

NORTH CAROLINA IN 1776.

From Bancroft's United States History, Volume 8.
The expedition to the Carolinas never met the approval of Howe, who condemned the activity of the southern governors, and would have had them avoid all disputes, till New York should be recovered. When Lord Dunmore learned from Clinton that Cape Fear River was the place appointed for the meeting of the seven regiments from Ireland, he broke out into angry complaints, that no heed had been paid to his representations, his sufferings, and his efforts; that Virginia, "the first on the continent for riches, power, and extent," was neglected; and the preference given to "a poor, insignificant colony," where there were no pilots, nor a harbor that could admit half the fleet, and where the army, should it land, must wade for many miles through a sandy pine barren before it could reach the inhabited part of the country.

bridge, awaited the enemy, who on that day advanced within six miles of him. A messenger from the loyalists, sent to his camp under the pretext of summoning him to return to his allegiance, brought back word that he had halted upon the same side of the river with themselves, and could be attacked with advantage; but the wise Carolina commander, who was one of the best woodmen in the province, as well as a man of superior ability, had no sooner misled his enemy, than lighting up fires and leaving them burning, he crossed the creek, took off the planks from the bridge, and placed his men behind trees and such slight intrenchments as the night permitted to be thrown up.

THE "NO CHANCE" ARGUMENT.

We are sure that our readers have marked with satisfaction the daily increasing evidences of the popular favor which every where attends the nominations of the Constitutional Union party. It is one of the peculiarities of the pending canvass, that, while each of the organizations competing with this party has its peculiar adherents and special patrons, they all alike unite in accepting the policy and the candidates of the Constitutional Union movement as their "second choice." The ardent friends of Breckinridge and Lane, of Douglas and Johnson, of Lincoln and Hamlin, in default of securing the election of their political favorites, look with complacency upon the success of Bell and Everett. The fact is not without its easy explanation, and constitutes in itself a merited tribute not only to the high personal worth of the candidates thus distinguished by the preferences of friends and of opponents, but also bears a strong testimony to the pre-eminently national and satisfactory public sentiment which they represent. The exponents of a policy which looks to the pacification of the sections so long arrayed against each other in an antagonism as unnatural in its beginnings as needless in its continuance, these honored names are already accepted by the consenting voice of their countrymen as the harbinger of repose, if only reposed be deemed a matter of the first necessity. As no practical interests of either section, according to the admission of those who respectively profess themselves the peculiar champions of each, are suspended upon the success or defeat of either the Republican or the Democratic candidates, it remains to be seen whether the delusive force of party names will prove sufficiently strong to repress "the sober second thought" which propitiates the favor of political opponents in behalf of a policy whose triumph it is recognized by all would secure the ends of justice, moderation, and peace.

The only opposition which the Constitutional Union party seems called to encounter in the Northern States is based on the alleged paucity of its supporters in that quarter. It would thus appear that Conservative Republicans at the North, in common with Union-loving Democrats at the South, have no charge to bring against Bell and Everett which they cannot remove by giving to those eminent statesmen the hearty and united support which they are admitted to deserve at the hands of men in all sections and of all political nominations. One of the most intelligent, and certainly one among the most candid, of the Republican journals—we allude to the New York Commercial Advertiser—has not hesitated to admit that the Constitutional Union party adopts "the standard which should represent the popular mind," if it be true that, owing to the evil of the times, it may not be said to take the standard which does represent the actual state of the irritated sections. To this purport that excellent journal recently remarked as follows, in speaking of the party we have named:

"Connected with it are unquestionably some of our country's best men and sincere patriots, but they have fallen into the error of supposing that they can make a party because of their personal characters and positions in the country. For their platform they look within themselves instead of into the popular mind. They take the standard that should represent the popular mind instead of that which does, and the inevitable consequence is that, instead of rallying the masses around them, they must in their ranks only the select few, and weaken other parties without becoming a party themselves."

Recent events have greatly modified the seeming force of the only allegation here brought forward in excuse for withholding from the Constitutional Union movement the support to which it is admitted to be entitled on grounds of moral obligation, if only that moral obligation can be conciliated with the practical wisdom which respects, in their due subordination, the facts as they are. We do not know that we are called in the forum of politics, any more than in the forum of conscience, to lower the standard which should represent the popular mind in order to make way for that which does. The casuistry which demands that the right should also be proved the expedient before it may justly challenge the homage of men, has long since been driven in disgrace from the schools, though, from the attention recently given by some of our contemporaries to calculations of political chances and probabilities, it would seem that there is still one domain in which it is not deemed safe to strike bravely for the right unless assured that the strongest battalions are also arrayed on its side. For the benefit of such halting spirits we have only to cite the Virgilian maxim which points the inspiring force of high resolve in the prospect of a prize held out as the incentive and the reward of manly and persevering efforts; *possunt quia cupunt*. If it were true that any considerable weight should be given to the "no chance" argument, as it has been satirically called, we should be convinced that the time has now passed, and that the friends of Bell and Everett may everywhere labor for the success of their chosen candidates under auspices which afford the reasonable hope of success in the line of patriotic duty.—National Intelligencer.

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