

Andrew Jackson on Secession.

Editors Chicago Tribune:

The following original letter of Andrew Jackson was recently forwarded to the Chicago Historical Society by the obliging attention of General S. A. Hurlbut, 16th army corps, U. S. A., who justly remarked of it that it would be found "characteristic and with some points that fit the times." In the belief that your readers will concur in the opinion of General Hurlbut, the letter is placed at your disposal.

W. B.

WASHINGTON, March 2^dh, 1833.

MY DEAR SIR:—Your letter of the 16th ult. has been lying by me for some days, waiting for a leisure moment to reply to it. The press of business at the closing of Congress, and sitting up the last night of its session to the dawn of Sunday, with privation of sleep the two following nights, by the sudden and severe illness of Sarah, gave me a cold and indisposition, from which I have not quite recovered. Sarah is quite recovered to her health; and the dear little Rachel is growing finely. We are now all well, and getting well; and being now clear of one of the most corrupt Congresses that ever has assembled in the walls of the Capitol, we hope for better times, and more virtue, and less nullifiers in our next.

Could it have been believed by any, that the late Congress, a majority of its members being chosen for their attachment to the present administration, could have been operated upon by any influence whatever, to have elected Gales & Seaton and Duff Green printers to Congress. The marriage between Clay and Calhoun, combined with the influence of the bank, effected this result, and shows the corruption of the times.

Many members of Congress, who have obtained loans from the bank, and who are now protested in bank, formerly opposed violently to it, are now its advocates, and strong nullifiers. I hope the people will look at this and check the corruption, by selecting men of more virtue, and less liable to corruption.

Nullification is expiring. Its last dying groan is just sealed by a repeal of the ordi-

nance and laws passed by the South Carolina Convention, who passed it; and hereafter nullification and secession will never be heard of, except in holding up to scorn and detestation their advocates, and particularly their prime movers. The bloody bill (as the nullifiers call the late judiciary bill or enforcing bill) has put this to rest. It spoke the united sentiments of the people from Maine to Louisiana, that nullification and secession are revolutionary measures, and not political rights growing out of our constitution or confederacy. The natural right of man is to resist oppression when it comes. It equally belongs to communities. Where they have the physical power, they succeed; otherwise, they will be coerced into obedience. Our Governments, both State and General, are Governments founded by the people for their own prosperity and happiness. The people are the sovereigns; and having formed a Federal and National Government for the transaction of all their national concerns, and the State Governments to regulate all their local and domestic concerns; and having pointed out by the Constitution how it is to be altered and amended, it can only constitutionally and peacefully be so altered; any other is revolution. The people being the sovereign head, they only have the right to change their Government: This is the beauty and safety of our form of Government. It is unique in itself, and surpasses all other systems ever contemplated; and as long as it is truly administered, by the General Government keeping within the pale of its granted powers, and leaving the people and the States their reserved rights, it will work well and endure forever. It is the strongest Government in the world, because it is made by the people for their own happiness, security and prosperity, and rests upon the support of the people, and their agents must bend to public opinion, and the power of the sovereign people is seen and felt at the ballot-boxes; and I have no fear, but, at the next election, the Nullifiers everywhere will feel this power.

Some of our members voted against Blair, and against the Judiciary bill. These two are Nullifiers at heart, and the one from East and the other from West Tennessee, can both be well spared from the council of the nation. You will see contrasted in the Globe the bills passed to enable Mr. Jefferson to execute the embargo laws, and non-intercourse laws, much stronger than the late law:—That was called by the blue-light Federalists, *the bloody law*—a violation of the Constitution, &c., &c.,—just the slang that is now used by the nullifiers. But when it was seen that Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Pennsylvania gave it, with one exception, a united vote, I think it will place those from those States, who have voted against it, in an awkward predicament; and the people will mark them as traitors to their country and to the republican cause. Principles never change, though politicians do often. You will find General Daniel Smith of Sumner's vote recorded in favor of the bill in 1809.

General Desha, although a wretch, I sincerely pity. He is drinking of the cups he mixed up for that worthy man, Major Eaton—all wicked slanderers and persecutors will meet with their just reward. I approve your course. Let him silent pass on. His punishment is great, and I hope it will bring him to repentance, for the injury he has done to others, unjustly and wantonly.

Give my kind respects to your amiable wife and family, and believe me your friend.

ANDREW JACKSON.

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