



"The powers granted under the Constitution, being derived from the People of the United States, may be resumed by them, whenever perverted to their injury or oppression."—Madison.

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The Texas Debate.

SPEECH OF Mr. Yancey, of Alabama, Delivered in the House of Representatives of Congress, January 7, 1845, in reply to Mr. Clingman, of N.C., and others. Mr. Clingman had just concluded his speech against annexation, when Mr. YANCEY rose and said:

As parties have risen or fallen upon old domestic issues, animosities have been engendered—prejudices have been formed—acrimony has been given birth to, which have become so deeply seated that what under other circumstances would have been a blessing, has become a curse to the country. Instead of testing measures by their effect upon the country, a large portion of the community test them by their contemplated effect upon party.

In the first place, then, of the several propositions which had been committed to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, Mr. Y. expressed his preference for that of the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. Tibbatts]. This proposition met more fully his constitutional view of the subject than any other; it conformed to the very letter as well as the spirit of the constitution. He referred to the articles of the old confederacy, which, he said, had been found to confer too few powers upon the general government; that they were too circumscribed and limited to give that efficiency, energy, and scope to the government which the people desired.

Even if the title by which the people of Texas had been conveyed by us to Spain had been good, Spain had not given it binding force by taking possession thereof; but, on the contrary, she had confirmed their independence by her recognition in 1836. In the formation of that confederacy, she had agreed to articles similar to those of our constitution; according to one of them, the confederacy was never to be dissolved. But in 1834, the history of Mexico and Texas told them that a military usurper did dissolve them; that he drove the representatives of the united Mexican States from their hall by arms; that he established a central military despotism.

Relations brought in his report on this subject, the gentleman complained that time had not been allowed to the minority of the committee to express their views on it. What had gentlemen been doing ever since the last session? They knew that the subject must come up at this, and yet they complained of being unprepared. What had they been doing since the commencement of this session? Their real grounds of complaint were that the subject was started early enough to bring it to a successful issue before the close of the session.

List of Letters

- REMAINING in the Post Office at Charlotte N. C., on the 1st day of January, 1845, to wit: Dr. A. F. Alexander, Miss Sarah J. Alexander, Adam Alexander, Wm. Alexander, Ira Alexander, Dr. M. W. Alexander, Isaac Adams, Sarah Beatty, Sun. Berryhill 2, Azariah Buily, Josiah Bradshaw, Mrs. A. S. Berry, Wm. Buchanan, Robt. Buchanan, Wm. Branson, James Barquette, Mr. Brackett, Stephen A. Boxzer, George Branner, Wm. S. Barker, Clerk of Mecklenburg County Court, Rev. H. B. Cunningham, W. G. Clarke, Mrs. Eunice A. Carter, David F. Cowan, S. C. Caldwell, Allen W. Davis, John S. Davis, James Dougherty, James S. Early, Mr. Erwin, Alexander Ervin, R. G. Flanagan, Rev. John Gifford, Henry J. Garrison, Robt. B. Hunter, James Hipp, Houston & Grier, R. M. Herron, W. H. Hovey 2, Paul Henderson, Wm. Johnston, Wm. Jack, Mrs. Mary Jones, Isaac Jones, James Johnston, Miss Mary E. Johnston, Harvey Kennedy, Mason R. Lyon, Mrs. E. Leominde, J. M. Long, M. H. Lemonds, Josiah G. Lewis, Daniel Letwiler, Mrs. Mary Lemble, J. W. HAMPTON, P. M. January 1, 1845.

A GOOD BUSINESS. TANNERY FOR SALE. INTENDING to change my residence, I offer for sale my TANNERY in Cleraw, containing forty-five Tanning and four Lime Vats, two Baites and a large Pool, supplied by a never failing spring, a small branch running through the yard.

ALSO, FOR SALE: A small tract of land, adjacent to the town, with good sheds, &c., necessary for Brick making. ALSO: A Carriage, but little used and a pair of safe family Horses. JOSHUA LAZARUS. Dec. 1844.

A DESIRABLE TAVERN FOR RENT. THAT well known stand at Beattie's Ford, lately the property of R. H. Burton, decl'd, will be rented for one or more years. The dwelling house is a good and convenient one, with all necessary out buildings, with some fifteen acres attached to it.

Dissolution. THIS day by mutual consent the firm of HAP POLDT & TAYLOR is dissolved. Those indebted will please call and settle by cash or Note these having claims will present them forthwith. J. M. HAPOLDT, M. B. TAYLOR. January 9, 1845.

And this appeal has not been in vain. There are living evidences around us, whose hearts bounded at the first flutter of such a banner. Like to the Jews of old, who kept up intestine feuds during the interval of the Roman assaults, yet flew to the wall when the trump sounded to arms, there are some to whom this question has proved paramount to partyism.

Considering the character for intelligence and enlarged views of the gentleman from Massachusetts, [Mr. WINTHROP] Mr. Y. had been perfectly astounded to hear him yesterday declare that the constitution of the country was only designed to operate upon the territory then held by the people who found it. If it was not disrespectful to the gentleman, he must say that that view was too narrow-minded for any body who pretended to enlarged views of statesmanship.

2 If the constitutional point was settled that we could admit new States into our Union, then the only question to consider was, what is its bearing on the national honor? I respect the gentlemen who urge this objection, (said Mr. Y.) The honor of the nation is the brightest jewel it possesses.

Mr. Y. would not argue the question of re-annexation. There might be some doubts upon that point; but there could not be as to the view he took of the subject. By the treaty of 1819, if we had any rights in Texas, we ceded them to Spain—The government of Spain, however, did not perfect its title; by immediately after, the people of Texas, refusing allegiance to Spain, had risen in arms against her, and said that they could not be ceded away as beasts of the field.

Thrown back on her original sovereignty, whence sprung the right of Mexico? It was not to be found in the law of nations, for she never had perfected her title, either by arms or diplomatic policy. Texas, then, was sovereign and independent; and, as an independent State, had a right to treat with us. For eight years she had gone on exercising the rights of sovereignty, and governing herself as an enlightened nation, sending ministers to the civilized nations of the world, and forming treaties of amity and commerce with them.

If, then, the constitution and national honor did not forbid the annexation of Texas, what else was to forbid it? We have been pursuing this object for five and twenty years, and through the agency of some of our most distinguished statesmen. The venerable gentleman from Massachusetts, when representing this Union in the presidential chair, himself pursued this object. Mr. Clay himself pursued it; General Jackson pursued it; and if there was anything to relieve the administration of 1825 and 1827 from the odium cast upon it, it was the aid which it had pursued the project of annexation.

Ask him if he voted for John Tyler, and he would say that he did; and by that act he helped to place him in a position to succeed to the presidential chair, in the event of the death of General Harrison. Did the gentleman call the death of General Harrison an accident? No; the dispensations of Divine Providence were not accidents, and it was impious to call them so.

The gentleman from Massachusetts said that the friends of this measure were attempting by pressing it through Congress at this time, to get the start of the judgements of the American people. The gentleman knew that this question had been a long time agitated in the country; and that, more than any other, it occupied the attention of the American people during the last presidential canvass. Was the sudden darkening of Mr. Clay's prospects, after the issue of his Raleigh letter, nothing by which to judge of the hold which the annexation of Texas had on the public mind?

During the war of 1812, the sons of Virginia and South Carolina were found defending those frontiers which Massachusetts patriotism was not sufficiently enlarged to comprehend within the scope of its vision. Mr. Y. here referred to various threats of disunion that had come from the New England States, and particularly to the manifesto put out by certain members of Congress at the head of which was Mr. John Quincy Adams, threatening a dissolution of the Union in case Texas was admitted into it.

LETTER FROM GEN. JACKSON. The subjoined extracts from a letter, dated January 1, 1845, written by General Jackson to Mr. Blair of the Globe, should, we think, have great weight with the editor, and induce him to make up for lost time, by the exertion of all his powers in favor of immediate annexation. It was no doubt the article in the Globe, about Christmas, containing an intimation that the measure should be postponed for the action of the next Congress, which brought out General Jackson. We trust the direct appeal of the venerable hero of the Hermitage, will not be lost on Mr. Blair. We wish it may also have some effect on Mr. Benton.

"I observe that you have before Congress too many joint resolutions for the re-annexation of Texas. This argues want of unanimity in the Democratic Union upon this great national and most important subject. I have just received a letter from Major Donelson, a letter dated at Washington, in Texas, from which I would infer, that if Congress expect to annex Texas to the United States, they must act speedily, or it will be found to be beyond our grasp.

"I am exhausted; but, from Major Donelson's letter, and other sources of information, the danger of losing Texas seemed so imminent, that, although feeble, I could not forbear to say this much to you, that you might communicate it to my friends."

In the first paragraph, which we omit for the sake of brevity, the General uses the words "my dear Blair," and appeals through him to his other old friends, to aid at once, in carrying through a great and patriotic measure of this Administration. Madissonian.