

*“Charleston Observer.”*— In giving some account of the arrests that have taken place in the Cherokee territory during the present year, under a late law of the State of Georgia, the editor of the *Observer* has taken occasion to indulge in a short tirade against the constituted authorities of his country, and concludes his article as follows :

“ If policy like this is to be pursued— if Missionaries of the Cross are to be chained and imprisoned on such grounds as these, the liberties of which we boast is after all, a mere phantom, an empty name. Indians are arrested without knowing the cause; and others on the charge of using violent language to the guard. To what extent these measures will yet be carried, cannot be predicted. Like other acts of which we read, they may yet prove millstones upon the necks of their advocates and defenders.”

We must confess that we read the above extract with some surprise, knowing that heretofore the *Observer* has advocated the cause of Georgia on the subject of Indian sovereignty and the rights of the State. But this fact only goes to confirm the opinion, almost universally found to be true, that men can reason very rationally on a subject where their interests or private feelings are not concerned; but touch them on that chord, and cool judgement bears the sway no longer—they vibrate to a different tune. This seems to be the case with the Rev. editor of the *Observer*. He acknowledges the right of Georgia to extend jurisdiction over the whole of her territorial limits, and he probably approves of a peaceable, yet effective plan for accomplishing the object; but when his brethren are the offenders, he thinks the law arbitrary, cruel and unjust, and that it is calculated to make our liberties “ a mere phantom, an empty name.” Why are the Missionaries entitled to greater privileges than other men? Are they not of the same flesh and blood, and do they not receive the same protection from government that others do? Why then should they not yield obedience to the laws, and if they are refractory, receive the same punishment as other men? Let the Rev. gentleman answer these questions.

The Missionaries are sent by their respective denominations, not to preach homilies upon politics, but to enlighten the minds of the ignorant sons of the forest in the truths of the gospel. To that sphere they should confine themselves, and when they prostitute