conveys—and still more, for the kind terms in which it is expressed. Whatever of zeal I may have hitherto displayed in the defence of our "common principles"—whatever of experience I may have acquired in the course of a long Editorial Life—I feel, that at no preceding period was it more necessary to exert them. Notwithstanding the brilliant victory you have so recently won—or the triumphs we have obtained in other States, "the danger is not yet over." We have a drilled and formidable enemy to encounter; desperate in their purposes, reckless in their means, having at their head one of the most restless and ambitious spirits of the age. We require all our means and all our men to conduct us to victory. We must march onward with the united force of a Macedonian Phalanx, or rather like the Roman Legion, with all their shields united over their heads. We must keep our forces firmly together by harmony and onession. No discord should creep into our camp. No division mar our councils. No selfish views, or private ambition should weaken our efforts. We must go for principles, and not for men. We have