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## Address of the President to the Army.

The following is the address of the President to the army:

### *Soldiers of the Armies of the Confederate States:*

In the long and bloody war in which your country is engaged, you have achieved many noble triumphs. You have won glorious victories over vastly more numerous hosts. You have cheerfully borne privations and toil to which you were unaccustomed. You have readily submitted to restraints upon your individual will, that the citizen might better perform his duty to the State as a soldier. To all these you have lately added another triumph, the noblest of human conquests—a victory over yourselves.

As the time drew near when you who first entered the service might well have been expected to claim relief from your arduous labors and restoration to the endearments of home, you have heeded only the call of your suffering country. Again you come to tender your service for the public defence—a free offering which only such patriotism as yours could make—a triumph worthy of you and of the cause to which you are devoted.

I would in vain attempt adequately to express the emotions with which I received the testimonials of confidence and regard which you have recently addressed to me. To some of these first received, separate acknowledgements were returned. But it is now apparent that a like generous enthusiasm pervades the whole army, and that the only exception to such magnanimous tender will be of those who, having originally entered for the war, cannot display anew their zeal in the public service. It is, therefore, deemed appropriate, and it is hoped, will be equally acceptable to make a general acknowledgement, instead of successive special responses. Would that it were possible to render my thanks to you in person, and in the name of our common country, as well as in my own, while pressing the hand of each war-worn veteran, to recognize his title to our love, gratitude, and admiration.

Soldiers! By your will, (for you and the people are but one) I have been placed in a position which debars me from sharing your dangers, your sufferings, and your privations in the field. With pride and affection my heart has accompanied you in every march; with solicitude it has sought to administer to your every want; with exultation it has marked your every heroic achievement. Yet, never in the toilsome march, nor in the weary watch, nor in the desperate assault, have you rendered a service so decisive in results as in this last display of the highest qualities of devotion and self-sacrifice which can adorn the character of the warrior-patriot.

Already the pulse of the whole people beats in unison with yours. Already they compare your spontaneous and unanimous offer of your lives, for the defence of your country, with the halting and reluctant service of the mercenaries who are purchased by the enemy at the price of higher bounties than have hitherto been known in war. Animated by this contrast, they exhibit cheerful confidence and more resolute bearing. Even the numbers of the weak and timid, who shrink from the trials which make stronger and firmer your noble natures, are shamed into silence by the spectacle which you present. Your brave battle cry will ring loud and clear through the land of the enemy, as well as our own; will silence the vain, glorious boasts of their corrupt part-

sans and their pensioned press; and will do justice to the calumny by which they seek to persuade a deluded people that you are ready to purchase dishonorable safety by degrading submission.

Soldiers! The coming spring campaign will open under auspices well calculated to sustain your hopes. Your resolution needed nothing to fortify it. With ranks replenished under the influence of your example, and by the aid of your representatives, who give earnest of their purpose to add, by legislation, largely to your strength, you may welcome the invader with a confidence justified by the memory of past victories. On the other hand, debt, taxation, repetition of heavy drafts, dissension, occasioned by the strife for power, by the pursuit of the spoils of office, by the thirst for the plunder of the public treasury; and above all, the consciousness of a bad cause, must tell with fearful force upon the overstrained energies of the enemy. His campaign in 1864, must from the exhaustion of his resources both in men and money, be far less formidable than those of the last two years when unimpaired means were used with boundless prodigality, and with results which are suggested by the mention of the glorious names of Shiloh and Perryville, and Murfreesboro' and Chancellorsville, and the Chickahominy, and Manassas, and Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville.

Soldiers! Assured success awaits us in our holy struggle for liberty and independence, and for the preservation of all that renders life desirable to honorable men. When that success shall be reached, to you, your country's hope and pride, under Divine Providence, will it be due. The fruits of that success will not be reaped by you alone; but your children, and your children's children in long generations to come, will enjoy blessings derived from you that will preserve your memory ever living in their hearts.

Citizen defenders of the homes, the liberties, and the altars of the Confederacy! That the God whom we all humbly worship may shield you with his Fatherly care, and preserve you for safe return to the peaceful enjoyment of your friends and the association of those you most love, is the earnest prayer of your Commander-in-Chief.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Richmond, Febr'y. 9th, 1864.

From the Greensboro' Patriot.

Mr Editor:—A notice published in your last paper over the signature of "Many citizens," has attracted much attention and excited a great deal of inquiry. What is the object of the meeting? Who's at the head of it? Is in everybody's mouth both from town and country, and nobody, as yet has been found who can answer these enquiries or give any satisfaction to the inquiring public. The notice appears to be a founding, the paternity or maternity of which nobody is willing to acknowledge. It requests "all the citizens of Guilford who believe that the people have a right to assemble together to consult for their common good, to instruct their representatives, and to apply to the Legislature for redress of grievances," to meet in the Court House on Saturday next. "Various important questions are to be considered." What are the important questions? no information whatever is given. The people are to be got together, are to be penned, before they are allowed to know for what purpose they have been called together. Fraud and deceit always burrow in the dark, and disclose their secret workings by piece-meal. The people must be got into the Court House—then the leaders who have been consulting and concocting measures in secret, bring forth one proposition, and then another—and another, till all the "important questions" are considered. It is to be hoped that no man who studies his own peace, and the peace of his State, will be caught in any such a trap. What necessity is there now for consultation for the common good more than there was a month or three months, or six months ago? The Legislature has adjourned within a month, what grievances are there now to redress that did not exist when it was in session? It

will meet again in May, why not wait till the next Session? What special grievances can there be that requires a call of the Legislature before December and May? These are only pretences, and although dressed in fine clothes, cannot conceal the ugly and dirty carcass they are intended to hide.

It is well known that there is a plan on foot, which originated in Raleigh to call a Convention, and carry the State of North Carolina out of the Confederacy, and it is very much to be feared that the meeting on Saturday is called to further that design. Sorry am I that Guilford soil is selected for the furtherance of any such design. North Carolina, by a solemn act of the Convention of her people, has forsworn or forswore in her lot with the people of the Southern Confederacy, and has solemnly pledged her faith to "live or die, sink or swim, survive or perish" with them, and she can take no steps backward without bringing shame upon her children and disgrace upon her name. Her escutcheon has always been bright, and her name unsullied up to the present hour. It is to be hoped no citizen of Guilford will lend his name, his influence or his presence to put a blot on her untarnished fame.

But suppose the Convention called, and we withdraw from the Confederacy, what then? "Take our own affairs into our own hands," is the language of the disturber of the repose of North Carolina. Well, then, you have got back your own affairs into your own hands, what then? Recall our troops, I suppose, would be the next step. But would they come when you call them? is the next question. Suppose they would not desert those glorious leaders, under whom they have so often conquered and abandoned that sacred cause which has been consecrated by the blood of so many heroes and martyrs, (and we all know they would not) what would we then do with our own affairs in our own hands? We would then stand exposed to the scorn and derision of all the world. Suppose they come, what then? Why you make North Carolina the battle field of the war, and you will see,

"Wide over her fields a waste of ruins laid."

Ask those of our fellow-citizens who have been to Northern and Eastern Virginia, to describe its present condition, ruin and waste and desolation, and pause before you take the first step toward inflicting a similar ruin upon your beloved State and happy homes. But you are told this is a peace measure—It is all for peace and to stop the war. Be not deceived. It is a measure to aggravate, intensify and magnify the war and bring it to your doors and hearth stones. Does any man in his reason believe that if North Carolina seceded from the Confederacy she could remain neutral? No for a day—she would be occupied immediately as a matter of necessity, as of self-protection by Confederate troops, and these troops would then be hostile troops and would burn with resentment against us for our perfidy.

But why talk about neutrality and its consequences? Nonsense. The object is to carry the State back into the old Union from which we seceded in 1861. What would be the consequences of that move if it could succeed? War to the knife, and the knife to the hilt, here among us, Father against son, brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor, burning houses, violated women, robbery and plunder. A Confederate army and a Federal army, both on our soil, both devouring and destroying until they would not leave a rail or a blade of grass in the land. Our people divided, part on one side and part on the other, engaged in the general business of cutting the throats of each other. But not deceived. I know you want peace, so do I, so does everybody. But we must seek peace in a constitutional and legal way—we have an organized government, and we must speak for peace through the organ of the government. Some of the very men who are now heading it up in their were secessionists and brought on the present war. They told you secession was a peaceful remedy. They told what was not true, and when they tell you you can have peace by calling a Convention, they tell you what is not true again.

If you were about to take a journey upon a rail road train, and were informed that the locomotive was out of order—some of the axles wrenched, some of the wheels cracked—that the engineer was crazy and the conductor drunk, would you go? Not a step. Well if you go into the meeting on Saturday, be certain that the train upon which you then embark is sound and in good condition and under the control of sober and competent officers. lest a collision or running off the track, or a break down, may end in broken bones and mangled limbs and loss of life to many who thought they were only on a pleasure trip.

Be certain you do not "jump out of the frying pan into the fire." Lincoln says we have no Confederate Government, no Nationality—but that we are a State. Now by holding a Convention to treat with Lincoln as a State, do you not ignore the existence of our Confederate Government and play directly into his hands and aid him in his great plan of our subjugation?

### A TRUE FRIEND OF NORTH CAROLINA.

SPASMODIC—Lincoln's call for 500,000 more men shows the extremity to which yankeedom is again reduced by the valor of our glorious armies. We think this will make near two millions of men called for from first to last to conquer about four millions of men, women and children, all told of whites in the Confederacy. In truth, the yankee soldiers consider that 'tis quite as much their duty to make war upon the women and children as upon the men of the Confederacy. As the million and a half have failed to conquer us, so will the additional half million, should Lincoln ever get them, which is doubtful. Besides, as each soldier costs a thousand dollars a year, five hundred thousand more would add five hundred millions of dollars to the yankee expenses. We are satisfied that they can't stand this addition, but will soon break down under it.

The Richmond Enquirer regards this new call for troops as an indication of the desperate embarrassments of the yankee government in procuring men. The Jan. draft had been postponed in the hope that large bounties would induce the soldiers now in the army to re-enlist; and this draft shows that they have generally refused to do so. The war has become unpopular. "Draft has supplanted bounties, as bounties superseded volunteering. First patriotism; next money; and lastly force;" these are the three features that characterize the war among our enemies. Patriotism ran its course in one year, and expired with McClellan's failure. Another year was gotten over by bounties. Bounties are now played out to a very considerable degree. Draft has this year to run its course, and will either expire with the Presidential election or overthrow the party that is dragging the men from their homes to continue a war of which the people are heartily tired. Confederate victories this Spring will end the war spirit, and fully and completely develop the prospects of an early peace. Every effort of every man should be devoted for this year to the cause. The united exertion of all the people, the revival of the spirit of 1861, will crown our efforts of this year with peace. More depends upon the Spring campaign than ever before, waited upon the conflict of arms. If the Confederate armies are victorious, Lincoln will be defeated in the Presidential election, the draft will be useless as means of recruiting the army, and peace will follow. If we are defeated, Lincoln will be re-elected, the draft become a powerful means of securing men, and the war indefinitely prolonged.

### A USEFUL AND PATRIOTIC MAN.—

The Hon. Howell Cobb, formerly Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives, now a General in the Confederate service, is making noble speeches in various parts of the State of Georgia stirring up that ardent patriotism which burned so bright at the beginning of the war, but which of late has seemed somewhat to slumber.—The following account of his speech in