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Gov. Vance and Mr. Holden—A Contrast.

Both Gov. Vance and Holden claim to be the soldier's friend. Let us examine their relative pretensions.

1. Governor Vance, though originally opposed to the war, no sooner found his country engaged in it, than he raised a company, hastened to the field, and did his duty faithfully, until called to another position.

Holden, after teaching secession for years and doing more than any man in North Carolina to bring on the war, quietly skulked in his printing office, preached the doctrine of "the last man and the last dollar," and cried "go it boys, we—fight a every body but myself and finally—must fight the bitter end" &c. He has also kept his son, a full grown and able bodied man, in a safe position, preventing him from participating in the dangers and hardships of the soldier's life, and considering him too good to take his chances in the field with the thousands of brave men from North Carolina.

Which of the two has shown himself the better "friend" of the soldiers—the man who has gone with them into the battle field, shared with them their toils and suffering, and helped them to bear their heavy burden and of their hard lot—or the one who has kept himself and son in safe places, living luxuriously every day, and contributing nothing, by presence or example, to cheer the brave defenders of our country?

2. Gov. Vance sent an agent abroad, on his own responsibility, purchased and imported an abundant supply of clothing, shoes, arms and food for the soldiers themselves, and cards for their families. In this way they have been made more comfortable than the soldiers from any other State—so much so that in fact as to excite the emulation and admiration of the whole Confederacy.

Holden is a bitter enemy of "blockade running." He has tried in every way to put an end to it. He has abused Gov. Vance for thus providing for our brave men. He would sell our ships to day, and leave our soldiers to suffer for the comforts which they now enjoy, and which they have earned by so much bloodshed and sufferings.

Who is the "soldier's friend?" Gov. Vance who has relieved their necessities, provided for them every possible comfort, and made them the admiration of the Confederacy, or W. W. Holden, who is opposed to the whole system by which their wants have been supplied, and who would put an end to it as soon as possible?

3. Gov. Vance is sincerely desirous of peace. He proposes to negotiate for it promptly and in the only available way. His election will do more than anything else to put an end to the war, since it will convince the Yankees that we are a united people—that there is no serious dissension among us—that North Carolina is resolved to stand up to her soldiers in this contest. His success will prevent the State from taking a position which would bring her in collision with the Confederacy, and add the horrors of a civil war to the one already existing. In a word, by keeping him in power, peace will be secured upon the basis of independence, another secession, with its accompanying horrors, will be prevented, and North Carolina will preserve her integrity and honor.

for the result. That the soldiers will give our "model Governor" a most cordial and overwhelming support, is as much a matter of certainty, as that the sun shines to day and will rise to-morrow.

Holden will neither meet Governor Vance, before the people, nor answer the questions propounded to him through the press. True to his Yankee instincts, he always responds to our interrogatories by asking others in return. Dishonesty and indirection have become so much the fixed habits of his mind, that he cannot be persuaded to come up fairly and squarely to any thing. The great business of his life is to pervert and to dissemble whatever the issue presented, or the circumstances by which he is surrounded.

"Forage" seems to be his favorite dodge for the present, and instead of standing up like a man to his principles, if he has any, and discussing them before the people, he does nothing but squat behind a "fodder stack" and console himself by munching at a "bacon bone."

While a nation is struggling for existence, and the great problem of independence is being worked out by the blood of slaughtered thousands, he can think of nothing but "rations." Professing to be exclusively the peace candidate, he pertinaciously refuses to explain how he is to secure a cessation of hostilities, but responds to all questions in that regard by crying "forage!" "forage!!" continually. Instead of making war upon the Yankees, he expends all his resentment and ammunition upon such as he is pleased to style "stallfeders."

Of course, no one acquainted with his antecedents could expect him to do justice either to those who happen to stand in his way, or suppose him capable of sinking the partisan in the patriot even in the crisis of his country's fate. Were Gabriel to blow his trumpet to-day, Holden would never respond, until he had issued an edition of the Standard for the purpose of taking, what he conceived to be, the strong side among his future companions in the "regions below" and of denouncing some quondam friend as too much of a christian to stand between him and a certain "shady place" upon which he had set his heart. He would cry "Forage!" and proceed to abuse his betters, if any thing could be made out of it, whether accidentally translated to Heaven or justly condemned to a more congenial locality. The "demagogue" was born in him, and the fires of purgatory could not refine his nature in a thousand years. Neither the demands of justice, humanity nor patriotism could allure him, for one moment, from the shrine of which he is priest, worshipper and divinity—the altar of his own unholy ambition.

But to come to particulars. It is singular that a man of his sagacity should so far overreach himself as to accuse others of corruption, when they have only acted in accordance with a law for which he voted, as a member of the Convention, and while the very press which teems with these vile slanders, has been kept in operation, according to his own confessions, by molasses illegally purchased from the State. If there is anything improper in the system of which he complains, he is especially responsible for it, and is more guilty, by far, than the officers who have been so blatantly accused of fraud and speculation, since he has made money out of the operation.

But, he has deliberately misrepresented the facts of the case. Governor Vance, not because of Holden's advice, for that was never asked or respected when intruded, but simply as a precautionary measure—issued an order in March 1863, which prohibited State officers from purchasing rations, &c., at Government prices. The matter was submitted to the Auditor, and his legal opinion requested in regard to it. Mr. Phillips, whose reputation as a lawyer is certainly equal to that of any man in the State, decided that the privilege of making such purchases was directly granted by law—the law for which the editor of the Standard voted—and that the Governor had no more right to interfere with it, than to curtail the established pay of his officers. The Governor, as a sworn officer, was obliged to execute the laws as they stood upon the statute books, and the order was consequently withdrawn. Holden who does not pretend to be a lawyer at all; Pennington, whose knowledge is limited to the subject of prevarication exclusively; and Russ who once wanted to become a member of the "legal profession," but could not, for lack of information—declare that there is no law for this system; while, on the other hand, the Auditor, and the Attorney General of the State also, as we can prove by the record, agreed that officers had the legal right to make these purchases, and that the Governor had no authority to prevent them for so doing. Let the people of North Carolina decide between the rival "expositors" of their statutes! Where did Holden find a law for the purchase of the molasses with which he has kept his press in operation?

General Fowle, in direct contradiction of the assertions of the Standard and Progress, declares that he did not resign, in consequence of a difficulty with Gov. Vance upon the subject of "forage," but that their disagreement was in regard to an entirely different matter.

Will they condemn Gov. Vance upon the testimony of one who thus proves himself unworthy of their respect and confidence? Never! Never! Never! Again, as if determined to show his character in its true light and to unmask all its deformities, he goes a step farther in this work of iniquity. He declares that the response of Gov. Vance to the resolution of the Legislature on the subject of "forage" is unsatisfactory. In this is contained, of course, a direct assertion that he has read that report; for otherwise he could not be acquainted with its contents. And yet in the same article he makes the distinct charge that the Governor's Aide keep "pleasure horses" at public expense—that "forage" is drawn by "shades officers" for improper purposes,—a statement which he knows to be false, if he had read that report, as he pretends. Let him take either horn of the dilemma, and he still stands convicted of prevarication. If he has not read the report he does not tell the truth, in asserting that he has done so, or in conveying that idea to his readers. While, if he has read it, he deliberately misstates the facts in regard to the question of "forage," according to that report no officer connected with Gov. Vance keeps horses at public expense, or has done so for more than a year. There is no escape from these conclusions; and they only serve to show to the people of the State who, and what W. W. Holden really is. Can they advance one who thus stands convicted of such crimes against decency and propriety?

He presumes not only to malign Gov. Vance, but to give him advice. He wants Colonel Little turned out, because of some alleged inhumanity to the "poor"—whose necessities he was under the same obligations to relieve from the large fortune which he has made out of the State. The money expended in getting out one edition of the Standard would save a dozen women and their helpless children from starving. Had he not better try a little "charity" in some form, for once in his life? But the truth is, the enmity of Holden has become a badge of respectability in these days, and the man who is most abused by him ranks highest as a gentleman.

Neither Col. Little nor any other person need care for assaults from such a source. As to sending us back to Buncombe, we can only say, that although there is nothing attractive in the atmosphere of such an individual, we shall hold our nose and endure his society, at least until he has written under the rebuke which the people are prepared to administer in August.

In return for your many acts of consideration and courtesy, we would give you a little friendly advice, Mr. Holden. Give up things of comparative insignificance at such an hour as this—when your country's existence is at stake—when her blood is flowing like water—when the cypress alone is wreathed around her aching brow. As you profess to be the peace candidate, come out plainly and say upon what terms you would conclude it—what is your plan of action—by what means you intend to operate—instead of attempting to dodge behind appeals to the prejudices of the people upon the subject of "forage" and "blockade luxuries," for which you have really come in for a full benefit. Forget the role of the partisan for one moment at least, and play the patriot, if you can. Come out and denounce the treasonable conspiracy which seeks to disgrace North Carolina and to destroy the Confederacy. Warn your friends, the deserters, the danger and dishonor of skulking from their colors, and persuade them to return to the post of duty. Give to the Government, of the State and Confederacy, whatever you may think of the individuals who administer them, that cordial support and hearty co-operation which are the rightful tribute of every good citizen. Get down upon your knees to the Confederate party, and in "sack-cloth and ashes," ask pardon for having divided it, in order to advance yourself—for having sought preferment at the expense of the liberties of your country. And if you will persist in discussing the subject of "forage" in your columns, come out manfully and tell the truth, in regard to it—tell the people that Gov. Vance has done his whole duty in this matter; that his officers under a law, which you helped to enact, have simply purchased such articles as were indispensable to the support of their families; that the State has not lost a copper by the operation, and has at this moment thousands of pounds of meat to sell to the counties for the benefit of their indigent; that horses are not kept by persons connected with Gov. Vance's administration, at public expense; and that in your intemperate zeal to secure a high position you have grossly perverted and misrepresented all the facts in the case. Your defeat is inevitable, and you know it. Do something now to save your character from eternal infamy and disgrace. So much for the "forage" question.

The Threats of Deserters and Tories.

We understand that there were some three hundred deserters and tories assembled near Yadkinville, in Yadkin county, on Friday last—that they were going in the direction of Wilkes county, with a view, it is thought, of co-operating with the notorious tory chief, Col. Kirk. These brigands declare they intend to take possession of the polls in the Western counties—that they intend themselves to vote for Holden, and that no man shall be allowed to vote unless he votes the Holden ticket. This information coincides with what we have heard from various sources in the West. That this determination does exist, on the part of the tories and deserters, and that they are combining and organizing with that view, we have not a particle of doubt. And the reason is very obvious. These lawless and desperate men have forfeited their lives, and they know that if the South is successful in our struggle for independence, they have nothing to hope from the new government—they have everything to lose and nothing to gain by our success. They have an idea that Holden is their friend—that, if elected, he will protect and defend them—that they can leave the woods and return to their homes—that a Confederate soldier will dare not molest them, while Mr. Holden is Governor—and that the election of Mr. Holden will accomplish much (in which opinion we fully concur) towards the downfall and ruin of the Confederacy. No incentive to human action was ever stronger, than that which actuates these men to the course they are determined to pursue. The act contemplated is one of those feats of desperation that seemingly opens the thorny avenue of escape, and these desperadoes, if allowed to perfect their plans, will act their part with boldness and determination. We trust the authorities will see to it that the loyal men in the Western counties have the privilege of exercising the right of suffrage, these brigands to the contrary notwithstanding.

One More Question.

It seems impossible to get an answer to the plainest question from Holden on any matter whatever. We beg, nevertheless again, that he will tell us why he never made any reply to the charge of the Fayetteville Carolinian. What were those things, "more damnable and more treasonable" than even your language to Messrs Hampton and others, which you said to brother Sinclair? "Better let us alone," said Sinclair, and sure enough Holden dropped him like a hot potato. You know you said it, Mr. Holden—you dare not deny it, without fastening upon your noble compatriots, to assist in carrying us through our troubles to a speedy and happy peace and glorious independence; and to aid in laying broad and firm the foundation of the new Republic in the principles of liberty, justice, and national honor.

Horresco Referens!

Of the magnitude of Gov. Vance's villany, treachery, and vulgarity, the big and little Standards have kept the public duly informed—their fertile imaginations never being at a loss either to invent or improve upon facts. But the last and crowning outrage committed by this unworthy Governor of ours, is really too shocking to speak of! Yet the stern duties of a faithful journalist compels us to blurt it out. Holden says his (Vance's) tickets are printed on yellow paper! Great God! And he says this is a violation of the law which Vance swore to enforce! Worse and worse!!—and that those tickets are "detectors," to enable people to know who votes for Holden. The Lord have mercy upon us! Is it really "agin' the law" to vote on "yellow paper?" Does the Statute really say that the ticket must be white, ("an emblem of peace"—nay, rather of surrender) as well as rolled up? Is it a crime to vote for Holden, that one may be "detected" in? Are Mr. Holden's friends afraid or ashamed to let their preference be known? If it were desirable to "detect" every man voting for Holden, it could be done very easily, without the yellow paper, as they are all advised to vote a "rolled up" ticket, and the Vance men, we are assured, will vote openly.

Altogether, this is the most remarkable effort at deluding the people, that we have ever known in the history of free elections. A candidate for Governor who refuses to meet his competitor in open discussion upon the great issues of life and death which are upon the country, but does all his electioneering in secret, and advises his friends not to canvass—defends and apologizes for a secret and treasonable society sworn to destroy the country which he seeks to govern—finally comes out and advises all his supporters to sneak up to the polls and vote rolled up tickets, in defiance of all that is manly among freemen. And complains that his enemies are not mean and cowardly enough to follow his example, but want their tickets on paper that all the world may know!

But we have a better opinion of Holden's friends than he has himself. We hope and believe that many of them despising his dastardly counsel, will walk up boldly and manfully, like our free forefathers have always done, and vote independently for the man of their choice. We want Gov. Vance's friends to do so everywhere. What is to hinder everybody from doing so? What ground is there for these spianal whines, so industriously put forth by Holden, that his friends will not be allowed to vote? Who said so? Who could prevent it, if he has twenty thousand majority in the State, as we learn he claims? There is no ground for it. It is a miserable attempt to procure sympathy; one of the "honest arts" of this very small Burke, who blows a very small trumpet of his own. That's all. No friend of free government desires to see any man coerced in his suffrage. The sneaking attempt has been especially made among our soldiers to injure Gov. Vance. If any man on earth has the right to vote for whom he pleases, and as he pleases, it is the soldier, through whose valor we are allowed to vote at all. We do not believe their officers or anybody else will interfere with their right in the slightest degree. The election there, we doubt not, will be just as it is at home. And no amount of freedom and fairness can save Mr. Holden from such an overwhelming defeat, as will make him curse the day on which he let his unhallowed ambition stab with the traitor's blow the man who saved him and his property from destruction—split and perhaps destroy the Conservative party—the main hope of civil liberty—and worse than all, endanger the independence and stability and honor of his country.

The Great Landslide.

Never, in the history of politics, has there been such a remarkable "going over," as the condition of parties now presents in North Carolina. Holden made the Conservative party, out and out, according to the Progress. He gets Graham, Donnell, Warren, Satterthwaite, Reade, Gilmer, Boyden, Merrimon, Pearson, Puryear, and a few other obscure gentlemen to join it and assist in electing Gov. Vance by 25,000 majority. After serving the people faithfully for two years, with the lavish plaudits of the Standard and the Progress, he becomes a candidate for re-election; but lo, and behold—Holden says, No! "Vance has gone over"—"he is in the arms of the Destructives"—"true Conservatives will not vote for him" &c. &c. We regretted to lose Vance—in fact, we did not know he was gone, until Holden said so, as we had seen nothing indicating such a thing. Then the Legislature "went over" in a solid phalanx and endorsed the "gone over" Vance, including Warren and Boyden, Griswold and the Ams, Bedford Brown and Berry, and in fact, all the others. Then Graham took a notion to go for Vance, then Reade sided, then Satterthwaite, then Fowle, Judge Pearson, Gilmer, Mebane, Worth, Puryear, and others went over, until finally the whole party was in the "arms of the Destructives," except, Holden, Pennington, Hawk Rogers, Lewis Hanes, Bill Owens, the "Heroes of America," one keg of molasses, (that ran the blockade for Holden's benefit), six plugs of tobacco, one pair of high-heeled stockings, a bundle of "rolled up" tickets, (white—yellow not to be had,) and Capt. Phin Horton, who "votes for Vance and talks for Holden."

Farewell Conservative party! If Holden was the party, then it has not gone over; if it was constituted, however, of the old State Rights Democrats headed by Brown, and the old Union Whigs headed by Graham, then it has gone over with Vance from Holden, and we will go over with it. It will live on the other side purged and purified by the absence of the said Holden, Pennington, et id omne genus. It has really and truly "gone over" from a great cause and a great danger—from some bad men and false leaders, and ranged itself under the guidance of men, whose life-long devotion to conservative principles, to the old Union, and opposition to all the dogmas and "honest arts" by which Holden and such as he plunged us into trouble and bloodshed, give evidence of their fitness to love, revere, and adhere to true Conservatism. Long may it live led on by such men as Graham, Brown, and Vance, and their noble compatriots, to assist in carrying us through our troubles to a speedy and happy peace and glorious independence; and to aid in laying broad and firm the foundation of the new Republic in the principles of liberty, justice, and national honor.

Keep it Before the People.

That W. W. Holden was the father of secession, in North Carolina, and did more than any other man to bring on the revolution in which we are now involved.

Keep it before the people, that Mr. Holden, according to the testimony of Messrs. Hampton, Horton, Sinclair, Walser, and other gentlemen of prominence and distinction in North Carolina, is in favor of holding a Convention of the State, for the purpose of taking North Carolina out of the Confederacy.

Keep it before the people, that the deserters and tories of Western North Carolina have declared that they are determined to take possession of the polls in the Western counties of the State, and that no man will be allowed to vote unless he votes the Holden ticket—and that the tories and bushwhackers of East Tennessee, under the leadership of the notorious Kirk, have sworn to take forcible possession of the polls in the West, and to prevent loyal men from voting, unless they agree to vote for said W. W. Holden.

Keep it before the people, that only a few days ago, some tories and deserters in Moore County went to the house of a loyal citizen and ordered something to eat and, as they were leaving, shouted for Lincoln and Holden.

Keep it before the people, that there is a reasonable, oath-bound association in North Carolina, called "Heroes of America," and that if W. W. Holden does not belong to said organization, he is its apologist and defender, and denounces those good men, who were decoyed into, but have left it, as perjured and infamous.

Keep it before the people, that W. W. Holden endorses as a true and good man LEWIS HANES, of Davidson county, whom he (Holden) knows to be against the South and in favor of reconstruction, thus showing his (Holden's) own unsoundness as a Southern man.

Keep it before the people, that the Yankees regard Holden as their friend, as evidence whereof some Yankee prisoners passing on the railroad at Wilson cheered and shouted for W. W. Holden.

Keep it before the people, that the friends of Holden have been heard to say that, if Grant should whip Lee Holden stock will rise.

Keep it before the people, that all the deserters, tories, bushwhackers, and buffaloes are Holden men, and if they have a chance will vote for Holden.

Keep it before the people, that the Editor of Holden's organ, the Progress, wanted to arrest a man in Graham, Alamance county, for abusing Jeff. Davis—thus denying the liberty of speech.

Keep it before the people, that W. W. Holden, rolling in wealth and plenty at home, not only keeps himself out of the war, but has also kept his son out of the war, while the sons of the poor farmers and mechanics have had to go into the trenches and bare their breasts to the foe. Let the soldiers remember this.

Keep it before the people, that Holden would have the soldiers degrade themselves by sneaking to the polls with hang dog countenances, and "rolled up" tickets, instead of going, like men, to the ballot-box, and voting an open ticket.

Keep it before the people, that Holden is emphatically the war candidate, because he advocates secession, which leads inevitably to war and bloodshed.

Who are the Leading Men For?

They are for Gov. Vance. One by one, have all the men of prominence, whether of the old Whig, or of the old Democratic party in this State, declared themselves in favor of Gov. Vance, and against W. W. Holden. Graham, Badger, Pearson, Brown, Morehead, Gilmer, Donnell, Warren, Boyden, Smith, Fuller, Rumsay, and others, have all come out for Vance. They say he is the right man, and in the right place—he has made a most excellent Governor—that he has been tried and not found wanting—his administration has been eminently successful—that he has done all that mortal man could have done, under the circumstances, for the soldiers and their families, and to promote the honor and glory of North Carolina. Do the people and our brave soldiers in the army believe that Mr. Holden has more brain—more sense—more wisdom—and more patriotism, than the united intellect and wisdom of North Carolina's most distinguished sons? Surely, surely not. Then, if not, whom will they follow? The dictation of W. W. Holden, or the noble example of Graham, Gilmer, Brown and others? Remember that Holden wishes to dictate—that he declares that any citizen or soldier, who does not vote for him, is a destructive. Let these things be remembered and acted upon.

The Great Dodger.

We want the people to know the important fact, that Holden will neither go out before the people to answer plain questions, but has persistently refused to do so through his paper. Gov. Vance has asked upon the stump for information of the utmost importance to the people, and we have repeated those questions in our paper, and he will not vouchsafe one word in reply. Some time since we called on him to say whether Gov. Brown, of Ga., favored a Convention as he had frequently intimated in his paper. He refused to answer, because he knew that Gov. Vance was opposed to a Convention, and he did not wish the readers of the Standard to see the truth. Again, we called on him to know what he regarded an "honorable peace," and if he was in favor of fighting until we got it. He refuses to answer. We called on him to answer various other questions of equal importance, and to which a decent regard to truth and a proper and fair understanding of his position and view full and candid answers—and yet this "christian gentleman"—this candidate for the Chief Magistracy of the State, who has "no arts but honest arts"—seals his lips and is as dumb as an oyster. Either cowardice, or covert designs, which he fears to avow, prevent his answering—in all probability, both.

Hon. J. G. Ramsay for Gov. Vance.

The following letter is in reply to one we wrote Dr. Ramsay some time since. It speaks for itself: PALMER, ROWAN CO., N. C., July 17th, 1864.

Jno. D. Hyman—Dear Sir: In answer to your communication, enclosing an article from the Daily Progress of the 23d ult., I have to reply that my position is not correctly given in that article. I am unreservedly for Gov. Vance for re-election. I expressed myself before Mr. Holden became a candidate, and I have never kept this determination concealed from any one. I have known Gov. Vance too long and too well, both personally and politically, to vote against him—especially in view of the general success of his administration. So far from having forfeited the confidence of his old friends and supporters—as is alleged in certain quarters—his messages, and especially his correspondence with the authorities at Richmond, demonstrate that he has never claimed to the name. Gov. Vance is the friend of Constitutional liberty—of liberty regulated by law—and of the inalienable rights of the people—indeed, he is the champion of these, and as such entitled to the support and confidence of the people. I believe the people appreciate this more and more as the incidents of his administration are developed, and that they will vote accordingly. Very truly yours, J. G. RAMSAY.