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TWENTY - SECOND AT THE WASHINGTON. EXCITING MEETINGS. Speech by President Johnson.

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tive is concerned.

was death.

DEFENCE OF HIS POLICY, &c.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—After the ad-journment of the meeting at Grover's Thea-tre, the assemblage visited the White House to serenade President Johnson. The Chairman of the meeting at the theatre announce to the multitude that Mr. Johnson had consented to address them. Mr. Tendall said sented to address mem. And remain said : Fellow-citizens, I am one of the committee which, on behalf of the people of the District of Columbia, has just waited on the Presi-dent of the United States to present to him the resolutions adopted by the meeting held to-day. The committee requested the Pre-sident to present himself to you to give exsident to pression to his sentiments, and he has ac-

cordingly come out to do so. The President, as he appeared, was re-ceived with enthusiastic and long continued applause. When it had subsided, he spoke as follows:

Fellow-citizens, for I presume I have a right to address you as such, I come to tender to you my sincere thanks for the approbation expressed by your Committee in their personal address and in the resolutions submitted by them as having been adopted by the meeting which has been held in this city to-day. These resolutions, as I understand them, are complimentary to the policy which has been adopted by the Administration, and has been steadily pursued since it came into power. I am free to say to you on this occasion that it is extremely gratifying to me to know that so large a portion of my fellow-citizens approve and indorse the policy which has been adopted and which it is my intention shall be carried out. [Great applause.] That policy is one which is intended o restore all the States to their original re lations to ihe Federal Government of the United States. [Renewed applause.]

This seems to be a day peculiary appro-priate for such a manifestation. It is the day that gave birth to that man who more, day inat gave birth to that man who more, perhaps, than any other, founded this Gov-ernment. It is the day that gave birth to the Father of our country. It is the day that gave birth to him who presided over that body which formed the Constitution under which all the States entered into this elorious Confederacy. Such a day is norm glorious Confederacy. Such a day is pecu-liary appropriate for the indorsement of a whose object is the restoration of th union of the States as it was designed by

the Father of his country. (Applause.) Washington, whose name this city bears is embalmed in the hearts of all those love free Government. Washington, in the love free Government, was first in war, "blanguage of his eulogist, was first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen. No people can claim him, no nation can appropriate him. His reputa-tion is commensurate with the civilized world, and his name is the common property of all those who love free government To-day 1 had the pleasure of visiting an association who have been devoting their efforts to the completion of the monument which is being erected to his name. I was proud to meet them, and, so far as I could,

to give them my influence and countenance aid of the work they have undertaken. That monument which is being erected to him who, I may say; founded the Government, is almost within the throw of a stone of the spot from which I now address you.

various blocks which the States, and individuals, and associations, and corporations, have put in that monument as piedges of

the Union; you said that it had neither the slavery. True, the objects which they sought to accomplish were different, so far 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 sought to accompase were different, so far as slavery was concerned; but they agreed in the desire to break up the Government, the precise thing to which I have always been opposed, and whether disunionists come from the South or from the North, T stand pow as I did they midianting the 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 stand now as I did then, vindicating the union of these States and the Constitution 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 of my country. [Tremendous applause.] Rebellion and treason manifested ther ted them you, as your Ezecutive, that I am not pre selves in the South. I stood by the govern-ment. I said then that I was for the Union you, as your Ezecutive, that I am not pre-pared 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, with slavery. I was for the Union withou slavery. In either alternative I was for my government and its Constitution. The go that they had no power to go out; that ques vernment has stretched forth its strong arm, and with its physical power it has put tion has been settled, and it being settied down treason in the field. The section of the country which then arrayed itself I cannot turn around now, and give the li direct to all that I have professed, and all. against the government has been put down by thestrong arm. What did we say when this treason originated? We said "No comhave done for the last five years. [Applause When those who rebelled comply with the Constitution; when they give sufficient When those who rebened comply with the Constitution; when they give sufficient evidence of loyalty; when they show that they can be trusted; when they yield obedi-ence to the law that you and I acknowledge promise; you yourselves in the South cau settle this question in eight and forty hours." I said again and again, and I reobedience to, I say extend to them the right hand of fellowship, and let peace and peat it now, "Disband your armies in the South, acknowledge the supremacy of the Constitution of the United States, acknowobedience to, union be restored. [Tremendousapplause I fought traitors and treason in the South edge the duty of obedience to the laws, and l opposed the Davises, the Toombs, the Sli dells, and a long list of others, which you the whole question is settled. [Applause.] What has been done since? Their armies have been disbanded. and can readily fill without my repeating the names. Now, when I turn round and at the they come forward now in a proper spirit and say, "We were mistaken. We made an

other end of the line find men, I care no by what name you call them, who still stand effort to carry out the doctrine of Secession opposed to the restoration of the Union of these States, I am free to say to you that and to dissolve this Union. In that we have failed. We have traced this doctrine to its logical and physical results, and we find that we were mistaken. We acknowledge the flag of our country, and are willing to am still in the field. [Great applause.] am still for the preservation of the Union I am still in favor of this great Governmen of ours going on and on, and filling out it obey the Constitution and to yield to the supremacy of the laws." [Great applause.] Coming in that spirit, I say to them, "When you have complied with the requirements [Great applause. Voices-Give u destiny three names at the other end.] The President-I am called upon to nam f the Constitution, when you have acthree at the other end of the line. I ap

talking to my friends and fellow-citizen knowledged your allegiance to the Co tution, when you have yielded to the law, I will, so far as I can, open the door of the Union to those who had erred and strayed from the fold of their fathers for a who are interested with me in this Govern ment, and I presume I am free to mentio to you the names of those whom I loo upon as being opposed to the fundaments principles of this Government, and who ar time. [Great applause.] Who has suffered more by the rebellion than I have? I shall "Name them!" "Who are they?" Th not repeat the story of the wrongs and suf ferings inflicted upon me; but the spirit of President-You ask me who they are. revenge is not the spirit in which to deal with a wronged people. I know there has been a great deal said about the exercise of say Thaddeus Stevens, of Pennsylvania, one; I say Mr. Sumner, of the Senate, i another, and Wendell Phillips is another another, and Wendell Fillings is another. [Long continued Applause.] [Voices, "Give it to Forney!"] The President—In reply to that, I will simply say I no not waste my ammunition upon dead ducks. [Great laughter and applause.] I stand for my country; I stand for the Constitution. There the pardoning power, so far as your Execu-There is no one who has labored with more earnestness than myself to have the principal intelligent and conscious traitors brought to justice, the law vindicated, and I have always placed my feet from my advent to public life. They may traduce the great fact judicially established that treason is a crime [applause], but while concious, leading and intelligent traitors are they may slander, they may vituperate me but let me say to you, all this has no influ to be punished, should whole communities and States and people be made to submit to the penalty of death? No, no!

ence upon me. [Great applause.] Let me say further, that I do not intend ave perhaps as much asperity and as to be overawed by real or pretended friend nor do I Liean to be bullied by my enemies [Tremendous applause]. Honest convic tion is my courage, the Constitution is my much resentment as men ought to have, but we must reason in great matters of govern-ment about man as he is; we must conform our actions and our conduct to the example of Him who founded our holy 'religion' not guide. I know, my countrymen, that has been insinuated, no, not insinuated hat I would make such a comparison on it has been said directly in high place hat if such a usurpation of power as I came into this place under the constitucharged with had been exercised some tw hundred years ago in a particular reign, i would have cost an individual his head ion of the country and by the approbation of the people, and whatdid I find? I found eight millions of people who were in fact condemned under the law, and the penalty [Great laughter]. Of what usurpation ha Andrew Johnson been guilty? Non Was I to yield to the spirit of None!

revenge and resentment, and declare that ls it a usurpation to stand between the people and the encroachments of power they should all be annihilated and desroved? How different would this have because, in a conversation with a fellow been from the example set by the Holy citizen who happened to be a Senator, I sai 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 that I thought amendments to the Constitution ought not too frequently to be mad that if it was continually tinkered with i would lose all its prestige and dignity, and the old instrument would be lost sight of under the law, and his sentence was death. What was His example? Instead of putting altogether in a short time, and because, in the same conversation. I happened to say the world, or even a nation to death, He died upon the cross, attesting, by His that if it were amended at all, such and such an amendment ought to be adopted, it was

only dread him when in disguise, and where his footstep is 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. [Great ap-plause.] But let the opponents of this Go vernment remember, when it is poured out, that the blood of the martyrs 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.]

I merely intended to make my acknow-ledgments for the honor you have done me; but before I close allow me to say a word in regard to the question of amendments to the Constitution of the United States. Shortly after I reached Washington, for the purpose of being inaugurated as Vice Presi-dent of the United States, I had a conversation with Mr. Lincoln in regard to the condition of affairs. We talked particularly in reference to matters in my own Stat old him that we had called a Convention, that we had amended the Constitution, and that we had abolished slavery in that State, which was not included in his Emancipatio Proclamation. All these things met his approbation, and

he gave me words of encouragement. We talked then about affairs generally, and upon the subject of amendments to the Constitution of the United States; he said to ne "When the amendment of the Constitution now proposed is adopted by three fourths of the States, 1 am pretty near done or indeed quite done in favor of amending the Constitution if there was one other adopted.

I asked him, what is that, Mr. President? He said I have labored to preserve this Union. I have toiled during four years; I have been subjected to calumny and mis have been subjected to calling and mis-representation. My great and sole desire has been to preserve these States intact un-der the Constitution as they were before," I asked him again, "Mr. President, what amendment is that which you would propose?" "Why," said he, "it is that there should be an amendment added to the Constitution which would compel the States to send their Senators and Representatives to the Congress of the United States. [Great applause.] The idea was in his mind that applause.] as a part of the doctrine of Secession one o as a part of the doctrine of Secession one of the means to break up this Government was that the States, if they saw proper, might withdraw their Senators and Repre-sentatives, or refuse to elect them. He wanted even to remove that difficulty constitutional amendment, compelling the States to send Senators and Representatives

o Congress But what do we now find? The Const tution of the country, even that portion of it which allows amendments to the organic aw, expressly provides that no State, with out its consent, shall be deprived of it equal suffrage in the Senate, and it also provides that each State shall have at least one Representative in the House of Representatives; but yet the position is taken that cer ain States shall not be represented. mpose taxes upon them; we send our tax gatherers into every region and portion of he States.

These people are it subjects of Govern-ment for the collection of taxes, but when they ask to participate in the legislation of he country, they are met at the door and told no, you must pay taxes, you must beat burdens of Government, but you canno participate in its legislation which is to affect you through all time to come. Is this justice

is it fair? [No, no]. I repeat I am for the Union. I am for preserving all the States. I am for admit-

and indeed it seems now to be supposed that it can be repealed by a concurrent reso-lution. [Laughter.] But when the question is submitted to the

But when the dueston is submitted to the popular judgment, and to the mass of the people, these men will find that they might just as well introduce a resolution to repeal the laws of gravitation. The attempt to keep this Union from being restored is just about as feasible as would be resistance to the great law of gravitation, which binds all to a common centre. The great law of political gravitation will

bring back these States, and replace them in all their relations to the Federal Government. Cliques and cabala, and conspira-cies, and machinations, North or South, cannot prevent this great consummation (Tremendons applause.] All that is wanted is time. Let the American people get to understand what is going on, and they will soon manifest their determination.

Here, by way of explanation, let me say, that I would to God the whole American people could be assembled here to-day, as you are. I wish there was a vast amphi theatre here, capacious enough to contain the whole thirty millions, and they could witness the great struggle that is going on to preserve the Constitution of their fathers They would soon settle the question, if they could once see how things are; if they could see the kind of spirit that is manifested in the effort to break up the real principles of free Government; when they came to understand who was for them, and who against them; who was for ameliorat-ing the condition, and who for elevating ing them by preserving their Government. Ťf the combatants could stand before them. and there could be a regular set-to between the respective gladiators, in the first tilt that might be made you would find that the enemies of the country would be crushed, and the people would sustain its friends and the friends of constitutional liberty. [Great

cheering.] 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, and we are engaged in a friendly and familiar conversation). "That man Johnson is a lucky man. [Laughter.] They can never defeat him." [Laughter.] Now I will tell yon what consitutes my good luck. It is in doing right and being for the people. [Great applause.] The people, somehow or other, although their sugacity and good judgment are very frequently underrated, and under-estimated generally, get to find out and understand who is for them and who is against them. They do it by instinct, if in no other way They know who is their friend. They know in whom they can confide. So far, thank God, I can lay my hand

upon my bosom, and state with heartfelt satisfaction, that in all the positions in which I have been placed, and I have been placed in many that were as trying as any in which mortal has been placed. I have never deserted them, nor do I believe they will desert me. [No, no, and applause.] Whom have I betrayed? What princ

le have I violated? What sentiment have swerved from? Can those who assail me put their finger upon any one? No, no. In all the speeches that have been made no one has dared to put his finger upon a single principle I ever asserted from which I have eviated.

Have you not heard some of them, a some time, attempt to quote my prede decessor, who fell a martyr to his country's cause, but they can give no sentiment of his that it in opposition or contradiction to any-

thing that I have done. The very policy that I am now pursuing was pursued by me under his administra-tion, I having been appointed by him in a

Saulsbury, Riddle, Hendricks, McDougall &c. It was soon evident that but half of th

andience were with the meeting. The meeting was finally called to order, and Mr. Phillip Fendell was made Chair man.

He said they had gathered together to indorse the President's policy for restoring all the States. [Applause.] The war has ceased nearly a year since. Congress has been about two months in session and yet the people of eleven States are not yet repre-sented in Congress. Yet they are estimated. as in the Union, except as to representation. One of the principles which carried us from our mother country was no taxation with-cut representation. He vetoed the Freedmen's Bureau bill. [Applause.] The voice which shall go forth in this building to day will soon be echoed throughout the land that the Union shall be restored. [Applause.]

S.S. Cox was the first speaker, and went cff in a tirade against Congress and the Re-publican party. He said Thad. Stevens had been sent from his Satanic majesty fourteen barrels of sulphur and matches to get up bell on earth [hisses and groans and ap-plause mingled.] He indorsed Rev. H. W. Beecher, which again drew mingled expres-sions. He denounced Congress as disun-ionists as "black as Jefferson Davis or hell itself." [Applause and hisses.] Said he was not going to talk about the Freedmen's Bureau, for he had talked enough about that nuisance when he was in Congress; but whole United States shall vote next time for Andrew Johnson for President or not. [Cries of that's so; give 'em ----; applause and hisses.)

The next speaker was Mr. Kinney, of Utal, who went the whole length of Demo-cratic doctrines, although it looked at one time like a row before the meeting would hear him, because he was not the person

they thought he was. Montgomery Blair was next put forth, and said : Now we see a party in Congress who threaten a new outbreak to keep the Union sundered, which is more dangerous, They were afraid, if the people of the South were readmitted, that they would join the Democratic party of the North, and thus obtain the control of the Government. Will the white people of the North allow the blacks to eat up the sustenance of the country? [Loud cries of " No!"

Every sensible man saw that Secession was the death of slavery, and this having taken place, they now seek to inaugurate a movement which will result in the death of the freedmen. See Mr. Williams' speech, in which he charges that every man asking for representation for the Southern States is disloyal. Have we not reached a period when there should be a cessation of this feeling? Every great President has had oc-casion to check the party spirit of those who elevated him. Abraham Lincoln put his feet on this organism foot on this exclusion which these men endeavor to festen upon the country. Every one who can see, can see that we are hurrying to a war of the races. This meeting augurs well for the country. [Applause and

hisses.] Senator Hendricks said-We are now in a time when the work of Union is to be done over again, and the question is, "Can we perform it?" [A voice—"Andrew Johnson perform it?" [A voice—"Andrew Johnson can do it."] He continued in the same strain and was followed by R. F. Merrick. Mr. Rogers, of New Jersey, made a most

violent and intemperate harangue, assailing President Lincoln's Administration, charging that it had robbed the South lions of dollars, in setting their slaves free, and now they have set up an odious, pestilept oath, to keep the South out of Congress. He was loudly cheered and hissed by turns. General Clark, of Indiana, was called out. and said he would not speak from a stand that had been made to slander Abraham

[Hisses and applause.] Lincoln. Boyer and Strouse, of Pennsylvania, then kept up speeches until the meeting ad-

journed. The following resolutions passed show the ienor of the whole:— Resolved, That ours is a government of aw; that punishment for offences, however henious, cannot be dictated by arbitrary vengeance; that no ex post facto law can be rightly established, either by statutory enactment or by constitutional amendment, no more as against a community than as against an individual; that as no punishment had ever been provided against a State for attempting to secede from the Unios, none can now be legitimately inflicted, either by enforcing disabilities or otherwise; that therefore any delinquent State, from the moment it returns to its allegiance and resumes its rightful position as a member of the Federal Government, becomes entitled to the exercise of all its rights under the Constitution, including that of being represented in each branch of Congress which it enjoyed before the commission of the offence. It is better that wrong should go unpunished, than that it should be redressed through a violation of law. Resolved, That the only lawful ground on which any member of either House of Con-gress can be prevented from taking his seat on an equal footing with any other member, must be that his election, or the return thereto, have not been in accordance with law, or that he does not possess the requisite qualifications for his position, and that in deciding upon such qualifications none other can be considered than those preother can scribed in the Constitution of the United

their love for this Union be preserved, and let the work be accomplished.

In this connection let me refer to the block from my own State, God bless her (ap-plause) which has struggled for the preser-vation of this Union in the field and in the councils of the nation, and which is no struggling to renew her relations with this Government, that were interrupted by a fearful rebellion. She is now struggling to renew those relations, and to take her stand where she had ever stood since 1796 until thisrebellion hroke out. [Great applause]. Let me repeat the sentiment that that State has inscribed upon the stone which she has deposited in that monument of freedom which is being raised in commemoration of Washington. She is struggling to get back into the Union, and to stand by the senti-ment which is there inscribed, and she is willing to sustain it. What is it? It is the sentiment which was enunciated by her dis tinguished son, the immortal, the illustrious 'The Federal Union—it must be Jackson, "The Federal Union—it must be preserved." [Great applause]. If it were possible for that old man, whose statue is now before me, and whose portrait is behind me in the Executive Mansion, and whose ment in your vicinity, to be called forth from the grave, or if it were possible to com-municate with the spirit of the illustrious dead, and make him understand the progress of faction and of rebellion and treason would turn over in his coffin, and he would rise, and shaking off the habiliments of the tomb, would again stand erect, and extend forth his long arm and finger, and reiterate that sentiment, once expressed by him on a memorable occasion, "The Federal Union—it must be preserved." [Great ap-

We have witnessed what has transpired since his day. In 1833, when treason and treachery and infidelity to the Government and constitution of the United States stalked forth in the land, it was his power and influence that crushed the servent in its inci piency. It was then stopped, but only for a time. The same spirit of disaffection continues. There were men disaffected to the Government, both in the North and in There was, in a portion of the Union, a

peculiar institution, of which some com-plained, and to which others were attached One portion of our countrymen in the South advocated that institution, while another portion in the North opposed it. The result was the formation of extrem

parties, one especially in the South, which reached a point at which it was proposed to dissolve the Union of the States for the purprese, as was said, of securing and preserv-ing that peculiar institution. There was another portion of our countrymen who were opposed to that institution, and who went to such an extreme that they were willing to break up the Government in order to get clear of that peculiar institution of the South.

I say these things because I desire to talk plainly and in familiar phraseology. I as-sume nothing here to-day beyond the posi-tion of a difference on the posisume nothing here to-day beyond the posi-tion of a citizen; one who has been pleading for his country and the preservation of the Constitution. [Immense cheering,] These two parties, I say, were arrayed against each other, and I stand here before you for the Union to-day, as I stood in the Senate of the United States in 1860 and 1861. I met there those who were making war upon the Constitution, these who wanted to disrupt the Government, and I denounced them in my place then and there, and ex.

them in my place then and there, and renounced posed their true character. I said that those who were engaged in the work of breaking up the Government were traitors. I have never reased, on all proper occa-sions, to repeat that sentiment, and as far as my efforts could go, I have endeavored to earry it out. [Great applause.] I have just remarked that there were two parties, one of which was for destroying the Govern-ment and separating the Union, in order to

erve slavery, and the other for breaking np the Government, in order to destroy

wounds and His blood, that He died that mankind might live. [Great applause,] Let those who have erred repent, let them

this occasion in any personal aspect.

acknowledge their aliegiance, let them be come loyal, willing supporters and defenders of our glorious Star and Stripes and of the Constitution of our country. Let the leaders, the conscious, intelligent traitors be pun-ished and be subjected to the penalties of the law [applause], but to the great mass who have been forced into this rebellion in many instances, and in others have been misled, I say clemency, kindness, trust and

misted, I say clementey, kindless, trust and confidence. [Great applause]. My countrymen, when I look back over the history of the rebellion, I am not vain when I ask you if I have not given as much evidence of my devotion to the Union as some who croak a great deal about it; when I look back over the battle-fields of the rebellion I think of the many brave men in whose company I was; I cannot but recol lect that I was sometimes in places where the contest was most difficult and the result most doubtful; but almost before the smok has passed away, almost before the blood that has been shed has done reeking, before the bodies of the slain have passed through the stages of decomposition, what do we

now find? 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 dissever the Union, but al-most before the smoke of the battle-iteld 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 former 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 weaken-

ing its power, but when that struggle on our part has been successful, and that at tempt 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 at-tempted to be exercised, of a most extraor-dinary character. It seems that Govern-ments may be revolutionized. Governments may be revolutionized. Govern-ments, at least, may be changed without going through the strife of battle. I believe it is a fact attested in history that some-times 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 shedow remain to you. What is now the shadow remain to you. What is now

being proposed? We find that 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 Departments of the Government; by resolutions reported from a committee, in whom it seems that practically the legis-lative 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 Govern-ment, 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 by the hand of an assassin. I am not a fraid winds or chain the waves of they might as rebellion; you denied in the beginning of of an assassin attacking me where one brave confine them within limits. They might as the struggle that any State could go out of and courageous man will attack another. I well undertake to repeal the constitution,

charged that I was guilty of usurpation power that would have cost a King his ead, in a certain period of English history Great laughter]. From the same source were in the midst of earthquakes; that they trembling and could not yield

[Laughter]. Yes, fellow-citizens, there is an earth-quake coming; there is a ground-swelling of popular judgment and indignation. [Great applause.] The American people will speak, and, by their institut people 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 Govern nent which I have not at some time filled I suppose it will be said that this is vanity [laughter], but I may say that I have been in all of them. I have been in both branche of the State Legislature. [A Voice: "You commenced a tailor."]

The President-A gentleman behind m says that I began a tailor. Yes. I did begin a tailor [applause], and that suggestion does not discomfit me in the least, for when I was a tailor I had the reputation of being good one, and of making close tit [laughter] and I was always punctual to my custo mers, and did good work. [Applause,]

Voices—We will patch up the Union yet. The President—No, I do not want any patch work of it; I wont the original arti-cle restored. [Great applause]. But enough "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 have always done on former occasions Great applause].

I have said, it has been declared else where that I was 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 House of the National Congress, I have been at the bad 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 ca-reer 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 me to the man who can say that An-drew Johnson ever acted with infidelity to the great mass of the people. [Great ap-

plause,

Men may talk about beheading and about usurpation, bnt when I am beheaded I want the American people to be the witnesses. do not want it, by innuendoes and indirec 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 ob stacle must be gotten out of the way. What is that but a make-use of a strong word in-citing to assessination? No doubt, I say, the intention was to incite assassination, se the obstacle which the people had placed here could be got out of the way. Are the opponents of this Government not yet satis-fied; are those who want to destroy our institution and to change the character of the Government, not satisfied with the quantity of blood that has been shed. Are they not satisfied with one martyr in this place? Does not the blood of Lincoln appease their vengeance and is their thirst still unslaked? Do they still want more blood? Have they not honor and courage enough to seek to obtain the end otherwise than through and by the hand of an assassin. I am not afraid winds or chain the wayes of the ocean and of an assassin attacking me where one brave

the councils of the nation all the ting into representatives who are unmistakably and unquestionably loyal. A man who ac knowledges allegiance to the Government and who swears to support the Constitution must necessarily be loyal. A man canno take that oath in good faith unless he is loval.

A mere amplification of the oath make no difference as to the principle. Whatever test is thought proper as evidence and as proof of loyalty, is a mere matter of detail. bout which I care nothing; but let a man be unmistakably and unquestionably loyal let him acknowledge allegiance to the Con-stitution of the United States, and be willing to support the Government in its hour of peril and its hour of need, and I am willing

o trust him. [Applause]. I know that some do not attach as much importance to this point as I do, but I re-gard it as a fundamental one. The printiple that carried us through the revolution was that there should be no taxation with out representation. I hold to that principle which was laid down as fundamental our fathers. If it was good then it is good now. If it was worth standing by then, is worth standing by now. It is funds mental, and should be observed as long a free government lasts.

I am aware that in the midst of the rebel bellion it was said by some that the Consti tution had been rolled up as a piece of parchment and laid away; that in time of war and rebellion there was no Constitu-tiou. We know that sometimes, in great necessity, under great emergencies, unconstitutional things must sometimes necessa rily be done, in order to preserve the Cou-stitution itself; but if, while the rebellion was going on the Constitution was rolled up and laid away, if it was violated in some narticulars in order to save the Government, and all may be excused and justified because in saving the Government you really saved the Constitution, now that peace has come, now that the war is over, we want again the benefit of a written Constitution, and I say the time has come to take the Constitution down, to unroll it, to re-read it, to understand its provisions thoroughly, and now, in order to save the Government, we must preserve the Con-

stitution. Our only safety is in a strict adherence to and preservation of the Constitution of our fathers. It is now unfolded. It must now be read, it is now be digested and un-derstood by the American people. I am here to day, then, in making these remarks to vindicate the Constitution and to save it, as I believe, for it does seem as if encroach-ment after encroachment is proposed upon it. As far as I can I have ever resisted enroachments upon the Constitution, and I stand prepared to resist them to-day, and to preserve the Constitution and the Government of the United States, [Great applause.]

It is now a time of peace, and let us have peace; let us enforce the Constitution; let us live under, and according to its provisions; let it be published and printed in blazing characters as though it were in the heavens, and punctuated by the stars, so that all can read and all can understand. Let us consult that instrument and be guided by its pro-visions. Let us understand their under-

standing, and abide by them. I tell the opposers of this Government I care not from what quarter they come, East or West, North or South, you that are engaged in the work of breaking up the Government, are mistaken. The Constitu-tion of the United States and the principles of free Government are deeply rooted in the American heart, and all the powers combined cannot destroy that great instrument.

that great chart of freedom. Their attempts, though they may seem to succeed for a time, will be futile. They might as well undertake to lock up the

An inscrutable Providence saw proper to remove him from this to (I trust) a better world, and I came into his place, and there is not a principle of his, in reference to the restoration of the Union, from which I have

Then the war is not simply upon me, bu it is upon my predecessor also. I have tried to do my duty. I know that some are envious and jealous, and speak of the White Honse as having attractions for the President. Let me say to you, the charms of th White House have as little influence upon me as upon any individual in this country and much less upon me than upon those who are talking about it.

The little that I eat and wear, does not amount to much, and the amount which is enough to sustain me and my little family. is very small; for I am no kin to many folks by consanguinity though by affinity I am akin to everybody The proud and conscientious satisfaction having performed my duty to my coun-try, to my children and to the inner man, is all the reward that I ask. [Great applause]. In conclusion, let me ask this vast con

course here to-day, this sea of upturned faces, to come with me, or I will go with you and stand around the Constitution of our country. It is again unfolded. The people are invited to read and understand o sustain and maintain its provisions.

Let us stand by the Constitution of our fathers, though the heavens should fall Though faction may rage, though tauntu and jeers may come, though abuse and vi uperation may be poured out in the mos virulent form, I mean to be found standing by the Constitution of the country; standing by the Constitution as the chief ark of our afety, as the palladium of our civil and religious liberty.

Yes, let us cling to it as the mariner cling to the last plank, when the night and the tempest close around him. Accept my thanks, my countrymen, for the indulgence you have extended to me while submitting to you extemporaneously, and, perhaps, in coherently, the remarks which I have now made. Let us of away forgetting the past, and looking to the future, resolved to endea-vor to restore our Government to its pristine purity, trusting in Him who is on high, but who controls all here below, that ere long our Union will be restored, and that we shall have peace not only with all the nations of the earth, but peace and good will among all parts of the people of the United States. I thank you for the respect you have manifested to me on this occasion, and i the time shall come during the period o my existence when this country is to be destroyed and its Government overturned, if you will look out you will find the humble individual who stands before you there with you, endeavoring to avert its final

destruction. The President retired amidst a perfect storm of applause. The Meeting in Grover's Theatre.

WASBINGTON, Feb. 22-[Special to the Inquirer.]-Washington has had an exciting lay, not equaled since the assassination of

President Lincoln. Grover's Theatre has been taken for a mass meeting, at which the six Republican Senators who yoted to sustain the President's veto, and a dozen or two Democratic gentlemen were to hold forth on sustaining the policy of President Johnson. At twelve o'clock the building was 'crowded' with a

o'clock the building was crowded with a promiscuous audience, and upon the stage were the Uity Councils, and a delegation of Treasury clerks, headed by McCleod. There came also upon the stage Mr. Tom Florence, Montgomery Blair and Father Major General Bartlett, ex-Mayor Barrett, S. S. Cox, Cornelins Wendell, Congressmen Gran Clay Smith Myor Stronge Guider S. Cox, Cornenus wenden, Congressmen Green Clay Smith, Myer Strouse, Grider Finck, Kerr, Ross, Eldridge, Thornton Ritter, Shanklin, Coffroth, Hogan, Nichol-son, Marshall, of Illinois, Ancona; Senators

At two outside meetings there were a dozen or twenty violent harangues, and at four P. M, the assemblage went up to the White House to serenade the President.

While the crowd were surging to and fro in front of the White House, awaiting for the President to come out, John Went-worth, who was in front and next to the worth, who was in front and heat to un-soldier guard, was pushed back rather un-ceremoniously by the soldier. He remon-strated quietly, when a policeman came up and said he would arresthim, if he did not keep quiet. Mr. Wentworth said he had keep quiet. Mr. Wentworth said ne had not misbehaved, and dared him to try it. The officer said he would if he did not keep-quiet. Mr. Wentworth replied that he-would not keep quiet, and he dared not-arrest him. With a loud voice, he said, "You have murdered Lincoln, and now you want to destroy Johnson." Just then one of Mrs. Surratt's counsel

came up inside of the guard and took the came up inside of the guard and took the police away, when no more outbreaks took place. The President finally came out of the White House, in company with Messrs. Aiken and Clampit, ex-Mayor Bennett, Cornelius Wendell, Tom Florence, Coyle, Freen Clay Smith and others.

Later from Canada. HALIFAX, N. S., Feb. 22.—Parliament met to-day. Lieutenant-Governor Wil-liams made a speech which congratulates the members upon the condition of the the members upon the condition of the Province. Its trade, and the receipts from other sources greatly exceed that of any former year. He is gratified at the condi-tion of the militia, and regrets that not-mithsteading the effective of the British withstanding the efforts of the British North American Colonies the United States have aduered to their determination to abhave addressed to their determination to ab-rogate the reciprocity treaty. He is san-guine of the cooperation of the Provinces. and of the fostering care of England, and that trade will be so directed in new chan-nels, and the fisheries protected to meet the emergency forced upon us. Contracts for a railroad from Truro to New Brunswick, and from Wiedsor to Annapolis, have been made. The smooth is Slowr when the made. The speech is silent upon the ques-tion of the Confederation of the Provinces.

Two MEN KILLED. - The Altoona Tribune Two MEN KILLED.—The Altoona Trivinke says..."Just as we were about going to press we learned that two men, named Nagle and Sheehan, were instantly killed, on Wednes-day last, by the caving in upon them of an ore bank, in which they were at work, near Blair Furnace, a few miles below this place. They were buried twenty-four hours before their bodies were recovered.