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## The Bedford Gazette.

**SPEECH OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON**

**To the Soldiers and Sailors.**

**Proclamation of Soldiers and Sailors.**  
WASHINGTON, April 18.—At six o'clock this evening a procession of soldiers and sailors, and such of their friends as sympathize with them in their grateful acknowledgments to the President for his order lately issued, directing the Heads of Departments to give preference in appointments and promotions to persons who have rendered honorable service in the army and navy, was formed and marched to the Executive Mansion with the Marine Band, to serenade President Johnson, who had signified to the committee that he would accept the compliment.

**Address to the President.**

A very large number of persons of both sexes were previously on the ground awaiting the demonstration. At 5.15 the band played several patriotic airs, when the President made his appearance, and was greeted with huzzas by the assembled thousands. He took a stand in the coping of the wall, near the carriage way, on the north side of the White House, when he was addressed on behalf of the soldiers and sailors by one of their number in highly complimentary terms, saying, in conclusion, "in return for your kindness we can but offer our sympathies and prayers, and trust that an All-wise Providence, who has brought our nation through a baptism of blood, and to whom we consecrate it anew, from slavery and by a nation's tears, will so guide and direct you that you may calm the troubled waters, harmonize public opinion, and restore our whole country once more to peace and prosperity."

**The President's Speech.**

President Johnson said: It is not affection in me to say that language is inadequate to convey the heartfelt feelings produced on this occasion by your presence here, and by the presentation of your sentiments, as expressed by your representative in his address, and in the resolutions which you have thought proper to adopt. I confess that in the peculiar posture of public affairs, your presence and address give encouragement and confidence to me in my efforts to discharge the duties incumbent upon me as Chief Magistrate of the Republic; and in what I have to say I shall address you in the character of citizens, sailors and soldiers. I shall speak to you on those terms, and on none other.

**Thanks.**

I repeat my thanks for the manifestation of your approbation and your encouragement. (Applause.) We are to-day involved in one of the most critical and trying struggles that have occurred since this Government was spoken into existence. Nations, like individuals, must have a beginning, must have a birth. In struggling into existence a nation passes through its first trying ordeal. It is not necessary for me now to carry your minds back to the struggle when this nation was born. It is not necessary for me to allude to the privations and hardships of those who were engaged in that struggle to achieve the national birth. It is not necessary to point to the bloodshed and the lives lost in accomplishing that result.

**Our Nation's Strength.**

The next ordeal through which a nation has to pass is when it is called upon to give evidence that it has strength capacity and power to maintain itself among the nations of the earth; in giving such evidence we passed through the war of 1812, and through the war with Mexico, and we passed through all the struggles that have since occurred up to the beginning of the Rebellion. This was our second ordeal. But a nation has another test still to undergo, and that is to give evidence to the nations of the earth, and to its own citizens, that it has strength enough to put down treachery at home and treason within its own borders. (Cheers.)

**The President's Position.**

We have commenced that ordeal, and I trust in God we will pass through it successfully. (Cheers.) I feel complimented by the allusion of your representative to the fact that I stood in the Senate in 1859 and 1861, when the nation was entering on this third ordeal, and raised my voice and hand against treason, treachery and traitors at home. (Cheers.) I stand here to-day holding to and maintaining the same principles which I then enunciated. I stand here to-day opposing traitors and treason, whether they be in the South or in the North. (Loud cheers.) I stand here to-day as I then stood, using all my powers, mental and physical, to preserve this nation in passing through the third phase of its existence.

The organized forces and combined powers that recently stood arrayed against us are disbanded and driven from the field; but it does not follow that there are still no enemies against our present form of Government and our free institutions. (Applause.) I then stood in the Senate of the United States denying the doctrine of separation and Secession. I denied then as I deny now that any State has the right of its own will to separate itself from the other States, and thereby to destroy the Union and to break up the Govern-

ment, and I think I have given some evidence that I have been sincere and in earnest, and now I want to know why it is that the whole train of slanderers, calumniators and traducers have been barking and snapping at my heels? Why is it that they array themselves against me? Is it because I stand on the side of the people, and when I say the people I include the sailors and soldiers? Why is it they are arrayed in traducing and vilifying and calumniating me? Where were they during the rebellion? (A voice—"Home in bed!")

In the Senate I raised my voice against it, and when it was believed that it would be to the interest of the nation, and would assist in putting down the rebellion, did I not leave my place in the Senate—a place of emolument, ease and distinction, and take my position where the enemy could be reached, and where men's lives were in danger? (Cheers and cries of "that's so!")

**Traducers and Calumniators.**

While I was thus exposed personally and publicly, and in every way, some of my present traducers and calumniators were far removed from the foe, and were enjoying ease and comfort. But I care not for them; I care not for that slander. The foul whelp of sin has been turned loose against me. I care not for all that, and let me tell you here to-day that, although pretty well advanced in life, I feel that I shall live long enough to live down the whole pack of traducers and slanderers. (Applause.)

They have turned the whole pack loose to lower me in your estimation. (Voices, "They cannot do it.") "Tray, Blanche, and Sweetheart, little dogs and all," come along snapping and snarling at my heels, but I heed them not. The American people, citizens, soldiers and sailors, know that from my advent into public life to the present moment I have always stood unyielding and unwavering as the advocate and defender of their rights and interests. (Cheers.)

**Third Ordeal.**

We are now in the nation's third ordeal; we are not yet through it. We said that States could not go out of the Union; we denied the doctrine of Secession, and we have demonstrated that we were right; we demonstrated it by the strong arm; yes, the soldiers and sailors—God bless them!—have demonstrated, by their patriotic hearts and strong arms, that States have not the power to leave the Union. (Applause.) What followed? The Confederate armies were overpowered and disbanded, and there was a willingness, on the part of the people of those States, to come back, to be obedient to the laws, and acknowledge the supremacy of the Constitution of our fathers.

For what have we passed through this ordeal? It was to establish the principle that no States had the power to break up this Government. It was to put down the Rebellion. The Rebellion has been put down, and for what? Was it to destroy the States? (Voices, "Never!") For what have all these lives been sacrificed and all this treasure expended? Was it for the purpose of destroying the States? No. It was for the purpose of preserving the States in the Union of our fathers. It was for that you fought; it was for that I toiled; not to break up the Government, but to put down the Rebellion and preserve the Union of the States. That is what we have been contending for, and to establish the fact that the nation can lift itself above and beyond intestine foes and treason and traitors at home.

**Massachusetts.**

When the Rebellion in Massachusetts was put down, did that put Massachusetts out of the Union and destroy that State? When the Rebellion in Pennsylvania was put down, did that destroy the State, and put it out of the Union? So when this last great Rebellion was put down, and the Constitution and laws of the country restored, the States engaged in it stood part of the Union. The Rebellion being crushed, and the law being restored, the Constitution being acknowledged, those States stand in the Union, constituting a part of the glorious and bright galaxy of States. (Cheers.)

**Work of Reconstruction.**

In passing through this ordeal what has been done? In Tennessee, under the direction of my lamented predecessor, we commenced the work of restoration, and we had succeeded, before I came here, in restoring the relations which had existed between Tennessee and the rest of the Union, with one exception, and that was the relation of representation.

**Retrospective.**

I came to Washington, and under an extraordinary circumstance succeeded to the Presidential chair. What then? The Congress of the United States had adjourned without prescribing any plan, I then proceeded as I had done in my own State, under direction of the Government, to restore the other States; and how did we begin? We found that the people had no courts, and we said to the judges, the district attorneys and the marshals, "Go down and hold your courts, the people need the tribunals of justice to be opened." Was there anything wrong in that? The courts were opened. What else? We looked out and saw that the people down there had no mails, they had been interrupted and cut off by the operations of the Rebellion. We said to the Postmaster General, "let the people have facilities for mail communication, and let them

begin again to understand what we all feel and think—that we are one people."

We looked out again and saw that there was a blockade; that the custom houses were all closed. We said, "open the doors of the custom houses and remove the blockade; let trade and commerce and the pursuit of peace be restored," and it was done. We thus traveled on step by step, opening up custom houses, appointing collectors, establishing mail facilities and restoring all the relations that had been interrupted by the rebellion. Was there anything undertaken to be done here that was not authorized by the Constitution, that was not justified by the great necessities of the case; that has not been clearly consonant with the Constitution and with the genius and theory of our Government?

**Taxation.**

One of the great principles laid down by our fathers, and which fired their hearts, was that there should be no taxation without representation. How, then, do we do that matter stand? Who has been usurping power? Who has been defeating the operation of the Constitution? What now remains to be done to complete the restoration of those States to all their former relations under the Federal Government, and to finish the great ordeal through which we have been passing? It is to admit representation, and when we say admit representation, what do we mean? We mean representation in the constitutional and law abiding sense, as was intended at the beginning of the Government, and where does that power lie?

What remained to be done? One other thing remained to demonstrate to the civilized and Pagan world that we had passed through the horrid ordeal of our national existence, and proved that our Government was perpetual.—A great principle was to be restored which was established in our Revolution. When our fathers were contending against the power of Great Britain, what was one of the principal causes of their complaint? It was that they were denied representation. They complained of taxation without representation. (Cheers.)

**The power of Congress.**

The Constitution declares, in express terms, that each House, the Senate and House of Representatives, each acting for itself, shall be the judges of the returns, election and qualifications of its own members. It is for each House to settle that question under the Constitution, and under the solemn sanction of an oath, and can we believe that either House would admit any member into its body, to participate in the legislation of the country, who was not qualified and fit to sit in that body and to participate in its proceedings? They have the power, not the two Houses, but each House for itself.

The Constitution further declares that no State shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate of the United States without its consent. Then, where do we stand? All that is needed to finish this great work of restoration is for the two Houses respectively to determine the question. "Oh, but some will say, 'a traitor might come in.' The answer to that is, that each House must be the judge, and if a traitor presents himself cannot either House know that he is a traitor (applause) and if he is a traitor, can they not kick him out of the door and send him back, saying to the people who sent him, 'you must send us a loyal man.' (Cheers and a voice, "that's logic.")

**Traitors.**

Is there any difficulty about that? If a traitor presents himself to either House cannot that House say to him, "No, you cannot be admitted into this body. Go back; we will not deny your people the right of representation, but they must send a loyal representative." And when the States do send loyal representatives, can you have any better evidence of their fidelity to the Constitution and laws? There is no one learned in the Constitution and the laws who will say that, if a traitor happens to get into Congress, the body cannot expel him after he gets in. That makes assurance doubly sure, and confirms the action of the Government to the Constitution of our fathers. Hence I say, let us stand by that Constitution, and in standing by it the Government will be preserved.

While you have been contending against traitors, and treason, and secession, and the dissolution of the Union, I have been contending at the same time against the consolidation of power. (Cries of "Good!") I think the consolidation of power here is equally dangerous with the separation of the States. The one would weaken us and might run into anarchy, while the other would concentrate and run into monarchy.

**Usurpers.**

But there is an idea abroad that one man can be a despot, that one man can be a usurper, but that a hundred or two hundred men cannot be. Mr. Jefferson, the apostle of liberty, tells us, and so does common sense, that tyranny and despotism can be exercised by many more vigorously and more tyrannically than by one.

What power has your President to be a tyrant? What can he do? What can he do? What can he originate? Why they say he exercises the veto power. [Laughter.] What is the veto power?

(A voice.—To put down the nigger.) Who is your President? Is he not elected by the people, through the Electoral College?

**The Tribune of the People.**

The President is nothing more than the Tribune of the people. His office is tribune in its character. In older times, when tribunes were first elected in the Roman Republic, they stood at the door of the Roman Senate, which was then encroaching on the popular rights and putting the heel of power on the necks of the people. The people chose a Tribune, and placed him at the door of the Senate, so that when that body ventured on oppressive acts, he was clothed with power to say "Veto—I forbid."

Your President is now the Tribune of the people; and, thank God, I am and I intend to assert the power which the people have placed in me. (Cheers.) Your President, standing here day after day, and discharging his duties, is like a horse on the treadmill, and because he dares differ in opinion in regard to public measures he must be denounced as a usurper and a tyrant. Can he originate anything under the veto power? The veto power is conservative in its character and affirmative. All that can be done by the veto power is to say, when legislation is improper, hasty, unwise, unconstitutional, "Stay! stop action, wait till this can be submitted to the people, and let them consider whether it is right or wrong." [Applause.]

That is all there is in it; and hence I say that tyranny and power can be exercised somewhere else than by the Executive. He is powerless and all that he can do is to check legislation, to hold it in a state of abeyance, till the people can consider and understand what is being done. Then what has been done? I have done what I believed the Constitution required me to do. I have done what I believed duty and conscience required me to do. So believing, I intend to stick to my position, relying on the judgment, the integrity and the intelligence of the masses of the American people, the soldiers and sailors especially. Then, for my life, I cannot see where there is any tyranny. It is very easy to impugn motives and suspect the purest and best acts of a man's life.

If you come forward and propose a certain thing, your motives are suspected and condemned; and if you withhold your opinion, you are regarded as being opposed to the matter, so that it is very hard to move one way or the other, so far as certain persons are concerned, on all questions pertaining to the interests of the great masses of the American people, for in them is my hope and the salvation of the country. I am with you, citizens, soldiers and sailors, who have sacrificed or periled more than the humble individual who addresses you.

Has not my all been put upon it? My life, my property, everything sacred and dear to man, have been staked upon it, and can I now be suspected of faltering at the close of this third ordeal of the nation? Where is he, in public or in private life, who has sacrificed more, or who has devoted more of his time and energies to the accomplishment of the great end than I? I have done it from the promptings of my own heart and conscience.

**To the Soldiers and Sailors.**

I believe it was right, and with your help and your countenance and your encouragement I shall go through on that line; and when I come to talk about sailors and soldiers, about this to be done and that to be done, all I want is for you to wait and see, so far as the future is concerned. Wait, and see if I do not stand by you, although others may falter and fail.

I want to see measures of policy brought forward that will advance the interests of the people, and of that portion of the people who have constituted the gallant and brave men who in both branches of the service have upheld the national flag and sustained the country in the recent struggle. I thank you for your countenance on this occasion. It cheers me, and gives me strength to perform the work before me.

If we are true to ourselves, if we are true to the Constitution, the day is not far distant when this Government will be restored. Let us go on and restore the Government; let us enlarge the area of our commerce and trade; let us not only inspire confidence at home, but respect abroad, by letting the nation resume its career of prosperity and greatness. I know that some will find fault with me, and say I am too lenient and kind and all that. If we are all to be put to death or punished or thrown away for one offense, as for the second offense, and were to be lost and excluded from society and communion with our fellow men, how many of us would be lost.

I have felt when I have done wrong and repented of it that I was as sincere and honest as if I had never done wrong at all. Then we must reason with each other, and understand our nature, and what is necessary to restore peace and harmony to a distracted and divided people. In time of war it is right to burn villages, sack cities and desolate fields, to lay waste a country and gripe and reduce the enemy; but in time of peace, the reverse of that course is precisely the right one and the true policy of a nation is to rebuild its cities, restore its villages, renew its fields of agriculture, and occupations of peace and prosperity are to be re-

stored. I know there are some who have been at home calculating during the war, and who bring to the consideration of questions of peace and harmony and the occupations of civil life, all the feelings of resentment which animated us when the excitement was up and running high, but take the brave men who sustained the flag in the field and on the wave, and you will find better feelings and better judgment on those questions than you will find with those who have been sitting in the closet and never smelt gunpowder.

Yes, from the private up to the commanding general, they knew better how to treat the present circumstances than many of these elevated patriots and humanitarians. Then, my countrymen, fellow-citizens, soldiers and sailors, let us rejoice that peace has come; let us rejoice that the relations of the States are about being restored. Let us make every effort we can on proper principles to restore the relations which existed between the Federal Government and the States.

I thank God that peace is restored. I thank God that our brave men can return to their families and homes and resume their peaceful avocations. I thank God that the baleful planet of fire and blood, which a short time ago was in the ascendant, has been chased away by the benignant star of peace. Now that the bow of peace is suspended in the heavens, let us cultivate the arts and relations of peace, and all those associations which appertain to men in peace.

The time is not distant when we can have a political millennium, a political utopia, and when we can proclaim to all the nations of the earth that we are again a united people, and that we have triumphantly passed through our third ordeal, having peace at home and power to bid defiance to all the world.

Remember one thing, gentlemen, that in my past life, though slanderers may have misrepresented me, no one can say that I ever deceived or betrayed him. It will be for you to see in the future who will be most faithful. I thank you, gentlemen, for the compliment you have paid me.

After the President closed his speech he was loudly and continuously cheered, the band performing some patriotic airs, and the immense crowd dispersed.

**JOSEPH BILLINGS ON COURTING.**

Courting is a luxury, it is ice water, it is the spell of the sole. The man who has never courted has lived in vain. He has been a blind man among landscapes, he has been a deaf man in the land of hand-organs, and by the side of murmuring canals. Courting is like two little springs of water that starts out from under a rock at the foot of a mountain, and runs down hill, side by side, singing, dancing, splashing each other, eddying and frothing and cascading, now hiding under the bank, now full of splendor, byemby they jine, and then go slow. I am in favor of long courting; it gives the parties a chance to find out each other's trump cards. It is good exercise, and is just as innocent as 5 merino lambs.

Courting is like strawberries and cream—wants to be did slow, then you have got the flavor. I have seen folks get acquainted, fall in love, get married, settled down, and get to work, in three weeks from date. This is the way sum folks learn a trade—accounts for the great number of almighty mean mechanics and poor jobs they turn out.

Perhaps it is best I should state sum good advice to young men who are about to court with a view to matrimony as it was. In the first place, young men, you want to get yure system wright, then find a young woman who is willing to be courted on the square.

The next thing is to find out how old she is; which you can do by asking her, and she will sa she is 19 years old, and this you will find won't be far out of the way.

The next thing is to begin moderate; sa once in every nite in the week for the first six months, increasing the dose as the patient seems to require.

It is a fast rate way to court the girl's mother a little on the start, for there is nothing a woman never despises, and that is a little good courting, if it is done on the square.

After the fast year you will begin to get acquainted, and will begin to like the business.

There is nothing I always advise, that is not to swap photographs oftener than on-set every 16 days, unless you forget how the gal looks.

Occasionally you want to look sorry and draw in your wind as tho you had a pain; this will set the girl to teasing you to find out what ails you.

Evening meetings are a good thing to tend. It will keep your religion in tune, and if yure gal happens to be there, bi accident, she can ask yu to go home with her.

As a general thing I woudn't brag on other girls much when I was courtin'. It might look as though yu knu tew much.

If you court three weeks in this way, all the time on the square, if you don't say it is the slowest time of your life, you can go to the "Young America" cheap store and get measured for a plug hat at my expense and pay for it.

THERE is now railroad communication from the Northern cities to Memphis, Vicksburg, Mobile and New Orleans.

**The Somerset Amalgamation Case.**

Last week we noticed in our paper, the elopement of a white girl, named Griffith, of Somerset county, with a Black Nigger who had been employed by her father. We stated then that he had said that he would rather that his daughter would marry a negro than a copperhead. The name of the father is John Griffith, but as there are four Billy Griffiths, we would beg leave to state that it is not Brick House Billy, nor Tow Head Billy, nor New Years Billy, but *Baptist Billy*, as he is called. He is a crazy Abolitionist, and was a great friend of old Abe Lincoln, and is a great opponent of President Johnson. He called his last child *Pulpis*, the name of the Negro ancestor, but as a preacher came round soon afterwards, he changed the first name for said preacher, and gave the middle name *Pulpis* in memory of the Black Nigger, leaving the last name, "Griffith," to represent himself. The whole name is Colleen Pulpis Griffith. His inordinate love for the Nigger had a climax in the elopement of his daughter with Pulpis as aforesaid.

That their attachment and love for each other was intense we have no doubt, as the Nigger with whom *Pulpis* stopped, when in town, told one of our police officers, that he ought to be ashamed of himself to part this couple, that their young hearts twined round each other like the tendrils of a vine, that she loved him and he loved her, and that what "de Lord had joined together man could not put asunder." From a letter written by a gentleman at Jenner Road to a gentleman in this place we understand that the whole community up there blame *Baptist Billy* with the aforesaid committed by his daughter, as it was his teachings that led her to the desperate act. We are also informed that both the girl and the Nigger declare that they will yet be married and lead a blessed wedded life in close amalgamation.—*Johnston Democrat.*

**TRUTH VS. FALSEHOOD.**

The radical press throughout the State with scarcely an exception, are very industriously at work to convince the voters of the old Keystone, that the Democratic candidate for governor "sought the disfranchisement of the men who were periling their lives in defense of the National Government."

We give below the vote in the State Senate. We hope all who have misrepresented him will place him right before the people. All we ask in relation to him is the truth. It is his record, when fairly placed before the people of the State does not meet with favor, let him be defeated. But his record is one of which we are not ashamed. His whole course since he first entered the Senate is one of which the State has reason to feel proud.

Read this record on "A joint resolution proposing an Amendment to the Constitution extending the right of suffrage to citizens in actual military service," which upon coming before the Senate, on its final passage, the yeas and nays were determined, and were as follows:

"Yeas—Messrs. Boughter, Bond, Beecher, Clymer, Connel, Lohman, Ullmer, Glutz, Graham, Hamilton, Hiestand, Johnson, Kistner, Linton, Lowry, McCandless, McSherry, Mott, Nicholas, Penny, Reily, Ridgway, Robinson, Serrell, Smith, Stark, Seltzer, Sutzman, Turrell, Wallace, White, Wilson and Lawrence, *Speaker*—33.

"Nays—none."

RICHARD STOCKTON signed the declaration of independence. Richard Stockton, the son, was a senator of the United States while Washington lived.—Robert F. Stockton, the grandson, was also a Senator; and then the great-grandson succeeded to his inheritance of honor, of which he has been robbed by party freebooters.

**THE BEAUTY OF HEAVEN.**—A little Swedish girl was walking with her father one night, under the starry sky, intently meditating upon the glories of heaven. At last, looking up to the sky, she said, "I wish I have been thinking if the wrong side of heaven is so beautiful, what will the right side be?"

COPY said he'd rather die in a railroad smash up than a steamboat wreck, for this reason: "If you get out and smashed up, dar you is, but if you gets blowed on the boat, whar is you?"

Mrs. Farrington asks, very indignantly, if the bills before Congress are not counterfeited, why there should be so much difficulty in passing them?

A YOUNG widow who edits a paper in a neighboring State, says: "We go out to look as well as usual to-day on account of the non-arrival of the mails."

It is said that everything in nature has its equivalent; but we know of nothing that is equal to woman's curiosity.

WHEN David slew Goliath with a sling, the latter fell so dead, and was quite astonished, as such a thing never entered his head before.

WHAT is the difference between a honeymoon and a honeymoon? One is a great sea and the other a lot of nice cells.

WHEN a black-headed bird with a lid will there care to be stir-up in the family.

WHEN are carpenters like circumstances? When they alter ones.

WHAT game gets a lady's lustre resemble? Backgammon.

WHY are the girls of Missouri sweet? Because they are Mo-lasses.

INDULGE in humor as much as you please, if it is not ill-humor.