

The Chambersburg Alleghanian.

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I WOULD RATHER BE RIGHT THAN PRESIDENT.—HENRY CLAY.

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The Alleghanian.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1866.

Editorial Correspondence.—A Deferred Letter.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, 1866.

Some time since, we promised, after giving some account of portions of the National Capitol, to describe the House of Representatives, which in brief we will now proceed to do. The Hall is in the south wing of the Capitol, and is surrounded by a number of lobbies, corridors and ante-rooms, some of which are fitted up in elegant style. It is lighted by gas-jets from the ceiling, which reflect through plates of ground and ornamented glass, designed to represent thirty-eight States and Territories, and bearing the coat of arms of many of the States. The length of the Hall is 116 feet, and the width 60 feet; height 38 feet. It will seat about 500 persons, and with extra seats and standing room, 300 more may be crowded in. The galleries will seat about 1,500 persons. There are two hundred and fifty-three seats for Members. All the appointments of the Hall are well gotten up, and do credit to the nation.

Having said this much of the Hall itself, we will say a few words respecting some of the distinguished men who occupy it as representatives of the people. Almost directly in front of the Speaker sits the Hon. Thad. Stephens, the reputed leader of the House—we say the reputed leader, because such is his designation by outsiders. We do not, however, designate him as such, for in our opinion the House has no member who can be called a leader. There are many men of marked and distinguished ability in the present House, and it would be folly to call any one man a leader. Still, it will not be amiss to speak of Mr. Stevens as a man of ability, with many characteristics worthy of note. He is not the old man eloquent, but we may truthfully say he is the old man powerful in the present House. Mere eloquence or oratorical effect is not his forte. He is calm, deliberate, sententious, logical, and understands and can use sarcastic invective to a nicety. We betide the man who is his victim. In invective power he has no equal in the present Congress. Mr. Stevens sits and walks upright, and manifests none of the infirmities of age. Though he be three score years and ten, yet his eye is undimmed, and his natural powers are not abated. He seems more anxious to follow his conviction of truth and duty, than to mind the rebuffs of party. His country, and the welfare of future generations, apparently influence his action as a legislator more than the mere success of any party. He would build up the superstructure of a free government in this land upon the stable foundation of justice and equal rights. So at least it seems to us; and we can therefore accord to him the merit of sincerity, though we in many respects differ with him in regard to the means to be used to reach the end.

Just behind Mr. Stevens, and immediately on his right, sits Hon. H. J. Raymond, of New York, the former Lieutenant-Governor of the Empire State, and the principal owner of the New York Times. Mr. Raymond is naturally a Conservative, and consequently in times like these does not meet with particular favor from the Radicals. Men like Mr. Raymond are as necessary as men of Mr. Stephens' characteristics, and the services he may render the country at this time may be equally important. He is a man of large capabilities and liberal culture, and is a ready debater. He is rarely out of his seat, but watches the proceedings of Congress with an eagle eye, and a comprehensive, calm and deliberate judgment which indicates a coming statesman of no mean powers. This is his first session in Congress, but his influence will, we trust, be felt for good.

In front of Mr. Raymond sits Hon. E. B. Washburne, of Illinois. Mr. Washburne is a native of the State of Maine, and hails from the same county as the writer. He is a member of a family the male members of which are almost all public men, three of them having been representatives in Congress at the same time, although from different States. Mr. Washburne is the oldest member of Congress, having been some sixteen consecutive years a member of the House. He is familiar with all the rules and orders, is an able parliamentarian, a good legislator and a useful man. Many persons consider him too critical, and allege that he often objects to salutary measures which ought to pass. This may be so; but doubtless he thereby prevents much pernicious legislation. Such men are useful, and cannot well be spared from Congress.

Another man of mark in the House is Judge Bingham, of Ohio. He is known as a profound and able lawyer, and was the assistant Judge Advocate in the celebrated trial of the conspirators who assassinated Abraham Lincoln. The mastery ability which he then and there manifested will cover his brow with undying laurels. In the House, he speaks rarely, but always with great power and force. He is radical, and when he addresses the

House, he puts it out of the power of any man to gainsay his position. He is a medium-sized man, compact and angular in his build, with a kind, piercing eye. When he is aroused in debate, he seems morose and defiant. Defiant he surely is as truth itself, but not morose, for he possesses a kind heart and a strong love for his mankind.

President Johnson's 22d of February Speech.

As a matter of curiosity, we print herewith the material portion of the "speech" delivered by President Johnson, on the 22d of February, Washington's birthday. The rebellion has been put down by the strong arm of the Government in the field, but is that the only way in which you can have rebellion? Our struggle was against an attempt to dismember the Union, but almost before the smoke of the battle-field has passed away, before our brave men have all returned to their homes and renewed the ties of affection and love to their wives and their children, we find almost another rebellion inaugurated. We put down the other Rebellion in order to prevent the separation of the States, to prevent them from flying off, and thereby changing the character of our Government and weakening its power, but when that struggle on our part has been successful, and that attempt has been put down, we find now an effort to concentrate all power in the hands of a few at the Federal head, and thereby bring about a consolidation of the Government, which is equally objectionable with a separation. (Vociferous applause.) We find that powers are assumed, and attempted to be exercised, of a most extraordinary character. It seems that Governments may be revolutionized. Governments, at least, may be changed without going through the strife of battle. I believe it is a fact attested in history that sometimes revolutions most disastrous to a people are effected without the shedding of blood. The substance of your Government may be taken away, while the form and the shadow remain to you. What is now being proposed?

We find in point of fact nearly all the powers of the Government are assumed by an irresponsible central directory, which does not even consult the legislative or the Executive Department of the Government; by resolutions reported from a committee, in whom it seems that practically the legislative power of the Government is now vested; that great principle of the Constitution which authorizes and empowers each branch of the Legislative Department of the Senate and the House of Representatives to judge for itself of the election returns and qualifications of its own members has been virtually taken away from the two branches of the Legislative Department of the Government and conferred upon a committee who must report before either House can act under the Constitution as to accepting the members who are to take their seats as component parts of the respective bodies.

By this rule it is assumed that there must be laws passed recognizing a State as in the Union, or its practical relations to the Union as restored, before the respective houses under the Constitution, can judge of the election returns and qualifications of their own members. What a position is that? You struggled for four years to put down a rebellion; you denied in the beginning of the struggle that any State could go out of the Union; you said that it had neither the right nor the power to do so. The issue was made, and it has been settled that the State had neither the right nor the power to go out of the Union; with what consistency, after it has been settled by the military arm of the Government, and by the public judgment, that the States had no right to go out of the Union, can any one now turn round and assume that they are out, that they shall not come in? I am free to say to you, as your Executive, that I am not prepared to take any such position. (Great applause.) I said in the Senate, in the very inception of this Rebellion, that the States had no right to go out; I asserted too that they had no power to go out; that question has been settled, and it being settled, I cannot turn around now and give the lie direct to all that I have professed, and all I have done for the last five years. (Applause.) When those who rebelled comply with the Constitution; when they give sufficient evidence of loyalty; when they show that they can be trusted; when they yield obedience to the law that you and I acknowledge obedience to, I say extend them the right hand of fellowship, and let peace and union be restored. (Tremendous applause.)

I came into this place under the constitution of the country and by the approbation of the people, and what did I find? I found eight millions of people who were in fact condemned under the law, and the penalty was death. Was I to yield to the spirit of revenge and resentment, and declare that they should all be annihilated and destroyed? How different would this have been from the example set by the

Holy Founder of our religion, the extremities of whose divine arch rest upon the horizon, and whose span embraces the universe! He who founded this great scheme came into the world and found man condemned under the law, and his sentence was death. What was His example? Instead of putting the world or even a nation to death, He died upon the cross, attesting, by His wounds and His blood, that he died that mankind might live. (Great applause.) I fought traitors and treason in the South. I opposed the Davises, the Toombs, the Slidells, and a long list of others, which you can readily fill without my repeating the names. Now, when I turn round, at the other end of the line I find men, I care not by what name you call them, who still stand opposed to the restoration of the Union of these States. I am free to say to you that I am still in the field. (Great applause.) I am still for the preservation of the Union. I am still in favor of this great Government of ours going on, and filling out its destiny. (Great applause.) (Voices.—Give us three names at the other end.)

The President—I am called upon to name three at the other end of the line. I am talking to my friends and fellow-citizens, who are interested with me in this Government, and I am free to mention to you the names of those whom I look upon as being opposed to the fundamental principles of this Government, and who are laboring to pervert and destroy it. (Voices.—Name them! Who are they?) The President—You ask me who they are. I say Thaddeus Stevens, of Pennsylvania, is one; I say Mr. Sumner, of the Senate, is another, and Wendell Phillips, is another. (Long continued applause.) (Voices.—Give it to Forney!) The President—In reply to that, I will simply say that I do not waste my ammunition upon dead ducks. (Great laughter and applause.) I stand for my country. I stand for the Constitution. There I have always stood from my advent to public life. They may traduce, they may slander, they may vituperate me, but let me say to you, all this has no influence upon me.

Let me say further, that I do not intend to be overawed by real or pretended friends, nor do I intend to be bullied by my enemies. Honest conviction is my guide, the Constitution is my guide. Is it a usurpation to stand between the people and the encroachments of power, because, in a conversation with a fellow-citizen who happened to be a Senator, I said that I thought amendments to the Constitution ought not too frequently to be made; that if it was continually tinkered with, it would lose all its prestige and dignity, and the old instrument would be lost sight of altogether in a short time? And because, in the same conversation, I happened to say that if it were amended at all, such an amendment ought to be adopted, it was charged that I was guilty of usurpation of power that would have cost a king his head, in a certain period of English history. (Great laughter.) From the same source the exclamation has gone forth that they were trembling and could not yield. (Laughter.)

Yes, fellow-citizens, there is an earthquake coming; there is a ground-swell of popular indignation. The American people will speak, and by their instinct, if not otherwise, they will know who are their friends and who are their enemies. I have endeavored to be true to the people in all the positions which I have occupied, and there is hardly a position in this Government which I have not at some time filled. I suppose it will be said that this is vanity, but I may say that I have been in all of them. I have been in both branches of the State Legislature. (A voice.—"You commenced a tailor.")

A gentleman behind me says I began a tailor. Yes, I did begin a tailor, and that suggestion does not discomfit me in the least, for when I was a tailor I had the reputation of being a good one, and of making close fits, and was always punctual to my customers and did good work. (Voices.—"We will patch up the Union yet.")

No, I do not want any patch work of it; I want the original article restored. But enough of this facetiousness. I know it may be said, "You are President, and you must not talk about these things;" but, my fellow-citizens, I intend to talk the truth, and when principle is involved, when the existence of my country is in peril. I hold it to be my duty to speak what I think and what I feel, as I have always done on former occasions.

I have said, it has been declared elsewhere that I have been guilty of usurpation which would have cost a king his head, and in another place I have been denounced for whitewashing. When and where did I ever whitewash anything or anybody? I have been an alderman of a town, I have been in both branches of the Legislature of my State, I have been in both Houses of the National Congress, I have been at the head of the Executive Department of my State, I have been Vice President of the United States, and I am now in the position which I occupy before you, and during all this career where is the man and what portion of the people is there who can say that Andrew Johnson ever made a pledge which he did not redeem, or that he ever made a promise which he violated? None. Now point

to the man who can say that Andrew Johnson ever acted with infidelity to the great mass of the people. Men may talk about beheading and about usurpation, but when I am beheaded I want the American people to be the witnesses. I do not want it by intemperate and indirect remarks in high places, to be suggested to men who have assassination brooding in their bosoms, there is a fit subject. Others have exclaimed that the Presidential obstacle must be got out of the way. What is that but a make-use of a strong word inciting to assassination? No doubt, I say, the intention was to incite assassination, so the obstacle which the people had placed here could be got out of the way. Are the opponents of this Government not yet satisfied; are those who want to destroy our institutions and to change the character of the Government, not satisfied with the quantity of blood which they have shed? Are they not satisfied with one martyr in this place? Does not the blood of Lincoln appease their vengeance, and is their vengeance still unslaked? Do they still want more blood? Have they not honor and courage enough to seek to obtain the end otherwise than through an assassin? I am not afraid of an assassin attacking me where one brave and courageous man will attack another. I only dread him when in disguise and where his footsteps are noiseless. If they want blood let them have the courage to strike like men. I know they are willing to wound; but afraid to strike.

If my blood is to be shed because I vindicate the Union, and insist on the preservation of this Government in its original purity, let it be shed; but let an altar to the Union be first erected, and then, if necessary, take me and lay me upon it, and the blood that now warms and animates my existence shall be poured out as the last libation, as a tribute to the Union of these States. But let the opponents of this Government remember, when it is poured out, that the blood of the martyr is the seed of the church.—This Union will grow, and it will continue to increase in strength and power, though it may be cemented and cleansed in blood. I have already spoken to you longer than I intended when I came out. ("Go on.")

My fellow-citizens, I have detained you much longer than I intended, ("go on; go on.") but we are in a great struggle, and I am your instrument, and I have thought it best to express myself frankly when I ask you, have I usurped authority? Who is it in this country that I have not toiled and labored for? Where is the man or the woman, either in private life or public life, that has not always received my attention and my time?

Sometimes it has been said (pardon me for being a little egotistical, but we are engaged in a friendly and familiar conversation.) "that man Johnson is a lucky man. They can never defeat him." Now I will tell you what constitutes my good luck. It is in doing right and being for the people.

Relief of Chambersburg.—Hon. Harry White's Speech.

In the State Senate, pending the deliberation of the bill voting the sum of \$500,000 to Chambersburg, to cover in part losses inflicted on that town by the rebel McCausland, (which bill passed both houses of the Legislature and was signed by the Governor,) Hon. Harry White delivered the following speech:—

"Mr. Speaker, I would, if I could, throw an earthquake into this bill. That it is to pass, is a foregone conclusion. I know the moral effect of the decisive vote by which it passed the co-ordinate branch of this Legislature. So soon as that vote was announced, it became manifest this bill would become a law. My duty, as a Senator, requires that I should wash my hands of it. If the bill passes, the evil consequences that follow will not rest with the minority against it. The appeal comes in behalf of this bill that it is to relieve the pressing necessities of the people of Chambersburg, whose homes have been desolated by the cruelties of an arrogant foe of our common country. The charred ruins—the crumbling walls—the deserted doorways—the blighted business prospects of that desolated region have been most gloomily depicted and portrayed before this Legislature. The pitiful cries of suffering and distressed women and children heard in Chambersburg, when the over-powered rebel hordes put the torch to their homes of comfort, have been echoed and re-echoed in our ears to affect our sympathies. We are told, again, the energy and enterprise of that whole region have been paralyzed by their sad calamity, and unless the generous hand of charity from our good mother Commonwealth is extended to them, they cannot rebuild their burnt town—that they will be abandoned to poverty and bankruptcy—that the stranger and the speculator will come in and soon possess what is left of their homes. This, Mr. Speaker, is all very sad, and had I the inexhaustible purse of the fabled princess, this suffering should not long continue. I would deal liberally in private charity with these sufferers.—Or had we, in this Commonwealth, some Golconda mine from which to take ad libitum, I would urge we should not delay to make 'this desert' again 'blossom as the

rose.' But, sir, from what fund do we take the amount sought to be appropriated by this bill? Sir, it is from the fund raised from the honest, hard-working taxpayers all over this Commonwealth. Do we have their sanction to make this most liberal bequest? No, sir. While I would commend the distress, the misfortunes and the pinching necessities of our neighbors of Franklin county to the good, the generous and the charitable all over our State, and indeed the whole country, I do not feel authorized to make the appropriation this bill seeks out of the taxpayers' fund. Already our people everywhere rest under heavy burdens. Let us watch well what we do. It is a safe maxim for the legislator to observe, 'be just before you are generous.' We are told, however, that this is not asked for as a matter of right—not asked for as a matter of indemnity, but as a mere gift to citizens impoverished by the wantonness and cruelty of the common enemy. I care not what shape the device of ingenuity may give the appropriation sought. It is a call, a heavy call upon the treasury of the Commonwealth to reimburse the citizen for the misfortunes of war. Commence this once in the manner sought, and where will it end? Make everybody whole on account of suffering in this cruel war?—Sir, it cannot be done. Reimburse everybody for the losses they have met? Sir, the proposition is preposterous. Besides, sir, money losses are trifling compared with the other long train of evils attending civil war, or indeed any war. Our friends of Chambersburg have met with losses, heavy losses, but their losses have been pecuniary. They to-day lament but the destruction of loved homes, desolated streets and depressed business energies. No part of our great country has been free from the calamities of this war. The pall of mourning and distress has rested over the whole land. The precious jewel of many a household has been lost. The widowed and the orphaned are everywhere around us. Cries and lamentations are still heard, Rachel weeping for her children, and will not be comforted? We have only to look around this chamber to see the crippled and the maimed of the war. Money! All the money you can appropriate from your coffers cannot compensate for such misfortunes. Who can fill the vacant chair at the fire-place? Who can give a father to the orphan? Who can restore to the mother her darling boy who sleeps on some glorious battle-field, a sacrifice to his country? Who can bring the cheer of former days to the broken households all over our beloved State? Pay the debts of this war! Compensate for losses! Your undertaking is too great. Take the step in that direction I now propose, and the consequences will, I fear, be rushing to the interests of our Commonwealth.

"You must not forget, sir, that the money you appropriate comes in part from those who have suffered equally with our neighbors of Chambersburg. This measure, sir, is wrong in principle and dangerous in precedent. What assurance have we that demands of a similar character will not continually be made upon us from the other border counties which have also been at times traversed by the enemy? The Senator from Adams [Mr. McCaughey], in answer to my friend, the Senator from Erie [Mr. Lowry], says no more claims shall be made by Chambersburg. I do not doubt he believes what he says. He cannot, however, make binding contracts for them. If it is intended that no more claim is to be made, why not put it in the bill. So 'nominate it in the bond,' and then you have a contract for the future. This would completely defeat all demands hereafter to be made. The refusal to do so excites my suspicions, and I warn Senators of the precedent they are about to set. Why, sir, there were read in our hearing to-day, with the knowledge this bill was about to come before us for consideration, three several petitions, largely signed, asking compensation for losses sustained by the citizens of Gettysburg. I am also informed that if this bill passes, a bill will be introduced here next week to compensate the people of Gettysburg for losses sustained by the historical battle there. Pass this bill, how can you refuse the claim of Gettysburg? There are around that devoted spot charred ruins, burnt barns and desolated grain fields as well as in Franklin county. I warn Senators to beware of what they do to-day, if they would be consistent hereafter with the record they are about to make. You are about to open a Pandora's box. Evils innumerable will follow in the train of your record to-day.

"* * * I cannot, sir, vote for this bill. I could not do so and lay my hand upon my heart and go back to my constituents and tell them I had done my duty. * * * I will vote against this bill because I believe it to be altogether wrong. I will bow and here make a record which I will carefully observe towards all other bills of like character while I am in the Senate. I, sir, warn Senators that I know similar bills from other border counties are coming here if this one passes. Vote for this, how can you refuse others? I am 'no prophet nor the son of a prophet,' but I will venture the prediction many of those who vote for this bill to-day will regret their record not many months hence."

CHURCHES, MINISTERS, &c.

Episcopal Church.—Rev. T. M. Wilson, Pastor.—Singing every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock, and in the evening at 7 o'clock. Sabbath School at 9 o'clock. A. M. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 6 o'clock.

Methodist Church.—Rev. A. BAKER, Pastor in charge. Church, J. P. BISHOP, Ass't. Preaching every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock, and in the evening at 7 o'clock. Sabbath School at 1 o'clock. P. M. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock.

Independent.—Rev. L. R. POWELL, Pastor. Preaching every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock, and in the evening at 6 o'clock. Sabbath School at 1 o'clock. P. M. Prayer meeting on the first Monday evening of each month, and every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evening, excepting the first week in the month.

Presbyterian.—Rev. MORGAN ELLIS, Pastor. Preaching every Sabbath evening at 7 o'clock. Sabbath School at 1 o'clock. P. M. Prayer meeting every Friday evening, and every Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock.

Rev. W. LLOYD, Pastor.—Preaching every Sabbath morning at 10 o'clock.

Rev. DAVID EVANS, Pastor.—Preaching every Sabbath evening at 7 o'clock. Sabbath School at 1 o'clock. P. M. Prayer meeting every Friday evening, and every Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock.

EBENSBURG MAILS.

MAILS ARRIVE.

at 8.50 o'clock, A. M.
at 6.25 o'clock, P. M.

MAILS CLOSE.

at 8 o'clock, P. M.
at 8 o'clock, P. M.

The mails from Newmarket's Mills, Carroll Co., arrive on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week, at 3 o'clock, P. M. The Ebensburg on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

RAILROAD SCHEDULE.

CRESSKOP STATION.

Balt. Express leaves at	5.13 A. M.
Phila. Express " "	9.55 A. M.
Fast Line " "	10.33 P. M.
Mail Train " "	9.03 P. M.
Pitts. & Erie M. " "	7.48 A. M.
Altoona Accom. " "	4.32 P. M.
Phila. Express " "	8.31 P. M.
Fast Line " "	2.21 A. M.
Day Express " "	6.43 A. M.
Cincinnati Ex. " "	1.11 P. M.
Mail Train " "	5.21 P. M.
Altoona Accom. " "	12.35 A. M.

COUNTY OFFICERS.

Justices of the Courts.—President Hon. Geo. Huntington; Associates, George W. Henry, C. Devine.

Clerk.—Geo. C. F. Zahm.

Recorder.—James Griffin.

Attorney.—John F. Barnes.

County Commissioners.—John Campbell, Ed. E. R. R. Dunnegan.

County Commissioners.—William H. Sechler.

Treasurer.—John Lloyd.

Assessors.—George M'Callough, J. Joseph Dailey.

House Treasurer.—George C. K. Zahm.

County Treasurer.—Geo. W. Oatman.

County Surveyor.—Henry Scanlan.

County Appraiser.—John Cox.

County School.—J. F. Condon.

EBENSBURG BOR. OFFICERS.

AT LARGE.

Mayor.—James A. Moore.

Assessors of the Poor.—Harrison Kinkead, J. J. Waters.

Directors.—D. W. Evans, J. A. Moore, J. H. Davis, David J. Jones, William M. R. Jones, jr.

House Treasurer.—Geo. W. Oatman.

EAST WARD.

Assessors.—A. Y. Jones, John O. Evans, David Charles Owens, R. Jones, jr., J. H. Thomas, Todd.

Directors.—Wm. D. Davis.

House Treasurer.—David E. Evans, Danl. J. Davis.

WEST WARD.

Assessors.—John L. Loyd, Samuel Stiles, John Eckard, John E. Scanlan, George W. Oatman.

Directors.—Bernabae M'Dermitt, John D. Thomas.

House Treasurer.—William H. Sechler, George W. Oatman.

Directors.—Joshua D. Parrish.

SOCIETIES, &c.

Summit Lodge No. 312 A. Y. M.—Masonic Hall, Ebensburg, on the 1st of each month, at 9 o'clock.

Highland Lodge No. 428 I. O. F.—Masonic Hall, Ebensburg, on the 1st of each month, at 7 o'clock.

Highland Division No. 84 Sons of Temperance.—Masonic Hall, Ebensburg, every Saturday evening.

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