

SPEECH

HON. C. L. VALLANDIGHAM OF OHIO.

In the House of Representatives, January 13, 1863.

Mr. VALLANDIGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see the House assembled on this day...

It is now two years, sir, since Congress assembled soon after the Presidential election...

And now, sir, I pause here a moment to define my own position at this time upon this great question...

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influence, I exerted myself in behalf of the policy of non-coercion. It was adopted by Mr. Buchanan's Administration...

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the utter, disastrous, and most bloody failure of the experiment. But to return: the country was at war; and I belonged to that school of politics...

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By follows the standards of the time. From Great Bethel to Vicksburg, the battle has not been to the strong. Yet every disaster, except the last, has been followed by a call for more troops...

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three years, Napoleon would be an exile upon a desert island, and the Bourbons restored; but armed foreign intervention did it; but it is a strange history. Or who then expected to see a nephew of Napoleon, thirty-five years later, with the consent of the people...

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It has set in motion three fourths of the spindles of New England, and given employment, directly or remotely, to full half the shipping, trade, and commerce of the United States. More than that; cotton has kept the peace between England and America for thirty years; and had the people of the North been as wise and practical as the statesmen of Great Britain, it would have maintained Union and peace here. But we are being taught in our first century and at our own cost, the lessons which England learned through the long and bloody experience of eight hundred years. We shall have next time. Let not cotton be king, but peace-maker, and liberator the blessing.

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