Republican Ratification Meeting.

AN IMMENSE OUTPOURING.

Speeches of Ex-Governor Curtin, Senator Nye, Hon. G. A. Grow and Hon. A. K. McClure.

The Academy of Music never contained a larger audience than that which assembled within its walls last evening, to hear the ratification of the Republican mass meeting, to ratify the proceedings of the State Convention, held on Wednesday. There was an immense outpouring of the people. Every seat in the building was occupied, and the aisles and lobby were filled. So great was the crowd that the doorkeepers were finally compelled to refuse admission to those who were waiting for it. The scene within the building was brilliant. The elaborate decorations which set off the house during the session of the Convention remained, and over the front of the stage were suspended gas-pipe representations of the words—"Lincoln," "Grant," "Curtin," "Farragut," and "Sheridan." As before stated, the assemblage was large. In the parquette and on the stage there was a fair sprinkling of ladies, notwithstanding the very disagreeable rain storm which was prevailing when the great enthusiasm was exhibited. There was no disorder and everything passed off in the most peaceful manner.

The following officers were chosen:

President—Hon. Morton McMichael.

Vice Presidents—J. Gillingham Fell, Charles Gibbons, Samuel Shoemaker, Jr., Charles Gibbons, Samuel Shoemaker, Jr., Thomas Dwight, Thomas Cochran, C. Ruff, Isaac P. Baker, Governor James Pollock, Avril, Isaiah Campbell, Gen. Thomas Chalfant, Gen. Wm. Hays, Nathan Hilles, Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, Hon. Thomas Williams, Hon. Wm. Lemon, General C. H. T. Collis, James Dunlap, Hon. Thomas Cooper, Hon. Thomas B. Moore, Watson Vosler, William Ehnelle, William Ross, Richard Vaux, Hon. Thomas Earle, Hon. John M. Kiesler, Hon. Thomas Bonner, Hon. Henry Bumm, Hon. John Quay, R. Franklin Denniston, Jacob G. Neagle, Charles B. Hackenburg, Hon. Henry D. Moore, Hon. Alexander Henry, John Price Wetherill, Horton Heaps, Hon. Thomas Cunningham, Hon. Thomas Cooper, Hon. Thomas B. Cooper, Hon. Thomas Cooper, Wm. B. Bunnell, General Gideon Ellis, Tracy Lee, James Given, Lewis Tilton, Col. James M. Scott, Hon. John Bullock, Hon. James Hetley, Lieut. W. F. Hynes, S. J. McKeown, Col. Samuel Jaquette, Hon. Thomas Williams, Hon. Samuel S. Jones, Samuel J. Fisher.

Secretaries—Prof. James Rhoads, George Truman, Jr., Col. William McMichael, Gottlieb Tepper, Conrad Jacoby, Jacob Fry, Jr., Jacob Ridgway, Jacob Hoffman, Jr., Thomas L. Parker, Capt. A. M. Scott, David Gilmour, General Gideon Ellis, Tracy Lee, James Given, Lewis Tilton, Col. James M. Scott, John Bullock, Hon. James Hetley, Lieut. W. F. Hynes, S. J. McKeown, Col. Samuel Jaquette, Hon. Thomas Williams, Hon. Samuel S. Jones, Samuel J. Fisher.

At the appointed hour the meeting was formally called to order by John E. Addicks, Esq., President of the National Union Club, who said:

By the unanimous voice of the committee, and, I feel assured, by your unanimous approval, I have the gratification to announce to you as the presiding officer of this vast meeting our well-known and well-beloved fellow-citizen, his Honor the Mayor, Morton McMichael.

Mayor McMichael came forward and said:

We have gathered here to-night (and I desire to embrace in that phrase the whole people who are as much concerned in all that relates to public affairs as any of ourselves, and whose presence upon these occasions is to us a benediction, which ever it may be to other partisans, always fraught with pleasure), we have gathered here to-night for the purpose of performing an important and gratifying duty. Yesterday, representatives from all sections of our good Commonwealth assembled within these walls sent hither by their respective constituencies to give expression to their sentiments on the great issues of the hour, and to select suitable candidates to fill the high offices in the State and National Government which the people will shortly be called upon to ratify. These trusts they have wisely and faithfully executed. The principles they have enunciated are true, sound, and patriotic [applause]; the men they have presented are able, capable, and deserving. To reaffirm these principles, to stamp with the seal of our approbation these men, is the object of our meeting, and to this object we shall now proceed to accomplish.

I need not say, my fellow-citizens, that the present is a most solemn and momentous crisis in our political history. The nation which has so recently vindicated its power to crush the slightest rebellion against its authority, now is now called upon to vindicate its power by punishing the Chief Magistrate for repeating the rebellious attempt. [Long-continued applause.] The same storm which a few years ago, the traitorous armies sweeping, like a besom of destruction, over fields of fair Columbia, now has summoned as a convict to the bar of the Senate the man who, false to his professions, false to his oath, false to his public trust, false to his friends, false to his party, false to his country, false to all the institutions of his country, has attempted to renew in other forms the strife between liberty and despotism. [Great enthusiasm.] And with the tidings of the verdict just pronounced by the tribunal of liberty, still fresh in our ears, who can doubt the result of the trial? The popular judgment in the Granite State, founded as it has been on the same irrefutable proofs, foreshadows the more deliberate judgment of the high court of impeachment which will assemble in the national capital to-morrow. [Applause.]

The doom—the decreed doom—of Andrew Johnson is no longer a question of law, nor of fact (for both these his own misconduct has conclusively settled against him), but it is merely a question of time; and when deposed and degraded he is dismissed from the seat he has so long occupied the whole country will bless God for its deliverance.

The resolutions about to be submitted to you, my fellow-citizens, embody the conclusions at which the convention just adjourned has arrived, and indicate the measures the convention has made. In the former we all heartily agree; of the latter we are all heartily approve. The gallant soldiers who have so acceptably filled the places of Secretary of War and Surveyor General of Pennsylvania have been renominated for these posts by universal acclamation. [Applause.]

Our distinguished fellow-citizen, ex-Governor Curtin [great cheering], who has been himself so nobly during six years of unexampled toil and struggle and difficulty, the honor designated with merited unanimity as the choice of the people of the Commonwealth he has so faithfully served for the second office in the gift of the people of the United States. And for the highest office, the convention—mingling with the current that is flowing with unbroken and resistless force from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the shores of the Southern Sea, from the margins of the Northern lakes, along the valleys of the East and across the prairies of the West, swelling and surging and accumulating as it flows—the convention has turned the first amongst the foremost heroes of the age, the leader who, in the beginning and during the progress and at the close of our late civil war, struck the most decisive blows, and achieved the most solid as well as the most brilliant triumphs; the conqueror of Stonewall Jackson, of Vicksburg and Richmond; the man whose very name is symbolic of the patriotism, the sagacity, the intrepidity, the fortitude and the wisdom, which are the elements of the character—the soldiery, the statesman, Ulysses S. Grant. [Great applause.]

I have the pleasure, fellow-citizens, to introduce to you Professor Rhoads, who will read to you the resolutions which have been prepared by the committee for the action of this meeting.

Prof. Rhoads then stepped forward and read the following series of resolutions:

WHEREAS, The Union Party, by the proceedings of the Republican National Convention, in the selection of principles to be just, wise and patriotic, and its selection of candidates judicious and pure, has in accordance with the general wish of the party

RESOLVED, That we hereby ratify the candidates for President and Vice President, and we recommend for Governor, Governor Curtin, and for Surveyor-General, we recommend Grove Smith, to present to the people of Pennsylvania, as the best and most worthy men of the choice of the positions to which they were severally nominated, and we pledge our cordial support to the nominees for office at the October election (Applause)

Resolved, That the State Convention having inscribed the name of Ulysses S. Grant upon the banner of Pennsylvania, we cordially accept the trust, and pledge our faith; protection to American industry; support of the recognized public creditor; the payment of the bonds at the earliest practicable moment, and honest administration in every department of the government, economy in the expenditure of the revenue, and a reasonable reduction of taxes (applause); resistance to the usurpation of the executive power, and a determination to protect the private citizen against the encroachments of the people expressed by their representatives in the National Congress (applause); and we hereby tender our hearty support to the Republican party, with Grant and Curtin as our standard bearers, will do our share to secure the success of the party in the approaching election. (Applause.)

Resolved, That the American people have seen during the past year the evil effects of the transfer of the government from the party so intuitively and unanimously of true one now assigned to the place vacated by a dishonest traitor and disciplined and wont of confidence which still adhere our country and devoted patriotism, and we charge it with inspiring Andrew Johnson with the boldness and daring to take into the military course; we charge it with playing upon the prejudices of a portion of our people, and we charge it with the audacity to charge it with disregarding the executive power of the constitution; we charge it with refusing to execute the rebel States in their form and rights in the Union; we charge it with concentrate them to the military authority of the United States; we charge it with abandoning them to make common cause with the traitors, and with the stability of free government; we charge it with exciting the insurrectionary rebels to attempts of a new war, the freedmen, and to barbarous massacres of the loyal men of the South; and we charge it finally, we charge it with the political misgovernment to overcome by a new and vigorous effort the rebellious attempt to make the government subservient to the interests of a party.

Resolved, That we recognize in Thaddeus Stevens, the great Commoner, the great statesman, the great patriot, the great Radicals as the best of Conservatives (proclaimed Conservatives), when treason and rebellion were the most rooted—Conservative, when Union, liberty and right are the most endangered (Applause.)

The reading of the resolutions was repeatedly interrupted by outbursts of applause. After concluding the list, Professor Rhoads remarked that there was another resolution, which he desired to add on his own responsibility, and that was in these words—"*Resolved*, That Pennsylvania thanks New Hampshire." [Applause.

Hon. Andrew G. Curtin, being called for, came forward to a seat upon the stage. His appearance was the signal for the most tumultuous enthusiasm, resulting in one wild uproar of applause. Perhaps no more sincere spontaneous feeling was ever manifested in behalf of any public man than that which greeted this Republican candidate of Pennsylvania for the Vice Presidency of the United States.

The Chairman attempted to speak, but was interrupted by three cheers for Andy Curtin, which were quickly given and repeated. Mr. McMichael finally succeeded in quieting such an exhibition it would be unbecoming in me to introduce to you Governor Curtin.

Order being here comparatively restored, Governor Curtin spoke as follows:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I could scarcely lay claim to the ordinary emotions of a man did I not feel complimented by such a reception as that which you have so graciously extended to me and indeed I feel that I should be most complimented by the action of the convention of which you have made me a temporary member in this city during the present week.

Having accepted the invitation extended to me, I am here to-night to acknowledge my appreciation of the partiality which you entertain towards myself. It may not be inappropriate for me to remark that it was gratifying to me that the Republican party of the State of Pennsylvania, at this first opportunity, was enabled to gratifying expression to the grateful sentiments which well up from the hearts of the people towards the greatest soldier of the age, and would nominate General Grant for the Presidency.

The action of the convention in this particular finds a prompt and cordial response in the heart and the heart of every loyal citizen of Pennsylvania, and it only requires the usual formalities of conventional State nominations, and the action of the National Convention of this same party to place General Grant before the people, and then we will have a candidate for the office of the Presidential chair. [Applause.] It is a source of great gratification to me personally to know that that party has, with so much unanimity, responded to the popular demand by nominating a man toward whom public sentiment all over the country for years of this Republican party has tended.

So far as concerning the nomination for the Vice Presidency, I have only to say that the importance and value of the distinguished honor which I have received from my fellow-citizens when I reflect that it comes from a convention properly constituted, and which represents the real sentiment of the Union party of Pennsylvania, I feel that I have been faithful to the Government in all its struggles.

I know very well that when in her full measure of dignity and power, Pennsylvania speaks the name of one of her citizens at the National Convention, her voice will be heard. And if he whose name they have been pleased to presently to me should fall in the contest which is to the National Convention, he will be found as here—loyal, unswerving, faithful to the cause of the good and virtuous and loyal and true—the soldiers of the country. [Applause.]

My friends, permit me to say I have never pretended to be in advance of public opinion, knowing that the power of public opinion is the power of an educated public sentiment. Connected with the Republican party on its first organization, I have ever identified myself with the progress. I have adhered to its principles, advocated its principles, and I have endeavored to keep pace with the public sentiment of that party, step by step. In its infancy I was there, and I have been struggling with the great idea of human freedom; and I stood by it in the struggle when tens of thousands of the best of our people went down, I stood by it in the struggle when it was a minority party.

I therefore greet you heartily, my fellow-citizens, upon this glorious commencement of this most important campaign, during which we are to be used every element of opposition, from the lowest prejudice of the lowest party to the most potent influences of bribery and corruption. But, my fellow-citizens, I do not intend to give you a word of cheer, and that is this: That with us in this conflict, and until this conflict is completed, "there is no such word as fail." [Applause.]

Now, in the short time allowed me, I propose briefly and candidly to address your understanding, conscience and patriotism. Now, in the 39th Congress is arraigned every where before a tribunal more terrible than that before which the Chief Magistrate of this nation will stand to-morrow; they are arraigned before an enlightened people for misgoverning or attempting to misgovern this great people. It is a solemn charge, and, if true, you and I should help displace them.

But what has Congress done? Since I have had the honor of a seat in that body, being admitted about the close of the rebellion, their acts have been entirely opposed to the weal, and that principal legislation has consisted of four enactments only. After that mighty upheaving and overturning of the social order of one-half of the Republic, the Government was surrounded by all the confusion and perplexities incident to a state of war and the expenditures of hundreds of millions, and Congress at once entered upon the work of trying to build up the waste places and bind the wounds that were not then cicatrized.

I have expected that this work would be done in a day; I never claimed for Congress that they would make no mistake in this herculean task; they would be more than human if in some instances they did not make mistakes. There were no precedents to guide them, but it was their duty to have sought for the wisdom and judgment of Congress to provide means and measures for preserving the country safely over its imperiled situation.

The first thing they did was to provide a constitutional amendment, mild in its character, and the simple fruit of the rebellion itself requiring that those States that had rebelled should incorporate into their constitutions, and should help to incorporate into the constitution of the United States, an amendment by which all men should stand on equal footing before the law, and freedmen should stand upon the same basis with, and enjoy all the protection accorded to other men. [Applause.]

Was that Republican, at that time, persistently urged the Senate up to that great duty. It struck at the root of the institution of slavery, modified its character, and that its adoption was absolutely necessary to save the country from blood and bleeding wounds left by the war. Congress thought so, and they adopted it. The Democratic party did not think so, and not accept it, and neither did the rebels think so or adopt it. Then, I would say to my Democratic friends who may hear me, was the first mistake of your party, political life, for if you had adopted it, and then with the united Democracy of the North and South in your ranks, the rebels at the South (and let—you would have had the Republicans party in your ranks.

I was fearful they would adopt it, I confess. I was apprehensive that they would do the truth to say that it failed by reason of the efforts of the Democracy and the rebels at the South. That provision gave to the States the right to fix the qualification of suffrage for themselves, they would not accept it. Time rolled on, and something must be done. Now it by compelling them to accept the amendment, or by giving them the right of suffrage to the negro. But we did not want to do that, because we thought they would not accept the privilege, and consequently the only material that was left for our consideration was the black legislation of the Southern country.

Congress then passed the reconstruction act, and provided that the colored people should exercise the elective franchise upon the question upon those questions alone, viz.: as to whether or not they would have State conventions, and in case of the formation of constitutions, upon the question of their ratification. That was the length, breadth, and extent of Republican political legislation, and, I ask, what has it accomplished? Has it given to the colored race the ballot? Has it given to the Democracy, there was no objection to their exercise of the right.

When it was ascertained that they were men who intended to assert the prerogative of men, and that they would not take the place of bondage to freedom, then, and not till then, was this Democratic clamor raised. I know that the time is coming when the world will have time to understand it. Here on one hand is the Democracy, and on the other side, a million on army that is counted by millions that were made free yesterday, but are to day clothed in the garments of citizenship.

Which is the proper power of republican liberty; such is the indescribable genius of American institutions, that the question of suffrage should receive the punishment of their crime—a crime that caused mourning and weeping and poverty over the whole land. Suffice it to say, that the Democratic friends which go in to make Andrew Johnson, and hoped by his aid—even to-morrow—to begin a repudiation of their sins.

To-day Andrew Johnson was President; but there was a vast interval between him and the people, and as sure as the sun shone, as Magna Charta was written upon the tablets of our Runymede, so would the people wring from him a confession of their power, and that they are the proper abasement. They will show, through that representative body, that they had failed to gain by blood. We were to fight in the coming campaign for freedom, liberty, law; for the further continued prosperity of a great people, which has crowned their triumph with generosity—yes, for liberty and law for all generations to come. [Applause.]

All we had to do was to stand united as brother to brother. Could we do else when the whole country was dotted with the graves of our brave brothers? Could we countenance, could we admit again men who, by their perfidy, would sacrifice our Government? No! It is our determination to hurl them from power, to have once more a country, prosperous and powerful country. [Cheers.]

The Chairman, before declaring the meeting adjourned, proposed three cheers for Grant and Curtin. They were given with a vim that made the hall resounding with the echoes. They were followed by cheers for the speakers. Its five minutes to ten when the meeting dissolved, and the Academy was in solitude and darkness.

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