

JOINT RESOLUTION

Declaring the dispositions, principles and purposes of the Confederate States in relation to the existing war with the United States.

WHEREAS, it is due to the great cause of humanity and civilization, and especially to the heroic sacrifices of their gallant army in the field, that no means, consistent with a proper self-respect and the approved usages of nations, should be omitted by the Confederate States to enlighten the public opinion of the world with regard to the true character of the struggle in which they are engaged, and dispositions, principles and purposes by which they actuated; therefore,

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America, That the following manifesto be issued in their name and by their authority, and that the President be requested to cause copies thereof to be transmitted to our commissioners abroad to the end that the same may be laid before foreign Governments.

Manifesto of the Congress of Confederate States of America relative to the existing war with the United States.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America, acknowledging their responsibility to the opinion of the civilized world, to the great law of Christian philanthropy, and to the Supreme Ruler of the universe, for the part they have been compelled to bear in the sad spectacle of war and carnage which this continent has, for the last three years, exhibited to the eyes of afflicted humanity, deems the present a fitting occasion to declare the principles, the sentiments and the purposes by which they have been and are still actuated.

They have ever deeply deplored the necessity which constrained them to take up arms in defence of their rights and of the free institutions derived from their ancestors; and there is nothing they more ardently desire than peace, whensoever their enemy, by ceasing from the unhallowed war waged upon them, shall permit them to enjoy in peace the sheltering protection of those hereditary rights and of those cherished institutions. The series of excesses with which it has pleased Almighty God, in so signal a manner, to bless our arms on almost every point of our invaded borders since the opening of the present campaign, enables us to profess this desire of peace in the interests of civilization and humanity without danger of having our motives misinterpreted, or of the declaration being ascribed to any unmanly sentiment or any distrust of our ability fully to maintain our cause. The repeated and disastrous checks, foreshadowing ultimate discomfiture, which their gigantic army, directed against the capital of the Confederacy, has already met with, are but a continuation of the same providential successes for us. We do not refer to these successes in any spirit of vain boasting, but in humble acknowledgment of that Almighty protection which has vouchsafed and granted them.

The world must now see that eight millions of people, inhabiting so extensive a territory, with such varied resources and such numerous facilities for defence as the benignant bounty of nature has bestowed upon us, and animated with one spirit to encounter every privation and sacrifice of ease, of health, of property, of life itself, rather than be degraded from the condition of free and independent States into which they were born, can never be conquered. Will not our adversaries themselves begin to feel that humanity has bled long enough; that tears and blood and treasure enough have been expended in a bootless undertaking, covering their own land, no less than ours, with a pall of mourning, and exposing them far more than ourselves to the catastrophe of financial exhaustion and bankruptcy, not to speak of the loss of their liberties by the despotism engendered in an aggressive war upon the liberties of another and kindred people? Will they be willing, by a longer perseverance in a wanton and hopeless contest, to make this continent, which they so long boasted to be the chosen abode of liberty and self-government, of peace and a higher civilization, the theatre of the most senseless and prodigal effusion of blood which the world has ever seen, of a virtuous republic into the barbarism of the ruder ages, and of the destruction of constitutional freedom by the lawlessness of usurped power?

These are questions which our adversaries will decide for themselves. We desire to stand acquitted before the tribunal of the world, as well as in the eyes of Omnipotent Justice, of any responsibility for the origin or prolongation of a war as contrary to the spirit of the age as to the traditions and acknowledged maxims of the political system of America.

On this continent, whatever opinion may have prevailed elsewhere, it has ever been held and acknowledged by all parties that Government, to be lawful, must be founded on the consent of the governed. We were forced to dissolve our federal connection with our former associates by their aggressions on the fundamental principles of our compact of union with them; and in doing so we exercised a right consecrated in the great charter of American liberty—the right of a free people, when a government proves destructive of the ends

for which it was established, to recur to original principles and to institute new guards for their security. The separate independence of the States, as sovereign and co-equal members of the Federal Union, had never been surrendered, and the pretension of applying to independent communities, so constituted and organized, the ordinary rules of coercion, and reducing rebellious subjects to obedience, was a solecism in terms, as well as an outrage on the principles of public law.

The war made upon the Confederate States was, therefore, wholly one of aggression. On our side, it has been strictly defensive. Born freemen, and the descendants of a gallant ancestry, we had no option but to stand up in defence of our invaded firesides, of our desecrated altars, of our violated liberties and birthright, and of the prescriptive institutions which guard and protect them. We have not interfered, nor do we wish, in any manner whatever, to interfere with the internal peace and prosperity of the States arrayed in hostility against us, or with the freest development of their destinies in any form of action, or line of policy they may think proper to adopt for themselves. All we ask, is alike immunity for ourselves, and to be left in the undisturbed enjoyment of those inalienable rights of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," which our common ancestors declared to be the equal heritage of all the parties to the social compact.

Let them forbear aggressions upon us, and the war is at an end. If there be questions which require adjustment by negotiation, we have ever been willing and are still willing to enter into communication with our adversaries in a spirit of peace, of equity, and manly frankness. Strong in the persuasion of the justice of our cause, in the gallant devotion of our citizen soldiers, and of the whole body of our people, and above all in the gracious protection of Heaven, we are not afraid to avow a sincere desire for peace on terms consistent with our honor and the permanent security of our rights, and an earnest aspiration to see the world once more restored to the beneficent pursuits of industry and of mutual intercourse and exchanges, so essential to its well being, and which have been so gravely interrupted by the existence of this unnatural war in America.

But if our adversaries, or those whom they have placed in authority, deaf to the voice of reason and justice, steeled against the dictates of both prudence and humanity by the presumptuous and delusive confidence in their own numbers, or those of their black and foreign mercenaries, shall determine upon an indefinite prolongation of the contest, upon them be the responsibility of a decision so ruinous to themselves, and so injurious to the interests and repose of mankind.

For ourselves, we have no fear of the result. The wildest pictures ever drawn of the extravagance which could dream of the conquest of eight millions of people, resolved with one mind "to die freemen rather than live slaves," and forsworn by the savage and exterminating spirit in which this war has been waged upon them, and by the mad avowals of its patrons and supporters, of the worse than Egyptian bondage that awaits them in the event of their subjugation.

With these declarations of our dispositions, our principles, and our purposes, we commit our cause to the enlightened judgment of the world, to the sober reflection of our adversaries themselves, and to the solemn and righteous arbitrament of Heaven.

A Tradition.—There is a charming tradition connected with the site on which the temple of Solomon was erected. It is said to have been occupied in common by two brothers, one of whom had a family, the other had none. On this spot there was sown a field of wheat. On the evening succeeding the harvest, the wheat having been gathered in separate shocks the older brother said to his wife:

"My younger brother is unable to bear the burden and heat of the day; I will arise, take of my shocks and place with his without his knowledge."

The younger brother being actuated by the same benevolent motives, said within himself:

"My elder brother has a family, but I have none; I will contribute to their support; I will arise, take of my shocks and place with his without his knowledge."

Judge of their mutual astonishment, when on the following morning they found their respective shocks undiminished. This course of events transpired for several nights, when each resolved in his mind to stand guard, and solve the mystery. They did so; when on the following night they met each other half way between their respective shocks with their arms full. Upon ground hallowed with such associations as this was the Temple of Sol-

omon erected—so spacious and magnificent, the wonder and admiration of the world. Alas! in these days, how many would sooner steal their brother's whole shock than to add to it one single sheaf.

A Gallant Act.—During the fight on Friday, in front of Kershaw's division, a most gallant charge was made by Kershaw's old brigade upon the enemy, in which private Pickett, of company B, 2d South Carolina regiment, seized the color-bearer of the 48th New York regiment, and wrested from his hands the splendid silk colors of that regiment, and brought them off within our lines. We examined these colors, which bore many evidences of the marksmanship of our soldiers. Upon the staff of the colors was a silver plate, inscribed "48th New York State Volunteers, presented by the city, 1863." Commenting upon the superior material and make of this beautiful trophy, a soldier dryly remarked, "The flag ought to be beautiful; it is all they are fighting for."—*Richmond Enquirer.*

The *N. Y. News* says when the people of the North bring themselves to believe the palpable truth that Gen. Lee's army is strong in numbers, brave in spirit, and free from nothing savoring of demoralization, they will appreciate the magnitude of the task undertaken by Gen. Grant. Before the recent battles we were told that the Confederates were hungry, naked and disgusted. They were said to be deserting by the hundreds, and the poor craven hearted ones who came into our lines represented the comrades they left behind as completely demoralized, tired of rebellion, and quite willing to lay down their arms. We now find by experience that the rebels are determined to fight it out to the bitter end, that their numbers are almost equal to our own, and they are neither hungry nor naked, and that their organization and spirit are as strong to-day as they were two years ago.

In the matter of losses, it is very evident that ours has been greater than that of the enemy. Troops fighting from behind breastworks are not likely to suffer as much as those making the attack. Lee fought under favorable circumstances in every engagement. At the Wilderness his men were concealed in dense woods until the moment of attack; and after a charge, they immediately retired again to shelter. In the succeeding engagements, and particularly at Spotsylvania, they were protected by rifle pits and breastworks. Our men had to charge on these positions, often being exposed to a destructive enfilading fire of grapeshot and canister. In this way they were mowed down by thousands. When Burnside attempted to carry the enemy's works on Thursday, his men were exposed to this most destructive of all fires, until they reeled, staggered, and fell in heaps. They evinced soldierly qualities of the highest order, but their task was too great, and after a furious struggle they were forced back to their own line.

OUR SABLE DEPENDENTS.

We were gratified recently by hearing from a highly intelligent and influential citizen of Charleston, the expression of some views which had often occurred to our own mind on a very interesting and important subject. Coming from a gentleman of so much moral wealth and influence, though not perhaps a communicating member of any church, they appeared so to us to confirm what a member of the late General Assembly said, (with which also we heartily though silently agreed at the time) that our whole community entertain opinions upon the whole subject under discussion far more advanced than ministers of the Gospel may sometimes imagine. The subject of the remarks which gratified us was the negro. The precise point which gave us pleasure was the earnest and eloquent expression of the idea that one result of this dreadful war will be, by God's blessing, a kindlier feeling than ever on the part of the master for his slaves. They have proved themselves for the most part so faithful, so docile, so true, to their only true friends on earth, the masters God has given to them, that there is not a Southern heart that will not beat more tender-

ly towards these affectionate dependents than ever before. We look confidently to see slavery shorn of all its abuses, so far as may be in any way practicable, within a very short time after the close of this war. So mote it be.—*N. C. Presbyterian.*

LATEST FROM EUROPE—THE BATTLES IN VIRGINIA IN EUROPE—COMMENTS OF THE ENGLISH PRESS.

The late European advices show that the battles in Virginia formed the great theme of interest in England. In the report of the proceedings of the British Parliament, we find the following allusion to them: In the House of Commons on the 27th of May, Mr. Halliburton asked the noble lord at the head of the Government whether he had received any intelligence confirming the rumored defeat of the Federals by General Lee.

Lord Palmerston—The latest intelligence that I have seen in the papers to-day, was up to, I think, the 16th. At that time no fresh action had taken place between the armies. They were looking at each other. I have not seen the more recent accounts to which the honorable member refers.

Sir W. Frezer asked whether the Admiralty had any additional intelligence.

Lord C. Paget—No. COMMENTS OF THE BRITISH PRESS. The British press were anxiously discussing the same subject. The following extracts will serve to show their opinions and speculations of the campaign in Virginia. It will be seen that the English press, in each instance, is forced to admit the superior generalship and valor of our army.

[From the London Times, May 28.] * * * The actual capture of Richmond, even if that triumph should crown Grant's desperate enterprise, will not bring the North a step nearer to the restoration of Union or the conquest of the South. The saying of President Davis that the war could be prolonged for twenty years, even in the State of Virginia, after Richmond had fallen, and if Grant ever reaches that city he will find that his cool and resolute adversary, after exacting the utmost attainable price for it in blood and slaughter, will leave the position in his hands with no greater value in it than attached to the Wilderness after it had served its time and the fighting was done.

[From the London Telegraph, May 7.] As long, indeed, as Grant moves onwards, so long will New York believe in him. But suppose he calls a halt—suppose that his crippled forces are held for more than a few days in check before some other rifle pits and breastworks stronger than those of Spotsylvania! To measure the probable reaction, we must remember that an almost bloodless victory was hoped for, and that the same journal which records these sanguinary struggles very recently expressed its opinion that the campaign would result "in the rebel evacuation of the city, and Lee's retreat into North Carolina, without a battle, in order to save his army." That dream, at any rate has been dispelled; and on the first indication of evil fortune, New York, suddenly recovering from an excitement that is almost madness, will confess that twenty miles of Virginia soil may have been dearly won at the price of two thousand men for every mile.

[From the Liverpool Mercury, May 27.] * * * General Grant will have to follow them dragging all his supplies over broken roads and through swollen streams. All the circumstances of these desperate battles give one a high respect for the bravery both of the Federal and Confederate armies; but all the generalship appears to be on the side of the Confederates.

Reserve Forces.—The Goldsboro' Journal says: Persons having relatives or friends in the following battalions, may address them, for the present at this place—where they are now stationed: 2nd Battalion, Maj. J. H. Anderson. 4th " " " Recoe. 5th " " " W. F. Beasley. 6th " " " W. McK. Clark.

Wool Notice.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT, Raleigh, N. C. June 9, 1864. I AM now prepared to exchange Cotton Yarn for Wool, upon the following terms, viz: One bunch of Yarn for three pounds washed Wool, and one bunch for four pounds unwashed. Agents have been appointed to make the exchange at the following places: Oxford, Tarboro', Kinston, Catherine Lake, Concord, Rockingham, Hendersonville, Statesville, Roxboro', Asheville, Piusboro', Lenoir, Fayetteville, Coleraine, and at this place. Persons shipping Wool to this place will please mark on the packages who they are from, and the cotton yarn will be forwarded immediately. I hope the people will patriotically respond to the above notice, as the Wool is for clothing the N. C. Troops. H. A. DOWD, A. Q. N., N. C. A. 28-1 July.

NOTICE. THE firm of Graham & McElwee is dissolved by mutual consent. We will have a large lot of Sole, Upper and Kips ready for the Fall market. We have a Tanager for sale. W. F. GRAHAM, J. H. McELWEE. We notify all those who owe us to make payment by cash or note, and all those who have claims against us to present them as prescribed by law, or this notice will be plead in bar of recovery. W. F. GRAHAM, J. H. McELWEE. June 15, 1864. 2pdd

NOTICE. 10,000 Lbs Rags Wanted. WE will pay the highest prices for the amount. We will pay you in goods of the moment just as you choose it. Bring them in as soon as possible. SMITH & SMITHDEAL. November 16, 1863. 1/26

Wanted--Lumber. I WISH to contract for a quantity of POPULAR, say FIFTEEN THOUSAND feet per month, delivered on the Rail-road. Proposals will be received at this Office. A. G. BRENIZER, Capt. Art'y Com'd'g. Office C. S. Ord. Works, Salisbury, Dec. 28, 1863. 1/22

FARMERS. I WILL pay liberal prices for a supply of Pork, Beef, Lard and Tallow for the use of the North Carolina Rail Road Company. I will receive either of the above articles at the several Depots on our Road and on the Western North Carolina Rail Road. Persons wishing to sell either of the above articles, will address me at once at this place, and T. J. Sumner, Company Shops, shall have prompt attention. T. J. FOSTER, Purchasing Agent N. C. R. R. Co. Salisbury, Dec. 21, 1863. 1/21

RAGS! RAGS! COTTON AND LINEN RAGS wanted at this Office, for which we will pay the highest cash prices. By bringing their Rags to us our friends will aid us greatly in procuring a supply of Paper to print the Watchman on. Bring them in at once. January 25, 1864.

\$300 REWARD. RANAWAY from the subscribers on Monday 4th instant, our three Negro fellows, named DAVE, ROBERT and JACK. At the time of their escape, they were in the employ of Grafton Gardner of Jamestown, N. Carolina. These Boys were purchased by us at Columbia, S. C., about two months since. Dave is twenty-four years of age, 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, thick lips, very black, upper teeth gone, and professes to be something of a machinist, and says he can run an engine, and formerly worked in the Rail Road Shops of Mobile and Augusta. Robert and Jack are brothers about 16 years, rather tall, good looking and intelligent. Jack is about 15 years, smaller than his brother, good looking, remarkably quick spoken and smart. We will give the above reward for their apprehension and delivery at any Jail in the State, or \$100 for the arrest of either of them. G. V. ANCKER & CO. April 25, 1864. 1/48

State of North Carolina, McDOWELL COUNTY. In Equity, Spring Term, 1864. B. F. Bynum and W. B. Noblett, Adm'rs vs. Anthony Ballow and others. Petition for settlement. IN this case it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that Anthony Ballow one of the defendants in the above entitled cause is a non-resident of the State. It is ordered that publication be made in the Carolina Watchman, a newspaper published in Salisbury, N. C., notifying said Ballow non-resident defendant to be and appear at the next Term of this Court to be held for the County of McDowell, at the Court House in Marion, on the third Monday in September next, being the 19th day of said month in said year. Then and there plead as answer or demer to complainant's bill, or judgment pro confesso will be taken and heard and report as to him. Witness, C. L. S. Corpening, Clerk and Master at office, in Marion, May 20, 1864. 6150 C. L. S. CORPENING, C. M. E.

WOOD and CHARCOAL WANTED! I desire to make contracts with responsible parties for a supply of WOOD and CHARCOAL, for the C. S. Ord. Works, Salisbury. Parties desiring to contract will please address, or apply to. A. G. BRENIZER, Capt. Com'd'g. May 26, '64. 1/26

BLANK DEEDS FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.