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THE PATRIOT.

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From The Sentinel.

Letter from Col. D. M. Carter.

WASHINGTON, N. C., Nov. 1st, 1867.

My Dear Sir:—You and I have long

acted harmoniously in politics. You had my sympathy and active aid in your canvass of the State as the Union candidate for Governor in 1856. Much of that hearty reluctance in North Carolina to quit the Union, which was so strongly expressed in February, 1861, by twenty thousand majority of her voters refusing even to permit the assembly of a Convention to consider the question of Secession, was due to your able and manly discussion of that detestable heresy.

From the secession of this State, until August, 1861, I was in the Confederate army, and claim to have discharged every duty there which the honor of a soldier exacted to the last of my skill and ability. I had no quarrel in the military service, I should have been found with Gen. Lee at Appomattox.

Such was my conception of the duty of a soldier.

In August, 1861, I was re-elected a member of the Legislature of North Carolina, and at that session we renewed our political cooperation.

The military situation of the Confederacy was at that time very grave, and indeed I considered it utterly hopeless. While in the military service I could not, consistently with duty, make known my views upon the Confederacy; but when I returned home, it was imperative on me to do so. Such was then, and is now, my opinion of the respective obligations of the two parties.

The failure of the secession party to accomplish the desired result for which it labored, and the consequent failure, are too well known to need recapitulation. The purpose of that party was to secure an honorable peace upon the basis of a restoration of the Union of equal States, an abolition of the rights of man, the abolition of slavery, and the abolition of the right of property in man. It was undertaken in the name of that institution. We did not think it too late, even then, by prompt submission to the rightful authority of the general government, to revive Mr. Lincoln's policy of compensated emancipation.

We should have had the aid of a friendly public opinion in the Northern States to solve the perplexing questions resulting from the war, and have kept the settlement of them in our own hands. With considerable armies set in the field, and a record of military achievements of which any nation might well be proud, we could have closed a long and fierce war upon terms consistent with our own self-respect, and honorable to our adversaries. I do not recall these matters now, to count those in authority that neglect the abolition of slavery, and the right of man, as the golden opportunity of statesmanship; nor for the purpose of vindicating the action of the secession party in North Carolina. Time has exposed the wisdom of that movement, by revealing the consequences of presenting a boyhood in the point of subjugation. At the time from the commencement of the Session of the Legislature in November, 1861, till the capture of Petersburg in April, 1865, the voice of North Carolina would have commanded peace. Her geographical position, which had compelled her to secede in 1861, or be brought to powder between Virginia and her Southern neighbors, gave her in 1864, a potential voice of the Confederacy—because the States had more troops in the field than any other Southern State, and because a transit through her territory was indispensable. As this geographical position had been used to force the State against her will out of the Union, I thought it ought to be employed to secure her return, when, by active in the condition of affairs, it became a source of strength and influence instead of weakness. But the consequences of war suppressed all the suggestions of peace and reconciliation.

Many persons fear confiscation as a consequence of a refusal to reconstruct under the Congressional plan. I do not share their terrors. The result of the rebellion was a practical confiscation of more than half the property of the South. If this has not produced loyalty, the robbery of the other half will not create that sentiment.

It has not inflicted punishment enough to satisfy justice, further plunderings will not mitigate it. In truth, confiscation would fall more heavily on the creditors of the victim, than on the victim himself, in most cases. The bankrupt law will confiscate unfortunate thousands.

I repeat that what the North demands of the South is not this plan or the other, but loyalty. If one people will demonstrate their wish to identify themselves with their government in feeling and sentiment—to defend it and support it, their ancestors did,—the expectant North will throw this plan to the winds, and receive us with open arms. Without loyalty reconstruction of governmental authority will be made over us by force; with loyalty, we can have the restoration of a parental government at peaceful means.

Let the people rise up and reject this Congressional plan; because it is penal in its operation, because it confounds the guilty and the innocent, because it discriminates against intelligence in favor of ignorance, because it foments hostility between the whites and blacks, because it

attempted secession was void *ab initio* in law.

I firmly believe that this plan would have been acceptable to the North, as it was to the South, if our people had displayed the proper spirit of submission to the Government. If they had elected Unionists and Submissionists to Congress instead of rampant secessionists—if they had not proclaimed their intention to repudiate the public debt so loudly—if they had shown a more social and friendly disposition to Northern people settling among us—if there had been more of those bloody riots, excited by political animosities, which have disgraced some of our Southern cities, this plan would have met a happier fate. North Carolina and Virginia sent delegates to Congress who were not obnoxious, but this was not the case with many of the other Southern States.

The President's plan failed, because the Northern people believed that the Southern people were still disloyal in sentiment and purpose to the government,—that they sought admission into the Union, with a hostile intent, and with the expectation of renewing the scenes of 1860-61. It was this belief, more than any objection to the theory of the President's plan, which caused its rejection by those vast majorities which displayed the earnestness of the North.

Next followed the first plan submitted by Congress—known as the Howard Amendment to the Constitution, or as Article Fourteen. This was submitted to the Legislatures of the several Southern States, and rejected by them all, by votes approaching unanimity. It ought to have been accepted by us as unanimous a vote as refused it.

Its rejection was that kind of political blunder which Talleyrand denounced. We are now to consider and decide the third of the series, known as the Congressional Plan. This will be voted on by a portion of the people of North and South Carolina, within a few days.

It is a matter of the highest possible interest to the people of these States, that their decision on this momentous question should be expedient and wise.

I feel bound to say that the practical effect of our subjugation was to divest us of all control over the settlement of our future relations with the Union. Whatever voice we have in the matter was bestowed by the United States Government, and is not a matter of right under the Constitution or laws of Nations.

But by the action of the government it is referred to us to decide whether we will call a Convention under the present plan of Congress or not.

Let us now examine with all candor "the situation."

No man can consistently vote for a Convention unless he is prepared to go further and support the Congressional plan of reconstruction. That plan embraces universal negro suffrage, and limited white suffrage. It clothes with the highest rewards and privileges of citizenship every negro in the State, and it puts under ban for life the most intelligent and capable of the whites. This discrimination is obligatory on the people of the State Constitution, and is virtually, there are half a dozen conditions precedent to the admission of a State under this plan. By it, half the Southern States are placed forever under the absolute sway of emancipated slaves; and an interminable vista of strife and fierce rivalry opened before our eyes in our own State, ending in barbarism, or in the overthrow of a republican government.

Many persons think they can vote for a Convention, and at the same time for delegates, who will not carry out the Congressional programme, and that thereby a reconstruction, consonant with their views, could be consummated. This is a palpable mistake.

If this Convention should be called by the people, and should then refuse to effectuate the Congressional plan, but undertake to substitute a State Constitution of their own, such action would be regarded by Congress as more outrageous than a refusal to call a Convention at all. The collision with Congress would be direct, and an issue made in the most irritating manner. By refusing to call the Convention we postpone this strife, and allow time for peaceful counsels to prevail. We avoid the enormous expense of a useless, inharmonious Convention. We avoid the disgrace of assembling a body to form our organic law, whose hands are tied—whose work is done for them in advance—who have no free will of their own, and who do not represent a free constituency.

We therefore show no disloyal feeling to the Government of our country, or to the public sentiment of the people of the North. On the contrary, we put ourselves in accord with that sentiment. We obey its teachings, and we point to Connecticut, to California, to Ohio, to Pennsylvania, as proofs of it. Every breeze wafted from the North brings to our ears the joyful whisperings of peace and reconciliation.

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engenders disloyalty now, and fosters that feeling in the breasts of the next generation.

The kindly and forgiving spirit of Abraham Lincoln does not pervade a line of it. Every message addressed by him to Congress—every proclamation published to the people, and both his inaugural, rebuke the people, and the solemn pledge and plighted faith of the American Congress is violated by it. Again, the Convention is to be elected, and called together, by military orders, under the terrorism of martial law. Men fear to discuss the merits, with bayonets at their backs and military arrests in prospect.

Such an election will not be free, in any sense of the word; and this is a fatal objection to such a Convention.

Since the rejection of the Howard Amendment, many important events have occurred to produce great changes in the mind and temper of the South. Time is cooling the feverish excitements of the war, under which that measure was rejected.

Our people have been brought, face to face, with possible calamities, greater than any which have yet befallen them. Confiscation, negro domination, and the probable loss of the most profitable and magnificent monopoly in the world—that of cotton—have brought the most hot-headed and inconsiderate among us to reflect upon the ruinous consequences of further conflict with their rightful government.

Now is the auspicious time for that government to renew its offers of clemency, and its invitation to participate in the heritage of a glorious ancestry.

What will be the result if the people decline calling a Convention? I cannot tell certainly; but my belief is, that if the Northern people ascribed its rejection to the right motives, and to a certain deference to their latest elections, which they undoubtedly will, then such rejection will be followed by no evil consequences.

Let the South display the nerve which the situation requires, and all will yet be well. That nerve does not consist in Indian attempts to defy a government, which has conquered us in fair fight, and which has the power to exterminate us. It consists in a manly and dignified repudiation of our government by an unreserved allegiance. Disloyalty will never open the gates of the Union to us; and loyalty will not have to knock long for admission.

The only problem in our situation, difficult of solution, is the future status and relation of the colored race. They are citizens of the country, and, as such, have an interest in its welfare. They are entitled to sufficient weight and participation in the government to insure their protection.

The most liberal and enlightened States in the North have bestowed a qualified suffrage upon them. Massachusetts requires educational, and New York property qualifications. Can we do better than apply similar tests here? Note the fact that such qualifications are powerful stimulants to the acquisition of knowledge and property; that the class excluded by such tests is always diminishing; and the ballot will be within easy reach of every frugal and intelligent colored man. The settlement of the subject has been satisfactory at the North to both races, and is no more and no less than a fair and honorable compromise.

In the present stage of this question, I believe the method of qualified suffrage to be the safest, speediest, and most satisfactory compromise and solution of it, for the best interests of both races. In all the discussions of colored citizens' interests I have sought to be their friend, but not their champion. I strove in the Legislature, in 1866, for their right to testify in all cases, in all our Courts of justice. In March last I set in a political Convention with them at Raleigh. Believing the best interest of the colored people to be their own, I strove either to universalize, to be a forgone conclusion, it seemed to me the narrowest prejudice to exclude them from assemblies where they could best learn, in friendly discussion, their rights and duties.

You will first see this letter in the newspapers, and while I would be glad to know that you approve my views of what the crisis demands, yet I am constrained by the pressure of time to publish it without delay.

I will close this too long communication with a suggestion disconnected with politics. The cotton crop of North Carolina, and perhaps of the whole South, will not pay the cost of its production, shipment and taxes, at the present prices. The people ought to petition Congress for relief from the onerous tax imposed on this staple. Let the people avail themselves of the occasion of the approaching elections to circulate respectful memorials to Congress, for signature, asking a remission of the tax on the present crop, and forward these memorials to influential members of Congress. Perhaps one-third of the present crop has been produced by partnership between the planters and laborers, and thus both classes have a deep interest in the removal of the tax. Instead of employing a corrupt lobby to achieve this result, let the people apply directly to Congress for relief. I am, Sir, with great respect, your obedient servant.

D. M. CARTER.

YOUNG MAN HUGGED AGAINST HIS WILL.—A most ludicrous scene transpired in a place not a thousand miles from the city of Louisville, one night last week, though a little annoying to the parties immediately concerned, was yet so innocent and funny that we cannot refrain from giving the general outlines as follows, suppressing names, of course:

Two sprightly and beautiful young ladies were visiting their cousin, another sprightly and beautiful young lady, who like her guests, was of that happy age which turns everything into fun and merriment. If the truth were told, we fear we should have to record the fact that these three misses were just a little fast. They were fond of practical jokes, and were continually playing all sorts of pranks with each other. All three occupied a room on the ground floor, and huddled up together in one bed.

Two of the young ladies attended a party on the night in question, and did not get home until half-past twelve o'clock at night. As it was late they concluded not to disturb the household, so they quietly stepped into their room through the low open window.

In about half an hour after they had left for the party, a young Methodist minister called at the house, where they were staying and craved a night's lodging, which, of course, was cheerfully granted. As ministers always have the best of everything, the old lady put him to sleep in the best room, and the young lady (Fannie) who had not gone to the party, was entrusted with the duty of sitting up for the absent ones, and of informing them of the change of rooms. She took up her post in the parlor, and as the night was sultry, sleep overcame her, and she departed on an excursion to the land of dreams.

We will now return to the young ladies who had gone into their room through the window. By the dim lights of the moon-beams as they struggled through the curtains, the young ladies were unable to discern the outline of Fannie (as they supposed) enclosed in the middle of the bed. They saw, more, to wit: a pair of boots. The truth flashed upon them at once. They saw it all. Fannie had set the boots in the room to give them a good scare. They put their heads together and determined to turn the tables upon her. Silently they disrobed and as stealthily as cats they took their position on each side of the unconscious parson, and laughing and screaming, "Oh, what a man! Oh, what a man!" they gave the poor bewildered minister such a promiscuous hugging and tussling as few persons are able to brag of in the course of a lifetime.

The nose of this proceeding awoke the old lady, who was sleeping in an adjoining room. She comprehended the situation in a moment, and rushed to the room; she opened the door and exclaimed: "Oh my! gals, it is a man; it is a man sure enough!"

There was one prolonged, consolidated scream, a flash of muslin through the door, and all was over.

The best of the joke is, that the minister took the whole thing in earnest. He would listen to no apologies the old lady could make for the girls. He would hear no excuses, but he solemnly folded his clerical robes around him and silently stole away.

Quite—was he mad at the old lady, or the girls?—*Louisville (Ky.) Courier.*

School Equality.—Whites and Blacks.

It was only a few days since that we published an account of the forcible ejection of wards of the nation from a school in Ohio, the parents of the whites refusing to have them sit intellectually from the same trough with the blacks. Buffalo, N. Y., is equally unreliable when it is demanded that no concessions be made for the darkey shall be enforced by action. The Commercial of that city, of last Wednesday, furnishes the following:

For a time past a degree of excitement has been occasioned in some of the public schools on account of the fact that a number of colored children had insisted upon attending, and remained despite the efforts of the teachers to compel them to leave.

Recently, a petition by colored people, asking permission to send their children to other schools than that set apart for them, was referred to the common council committee on schools. The committee reported that the council had no authority to grant the permission asked, and the report was adopted.

Notwithstanding this action, the parents of the children continued to send them to the schools, and yesterday superintendent Foskick went to districts Nos. 11 and 12 and ordered the colored children to leave. They refused to do, when they were ordered to do so, and the colored children of No. 32 were also ejected by the superintendent.

It is understood that Mr. Foskick has adopted this course in pursuance of the action of the council, and it is rumored that the parties emulating themselves aggrieved, have had him arrested and arranged by force the United States court to issue a writ of habeas corpus.

This school set apart for colored children, on Vine street, will accommodate 200, we are told, though the average daily attendance is only about 45.

We do not design to comment on this exhibition of radical hypocrisy. The colored people will surely open their eyes to these plain facts and escape from the embrace of misable demagogues who will use them and then give their sanction to extermination, expulsion, or any other measure for their ruin.—*Progress.*

A Proclamation.
By His Excellency, Jonathan Worth, Governor of North Carolina.

WHEREAS, By Act of Assembly, "the Governor is directed to set apart a day, in every year, and by proclamation give notice thereof, as a day of solemn and public thanksgiving to Almighty God, for past blessings, and of supplication for his continued kindness over us, as a state and as a nation";

Now, THEREFORE, I, JONATHAN WORTH, Governor, as aforesaid, do issue this, my proclamation, appointing and setting apart THURSDAY, the TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, instant, as such day, and do most earnestly recommend that it be observed accordingly by all the good people of the State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, His Excellency, JONATHAN WORTH, Governor, and I, his Captain-General and Commander-in-Chief, has heretofore set his hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed.

Done at the city of Raleigh, this fourth day of November, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, and in the ninety-second year of American Independence.

JONATHAN WORTH,
By His Excellency, Private Secretary.

The Seventh Regiment have decided to resume their former full dress and fatigue uniform.—*N. Y. Paper.*

From The N. C. Presbyterian.
GOD SAVE THE STATE!

The character of the newspaper discussions upon political affairs, as we read them in our Northern exchanges, is such as to excite our forebodings for the welfare of the country, and to suggest the possibility of a speedy culmination of the present crisis into a bloody contest for power between the opposing parties. We of the South have a deep stake in the permanency and perpetuity of our institutions. Through the Constitution of our fathers has been torn and torn until it is but a thing of shreds and patches, there is enough of the old material still left to enable us, by wise administration and harmonious consent, to conserve the principles of freedom even to the remotest generations. Yet we cannot disguise from ourselves, much as we desire to put aside gloomy apprehensions, that the momentum acquired by the successful party, which has directed the government for the last six years, bids fair to bear down all opposition and carry us beyond the familiar landmarks of the Constitution. If that shall be totally repudiated, or so far ignored as to exercise but little influence on the legislation of the country; if we are about to pass from a government of law to a government of numbers merely, whose only limit is the approval or forbearance of the people, we may well anticipate another struggle, as violent perhaps as that through which we have lately passed.

The parties will be different, indeed, we shall not be principal actors in the drama, though vitally interested in the result; but the consequences will be such as to bear with severe and crushing force upon our well-nigh ruined people.

There is now a breathing-spell, a short pause at least, during which the probable combatants are preparing for the attack and defence. And while yet the storm may be dissipated and the actual conflict averted, there is pressing necessity that God's people, in every part of the land, should be importunate at a throne of grace, that He who stilleth the waves, and the noise of their tumult, and the people, may speak His own powerful word of peace, and cause the wrath of man to praise Him. We cannot afford to lose this hope and confidence in God. Without His aid, our own judgments, or by a plan of His own choosing, we must go to pieces on the rocks which lie ahead in the direct course of our advance, and sink, as nations before have sunk, in the wild waves of anarchy and despotism. But a few years ago, he would have been held a prophet of evil, to be shunned by all good and true men, who could have uttered such a prediction. But now we have grown so familiar with vaticinations of this kind, sustained by arguments of so much cogency and power, that, humbly speaking, such a result appears more than probable to every thinking mind.

And hence we implore all true lovers of our institutions who are, at the same time, familiar with the means of access to Him who is the Ruler of the universe, to seek His aid in their supplications. Let us pray that He will avert the evil day and bring peace out of the fearful strife which threatens the destruction of the State.

We are not alarmists in any sense. We utter gravely what our fears lead us to speak, and we express only a moderate opinion upon passing events. We indicate the danger and declare our belief that a few short months will test the strength of the Constitution, and the hold which it maintains upon the affections of the whole people, to a greater degree than the late revolution, even in the height of its power. For then, on the one side, the Constitution was the rallying cry which drew together the thousands who went to battle under the stars and stripes, and on the other the same principle of devotion to the Constitution animated the hosts of Southern men who yielded their lives to advance the "stars and stripes" to a proud position amongst the ensigns of the nations. Now, we hear the representatives of the people speak of the Constitution as repudiated, while not only fierce invective but threats of deposition are freely indulged in towards the chief magistrate of the government, who professes to be guided only by an unwavering attachment to the laws and institutions under which we live. Religious newspapers, so-called, clamor for impeachment, and diplytically consign the President to trial by a drum-head court martial, with a downy soldiers in a hollow-square to execute its sentence by the bullet and the bayonet. In the stress of public affairs whether shall we turn for help—where shall we look for success. Whether, but to Thee, oh God, whose purposes of mercy are always pleaded—where, but to Thy strong arm whose power none can stay, nor turn aside!

And why should we not be encouraged to seek unto Him? We are well aware that great and abounding wickedness fills the land; that on every side boisterous corruption festers and poisons the wholesome air which else would give moral health and vigor to the masses; that recklessness in one section and criminal apathy and indifference in another invite the approach of national dissolution as a just judgment for our national sin; yet we also know that there is no limit to God's mercy, and that, in other days, He has interposed to save His people from a ruin which appeared inevitable. He has placed means within our power; He expects us to be earnest and diligent in their use; He has suspended blessings upon the condition of our faithfulness, and He has taught us by the examples of His word and providence how we ought to walk sad to please Him. Are we guiltless then if we look on with indifference, or with passive, though sorrowful submission, while so much may be, at this very moment, involved in the course which we may pursue? Do we owe no responsibility, even to those who refuse to acknowledge God in the government of nations, if we beset not the mercer-seat with fervent supplications that the Almighty Disposer of human events would so order our public affairs that, out of probable danger, we may yet find the safe way of escape? May He not teach our senators wisdom, and our exactors righteousness? And shall we not seek this as the best gift for an imperilled people?

But there is one important fact that we should remember in connection with the exercise of this duty of prayer to God for

national deliverance and safety. When we look to Him, we must come with repentance. It will not do to draw near with pride in our hearts, feeling that we have nothing to confess, and that we are not guilty in His sight. It were easy to point out great and crying sins which both sections and all parties are openly maintaining and practising every day, but the recital would be only too wearisome, because of their number and enormity. We are sinning with a high hand, and God's people must confess these transgressions and the iniquity of the people if they would appease His offended majesty and turn aside the fierceness of His wrath. A deep and sincere repentance, a turning away from our sins with full purpose of soul, and endeavor after new obedience, will be followed by a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it. Then God will save the State, and all the precious interests that are bound up in its preservation will develop and mature into a rich inheritance of liberty to all generations.

THE SPEECH OF QUINTUS CURTIUS.—Below will be found a fair translation of the famous speech of Quintus Curtius, the Scythian Ambassador, to Alexander the Great. It is quite suggestive, and well worth perusing, at the present time, by every American citizen who wishes well to his country.

SPEECH OF THE SCYTHIAN AMBASSADOR TO ALEXANDER THE GREAT.

If your person were as gigantic as your desires, the world would not contain you. Your right hand would touch the east, and your left the west, at the same time. You would grasp more than you are equal to. From Europe you reach Asia; from Asia you lay hold on Europe. And if you should conquer all mankind, you seem disposed to wage war with woods and snows, with rivers and wild beasts, and to attempt to subdue Nature.

But have you considered the usual course of things? Have you reflected, that greatness are many years in growing to their height, and are cut down in an hour? It is foolish to think of the fruit only, without considering the height you have to climb to come at it. Take care, lest you strive to reach the top, you fall to the ground with the branches on which you have laid hold.

Behold, what you have to do with the Scythians, or the Scythians, with you?—We have never invaded Macedonia; why do you attack Scythia? You pretend to be the punisher of robbers, and are yourself the general robber of mankind. You have taken Lydia, you have seized Syria; you are master of Persia; you have subdued the Bactrians, and attacked India; all this will not satisfy you, unless you lay your greedy and insatiable hands upon our lands and our herds.

But have you forgotten how long the conquest of the Bactrians detained you?—While you were subduing them, the Scythians revolted. Your victories serve to no other purpose than to find you employment by producing new wars; for the business of every conqueror is twofold—to win and to preserve; and though you may be the greatest of warriors, you must expect that the nations you conquer will endeavor to shake off the yoke as fast as possible; for the nations people choose to be under foreign dominion.

If you will cross the Taurus, you may travel over Scythia, and observe how extensive a territory we inhabit. But to conquer us is quite another business; you will find us, at one time, too nimble for your pursuit; and at another time, when you think we are fled far enough from you, you will have us surprise you in your camp; for the Scythians attack you no less vigor than they flee. It will, therefore, be your wisdom to keep, with strict attention, what you have gained; catching at more, you may lose what you have. We have a proverb that says in Scythia, that Fortune has no feet, and is furnished only with hands to distribute her capricious favors, and with lips to hide the grasp of those who look for the least opportunity.

You are vexed about the Greek, the son of a Greek American. It is not for the character of a Greek to bestow favors on mortals, not to deprive them of what they have. But if you have a goal, reflect on the generous condition of humanity. You will thus show more wisdom than by dwelling on those subjects which have puffed up your pride, and made you forget yourself.

You see how little you are likely to gain by attempting the conquest of Scythia. On the other hand, you may, if you please, have in us a valuable alliance. We command the banners of both Europe and Asia. There is nothing between us and Bactria but the river Taurus; and our territory extends to Thrace, which, as we have heard, borders on Macedonia.

If you do not attack us in a hostile manner, we will be your friendship—Nations which have never been at war are on an equal footing; but it is vain that confidence is reposed in a conquered people; in each case sincere friendship between the oppressor and the oppressed, even in peace, the latter that themselves entitled to the rights of war against the former.

We will, if you think good, enter into a treaty with you according to our manner, which is not by signing, sealing and taking the gods to witness, as is the Grecian custom; but by doing actual services. The Scythians are not used to promise, but perform without promising. And they think an appeal to the gods superfluous, because those who have no regard for the esteem of men, will not hesitate to offend the gods by perjury.

You may, therefore, consider with yourself, whether you had better have a people of such a character, and so situated as to have it in their power either to serve you or to annoy you, according as you treat them, for allies or for enemies.

HOW NINE COUNTIES RULE EMBRY-NINE.—We made extracts in our last from the speech of Mr. Hood, the colored delegate from Cumberland, says *The Raleigh Register*, to the 4th September Convention. It is brief, and we now lay the whole of it before our readers. It furnishes a key to the chicanery which ruled that ill-assorted

body, and explains how the delegates from nine counties dictated the organization and policy of the Convention, by threatening to bolt, and break up in a row, unless their will and pleasure should be accepted as the law of the party. It will be seen also that there was "a Southern white and a Northern white element" in the Convention; and that the Northern white element, consisting of half a dozen men, had control of the nine counties, through their influence over the black element therein; and that by standing out for their "rights" as they understood them, these half a dozen Northern whites subdued the Southern whites, who directly represented some fifty or more counties of the State, and indirectly the remaining thirty. This singular result was due to two or three causes. The first was the fact that the Convention was composed of two-thirds colored to one-third white. We rather under, than over state the proportion of colored delegates. The second cause was the almost absolute control which the Northern delegates exercised over the colored delegates, through the prestige of one of them as a Union soldier, and the encouragement which has been given to the idea that the people of the North or Congress, intend to divide up the lands of the South among the negro population. The poorer classes of the whites in some localities, are said also to share in these delusive hopes, which certain disinterested patriots have propagated among them. But it was the largely dominant black element which enabled the Northern delegates from the nine counties to give tone to the Convention.

It is a fact of public notoriety that the Northern delegates from the nine counties came to Raleigh with feelings anything but friendly, politically, to the editor of *The Standard*; but in order to carry their point, as will be seen by Mr. Hood's statement, they agreed to compromise, by continuing that gentleman as Chairman of the Executive Committee. On this basis, the hatchet was buried, the calumet of peace was smoked, and victory was secured for the "Northern element" in the nine counties, over the Southern element in the remainder of the state.

Rev. Mr. Hood, (colored) of Cumberland county, said:

Mr. President:—The colored delegation have demanded none of the honorable positions in this Convention. Under some circumstances it is likely we should have done so; but, sir, after meeting last night—up to which time we had a particular programme, which, perhaps, without difficulty we could have put through; and I may remark that upon that programme was the name of a Southern man for President of this Convention, and up to this morning it was the decision of the leading colored men in this Convention that this was our best programme. But this morning, sir, we find there are two elements in this Convention—a Southern white, and a Northern white element—and these are struggling for ascendancy. The colored delegation at once found that they should take a position if possible, to harmonize these elements. Nine counties met in caucus this morning and decided that if we put up the man we had laid our minds upon we should be in danger of destroying the harmony of this Convention, from the cause I have mentioned. Nothing would please the colony better than that we should pick up in a row; but they shall not have an opportunity of witnessing any such thing. It is difficultly we propose to support General Abbott, and I propose to recommend Mr. Pool as Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, and Gov. Holden as Chairman of the State Executive Committee. Nothing would please some people better than to see Gov. Holden removed from that position, but we do not intend to be driven to the wall by any equity; we shall pursue the even tenor of our course, entirely independent of what our opponents may think or do in the matter. We have made up our minds to carry this party through this State, independent of the opposition; and the men we wish to fill in positions of trust we will place therein in spite of all opposition.

A GEOLOGICAL WONDER.—On the north bank of Buffalo creek, one of the tributaries of the Rivanna river, there is a large sandstone rock, which seems to have been denuded from a high cliff hard by. On this rock there are five distinct and perfect impressions of a child's feet. There are, besides, other impressions not so distinct, one of which is about twelve inches in length, evidently produced by the slipping of the child's foot. The foot-prints are those of a child between two and three years of age. There are also numerous tracks of some animal, probably an otter. The foot-prints of the child appear at regular intervals, the right and left foot alternating, and extend over a space of five feet. They are so perfect that, when examined carefully under the microscope by a scientific man some years ago, it is said the very grain of the flesh could be detected.

It is scarcely possible that these foot-prints could have been the work of art. The estate on which the rock containing them is situated belongs to Mr. George W. Early, and has been in the family ever since the land was first entered, under a patent obtained from George III. It has been a neighborhood curiosity for many years. Quite recently a gentleman living in Gordonsville, hearing of this curiosity, rode twenty miles on horseback to see it, and becoming interested in it, induced Mr. Early to join him in employing workmen to quarry it out. This is now being carefully done. It is, in all probability, the most remarkable curiosity of its kind which has ever been discovered, and may throw much light on the vexed question of the date of man's appearance on this globe.—*Richmond Dispatch.*