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THE WEEKLY GAZETTE.
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# FIRST EDITION.

## MIDNIGHT.

## Pennsylvania Legislature.

**Resolutions on the Impeachment of President Johnson—Referred to Committee—Bills Relative to Disorderly Conduct Cases in Boroughs of Allegheny County.**

[Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Gazette.]

HARRISBURG, Feb. 24, 1868.

SENATE.

IMPEACHMENT OF THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. WHITE, (Republican) of Indiana, offered the following:

WHEREAS, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, in disregard of law, passed by the Constitutional majority of Congress over his veto, issued an order to remove Hon. E. M. Stanton as Secretary of War, and appointed Lorenzo Thomas, Adjt. Gen. U. S. A., Secretary of War *ad interim*; and

WHEREAS, Hon. E. M. Stanton has refused to obey the illegal order to remove him from office, and the National House of Representatives has passed a resolution to impeach Andrew Johnson of high crimes and misdemeanors; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the prompt action of the majority of the members of Congress in passing the resolution for the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, of high crimes and misdemeanors, be and the same is hereby commended and approved.

*Resolved*, That the refusal of Hon. E. M. Stanton to obey the illegal order to remove him from office meets the approval of the Union loving and law abiding citizens of Pennsylvania.

*Resolved*, That the Governor be and is hereby requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to the speaker of the National House of Representatives, and to Hon. E. M Stanton.

Mr. WHITE moved to consider the above resolutions, but Mr. GLATZ, (Democrat) objected, and the resolutions were referred to the Committee on Federal Relations.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

By Mr. EMERETT, of Allegheny: Authorizing the removal of the ruins of dams and locks of the Youghiogheny Slack-Water Company.

Authorizing the appointment of two magistrates in boroughs South of the Monongahela and Ohio rivers, in Allegheny county, to hear and determine cases of drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and to regulate compensation therefor.

Also, providing that the payments by Insurance companies under the act of April 2nd, 1856, may be made in lawful money of the United States.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. SEARIGHT, of Fayette, a bill incorporating the Union Lumber and Boom Company of Fayette.

BILLS PASSED FINALLY.

A supplement to the act increasing the revenue of the Commonwealth by the taxation of the shares of stock of National Banks, and prohibiting the appraisement of such stock at higher than the market value.

Act incorporating the Consolidation Bank of Pittsburgh.

HOUSE.

BILLS PASSED FINALLY.

Enabling the School Board of Fifth ward, Allegheny city, to borrow money.

Prohibiting the sale of Intoxicating Drinks in Industry township, Beaver county.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. WILSON, of Allegheny, a supplement to Election Laws, being a registry law for Pennsylvania agreed upon by the Republican caucus of both Houses.

Mr. WILSON, of Allegheny county, establishing a ferry over the Allegheny at the farm of John Roner, Madison township, Armstrong county.

Supplement for Kittanning Manufacturing Company, legalizing the Bounty Bonds issued in Burrel township, Armstrong county.

Mr. MILLAR, of Allegheny, authorizing opening of air courses and water drains for coal mines, under act of April 16th, 1852, relative to underground private roads.

Mr. WILSON, of Allegheny, authorizing the School Directors of Patton Township to pay surplus bounty fund for school purposes.

Mr. BRIDGE, of Allegheny, authorizing the making of new indexes to deed books of Recorder's office of Allegheny county, and regulating the manner of keeping same.

Supplement to an act passed May 1st, 1861, relative to applications for admission to almshouses.

Supplement to an act annexing Manchester borough to Allegheny.

Mr. FORD, of Allegheny: Incorporating the Pennsylvania Mining and Transportation Company.

Mr. BECKERT, of Allegheny: Supplement relative to weights and measures.

Mr. HICKMAN, of Chester, a joint resolution naming Mr. Anthony Wayne and Robert Fulton, as Pennsylvanians, for statues of two Statesmen, to be placed in the Old Capitol at Washington, and authorizing the Governor to employ native artists for furnishing the statues.

Mr. GALLAGHER, of Westmoreland, authorizing the School Directors of Bolivar Borough, of Westmoreland, to borrow money.

Mr. PIKE, defining and regulating the liabilities of Railroad Companies.

Pending discussion of last bill adjourned.

## BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

—At Pithole, Monday morning, a fire broke out, consuming thirty buildings, and causing a loss estimated at $125,000. The losers are: Arnold Bros., clothing store, $5,000; A. J. Christy, drug store, $6,000; Lewis, Terrain, lunch, $1,000; Deutches, tailor, $1,000; P. Marr, grocery, $10,000; M'Afee, shoemaker, $1,000; Jackson, news depot, $1,500; Kanler, clothing store, $5,000; Excelsior Bakery, $752; C. Prescott, liquor store, $10,000; Ellness, (Canandaigua Saloon,) $2,500; Mrs. Deye, (Metropolitan Saloon,) $2,500; J. Merian, shoe store, $1,000; Dr. Waring, $1,000; Cenfer House, $2,000; Barnes, $400; Niagara House, Michigan provision store, St. Nicholas Hotel, store formerly occupied by Col. Alfred, and several barns and outbuildings on Brown street, all of which were entirely consumed. The fire originated by the explosion of a kerosene lamp.

—At Jackson, Michigan, on Sunday, fire destroyed Willcox's block, occupied by the People's National Bank; Youngblood & Co., grocers; Ford, tobacconist; Hibbard Bros., fancy goods. Total loss, $70,000; insurance, $40,000. The fire caught from the stove pipe.

—Mrs. Mary A. Peaslee, an inmate of the Insane Asylum at Augusta, Maine, was shockingly murdered on Monday morning by Mrs. Catherine Hurley, another inmate, during a fit of frenzy.

—The Western Hotel, West street, Chicago, was destroyed by fire on Monday morning. Loss $50,000; insured for $25,000.

—PETER THE GREAT ON MARRIAGE.—A newly-discovered letter of Peter the Great is now going the round of the Russian journals. In this very characteristic epistle Peter informs one of his courtiers that he has heard that his, the courtier's, brother wishes to marry a foreign woman, and that he perfectly understands his reasons for making such a choice, the inhabitants of Russia being less civilized and less polite than those of other countries. He has heard that the courtier has forbidden his brother to counract the meditated union; but his Majesty not only permits it, he positively orders it. He even goes a step further, and commands the courtier, whose family have such a taste for foreign alliances, as soon as he has married his brother to the foreign lady to marry his sister to a foreign gentleman.

—The Morgantown Post learns that a very poor but worthy gentleman over in Preston county, has recently fallen heir to a large fortune in the "gold country," and has already received the first payment of two thousand five hundred dollars in gold.

# SECOND EDITION.

## THREE O'CLOCK A. M.

## FORTIETH CONGRESS.

## Impeachment!

## The Debate Continued.

**The Impeachment Resolution Adopted by More than a Two-Thirds Vote.**

## 126 Ayes; 47 Nays.

[By Telegraph to the Pittsburgh Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, February 24, 1868.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House was called to order at ten o'clock, and Mr. ASHLEY opened out with an exceedingly bitter impeachment speech, and closed by saying: I charge Andrew Johnson, in addition to the act for which he is now to be tried, with corruptly using the veto power and pardoning power; with having illegally disposed of public property, and interfering with the lawful elections of this country; and believing that Andrew Johnson is guilty of this and more, I think it is our duty, for the safety of American institutions and for those who come after us, to vindicate the majesty of the law. For these reasons I give my vote to arraign, put on trial for high crimes and misdemeanors Andrew Johnson, acting President of the United States.

Mr. COOK followed, declaring that the President not only violated the tenure of office law, but had exercised powers unwarranted by the Constitution and laws.

Mr. BOYER spoke against the resolution, saying the House was debarred from receiving charges directly passed upon. He didn't believe the people would sustain this new proceeding, which he characterized as revolutionary, and proclaimed that no law had not been violated because Stanton was not appointed by Johnson.

Mr. KELSEY supported the resolution. As to the appointment of Stanton, Johnson was merely Vice President, acting as President, therefore there was no force in Mr. Boyer's point. He regretted that the case of impeachment was a criminal case, and the Court must have the jurisdiction of the person of the criminal, and control his movements. The criminal, therefore, has no power to perform his official functions. He argued this point at some length.

Mr. CAKE advocated impeachment. He believed the public mind was ready for the event. Means, BEAMAN and PRICE followed on the same side.

At half-past four o'clock THADDEUS STEVENS arose to close the debate, amid the greatest excitement. Mr. Stevens stood at the Speakers' desk, and was about to commence his remarks when

Mr. BINGHAM moved to extend the time allowed to Mr. Stevens in accordance unanimously a half dozen Democrats objected.

A motion was made to adjourn, and there was every disposition manifested to filibuster, when, in compliance with the universal request of the Republicans, Mr. BINGHAM withdrew his motion.

Mr. STEVENS asked permission to finish his remarks, as his voice could not be heard.

This was granted, and Hon. Edward McPherson, Clerk of the House, read Mr. Stevens' speech, amid close attention.

The question was then called on the impeachment resolution, and it passed by a vote of ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIX AYES to FORTY-SEVEN NAYS.

[REGULAR REPORT]

The HOUSE re-assembled at ten o'clock and resumed the consideration of the impeachment resolution. The interval between this hour and noon being technically regarded as belonging to the session of Saturday, the desks of members were very sparsely occupied at the opening of the proceedings, but every seat in the galleries, save some in the diplomatic gallery, was filled.

The debate was opened by Mr. ASHLEY, of Ohio, who, in the course of his remarks, said the House was now brought face to face with a man who was recognized as an enemy of the Government and a foreign ally, and following the "lost cause." A man whose public and private acts had been marked by a wicked disregard of all his obligations of public duty, and by a degree of perfidy, treachery and turpitude unheard of in the history of the rulers of a free people. As scandalous as he was malignant, he had in his official capacity attempted to hurl down and destroy the bravest, the noblest, the best in the land. His administration has been a constant and prolonged warfare against all the material interests of the country. It had prostrated business, it had oppressed labor, destroyed States, impaired the public credit, and sapped the public morals. Surrounded by red handed rebels, he had inaugurated for them the worst man that ever crawled like filthy reptiles at the footstool of a king. He had usurped the vast authority of the government to prevent a union of the States, the restoration of the blessings of peace and happiness of the country. The loyal men in the rebel States have been brought to a condition under the administration from the contemplation of which all men recoiled with horror. Murder, treason, robbery, rapine and all the crimes stalk through the whole land, and every day he remains in office adds to the long list of victims of rebel vengeance and cruelty, not to say hate. With the exception of one all the departments of the government had become demoralized and corrupt to an extent which cannot be found in any in the history of any country in any age. The Attorney General, not satisfied with being a mediator, through which so many mail robbers, counterfeiters and public plunderers have been screened and turned loose upon the country, has, with ostentatious and boastful audacity, proclaimed his will not to indict a single one of the fraudulent. Look at the Navy Department, with its profiteering, robberies and peculations stalking boldly and unblushingly officers of the country. The administration of the Treasury Department is characterized by the most appalling frauds, with countless millions of revenue stolen to go into the pockets of rebels, gamblers and speculators, or to make up a vast political fund to demoralize and corrupt the people. The Interior Department, with its land jobbing contracts and corrupt extension of patents. The Post Office Department, which has been the House by a Committee of the House, and the State Department, arraigned before the tribunal of the world, failure to vindicate the rights of the nation and the citizens of the nation, and presenting a spectacle of the most appalling state of things, so threatening to the national existence and so destructive of the life and hope of prosperity, where is the patriotic man or any political organization who does not call upon Congress to intervene in the sacred duty and purge this Capital of the crimes which now defile the nation.

During the life and entire of Mr. Washburne's speech the hour of twelve arrived, when the session of Saturday terminated and the regular legislative session of Monday commenced.

Mr. WOODWARD obtained the floor, yielding to yield a few minutes time to Mr. Washburne to conclude his remarks, because of the slanders uttered by him against the President, and proceeded to address the House against the impeachment resolution. He argued that the resolution of impeachment was a mistake, and that any impeachment of the President on the facts that Andrew Stanton was within the protection of the tenure of office bill, was what Feuchs, of the Chief Justice of the United States, have called worse than crime—a blunder. Whatever executive power the Federal Government possessed was vested in the President, who was the sole trustee of the people in that regard. In the matter of sanctioning or to offer the last treaty making functions, a check was imposed upon the President. But even the treaty power was power exercised was the President's. The concurrence of the Senate was a restraint upon the exercise of the power. It was a mere advisory discretion, not an executive power. The separateness and complexness of this executive power in the hands of the President was a doctrine essential to the harmony of the system of government, and to the responsibility of the President to the people. If Congress meddled with it, Congress became a usurper, and the President was not to be impeached for withstanding it. He quoted extracts from the debate in the first Congress upon Executive Department, and argued that that debate settled this question absolutely, and demonstrated the utter unconstitutionality of the act of 1867. He also argued that by the very terms of that very act itself, Mr. Stanton did not come within its protection. He quoted Senator Sherman and Messrs. Spaulding and Bingham as taking that same view of the law, when it was under consideration. Mr. Johnson was a man of the Republican party's own creating, and he verily believed that the President was trying to restore the Union, to pass officials of honesty and administer his high office with a faithful regard to the obligations of the Constitution and the best interests of the people. He seemed to him to be a true friend to the whole of his country, a faithful public officer, and entitled to Cabinet advisers who were his friends and not his enemies. Congress had far better sustain such a man in his constitutional rights, and address itself to the relief of the suffering country, than to waste its time and the people's money in the impeachment of a faithful public servant on charges which are both false and foolish. At the risk of denunciation he (Mr. Woodward) declared the flight of the Senate from its responsibilities. The House was not composed, as the Constitution required, of members chosen by the people of the Congressional districts, but of members from each State. In conclusion he said: Mr. Speaker—So sure am I that the American people will respect this objection, that if I were the President of the United States I could advise him, if you prefer articles of impeachment, to demur to the jurisdiction, and to issue a proclamation that while he held himself in abeyance for the decision of the Senate, and to issue a proclamation that while he held himself immovable for the present state of things, so threatening to the national existence and so destructive of life and hope of prosperity, where is the patriotic man or any political organization who does not call upon Congress to intervene in the sacred duty and purge this Capital of the crimes which now defile the nation.

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Mr. BEAMAN followed on the same side, yielding one minute to Mr. PRICE, who said for two long years the people in Congress had been keeping watch and ward at the portals of liberty, and that Andrew Johnson, with a recklessness peculiar to himself, was rushing madly and furiously on his fate.

Mr. BLAINE said the House was about to act under the plain authority of the Constitution. There was no question of law involved in the matter at all. The President had openly and plainly violated the law, thrown down the gauntlet, and dared Congress to the issue. Congress must accept the challenge and must meet the issue.

Mr. DRIGGS said if the whole Democratic party, and every other party, were clamoring at the doors of Congress, and seeking vengeance against every man who supported the impeachment resolution, he trusted there was not a member present who would not vote for it, on conviction, and without regard to any threats.

Mr. WASHBURNE, of Ill., declared he should vote for the resolution before the House. Acting with a majority of the Republican members he had not hitherto favored impeachment against the President, not because he did not believe him morally guilty of impeachable offences, but because he felt that in the case, as heretofore presented, there might be a doubt of his conviction. Rather than branch out on a doubtful experiment in the House, it was hoped that the President would heed the warnings of the power of the House, and indebted for its forbearance, would so conduct himself as to avoid the necessity of resorting to the extreme remedy provided by the Constitution. But all such hopes had been disappointed. Every act of forbearance had been but a fresh invitation to further and more flagrant aggressions, until at last he had flung himself against the very bulwarks of the Constitution, defying the laws, overriding the cardinal branches of the Government. The time had now arrived when the people's representatives could no longer delay the vindication of the Constitution. To him the pathway of duty was plain. He feared no appeal to the people, but courted such an appeal. The gentlemen had not read history, if they had not learned that in all contests between an Executive and Commons the representatives of the people had triumphed in the end. That great party which, with patriotism, courage, fidelity and heroism had carried the country in triumph and glory through the war, would not now fail in its great mission. That party which overcome the individed and compacted strength of all the rebels in arms, sustained and supported by the sympathy of two-thirds of all the voters in the States not in open rebellion, would not now be overcome by a band of mercenary camp followers of accurptated treasonable administration. The time had now come, when the President should be promptly impeached for his last great crime committed against the Constitution. His longer continuance in office was a perpetual and enduring menace against the peace and prosperity of the country. The whole official career of the President had been marked by a wicked disregard of all his obligations of public duty, and by a degree of perfidy, treachery and turpitude unheard of in the history of the rulers of a free people. As scandalous as he was malignant, he had in his official capacity attempted to hurl down and destroy the bravest, the noblest, the best in the land. His administration has been a constant and prolonged warfare against all the material interests of the country. It had prostrated business, it had oppressed labor, destroyed States, impaired the public credit, and sapped the public morals. Surrounded by red handed rebels, he had inaugurated for them the worst man that ever crawled like filthy reptiles at the footstool of a king. He had usurped the vast authority of the government to prevent a union of the States, the restoration of the blessings of peace and happiness of the country. The loyal men in the rebel States have been brought to a condition under the administration from the contemplation of which all men recoiled with horror. Murder, treason, robbery, rapine and all the crimes stalk through the whole land, and every day he remains in office adds to the long list of victims of rebel vengeance and cruelty, not to say hate. With the exception of one all the departments of the government had become demoralized and corrupt to an extent which cannot be found in any in the history of any country in any age. The Attorney General, not satisfied with being a mediator, through which so many mail robbers, counterfeiters and public plunderers have been screened and turned loose upon the country, has, with ostentatious and boastful audacity, proclaimed his will not to indict a single one of the fraudulent. Look at the Navy Department, with its profiteering, robberies and peculations stalking boldly and unblushingly officers of the country. The administration of the Treasury Department is characterized by the most appalling frauds, with countless millions of revenue stolen to go into the pockets of rebels, gamblers and speculators, or to make up a vast political fund to demoralize and corrupt the people. The Interior Department, with its land jobbing contracts and corrupt extension of patents. The Post Office Department, which has been the House by a Committee of the House, and the State Department, arraigned before the tribunal of the world, failure to vindicate the rights of the nation and the citizens of the nation, and presenting a spectacle of the most appalling state of things, so threatening to the national existence and so destructive of life and hope of prosperity, where is the patriotic man or any political organization who does not call upon Congress to intervene in the sacred duty and purge this Capital of the crimes which now defile the nation.

Mr. BINGHAM followed in the interest of Mr. Washburne, and said he was not in the habit of being in the gallery of the House, but he was there when the resolution was first introduced, and he was there when the House was about to act under the plain authority of the Constitution. There was no question of law involved in the matter at all. The President had openly and plainly violated the law, thrown down the gauntlet, and dared Congress to the issue. Congress must accept the challenge and must meet the issue.

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therefore I have resisted a resort to the extreme remedy which the Constitution has placed in our hands. Perhaps I have been more cautious than most men would have been, but no regret comes to me on this account, for

I believe I did my duty. The considerations urged upon my mind and which moulded my conduct in the case with which the Committee on Judiciary of this House was charged, are not to be found in present cases. The logic in the former case is made plain, not to say perfect, by its sequence in the present one. The President was working to an end, suspected by others, known to himself. Then his means were not known to the law as crimes or misdemeanors, either by the common law or by statute, and are so prosecuted. He mistook our judgment for cowardice, and worked on until he has presented to us, as sequence, a high misdemeanor, known to the law and defined by statute. If we permit this to pass unchallenged by that high power with which the Constitution has clothed us, no man can measure the future troubles of this Republic. For one I am not willing to wait for an ascertainment of the unknown quantities of future Presidential crimes and misdemeanors. We have before us the elements, and the quantities ascertained, and I am in favor of wiping it from the Executive black board by an impeachment of the criminal who placed it there. Its presence is a source of regret to me, and it must be of mortification to the people of this Republic. But I will face it, and they will meet it, by asserting the insubordination of the President to the law.

He is not to make a maker of the law, or a judge thereof, and it is enough for him to know that the Constitution, which he is sworn to protect and defend, says that he shall take care that its laws shall be faithfully executed. Was law? Those which are passed in pursuance of the terms of that Constitution which he is sworn to preserve, protect and defend. And how are these laws passed? By the two Houses of Congress, with the approval of the President, or without it, he does not approve, shall return it with his objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter their objections at large on their journal and proceed to reconsider it, and if after such reconsideration two-thirds of that House shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be considered, and if approved by two-thirds of that House, it shall become a law. But if any law? One that the President shall take care it be faithfully executed. The President has done this, and made him judge of the law, but an executor thereof, and he is bound to execute that which he is making power decrees to be the law of the land. Whatever may be his opinion of the law as a judge, he is a member of the national family, he is bound to yield to that higher duty which requires upon him the duties of a public officer of the State. If his conscience forbid, he may resign the trust, but he has no right to usurp the power of a public officer and subordinate that to the judgment of his conscience, and plunge a community or nation which has clothed him with executive powers for the purpose of having his will, into the confusion and anarchy which would be the result, ten thousand swords would leap from their scabbards, a million bayonets glisten in the sunshine; brave heroes would fill up the ranks; the honor of the old flag would be maintained. It tumult and riot and bloodshed would follow, they would not be caused by the execution of the law. He would assure the gentleman from New York (Mr. Brooks) that if such would be the result, ten thousand swords would leap from their scabbards, a million bayonets glisten in the sunshine; brave heroes would fill up the ranks; the honor of the old flag would be maintained. It tumult and riot and bloodshed would follow, they would not be caused by the execution of the law. He would assure the gentleman from New York (Mr. Brooks) that if such would be the result, ten thousand swords would leap from their scabbards, a million bayonets glisten in the sunshine; brave heroes would fill up the ranks; the honor of the old flag would be maintained. Until he has presented to us, as sequence, a high misdemeanor, known to the law and defined by statute. If we permit this to pass unchallenged by that high power with which the Constitution has clothed us, no man can measure the future troubles of this Republic. For one I am not willing to wait for an ascertainment of the unknown quantities of future Presidential crimes and misdemeanors. We have before us the elements, and the quantities ascertained, and I am in favor of wiping it from the Executive black board by an impeachment of the criminal who placed it there. Its presence is a source of regret to me, and it must be of mortification to the people of this Republic. But I will face it, and they will meet it, by asserting the insubordination of the President to the law.

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is the papers referred to the Committee, which I may consider more by themselves. In order to sustain impeachment under our Constitution, I am faithful that it is necessary to prove a crime is an indictable offense, or any act *malum in se*. I agree with the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania, on the other side of the House, who holds this to be a purely political proceeding. It is intended for a remedy for malfeasance in office and to prevent the continuance thereof. Beyond that it is not intended as a personal punishment for past offenses, but for future example. Impeachment under our Constitution is very different from impeachment under the English law. The framers of our Constitution did not rely for safety upon the avenging dagger of a Brutus, but promised peaceful remedies which should prevent that necessity. England had two systems of jurisprudence, one for the trial and punishment of common offenders, and one for the trial of men in higher stations, whom it was found difficult to convict before the ordinary tribunals. This latter proceeding was by impeachment, or by bills of attainder, generally practiced to punish official malefactors. But the system soon degenerated into a political and personal persecution, and men were tried, condemned and executed by this Court from malignant motives. Such was the condition of the English laws when our Constitution was framed, and the Convention determined to provide against the abuse of that high power, so that revenge and punishment should not be inflicted upon political or personal enemies. Hence the whole punishment was made to consist in removal from office, and bills of attainder were wholly prohibited. We are now considering the question, then, as wholly political, in which, if an officer of the Government forfeits the trust, or attempt to prevent it to improper purposes, whatever may be his motive, he becomes subject to impeachment and removal from office. The offence being indictable, does not prevent impeachment, but it is not necessary to make it so. (See Story's commentaries on the Constitution, Madison and others.) Such is the opinion of our elementary writers. Nor can any case of impeachment, tried in this country, be found where any attempt was made to prove the offense indictable and criminal.

What, then, are the official misdemeanors of Andrew Johnson, disclosed by the evidence? On the 21st day of March, 1867, Congress passed an act entitled "An act regulating the tenure of civil offices." Among other provisions it enacted that no officer who had been in office by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, should be removed from office within the term of the Senate, and that if during vacation a suspension should be made for cause, satisfactory to the report to the Senate within twenty days after their next meeting. This was the most radical of the Republican party. In proof of this he sent to the Clerk's desk and had read the notes of a conversation he had last fall with a prominent member of the Republican Executive Committee of the United States, which the purpose was fore-shadowed of removing Mr. Johnson and putting in his place one who would use the strong arm of the Presidential election. He had no doubt this conspiracy would be tried on this point.

Mr. JUDD said that his past action in voting for the impeachment of Andrew Johnson was not in the approbation of his constituents, and he had just received a dispatch in favor of his resolution.

The dispatch was read as follows:

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, Feb. 24.

*Hon. W. D. Judd*—Leading Republican Press and party of the city of Chicago unanimously demand the impeachment of Andrew Johnson. A mass meeting in called for to-morrow evening to give expression to this feeling.

J. D. ORTA, Chairman.

Mr. HARDING said that his constituents had instructed him to unite his voice and vote with the representatives of the loyal millions in demanding the impeachment of the criminal who occupied the Presidency.

Mr. HAYNES said that in this conjecture the House should speak but one word, and strike but one blow, and that the blow should come first.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pa., closed the debate. He said: I agree with those gentlemen who have gone before me, that this is a grave subject and should be gravely treated. It is as important, too, as the high official who is the subject of these charges, and it is important to a nation of forty millions of people, now and rapidly increasing to hundreds of millions. The official character of the Chief of this great nation being thus involved, the charge, if falsely made, is a cruel wrong. If, on the other hand, the misdemeanor and delinquencies charged against him are true, he is guilty of as atrocious attempts to usurp the liberty and destroy the happiness of this nation as were ever perpetrated by the most detestable tyrant that ever oppressed his fellow man. Let us, therefore, discuss the question in no partisan spirit, but with the sternness and impartial justice. The people desire no victim, and they will not endure any such. If a charge is so far as I shall discuss them, are few and distinct. Andrew Johnson is charged with attempting to violate the laws of other branches of the government, with usurping the power to obstruct the execution of the laws of the land, with misprision of bribery, and in the open violation of his oath, which he swore he would faithfully execute, with high misdemeanor, and subject him to fine and imprisonment, and with removing from office the Secretary of War during the session of the Senate, without the advice or consent of the Senate, and with, that territory to the obstinate section of the act entitled "an act regulating the tenure of civil offices." The

belonged to Congress alone, according to every principle of the law of nations. Neither the Executive nor the Judiciary had any right to interfere with it except so far as was necessary to control it by the military, or until the sovereign power of the nation had provided for its civil administration. No power but Congress had any right to say whether or when they should be admitted to the Union as states, and entitled to the privileges of the Constitution of the United States. And yet Andrew Johnson, with unblushing hardihood, undertook to rule them, by his own power alone to lead them into full communion with the Union, direct them what governments to enact and what constitutions to adopt, and send representatives to Congress according to his instructions. When admonished by express act of Congress, more than once, repeatedly, he disregarded the warning and continued his lawless usurpations. He has since been known to have obstructed the re-establishment of those governments by the authority of Congress, and has advised the inhabitants to resist the legislation of Congress. In my judgment his conduct with regard to that transaction was a high handed assumption of power, which long ago ought to have brought him to impeachment and trial, and to have removed him from his position of great mischief. He has been lucky in thus far escaping through false logic, false law, but his other acts, which will on the trial be shown to be atrocious, are open evidence of his wicked determination to subvert the laws of his country. I trust when all come to vote upon this question we shall remember, that although it is the duty of the President to see that the laws be executed, the sovereign power of the nation rests on Congress, who have been placed around the Executive Mansion to defend the right and, as watchmen, to defend his obedient to the laws and Constitution. His oath is to obey the Constitution, and our duty to compel him to do it. All a tremendous obligation, heavier than was ever assumed by moral rulers. We are to protect or destroy the liberty and happiness of a mighty people, and take care that they progress in civilization and defend themselves against every kind of tyrants. As we deal with the first great political malefactor, so will be the result of our efforts to perpetuate the happiness and good government of the human race. The God of our fathers, who inspired them with the thought of universal freedom, will hold us responsible for our conduct, and then its consequences. We shall have to answer to the public that has taken our institutions which they projected and expected us to carry out. Who after that will dare attempt a political party, but is to endure its consequences until this whole subject is filed with the dust of the committed people, or shall be a nest of shrinking, cowardly slaves.

The question of impeachment was concluded at two minutes before five o'clock.

The House then proceeded to call great but unimportant resolutions to voice on the resolution, as follows:

*Resolved*, That Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, be impeached of high crimes and misdemeanors.

During the vote some excitement was made for the absence of Messrs. Robinson, Benjamin, Washburne and Williams, and Wallace of Missouri, and Messrs. Van Wyck, Ponteroy, Donnelly, Koontz, Maynard and Shellabarger.

Mr. WOODWARD said that he could not consent that his constituents should be left in a state of uncertainty, and

Mr. PIKE, a member of the House, followed saying:

The vote resulted—Yeas 126, Nays 47, as follows:

| | YEAS. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Allison, | Griswold, | Paine, | |
| Ames, | Hale, | Perham, | |
| Anderson, | Hamilton, | Pike, | |
| Arnell, | Higby, | Plants, | |