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President Johnson's Speech.

Recently a large delegation from various Southern States waited upon President Johnson at the Mansion House in Washington. In response to the address of their Chairman, the President spoke as follows:

Gentlemen—I can only say in reply to the remarks of your chairman that I am highly gratified to receive the assurances he has given me. They are more than I could have expected under the circumstances. I must say I was unprepared to receive so numerous a delegation on this occasion; it was unexpected. I had no idea it was so large, or represented so many States, when I expressed, as I did, my willingness to see at any time so many of you as choose to do me the honor to call upon me, and that I should be gratified at receiving any manifestations of regard you might think proper to make. I was totally unprepared for anything equal to the present demonstration. I am free to say it excites in my mind feelings and emotions that language is totally inadequate to express.

When I look back upon my past actions, and recall a period scarcely more than four short years ago, when I stood battling for principles which many of you supposed and thought were wrong, I was battling for the principles that actuate me to-day, and which principles, I thank my God, you have come forward on this occasion to manifest a disposition to support. I can say now, as I have said on many former occasions, that I entertain no personal resentments, animosities or animosities to any living soul south of Mason's and Dixon's line, however much he may have differed from me in principle. I stood pleading with my Southern brethren, when they stood with their hats on their heads ready to turn their backs upon the United States—how I implored them to stand with me there to maintain our rights and fight our battles under the laws and Constitution of the United States. I think now as I thought then, and endeavored to induce them to believe that our true position was under the law and under the Constitution of the United States with the institution of slavery; but if that principle made an issue that rendered a disintegration possible, I had made an issue which should prevent us from transmitting to our children a country, as bequeathed to us by our fathers, I had nothing else to do but to stand by the government, be the consequences what they might. I said then, what you all know, that I was for the institutions of the country as guaranteed by the Constitution, but above all things I was for the Union of the States. I remember the taunts, the jeers, the scowls with which I was treated; I remember the circle that stood around me, and remember the threats and intimidations that were freely uttered by the men who opposed, and whom I wanted to befriend and guide by the light that led me; but feeling conscious in my own integrity, and that I was right, I heeded not what they might say or do to me, and was inspired and encouraged to do my duty, regardless of aught else, and have lived to see the realizations of my prediction and the fatal error of those who vainly essayed to save from the results I could but foresee.

Gentlemen, we have passed through this rebellion. I say we, for it is us who are responsible for it. Yes, the South made the issue; and I know the nature of the Southern people well enough to know that when they have become convinced of an error, they frankly acknowledge it in a manly, open, direct manner, and now in the performance of that duty, or indeed in any act they undertake to perform, they do it heartily and frankly; and now that they come to me, I understand them as saying that "we set up the Union of the States against the institution of slavery; we selected the arbitrator, the God of Battles; the arbitrament was the sword. The issue was fairly and honorably met. Both the questions presented have been settled against us, and we are prepared to accept the issue." I find on all sides this spirit of candor and honor prevailing. It is said by all: "The issue was ours and the judg-

ment has been against us, and the decision having been made against us, we feel bound in honor to abide by the arbitrament."

In doing this we are doing for ourselves no dishonor, and should not feel humiliated or degraded, but rather that we are ennobling ourselves by our action, and we should feel that the Government has treated us magnanimously, and meet the Government upon the terms it has so magnanimously proffered us. So far as I am concerned personally, I am uninfluenced by any question, whether it affects the North or the South, the East or the West. I stand where I did of old; battling for the Constitution and the Union of these United States. In doing so, I know I opposed some of you gentlemen of the South, when the doctrine of Secession was being urged upon the country, and the declaration of your right to break up the Government and disintegrate the Union was made. I stand to day, as I have ever stood, firmly in the opinion that if a monopoly contends against this country, the monopoly must go down and the country must go up. Yes, the issue was made by the South against the Government; and the Government has triumphed; and the South, true to her ancient instincts of frankness and manly honor, comes forth and expresses its willingness to abide the results of the decision in good faith. While I think that the rebellion has been arrested and subdued, and am happy in the consciousness of a duty well performed, I want, not only you, but the people of the world, to know, that while I dreaded and feared disintegration of the States, I am equally opposed to consolidation or concentration of power here, under whatever guise or name they bear; and if the issue is forced upon us, I shall still endeavor to pursue the same efforts to dissuade from the doctrine of running to extremes, but I say let the same rules be applied. Let the Constitution be our guide. Let the preservation of that and the Union of the States be our principal aim. Let it be our hope that the Government may be perpetuated, and that the principles of the Government, founded as they are on right and justice, may be handed without spot or blemish to our posterity. As I have before remarked to you, I am gratified to see so many of you here to-day. It manifests a spirit I am pleased to observe. I know it has been said of me that my asperities are sharp; that I had vindictive feelings to gratify, and that I should not fail to avail myself of the opportunities that would present themselves to gratify such despicable feelings. Gentlemen, if my acts will not speak for me and for themselves than any profession I might make would be equally useless. But, gentlemen, if I know myself, as I think I do, I know that I am of the Southern people, and I love them, and will do all in my power to restore them to that state of happiness and prosperity which they enjoyed before the madness of misguided men, in whom they had reposed their confidence, led them astray to their own undoing. If there is anything that can be done on my part on correct principles, on the principles of the Constitution, to promote these ends, be assured it shall be done. Let me assure you, also, that there is no disposition on the part of the Government to deal harshly with the Southern people.

There may be speeches published from various quarters that may breathe a different spirit. Do not let them trouble or excite you, but believe that it is the great object of the Government to make the union of these United States more complete and perfect than ever, and to maintain it on constitutional principles, if possible, most firmly than it has ever before been. Then why cannot we all come up to the work in a proper spirit? In other words, let us look to the Constitution. The issue has been made, and decided. Then, as wise men, as men who see right and are determined to follow it, as fathers and brothers, and as men who love their country in this hour of trial and suffering, why cannot we come up and help to settle the questions of the hour, and adjust them according to the principles of honor and of justice? The institution of slavery is gone. The former status of

the negro had to be changed, and we, as wise men, must recognize so potent a fact and adapt ourselves to circumstances as they surround us.

Voices—"We are willing to do so." "Yes, sir, we are willing to do so."

I believe you are. I believe when your faith is pledged—when your consent has been given, as I have already said—I believe it will be maintained in good faith, and every pledge or promise fully carried out. [Cries, "It will."] All I ask or desire of the South or the North, the East or the West, is to be sustained in carrying out the principles of the Constitution. It is not to be denied that we have been great sufferers on both sides. Good men have fallen on both sides and much misery is being endured, as the necessary result of so gigantic a contest. Why, then, cannot we come together, and around the common altar of our country heal the wounds that have been made. Deep wounds that have been inflicted. Our country has been scarred all over. Then why cannot we approach each other upon principles which are right in themselves, and which will be productive of good to all. The day is not distant, when we shall feel like some family that has had a deep and desperate feud, the various members of which have come together and compared the evils and the sufferings they had inflicted upon each other. They had seen the influence of their error and its results, and governed by a generous spirit of conciliation, they had mutually become forbearing and forgiving, and return to their old habits of fraternal kindness, and become better friends than ever. Then let us consider that the feud which alienated us has been settled and adjusted to mutual satisfaction; that we come together to be bound by firmer bonds of love, respect and confidence, than ever. The North cannot get along without the South, nor the South without the North, the East without the West, nor the West without the East. I say it is our duty to do all that in our power lies to perpetuate and make stronger the bonds of our Union, seeing that it is for the common good of all that we should be united. I feel that this Union, though but the creation of a century, is to be perpetuated for all time, and that it cannot be destroyed except by the all-wise God who created it. Gentlemen, I repeat, I sincerely thank you for the respect manifested on this occasion, and for the expressions of approbation and confidence; please accept my thanks.

The leader of the delegation replied: Mr. President, on behalf of this delegation, I return you my sincere thanks for your kind, generous and magnanimous expressions of kindly feeling to the people of the South.

The visitors then retired.

NOMINATION ACCEPTED.

General Davis, late an officer in the army, on accepting the nomination of the democratic party of Pennsylvania for the office of Auditor General, denounces the doctrine of secession and endorses President Johnson's reconstruction policy. He adds:

I am opposed to negro suffrage, as every white man should be. Nature has erected a barrier against the two races enjoying equal political rights in the same community, where they approximate in numbers as in the Southern States. San Domingo is a good case in point to prove the incompatibility of the two races exercising equal political privileges in harmony. There has been almost perpetual warfare between the negroes and mulattoes since the island has been in their possession, which has been only a struggle for the ruling influence between the pure African and the mixed blood. If this people, of the same race, but of different caste, cannot govern a small island in peace, what are we to suppose would be the condition of things when the negro comes into competition with the pure Caucasian in the struggle for empire in the South? The founders of our Government intended that the white should be the governing race in this country, and it will be

a calamitous day for both people when the black man is given the political franchise, and entitled to hold office.

MASSACHUSETTS REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

The Republican State Convention of Massachusetts met at Worcester on the 14 inst., and was largely attended. Senator Sumner was chosen presiding officer, and on taking the chair addressed the assemblage in a speech of considerable length, maintaining that the rebellion and slavery are not yet ended, and will not be till the emancipated negroes of the South are placed on an equality before the law with those who were formerly their masters. Colonel Alexander H. Bullock and Hon. William Claflin were unanimously nominated for Governor and Lieutenant Governor respectively. The resolutions adopted express the utmost confidence in President Johnson, pledge him support in his efforts to restore order in the South, and agree with his assertion that treason is the greatest of crimes, and must be punished; call for vigor and vigilance in dealing with the States lately in rebellion and the extirpation of every trace of slavery; maintain that the Southern people cannot be safely entrusted with their civil government or allowed representation in Congress till by amendments to their State constitutions they shall have prohibited slavery; assert that neither Southern men who tried to destroy the nation by arms, nor Northern men who declared the war for its maintenance a failure and called for its immediate cessation, are the proper persons to be trusted with authority; and, while avoiding a declaration in favor of extending the ballot to the negroes of the South, say that no test can be made which will deny it to those of them who have borne arms in defence of the republic and grant it to rebel soldiers and traitorous politicians. N. Y. Herald.

GOLD RECOVERED.

Captain J. B. Jones, of the 19th United States Infantry, arrived at Washington three or four days since, from Augusta, Georgia, bringing with him eleven hundred pounds of gold and silver bullion, with a small amount of coin, of the aggregate value perhaps of \$200,000. This wealth was recovered by the Treasury Agent, and is said to be a part of the spoils captured from Mr. Jefferson Davis. Captain Jones has delivered the money to the Treasurer of the United States.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The Norfolk Post of Friday says: Jefferson Davis was yesterday transferred from his case mate prison to a room in Carrol Hall, in Fortress Monroe. The change was made necessary, owing to the declining health of the late President. Carrol Hall is, perhaps, the most comfortable building in the fort, and instead of being limited to a port hole view of the world, Mr. Davis will now be enabled to survey the entire parade ground from his prison window.

EUROPEAN EMIGRATION.—There is every indication that a large number of people from different portions of Europe are eagerly looking forward to future residence in the United States, and are using every means to ascertain the price and location of the immense tracts of land which are now lying uncultivated in the South. Mr. James Black, of the Agricultural Bureau, but formerly of Scotland, is daily receiving letters from that country inquiring what inducements are offered to foreign emigrants. Mr. B., in answer to these inquiries, has written a letter to the Glasgow Herald, setting forth the superior advantages of Virginia to the emigrant, which has met with a substantial reception in the shape of £10,000 placed at his disposal for investment by a wealthy citizen of Glasgow. New York Tribune.

Parson Brownlow says there are now, according to the census just taken, over twenty thousand negroes in Memphis, many of them idle and dissolute.