INAUGURAL ADDRESS

OF

PRESIDENT DAVIS,

DELIVERED AT THE CAPITOL,

Monday, 1 o'clock, P. M., Feb. 18th, 1861.

Gentlemen of the Congress of the Confederate States of America; Friends and Fellow-Citizens:

Called to the difficult and responsible station of Chief Executive of the Provisional Government which you have instituted, I approach the discharge of the duties assigned to me with an humble distrust of my abilities, but with a sustaining confidence in the wisdom of those who are to guide and to aid me in the administration of public affairs, and an abiding faith in the virtue and patriotism of the people.

Looking forward to the speedy establishment of a permanent Government to take the place of this, and which by its greater moral and physical power will be better able to combat with the many difficulties which arise from the conflicting interests of separate nations, I enter upon the duties of the office, to which I have been chosen, with the hope that the beginning of our career, as a Confederacy, may not be obstructed by hostile opposition to our enjoyment of the separate existence and independence which we have asserted, and with the blessing of Providence, intend to maintain. Our present condition, achieved in a manner unprecedented in the history of nations, illustrates the American idea that Governments rest upon the consent of the governed, and that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish Governments whenever they become destructive of the ends for which they were established.

The declared purpose of the compact of Union from which we have withdrawn, was "to establish justice, ensure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity;" and when, in the judgment of the sovereign States now composing this Confederacy, it had been perverted from the purposes for which it was ordained, and had ceased to answer the ends for which it was established, a peaceful appeal to the ballot-box declared, that so far as they were concerned, the government created by that compact should cease to exist. In this they merely asserted a right which the Declaration of Independence of 1776, had defined to be inalienable; of the time and occasion for its exercise, they, as sovereigns, were the final judges, each for itself. The impartial and enlightened verdict of mankind will vindicate the rectitude of our conduct, and He who knows the hearts of men will judge of the sincerity with which we labored to preserve the government of our fathers in its spirit. The right solemnly proclaimed at the birth of the States, and which has been affirmed and re-affirmed in the Bills of Rights of States subsequently admitted into the Union of 1789, undeniably recognize, in the people, the power to resume the authority delegated for the purposes of government. Thus the Sovereign States here represented proceeded to form this Confederacy, and it is by abuse of language that their act has been denominated a revolution. They formed a new alliance, but within each State its government has remained, the rights of person and property have not been disturbed. The agent through whom they communicated with foreign nations is changed, but this does not necessarily interrupt their international relations.

Sustained by the consciousness that the transition from the former Union to the present Confederacy has not proceeded from a disregard on our part of just obligations, or any failure to perform every constitutional duty—moved by no interest or passion to invade the rights of others—anxious to cultivate peace and commerce with all nations, if we may not hope to avoid war, we may at least expect that posterity will acquit us of having needlessly engaged in it. Doubly justified by the absence of wrong on our part, and by wanton aggression on the part of others, there can be no cause to doubt that the courage and patriotism of the people of the Confederate States will be found equal to any measures of defence which honor and security may require.

An agricultural people—whose chief interest is the export of a commodity required in every manufacturing country—our true policy is peace, and the freest trade which our necessities will permit. It is alike our interest, and that of all those to whom we would sell and from whom we would buy, that there should be the fewest practicable restrictions upon the interchange of commodities. There can be but little rivalry between ours and any manufacturing or navigating community, such as the North-eastern States of the American Union. It must follow, therefore, that a mutual interest would invite good will and kind offices. If, however, passion or the lust of dominion should cloud the judgment or inflame the ambition of those States, we must prepare to meet the emergency and to maintain, by the final abitrament of the sword, the position which we have assumed among the nations of the earth. We have entered upon the career of independence, and it must be inflexibly pursued. Through many years of controversy, with our late associates, the Northern States, we have vainly endeavored to secure tranquillity, and to obtain respect for the rights to which we were entitled. As a necessity, not a choice, we have resorted to the remedy of separation; and henceforth, our energies must be directed to the conduct of our own affairs, and the perpetuity of the Confederacy which we have formed. If a just perception of mutual interest shall permit us, peaceably, to pursue our separate political career, my most earnest desire will have been fulfilled. But, if this be denied to us, and the integrity of our territory and jurisdiction be assailed, it will but remain for us, with firm resolve, to appeal to arms and invoke the blessings of Providence on a just cause.

As a consequence of our new condition, and with a view to meet anticipated wants, it will be necessary to provide for the speedy and efficient organization of branches of the Executive Department, having special charge of foreign intercourse, finance, military affairs, and the postal service.

For purposes of defence, the Confederate States may, under ordinary circumstances, rely mainly upon their militia, but it is deemed advisable, in the present condition of affairs, that there should be a well instructed and disciplined army, more numerous than would usually be required on a peace establishment. I also suggest that for the protection of our harbors and commerce on the high seas, a navy adapted to those objects will be required. These necessities have doubtless engaged the attention of Congress.

With a Constitution differing only from that of our fathers, in so far as it is explanatory of their well known intent, freed from the sectional conflicts which have interfered with the pursuit of the general welfare, it is not unreasonable to expect that States from which we have recently parted may seek to unite their fortunes with ours under the government which we have instituted. For this your constitution makes adequate provision; but beyond this, if I mistake not the judgment and will of the people, a re-union with the States from which we have separated is neither practicable nor desirable. To increase the power, develop the resources, and promote the happiness of a Confederacy, it is requisite that there should be so much of homogeneity that the welfare of every portion shall be the aim of the whole. Where this does not exist, antagonisms are engendered which must and should result in separation.

Actuated solely by the desire to preserve our own rights and promote our own welfare, the separation of the Confederate States has been marked by no aggression upon others, and followed by no domestic convulsion. Our industrial pursuits have received no check—the cultivation of our fields has progressed as heretofore—and even should we be involved in war, there would be no considerable diminution in the production of the staples which have constituted our exports, and in which the commercial world has an interest scarcely less than our own. This common interest of the producer and consumer, can only be interrupted by an exterior force, which should obstruct its transmission to foreign markets—a course of conduct which would be as unjust towards us as it would be detrimental to manufacturing and commercial interests abroad. Should reason guide the action of the Government from which we have separated, a policy so detrimental to the civilized world, the Northern States included, could not be dictated by even the strongest desire to inflict injury upon us; but otherwise, a terrible responsibility will rest upon it, and the suffering of millions will bear testimony to the folly and wickedness of our aggressors. In the meantime, there will remain to us, besides the ordinary means before suggested, the well known resources for retaliation upon the commerce of an enemy.

Experience in public stations, of subordinate grade to this which your kindness has conferred, has taught me that care, and toil, and disappointment, are the price of official elevation. You will see many errors to forgive, many deficiencies to tolerate, but you shall not find in me either a want of zeal or fidelity to the cause, that is to me highest in hope and of most enduring affection. Your generosity has bestowed upon me an undeserved distinction; one which I neither sought nor desired.—Upon the continuance of that sentiment, and upon your wisdom and patriotism, I rely to direct and support me in the performance of the duty required at my hands.

We have changed the constituent parts, but not the system of our government. The Constitution formed by our fathers is that of these Confederate States, in their exposition of it; and in the judicial construction it has received, we have a light which reveals its true meaning.

Thus instructed as to the just interpretation of the instrument, and ever remembering that all offices are but trusts held for the people, and that delegated powers are to be strictly construed, I will hope, by due diligence in the performance of my duties, though I may disappoint your expectations, yet to retain, when retiring, something of the good will and confidence which welcome my entrance into office.

It is joyous, in the midst of perilous times, to look around upon a people united in heart, where one purpose of high resolve animates and actuates the whole—where the sacrifices to be made are not weighed in the balance against honor, and right, and liberty, and equality. Obstacles may retard, they cannot long prevent the progress of a movement sanctified by its justice, and sustained by a virtuous people. Reverently let us invoke the God of our fathers to guide and protect us in our efforts to perpetuate the principles, which, by His blessing, they were able to vindicate, establish and transmit to their posterity, and with a continuance of His favor, ever gratefully acknowledged, we may, hopefully look forward to success, to peace, and to prosperity.

[COMMUNICATED.]

To the Methodists of Alabama.

Several months ago, a paper called the *Methodist* was issued in New York, gotten up very nearly in the same style with the New York *Observer*. It has been edited by Drs. Cooks and McClintock—published, I believe, by a Rev. Mr. Bangs (not the venerable Nathan Bangs). It has been sent to nearly all the itinerant Methodist ministers, I believe, in Alabama and to some of them circulars were sent, with inducements offered for them to act as agents. It professed to hold conservative ground on the exciting issues of the day, and at first disguised its Abolitionism right cleverly. But it has lately held forth the doctrine that the "Union must be maintained at all hazards," favoring the coercion of seceding Southern States. It is therefore animated by the demon spirit that would fain crush us, and this article is to call upon my brethren to suppress the vile thing as far as they can, and scorn in anywise to aid it.

JOSEPH B. COTTRELL,
Alabama Conference M. E. South.

Papers through the South will please publish the substance of the above.

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA.—The Alabama Corps of Cadets consisting of the studentes in the University arrived in our city, as already noticed in our last issue, on Tuesday the 5th inst. The exercises of the University were resumed on Friday the 8th.

President Garland received more than twenty applications for appointments during the visit of the Corps to Montgomery. Upon the advice of the President most of the applicants decided to wait until the beginning of the next term in October, as the present season is unfavorable for entrance on account of the advance of the classes in the studies of the course.

Seven new cadets have however been added to the corps; and such was the favor with which the institution was regarded by all who saw the corps in Montgomery, that we doubt not that there will be at least two hundred cadets in attendance next year. From all quarters we hear that the cadets won golden opinions every where; not so much on account of their splendid drill—this was very fine—as on account of their manly bearing and their propriety of behavior when not on duty, contrasting so strikingly with the deportment of many of the military companies that have been figuring in our cities, during the last six weeks. It is with great pride and real pleasure that we speak of our cadets. A new era will dawn upon the education of our young men, if in addition to making them scholars, we can make them well-behaved and accomplished gentlemen. We do not attribute the success of the University this year to the military system alone; for it must be said to the honor of the young men, that the *material* upon which the system has been brought to bear, is of the very best kind.—*Tuscaloosa Observer.*

We cordially endorse everything said above in reference to the Cadets and the State University.

MRS. GOV. PICKENS.—Mrs. Frances W. Pickens, wife of the Governor of South Carolina, passed through our city yesterday, en route for Montgomery, Alabama.

In personal appearance, Mrs. Pickens is slight and willowy in form, somewhat above the medium size, with a pale and highly intellectual face. In style, Mrs. Pickens is a blonde, with a perfect oval face, pale blue eyes, aquiline nose, full and delicate mouth, and dark auburn hair. She was dressed in a full traveling habit, of mixed dark and gray, fitted in exquisite taste. We understand Mrs. Pickens is a native of Louisiana, and about twenty-four years of age.—*Atlanta Intelligencer.*

TREATMENT AND CURE

—OF—

CHRONIC DISEASES.

DRS. MORTIMORE & LURTON,

FORMERLY OF LOUISVILLE, KY.,

WILL visit this city and take rooms at the Montgomery Hall, where they will remain from the 4th until the 12th of March, thus giving opportunity for those who desire to consult them.

Their special attention is given to treatment of the following diseases: Rheumatism, Inflammatory or Chronic, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Paralysis, Diseases of the Heart, Kidneys, Spine, Lungs, Spleen, all forms of Womb or Uterine diseases, Chronic disease of Stomach and Bowels, embraced under the name of Dyspepsia or Indigestion. These, having received their exclusive attention for years, afford them practical experience, far exceeding that usually gained in the ordinary routine of the general practitioner.

It is not now necessary to go into detail, as regards the unprecedented success which has marked their efforts in many of the largest cities of the South, among which may be mentioned Louisville, Ky., St. Louis, Mo., Memphis, Tenn., Natchez, Miss., New Orleans, La., Huntsville, Florence, and other interior towns in Alabama, in curing numbers of the most intricate and difficult cases of Chronic Diseases, such as had defied the skill of many of the most eminent of the profession. This is fully evidenced by accredited testimony of prominent citizens throughout the country. These testimonials are the voluntary offerings of prominent men in the medical profession; clergymen of various denominations, as well as private citizens who have been relieved of pain and suffering, and are now in the enjoyment of perfect health.

From these we select a few as samples of hundreds of others of like character. These, however, will be recognized by the citizens of Alabama.

In presenting the following from Dr. Rivers, President of Weslyan University, at Florence, his reference to "*former treatment*" was to a time when he had long been an extreme sufferer from calculus formation in the kidneys. He had the advice and attention of prominent physicians, but they could give no relief. While thus suffering with scarcely any hope, he applied to Dr. M. in New Orleans, who sent him remedies which dissolved and passed off the calculus, and relieved him in forty-eight hours, and soon after he could boast of better health than at any time within the past ten years.

On the 24th of March last he was by accident thrown from his carriage, had an arm and leg broken, and the bones terribly shattered. Several prominent physicinns were in daily attendance for about three months, but finally the leg became so enlarged and the inflammation so extreme that but little hopes of his recovery remained, even by amputating the limb. In this extremity Dr. M. was called from Louisville, Ky., took charge of the case, relieved his sufferings, and thus saved the limb, if not life itself. And while there, was called to Bailey Springs, where he remained some weeks, and treated successfully about *one* hundred cases of chronic diseases, among which were a number of Dr. R.'s acquaintances, and while there, was presented with the following testimonial:

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, FLORENCE, Aug. 22, 1861.

My Dear Dr. Mortimore, Bailey Springs, Ala.:

I feel it to be my duty, as well as my privilege and pleasure, to give you this testimonial of my high appreciation of your skill as a physician, and your integrity as a man. Having experienced great advantage from your treatment both prior to and since my recent injuries, I have reason to know of what I write.

I have also been cognizant of the great relief afforded to others by your treatment and remedies. I have seen those who had been long and severely afflicted, rejoicing with returning health.

In the treatment of all forms of *Chronic Diseases*, I am sure you have few equals, and no superiors. I may say that I have seen your skill *tested* in some severe Chronic cases of Rheumatism, and protracted and extreme cases of Female diseases, and always with honor to yourself and benefit to the sufferer.

To say that you can cure all cases of diseases that flesh is heir to, would be to make you more than human. But I do say that should you make the effort and fail to *cure*, others need not try.

During my own extreme suffering from the terrible fracture of my leg, I found you the kind friend, the skillful physician, and the courteous gentleman.

As your profession often calls you away from home among strangers, it is but justice to you to say, that during weeks of frequent intercourse, during which time you have been a constant visitor at my house, your deportment has not only been unexceptionable, but has been that of a refined Christian gentleman. Your grateful friend,

R. H. RIVERS.

The following will also be recognized as coming from a gentleman of high standing. Mr. H. was for years States Attorney, and a prominent member of the Bar in the city of Houston, Texas; and also for a time editor of the "Wesleyan Banner, (now the Texas Christian Advocate:)

CHULAHOMA, MISS., Nov. 1st, 1860.

DR. D. MORTIMORE—Dear Sir: I esteem it a great pleasure to give this evidence of the high estimation in which I hold you as a skillful physician, as well as refined Christian gentleman. When we met at Bailey Springs last July, although I had often heard of and read publications of many wonderful cures you had performed, and was favorbly impressed with your successful treatment of extreme cases of *Chronic Rheumatism*, diseases of the *Spine*, *Kidneys*, *Womb*, and other complaints, which came to my knowledge by observation, and my daily association with your patients at the Springs; yet I could not help doubting your ability to cure or give permanent relief in my case, for this horrible disease of the Spine had paralized my left arm and leg, and rendered me almost totally helpless for eighteen months; and for nearly four years, I could neither sit, stand or walk, without the aid of my crutch and stick, during which time I was under the treatment of several eminent and successful physicians in the Southern States, yet realized no material benefit. But from the fact that all of your patients at the Springs expressed unbounded confidence in your skill and ability to treat successfully all cases of Chronic Diseases that you undertook, and hearing you, after an examination, express a belief that you could not only greatly relieve, but probabl *cure me*, I felt no hesitancy in giving you a trial, and though I would be doing myself great injustice if I failed to secur your services and personal attention, and I thank God tha I was induced to pursue this course, as I can now verify, a great extent, the happy result which you anticipated, the use of your remedies, and under your treatment; for can walk now with nearly as much ease with my cane alon as I could three months ago with both crutch and stick.

Your friend, JOHN A. HANCOCK.

From the Rev. S. W. Spear, D. D., for many years Principa of the Female College, Natchez, Miss.

NEW ORLEANS, March 5, 1860.

To the Editor of the New Orleans Christian Advocate:

DEAR SIR—I feel it due to the afflicted, to say a few wor through the columns of your widely circulated paper, reference to Dr. Mortimore's treatment of Chronic disease While in Memphis, in November last, I visited Dr. M. at h rooms, at the Worsham House, where, at the solicitation friends, he was induced to remain a few days, enroute f this city.

Having suffered for some years with Pericarditis and Dyspepsia, I placed myself under Dr. M.'s treatment, and ha already derived very great benefit, indeed I feel almost e tirely restored. Being under treatment, I have been in h office frequently, and have had an opportunity of seein hundreds who have called to consult him, and have also re many letters which he has received from persons he is trea ing by correspondence, and in almost every instance the r sult has been perfectly satisfactory.

Soon after my first visit to Dr. M., in New Orleans, I sa a gentleman who had long suffered from Chronic Rheum tism; he had been repeatedly to the Hot Springs in Arkansa but stated that he had derived no benefit from them. was helpless, he could not walk. Dr. M. took him und treatment, and in eight days he could walk, and in thr weeks he was so far restored as to be able to return home his family. I have read his letter of recent date; he sa that he is now in excellent health. I have also seen a nu ber of others who had been long afflicted with Rheumatis Sciatica, Neuralgia, diseases of the Kidneys, Spine, etc., tirely relieved by Dr. M.'s treatment in a few weeks. seems to me that he fully understands his business in t treatment of all forms of Chronic diseases.

His theory and principles of practice are the result of m ny years study, research and experiments. He prepares his own remedies specially for each case. His success see almost unprecedented. Respectfully,

feb22 A. W. SPEER