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BY GEORGE HOWARD.

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POLITICAL.



From the New Orleans Delta.

LETTER FROM JOHN C. CALHOUN.

Gen. Foote has lately published, in the Flag of the Union, a letter defending his course on the subject of the Nashville Convention. He appends to his communication a letter from John C. Calhoun, which is deeply interesting on account of the remarkable sagacity and foresight which it evinces in regard to events of recent occurrence. The following is Mr. Calhoun's letter.

Fort Hill, Aug. 3, 1849.

MY DEAR SIR—My engagements must be my apology for not acknowledging sooner your two letters.

I am obliged to you for securing so prompt an admission of my address into the columns of the Intelligencer. Col. Benton has continued to get so many jobs for that paper, that I had my apprehension, in their wish to keep fair with him, that they would either not publish it at all, or delay it so long as to make the publication of no value.

I am glad that you intend to be present at the meeting of your Convention in October. It is an important occasion, and your presence will be of great service. You ask me for my views touching the ultimate action of the South in certain events. It is the gravest of all subjects, and must soon demand the attention of the whole Union in tones so deep as to arouse the attention of all.

There is one point, of which there can be no diversity of opinion in the South, among those who are true to her, or have made up their minds not to be slaves—that, if we should be forced to choose between resistance, and submission, we should take resistance at all hazards. If we are not prepared for that, we are prepared to sink to the most debased and miserable condition ever allotted to a people, and to become the scorn and by-word of the world. That we will be forced to the alternative, I hold to be certain, unless prompt and the most efficient measures should be taken by the South to arrest the present course of events. These were never moving worse, nor more rapidly. It is not a mere opinion with me, that we should be forced, in the end, to choose between submission and resistance, unless the South should take the subject into its own hands, and by a united and decisive movement, stay the course of events. Be assured, there is no other remedy—none—not the least, through the action of the general government. Things have gone too far to hope for relief from that quarter.

I have not ventured the assertion that events were never moving worse, nor more rapidly, without due reflection and much observation. I have looked on the movements at the North, since the adjournment, with close attention. They are, in my opinion, as bad as they can be. At no time have both parties courted the freesoilers and the abolitionists with more ardor. I make no distinction between freesoilers and abolitionists. They are both equally hostile to us and our institutions. Of the two, the former are the worst and most dangerous. I regard the

new platform called free democracy, attempted to be erected at the North, to rally and reunite the freesoilers and the old democrats who opposed them at the last election, as but another name for freesoilers, more dangerous than their original, because calculated to deceive and betray the South. There, as yet, has not been a rally on it, that I have seen, in which the freesoil doctrines, as to the Wilmot Proviso and the territories, and denunciations of slavery, did not constitute the platform. The aim of the whole movement is political; and is intended to catch the support of the abolitionists, without losing that of the South. If they succeed in that, our doom is fixed. I do not doubt, but we have many and sincere friends among the old democracy of the North, and even among those who are inclined to favor this unnatural coalition. They do it from what they regard to be a necessity, and as the only way by which the whigs can be put down, and with reluctance.

But that cannot alter this fatal tendency. The Whigs at the North are at present doing their best to prevent it, but as soon as they see that it is likely to succeed, and that the democracy of the South are prepared to acquiesce in it, they will wheel right round and take higher and bolder abolition ground, and thus control the movement, while the Southern whigs will plead our example, as an excuse for their acquiescing in the bolder movements of their northern friends. The effects of the whole will be, that the North will become more universally abandoned than ever, and the South more distracted and debased than ever, and of course less capable of resisting. Even as a political movement on the part of the northern democracy, it will fail. It is a game in which their opponents can ever outplay them, and which must end in the destruction and absorption of the democracy there, by the other parties. There is but one way that they can save themselves, and the party—by boldly planting themselves on the ground which the southern wing of the party occupy on the great question. It would probably place them in the minority for the time, but it would unite the South, and our united strength would speedily put them in a majority again. Nothing else can save them. But taking the course, which they appear at present, (at least a considerable portion of them,) disposed to do, will separate the South from them. We cannot countenance, nor support the new platform; nor recognize any man, of any party, that may stand on it, as of us.

Thus thinking, nothing future, is to my mind, more certain than that, as events are now going, the alternative of resistance will be speedily forced on us unless we should unite and adopt speedy measures to prevent it; and that presents the question—what can we do? In considering it, I assume that the first desire of every true hearted southern man, is to save if possible, the Union, as well as ourselves; but, if both cannot be, then to save ourselves at all events. Such is my determination, as far as it lies in my power. Fortunately for us, the road which leads to both, yet lies in the same direction. We have not reached the fork yet, if we are ever to do it. Without concert of action on the part of the South, neither can be saved; by it, if it be not too long delayed, it is possible both yet may be. Without it, we cannot satisfy the North that the South is in earnest, and will if forced choose resistance; and until she is satisfied, the cause which has brought the question between the two sections to its present dangerous stage from a small beginning, will continue to operate, until it will be too late to save the Union, and nothing will be left us but to dissolve the connection. To do that, concert of action would be necessary, not to save the Union, for it would be too late, but to save ourselves.

Thus, in my view, concert is the one thing needful. But concert cannot be had without a convention of the South, either formal or informal; and to that point every friend of the Union, and well wisher of the South, ought to direct his effort. It cannot be called too soon. The next session of Congress may make it too late. If nothing is done to bear on its action, the alienation between the sections, which

may be caused by its proceedings, may become too great to save the Union. The call then, in my opinion, ought to be made before Congress meets, or early in the session, for a convention in the South, to meet at some convenient central point in the spring or early in the summer. It could not fail to have a powerful effect on the action of Congress, and that, followed up by a convention, and a solemn appeal to the north, accompanied by a warning, as to what must be the consequences, unless she should desist from aggression, and cease to agitate the subject, may save the Union. Nothing short of it can; and there is no certainty that it could, if delayed beyond the time stated.

The Convention, in my opinion, ought to be informal—such as those so often called by both parties at the North, in taking some new political position. A formal one, called by the authority of the government of the southern states, and to meet in their official character, as representatives of states, ought not to be thought of, short of the last extremity. I am also of the opinion that the call ought to be so made as to ensure a full attendance and harmony of views and action. For that purpose it should be addressed to all of the South, without distinction of party, who desire to save the Union, and to adopt the most effectual measures for that purpose; but who, in the event it should prove impossible, and the alternative of submission or resistance should be forced on the South, stand prepared to choose the latter. Such a call could not fail to secure a full attendance from every southern state and harmony of views and action. The call ought to be accompanied by an address briefly stating the ground for making it.

I trust your Convention will make the call. It could come from no better quarter. Your state is the centre of the southern portion of the great valley of the Mississippi; more deeply, if possible, interested than any other, and would be less likely to execute a feeling of jealousy, than if it came from this or any of the older states. If your Convention should take the stand, and recommend at the same time a general organization of the southern states, I would agree to underwrite consequences. Among your other advantages, the whig party would more fully unite in the call than in any other state but this.

Why cannot Mr. Ritchie and Burke be induced to back the call, if it should be made? It is their true course, whether regarded as patriots or party men. If they would agree to do so, it would insure its success, and keep the movement in the right direction. Yours, truly,
J. C. CALHOUN.

North Carolina Manufactures and Trade.—The schooner Elizabeth, Capt. B. Rumley, from Newbern, bound to Charleston, put into Smithville on Friday last, on account of head winds. She is loaded with woolen goods, from the Factory of Stanley & Guion, Newbern. This is the first shipment of home made woolen goods for the home market. Formerly, South Carolina purchased these goods from Massachusetts. Captain R. will return from Charleston to Wilmington, where he will take in a load of North Carolina Wool.—*Wilmington Com.*

Annexation of Cuba.—A New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer says that he has been in the habit of mixing with the exiled Creoles in New York, and knows well their feelings. It would be impossible for him to exaggerate the intensity of the outburst of patriotism which the late news from Cuba has produced among them, or the burning desire which exists in their bosoms to see their island separated from Spain, and annexed to the United States.—He has it from the best authority that annexation is their ultimate wish.—*Balt. Sun.*

From San Francisco.—The steamship Brother Jonathan, from Chagres arrived at New York on the 17th inst, with 238 passengers and \$494,000 in gold. The following is the caption coolly placed at the head of the intelligence from San Francisco—"San Francisco Rebuilt"—and, as if the affair was a mere

matter of course, the announcement is dignified by but a single short sentence: "Most of the burnt district has been rebuilt." But the other day we announced "San Francisco in Ruins!"—to-day we chronicle "San Francisco Rebuilt!" California is a wonderful place.

Business generally was stagnant, and prices lower than the rates previous to the fire;—the market being overstocked with all staple articles of produce.

The news from the mining districts continues satisfactory—many new and valuable discoveries having been made.

A Sidney convict was arrested on the 10th of June in the act of stealing a safe, and was immediately tried by a Court of 200 citizens and hung at midnight in the Plaza at San Francisco.

Numerous incendiary attempts had been made to destroy the city.

The Indians in the Southern section of the State continue to give much trouble.

Agricultural prospects are good, and the weather continues fine.

McManus, one of the Irish patriots, had escaped from New South Wales and arrived at San Francisco, where he was received with much enthusiasm, Smith O'Brien and the other Irish exiles made an unsuccessful attempt to escape at the same time.

Oregon.—The young ladies sent out to Oregon by Gov. Slade as teachers have arrived; and notwithstanding the bond of \$500 imposed on them in case of marriage within a year, they have created quite a sensation among the unmarried gentlemen. And as the land bill makes every lady worth 320 acres, if taken before December next, you will be quite safe in believing that Oregon will soon be without teachers, unless another supply is dispatched immediately.

Narrow Escape at Niagara.—Thomas A. Logan, an estimable young lawyer of Cincinnati, son of the comedian, had a narrow escape for his life a few days ago at Niagara Falls. A young lady—a stranger to him, had ventured too far out on a projecting rock over the rapids above the cataract; she became giddy and screamed for help. Young Logan, who happened to be standing on the bank, flew to her rescue, and succeeded in getting her safe on shore—but lost his own balance and fell into the boiling surge. The young lady fainted, and the men on the bank were too much paralyzed to offer assistance. Luckily for Logan, the water at the spot where he fell formed a whirlpool, and carried him round several times. In one of his gyrations he seized a bush that overhung the water, and succeeded in extricating himself from his perilous position. Had he fallen a foot farther out beyond the edge of the whirlpool—no human aid could have prevented him from being carried over the frightful cataract.—*Cincinnati Com.*

A Profitable Newspaper.—It is reported that the New York Tribune newspaper will divide this year \$80,000 clear profit, about \$24,000 each to Greeley & McElrath, and the rest to seven associates in the editorship and booking.

The Mechanics of Virginia.—An address has been put forth by the Mechanics' Association of Portsmouth, Va., to the mechanics of the State, calling upon them to organize, in order to vindicate their rights, and put an end to the practice of teaching slaves mechanical trades.—It seems that the owners of negroes are, to a considerable extent, in the habit of bringing them up as carpenters, coopers, blacksmiths, &c., and that the white mechanics feel themselves degraded by this competition, at the same time that it threatens more and more to depress their wages.

Magnificent Idea.—The San Francisco Courier, in speaking of the necessity and feasibility of a steamship communication between that point and China, remarks that such a line would complete the chain of steam communication around the world, except a small break in crossing the Isthmus of Suez, connecting Asia with Africa. The paper then says:

This link completed, the traveller, leav-

ing New York, can proceed to Chagres by steam, from thence to San Francisco, to Macao via the Sandwich Islands, Guam and Manilla—thence to Suez via Singapore, Penang, Ceylon, and Adin—thence to Cairo and Alexandria, to Southampton via Malta and Gibraltar, and from thence by steam again to New York. The only break in steam navigation will be in crossing the Isthmus of Suez.—Thus he would be able to circumnavigate the world, visiting many points of interest, making the trip in 140 days! The commercial advantages which must flow to the United States from this and kindred sources are too great for enumeration here, and too well known to require it.

Singular Disease.—The Annapolis correspondent of the Baltimore Sun gives the following account of a fatal disease which has appeared in that vicinity:

"A disease is now raging in the county of Anne Arundel, between South and West rivers, which has proved to be as fatal as the cholera. The early stage of it is marked by an eruption of the skin, a swelling of the muscles of the throat partaking of the scarlet fever in children; and attended, apparently, with very slight fever. There is nothing alarming in this stage of it, which continues for three or four days, when all on a sudden it fixes itself upon the vitals with a violence and fatality which are arrested by nothing that has yet been tried."

A Scamp.—Parker Pillsbury, of Mass. a radical Abolition Lecturer, who has visited this portion of Ohio in that capacity, lately held a mock meeting on the Sabbath in Salem, and to ridicule the church, took some Dogs in and went through the ceremony of propounding questions and baptizing them. The Dogs never will equal this fiend Pillsbury in depravity.
Canton Ohio Repository.

At Athens, Ill. a merchant received 2 boxes of goods from Europe. On opening them, 5 persons present, all took sick and died; those who attended them were next taken sick, and then others: In one family 6 persons died. A panic followed, and half the citizens left the town.—*ib.*

Hellish Outrage.—*Rochester, July 14.*—A gentleman and lady of good standing were last Saturday married at Palmyra, and proceeded to their place of residence. On the night following their wedding six young men went to the house occupied by the couple alone, seized the man, held him, while each in turn violated his wife. After this fiendish act the scoundrels fled. Some of them have since been arrested. John McElbing, formerly employed in the post office here, is still at large—at the time an operator in the O'Reilly Bain line at Palmyra.—*ib.*

A Model Husband.—M. G. Turner, having been nominated for the State Senate in Tennessee, has published a "card to the people," in which he says, knowing his election to be repugnant to his wife's feelings whose happiness alone he "wishes to perpetuate," he respectfully declines the nomination. The next Convention of the ladies should vote Mr. Turner an honorary life member of the association.

A Talking Match lately "came off" at New Orleans for five dollars a side. It continued, according to the Advertiser for thirteen hours, the rivals being a Frenchman and Kentuckian. The bystanders and judges were talked to sleep, and when they waked up in the morning, they found the Frenchman dead, and the Kentuckian whispering in his ear.

A Pedler come up with.—A pedler calling on an old lady to dispose of some goods, inquired of her if she could tell him of any road that no pedler had ever traveled? "Yes," said she, "I know of one and only one which no pedler has ever traveled, (the pedler's countenance brightened) and that's the road to Heaven."

The old darkey's definition of "parsew-rance" was not a bad one, and will do for a life motto. Here it is—"Catch hold—hold fast—and tetter let go!"