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Speech of James Stephens, C. O. I. R.

A meeting was held in Odd Fellows' Hall on Tuesday evening, when Mr. Stephens delivered a few parting words to the members of the organization in Washington city.

Mr. Stephens was greeted with loud applause, and said:

Brothers:—My objects in calling this meeting were, first, to say some parting words to you, and also because it had been intimated to me that many brothers had not had an opportunity of seeing me when I was in your city a few days since. I now afford them that opportunity, and also speak to them of their duty and the wants of our country.

Mr. Stephens spoke of the movement on Canada, saying that it was not looked on in Europe as it is in this country. It would be condemned in Europe, even if there had been a good deal done. He had a name to maintain, and wanted them to understand that his name stands high in Europe to-day, and he did not wish to see his name in connection with that of Mr. Roberts. [Applause.]

The Roberts movement had taken place through want of patriotism and government strength, and if he were to be spoken of in connection with it the French and other people would stigmatize him as a filibuster or an adventurer. Now he did not want his name spoken of in that manner. [Applause.] For these reasons he deemed it his duty to speak against the leaders of the Canadian movement; but he had not one word to say against the rank and file. If he were to unite with Roberts and the Senate, he believed it would be ruinous to the cause of Ireland. [Applause.] A French revolutionist was able to say that for the sake of liberty he had given everything, even his honor; but he would not sacrifice his honor, even for Ireland. [Loud applause.]

Mr. Scanlon and others wanted him to remove the headquarters from New York to Chicago, and evidently desired that O'Mahony should be set aside. He refused, and although Mr. O'Mahony had caused him infinite trouble, still, believing his faults were simply caused by want of judgment, and weakness—defects from which few men are quite free—he upheld him. He felt bound to do so, believing him honorable and devoted to the cause.

The attempt to bring about the disruption took place as early as the Chicago Fair. After mature deliberation he deemed it necessary that Mr. O'Mahony should have a good business man at his side for the reasons that Mr. O'Mahony would not make pressing calls for money, or travel through the country uninvited to extend the organization. He therefore selected Mr. Florence McCarthy, and had him appointed Deputy Head Center, and also made other changes in the organization here.

At that time the organization numbered but ten thousand men, and it threw him almost into despair. Soon afterwards however he had reason to believe that all his objects could be gained in time. Through all this time the same movers of the disturbing element could be traced. But they got some allies.

After reading a telegram from his friends in New York, Mr. Stephens said: There are not two hundred Fenians in New York and Jersey City who do not endorse him. [Applause.] From the beginning Mr. Stephens saw the necessity for what is called the "one man power," and explained why it is necessary, both in an army and also in a conspiracy, that one man should have supreme control. He believed it absolutely essential to success. He asked for the power, and it was granted to him by his friends in America, who gave him supreme control over the organization, both at home and abroad. Mr. O'Mahony found that arrangement distasteful, and it created some unpleasantness on the part of Mr. O'Mahony, who thought he was of more consequence to the organization than he [Mr. Stephens] was. Mr. O'Mahony set the example of insubordination; other men followed it, and the feeling began to show itself very strongly at the Chicago Convention.

Mr. Stephens then gave a short history of that Convention, where he saw elements of discord at work.

Mr. Stephens then spoke of the Cincinnati Convention and of his arrival in this country, saying: He accepted the resignation of Mr. O'Mahony, and should always consider himself the supreme officer of the organization throughout the world. [Applause.] A voice: "Hope you will live to see your work accomplished."

Mr. Stephens referred to the Philadelphia Convention, and said it was forced on the O'Mahony wings. He then spoke of the indignities cast on the organization in Ireland by sending over Dunne and Meehan. Their investigations were conducted in a manner both insulting to Mr. Stephens and injurious to the men in Ireland. It caused great dissatisfaction, and in many cases the men were on the point of revolting altogether; but they had to submit to it, and consent to a course of conduct which was very much calculated to compromise the men in Ireland.

In a short time the inquisitors wrote over to America, and pronounced the organization to be all that it had been previously reported to be, and advised that

the funds should be sent over to Ireland to purchase war material with. At the council held on the hills overlooking the vale of Avoca it was agreed that a document should be drawn up to the effect that an appeal was to be made to the Irishmen in this country to purchase the bonds of the Irish Republic. It was hoped that good results would flow from that council, but they were sadly disappointed. The two inquisitors left with a promise to be ready to start to America in eight days, and when fifteen days had elapsed letters were received from them dated from two different towns in Ireland, and each of them asking Mr. Stephens to send them down through the post office, [Sensation.] the names and addresses of the Centres of several towns in Ireland. [Sensation, and cries of "Hear," "Hear," "Hear."] They were to have returned immediately to America, and the delay of those gentlemen was felt to be almost ruinous to the cause. He asked them what he thought of such conduct? [A voice, "Treason."] He could see there was a manifest disposition to break up the organization. It was pretty generally believed throughout Ireland that Mr. Meehan lost his documents through calculation, and on three different occasions he (Mr. Stephens) saved his life. [A voice, "Pity you did so."] Mr. Dunne came back after some days, and Mr. Meehan had to be written for again. The state of affairs in Ireland was laid fully before them, and Mr. Dunne said he would immediately return to America, but Mr. Meehan said he should remain some time longer.

Mr. Stephens then spoke of the fact that Mr. Meehan, after the arrests had been made, wrote letters and sent them through the postoffice, knowing that all letters were opened. [Sensation. A voice, "He is a rogue."] When Mr. Meehan returned to this country he [Mr. Stephens] and his friends in Ireland considered that the inquisitor was on his trial, as if he worked hard to advance the work they might fairly conclude that the loss of those documents was accidental, and caused through carelessness. If he did not then, it was fair to conclude that he lost them purposely. He believed there was treachery in the Senate, and the section of that body made them the laughing stock of Europe.

Mr. Stephens then referred to his escape from prison, saying it enabled him to hold the organization together in Ireland. The Senate, President and General Sweeney, could never have any official connection with the organization, and he held them responsible for all the troubles in the country. [Applause.] About his arrival in this country Mr. Stephens said that Mr. Roberts had said that as soon as he [Mr. Stephens] arrived he would resign. What was the fact? They immediately let their cards be seen, and brought up their Canadian invasion scheme, and several members of the Senate cursed and swore when they heard he had escaped from prison. [Great sensation.] It was evident that they did not intend to work with him.

The slanderous report uttered by Gen. Sweeney was then referred to Mr. Stephens asking, what does Gen. Sweeney mean by saying that I am a British agent? If he said that in any part of Ireland he would be a dead man in an hour. The men in Ireland denounce and repudiate all the members of the Roberts Sweeney party and not one of them would be safe for a single hour on Irish soil. [Sensation.]

Mr. Stephens then asked the question whether Roberts and Sweeney actually meant to give an opportunity for fighting, saying that General Sweeney admitted that it was against his judgment that the movement was made; while Roberts admitted that the chances were nine to two against them. If they had really meant to accomplish anything, there was ample time given them before the President's proclamation was issued, and they could have put thirty thousand men on the Canadian soil. They did not know how to make combinations, or they had not anything to combine. In all such movements the leaders were generally found at the front. Were Roberts and Sweeney, or any of the Senate at the front? Every single act of theirs would go to show that they did not mean to share the risks of that invasion. [A voice, "That's so."] He would have forgiven them everything if they had proved themselves patriots and men who dared to go into the gap of danger. Another and a stronger reason why he could not forgive them was, that they did not come to him frankly and say, we have failed in this, but forgive it, and we will work now to redeem the past. If they had acted in that respect, as John O'Mahony did, he would have forgiven them.

Instead of that, they were again before the world and had turned it into a mere political machine. It was one of the principles of the organization that politics and religious matters should be excluded.

Mr. Stephens then concluded his speech by saying: "I repudiate all connection, direct or indirect, with the President, the Senate, or General Sweeney, and denounce all men who would endeavor to use the Irish people on this continent for any other purpose than the liberation of Ireland."

Sectional Ruffianism.

The radical newspaper press of the North derives one half, and perhaps two thirds of the inspiration of its articles against the South from the Southern press itself. Of course these radical abolition newspapers are not conscientiously anxious that their extracts should be representative of Southern sentiment. On the contrary, they very much desire that the average tone of the South—which is loyal to the Union—should not be represented at the North. They therefore are careful not to quote anything from the Southern press, except isolated and garbled extracts. Occasionally they are not obliged to garble, as witness the following from a South Carolina newspaper, and which is quoted in the *Avalanche*, of Memphis, with its cordial endorsement:

"Again, it is insisted that, while we do honor to the graves of the Confederates, we should treat the graves of Federals with like respect. Absurd! Shall we adorn with wreath and garland the last resting place of those who pillaged our barns, burned our dwellings, and insulted our mothers, wives, sisters and daughters? Is it to be expected that a lady should honor the memory of a man killed while robbing her hen roost? If praying for the souls of the damned would be of any avail, they might have the benefit of our prayers—but honor them—never!"

There is a ruffianly, brawling insolence about this that reminds one of Thad Stevens or some Texan outlaw. It is indecent and cowardly to the very last degree but it is as far from being representative of average Southern sentiment as a bag of is of a Christian temple. Here is another extract from a Southern newspaper published at Vicksburg, and edited by an ex-Confederate soldier. It has reference to the decoration of the graves of the Federal and Confederate dead, which was done by the ladies of Columbus, Mississippi:

"We envy not the narrow-heartedness of journals that can find fault with so noble an action. To our mind it speaks volumes for the purity of woman's character. Our ladies are not politicians—they are Christian women. And while engaged in preserving and decorating the graves of our soldiers, they thought not of warlike strife, nor of vengeance against the dead. They only knew, as they viewed those solitary graves of strangers in a strange land, that they were sleeping far away from home; far from mothers and sisters; and as they dropped the spring roses of our sunny clime upon their silent resting places, it was with the Christian hope that some fair sister in the North, in a like charitable spirit, might not overlook the silent graves of our Southern sons which are scattered among them."

Abolition newspapers everywhere give currency to the former; none of them republish the latter. The Vicksburg extract we believe to be an utterance which we think will be endorsed by nine-tenths of the men who fought in the rebel ranks. The other represents the cowardly, malignant, stay-at-home element whose counterpart exists in the North among that faction which, from pulpit and newspaper, clamors for vengeance against the vanquished.

The vindictive hatreds exhibited by this faction are no more the type of Northern feeling in the mass than the fire eating insolence of the South Carolinian and the Memphis *Avalanche* is representative of the general feeling in the South.

It is quite unfortunate for the country that these Northern and Southern factions have an existence. The utterances of Stevens are disseminated by the *Avalanches* of the South as indicating the tone of the Northern feeling. The Tribunes of the North diligently hunt the columns of the *Examiners*, and selecting their reckless bravado and impotent as well as impudent threatenings, distribute them over the North as showing the character of Southern feeling.

In this way the honest well disposed masses of both sections are led to thoroughly misunderstand each other. Instead of constantly approaching a unity consisting of mutual appreciation of respect, they drift away from each other in distrust and hatred. Every speech of Thad Stevens is adding to the principal of the hatred which exists between the North and South; and the same is true of every article of the few high-flown ruffians who misrepresent the tone of Southern journalism. —Chicago Times.

—It is said that Dan Rice will run for Congress in the Nineteenth Congressional District of Pennsylvania. To this arrangement some of the Radicals object, on the ground of Dan being "a circus showman." The same party, however, sent P. T. Barnum, of Woolly horse and Joyce Heth memory, to the Connecticut Legislature.

The Philadelphia Daily News (Republican) says Geary cannot be elected upon the Harrisburg platform, and adds: "It is folly for any one to flatter himself with the belief that the radical element alone can carry an election in Pennsylvania, even if the conservative Union men should simply refrain from voting."

The Voice of the Soldiers.

No man in the army from Pennsylvania fought more gallantly during the rebellion than Col. W. W. H. Davis, of the Doylestown (Pa.) Democrat. Scorning to fawn and cringe to secure promotion he stood by his principles throughout the contest. He commanded a brigade almost from the commencement of the war, with his original rank of Colonel. He has been brevetted a Brigadier since the close of the war. The numerous honorable wounds which he bears on his body attest to his devotion to the Union, and prove his undaunted bravery. Such a man has a right to speak to the soldiers. With his left hand, his right having been shattered by a shell, he writes for his paper, the Doylestown Democrat:

No one can longer be made the dupe of false "glitter and show," nor deceived by the hollow cry of "patriotism and loyalty." The soldiers who were once imposed upon by the sophistry of the Radicals, find their pretensions stripped bare. They were taught they were fighting for the supremacy of the Union and Constitution, and now that their object was accomplished, is the victory to be taken from their hands, and are they to be told that the war was only to subserve partizan schemes? Ask the wife who sent forth her husband to maintain the nation's honor, or if he went to force people out, or to keep States in. Ask the fond mother who packed the knapsack of her son, her bright and lovely boy, and sent him to battle with willing words, but heavy heart with which conflict he never returned—ask her as she sits pensively in the summer twilight, remembering how she sat there a few years ago, with her only son by her side, and she will tell you while tears leap from her eyes, of the impulse which moved her child. She will tell you that for the Union he fought and died, the whole Union represented by the flag with thirty six glittering stars upon it, one for every State, and not eleven erased from the rich embroidery of its folds.

Will the radicals dare, even with all their brazen effrontery, go to the country upon the issues so plainly made up? When the soldiers fought against treason, are they to be told they fought for treason; when they fought to keep States in the Union, are they to be told they fought to drive States out? Before another year these questions are to be decided. We are also to decide between a noble and exalted Caucasian destiny, and the blighted and miserable condition of African equality.

We are to decide whether the withering and baleful influences of Radicalism are to prevail over the broad and generous view of Conservatism. So plainly are the issues drawn. Where shall we each stand? Party lines are not drawn so closely that once faithful adherents to a now broken and despicable cause should hesitate to march under our banner. We are pledged to a restoration of these States to their proper functions under the Constitution, and to oppose all attempts of the men who would elevate, for party purposes, even Satan himself to be their equal. But the signs of the times indicate promising results.

—our power is ready; our lack is nothing but our leave: Macheth is ripe for shaking, and the powers above Put on their instruments. Receive what cheer you may. The night is long that never finds the day."

Let all join in the grand army, and we will hurl from the high places the men who daily disgrace them, and restore to power, now so justly merited, the party which for forty consecutive years ruled the country and elevated her to such a pitch of grandeur and renown. Then will the American Union no longer be a byword of reproach among other nations, but her position will comport with the dignity which should characterize so great a country.

CURIOUS ORIENTAL CUSTOMS.—There are many traits of character and custom in which the Arabs and Turks are our antipodes. They shave the head but not the chin, and we the reverse. With us the uncovering of the head in the presence of another is a mark of respect; with them a mark of disrespect. When they go into a place of worship they keep on the hat and take off the shoes and slippers; we do the opposite. They mount on the right side of horse, and we on the left. They write from right to left and we from left to right. We show our good breeding by taking the outside when we pass persons on the street, they by passing nearest to the wall. They do the honors of the table by helping themselves first; we serve ourselves last. If a friend inquires after your wife, you regard it as a compliment; to inquire after theirs is an insult. Their mourning dress is white; ours black. They finish their wooden houses from the top down; we from the foundation up. The men wear frocks and the women pantalons. We wash the hands by dipping them in water, they by having water poured upon them. —Bausman's Sinai and Zion.

—What commodity is always offered at cost? The law.

—What things increase the more you contract them? Debts.

—What is higher and handsomer when the head is off? A pillow.

The "Loyal" Road to Wealth.

1. Get a position as an agent in the Freedmen's Bureau. Previous thereto, or subsequently, assume the name or Reverend, or get yourself dubbed that by partial friends. This is essential, because it will inspire all Republican editors, strong minded women, and Radicals generally, with a faith in you which can not be shaken, no matter what you may do.

2. Select a nice place to live in, and rent yourself a plantation on 'easy terms.' 3. Contract with yourself for the requisite number of able bodied freedmen, wages, part of the crop of rice, sugar or cotton, when made, you to feed and clothe them meanwhile.

4. Supply them liberally with rations and clothes from the Government stores and at public expense. This will add largely to your profits, though it helps to swell the taxation at the North.

5. When the crop is harvested, sell the whole of it, pocket the proceeds, and leave without paying your laborers. Conscience need not trouble you in this, as you will leave them no worse off than you found them.

6. Return to your native village and assume the airs and snivel of martyrdom; if you can be "a victim of the President's policy," it will pay well in securing you plenty of defenders of the highest political influence.

Having now wealth and position, you are prepared to lecture Democrats on their sins. These lectures, if well spiced with "Copperhead," "disloyal," and like epithets, with now and then a donation to the society for the prevention of the reconstruction of the Union, will so relieve your mind, that you can pass quietly down the vale of life in all the odor of hypocrisy, and finally die the death of the pious, according to the profitable doctrines of the Republican Church. —Albany Argus.

Miscegenation.

Last Friday the usual quietness of our main street was suddenly disturbed by the arrival of two colored gentlemen from Lake Mills with a white woman hanging on the arm of each. One couple were married, and accompanied the other for the purpose of being present at their bridal. Judging from the appearance of the unmarried couple, as they marched up through the streets, we should think on this occasion, at least, true love really ran smooth. They at once proceeded to the justice's office, followed by a crowd anxious to see the ceremony performed, at which the woman seemed surprised, and inquired the reason of it, saying that when she married her first husband there were not so many present. Squire Ducasse gave them a few words of advice and declined the honor of tying the knot when the woman declared she would not marry a white man if she had to travel a 1000 miles, at the same time tapping the ebony cheek of her betrothed, and he approvingly uncovered his ivory. After several fruitless attempts to procure the services of some proper individual, they left, saying something about this being a copperhead town. —Watertown (Wis.) Republican.

—A bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives to establish a National Bureau of Insurance. In addition to the outrageous Freedmen's Bureau now in existence, a National Bureau of Education was authorized by the house the other day, and now a National Bureau of Insurance. What next?

—In reply to the question, "What class of people in the South are most loyal to the Union?" General Steedman, instead of praising the negro as his questioner expected, answered very laconically, "the returned rebel soldiers."

—Those radicals who are so much fonder of the negro than the white man, are the people spoken of in the Scriptures, who "love darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil."

WHY ONE SHOULD NOT SWEAR.—An article in the Pittsburg Preacher gives seven good reasons why a man should not swear:

1. It is mean. A man of high moral standing would almost as soon steal a sheep as swear. 2. It is vulgar—altogether too low for a decent man. 3. It is cowardly—implying a fear either of not being believed or obeyed. 4. It is ungentlemanly. A gentleman, according to Webster, is a gentle man—well bred, refined. Such a one will no more swear than go into the street to throw mud with a loafer. 5. It is indecent—offensive to delicacy, and extremely unfit for human ears. 6. It is foolish. "Want of decency is want of sense." 7. It is abusive—to the mind which conceives.

MAKE YOUR OWN INK.—Go to the Drug store and get half an ounce of extract of logwood, and ten grains of bicarbonate of potash. Be sure you get just these articles and not some substitute for them. Dissolve them in a quart of hot rain water. When cold, pour it in a glass bottle, or some vessel fit for chemical uses and leave it uncorked ten or twelve days. Exposure to the air is indispensable. The ink is then made, costing you about five cents a quart; it is at first an intense steel blue, but becomes black and glossy as a raven's wing.

Bad Tenants.

In closing the debate on the constitutional amendment on Wednesday last, Thaddeus Stevens used the following language:

"I find that we shall be obliged to be content with patching up the worst portions of the ancient edifice, and leaving it in many parts to be swept through by the tempests, the frosts, and 'the storms of despotism.'"

So, after bringing on a gigantic war for the purpose of altering the "ancient edifice" erected by Washington, Jefferson, Madison and Hamilton, the chief of the Radicals confesses that he is able to give the country nothing better than a patchwork of the worst portions of that "ancient edifice." He admits that after six years occupancy by himself and his party, and after all the numerous alterations they have made, they find the edifice in much worse condition than it was when they took possession of it—so much worse indeed, that nothing but the "worst portions" of it remain, and "even these are badly patched."

After this admission by the leader and mouthpiece of the Radicals, that they are bad tenants and have abused the national edifice, will the people hesitate to turn them out? Their lease expires on the fourth of March next. They will apply for a renewal of it this fall. Will it be granted? No careful property owner would renew the lease of a bad tenant, and it cannot be that any reflecting man will consent to a continuance of the Radical destructives in power, in the face of their own admission that they misused it.

The Freedman's Bureau in Virginia.

Brevet Brigadier General T. D. Sewell, Inspector General of the Freedmen's Bureau for the State of Virginia, has just completed a tour of inspection of the state and in his report to the Bureau speaks highly of the conduct of Colonel Brown, formerly Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau for the State. He recommends a consolidation of the sub districts and a reduction of the agents of the Bureau to one third of the present number. He states that the issue of rations is steadily decreasing and will be less after the crops come in. The largest issues are made at Richmond, Petersburg, Hampton and Norfolk, where there are a great number of contrabands. He recommends that they be sent into the back country, where the demand for labor is much beyond the supply.

A Startling Exposure.

It will be remembered that at the trial of the accomplices of Booth before a military commission at Washington, on the charge of complicity with the assassination of President Lincoln, a certain James B. Merrett was the principal witness for the government. On his testimony Mrs. Surratt was convicted and hanged, and on his testimony it was shown that Jefferson Davis, C. C. Clay and George N. Saunders were directly implicated in the assassination.

He has recently been before the Committee on the Judiciary, of the House of Representatives, and his examination there showed that his testimony in the trial of the conspirators was totally void of truth.

One very remarkable fact was elicited in his examination, wherein he admitted that the Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, had paid him between five and six thousand dollars for his services as a witness before the Military Commission which tried the conspirators.

With Stanton to suborn the witnesses at five thousand dollars a head, there is no telling what they may not be able to prove.

Freedmen's Bureau Again.

Owing to its great length we do not publish the report of General Steedman, and Fullerton concerning the workings of the Freedmen's Bureau in the States of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. It gives the same statement, in substance, of the corruption of the agents and other officials, and oppression of the negro as characterized their other reports. The Bureau is managed and used for corrupt purposes, and the officials connected with it are harder upon the negroes than ever their old masters were. These unfortunate creatures have only exchanged systems of slavery, the one present managed by the government, which pretended to give them liberty, being by far the most tyrannical of the two. How long will the people of this country support such a corrupt and corrupting institution at an annual expense of about eleven millions of dollars to the tax payers? Are not the burdens of taxation heavy enough, that several millions must each year be thrown away on a set of worthless fellows, who are given places that they may swindle the negroes? Let us wipe the Bureau and its officers out of existence, which can only be done by placing the legislative branch of the government in the hands of a new and honest body of men.

—In Adrian, a lady observing a fire company's building with a steeple, asked her gentleman attendant: "What church is that?" The gentleman after reading the sign, "Dolgo, No. 3," replied: "I guess it must be the Third Baptist."