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Political, &c.

LETTER OF HON. A. H. STEPHENS.

We publish below the letter recently written by the distinguished Georgian—Hon. A. H. Stephens—in regard to the proceedings at Charleston, and the policy of the Democratic party, omitting only a few passages of minor importance.

CRAWFORDSVILLE, GA., May 9, 1860.

A State Convention should be called at an early day—and that Convention should consider the whole subject calmly and dispassionately, with "the sober second thought," and determine whether to send a representation to Richmond or to Baltimore. The correct determination of this question, as I view it, will depend upon another; and that is, whether the doctrine of non-intervention by Congress with slavery in the Territories ought to be adhered to or abandoned by the South.

I refer to this matter of history connected with the subject under consideration barely as a starting point—to show how we stand in relation to it. It is not a new question. It has been up before, and whether rightly or wrongly, it has been decided—decided and settled just as the South asked that it should be—settled, not, however, without a great effort and a prolonged struggle.

The only cause of complaint I have heard is, that non-intervention, as established in 1850, and carried out in 1854, is not understood at the North as it is in the South; that while we hold that, leaving "the whole subject where the Constitution and the great principles of self-government place it," the common Territory is to remain open for settlement by Southern people, with their slaves until otherwise provided by a State Constitution.

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erment," under the Constitution of the United States, a great deal has been said and written. We have heard it in the social circle, in the forum, on the hustings, and in the halls of legislation. The newspapers have literally groined with dissertations on it.

It is not my purpose now to enter the list of these disputants. My own opinions upon the subject are known; and it is equally known that this difference of opinion, or construction, is no new thing in the history of this subject.

That point of difference, it was agreed by both sides, to leave to the courts to settle. There was no cheat, or swindle, or fraud, or double-dealing in it. It was a fair, honorable and constitutional adjustment of the difference. No assertion or declaration by Congress, one way or the other, could have effected the question in the least degree; for if the people, according to "the great principle of self-government," under the Constitution, have the right contended for by those who espouse that side of the argument, then Congress could not and cannot deprive them of it.

But it seems exceedingly strange to me, that the people of the South should, at this late day, begin to find fault with this Northern construction, as it is termed—especially since the decision of the Supreme Court, in the case of Dred Scott. In this connection, I may be permitted to say that I have read, with deep interest, the debates of the Charleston Convention, and particularly the able, logical, and eloquent speech of Hon. Wm. J. Yancey, of Alabama.

What else have we to do but to insist upon our allies to stand by their agreement?—Would it not have been much more natural to look for finching on their side than on ours? Why should we desire or want any other platform than that adopted at Cincinnati? If those who stood with us on it, in the contest of 1856, are willing still to stand on it, why should we not be equally willing? For my life I cannot see, unless we are determined to have a quarrel with the North anyhow, on general account.

The great question then, is, shall we stand by our principles, or shall we, cutting loose from our moorings where we have been safely anchored so many years, launch out again into unknown seas, upon new and perilous adventures, under the guide and pilotage of those who prove themselves to have no more fixedness of purpose or stability as to objects or policy than the shifting winds by which we shall be driven? Let this question be decided by the Convention, and decided with that wisdom, coolness, and forecast which become statesmen and patriots.

I can say, whatever may be the course of future events, my judgment in this crisis is, that we should stand by our principles—"through woe" as well as "through weal," and maintain them in good faith, now and always, if need be, until they, we, and the Republic, perish together in a common ruin.

Even according to their doctrine, we have the unrestricted right of expansion to the extent of population. They hold that slavery can and will go, under its operation, wherever the people want it. Squatters carried it to Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas, without any law to protect it, and to Texas against a law prohibiting it, and they will carry it to all countries where climate, soil, production, and population will allow.

The times, as you intimate, do indeed, portend evil. But I have no fears for the institution of slavery, either in the Union or out of it, if our people are but true to themselves—true, stable, and loyal to fixed principles and settled policy; and if they are not thus true, I have little hope of anything good, whether the present Union lasts or a new one be formed.

My opinion, then, is, that delegates ought to be sent to the adjourned Convention at Baltimore. The demand made at Charleston by the seceders ought not to be insisted upon. Harmony being restored on this point, a nomination can doubtless be made of some man whom the party everywhere can support with the same zeal and the same ardor with which they entered and waged the contest in 1856, when the same principles were involved.

We copy the following leading article from the Baltimore Patriot of the 19th, the prominent Opposition journal in Maryland, at present conducted with unusual ability: Mr. DOUGLAS'S GREAT SPEECH.—Mr. Douglas has eclipsed his opponent, Hitherto, in all his attempts to make plain his doctrine of squatter sovereignty, he has walked in a fog, and his commentators after him, including even our distinguished townsman, Reverdy Johnson, they were walking on eggs, and they held their breath for fear of breaking some of them.

We used to think Mr. Douglas was a demagogue, who would sell his country for gold; but not so now. His rebellion against the slave-codists redeemed him in some measure in our estimation as a statesman, but his continuing to adhere to the political organization which sought to crush him, made him seem to us a cringing politician still, that thrist might follow fawning. We never dreamed that he had it in his heart to war upon the slave-codists from that stand-point, with a solemn determination to crush them out, or to crush out the Democratic party.

He has proved, beyond the possibility of cavil, that he is not the author of squatter sovereignty, but that General Cass is, and that the Democratic party in the slave States accepted it as the cardinal doctrine of Democratic faith upon the subject of slavery, both in the States and in the Territories. It is a historical question, and he perfectly overwhelms his opponents by copious citations from the printed records of the Democratic party in the South.

The Democratic party proper, therefore, according to Mr. Douglas, its recent chosen leader and expounder at Charleston, by a clear majority vote, is the exponent of squatter sovereignty, or the right of the people in the Territories of the United States to admit or prohibit slavery, as they shall see fit to do, without interference from the General Government in any way.

Who Shall be Nominated at Baltimore? Who shall be nominated for President at Baltimore, is a question as easily answered as asked. If the delegates, when they assemble on the 18th of June, in that city, are governed by the choice of the rank and file of the Democracy, they cannot hesitate to nominate Stephen A. Douglas.

So heard I great strapping young man exclaim the other day. I did want to tell him a piece of mind so bad. But I'll just write it to him. You want a capital, do you?—And suppose you had what you call capital, what would you do with it? You want capital! Haven't you got hands and feet, and body and muscle, and bone, and brains; and don't you call them capital? What more capital did God give to anybody? Oh! but they are not God given, say you. But they are more than money. If you will use them they will make money, and nobody can take them from you.

Now there are many reasons in favor of his nomination at Baltimore, when the Convention re-assembles at that place, but none against it. He has a majority of the delegates who represent two-thirds of the Democratic vote of the Union. He is strong all over the North, and the conservative masses of the South are with him.

publicans; which some of the leaders may do, and we hope will, but none of the rank and file will follow them. They expect the friends of Douglas to support any one of their men if nominated, and it would be treason not to do it; wherefore then should they not do likewise?

In this district we think the voice of the people is fairly for Douglas, and believe, if they had the power to do so, they would so record it. Mr. Wilson, of Lehigh, cast his vote for him at Charleston; and we feel assured that Mr. Vansant will represent his constituents, if he does the same thing at Baltimore, which we have every hope he will do.

When the Southern fire-eaters bolted from the Charleston convention, Mr. Claiborn, of Missouri, arose and is reported to have made the following plucky speech: "Gentlemen of the National Democratic party of the United States—I am a slaveholder, and represent a slaveholding district that has shed more blood for slavery than all Alabama. I was sent to this Convention to save the Union, and not trample it under foot.

Oliver Stevens, Esq., a delegate from Massachusetts, immediately took the floor and spoke as follows: "I have come to the conclusion that secession to-day was a dead leap lunge for the defeat of Douglas. I say no more here than I have said to my colleagues, that they who oppose Douglas misrepresent Massachusetts. I am willing to go home to my constituents and present to them the record of my fidelity.

The day of concessions has gone by, and we must now act with firmness and decision. The North has yielded up to the South everything she can concede but her honor. When it was charged upon us in the meetings of the platform committee that we sympathized with abolitionism, I hurled back their base insinuations. Two weeks' association with Southern men at Washington, has convinced me that Douglas will carry every Southern State, in the teeth of secession from the National Democratic Convention by a band of fire-eating fanatics, who represent minorities in the States from which they came.

So heard I great strapping young man exclaim the other day. I did want to tell him a piece of mind so bad. But I'll just write it to him. You want a capital, do you?—And suppose you had what you call capital, what would you do with it? You want capital! Haven't you got hands and feet, and body and muscle, and bone, and brains; and don't you call them capital? What more capital did God give to anybody? Oh! but they are not God given, say you. But they are more than money. If you will use them they will make money, and nobody can take them from you.

Shame upon you young man! Go to work with the capital you have, and you'll soon make interest enough upon it, and with it, to give you as much money as you want, and make you feel like a man. If you can't make money upon which capital you have, you couldn't make it if you had a million of dollars in money. If you don't know how to use bone and muscle and brains, you would not know how to use gold. If you let the capital you have lie idle, and waste and rust out, it would be the same thing with you if you had gold; you would only know how to waste.

The don't stand about like a great helpless child, waiting for somebody to come in and feed you, but go to work. Take the first work you can find, no matter what it is, so that you be sure to do it like Billy Gray did his drumming—well. Yes, whatever you undertake, do it well; always do your best. If you manage the capital you already have, you will soon have plenty more to manage; but if you can't or won't manage the capital God has given you, you will never have any other to manage. Do you hear, young man?

A good-looking young lady recently entered a dyer's shop, and thus accosted him: "You are the man that dies as you not?" "No," replied the gallant, "I'm the man that lives, but I'll die for you."

A mother teaching her child to pray, is an object at once the most sublime and tender that the imagination can conceive. Elevated above earthly things, she seems like one of those guardian angels, the companions of our earthly pilgrimage, through whose ministrations we are incited to good and restrained from evil.

Should he, on the contrary, abandon himself to the world and allow the seed of self-love to spring up and flourish in his heart, he will, notwithstanding, sometimes bear a warning voice in the depths of his soul, severely tender as those maternal lips which instructed him to his "Father who is in heaven."

Genuine Religion. How beautiful is that religion which teaches me to love God above all things and my neighbor as myself! Religion is benevolence, and benevolence includes every virtue. The benevolent can not be uncharitable, can not be unfaithful, can not be censorious, can not be impure in act or thought, can not be selfish; they love God and their neighbors, and they do as they would be done by.

An Ingenious Advice. A sergeant with about twenty-five soldiers had been sent out some miles from Fort Defiance, New Mexico, to guard some stock which were sent to graze, when they found that the party was surrounded by about four hundred hostile Navajo Indians.

Suspicion. One thing you will learn fast enough in the world for it is potent in such teaching—that is, to be suspicious. Oh! cast from you forever the hateful lesson. Men do not think how much of true innocence they are laying down, when they assume a clothing whose texture is guile.

HOME LIFE.—If home life is well ordered, the children having, according to age, working time, play time, books, games, and household sympathies, they will love home, and find pleasure there.

Give the little ones slates and pencils, and encourage their attempts to make pictures.—Drawing will amuse them when noisy plays have lost their zest, or are unseasonable; and the art will be useful to them in after life.—Have them read to each other stories and paragraphs of your selection, and save the funny things and the pleasant ones you see in papers to read them at your leisure.

A cook expected company, and was at a loss how to entertain her friends. Her mistress said: "Chloe, you must make an apology." "La! missus, how can I make it? I got no apples, no eggs, no butter, no nuffin, to make it wid!"