

CAGE
E463
.L92
no. 9
c. 1

The venom and the antidote. [New York, s.n., 1863] (I
Society; no. 9)

THE EISENHOWER LIBRARY



3 1151 02543 9294

LOYAL PUBLICATION SOCIETY.

No. 9.

THE VENOM AND THE ANTIDOTE.

COPPERHEAD DECLARATIONS.

Read the following declarations of Copperhead speakers, candidates, and newspapers in this State, which show the spirit of the traitors who are now attempting to gain ascendancy in New Hampshire for the encouragement of the rebels in their hellish attempt to subvert our noble and beneficent Government:

"If the South need any assistance, I will go out and assist them.....I won't do a thing to sustain the President, the Administration, Congress, or any of the piratical crew that have control of this Government. I won't do anything that can be interpreted as in any way supporting this war.....I am personally acquainted with Jefferson Davis. I have seen letters from him. He is a man of wonderful executive power and firmness of will, and the only one who could have successfully conducted the South through her present struggle.....President Lincoln is a knave, an imbecile, a usurper, and a tyrant, who curses the country with his Administration..... Poor, miserable, ignorant, lousy negro.....The blood-thirsty followers of beasts, the clergy."—John H. George, Copperhead Candidate for Congress in 2d District.

"The Abolitionists were a more insidious and dangerous foe than the Southern rebels. The war had been brought on by the clamor of Abolitionists. The question now at issue was, whether the President's Proclamation should be carried out in the emancipation of slaves, or Abolitionism should be put down. The Democratic Party was for putting down the Abolitionists, and maintaining the institution of Slavery undisturbed. He (Minot) was personally opposed to Abolition, and in favor of the perpetuity of Slavery. A Convention should be called after proclaiming an armistice, for arranging a Peace satisfactory to both parties, by mutual compromise."—Josiah Minot, intimate personal and political friend of Pierce, and the chief manager of the Copperhead Party, in a recent speech at Canterbury.

"Gentlemen, radical Abolitionism must be put

down. This great and glorious country will be shattered into fragments, if it is not, or else we shall find ourselves at last brought under the iron rule of military despotism."—Ira A. Eastman, Copperhead Candidate for Governor, in speech of acceptance.

"I am a REBEL. I was locked up forty days in a jail I never saw the inside of before, because I am in favor of a free government for white people, and not for niggers. SLAVERY IS RIGHT. It cannot be proved that slavery is a sin. Any physician can disprove that position. The forearms of negroes are four inches longer than those of a white man's. They never sprung from Adam. God never made an animal, except a skunk, that smells half so bad. I AM DEATH ON MINISTERS. They have been preaching the negro twenty-five years, but I haven't heard them for ten years, because I haven't been inside of a church for that period. They are always preaching the negro, and in my town they haven't converted any souls for a good many years. Niggers are their breakfast, dinner, supper, and lodging. Go home and vote the Democratic ticket."—Dr. Nat. Batchelder, a leading Copperhead, and member of the Rockingham County Democratic Committee, in speech at the Democratic State Convention.

The *Wolborough News* publishes a communication, in which it is asserted that nineteen-twentieths of the ministers, and four-fifths of those who attend church regularly, vote the Republican ticket; and the writer inquires why this is so. Admitting the facts to be as stated, one of them accounts for the other—the first for the last. The ministers not only vote the Republican ticket, but they are generally active political fuglers (on the sly), and preach far more politics than religion from their so-called "sacred desks." The consequence is, Democrats will not go to hear them; they first became disgusted with this shameful and dishonest conduct of the priests, and then as their treachery to duty, principle, and country, became more apparent, the great mass of Democrats instinctively resolved to give them no countenance or support. Here we have the reason for one of the facts stated by the *News* writer—and ample reason it is. As to the reason

for the other—the fact that the mass of ministers are Republicans—we account for it upon the principle of natural affinity. A class of men who are ever meddlesome, scheming, and disposed to rule, are naturally attracted to a corrupt, unscrupulous, and revolutionary party, which delights in turmoil and public peril, and labors to destroy the institutions of our fathers, in order to ensure their own lease of power, which they use only for the promotion of their own private interests.”—*N. H. Patriot, Feb. 16th, 1863.*

“The most startling political crime, the most stupid political blunder, yet known in American history, has now been consummated. The promised Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln to decree the abolition of negro Slavery is laid before the reader this morning.”—*Richmond Examiner, Jan. 7th.*

“The greatest crime ever committed by a Chief Magistrate of a free people has been perpetrated by the President in the promulgation of the Emancipation Proclamation.”—*N. H. Patriot, Jan. 7.*

“It is time for a separation of the country. I have a mind to sell my property and go South.”—*Daniel Mayes, Copperhead Candidate for Congress in the 1st District.*

“Rather than that the Emancipation Proclamation should be enforced, and SLAVERY be ABOLISHED, I would prefer that the GOVERNMENT should be DESTROYED.”—*William Burns, Copperhead Candidate for Congress in 3d District, in recent speeches.*

OPINIONS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SOLDIERS.

The following letter from John A. Preston, of Plymouth, a life-long Democrat, now a member of the 14th N. H. regiment, speaks for itself. The views of Mr. Preston having been misrepresented by the copperheads, he has concluded to set himself right, and has done it. He says:

“Well, now, Mr. Fellows, I am going to write a word about the copperhead. When I read of the copperheads in the Granite State,—the peace party,—when Jeff says he would not make peace on any conditions whatever with the “Yankees,” it makes the blood boil within my veins, to think we came out here to fight for the Government, while they at home are fighting against the Government, and at the same time wishing us defeated, and that we never should return; and when we are enduring the hardships of a soldier, and exposing our elves to sickness and death, they at home are making political capital out of it.

Such men—are they for the good of their country? No, for party spirit. God will have a reckoning with the scoundrels. These are the men who will support George for a seat in the halls of Congress. But, sir, if this regiment ever should return to the Granite State, I would recommend that when they come to the New Hampshire line, they charge bayonets and march through the State at double quick, and clean every copperhead out to Canada line. You may think I am rather hard on the “seesh;” but I have seen enough in your State, and I see enough here to convince me that the world would be better off without them. And, sir, I do believe if they would burn them at the stake (the rope, powder, and ball would be too good for their black infamy), I say if they would burn them, it would be the means of doing more good to put down this rebellion, than it would to raise six hundred thousand more of the best troops that ever trod the soil. Let every man shoulder his gun to fight for the old flag; let us arm the negroes; and use every means to put down the serpent, and damned be the man that acts in concert with Jeff Davis & Co. * * *

“Yours, ever,

“JOHN A. PRESTON,
“Co. H, 14th Regt. N. H. Vols.”

The following is from a member of 2d N. H. regiment, who is disabled by wounds and sickness. He writes to a friend in Concord, under date of Feb. 26, 1863:

“I never felt the force of circumstances as I do now. I am fully aware of the great struggle in New Hampshire. I can do no more for my country in the ranks. I feel most anxious to cast my vote against such traitors as you mention in your epistle. Now, if you will be so kind as to see some of the persons who have the control of the check-list in my ward, and get my name on, I will be much obliged. One vote is but a small thing, I know, but it may lead to great results—besides, I must do my duty. You are correct in your belief that ‘there are persons using every means to poison the minds of the soldiers.’ Indeed, their proper name is ‘Legion,’ like the poisonous serpent whose name they appropriately bear, they invade the most sacred places, and infuse their deadly poison wherever they find a victim. * * *

“Believe me your friend and fellow-laborer for the right.

“A. F.”

A member of the 12th N. H. regiment writes to his friends in Gilmanton, under date of Feb. 27th:

“I would vote for a democrat, as quick as for one of any party, if he was for the prosecution of

the war clear to the extreme, in order to preserve our Union. But I cannot see it in the democratic platform, nor in their candidate's speech of acceptance. It is treason from beginning to end, and all they look for or hope is to get the power in New Hampshire. Talk of peace at this hour! None but political jackasses will do it. The cry of 'concession and conciliation,' the '*Constitution as it is, and the Union as it was*'—isn't this good language to deceive those who are a little *shaky*, and haven't got courage, or, in other words, have got a *weak back*? It isn't any use to evade it. We have been grinding the axe that has severed the cords that bound human beings to oppression—beings that are equal by nature to ourselves. We have our duty before us; let us do it fearlessly; do not fold your arms, while our blood is washing the earth of this curse of slavery. Although we have met with defeats on the battlefield, it doesn't prove that our cause is not just. Those defeats will, at last, rest on the heads of our enemies, and the traitors, both North and South. * * * Now, as fathers, friends, and men, vote at the polls on the second Tuesday of March next, not only for yourselves, but for all ages; for you are now making History, a Text-book of Freedom, a Bible of the Rights of Man, forever. * * * Let us stand by our good old country, one and all. Friends at home, raise your voice, and vote in its behalf; and we as soldiers will raise our arms in its defence. I hope to hear good news from the New Hampshire election.

"G."

Another Gilmanton man, a member of the 12th Regiment, writes to his brother as follows, under date of Feb. 18th:

"I say sustain the Administration by all means. I have offered my life, and cannot my friends and neighbors give their votes? But be sure and vote for men that will carry out those principles for which you elect them. The only lines that can now be drawn are to be drawn between loyal men and traitors. * * * We have had reverses in the army, but I do not think that the Rebels have taken half so much courage from these as they do from a divided North; for at the time of the New York election, the rebel pickets would sing out to ours, to know if they had heard from New York. * * * Now, can any honest man lay the blame of the continuation of the war to Abraham Lincoln? Hasn't he done everything that lay in his power to close this thing up? And, as a last resort, he has come out with the Emancipation Proclamation, and now let us fight under this banner of liberty for all men, as long as we did without it. If something is not accomplished, then we shall have this consolation, that we have left no stone unturned. The Democratic

Party are giving the last dying struggle. They have everything to gain and nothing to lose by working upon the tender hearts of those who have friends out here exposed to death by disease and bullets, and there are so many that live for *self*, and not *principle*, it is not hard to gain victims in this way. Now, I hope the legal voters of New Hampshire will not be biased by party prejudices, but on the 10th day of March next, will elect *patriotic* men to fill the offices."

The following is from a letter of a member of the 12th Regiment to his friends in Concord, under date of Feb. 23d:

"There is quite a feeling in this Regiment, as to how New Hampshire will go next March. If the soldiers could only vote, the Republican party would carry the State by such an overwhelming majority, that such 'Democrats' as John H. George, Dr. Batchelder, Tom Whipple & Co., would take themselves to the ends of the earth and jump off to '*where, de Lord knows where!*' I don't see for my life why the loyal citizens of Concord will allow such a man as John George to dwell among them. If we boys had him out here, we would send to his '*Father down below!*' If the 'Democrats' should succeed in carrying the State, we (the soldiers) would like to take the job of 'cleaning out,' the whole race of them. Only think how they would rejoice at the South, if the so-called 'Democracy' of New Hampshire should be triumphant. God forbid! Every Democratic victory at the North encourages the Rebels, and only draws the halter tighter around our necks. If I could only find words to express my thoughts of those 'Secesh villains'—the Democrats, or 'Copperheads,' as they are more commonly called—I would try and write them for the press. All I can say is, when we 'clean out' the rebels in the South, which I am confident we shall do ere long, we will show their 'friends' at the North what we can do, by sending *them* 'On the other side of Jordan.' I wish that I could be at home to vote, but I cannot. Tell father to be sure and vote. The 'Copperheads' *must not* and *shall not* carry the State.

"I. C. E."

It having been currently reported by the Copperheads that the Deerfield "boys" in the 11th Regiment had, with only two exceptions, turned Democrats, and the report reaching the brave boys themselves, they were justly indignant, and have sent the following protest. In a private note they say that every one who ever was a Republican, now with Co. B, signed this protest, except one, and that he hid himself in a cellar on the day of the battle of Fredericksburg, and if

the Democrats want him, let them take him. They say that they can face the cannon of the traitors, South, but that they will not be lied about by the aiders and abettors of Treason, North, to help in the unholy work of giving New Hampshire into the hands of Pierce and his co-conspirators. They urge us to win an old-fashioned victory, saying that "a Republican triumph" in the old Granite State would give almost as much joy to the Eleventh, as a victory in the field. Here is their protest:

"NEWPORT NEWS, Feb. 14, 1863.

We, the members of Co. B, 11th N. H. V., to correct the report that has been circulated to the effect that we have renounced Republican and embraced Democratic doctrines, do declare that there is no foundation whatever for the report. We were Republicans when we left Deerfield, we are Republicans now, and, were we permitted to vote, would, as ever, support the same ticket, for we have seen nothing since our connection with the army, neither in the policy of the war or the principles upon which it is conducted, to call for a change in our sentiments. We are willing to support any men or any measures consistent with civilized warfare, which tend to a successful ending of the war; but we are unwilling, we protest against our opponents using such false reports, to our injury or the injury of our country's holy cause. Signed—

Lieut. J. Harris Cram, Sergt. Merrill Johnson, Sergt. Geo. W. Harvey, Sergt. Winthrop A. Hilton, Geo. E. Johnson, John L. B. Thompson, J. H. Batchelder, Rufus P. George, Wm. H. Lang, Charles H. Booddy, Charles H. Thompson, William H. Parsons, Albert M. Harvey, James Ritchie, William Ritchie, Sherman F. Hildreth.

LET the men of New Hampshire as they go to

the ballot-box on the 10th of March, REMEMBER these words addressed to them by the Fourteenth regiment:

So long as great national peril impends, while war exists, while great armies are marshalled in the field, and the Government is straining every nerve to avert a final catastrophe, common sense teaches that the conduct of FACTIOUS CITIZENS AT THE NORTH, whether combined in PARTY ORGANIZATIONS or as INDIVIDUALS giving utterance to a fault-finding spirit, is MONSTROUS TREASON. The memories of many battle-fields, drenched with the blood of our noble slain, the sufferings and hardships of those who still survive, ready in defence of our beloved country to obey the soldier's summons to the deadly strife, plead trumpet-tongued AGAINST THE DEEP DAMNATION OF THESE NORTHERN TRAITORS. Our army has a claim upon the moral support of every man who remains at home, and that support will be most rigorously exacted. *If not given willingly now, we lift a warning voice against the dreadful retribution that awaits all recreants when our triumphant hosts shall return to their homes. Whoso soweth to the wind shall reap the whirlwind.*

INDIANA OFFICERS—RESOLUTIONS.

BEAR IN MIND the following patriotic appeal of the Indiana Army Officers—all Democrats—in their recent Address to the Democracy of their State:

The Rebels of the South are leaning on the Northern Democracy for support; and it is unquestionably true, that UNJUSTIFIABLE OPPOSITION to the ADMINISTRATION is giving AID and COMFORT to the ENEMY. In the dark hour of our country's trial, there is but one road to success and PEACE, and that is, to be as firmly united for our Government as the Rebels are AGAINST IT.

