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AND NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE.

"OURS ARE THE PLANS OF FAIR DELIGHTFUL PEACE, UNWARD BY PARTY RAGE, TO LIVE LIKE BROTHERS."

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MR. EATON'S APPEAL.

CONTINUED.

In the autumn of 1829, new attacks began to be made, in whispers, on my integrity. I was said to have conspired with my wife's first husband, Mr. Timberlake, to defraud the Government of large sums of money. Other attempts to get rid of me, having failed, I was now to be presented as being in default to the Government, through fraud practised on it. Mr. Timberlake had been a purser in the Navy, and this charge was based upon a reported deficiency in his accounts with the public; and on a private letter of mine, detained in the Fourth Auditor's office, showing that on my suggestion, he had remitted money to me. Copies of my private confidential letters to him, had been taken from the office, that I might not escape through apprehended indulgence and favor, on the part of Mr. Kendall. Matters were considered well arranged, and the proof complete to show, that this delinquency was wholly occasioned by remittances of money to me, & which were yet in my possession. Such were the whispers circulated through the society of this place. But a close investigation, which occupied some time, showed that Mr. Timberlake's account had been deprived, through a series of shocking frauds, of credits to the amount of \$12,000 to \$20,000, and that justly he was largely a creditor, not a debtor, to the Government. But with mutilated books—abstract of accounts missing and the inventory gone from the department, his family can only appeal, under all the circumstances, to the justice and honor of the country, for redress.

While slander held its open day and midnight round of whisper on this subject, I received from some malignant being, who subscribed himself Iago, the following note:

"Sir: I have written a letter to Mr. Kendall about the money that paid for O'Neal's houses. You know what I mean. Revenge is sweet, and I have you in my power—and I will roast you, and boil you, and bake you; and I hope you may long live to prolong my pleasure. Lay not the flattering unctious to your soul, that you can escape me. I would not that death, or an evil thing, should take you from my grasp, for half the world."

Who the writer of this fiendish note is, I have never ascertained. I cannot turn my thoughts on an enemy so implacable, that he would be unwilling the man he hated should find repose in death. Yet it is in character with the acts of those whose forecast pointed to the means, by which the evil of my selection, as a member of the Cabinet, was to be made apparent, and the President forced speedily to see and correct the evil. If I could have been driven from all respectable society, or had fixed upon me collusion and fraud, in obtaining the funds of the Government, then would the Cabinet have been relieved of my presence, and the prophecy of Mr. Berrien completely fulfilled.

Congress had now commenced the first session after the inauguration of the President. The recommendations in his message had been received with uncommon applause. But it was soon perceived, that little, in furtherance of his views, was to be expected from some of the political gentlemen who were professing regard to the Administration. Movements amongst some of my colleagues, with others of the same political interest, indicated a disposition again to wage against me a war of exclusion. Rumors of a combination to force me from the Cabinet attracted the President's attention. He suspected that a portion of his Cabinet had entered it in disguise, and had fomented some of the mischief he had encountered; and accordingly determined if it should appear that they were guilty of such duplicity, and had combined to harass and drive out one of their colleagues, they should share the fate they were preparing for another. While reflecting on the course proper to be adopted, Col. Richard M. Johnson called on a visit; and to him he disclosed his difficulties & intentions. Col. Johnson entertained a better opinion of these gentlemen than to believe they harbored hostile views towards me, or had entered into a combination to expel me from the Cabinet. Accordingly, he solicited the consent of the President to converse with them as a friend; by ascertaining the suspicions entertained to be incorrect, he might relieve them from the imputation. He had no other authority or permission than this: the mission was of his own seeking; he was actuated solely by a desire to maintain harmony; and, if he could, to be of service to these gentlemen. Whether he spoke upon politics—religion—philosophy—ladies' cards—invitations to large parties or small—social or political intercourse—all, all was upon his own responsibility, and upon his own authority. Through him the President made no proposition, no requisition, and no threat,—For myself I knew nothing of it.

It is a little remarkable that neither of the three gentlemen, in their published statements, speak of any proposition as coming directly from the President, which was considered at all insulting or improper. Though they insist that Col. Johnson was authorized to threaten, and did threaten them, yet not one pretends that directly the President intimated any thing of the kind to either. "It is strange, passing strange," that Col. Johnson, a man of known integrity and honor, should deny this—strange, that when they met the President he breathed to them nothing like it—and yet stranger still, that, in defiance of these proofs, these circumstances, they still insist that they were insulted! Who now will wonder that the Cabinet was changed, or who will maintain that it ought to have been longer continued? No sooner had Mr. Branch stated that Col. Johnson had threatened their dismissal, than it was promptly denied by the President, who said he would forthwith send for Col. Johnson, and for that purpose called a servant. Why did the messenger not go? Mr. Branch explains: "It is unnecessary to send for Col. Johnson; for your word is sufficient." And why is that word not now sufficient?—Then Mr. Branch received it as true—told it, no doubt, to his colleagues—and yet do they come before the public boldly to assert as true, what then was given up as a mistake—an entire misconception on their part.

Content with the explanation offered at the time, convinced of the incorrectness of their impressions, these gentlemen now assert their displeasure and discontent, and, at the end of fifteen months, come out and maintain that to be true, which before had been given up as a false and incorrect impression. As for myself, I can say, and do truly say, that I never uttered, or brought to the consideration of the President, any complaint in reference to myself. I was always content to keep the redress of my own wrongs and injuries in my own hands, and to ask the aid and assistance of no one, in or out of power. No intimation was ever had by me that Col. Johnson intended to make such inquiry; nor did I know that he had made it. The lofty sense of honor entertained by Gen. Jackson would never permit him to compromise the honor of his friends. He has not compromised mine—and yet he would have done it, had he used his authority to exert courtesy in my behalf from Messrs. Ingham, Branch, and Berrien. But why reason about it? If the disavowal of the President, established even by his accusers, who so lately were his professing friends—if to confront Mr. Branch with Col. Johnson, & which alone was prevented by a declaration that he (Mr. Branch) was entirely satisfied—if the declaration of Col. Johnson, that he had no authority to communicate any such thing—did not communicate it, and so informed the parties at the time—if all this be not sufficient to prove the falsity of the statements which these gentlemen, in their malignity, have so recklessly hazarded before the public, then would it not be believed, "though one arose from the dead?"

By their conduct at the time, my colleagues manifested that nothing had been required of them which, as is now asserted, they considered dishonorable. If they had believed so—if after conversing with the President, they thought he had exacted of them that which, as honorable men, they could not conform, they should have immediately tendered their resignations. To suppose they would do otherwise, is to presume that for the sake of office they were willing tamely to submit to the "indignity and outrage" of which they now complain. Through the concealments by which they imposed themselves on the President, their conduct towards me, and especially Mr. Ingham's note-book, in which, being a confidential adviser, and in one sense a part of his family, he noted down, if he is to be believed, the free, the private and familiar conversations of the President for future use, present spectacles of human degradation at which honorable minds would revolt; yet I cannot suppose that they would remain in the Cabinet, under a consciousness that hourly they might be exposed to the same indignity, involving their personal honor and the honor of their families. It is utterly impossible that gentlemen now apparently so sensitive, could have submitted themselves to such a state of things, without complaint, for fifteen months.—By their remaining in the Cabinet so long after "the indignity & outrage" of which

they now complain, I must conclude that the President had not insulted them by any dishonorable and improper requisition, or else that they loved their offices, better than their honor, and that their present violence is caused only by the loss of them.

But, in relation to Mr. Branch, I have something even better than Mr. Ingham's note-book, to prove what actually were his feelings towards the President at and about the very time when this pretended indignity of Colonel Johnson was offered. It is a letter addressed by Mr. Branch to the President, in his own hand-writing, on the 29th of January, 1830, and which, on the same day was enclosed to me, in the hope that a reconciliation might take place between us. Agreeably to Mr. Ingham's note-book, it was "on Wednesday the 27th day of January, 1830," that this alleged "indignity and outrage" was offered. Of course, this letter was written but two days after, and on the identical day when Mr. Branch, feeling himself deeply afflicted at the communication made to him by Colonel Johnson, called, as he states, to see the President; and when, as he says, "the President's feelings were too much enlisted to weigh any reasons which might be offered."—And were Mr. Branch's feelings too much enlisted "to weigh any reasons?" Was he, as we are told was the case with all three of the gentlemen, indignant at the outrage! Let the letter speak for itself, and show how deeply, and how like an insulted and wounded man he could write at this instant of excitement, when honor and feeling, through the instrumentality of Colonel Johnson, had been rudely trodden under foot:

"New York Department, Jan. 29, 1830.

"Dear Sir: I have received your note of yesterday's date, and do most cheerfully accept your friendly mediation; more, however, from a desire to give you an additional evidence of the friendly feelings which have actuated my bosom towards yourself, than from a consciousness of having given to Major Eaton just cause for the withdrawal of his friendship. As a further manifestation of the frankness which I trust will ever characterize my conduct, I agree to meet him this day at two o'clock, in the presence of Major Barry, at Mr. Van Buren's, and in his presence also.

Yours truly, JOHN BRANCH.
To the President of the U. States."

This letter, written directly after the indignity complained of was offered, bears no impress of insulted feeling; on the contrary, it breathes a spirit of kindness and friendship towards the President, whom he recognizes as a "mediator," seeking, with almost parental solicitude, to heal the division amongst the members of the Cabinet, and anxious for the restoration of harmony. Surely, in writing that letter, which he concludes by signing himself "yours truly," he could not have supposed that the President had just offered him an indignity; or, if so, it only proves how great a hypocrite he is. At that time we did not speak. As much parade as he makes of his friendly feelings entertained towards me, he was the very reverse of all that the name of friend conveys; and knowing it, as I did, I would not permit him to seem to be what he was not. I had refused to return his salutations, and declined all intercourse, except when we met at the President's. I never complained of Mr. Branch, as he asserts in his letter to the public. It was he who complained, if at all complaint were made. His letter to the President thanks him for his offer to act as a mediator in our difference, speaks of his good feelings towards me, and willingness to meet me at two o'clock that day. I have no doubt it was his professions of friendship and kindness towards me, made to the President, which induced him to become Mr. Branch's mediator in this business. On receiving the letter, he enclosed it to me, and expressed a wish that good feelings could be restored between us. An interview took place, at the room of the Attorney General, at which Major Barry and Mr. Berrien were present.

It was here that Mr. Branch, in the presence of these gentlemen, expressed friendship for me, and in the strongest terms declared that he did not entertain an unkind feeling towards me, and wished he had a glass in his bosom, through which every thought could be read. He spoke of the non-intercourse between our families, and said he had not the slightest objection to a free association; but that he could not control his. I promptly answered, that I did not desire his or any other family to visit mine except with their own free consent; and that it was my desire our families should, in that respect, pursue such course as they thought fit and proper. We shook hands, and parted as friends. Mr. Berrien affected much satisfaction at this reconciliation, and pretended to hail it as the harbinger of "future harmony and good will." I say pretended, because, under all the circumstances of recent disclosure, he felt not

* I accidentally found this letter, a few days since, amongst some old papers, not intentionally preserved, for until now I never conceived it to be of any consequence.

what he said he did. It was only adding another and another fold to that cloak of hypocrisy in which he had wrapped himself, from the first formation of the Cabinet.

Such were the incidents of Friday the 29th of January, 1830, the moment when, as their communications to the public disclose, they were writing under a sense of deep and lasting "indignity and outrage," at the threats of Col. Johnson, borne to them from the President. Where then was the lofty dignity of Mr. Berrien and Mr. Branch, that the one could declare how pleased he was at the reconciliation made, and the other protest the good feelings which he entertained for me?

Let us see now how the facts stand, if these men speak truth. On Wednesday, the 27th of January, 1830, the President, through Col. Johnson, threatened to dismiss them, if they did not compel their families to associate with mine, which they considered such an "indignity and outrage," that they seriously thought of resigning. On Thursday, the 28th, the "indignity and outrage" being unatoned, and even unexplained, the President wrote a note to Mr. Branch, offering his "friendly mediation" to bring about what!—Not social intercourse between our families—but a restoration of friendly intercourse between ourselves. In the morning of Friday, the 29th, (for he says he will meet me at two o'clock,) he accepted the friendly offer, thus acknowledging that he considered the President an impartial umpire, an unprejudiced, unexcited, and just man, in whose hands he could trust his character and his honor; and yet, strange to tell, on the same day, having called on the President for some explanation about Col. Johnson's insulting message, he found "the President's feelings were too much enlisted to weigh any reason which might be offered!" Who can believe all this? "Most cheerfully," says he, "I accept your friendly mediation." What! Accept the mediation of a man who, two days before, had required him to humble himself to make the meanest slave, and had not atoned for it? Accept the mediation of a man whose feelings were so much enlisted in my favor, that he would not listen to reason? Impossible! Had Mr. Branch felt that an indignity had been offered him, he would have replied to the President: "Sir, your insulting message, through Col. Johnson, must be first explained, before I can avail myself of your 'friendly mediation.'" By his whole conduct, he showed that he entertained no such feeling, & that the whole story about "indignity and outrage" is a sheer invention, got up now to injure the President.

This letter of Mr. Branch shows that, in addition to Col. Johnson's friendly mediation, the President was willing to exert his own as a friend, to heal the breach, in anticipation of the meeting to which he invited the Secretaries, on Friday the 29th, to declare the basis on which he resolved to fix the harmony of his Cabinet. Mr. Branch and myself, the principal difficulty having arisen between us, as has been stated, at Mr. Berrien's, and adjusted our relations amicably; and yet this reconciliation, it is pretended, produced, as is seen from Mr. Branch's note, by the kind and friendly interposition of the President, is represented to have been immediately preceded by "indignity and outrage," and to have been succeeded by a state of feeling too much excited "to weigh any reasons which might be offered!" How thoroughly is all this contradicted by Mr. Branch's contemporaneous note.

Private difficulties were now at an end, as was well understood, families were to visit or not according to their inclination. In two days the "indignity and outrage" which had been offered to these gentlemen was forgotten, so much so that for 15 months matters glided in tolerable harmony. Nothing more was said or heard of this subject, until the President, as he had an unquestioned right to do, thought proper to request their resignations. Then were old notes and memoranda furnished up, and that over which they had slept so long, immediately became a subject of deep and "awakening interest to the American people." The truth is, this farce, which is now brought out on the public stage, was designed for a different occasion. It was in January or February, 1830, that they expected to exhibit before the public, and to unfold the tale of threats from the President, dismissal and family association, and all that. Not being dismissed then, as they expected they laid aside their prepared tale; but, having at length lost their offices, they bring it forth upon an occasion which it does not fit, and vainly attempt to attribute the dissolution of the Cabinet to a false ground. That event they knew sprung from an entirely different cause—a cause which will satisfy every impartial man when he comes to understand it.—To account for their removal, they offer any but the true reason, and hence run into all sorts of absurdity.

Shortly after this, about the 20th of March, a preparatory meeting of a few members of Congress was held, with a view to request the President to remove me from the Cabinet. Being apprised of their design, he made a remark which sat-

isfied the leaders in this movement, that to persist in their course would serve to expose them to public reprobation, and result in fruitless endeavor. Accordingly the project was abandoned, or at least suspended.

I do not impute to all who participated in this preliminary step, a design to unite ultimately in a measure of such high dictation to the President. Some were at first misled by false representations, and induced to believe that his peace & comfort, as well as the success of his administration, depended upon it; others attended the meeting to point out the impropriety of the course, and to dissuade their friends from persisting in their design.

Now, what was the motive for all this relentless persecution? Could it be that my wife was indeed the cause? Was it merely to exclude a female from their "good society?" Was one woman so dangerous to public morals, and so formidable in influence and power, as to require all this strong array of Cabinet counsellors—combination of members of Congress—confederacy of fashionable ladies? Was it for that, attacks were made upon the integrity of her husband; and honor, truth and candor sacrificed? The idea is truly ridiculous! She was lone & powerless. Those who liked her society, sought it; and those who did not kept away. Neither she nor her husband entered into cabals and intrigues, to the prejudice and injury of others. Their own multiplied wrongs they bore with as much patience as could be expected from mortals endowed with human passions and sensibilities. A common understanding prevailed, in relation to one family, and which was also understood in relation to others, that each should seek their own associates, according to their own will, uninfluenced and unrestrained. The notice, therefore, was not to exclude us from society. It is a matter altogether too small to account for the acts and untiring zeal of so many great men.

Was the motive merely to exclude me from the Cabinet? Was my presence there dangerous to the interest of the country, or to its institutions? Had I the power or the disposition to injure the one, or overthrow the other? Was it pretended that I wanted the ability, intelligence, or integrity, necessary to the management of the Department of War? Of its management, there has been no complaint while it was in my hands. I left it at least as prosperous as I found it.—Was it suspected that I was not true to the President, and would prove false and faithless to his administration? A confidential intercourse of more than fifteen years, the highest admiration of his character and the deep personal interest felt in the success of his administration, were surely sufficient to guard me against that. Nothing of this sort entered into the minds of my traducers. They had no desire for my exclusion on account of any suspicious entertainments that I would willingly do injury to the interests of the country, its institutions, or to the President. To what then shall we look for this motive? An ardent friend of the Vice President, in 1829, in one short sentence disclosed it:

"Major Eaton is not the friend of Mr. Calhoun."

It was this which rendered me unfit for the Cabinet, and for the respectable society of Messrs. Ingham, Branch and Berrien. I could not, perhaps, be used to promote the views of Mr. Calhoun, and might exert an influence to induce Gen. Jackson to stand a second election. It was thought that, in my hands, the influence and patronage of the War Department could be used in favor of a successor. In that they did me justice. It was a subject about which I spoke not, and felt not. Not even was I solicitous for Gen. Jackson again to be selected, except on the ground that his principles and the course of his administration when fairly tested, should be found in accord with the general sense of the people and the country. At a proper time they would determine this matter, and there I was willing to rest it, undisturbed by any private or official interference of mine.

But "Major Eaton was not the friend of Mr. Calhoun," and this was a sufficient reason, why he should not be permitted to enter the Cabinet, if to be prevented; or for forcing him out when there. The ineffectual attempts to exclude me, have already been alluded to. It has been shown that Berrien and Ingham, concealing deep in their own bosoms their feelings, entered the Cabinet under a full conviction that I presently would be excluded—that Mr. Calhoun's family and mine, before my appointment, interchanged civilities, and that he sought of me the appointment of a friend as Chief Clerk—and that thereafter all private and official intercourse between us, ceased. Let it be borne in mind, that the principals—those who have been actively employed against me, are the friends of Mr. Calhoun—his devoted active partisans. It is readily to be inferred, then, that this "high wroughttapest," has proceeded from political designs, connected with the future hopes and expectations of Mr. Calhoun; and this interference I have it in my power to confirm, by the most unquestionable facts.

Duff Green, Editor of the United States Telegraph, has been from the first the instrument of Mr. Calhoun, by whose movements he has sought to bring his plans into operation. To him the feelings and plans of his party have been known. He has been their chief manager; first their private, and now their public organ. Him they chose to carry on their private correspondence—him they selected to make their *debut* against me, and they standing behind the scene with their notes, memoranda, and concerted statements, to back and sustain him.

[Here follows, in the pamphlet copy of the address, a page or more of remarks upon the relations heretofore existing between the Ex-Secretary of War and the Editor of the Telegraph, the favors which the latter had received from the former, &c. We do not copy these remarks, because we do not wish to place ourselves under even an imaginary obligation to publish any reply which the Editor of the Telegraph may think fit to make to this part of the publication. Our columns have been already perhaps too much crowded with the subordinate parts of this Ex-official controversy. It is because we wish them to be less so hereafter, that we withhold this part of the Address, believing that it cannot at all affect the case between Mr. Eaton and his official and ex-official adversaries.—Editors.]

This man, to different persons, and in various directions, early disclosed the designs which actuated him, and others who were associated with him in feeling, and in interest in their co-act towards me. I have a statement from S. F. Webster, of this city, detailing the substance of Mr. Green's remarks to him in the fall of 1829—at the very time when he was professing for me high consideration and great respect and regard.

Mr. Webster, in presenting the remarks made to him in November, 1829, says—respecting Mr. Green's language:

"That Maj. Eaton, remaining in the Cabinet, was of great injury to the party that he was used by the Secretary of State to forward his interested views; and if he remained in the Cabinet, the Secretary of State, who held complete influence over him, would be able to manage the President as he pleased, and direct the acts of the Government to promote his (Van Buren's) future prospects." That Maj. Eaton ought to be sent Minister to Russia, or at any rate, should not remain in the Cabinet; and that if some decisive step were not taken soon, he did not know what might be the consequences. And further, that the President ought not to run a second time. That Mr. Van Buren was using all his influence to prevail on him to run again, & in that event, would have obtained such influence over him and his friends, as to be able to command their influence at a subsequent election—General Jackson ought to go home."

I have a statement of another and similar conversation held by Mr. Green, in December 1829, with Giddens Welles, Editor of the Hartford Times.—He says: "On the subject of the next Presidential election, Mr. Green adverted to the embarrassed situation of Mr. Calhoun at the expiration of his present term, when he would have served eight years, equal to that of any of his predecessors; and that Mr. Van Buren, taking advantage of his situation wished to ruin him by driving him into retirement. It was the policy of Mr. Van Buren, he said, to persuade General Jackson to consent to a re-election, because that would lead to the postponement of Mr. Calhoun's claims and occasion him in a great degree to be forgotten. It would put Mr. Van Buren in advance of him, and this was the reason he was desirous that General Jackson should consent to a re-election."

Again he remarks to Mr. Welles, on this subject, about which, it seems, he felt such deep interest and concern:

"That Mr. Calhoun had no influence with the President, and could have none, while Maj. Eaton was there; nor could any of his friends receive appointments, so long as he was in the Cabinet. He endeavored to excite my jealousy by representing, that Mr. Van Buren, thro' Eaton, was endeavoring to confer all appointments on the old Crawford party.—It was indispensable, therefore, for the prosperity of the Administration, and the harmony of its members, that Maj. Eaton should leave the Cabinet, & leave Washington. There was one way in which he could retire honorably and victoriously.—If he would accept the Mission to Russia, he would be making an honorable exchange for the War Department; and all were willing that Mr. Branch should be dismissed, which would furnish Eaton a triumph."—[For the statements at large, see Appendix A and B.]

Thus through this chosen organ of Mr. Calhoun, we are possessed of the true motives which actuated my kind assailants. Their plan was that General Jackson should be President but for four years, and that Mr. Calhoun should succeed him. The Telegraph was considered by its Editor so omnipotent, that its dictation was not to be, and could not be, resisted, and that it rested exclusively and a lot with him to declare who should and who should not "rule over us." Reflect often mistaken for cause, and in this or