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ADDRESS.

Of Democratic Members of Congress to the Democracy of the United States.

FELLOW CITIZENS: The perilous condition of our country demands that we should rise together. Party organization, restricted within proper limits, is a positive good, and public liberty. Without it the best Government would soon degenerate into the worst of tyrannies. In despots the chief use of power is in crushing out party opposition. In our own country the experience of the last twelve months proves, more than any lesson in history, the necessity of party organization. The present Administration was chosen by a party, and in all civil acts and appointments has recognized, and still does, its fealty and obligations to that party. There must and will be an opposition. The public safety and good demand it. Shall it be a new organization or an old one? The Democratic party was founded more than sixty years ago. It has never been disbanded. To-day it numbers one million five hundred thousand electors in the States still loyal to the Union. Its recent numerous victories in municipal elections in the Western and Middle States prove its vitality. Within the last ten months it has held State Conventions and nominated full Democratic tickets in every Free State in the Union. Of no other party opposed to the Republicans can the same be said.

SHALL THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY BE NOW DISBANDED?

Why should it? Are its ancient principles wrong? What are they? Let its platforms for thirty years speak: "Resolved, That the American Democracy place their trust in the intelligence, the patriotism, and the discriminating justice of the American people."

"That we regard this as a distinctive feature in our political creed, which we are proud to maintain before the world as the great moral element in a form of government springing from and upheld by the popular will; and we contrast it with the creed and practice of Federalism, under whatever name or form, which seeks to pay the will of the constituent, and which conceives no impotence to monstrous for the popular credulity."

"That the Federal Government is one of limited power, derived solely from the Constitution; and the grants of power made therein ought to be strictly construed by all the departments and agents of the Government; and that it is impudent and dangerous to exercise doubtful constitutional powers."

And as exponents of these the following from Mr. Jefferson's first Inaugural: "The support of the STATE GOVERNMENTS in all their rights as the most competent administrations of our domestic concerns and the surest bulwarks against anti-republican tendencies."

"The preservation of the GENERAL GOVERNMENT in its whole constitutional vigor as the sheet-anchor of our peace at home and safety abroad."

"A jealous care of the right of election by the people."

"THE SUPREMACY OF THE CIVIL OVER THE MILITARY AUTHORITY."

"Economy in the public expense, that labor may be lightly burdened."

"The honest payment of our debts and sacred preservation of the public faith."

"FREEDOM OF RELIGION, FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, AND FREEDOM OF PERSON UNDER PROTECTION OF THE HABEAS CORPUS, AND TRIAL BY JURY IMPARTIALLY SELECTED."

Such, Democrats, are the principles of your party, essential to public liberty and to the stability and wise administration of the Government, alike in peace and war. They are the principles upon which the Constitution and the Union were founded; and, under the control of a party which adheres to them, the Constitution would be maintained and the Union could not be dissolved.

Is the Policy of the Democratic party wrong that it should be disbanded?

Its policy is consistent with its principles, and may be summed up, from the beginning as follows: The support of liberty as against power; of the people as against their agents and servants; and of State rights as against consolidation and centralized despotism; a simple government; no public debt; no general system of internal improvements by Federal authority; no National Bank; hard money for the Federal public dues; no assumption of State debts; expansion of territory; self government for the Territories, subject only to the Constitution; the absolute compatibility of a union of the States, "part slave and part free," the admission of new States, with or without slavery, as they may elect; non-interference by the Federal Government with slavery in State or Territory, or in the District of Columbia, and, finally, as set forth in the Cincinnati Platform, in 1850, and reaffirmed in 1860, absolute and eternal "repudiation of all sectional parties and platforms concerning domestic slavery which seek to embarrass the States and incite to treason and armed resistance to law in the Territories, and whose avowed purpose, if consummated, would be CIVIL WAR AND DESTRUCTION."

Such was the ancient and recent policy of the Democratic party, running through a period of sixty years—a policy consistent with the principles of the Constitution, and absolutely essential to the preservation of the Union.

Does the history of the Democratic party prove that it ought to be abandoned? "By their fruits shall ye know them." Sectional parties do not achieve Union triumphs. For sixty years from the inauguration of Jefferson on the 4th of March, 1801, the Democratic party, with short intervals, controlled the power and the policy of the Federal Government.—For forty-eight out of these sixty, Demo-

cratic men ruled the country; for fifty-four years and eight months the Democratic policy prevailed. During this period Louisiana, Florida, Texas, New Mexico, and California were successively annexed to our territory, with an area more than twice as large as all the original Thirteen States together. Eight new States were admitted under strictly Democratic Administrations—one under the Administration of Fillmore. From five millions, the population increased to thirty-one millions. The Revolutionary debt was extinguished. Two foreign wars were successfully prosecuted, with a moderate outlay and a small army and navy, and without the suspension of the habeas corpus; without one infraction of the Constitution; without one usurpation of power; without suppressing a single newspaper; without imprisoning a single editor; without limit to the freedom of the press, or of speech in, or out of Congress, but in the midst of the grossest abuse of both; and without the arrest of a single "traitor," though the HARTFORD CONVENTION sat during one of the wars, and in the other Senators invited the enemy to "GREET OUR VOLUNTEERS WITH BLOODY HANDS AND WELCOME THEM TO HOSPITABLE GRAVES."

During all this time wealth increased, business of all kinds multiplied, prosperity smiled on every side, taxes were low, wages were high, the North and the South furnished a market for each others products at good prices; public liberty was secure, private rights undisturbed; every man's house was his castle; the courts were open to all; no passports for travel, no secret police, no spies, no informers, no bastilles; the right to assemble peacefully, the right to petition; freedom of religion, freedom of speech, a free ballot and a free press; and all this time the Constitution maintained and the Union of the States preserved.

Such were the choice fruits of Democratic principles and policy, carried out through the whole period during which the Democratic party held the power and administered the Federal Government.—Such has been the history of that party.—It is a Union party, for it preserved the Union, by wisdom, peace and compromise for more than half a century.

Then neither the ancient principles, the policy, nor the past history of the Democratic party require nor would justify its disbandment.

Is there anything in the present crisis which demands? The more immediate issue is, TO MAINTAIN THE CONSTITUTION AS IT IS, AND TO RESTORE THE UNION AS IT WAS.

To maintain the Constitution is to respect the rights of the States and the liberties of the citizen. It is to adhere faithfully to the very principles and policy which the Democratic party has professed for more than half a century. Let its history, and the results, from the beginning, prove whether it has practised them. We appeal proudly to the record.

The first step towards the restoration of the Union as it was is to maintain the Constitution as it is. So long as it was maintained in fact, and not threatened with infringement in spirit and in letter, actual or imminent, the Union was unbroken. To restore the Union, it is essential first, to give assurance to every State and to the people of every section that their rights and liberties and property will be secure within the Union under the Constitution. What assurance so doubly sure as the restoration to power of that ancient organized consolidated Democratic party which for sixty years did secure the property, rights, and liberties of the States and of the people; and thus did maintain the Constitution and preserve the Union, and with them the multiplied blessings which distinguished us above all other nations?

To restore the Union is to crush out sectionalism North and South. To begin the great work of restoration through the ballot box is to kill abolition. The bitter waters of secession flowed first, and are fed still from the unclean fountain of abolitionism. That fountain must be dried up. Armies may break down the power of the Confederate Government in the South; but the work of restoration can only be carried on through political organization and the ballot in the North and West. In this great work we cordially invite the co-operation of all men of every party who are opposed to the fell spirit of abolition, and who, in sincerity, desire the constitution as it is and the Union as it was. Let the dead past bury its dead. Rally, lovers of the Union, the Constitution, and of Liberty to the standard of the Democratic party, already in the field and confident of victory. That party is the natural and persistent enemy of abolition. Upon this question its records as a national organization, however it may have been at times with particular men or in particular States, is clear and unquestionable. From the beginning of the anti-slavery agitation to the period of the last Democratic National Convention it has held but one language in regard to it. Let the record speak:

"Resolved, That Congress has no power under the Constitution to interfere with or control the domestic institutions of the several States, and that such States are the sole and proper judges of everything appertaining to their own affairs not prohibited by the Constitution; that all efforts of the Abolitionists or others made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery, or to take incipient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences; and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend of our political institutions."

Upon these principles alone, so far as relates to slavery, can the Union as it was be restored; and no other Union, except

the Union of Despotism, can be maintained in this country; and this last we will resist, as our fathers did, with our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

But it is said that you must disband the Democratic party "to support the Government." We answer that the Democratic party has always supported the Government; and while it was in power preserved the Government in all its vigor and integrity, not by force and arms, but by wisdom, sound policy, and peace. But it never did admit, and never will, that this Administration, or any Administration, is "the Government." It holds, and ever has held, that the Federal Government is the agent of the people of the several States composing the Union; that it consists of three distinct departments—the Legislative the Executive and the Judicial—each equally a part of the Government, and equally entitled to the confidence and support of the States and the people; and that it is the duty of every patriot to sustain every department of the Government in the exercise of all the constitutional powers of each, which may be proper and necessary for the preservation of the Government in its principles and in its vigor and integrity, and to stand by and defend to the utmost the flag which represents the Government, the Union and the country.

In this sense the Democratic party has always sustained, and will now sustain, the Government against all foes, at home or abroad, in the North or the South, open or concealed, in office or out of office, in peace or in war.

It is this that the Republican party mean by supporting the Government, it is an idle thing to abandon the old and tried Democratic party, which for so many years and through so many trials supported, preserved, and maintained the Government of the Union. But if their real purpose be to aid the ancient enemies of the Democracy in subverting our present Constitution and form of government, and, under pretence of saving the Union, to erect a strong centralized despotism on its ruins, the Democratic party will resist them as the worst enemy to the Constitution and the Union, and to free government everywhere.

We do not propose now to consider the causes which led to the present unhappy civil war. A fitter time will come for such discussion. But we remind you now that COMPROMISE made your Union, and COMPROMISE fifteen months ago would have saved it. Repeated efforts were made at the last session of the Thirtieth Congress to this end. At every stage, the great mass of the South, with the whole Democratic party, and the whole Constitutional Union party, of the North and West, united in favor of certain amendments to the Constitution—and chief among them, the well-known "Crittenden Propositions" which would have averted civil war and maintained the Union. At every stage, all proposed amendments inconsistent with the sectional doctrines of the Chicago Platform were strenuously and unanimously resisted by the Republican party. The "Crittenden Propositions" never received a single Republican vote in either House. For the proof we appeal to the Journals of Congress and to the Congressional Globe.

We scorn to reply to the charge that the Democratic party is opposed to granting aid and support to the Federal Government in maintaining its safety, integrity, and constitutional supremacy, and in favor of disbanding our armies and succumbing to the South. The charge is as false as it is base. No man has advocated any such proposition. Democrats recognize it as their duty as patriots to support the Government in all constitutional, necessary, and proper efforts to maintain its safety, integrity, and constitutional authority; but at the same time they are inflexibly opposed to waging war against any of the States or people of this Union in a spirit of oppression, or for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, or of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or established institutions of any State.—Above all, the Democratic party will not support the Administration which looks or tends to the loss of our political or personal rights or liberties, or a change of our present democratical form of government.

But no, Democrats, it is not the support of the Government in restoring the Union which the party in power require of you. You are asked to give up your principles, your policy, and your party, and to stand by the Administration of the party in power, in all its acts. Above all it is demanded of you that you yield at least a silent support to their whole policy, and to withhold all scrutiny into their public conduct of every kind, lest you should "embarrass the Administration." You are thus asked to renounce one of the first principles and the chief security of a Democratic Government—the right to hold public servants responsible to their master the people; to render the representative accountable to the constituent; the ancient and undoubted prerogative right of Americans to canvass public measures and public men. It is this "high constitutional privilege" which Daniel Webster declared he would "defend and exercise within the House and out of the House, and in all places, in time of war, in time of peace, and at all times." It is a right secured by the Constitution—a right inestimable to the people, and formidable to tyrants only.

If ever there was a time when the existence of the Democratic party upon its principles and policy was a vital necessity to public and private liberty, it is now.

Unquestionably the Constitution gives ample power to the several Departments of the Government to carry on war, strictly subject to its provisions, and, in case of civil war, with perfect security to citizens of the loyal States. Every act necessary for the safety and efficiency of the Government, and for a complete and most vigorous trial of its strength, is yet wholly consistent with the observance of every provision of that instrument, and of the

laws in pursuance of it, if the sole motives of those in power were the suppression of the "rebellion," and no more. And yet the history of the Administration for the twelve months past has been and continues to be a history of repeated usurpations of power and of violations of the Constitution, and of the public and private rights of the citizen. For the proof we appeal to facts to recent to need recite here, and too flagrant and heinous for the calm narrative which we propose. Similar acts were done and a like policy pursued in the threatened war with France in the time of John Adams, and with the same ultimate purpose. But in two or three years the people forced them into an honorable peace with France, rebuked the excesses and abuses of power, vindicated the Constitution, and turned over the Federal Government to the principles and policy of the Democratic party. To the "sober second thought of the people," therefore, and to the ballot-box, we now appeal when again in like peril with our fathers.

But if every Democrat concurred in the policy of prosecuting the war to the utter subjugation of the South, and for the subversion of her State Governments with her institutions, without a Convention of the States, and without an overt act for peace, we should just as resolutely resist the disbanding of the Democratic party. It is the only party capable of carrying on a war; it is the only party which has ever conducted a war to a successful issue, and the only party which has done it without the abuse of power, without molestation to the rights of any class of citizens, and with due regard to economy. All this it has done; all this, if need be, it is able to do again. If success, then, in a military point of view be required, the Democratic party alone can command it.

To conclude: Inviting all men, without distinction of State, section, or party, who are for the Constitution as it is and the Union as it was, to unite with us in this great war upon terms of perfect equality, we insist that—

The restoration of the Union, whether through peace or by war, demands the continued organization and success of the Democratic party;

The preservation of the Constitution demands it;

The maintenance of liberty and free democratical government demands it;

The restoration of a sound system of internal policy demands it;

Economy and honesty in the public expenditure, now at the rate of four millions of dollars a day demands it;

The rapid accumulation of an enormous and permanent public debt demand it—a public debt already one thousand millions of dollars, and equal at the present rate, in three years, to England's debt of a century and a half in growth;

The heavy taxation, direct and indirect, State and Federal, already more than two hundred millions of dollars a year, eating out the substance of the people, augmenting every year demands it;

Reduced wages, low prices, depression of trade, decay of business, scarcity of work, and impending ruin on every side, demand it;

And, finally, the restoration of the concord, good feeling and prosperity of former years, demands that the Democratic party shall be maintained and made victorious.

W. A. Richardson, of Illinois.
A. L. Knapp, of Illinois.
J. C. Robinson, of Illinois.
John Law, of Indiana.
J. W. Vorhees, of Indiana.
W. Allen, of Ohio.
C. A. White, of Ohio.
Warren P. Noble, of Ohio.
Geo. H. Pendleton, of Ohio.
James R. Morris, of Ohio.
C. L. Vallandigham, of Ohio.
Philip Johnson, of Pennsylvania.
S. E. Ancona, of Pennsylvania.
Geo. K. Shiel, of Oregon.

NOTE.—The names of absent members concurring in the above will be affixed to the pamphlet edition of this Address.

THERE ARE NO THIEVES.—There are no such things as trifles in the biography of man. Drops make up the sea. Acorns cover the earth with oaks, and the ocean with naives. Sands make up the bar in the harbor's mouth, on which vessels are wrecked; and little things in youth accumulate into character in age, and destiny in eternity. All the links in that glorious chain which in all men around all, we can see and admire, or at least admit; but the staple to which all is fastened, and which is the conductor of all, is the Throne of Deity.

TEXT FOR THE "TIMES."—The New York World (Republican) quotes the following from President Jefferson's first Inaugural, as a suitable text for the times:

"The diffusion of information and the arraignment of all abuses at the bar of public opinion; freedom of religion; freedom of the press; freedom of person under the protection of habeas corpus; and trial by jury impartially selected, these are principles from the bright constellation which has gone before us, and guided our steps through an age of revolution and reformation. The wisdom of our sages and the blood of our heroes have been devoted to their attainment. They should be the creed of our political faith; the text of civil instruction; the touchstone by which to try the services of we trust; and should we wander from them in moments of error or alarm, let us hasten to retrace our steps and regain the road which alone leads to peace, liberty safety."

Why is the Star-Spangled Banner like the Atlantic Ocean? Because it will never cease to wave.

Life is a beautiful night, in which as some stars go down, others rise.

The apple of discord has a peeling of artillery.

THE WORST ENEMIES OF THE UNION

The worst enemies of the Union, are those that prate the most incessantly about its preservation. Mark them! Look at Phillips, Greeley and men of that stamp. They are as loud in lauding the Union as were the Pharisees in the time of our Saviour, in lauding the Mosaic law; yet Christ frowned upon them as the worst enemies of that law; cursed them as the vilest oppressors, and denounced them as a "generation of vipers." And do not our modern Pharisees of the Tribune order deserve the fate of their foul-tongued, long-faced, hypocritical predecessors? Are they not the most determined enemies of the Union? Let facts speak for themselves.—To view the course of these men for the last twenty-five years. Have they not, during that period of time, been most sedulously engaged in spreading "fire brands, arrows and death," throughout the length and breadth of the land? The great idea they have endeavored to propagate is, that one of the primary objects provided for by the Constitution, namely: the rendition of fugitive slaves—Involves an act which is morally, religiously and politically wrong. Every mode which ingenuity could invent to propagate this position, has been put in operation. Societies have been formed in order to raise ample funds; papers have been established in the most prominent points of the country; books have been published; lectures have been sent forth, who, from their ample compensation for their services, were able to devote all their time to their mission; in a word, no stone has been left unturned, the motion of which was in the slightest degree calculated to disseminate the sentiment common to those propagandists.

How can any man be the friend of the Constitution who denounces its objects? As well might it be said that he is the bosom friend of a man, who "erred and anon" denounces its character. Can he love an individual, who continually subverts his interest? Words of affection are a dangerous reliance when acts of opposition are met at every step. Yet, in defiance of principles thus self-evident, these men are loud in proclaiming themselves the special friends of the Union. They have for the last year bowed the knee seven times a day to the Constitution and the Union, and for the last quarter of a century they have never existed a day without denouncing the former as a "league with hell," and doing all in their power to destroy the latter, by constantly casting the seeds of discord broadcast over the land.—God save us from such friends.—The love of such men is like the fang of a viper! They are poison in their very tongue; the sting of the asp is beneath their tongue; their habitations are the abodes of cruelty; peace is a stranger to their councils. It is the vilest hypocrisy for such men to talk of maintaining the Union, while they promulgate ideas that are adverse to its objects, or alien to its spirit. During the entire period of their history they have never placed themselves in such a ridiculously foolish position as that which they now so pertinaciously maintain, in claiming to be the exclusive friends of the Union.

At one time, these so called philanthropists came out plainly and said "the Constitution provides for wicked objects; it sanctions slavery; it allows their masters to retake fugitives from Southern thralldom. In doing these things there is a violation of every principle of morality and religion." As the advocates of Christianity, we therefore are compelled to denounce that instrument; it is a vile compact, formed to minister to the lusts of men, and calculated to sustain an abhorrent system of injury and outrage. We consider all slave-holders to be non-stealers—worse by far than thieves—more abandoned than robbers—deserving a fate as horrible as pirates. From such men we turn with unutterable disgust, and we consider them as not having received their dues until they dangle from a scaffold?—Since we cannot properly carry out our views while the Constitution is in force, we deny its obligation in morals, and content, as politicians, for its utter abrogation. We are openly for a dissolution of the Union." Such were the sentiments which were promulgated some fifteen years ago by Abby Kelly and a vast group of kindred spirits that spread like locust over the land. Yet, strange to say, these people are now the most violent and uncompromising friends of the Union!

Gracious heavens! what a summer set they have turned! But can any one, in his senses, believe that the Constitution is strengthened by the support of friendship of such people? They are just what they always were. They bless or curse for a dollar! Out of place or out of power, they hurl their anathemas at government as if they possessed a Divine commission to denounce vengeance and designate the objects upon which it should fall. Put them in office, the lion is at once transformed into a lamb; the lips that cursed, curse no more; Government is an ordinance of God; passive obedience and non-resistance are duties and every good citizen owes to men in authority! Well may every American exclaim, Heaven save us from ultraism! If ever a nation in an age of the world went through a more fiery ordeal from the prevalence of this evil than has the United States of America, we should like any one to point us to it. We have felt the scourge in every form. It has scattered its ills in every city and State, village and vale. It has been ceaseless in its action; there has been no repose under its pressure. Years have increased its intensity, until its accumulated evils have burst in a mighty torrent upon the land, bearing away in its dreadful surge all that was delightful in social ties and national recollections. And yet, like the hideous monster of the roman poet, who roared for prey, though

his den was full, it cries aloud throughout the land to the battling hosts of brethren, to hurl sharp and swift the instruments of destruction while dying groans can rend the air, or gushing life blood soften the earth! Are we men, or are we demons? If men, let us stand up in honest truth to our Constitution, never doubting that it is what our forefathers designed it should be an antidote and cure for all the political ills arising from our peculiar condition as a people and a nation. If demons, let us abjure it at once and forever, and go wholesale into bachelery, until we shall have got a surfeit of carnage?

For heaven's sake let us cease patronizing political quackery. It has brought us to the brink of ruin. We tremble upon the very edge of the acclivity. Nothing can save us from the hideous precipice below, but the abandonment of past delusions; the abjuration of false teachers; and the resumption of common sense principles. One grain of common sense is worth more, under any circumstances of human life, than an ocean of transcendentalism. This is no day for abstractions. The American people, of all people, in the world are the least calculated for them. Their habits and their history render them eminently practical. Let them take up national affairs, just as they build a steam-clad vessel, and they will not fail to come to proper and successful conclusions.—There is not the slightest difficulty on the subject.—The trouble is in the way it is managed. If we would as a nation determine to do the best we can, under the circumstances of the case, and dropping all speculations about possible evils, simply take the Constitution and laws, as our rule, and a good conscience as our guide, peace would be restored to our land and prosperity shed its blessings in our borders.

There never was a time in our history which called for the development of these principles, to as great an extent, as the present. The old enemy is now more active and dangerous than ever. Instead of the contracted sphere, in which he formerly moved, he now exhorts his influence in camps; reigns supreme on high official positions; and threatens to control the action of both Houses of Congress. Of course, he is everywhere clamorous for the Union, but, at the same time, as of old, he is constantly advocating or originating measures inimical to the Constitution. Instead of simply seeking to crush the rebellion by the means provided in that instrument, and restore the Union, he is rendering the Constitution triumphant, as puts first and foremost his acts of confiscation, Congressional emancipation, and territorial tyranny! Can the Union ever be restored by dividing the hearts of the citizens, who compose it? Is it not foolish to attempt to accomplish an object, by the authority of law, when the moral sense of the nation does not sustain the spirit of the enactment? On the 4th of March, 1862, Senator Cowan administered a scathing rebuke to the advocates of these disunion measures. Pennsylvania has reason to be proud of such a representative. The course which that gentleman counsels would not only end the rebellion but forever establish the Constitution our hearty wish and firm belief are, that it will finally be adopted, despite the opposition with which it is assailed. The Constitution, for a period of near a century, has proved itself sufficient to bind all parts of the land together, and protect each. What more can we reasonably want?—Philadelphia Sunday Mercury.

BEAUTIFUL AND TRUE.

A friend has handed us the following extract from a letter written to him by an English lady, now in her 70th year:

"It gives me real pleasure and thoughtfulness to hear a good report of the health and safety of yourself and your interesting family when I read the charming descriptions of your sweet home."

"In a moment I seem to be there."

"So fleet is a glance of the mind"

and it is well we can cheer oneself with such fairy visions—since the reality is so utterly denied us. I do consider, that separations between friends—whether by death, or only earthly distance—are our greatest trials here below, best thanks be for our spiritual hopes and expectations from the sure testimony of the Divine Word, each earthly trial has its own peculiar consolation and contrast in the world to come. "No separations there known," but one holy and everlasting blending—spirit with kindred spirits in glory awaiting. How strange, that amidst earthly trial, and with such sore and blissful prospects before us, we should ever want striving to seek the Kingdom of Heaven and its righteousness, and to lay hold on the hope set before us in the Gospel, even Jesus—the only hope—that can never fail to be realized in the eternal and glorious Redemption of His people. Delightful as your letters are, will you forgive me if I say I sometimes wish to find an allusion to these all important subjects for as immortal beings, they ought surely engage our first and most serious attention. In this respect I trust I have long been feeling the power of the inestimable blessing bound up in the visitations of God's bereaving hand—sharp and little, indeed, in their inflictions to the sufferer—but infinitely wise and tenderly loving, calculated to draw our hearts nearer to God, and to produce the peaceable fruits of righteousness. I trust, humbly, that my sore trials have thus in some measure been sanctified, and that I can say with the Psalmist, "It is good for me to have been afflicted." Perhaps you may view these observations in the light of a little sermon—but remember, they refer more to myself than to you."

A man winds up his clock to make it run, and his business to make it stop.