

The Milledgeville Recorder, a newspaper belonging to the Nullification school, contains a letter addressed by Judge A. S. Clayton, of the Georgia delegation in Congress, to a friend in Milledgeville. It is evident that the letter was not intended for publication. Its manner, as well as its matter, forbids the idea that Judge C., or indeed any body possessing a proper self-respect, would have desired to give *publicity* to such opinions in such a dress. We allude to it not because we conceive it to be very material at this or at any time, but for the purpose of showing the coincidence of opinion between the Nullifiers and Mr. Clay; the expectations (which have been recently consummated) of the former in relation to Mr. C.'s course; and the understanding, which existed at any early period of the session between the chief of Nullification and his partisans, and the head of the American System.

The letter was written as early as the 12th of January. It starts with the assertion that the affairs at Washington present "an aspect which has never before occurred since the world began," viz: that "the representatives of the people dare to say that their burthens shall continue, not because the government wants the money, but because it is necessary to keep up the factories of a few privileged orders of men"—and that they do this in the face of the statement of the President, "backed (as Judge C. says) by the Secretary of the Treasury, who ought to know better than any one else," that the Government has more money than it wants, and in the face also of the joint recommendation of the President and the Secretary, that the taxes of the people "be lightened at least six millions." The reader is next assured that a State has nullified, and that this act of nullification, "if the unwise and violent threats of the President are carried into effect, will drench this fair country with blood, and fill it with widows and orphans; and yet, that our task-masters are willing to see all this rather than give up six millions of dollars of their profits from manufacturing!" And we are told also, whilst they thus cling to what is "most cruelly and oppressively wrung from the southern planters," their perpetual cry is "Union"—or, in the more characteristic, if not more parliamentary, language of the honorable judge—"They cry, 'Union my dear fellow, Union,' while they are boring and twisting the very entrails of our people out of their carcasses." And then the letter adds:

“The inconsistency of Gen. Jackson passeth all understanding. His best friends cannot unravel the mystery. That his *Message* and *Proclamation* should come from the same mind in the short space of six days, beggars all speculation. There is no accounting for it; but the latter has blasted all our hopes, it strikes at our very existence, and *will defeat all relief from Congress*, as I now verily believe, and may involve our beloved country in all the horrors of civil war—*this, at least, is what the manufacturers will bring about, if they possibly can*, under the strong hope that it will revolutionize the Government, and restore it to the principles of old John Adams, when the minority of Congress passed the Alien and Sedition Law, and maintained they had a right to do as they pleased. *Old Jackson will have the consolation of being the author of all this unspeakable mischief*. He will fall under the curse of Tom Paine; when he told Gen. Howe, ‘that the king, his master, would receive the execration of all posterity, for his unholy war upon the colonies,’ and concluded by saying that ‘he who is the author of war, lets loose the whole contagion of hell, and opens a vial that bleeds a nation to death.’ ”

It is not singular that judge Clayton, under such an exhibition of inconsistency, should assume that "the inconsistency of General Jackson passeth all understanding;" simply because it is the natural course of excited and unstable minds, to ascribe to others, or to spy in others, the infirmity which most belongs to themselves. But let us see where the inconsistency lies. It is conceded that the remedy for the agitations in relation to the tariff, would be a gradual reduction of the revenue to the wants of the government, or least the reduction of the estimated surplus of six millions. This remedy Gen. Jackson has urged upon Congress—the Secretary of the Treasury has urged the same measure upon that body—the Committee of Ways and Means have reported and urged the passage of a bill, assuming such a reduction as its basis—and Gen. Jackson and the friends of the administration have recommended the passage of the bill, with perhaps such modifications as might render it more conformable to the design of the proposed remedy. This proposition has been resisted by the manufacturers and their friends in Congress—and chiefly resisted *by the political opponents of the administration*—and judge C. assures his reader in the outset that "the representatives of the people" have "dared" to prevent this measure of justice, *against* the recommendations of the President and the Secretary of the Treasury:—and yet we are gravely assured by a gentleman who assumes to arraign the "consistency" of General Jackson, that the Proclamation "will defeat all relief from Congress," that it will involve "our beloved country in all the horrors of a civil war," which *the manufactures* (who oppose Gen. Jackson, and attempt to defeat his measures of pacification) "will bring about if they possibly can"—and that "old Jackson will have the consolation of being the author of all this unspeakable mischief!!" That is, having recommended and urged measures of redress sufficient even in the estimation of Judge Clayton, and those measures having been defeated by the manufacturers and their friends, and such defeat being the causes of civil war, and bloodshed and anarchy, and doubtless of nullification and secession also, *therefore*, "old Jackson will have the consolation of being *the author* of all this unspeakable mischief!" Truly, the syllogism is unanswerable!

answerable.

But what is the resource of this learned gentleman? Does he look to the honest and fearless Chief Magistrate who has, from the outset of his administration, sought by every honest and upright means the adjustment of this question in a manner least calculated to produce excitement, or to bring injustice in either section—whose well-directed and patriotic labors have produced an entire change of opinion, and more liberal and far more conciliatory views, on this subject—whose recommendations effected the passage of the compromise bill of the last session, and who has steadily recommended a reduction of the revenues to the economical wants of the government—and who, for all this course of responsibility, of generous devotion to the interests of the country, and the manifestations of a primary and immovable desire to promote equally the welfare of every section, and to remove as far as possible, any inequality of burthens, has been assailed by the interested

and ultra friends of a high tariff, has encountered their utmost hostility, has been voted against and electioneered against by them almost to a man, and has been distinctly pitted against *their candidate and champion*, Henry Clay? Does Judge C. look to this source for further relief? By no means. We are to regard it, we suppose, as a further evidence of "consistency," that he now turns himself towards the *author of the high tariff system* and rests his hopes there! The very candidate of the American System for the Presidency is the great "mediator," in the estimation of the Judge, and of all the friends of Nullification! Thus, as early as January 12th, he pointed to Mr. Clay's course:

"With regard to Webster, he goes fully with the proclamation, intends to use it as an instrument to fix down upon us the protective system, if he can, and therefore goes strongly against all reduction.— Clay has been heard to say, *he is under no obligation to the manufacturers, for he considers that they deserted him in the late election*, and therefore it is thought, he is keeping back with his friends to come in as a mediator, in the way he settled the Missouri question. Strong expectations are entertained that he will, at a proper time, throw in a project that will harmonize the conflicts of the times."

It is thus that Nullification flies to the American System for relief! Truly, the reason, "that Mr. Clay is under no obligation to the manufacturers, for he considers that they deserted him in the late election," is worthy of Nullification, worthy of the new fellowship, and most worthy of the whole argument and course of a judge whose consistency "passeth all understanding."

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With regard to this alleged desertion of Mr. Clay, by the manufacturers, in the late contest, it is altogether ideal. In all the eastern and middle States, they were arrayed, as a body of men, distinctly in favor of the election of Mr. Clay, and as such were active and often violent--marching to the polls, in many instances, in companies and with banners, coercing their workmen, freely expending their money, and through their unscrupulous organs, the N. Y. Advocate and Journal and other prints, not only urging the champion of the American System, but grossly assailing Gen. Jackson, perverting his motives, and villifying his measures. *We* make no complaint that Mr. Clay passes from his ultra tariff hobby, to its counterpart, but pretended opposite, nullification. It is natural that extremes should embrace extremes. And it is natural, also, that he who had rode a hobby without honor or success, should cast it away when its services were evidently worthless. But it is a fallacy, as well as ingratitude, to attempt to find an apology for the new coalition, in the political desertion of the manufacturers.