

*The Nullifiers and the Missionaries.*—If there remained one lingering doubt in the mind of any honest man that there are some among the leading nullifiers in So. Carolina and Georgia, who are determined, so far as they are able, to destroy the Union and our present form of Government, the course they have pursued with regard to the liberation of the Missionaries and the settlement of our unhappy controversy with the Supreme Court, ought to satisfy him at once. Why, we would ask, do they evince so much chag in and disappointment at the course this affair has taken? Is it because Georgia has been dragooned out of her rights by the Supreme Court? Is it because the voluntary relinquishment of their cause by the Missionaries has deprived Georgia of her right to the soil, and jurisdiction over the Cherokee country? If these were indeed the results, surely then, they would have just grounds for their indignant denunciations. But what are the facts? why the very, reverse. We have said before, and we again reiterate the sentiment, (although it has proved to be "mockery" to one of the "tools" of John C. Calhoun in this State) that in the voluntary relinquishment of the suit in the Supreme Court by the Missionaries, "Georgia has triumphed!" Some of the very men who are now crying out, poor degraded Georgia, in peans loud and long, were the foremost in 1826 to chant the triumphs of Georgia over the General Government. And wherein we would ask consists the difference between our *peaceable* triumph over J. Q. Adams and his bayonets, and that of our *peaceable* triumph over the Supreme Court and the thunders of its edicts? John Q. Adams threatened to coerce the State into obedience to his arbitrary requirements in 1826, but better councils prevailed, and he relinquished their execution; and *this was the triumph of Georgia* at that time. The Supreme Court in 1833 meditated the same thing, but better councils having prevailed, the suit was withdrawn, and *this constitutes the triumph of Georgia*, for which we are now contending. We hold them both as triumphs—bloodless triumphs of right and reason, over arbitrary power and self-willed bigotry. The Missionaries by voluntarily relinquishing the prosecution of the suit against Georgia in the Supreme Court, in which they were plaintiffs, have virtually acknowledged either the impotency of that Tribunal to carry into effect its decision in their favor, or they have become sensible of its iniquity. If the first, they were doubtless counselled by the Court itself to abandon the cause, and if the latter, public opinion must have been the counselor that opened their eyes to the true merits of the controversy. Be this as it may, however, the prosecution of the case has been relinquished, and we care not from what quarter the influences may have come, which induced such relinquishment. We did not in 1826 stop to enquire who were the counsellors that stayed the uplifted arm of John Q. Adams, when raised against the rights of our State—neither will we now stop to enquire who they are who have warded off the blow meditated by the Supreme Court. We will leave this for those to determine who feel more interested in the success of the disorganizers in South Carolina, than in the happiness and prosperity of their own State. For ourselves it is enough that we are sensible of the fact, that the blow has been turned aside, and that our State has obtained all she has been contending for—her soil—her right of jurisdiction—her honor and her integrity.

And yet there are those, with these facts staring them in the face, who have the hardihood to assert that the Executive has humbled and disgraced Georgia by turning the missionaries out of the Penitentiary! We would simply ask such individuals what was to be gained by keeping them longer in confinement after they had ceased to be parties to the suit against Georgia in the Supreme Court, and relinquished its prosecution—after the very law punishing the offence for which they were imprisoned had been repealed by the Legislature and stricken from the Statute Books of our State as no crime at all, and after they had humbly petitioned to be liberated from confinement? Would they have had revenge to usurp the place of heavenly mercy, and our State to enter the lists with Portugal, under the iron rod of another Miguel, and contend with her, side by side, for the palm of cruelty and oppression? Perhaps they would; but thank Heaven this stain has been spared our escutcheon, and Georgia stands out in bold relief—magnanimous to her enemies as she is just to her citizens! The truth is, the few demagogues who have raised the hue and cry on this subject would not only have sacrificed the Missionaries, but the very State which has, perhaps, nurtured and protected them for years, on the altar, raised and dedicated by the Jacobins of South Carolina, to the Moloch of discord. Their whole hopes were fixed on this question, as ultimately destined to involve Georgia with S. Carolina, and to bind her hand and foot to the desperate fortunes of John C. Calhoun! These hopes have been dispelled, and hence their chagrin and vexation. We have always looked upon the Missionaries as very deluded or very wicked men. We believe their voluntary imprisonment was for the purpose of thwarting, if not to prevent entirely, this State from obtaining rights which justly belonged to her; and we should have raised our voices in as high a strain of condemnation as a few of the Nullifiers now do, if the Executive had dared to liberate them before those rights had been, so far as they were concerned, yielded up to State.

But we would scorn to place our foot upon the neck of a fallen, disarmed, weak, and repentant enemy, although his hand may have been imbrued in our blood. And under these circumstances, whatever may be our general opinion with regard to Gov. Lumpkin's administration, we would scorn ourselves more could we deny to him the meed of praise, so justly his due, in extending to those deluded men, the Missionaries, that mercy which more than every thing else, distinguishes man from the brutes that perish.