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Mr. Webster's Remarks.

From our first page will be found a few extracts from the admirable speech of Mr. WEBSTER. Like every thing else which emanates from that great man, they are deserving of serious consideration.

☞ Below will also be found some good humored "bite" by Mr. JOHNSON.

Spice and Good Humor.

We find the following report of Mr. JOHNSON's recent speech in the House of Representatives, in the New York Herald, furnished by its Washington Correspondent.

Mr. WILLIAM COST JOHNSON at the evening session of the 12th, rose and requested Mr. Pope to give way, as he evidently appeared exhausted, and he would pledge himself and the honor of every member on his floor, that he would be listened to on to morrow with the greatest pleasure, for the conclusion of his able and eloquent discussion. Mr. Pope acceded to the proposal. Some gentleman moved that the committee rise, but withdrew his motion at the request of Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Chairman, said he, in thus thrusting myself upon your patience at this late hour I appeal to the magnanimity of gentlemen in the hope that they will indulge me for a short half hour. The question before us is all important to the great farming interest of the country. I have the honor of representing that interest exclusively.

I said sir, I would crave your attention for a half hour. When Walter Scott was asked why he had not written the Life of Bonaparte in one volume, he said, I had not time. If I should encroach upon the time I have limited to myself, I pray you to consider the answer of Scottman written and applicable to myself. I have not had the time to dive into the question in all its bearings, and consequently shall not be able to express myself in the brightest and most felicitous manner.

Before I go any further, as we are in committee considering this question and the state of the whole union, I will take this occasion of rendering the *amende honorable* to the Post Master General. I stated in my place on a former occasion that the Post Office Department was corrupt to the core. In saying so I did not mean that the Postmaster General was personably liable to the accusation. And I would have then disclaimed imputing any such crime to that gentleman, but for the fact, that I was met with a bold challenge, I threat to the cowardly, and God knows how many menaces to be cuned to death. I had said, and I say it now, if any man *calling himself a gentleman*, were to challenge me, I would accept his proposition without delay. Under such circumstances *I could not explain*. Now sir, these things have been all arranged, and I take pleasure in saying that I did not mean any thing offensive to the Postmaster General *personally*.

But to the question before us. The conduct of the member from South Carolina (Mr. Pickens) and of several Virginia members, appears to me to be most inexplicable. They come here and vote the Constitution to their hands to preach against the banking system. Well sir, do they give us a plan worthy of serious view of this instrument? No sir. They appeal to the opinion of Mr. Jefferson! Now I do protest against this profanation of that great man's name. No one can reverence it more than I do; but I read the Constitution and dare to interpret it for myself according to the meaning God has given me. Not so with these patriotic South Carolinians and Virginians. There *were* men in Virginia and South Carolina sir, in times gone by who dared to think for themselves and to interpret this instrument. *They* are gone, and we have in their stead a host of new lights depending for their thoughts, their opinions, their political creed and their legislative principles on Thomas Jefferson and the true Virginia doctrines of 1798.—Between these two authorities they year from time to time, and when they no longer suit their views they behead the Madison. For shame, gentlemen! What would you do if the *point d'appui* of your political lever were destroyed?

They would be in the condition of the brother of the present Attorney General of Maryland (Mr. Bailey.) On the eastern shore of Maryland, in former times, there was a knot of sincere federalists. They were in the habit of meeting every week to get merry and sing over their cups. These were the days of American hospitality, sir. [Members crowded round the speaker; and there was complete silence.] The news of the death of General Hamilton was received at one of their feasts where wine and reason flowed in equal streams. They broke their glasses for grief at the loss of the great chief of the Federal party. Various were the lamentations made by every one of the coterie. Mr. Bailey had set all the while silent. His grief was of the deepest dye. He emptied his glass however, more frequently than usual. At last he broke out with an earnestness of manner that quieted his companions: 'Gentlemen,' said he, 'I have more cause of grief than any of you. It can never be assuaged while I live!' 'What is it; what is it?' were the exclamations consequent on this bold declaration. 'Whilst General Hamilton lived, his opinions perfectly accorded with mine. I was then spared the trouble of investigating things. Now, only think of it; *I shall be compelled to think for myself.*' [Tremendous laughter.]

So it would be with the members on this floor, if Thomas Jefferson's opinions were to be suddenly wrested from existence. They would have to think for themselves, and great would be their lamentations, but less long their speeches. [Still greater laughter.]

Give me, sir, the old fashioned Virginian and Carolinian who used to think for himself and dare to express his opinions too. When Lowndes was told on this floor that a national bank was unconstitutional, what did he say? Gentlemen have urged that the Constitution should be so amended as to give the power to Congress to charter a Bank. Now I have two objections to this. The first is, if the proposal be made to the States, I believe it will be rejected, and the second is, I believe it the power already existed in the Constitution." He was opposed Mr. Chairman, at the time, by every member from his own State, yet he dared like a man to speak his honest sentiments. He did not like your modern politicians, sneak to get under the shield of Thomas Jefferson. God knows they want some place to hide their Lilliputian notions in, and they have justly chosen the Virginia doctrines and Thomas Jefferson.

In another branch of this Legislature, we have seen, on a most magnificent scale, the grand play of hide and seek. The gentleman from Jefferson, who sits next past, author of the principal character, enacted it so admirably that old Proteus, when caught by the shepherds, was thrown into the shade. I tried to follow him sir, in his two hit speeches, but my brain became bewildered. Before I would follow in his wake, as his friends on this floor have done, I would cut my political jugular! [A hearty laugh, and all eyes were turned on Mr. Pickens, who laughed too.]

We have been told sir, by the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Robertson, that we are to legislate for posterity. This reminds me of a debate in the Irish Parliament. Some members, equally fortunate, had uttered the same unwise doctrine. He was called to account in the severest manner. The Irishman rose to explain. 'Mistake Speaker, by posterity I did not mean our ancestors, but but the generation that immediately succeeded him, and hence I say, as posterity can do no good to us, let posterity take care of itself." The gentleman's reasons for not legislating for posterity are equally lucid with those of the Irishman. [Here the laughter became so loud and continued that the Hon. Mr. J. caught the infection and laughed too.]

This same gentleman tells us sir, of his voting for the bill brought in, in 1834, by General Cadwalader, of Pa. Mr. Chairman, when the eyes and noses on that bill were taken, just where our distinguished Senator now sits. [Mr. Webster was sitting on the platform on the left of the Chairman. All eyes were turned towards him. He blushed to the eyes—pretty good for a lawyer!] I was philosophizing Some members turned pale—some red—some fidgeted—some were silent, and some walked out of the House, when their names were called. But the old hardened sinners, the regular green bag politicians, never blenched or blushed. They voted with all the sang froid of the Indian. A gentleman from Virginia, my friend, the member from Virginia, Mr. Robertson. [Convulsed laughter. Mr. R. blushed this time.]

He talks, Mr. Chairman, of divorce. Why sir, he tried to marry the people to this same measure in 1834. It was a skeleton then, he says. Now, I have no love for skeletons. How is it that his love has cooled upon the Union? Government of the United States, Internal Improvements, Tariff, Bank, Divorce, Slavery, Texas, Bank, Tariff, Divorce, Internal Improvements, Government of the United States, Bank, Tariff