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## The "North Carolina Free Press,"

BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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## DOMESTIC.

From the Globe, of the 6th inst.

Yesterday, the Diplomatic representatives of the different foreign governments, waited upon the President to offer their congratulations on his re-election, and to assure him of the friendly disposition of their own countries towards the United States. They were received and introduced to the President, by the Secretary of State, in the presence of the Heads of Departments, at one o'clock, and Mr. Serrurier, Minister Plenipotentiary of France, made the following address on their behalf:

Mr. President: The Diplomatic Body accredited to the Government of this Republic, hastens to offer to your Excellency their respectful felicitations on your second inauguration as President of the United States. They feel assured that this new and flattering proof of the confidence of your fellow-citizens cannot but greatly contribute to confirm those friendly relations which already exist between this Republic and the Governments represented at Washington—relations which your Excellency has so happily preserved and extended during the four years of your first Presidency.

I esteem it, Mr. President, at once a happiness and an honor to be, on an occasion so interesting, the interpreter of the sentiments which animate the Diplomatic Body towards you, personally, and to offer you, in their name, the sincere wishes which every one of them truly entertains for the increasing prosperity of this Republic, for the firmness of its union, and especially, Mr. President, for every thing that can contribute to your own personal glory and happiness.

To this Address the President made the following reply:

It gives me great pleasure, gentlemen, to receive by the organ of the eldest and highly respected member of the Diplomatic Body, near the government of the United States, the congratulations you are pleased to offer on my re-election, and, above all, the assurances for my country of the friendly disposition of those which you represent.

It has been a principal object with me, to cultivate that disposition by the sincerest desire to cherish kindly feelings, extend the advantages of commerce, promote the interchange of every discovery in arts and science in peace, and lessen by humane stipulations, the evils of war, when, unfortunately, that scourge of the human race becomes inevitable.

Repeat these assurances, gentlemen, to the several governments you represent, as the invariable rule of my conduct towards them; and, for yourselves, accept the offer of the high respect and regard for you individually, with which your conduct during your residence here has inspired me.

Mr. Van Buren.—The following is the reply of Mr. Van Buren, to an invitation to partake of a public dinner, tendered to him by a Committee of the democratic citizens of Philadelphia, as a testimonial of respect for his talents and patriotism as a statesman and republican:

Philadelphia, Feb. 25, 1833.

Gentlemen—My stay in Philadelphia will be too short to enable me to comply with your polite request. But I am not, therefore, I assure you, the less sensible of your courtesy and kindness. There is no portion of my fellow citizens whose good opinion I value more highly than

that of those you represent, and I shall ever cherish, with the most grateful feelings, the flattering and affectionate expression contained in the communication with which you have honored me.

I concur freely in the views you express in regard to the necessity and propriety of moderate but firm measures to meet the present crisis in our public affairs. The inflexible support which has been given by the democracy of Pennsylvania to those principles and measures which will best preserve the Union, as well as the rights of the States, promote the prosperity of the country, and advance the cause of civil liberty, will be attested by all who are in any degree conversant with our public history. It is by this patriotic and honorable course of her citizens, that Pennsylvania has acquired so large a share of the respect and confidence of the nation.

The present condition of our country, is, as you will justly observe, a peculiar one; yet I cannot but think that the dangers which menaced our institutions, are already quietly lessened and bid fair to be speedily and happily removed; it is to me most obvious that the difficulties attending a satisfactory adjustment of the Tariff, are now reduced to questions of time merely. The repeated and earnest recommendations of the President to Congress in favor of a reduction of duties to the revenue standard, by means of a law, which shall be certain in its ultimate effect, but yet so gradual in its operation, as to give the greatest extent of protection to existing establishments, that shall be found consistent with the paramount obligation to relieve the people from all burthens which are not necessary to the support of government—recommendations, on the propriety of which he so distinctly placed himself before the American people at the late Presidential canvass, and in which he was so triumphantly sustained by a vast majority of them—seem to be now unembarrassed by any serious opposition, and to have become the favorite and universal sentiment. These important points established, there can surely be nothing in the residue of the subject, nor in the details of a bill, by which they are to be carried into effect, that, if acted upon in a proper spirit, may not be overcome without threatening the public peace, or endangering the stability of our Union. Any measures which shall successfully accomplish the objects proposed, and which shall be of a character to recommend itself to the moderate men on both sides of the question (the only securities we can have for its permanency) will, without doubt, receive the approbation of the people, and restore the different sections of the country to those relations of peace, affection, and good fellowship which are so indispensable to the prosperity and happiness of each and all. That these great objects shall not fail for the want of such an arrangement, is so emphatically demanded by public sentiment, as to allay all apprehension: should the present Congress, unfortunately, be unable to effect it, we may count with confidence upon the speedy and successful efforts of the next. Until this desirable result shall be attained, we have a safe guarantee against violence and discords in the discreet exercise of executive authority, the pervading patriotism of our countrymen, and that sacred inextinguishable love of Union which is so predominantly the master feeling in an American bosom.

You do me but justice in expecting a sincere support, on my part, of the administration of our worthy and venerable Chief Magistrate. I regard that as the most useful and honorable portion of my public life, which was spent under his immediate direction; and cannot fail to appreciate, as I ought, the honor of being permitted to co-operate in the advancement of the public interest, with one in

whose capacity and patriotism, my confidence is unqualified.

Be pleased to make my sincere acknowledgments to those you represent, for this mark of their respect, and to accept for yourselves individually, the assurances of my sincere regard.

M. VAN BUREN.

To Messrs. R. Patterson, &c.

U. S. Senate.—The following is the Address of the Hon. Hugh L. White, in reply to the resolution, which was unanimously adopted, presenting to him the thanks of the Senate, for the dignity, ability and impartiality, with which he discharged the duties of President *pro tem.* of the Senate:

We met under circumstances calculated to induce us to believe that matters of high excitement would arise during our sojourn here. It was by the will of the majority of this body that I was placed in this Chair, to preside over your deliberations. I looked upon the high honor thus conferred to be but temporary; for could I then have foreseen that I was to act in this capacity till now, most certainly my distrust of my experience would have induced me to shrink from undertaking the task. The duties of the Chair are at all times arduous, but the more particularly so when topics of high interest and importance are under discussion. My experience, however, has convinced me that even under these circumstances, the presiding officer may have a pleasant task to perform, when every member submits himself to be guided by the rules of this body, instead of having a law for himself.

I take pleasure in stating that during the whole course of the session, no act has been done by any one member, and no single expression has reached my ear, calculated to give pain to the presiding officer. If, in the discharge of the duties confided to me, I have had the misfortune to injure or to wound the feelings of any individual, I trust he will do me justice to believe that it has happened without any intention on my part. I have endeavored to act impartially towards every member of this body; and I would have them to bear in mind, that, if, during the arduous duties I have had to perform, and amidst all the excitements that have existed, any thing like order has been preserved, it must be attributed more to the kindness and courtesy of Senators towards the presiding officer, than to the capacity which he was able to bring to the duties assigned him. It is not propable, in the course of human events, that we can all ever assemble in this Chamber again. I shall, after putting the question, take a farewell of all who are here present; and I feel regret that I cannot exchange good wishes with those who are absent; hoping that it may be our good fortune all to meet again.

Mr. Speaker Stevenson.—The following is the reply of Mr. Stevenson to the resolution, which was unanimously adopted, presenting to him the thanks of the House of Representatives, for the firmness, dignity, skill, and impartiality with which he has discharged the duties of the Chair during the 22d Congress:

Gentlemen: I pray you to accept my grateful acknowledgments, for this renewed expression of confidence and approbation, in the discharge of the official duties of this high office.

I receive it in the same spirit of kindness, in which I flatter myself it has been offered, and shall cherish it with feelings of profound respect and the deepest gratitude. For the last six years, it has been your pleasure, that the arduous duties of this Chair, should be assigned to me.

This whole period of service, has as you well know, Gentlemen, been distinguished by events, well calculated to render this station one of more than ordinary labor and responsibility.

I have zealously and faithfully endeavored to meet this responsibility, and I hope I shall not be deemed arrogant, when I say, that I feel a proud consciousness

that the duties of this high trust, have been discharged by me, with a single eye to the character and dignity of this House, the interest of my country and my own honor.

That I have erred, I most readily admit; but they have been errors of rule and principle, not caprice and passion; and if there has been any apparent rigor or harshness in the Chair, you will do me the justice to believe, that it was unintentional and indiscriminate.

If, Gentlemen, in moments of excitement and commotion, any thing unkind has occurred between myself and the individual members of the House, let me assure you it has long since passed from my memory, and been forgiven and forgotten.

I have no injuries to complain of, and no memory for them, if they existed, and I shall part with you all, this night, in the spirit of peace and good will.

Before we separate, Gentlemen, will you pardon me for a moment, in offering a single suggestion.

Our councils of late, have been greatly divided, and their harmony and peace disturbed.

Our country has been deeply and painfully excited, and the safety and security of the Union itself threatened.

May we not all now hope that the causes of excitement are hourly subsiding and passing off. That peace and harmony and brotherly affection, will soon shed their holy calm and blessed influences around us, and that our beloved country will again become united, peaceful and happy.

In assuming this station, some years ago, I took the liberty of then expressing to the House a sentiment which I had long cherished, and which I now seize this fit occasion of repeating from this Chair. It is this: that our confederated Republic can only safely exist, under the influence of wise, equal, and just laws; by the ties of common interests and brotherly affection; a spirit of mutual forbearance and moderation (collectively and individually) and by cherishing a devotion to that Liberty and Union, secured to us by the blood of our common fathers. These are the stable foundations upon which our liberties and free institutions can alone rest; and God grant they may be eternal. This, gentlemen, in all human probability, is the moment of separation, with many, very many of us, forever. Is there one individual present to whose bosom a final separation from those with whom he has been so long and intimately associated, will not carry a painful and bitter pang? If there be, I confess I envy not his feelings.

You will carry with you, gentlemen, my cordial and best wishes for your individual prosperity and happiness, and I pray you to receive this my most affectionate, and possibly, last farewell.

Gen. Hamilton's Sugar.—We understand (says the Charleston Patriot of the 1st inst.) that Gen. Hamilton has declined to give bonds to the Collector for the Sugars imported in the Catharine, but required that they should be stored for the present.

Banks.—The State of Indiana has established a State Bank, with a capital of \$1,600,000. One half of the stock is subscribed for by the State, for which she issues her scrip, bearing an interest of 5 per cent. redeemable in twenty years. It is said that the scrip has been already conditionally sold. Four branches only are to be established.

Richmond Enquirer.

Snow.—A letter from Hallowell, Maine, dated the 17th ult. states that the snow there was seven feet deep.

A warm friend is better than a cold cousin.