

15
pp 15-20
15
When the convention met in Philadelphia Benjamin Franklin included among the articles of indictment against George the Third this paragraph. "He has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating the most sacred rights of life and liberty in the persons of a distant people who never offended him capturing and carrying them into slavery, or to incur miserable death in transportation thither". The passage was struck out of the Declaration by in compliance with the wishes of the delegates wishing the slave trade continued.

Dr Hillis should have said in this connection that the opposition to the article came from New York on the demand of ship owners who were regularly in the slave trade.

In 1784 Jefferson reopened the question by repeating an ordinance prohibiting slavery after the year 1800 in the territory that afterwards became Alabama, Mississippi Tennessee and Kentucky, as well as the territory north of the Ohio river. This anti-slavery clause was lost in the convention by a single vote. (I am not sure but) have always understood that the anti vote was by the

16.
delegate from Massachusetts, (R.C.)
"The voice of a single ^{individual} vote. wrote Jefferson" would
would have prevented the abominable crime.
Heaven will not always be silent. The friends
to the rights of human nature will prevail.
In the Southern States up to the beginning of the war,
there was a strong anti-slavery sentiment. When
the first meeting was held in Baltimore to
organize an abolition society, eighty-five
abolition societies in various counties of
the Southern States sent delegates to the Con-
vention. New England sold their slaves to
the planters of the South. Finding slavery un-
profitable because so many died from being
moved from a tropical climate to frigid
New England besides the kind of work they
had for them could be done better and cheaper
by white laborers. They kept the slave
trade as long as the South would endure
it. Then such famous philanthropists as
William Lloyd Garrison and the bloody
John Brown stirred the North to a frenzy
against the South. The large cotton and
sugar plantations were large owned and
run by Northern slave owners.

Where they were not owned by northern men
 Northern men were employed as overseers.
 It was among these that Harriet Beecher
 Stowe got material for Uncle Tom's Cabin.
 This kind of slavery was confined to the
 "Black Belt", near the East. In Texas it was
 two or three counties wide on the lower
 Brazos and East-Texas streams.
 In North and North East Texas there were there
 were very few negroes, some times one or two
 in a white family as house servants, and they
 were fed and clothed as comfortable as the
 white family. Eli Whitney's invention of the
 cotton gin suddenly brought slave labor into
 demand. Then the greed of the New England
 speculators and the English ship owners
 rushed the slave trade over a majority of
 the southern people. Before the annexation of Texas
 Murrel Edwards was smuggling captive
 Africans into the Coast Counties in Texas.
 Much of this "black belt" was not looked
 upon with favor by the rest of the state.
 The big plantations had few white families
 the country developed no industries
 save cotton and sugar. The planters sent

their children to the north or to Europe to
 be educated. This were not usually
 in harmony with the politics of the other
 parts of the state. Those favoring an autocratic
 central government worked the slavery question
 into the state rights opposition and brought
 on the war. The western northern soldiers
 volunteered to save the union not to
 free the negroes. They furnished the best of
 the northern army. I lose much of my
 admiration for Lincoln when I think
 the fact he betrayed a weakness and violated
 the constitution in calling for troops
 to invade the south declaring war without
 the consent of Congress. One time and
 a fatal moment it was when "Honest
 Abe" practiced. When Jeff Davis Alexander
 Stephens with a strong delegation of
 southern men were in Washington
 under promises from Lincoln that a
 conference might be had looking to settle
 ment of the trouble without war. South
 Carolina had seceded. demand had been
 made on Ft Sumpter to surrender to the state
 Lincoln had been requested not to send

not to send reinforcements while the peace negotiations were going on. Lincoln kept the peace commission waiting under the promise of a meeting. But he was simply holding them in the dark till he could reinforce Ft Sumter, when his gun boats invaded the fort he was pretending that he would grant the peace conference. South Carolina resented and fired on the fort and fleet. Who began the war Lincoln called for troops to invade the south. Virginia and several other states had no seceded, and it was estimated that seventy percent of the votes of Virginia would be opposed to secession when Lincoln without consent of Congress called for troops to invade the south the vote went practically unanimous for secession. Lee drew his sword for defence.

The slavery question was not in it. I heard of one regiment from Georgia of twelve hundred men without one slave owner in it. The regiment Addison and I were in went out with about that number and I can't recall those men who were of slave holding families and some that advocated slavery.

There is much more that could be said but it is not best for me to think of these things I am forgetting those things that are not good to keep in mind. The boys who went to the war to defend their country. The boys from the schools shops stores farms and ranches. were clean, no cutting back going pillows for soil ~~decrease~~. They got no pay for service marched fought camped in rain mud and cold. had few rations. Much of their clothing was made from the cotton raised together and woven by mothers sisters wives and grand-mothers at home. This generous love been the consequence - ~~result~~ having been prompted by a right purpose.

Home, and at liberty each morning to select the duty with out waiting for orders. We had now to decid our future calling or service. State affairs were in state of anarchy. The state government as one of the confederate states, had fallen with the Confederacy, and the Federal govt had not taken charge we knew that an army soon ~~take~~ take charge. In the mean time there was no law. Men who have no restraint but law made use of the oppor-