

been following her like the ghost of Banquo which will not down at any bidding, ever since, and will follow her until the Federal arms are successful again, and she is restored to the Union from which she was thus ruthlessly torn.

My friend from Prince George's (Mr. Belt) the other day drew a painful picture of the desolation of Virginia. He spoke of women and children out on the hills near Fredericksburg, watching the flames of their own dwellings ascending to heaven. I sympathize with the misfortunes of those who were thus situated. I say again, as I said just now, I have no delight in such scenes. But the gentleman forgot to draw the reverse of that picture. He forgot to go down in those dungeon-holes of Richmond, where strong men are confined in the damp vapors of their cells. He forgot to go to Belle Island, over the entrance of which ought to be written the celebrated inscription which Dante represented as written over the gate of the infernal regions, "who enters here leaves hope behind," where he might have seen brave men, ready to go to the cannon's mouth without fear, weak and trembling and cowardly, bow before the resistless march of the demon starvation. He might have gone a little further and represented to us the remorseless butchery of Fort Pillow, which made a carnival of death, and where chivalry was canonized among the saints of darkness. These are pictures he forgot to draw; but truth will write them upon the pages of history for the consideration of those who shall come after us.

There can be no peace until this wild and false theory of State rights is exploded, and the authority of the Government is fully recognized, until the insult upon her flag has been wiped out, until her power has been vindicated all over her territory. When that is done, when the people, the mistaken American people, carried away by the ambition of their leaders, have come back, they will be received with welcome arms. It is an error to suppose that there is a wide gulf, an impassable barrier between one section and the other. We are united by too many interests to be thus dragged apart. What God has joined together let not man rend asunder, seems to be written upon the stars as they twinkle upon the rivulets as they roll down with harmonious music to the sea. I believe as they come back, they will appeal for enjoyment and protection to this Government, and will never yield their destinies again to the hands of wicked men. As the brightest lightnings are kindled in the darkest clouds, so out of all this horror of civil commotion and anarchy, there will come peace, calmness and quiet and rest.

The mother cannot forget her dead. The father's heart will ever ache with agony at the loss of his child. But in dreams will come to them the sweet and comfortable solace of the sounds of the voice that is stilled, and the

touch of the hand that is vanished, and they will have that sweet communion which will be but a prelude of a higher life far happier and eternal, after the scenes and strifes of this world are over.

We cannot thus tear ourselves remorselessly from the memories of the past. We can go and look at the Bunker Hill monument that rises to meet the sun in his coming, feeling that we have an inheritance there, as well as any other people. We can go down to Mount Vernon, and gaze where George Washington lies, abiding in the gratitude of his countrymen, and feel that we have no right to stand there and say that he was all Virginian; but that he was the father of his whole country; and that the Marylander, the Massachusetts man, and the Maine man, and the Ohio man, all have a right in his history, in his glory. Men from Maine and from Massachusetts can come here and gaze upon that scene depicted there, [the painting in the Hall,] Washington laying down his commission, and go away without faltering and saying, "we thought that was a picture in which we had a right to participate; but it is not so. Massachusetts is an independent State. She has no authority that Maryland wishes torn away from her. But her common history is banished; and though in the Revolution, and in the war of 1812 and '14, and though in the Mexican war, with linked shields we marched against the foe, yet we must with bowed head go forth from that majestic presence and acknowledge that it is for Maryland alone." It cannot be; it cannot be.

When this nightmare of despotism and ruin is passed away, all these things will be righted. People's minds will be restored to their proper balance, their hearts to a proper appreciation of the right, and an appreciation of the wrongs which they have suffered; and at last there will grow out of this trouble, the great eternal "Peace, be still," and over the clouds shall come again another bow, as true as that which in the olden time past, signified there should be no more flood, saying there shall be no more war, but peace, prosperity and happiness, an earthly trinity shall sit enthroned without a rival in this land forever.

Mr. JONES, (of Somerset.) The brief article which is under consideration by this Convention, I desire to read, with the view of recalling the attention of the Convention to the question which is really before us, because it is to that only that I propose to address my remarks. The article reads thus:

ART. 4. The Constitution of the United States and the laws made in pursuance thereof being the supreme law of the land, every citizen of this State owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution and Government of the United States, and is not bound by any law or ordinance of this State in contravention or subversion thereof.

If I mistake not, the real question which is