

GEN. GRANT'S PROTEST.

Voice of the Union Republican Press
Respecting the Correspondence between
Gen. Grant and the President.

From the Boston Advertiser.

The public decided some time ago that Mr. JOHNSON was not the man to sacrifice his own little schemes and aspirations on the shrine of patriotism, and his assertions and protestations and arguments have no weight, simply because nobody will pay the slightest attention to them. Gen. GRANT, by nature reticent, and by habit devoting his attention first of all to his own business, has not yet satiated the curiosity of the people. What he has said, therefore, is of far more importance. As regards this point, it is annoying to find the record very incomplete. It was already known that he had opposed the removal of SHERIDAN; what he said about the change in the Cabinet was of more interest. The letter unfolding his views on this subject, the President, for reasons best known to himself, persists in withholding. Gen. GRANT by his reference to this letter makes it properly a part of the published correspondence; indeed, this is manifestly incomplete without it. It cannot be doubted that the President could have had the injunction of privacy removed from this document, if it had suited his interest to demand it. The inference is that the suppressed letter of Gen. GRANT is of a nature far more damaging to the policy of the Administration than anything from him which has been published. We cannot think that the President would be actuated by any tenderness toward either Gen. GRANT or Mr. STANTON. How much ingenuousness was shown by the President in appointing as the successor of SHERIDAN an officer who had already expressed his decided unwillingness to take the place, and who proves to be too ill to accept it under any circumstances, we need not undertake to decide. It is clear, however, that the removal of SHERIDAN will be considered, as Gen. GRANT intimates, a triumph by the unreconstructed element of the South, no matter who proves to be his successor. And that he will be ultimately replaced by an officer who has at heart the conscientious completion of the work of reconstruction prescribed by Congress is not yet, we think, demonstrated beyond a reasonable doubt.

From the Boston Journal.

Gen. GRANT's letter will give his friends the profoundest gratification. It is earnest, directly to the point, and, though brief, yet comprehends the subject in all its relations. A better protest could not have been written. He indorses SHERIDAN's administration fully, saying that he "has performed his civil duties faithfully and intelligently." He then says "it is unmistakably the expressed wish of the country that Gen. SHERIDAN should not be removed," adding the suggestion so grievously needed at the White House: "This is a republic, where the will of the people is the law of the land." His allusions to the effect of the contemplated removal on "the unreconstructed element in the South," are as just and true as they are sagacious. They would have gone to the heart of any other man in the world than ANDREW JOHNSON. But how does this self-sufficient functionary meet this calm, weighty and truthful protest? He devotes more than twice the space occupied by Gen. GRANT to a substantial repetition of one of his old rignaroles about the Constitution. Of course he ignores the will of the people. It is a philosophical doctrine that a column of water no thicker than a pipe-stem would balance any other body of water of the same height even if it were the Atlantic ocean. And so ANDREW JOHNSON appears to entertain no doubt that his single will is as much superior to the will of the loyal millions of this country as his station is above theirs. In other words, he has got the idea that he is their autocrat and not their servant. But what has Gen. SHERIDAN done to the injury of the Constitution? Nothing, certainly, that the President is able to specify. He talks vaguely about SHERIDAN's "absolute tyranny," and says affairs in his district appear to be in "a disturbed condition," and that "a better spirit of antagonism" seems to have resulted from his management. But all the disturbance and the bitter spirit, it is well known, is in rebel quarters alone—the Union people in SHERIDAN's district are satisfied and harmonious, and yet disturbed by the prospect of his removal. And yet this is absolutely all that the President can offer in justification of his removal of Gen. SHERIDAN. A weaker and more ignominious apology was never made by a public man.

From the Worcester Spy.

The protest of Gen. GRANT is brief, straightforward, and as positive as it could well be made. He might have argued the question at greater length, but would have added nothing to the force of his unequivocal and comprehensive statement. * * * There is a prevalent and reasonable belief that the entire Cabinet is to be reorganized on a new basis. The President will be surrounded by advisers who agree with him in his fruitless and mad conflict with the law-making power. Members who have followed him passively up to this time are unwilling to share the responsibility for the treasonable course he is now pursuing. Both right and power in this controversy are against him, and he stands solitary in obstinate blindness to the fact. It will be in vain that Gen. GRANT appeals to him to desist "in the name of a patriotic people." He despises them. It will be in vain that Gen. GRANT "begs that their voices may be heard." He has heard the voice and despised it until defiance is the only sentiment it inspires in him. Gen. GRANT cannot remain in the Cabinet and be the medium for promulgating orders designed to "defeat the laws of Congress." He cannot continue in a post where he is compelled to be the instrument for enforcing orders which "the unreconstructed element in the South will interpret as a triumph," and which will "embolden them to renewed opposition to the will of the loyal masses." It was noble and manly in him to use this language to the President. If he appreciates its force he will see how impossible it is for an honorable man and a patriot to remain in a position which compels acquiescence in a policy that disregards "the unmistakable wish of the country," and sets at open defiance every consideration of public duty.

From the Providence Journal.

The correspondence between the President and Gen. GRANT abundantly vindicates the General from the insinuations of the Democratic Press, little as any vindication was needed. The earnest protest of the General-in-Chief against the change, and the reasons which he urges in support of his opinion, will increase the surprise of the country that a step so full of evil has been taken.

in the face of public sentiment, and of the judgment of those best situated to understand the question in all its bearings. Gen. GRANT will be relieved from the odium of the Democratic presses that have been heaped on him. It is not probable, after the publication has been permitted, that the President will long retain Gen. GRANT at the head of the War Department. He was appointed, not because the President wanted him, but because it was necessary to break the shock which the public would receive from the removal of STANTON.

From the Hartford Courant.

We have never doubted the sympathy—heartily, complete, unchangeable—of Gen. GRANT with the popular will in the matter of reconstruction. We did not need, therefore, the evidence of his earnest and patriotic letter, which we publish on our second page this morning, to prove to us that he did all in his power to keep STANTON and SHERIDAN, who are just now the types of the people's cause, in their proper places. But others did. There were doubting Thomases—or more properly speaking, perhaps, doubting Horaces—who ventured to fear that the man who crushed the rebellion had really gone over to the side of the rebels. The letter of the General of our army is as strong, as plain, as urgent, as such an epistle could possibly be. This is one of its remarkable features. When such a reticent and apparently impassive person uses the language of almost passionate appeal, we can easily calculate the force and depth of his feelings. Gen. GRANT is a Radical all over—devoted body and soul to the restoration of the American Union upon the immutable foundations of Justice and Liberty.

From the Hartford Post.

The letter of Gen. GRANT is greatly to his credit, but we should remember it does not change in the least the singular position in which he stands. If ANDREW JOHNSON carries out his plan and follows the programme marked out for him by the bad men who are now known to visit the White House daily, Gen. GRANT will ere long, to save himself in the opinion of the people, have to do something more than simply to write eloquent letters against the issuing of ANDREW JOHNSON's orders—he must decline to obey them and vacate the office he need not hold unless he chooses to occupy an equivocal position. Yet we may add, Gen. GRANT's letter gives good promise of what may be expected. If his words are sincere, and we are not the ones to question Gen. GRANT's sincerity, he appreciates the feelings of the people and their imperative right to be heard. As to ANDREW JOHNSON's reply—well, every time we read anything from that man, of late, we feel: "There, the lowest depth of folly, insolence and assumption has now been reached;" but the very next time he speaks he sinks still lower, and makes himself and his position—were the circumstances of the case not so serious and trying to a great and free people—more and more ridiculous. Thus ends another chapter of national mortification at the thought that such a man should have found his way into so high and honored an office as that of President of the United States—an office, which if we desire to redeem it from the disgrace this man has brought upon it—should never again be filled by one whose word is not unequivocal, and whose course is not as evident as the righteousness of God.

From the Norwich Bulletin.

The response of GRANT to the call for his views is in the highest degree frank and manly, and his protest against the proposed changes, vigorous and earnest. It is the answer of a soldier and patriot. There is nothing of the lawyer or politician in it; no subtleties of construction, no quibbling, or evasion of the issue. It is plain and pointed; squarely, and in few words, stating his opinion and his reasons for them. These reasons, which Mr. JOHNSON mauls through a column of complacent nothings to answer, are such as to commend themselves to the sober sense of the people. They are truths which all of the President's special pleading cannot deprive of their force. He may talk about the Constitution being the only expressed will of the people, till he goes out of office—and may that be soon—but he cannot alter the fact, that the appointment of such officers as SHERIDAN to carry out the Reconstruction acts of Congress, is a part of the will of the people, expressed in the election of the present Congress. The President himself made the issue and took his appeal to the people. Upon that appeal the people sustained Congress and the policy of reconstruction which Gen. SHERIDAN has now been removed for faithfully carrying out. It looks as though the President had invited this expression of the General's views for no other purpose than to attack them, and in attacking them, show his own smartness. The soldierly and straightforward protest of GRANT is taken up, not to be answered in the spirit in which it is written, but to be picked to pieces and be juggled by a pettifogging lawyer. The President will make nothing by his motion. The people know both parties to this correspondence. The recent great political convulsion had its accidents—Mr. JOHNSON is one of them; it had its heroes, of whom GRANT is chief. History will assign these places to them, and Mr. JOHNSON, whatever may be his views, will have no opportunity to protest against the order.

From the New-Haven Palladium.

GRANT has spoken, and his utterance is to the point. His letter not only expresses his opinion upon the actual question at issue, but reveals the whole theory of his politics. "This is a country where the will of the people is the law of the land." This is his idea of the American Government. He definitely places himself on the side of the people in their contest with Mr. JOHNSON, and "begs that their voice may be heard." It is "in the name of a patriotic people, who have sacrificed hundreds of thousands of loyal lives, and thousands of millions of treasure, to preserve the integrity and union of this country," that he urges that the order for SHERIDAN's removal be not insisted on. When he passes from these general objections to the consideration of the particular reasons why neither SHERIDAN, THOMAS nor HANCOCK, should be removed from their present positions, he is none the less decided. In terse paragraphs he sums up the whole argument. Upon the whole, a more admirable letter could hardly have been written. It has not a superfluous word, and it sums up the whole argument against removal. It places Gen. GRANT where we have never doubted that he stood—on the side of the country and against the President. Mr. JOHNSON's reply is just what we should expect. His writings are well known to the country, and his letter is very much like his former productions. In answer to Gen. GRANT's statement that the country was opposed to Gen. SHERIDAN's removal, he utters the contemptible quibble, "I am not aware that the question has ever been submitted to the people themselves for determination." Such a statement is an insult to common sense. Because a direct popular vote has not been taken, as to whether Gen. SHERIDAN is to be degraded or not, Mr. JOHNSON really cannot tell whether anybody objects! ANDREW JOHNSON is thoroughly understood by the country. He is a ceaseless irritation. Deprived of all power to injure, he can only insult the nation, and all his energies seem to be now devoted to this congenial work. The people have endured his conduct for many months, with the patience which tolerates the insolence of one powerless to do harm. But there is a time when forbearance ceases to be a virtue, and there are many indications that that time is at hand.

Relations of Gen. Grant with the President.

From the Washington Chronicle, Aug. 28.

It is understood that Gen. GRANT is hourly expecting an order from the President relieving him from his *ad interim* administration of the War Office, and that he has repeated his protest against the removal of SHERIDAN. The following information reaches us from a source which we deem reliable: The friends of the Government, however, advise him to retain his position as long as possible, and to use his utmost exertions to prevent further mischief. It is said the President sees fit to retain custody of Gen. GRANT's letter protesting against the removal of Secretary STANTON, and says, "If GRANT wants it made public, let him print it." Surmises regarding its contents are vain, but it is known that it contains an urgent and earnest appeal to the President to listen to the voice of the people, and in that particular as well as others, is similar to the Sheridan letter. There is no doubt but what the General is impeding the promulgation of the Hancock order, and that he repeated his protest against its issue yesterday. The rupture between him and the President is culminating rapidly, and the result is neither difficult to predict nor far distant. Gen. GRANT will undoubtedly leave the Cabinet within the coming week, or the President must bow to his demands for a modification of the Hancock order. Up to the adjournment of the Cabinet meeting yesterday, no reply had been received from the President to Gen. GRANT's last protest, and it is surmised that the only reply which will be made will be the assignment of some other person to the charge of the War Office.

The Letter Marked "Private."

From the Washington Chronicle, Aug. 28.

We call upon ANDREW JOHNSON to complete the record of correspondence published in yesterday's *Chronicle* by furnishing the letter from Gen. GRANT marked "private." In his letter remonstrating against Gen. SHERIDAN's removal, Gen. GRANT says:

"I beg to refer to a letter, marked private, which I wrote to the President when first consulted on the subject of the change in the War Department. It bears upon the subject of this removal, and I had hoped would have prevented it."

We should be the last in the world to ask the President to break the confidence of private correspondence, although it would be in strict accordance with ANDREW JOHNSON's usage. In the present case, however, he has authorized the publication of a correspondence strictly official, and the letter of Gen. GRANT refers in terms which cannot be misunderstood to "a letter marked private, which I wrote to the President when first consulted on the subject of the change in the War Department." That letter undoubtedly expresses the views of Gen. GRANT in regard to the projected removal of Secretary STANTON, and as the reference thereto in this official letter takes from it its private character, and makes it part of the official record, we call upon the President to do justice to Gen. GRANT and satisfy the mind of the nation by giving it up for publication. He has never hesitated to print really private letters when it has suited his purposes to do so. This letter is no longer a private one; its author has made it an official one by the reference to it which we have quoted above. It is, therefore, due alike to Gen. GRANT, the Secretary of War, and the country that the letter should be published. Will the renegade at the White House give it out?