

Speech of CHARLES W. HAYDON Esq at the Whig Jubilee

Mr. Mayor. Signal as are the events which have convened us in your city; and which have brought the Committee from Maryland, which I have now the honor to represent, in offering their united respects personally to yourself; extensive and salutary as may be their consequences to this still enduring Republic, grateful and self approving as must be the feelings of the intrepid and high purposed leaders in this morally glorious revolution, this splendid political redemption which it is the high privilege of all America, under the Divine Providence, to celebrate and record; yet it becomes us as men and as Christians, as wary politicians and foreseeing statesmen, to bear our unparalleled success with magnanimity, meekness and humility; to regard our victory, not like a triumph over enemies, but as a conquest for the good of our country, not won for ourself, but for the preservation of the Union.—Let us hail it as a rescue from perdition, of the thoughtless, the helpless and deluded, as well as a guarantee of protection for the most hallowed of all human associations, your wives and your children; as a bond of peace and security for virtue and patriotism, piety and religion, now guarded by the laws of the land, sanctioned and enjoyed under the government of the Ruler of the Universe:

Emancipated from the yoke of miserable empiricism, rescued from the misrule of numerical despotism, good cause and good principles have at length prevailed over the unholy alliance of fanatical tyranny and official oppression. Some forty years ago, a celebrated toast of the well known Col. Aaron Burr, was echoed from one end of the Continent to the other—"The union of honest men." When, subsequent in time to the same Col. Burr nominating the Hero of Orleans for the Presidency of the United States, did he mean by an union of honest men, Andrew Jackson and Fanny Wright, Loco Focos and Martin Van Buren? If he did, the honest old soldier would then have spurned the connexion with Fanny, as he bewails the fraternity of Martin. The partnership is at this very moment broken up.

General Jackson disavows the articles of agreement, abandons the whole concern to fraudulent bankrupts, withdraws his name just in time to escape from "responsibility," which the good old gentleman was always over ready to assume, fully sensible that the words "I take the responsibility," are no longer of cabalistic potency, that even with the king of magicians at his back, he is powerless, to convert all he touches into gold, or to metamorphose a long eared Midas out of the frail and tattered material of the Prince of Humbuggers. But the chaos of political quackery, atheism, mobs and fanaticism—even the black art itself has passed away—and "I light cometh upon the face of the waters."—I would therefore say to you—Ye Sovereign People of this Empire State—ye rulers of the nation, ye dwellers in the Queen City of the Western World, ye self devoted whigs of the now only Republic upon earth, ye have put forth your irresistible power, ye have risen in your strength, and the foe is no where.

Like the men of old, who separated themselves from persecuting Saul and came to the rescue of David in the holds of the wilderness,—ye are men of might and of war, fit for battle, that can handle shield and buckler, whose faces are like the faces of lions, and who were as rocks upon the mountains, temper your glories with forbearance and moderation, as you would mitigate justice with mercy. True it is, that the sceptre of dominion never departed from the hands of David, the favored monarch of the Lord, but so soon, exulting in his elevation, gifts and blessings, he abused his power and reveled in prosperity, then joy was turned into bitterness, and this prince psalmist and patriarch sorrowed to the end of his days. Be we sure then that we battle for our country and not for the spoils of the vanquished—Let us always then remember the fallibility of human opinions and treat with respectful consideration all who oppose us; the rights of our adversaries are our rights; proscrib not then your own brethren, but invite them mildly and affectionately to the fold,—admonish them by kindness and example. Tolerate even the wildest errors of your most zealous and misguided antagonist, bearing for ever in mind that the blessed mother of Washington, of him who through countless ages surpassed all other mere human beings in greatest renown, was a Tory, through the whole of the Revolution. A Tory, though the proud and delighted mother of Washington, of the best and foremost Whig, of all the sons of America.

Let me entreat you then to cherish no unkindly feelings or uncharitable disposition towards those who differ in political views for arriving at the same end, the general welfare and happiness of our common country.—More especially would I admonish you to greet with confidence and cordially, all those who have repeated their errors and abandoned their support of bad measures, and who have lent their impressive weight to the scale of patriotism and considerate opinions. There are good and eminent and useful men in your city, whom I met in Baltimore, in 1832, during what was always called the Van Buren convention, and with them I cordially united in sentiment and action. I extended to these the hand of respect and good fellowship, at that period, and I am more proud to do it here now. Permit me once more Sir, for myself and the Maryland committee, (and indeed I might venture to say in behalf of every individual of every other delegation,) to offer our testimonial of heartfelt thanks for the generous hospitality of all, and respect for the judicious mode of conducting the interesting concerns of yesterday, by His Honor the Mayor, aided by Allenman W. Engle and all others of the accomplished and efficient supporters.