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BY GEO. SANDERSON.]

OUR COUNTRY—RIGHT OR WRONG.

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AGENTS.

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LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in the Post Office at Carlisle, Pa. July 15, 1841.

- Saml Addams P F Ahl Saml Brenizer Margaret Boor Mr Beuley, Trustee

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Remaining in the Post Office CARLISLE, Pa. June 30th, 1841.

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From the Keystone. Debate in the Senate, on the Arrest of McLeod.

No true hearted American can read the interesting discussion which has just terminated in the Senate, without being convicted of the extraordinary ability with which the interest and honor of the nation have been vindicated.

It is possible that this war of intellectual giants would not have been made upon the administration had not Mr. Buchanan called the attention of the Senate to the conduct of Mr. Webster, in so readily assenting (as far as he could assent) to the peremptory demands of British pride, and in so quietly submitting to British insult.

The position therefore which Mr. B. assumed, was one of responsibility, and most imposing in its character. The eyes of the whole world were upon him, for it was a question in which nations were interested, and the result will be of the greatest consequence to all who have negotiations with the "haughty mistress of the seas."

The history of this celebrated McLeod case, up to the close of Mr. Van Buren's administration, is briefly this: In 1837 a party of British and Canadian volunteers attacked the American Steamboat Caroline by night, while moored at the harbor of Schlosser, in the state of New York.

Immediately on the inauguration of General Harrison and the appointment of Mr. Webster as Secretary of State, Mr. Fox, the British Minister, changes his tone and peremptorily demands the immediate release of McLeod, appending to his communication an intimation of a threat of consequences, should he not be given up.

Mr. Webster, within three days, directs the Attorney General to proceed to Lockport where McLeod was being tried, and instructs him that, as the British Government had avowed the act, McLeod could not be held responsible; but if he should be convicted, to see that a writ of error was sued out to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Mr. Webster, at his position, and his "only wonder" is that he is not entirely demolished. In reply to the many eulogiums on Mr. W. in which he is compared to Demosthenes, Cicero, Demetrius, and others that school boys prate of, Mr. B. in some respects admits of

the parallel; and should he ever edit an edition of Plutarch, would no doubt place the American Secretary and Roman Consul in close juxtaposition:

"I have been for many years acquainted with the distinguished author of the instructions to Mr. Crittenden. For condensation of thought and of expression, and for power of argument, that gentleman is not surpassed by any man in this country. But will these qualities alone make him a great practical statesman? No, sir, no. To be such a statesman, he must be powerful in actions as well as in arguments—in deeds as well as in words. He must possess the clear and sound judgment—the moral firmness, and the self-reliance necessary to decide and to act, with promptness and energy, in any crisis of political affairs.

After recapitulating all the circumstances, and commenting with commendable severity on each, Mr. Buchanan observes: "Now these are features in this transaction any thing but creditable to our national character. I think that sufficient decision and firmness have not been displayed by the American Secretary of State. It will ever be a miserable policy to attempt to conceal the truth from the people."

The point of international law, whether an aggression on the territory of a peaceful state by the subject of another state, can be afterwards recognized by the sovereign and thereby absolve the individual aggressor from responsibility, is ably discussed. Mr. B. contends that his individual liability remains, and the peaceful state can punish any one invading her territory before a state of public war exists, when individual responsibility ceases and the sovereign is held to account and in support of his position he quotes the following from Vattel, a distinguished writer on international law:

"However, as it is impossible," says the author, "for the best regulated state, or for the most vigilant and absolute sovereign to model at his pleasure all the actions of his subjects, and to confine them on every occasion to the most exact obedience, it would be unjust to impute to the nation or the sovereign every fault committed by the citizens. We ought not, then, to say, in general, that we have received an injury from a nation, because we have received it from one of its members."

"But if a nation or its chief approves and ratifies the act of the individual, it then becomes a public concern, and the injured party is then to consider the nation as the real author of the injury, of which the citizen was perhaps only the instrument."

"If the offended state has in her power the individual who has done the injury, she may, without scruple, bring him to justice and punish him. If he has escaped, and returned to his own country, she ought to apply to his sovereign to have justice done in the case."

The reasoning and illustrations with which Mr. B. enforces the law as laid down, are such as common sense and common justice would dictate. If the law were different, the weaker state would be always at the mercy of the more powerful; the less, in complete subjection to the great; the peaceful tributary to the warlike. Another strong inference of the correctness of Vattel is to be drawn from the fact, that no other author disputes this position, and none was brought forward by other Senators in their defence of Mr. Webster.

When Mr. Webster's instructions to the Attorney General and reply to Mr. Fox were laid before the Senate, it became the duty of that body to take some action upon them, and either to abandon the principle they had established at the previous session, or condemn Mr. Webster for his departure from former opinions. It was contended that Mr. W. had compromised the national honor, in acting upon a communication conveying a threat, before that threat was withdrawn, and that it was his duty to resent a menace held over our government—that he had misinterpreted the law of nations in deciding that McLeod was not responsible for murder, after the British Government had recognized his act; and that Mr. Webster had mistaken the remedy, in instructing the Attorney General to sue out a writ of error to the Supreme Court of the United States, as that court could not entertain jurisdiction of the matter.

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After administering this "side wipe" to those who knew but "small Latin and less Greek," and which must have been a pleasant treat to Mr. Webster's admirers, Mr. B. notices the arguments of each of the Senators in opposition to him:

One of the principal reasons made use of in favor of McLeod's release, was that a state of war did exist between Great Britain and the United States, as soon as orders were given to invade our territory with an armed force. Mr. B. contended, on the contrary, that the capture of the Caroline was not an act of war, "because no power on earth except the supreme sovereign power of a nation, can make war."

"The British Government ought to have been told that we could never yield to a threat. They ought to have been told by the American Secretary, that we would not yield to a threat before we can do even that which we believe to be just. This is the conduct which honorable men pursue towards a great nation, and it is the conduct required from a great nation by the public opinion of the world."

"Armed at all points the Attorney General was directed to sue out a writ of error should be taken to the supreme court of the United States from the judgment of the court in New York, in case the defence of McLeod should be overruled."

"If there be any law in existence which authorizes such an appeal from the judgment of the Supreme Court of one of the sovereign States of the Union, in case of murder peculiarly within the jurisdiction of the State, I do not know the fact. The Secretary of State is a great lawyer, and his researches he may possibly have discovered such a law; but yet I venture to assert that the decision of the Supreme Court of New York, whether for or against McLeod, will be final. I shall be glad to learn the opinion of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Huntington) on this subject, who is a profound and able jurist."

"On the whole we are satisfied that the more familiarly the public become acquainted with this correspondence, the more will public indignation be evinced, at the same submission of Mr. Webster—a submission not only of spirit but of judgment—resigning implicitly both the dignity and justice of the nation. Mr. Buchanan will not fail to receive the merited applause of all parties, for his able exposition of national law, and fearless vindication of national honor. And we hesitate not to assert, that as far as these speeches are read, will be well admired; and the important truths which he inculcates will sink deep into the minds of all readers. We question whether even in the palmy days of Jackson's political victories, Mr. Buchanan had more of popular opinion on his side, than he now has in this controversy; and that he has done full justice to the cause he has espoused, not even the sceptical will dispute."

when arrested and brought before a court of justice to answer for his crimes, he surrendered to his sovereign the moment his surrender was demanded!"

"The communication then proceeds to reiterate the demand of McLeod's surrender, and threatens us with the serious consequences which must follow our refusal. How have the Senators on the opposite side treated this plain and palpable threat? The Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Choate) did not allude to it at all; and this was his most prudent course. The Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Huntington) explained it away in a summary manner, by stating that the serious consequences to which Mr. Fox alluded in his letter were not war against the United States, but simply those which would result from disputing what he deemed a settled point in the law of nations! The Senator himself could not forbear from smiling whilst placing this construction upon the threat. This example shows how certainly even a gentleman of great ingenuity must be lost, whenever he attempts to explain away clear and plain language conveying a direct and precise meaning. This threat can never be explained away by any human ingenuity."

"Sir, it was who had cause to threaten—it was we who ought to have demanded from the British Government the surrender of the captors of the Caroline and the murderers of American citizens and the punishment of the laws which they had violated. We owed it to ourselves and to our character before the world to make this demand the very moment when the British Government first justified the outrage to Mr. Webster. But instead of this, when one of these miserable bandits was arrested upon our territory upon his own boasted acknowledgment that he was guilty, the British Government at once interposed to save him from trial and from punishment; and they, instead of us, became the actors. The British minister, in effect, tells Mr. Webster, 'we cannot regard the rights of your sovereign and independent states; it holds responsibility; we therefore demand of you the release of McLeod from the custody of your territory, New York, and we entreat you deliberately to concur in our refusal.'

"Mortal man, in civil life, never had a more glorious opportunity of distinguishing himself than was presented to the American Secretary of State on this occasion. Had he acted as became the great nation whose representative he was, he would have won the gratitude of his country and enrolled his name among the most illustrious statesmen. The opinion of mankind would have justified a high tone on his part towards the British Government, and I believe that such a tone would have been the most effectual means of preserving peace between the two nations. We had drunk the cup of forbearance to its last dregs, and we ought then to have displayed a little of that patriotic indignation which the conduct of the British Government was so well calculated to excite. A small portion of the spirit of the elder William Pitt would have impelled the Secretary to pursue the proper and politic course for his country as well as for his own fame."

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"The history of every nation is fraught with romantic incidents. England has the story of her Alfred—Scotland of her Wallace, her Bruce, her Mary, and her Charles Stuart—Ireland of her Fitzgerald—France her Joan of Arc—Poland her Thaddeus, & Russia her Siberian Exiles. But we very much doubt whether any exceeds in interest the singularly touching story of Aaron Burr & his highly accomplished, his beautiful and devoted daughter Theodosia. The rise and fall of Burr in the affections of his countrymen, are subjects of deep historical interest. At one time we see him carried on the wave of popular favor, that the Presidency itself seemed almost within his grasp—which he only missed to become the second officer in the new Republic. He became Vice President of the United States. How rapid his rise! and then his fall—how sudden, how complete! In consequence of his duel with Hamilton, he became a fugitive from justice—is indicted for murder by the Grand Jury of New Jersey—flies to the South—lives for a few months in obscurity, until the meeting of Congress, when he comes forth and again takes the Chair as President of the Senate. After his term expires, he goes to the West, becomes the leading spirit in a scheme of ambition to invade Mexico; very few will now believe he sought a dismemberment of the Union—is brought back a prisoner of state to Richmond, charged with high treason—is tried and acquitted—is forced to leave his native land, and go to Europe. In England he is suspected, and re-

tures to France, where he lives in reduced circumstances, at times not being able to procure a meal of victuals.

After an absence of several years he finds means to return home, and lands in Boston without a cent in his pocket, an object of distrust to all. Burr had heard no tidings of his daughter since his departure from home; he was anxious to hear from her, her husband, and her boy, an only child, in whom his whole soul seemed bound up. The first news he heard was that his grandchild died while he was an outcast in foreign lands, which stroke of Providence he felt keenly, for he dearly loved the boy, Theodosia; the daughter of Burr, was the wife of Gov. Allston, of South Carolina. She was married young, and while her father was near the zenith of his fame. She was beautiful and accomplished, a lady of the finest feelings, an elegant writer, a devoted wife, a fond mother, and a most dutiful and loving daughter, who clung with redoubled affection to the fortunes of her father as the clouds of adversity gathered around him, and he was deserted by friends whom he had formerly cherished. The first duty Burr performed after his arrival here, was to acquaint Mrs. Allston of his return. She immediately wrote back to him that she was coming to see him, and would meet him in a few weeks in New York. This letter was couched in the most affectionate terms, and is another evidence of the power and purity of woman's love.

In the expectation of seeing his daughter in a few days, Burr received much pleasure. She had become his all upon earth. Wife, grandchild, friends and all were gone; his daughter alone remained to cheer and solace the evening of his life; and to welcome him, then weeks—and weeks were lengthened into months, yet naught was heard of Mrs. Allston. Burr grew impatient, and began to think that she too had left him—so apt is misfortune to doubt the sincerity of friendship. At length he received a letter from Mr. Allston, inquiring if his wife had arrived safe, and stating that she had sailed from Charleston some weeks previous, in a vessel chartered by him on purpose to convey her to New York. Not receiving any tidings of her arrival, he was anxious to learn the cause of her silence.

"What had occurred to delay the vessel? why had it not arrived? these were questions which Burr could ask himself, but no one could answer.

The sequel is soon told. The vessel never arrived. It undoubtedly foundered at sea, and all on board perished. No tidings have ever been heard respecting the vessel, the crew, or the daughter of Aaron Burr—all were lost. This last sad bereavement was only required to fill his cup of sorrow. "The last link was broken" which bound him to life. The uncertainty of her fate but added to the poignancy of his grief. Hope, the last refuge of the afflicted, became extinct when years had rolled on, and yet no tidings of the loved and lost one were gleaned.

Burr lived in New York until the year 1836, when he died. The last years of his life were passed in comparative obscurity. Some few old friends, who had never wholly deserted him, were his companions; they closed his eyes in death, and followed his body to the grave, where it will rest till the trump of the Almighty shall call it into judgment.

Such is a brief sketch of the latter part of the strange and eventful history of Aaron Burr. None of the family now live—it has become extinct—and of his name but lives in the history his country and in the remembrance of those who knew him.

Rather Funny—Street Scene.—A gentleman pushing down the street in hot haste; a ragged urchin running after him. "Mither! Mither! O, Mither! I thay—Mither!" "Are you calling me, boy?" "Yeth, thir; I thow what a burry you ith in."

The American Navy.—Mr. Buckingham, the traveller, has the following paragraph relating to the American Navy: "The American Navy comprises at present 1 three decker of 120 guns, the Peim-sylvania built at Philadelphia; and said to be the largest ship in the world, capable of mounting 150 guns, though rated at only 120; and probably carrying no more at present; 11 two deckers rated at 74, though all capable of carrying from 80 to 90 guns respectively; 66 sloops, of 24 and 18 guns each; and 10 schooners, of 12 and 10 guns each—making altogether only 96 vessels of every class; and yet small as it is, in the number of its ships its efficiency is so great, and the skill of its officers and seamen so conspicuous, that it is superior in actual force to any other Navy in the world, except that of Great Britain, and would not shrink, single handed, from a contest with it, gun for gun, and man for man, with a probability of being victor."

Four thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine emigrants arrived at New York during the week ending on Saturday. The ship Laurel brought 904. The Jews of the Holy Land have increased within the last five years from 2,000 to more than 40,000. A Russian Consul means getting trusted and then "putting" out for Iowa or Texas.

CARLISLE SPRINGS.



THE proprietor respectfully informs the public in general, that he is now ready to accommodate a large number of boarders and visitors. The Springs are situated 44 miles north of Carlisle, and 24 miles south of Harrisburg, on the road leading from Carlisle to Bloomfield in Perry Co., in a fine, healthy and romantic place.

D. CORNMAN. A Barouche will be run from Carlisle to the Springs during the season, for the accommodation of visitors. July 1, 1841.

Last Notice.

It is now nearly a year since my connexion with the "Volunteer" establishment ceased, at which time the books and accounts of the firm were all assigned to me for my share—and as a large amount of debts due the firm, notwithstanding the frequent notices given, still remains unpaid, this is therefore to give a final notice that unless payment be made on or before the 1st of July next, compulsory process will then positively be resorted to against each and every delinquent. E. CORNMAN. Carlisle, May 20, 1841.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in the Post Office at Sloughstown, Pa. July 15, 1841.

- Beattie Eliza Ann Smith Peter B Goldman John Smith Wilson Gries Leonard Watsons William M'Call Joseph

JOHN STOUGH, P. M.