

To the Editors of the Louisville Journal

Amid much undesigned praise I am made
to take in your ~~own~~ criticism upon my lecture
of Monday evening two positions which are none
of mine and which I ~~entirely~~ ^{utterly} regret. I did not
say that Britain alone had been able to retain the
affections of her emigrant colonies. I was guilty
of no such absurdity. But I did assert that she
is the only nation that has ever been able to colonize
with effect. Nearly all other nations have attempted
it, but the colonies of all others have sunk at once
into insignificance or have merged with the natives
so soon as they ceased to draw sustenance from
the parent state or support from its arm. Thus
alone like Wellington's squares against cavalry
which the power of France could not more at
Waterloo, stand square against all the world,
impregnable on all sides." This capacity of her
colonies to sustain themselves I traced to a principle
of organization or as I elsewhere called it an
instinct of self government peculiar to the race.
My allusion I thought was distinctly understood to be
to the greatest of all her colonies, the United Provinces,
now the United States. Of the first part of ~~them~~
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