

ER AND DEMOCRAT

unionists. Nor does their enmity differ in degree; they both hate us most intensely. The Chicago platform is, that 'peace may be restored on the basis of the Federal Union of the States"—that is: reconstruction of the Union as it was, with slavery protected by nominal laws, but warred upon by a real sentiment, aggravated and embittered by the war. The reconstructed Union of the Chicago platform would be the certain destruction—first, of slavery, and next of slaveholders. With Lincoln and the Baltimore platform, we of the Confederate States know where we are—outside of the pale of mercy, devoted to ruin and destruction, with no hope save in the justice and protection of God, and the courage and manliness of our soldiers and people. With swords and muskets and cannon we fight Lincoln, and the past affords no reasons of apprehension of the future. But in the reconstructed Union of the Chicago platform, we would be deprived of our weapons without being reconciled to our foes.

There is no question that between the two men Gen. McClellan enjoys far more of the respect of the people of these States than Lincoln, and the Democratic party far more of our confidence than the Republican, and that if reconstruction were possible it would be more probable under Gen. McClellan and the Democracy than under Lincoln and the Republicans. The Northwest inspires one, and New England the other; but as long as New England imposes the dogmas of her civilization, and the tenets of her fanaticism upon the mind and people of the Northwest, there may be peace and separation, but there never can be union and harmony. If the Northwest desires the restoration of the Union, let its people shake off the bondage of New England, and show to the world that a new era of toleration and fraternal kindness has risen in the place of fanatical puritanism and selfish ostracism.

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