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STANTON.

PITTSBURGH AND THE DISTINGUISHED DEAD.

The Bench, the Bar, and the People

BEAR TRIBUTE TO HIS WORTH.

Adjournment of the Courts.

MEETING OF THE BAR.

Meeting of the Citizens.

CITY COUNCILS TAKE ACTION.

The death of Hon. Edwin M. Stanton the brilliant lawyer, able jurist, remarkable statesman and mighty war minister of the age, which has cast a shade of sorrow throughout the land and filled every loyal heart with the most profound regret, is perhaps more deeply felt in this community, among the people who have always felt it an honor to claim him as a citizen, and where his brilliant intellect first began to shine forth and take rank at the head of his profession. In no one city show the respect and reverence that is due to every man who, like Mr. Stanton, has sacrificed his life in the service of his country, a reverence heartily and willingly accorded by a loyal and grateful people, a meeting of the Bar was held yesterday to take some formal action in the matter. At a preliminary meeting, held in the District Court room Friday morning, shortly after receiving the sad intelligence of his death, a committee was appointed to prepare resolutions to report at a subsequent meeting, and an executive committee was also appointed to arrange the preliminaries for that meeting, after which the meeting adjourned.

Pursuant to adjournment, the members of the bar assembled in the County Court room at eleven o'clock yesterday morning to hear and take action on the reports of the committees previously appointed.

The meeting was called to order by Hon. John M. Kirkpatrick, who briefly stated the object for which they had assembled, and then called upon the Executive Committee for their report.

J. N. Powers, Esq., Chairman of the Committee, reported that the Committee had thought it fitting to hold the meeting in the United States District Court room, in consideration of the fact that the deceased, in honor of whose memory the meeting had been called, had a short time prior to his death been elevated to the highest position it was possible for a member of the profession to attain, to the Supreme Bench. The Committee would, therefore, suggest that the meeting adjourn to the above named place, forming in procession, in the following order: The Judges of the District Court, Judges of the Court of Common Pleas and members of the bar according to seniority.

The suggestion was adopted, after which the profession formed in the order named, and marched to the place designated, when the meeting was again called to order by Judge Kirkpatrick, after which the Business Committee was called upon for a further report.

PERMANENT OFFICERS.

Mr. Powers then submitted the following editorial report from the Committee, relative to a permanent organization:

President—Hon. Wilson McCandless.

Vice Presidents—Hons. Wm. McKennon, Thomas M. Marshall, Moses Hampton, James P. Sterrett, E. H. Stowe, M. Kirkpatrick, F. H. Collier, Thos. Mellon and H. P. Stevenson.

Secretaries—James S. Craft, Thos. Williams, Thomas McConnell, James J. Kehr, Robert Woods, James Veech and A. H. Miller, Esqs.

The report was adopted, and the officers elected requested to take their seats.

On taking the chair Judge McCandless thanked the meeting for the honor conferred upon him. He had known Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, the deceased, intimately for a number of years. After a brief reference to his early career, the speaker referred to the abilities of deceased as a jurist and his character as a private gentleman, both of which were highly spoken of. No one who knew Edwin M. Stanton and associated with him in private life could say anything against his private character, and he was beloved, respected and honored as a statesman.

David Reed, Esq., from the Committee on Resolutions, submitted the following:

WHEREAS, We, the members of the Bench and Bar of the several Courts held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, have received the sad intelligence of the death of Honorable Edwin M. Stanton—for years a prominent member of our bar, and recently appointed one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States—after having filled with distinguished ability, the office of Attorney General, and subsequently that of Secretary of War, under the General Government, in which latter position he proved himself, during the trying ordeal of the days of the late Rebellion, to be the greatest War Minister of the age, and to the discharge of his duties as such, impaired his health and strength to such an extent as to cause his decease. Being, therefore, in this meeting assembled, we have unanimously

Resolved, 1st. That we will ever cherish in our memories the renowned services of the deceased—as Attorney General and Secretary of War—in the dark days of our Republic, when our Government was struggling for its existence against treason and armed rebellion. To his able, systematic and zealous discharge of duty at the sacrifice of his health and strength—while conducting and managing the Department of War—do we greatly owe our successes in suppressing the armies of the enemy and preserving and maintaining our national Union.

2d. That his abilities as a lawyer were of the highest order—as law reporter, counsellor, advocate and jurist—his talents, accomplishments and capacity were preeminent, being attested by numerous cases of national reputation which he successfully conducted. In all respects he was a model lawyer, and had his life been spared would have adorned the bench to which he was appointed.

3d. That we recognize his late confirmation as Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States by the Senate, immediately after the announcement of his appointment, without the usual action of the proper committee, to be a high and well-merited honor, and unprecedented in the history of the government.

4th. That we sincerely condole with the family of the illustrious dead, in this the sad hour of their bereavement.

5th. That in the token of our esteem for his memory, the Judges of all our Courts are requested to adjourn for today, and that the several court rooms be draped in mourning for thirty days.

6th. That a copy of these resolutions, properly attested, be transmitted by the Chairman to the family of the deceased, and that the Judges of the several Courts holden in this city, are requested to order these resolutions to be entered upon their respective records, and also that these resolutions be published in the newspapers of this city.

7th. That ..... be requested to deliver an address, so soon as practicable, upon the life, professional character and public services of the Hon. Edwin M. Stanton.

Mr. Reed, in presenting the resolutions, spoke in substance as follows:

MR. CHAIRMAN: With your permission and the permission of the members of the bar, I desire to offer some remarks as a tribute to the memory of the illustrious dead. It seems but yesterday since he mingled with us at the bar and in the private walks of life. The angel of death for the past few months has been busy thrusting in his sickle, reaping a harvest of the shining marks of the land. A little over two months ago I met Mr. Stanton at the Continental, in the city of Philadelphia. Had it not been for his friendly recognition I would not have known him. That fine physical development and robust constitution which he possessed when here was gone. It was a sad sight to look upon that emaciated body. I could not refrain from the reflection that he had offered his life as a libation to the cause of his country. He died that the Republic might live. Who within the hearing of my voice has forgotten the dark days of the Republic, when we were held in breathless suspense through fear for the result of the conflict between treason and loyalty? We know that there was one man at least whose patriotism and loyalty we could trust in that hour of peril. That man was Edwin M. Stanton, then a member of James Buchanan's Cabinet. At a meeting of the Cabinet the inquiry was made by Mr. Stanton of the Secretaries of War and the Navy as to the position of the army and navy. The reply was that the army was in distant parts of the country and the navy in the East India waters. He then declared that there was treason in the Cabinet, and that as long as he was a member of that Cabinet he would oppose treason. Within a few days after this memorable declaration of treason that Cabinet went to pieces.

Mr. Chairman I am not here to eulogize or pass a panegyric upon the life and illustrious deeds of this great man of the age, this will be done more appropriately by others selected by the Executive Committee for the occasion. His life is a part of the history of the country, though dead he lives, though those lips are sealed in death, they speak to us. There is a cause in the United States to beat, yet the patriotism it inspired courses through every vein and artery of this great republic. He needs no monumental pile or sculptured marble to commemorate his illustrious deeds and his devotion to his country. He lives "embalmed in truth, and in fact in the hearts of his countrymen."

We may exspond "well done good and faithful servant."

When the future historian shall recount the history of this country for the last four years, he shall record Edwin M. Stanton as the greatest statesman of the nineteenth century.

James Veech, Esq., briefly reviewed the public life of the deceased and related several interesting incidents in connection therewith, indicating the character of the man. His integrity and patriotism were subjects of special remark, and were spoken of in the highest terms. That Mr. Stanton was an eminent man in his profession need not be said; that he sacrificed his life in the service of the country was equally true, and that his death was the cause of sorrow throughout the land was indicated by such expressions of sorrow and grief as had flown from the lips of those who had been injustly approached by him.

S. Schryer, Esq., said:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I have listened with deep interest and I trust profit to words which have to day been paid to the eminent statesman, whose death the nation is now mourning. Regardless of his character, how vast his services, how great his sacrifices do appear to us, now that entire and full death brightens the grief which it inflicts, by brightening the merits of the departed; the infinite remorse leaves nothing to be discerned but the holiness and brightness of the man.

But, Mr. Chairman, it is not my purpose to trespass upon the time of this assemblage with thoughts which gentlemen have with more skill than I can so gracefully and fully expressed; I desire to add but one modest flower to the wreath upon his tomb, in the relation of an incident which tends to illustrate his great kindness of feeling. It has been frequently charged that Mr. Stanton had no friendships, and delighted only in antagonisms which could display his wonderful intellectual power and force. The incident which I am about to relate refutes the charge, and it is only to do some justice to him in this regard, that I presume to address you at all.

In 1853 or 1854, Mr. Stanton, as you are all aware, was engrossed in the cares of an immense practice. He rose to the energy which characterized him; frequently passing entire nights in the preparation of his briefs. At that time I was a very young man, engaged as a reporter for the press, and of course was frequently in the courts in the line of my business. I was at the same time endeavoring to premre myself for my profession. I had no acquaintance with Mr. Stanton, and had never spoken to him. I did not suppose he even knew my name. I was therefore much surprised one morning to receive a note from him making an appointment for me at his office that evening. I was received in the kindest manner. He said that in his youth a word of encouragement had been given him by an older man, and that he felt it his duty to do the same to one whom he saw to be in similar circumstances. His kind inquiries drew from me a statement of my affairs, then dark and lowering. He advised me to proceed to recount the history of his own life; how in early youth he had been obliged to assume responsibilities which seemed to preclude all hope of acquiring his profession; how he had struggled through all difficulties, never once yielding; encouraging me to fix myself then on an object in life, and never to give up, be circumstances what they might, until it was attained. He passed the entire evening in similar discourse, which came to me at the most desponding moment of my life. What I had and have possessed a power of arresting his facts and the decisions applicable to them, that made him almost irresistible when they were placed before a court and jury.

Hon. Robert McKnight followed, and in the course of his remarks related several interesting incidents in the public life of Mr. Stanton. His first interview with him after he became a member of Mr. Buchanan's Cabinet, was in relation to the removal of cannon from this city under the order of Secretary Floyd. He found Mr. Stanton engaged in the trial of a cause in the United States Court, and asked him what the people of Pittsburgh should do in the premises. He replied that they should not resist forcibly (as it would give the traitors who were seeking for a pretext for their treason, some cause to talk; they would in justification of their own acts refer to the rebellion in Pittsburgh, but if they could only hold out until Saturday there would be no further trouble, as Floyd in his thoughts would not remain in the Cabinet longer. This occurred on Thursday, and on the following Saturday Floyd resigned.

He also related the following striking incident, which illustrates Mr. Stanton's sagacity in discerning how the real heart of the rebel strength should be attacked as their most vulnerable point. When his nomination for the War Department was before the Senate for confirmation, Senator Doolittle came to Mr. McKnight, then M. C. from this District, to enquire, "If we confirm this nomination, and the question of slavery should come up, what course would Mr. Stanton take?" Mr. McKnight suggested that the question should be put to Mr. Stanton directly, which Mr. Doolittle promised to do, but did not. For Mr. McKnight saw Mr. Stanton the same evening and did put the question to him. Mr. Stanton replied, "If slavery becomes an impediment to the success of the Union cause, I would hit it square between the eyes." This was repeated to Mr. Doolittle, by the Speaker in the Senate Chamber, the next day, and other Senators were also informed of it, much to their satisfaction.

District Attorney Carnahan was the next speaker. He said in making the formal announcement of the death of Mr. Stanton, he had given expression to his estimate of the character of the deceased. He then alluded to a visit he in company with Gen. Moorhead, had paid to the deceased on the 18th of December last. At that time he was in excellent spirits, and there was every prospect that his health would be restored. He alluded to the appointment of Mr. Stanton to a seat on the Supreme bench, and to the fact that every Republican Senator had signed a paper requesting the President to tender him the position. He held it as a precious recollection that he had been the first to convey to Mr. Stanton the news of the intention of the President to make the appointment. It was no egotism that prompted the relation of this incident, and he hoped it would not be considered as such. He closed by saying that although he had not lived out the allotted three score years and ten, his fame would be remembered as long as the recollection of ability, devotion, integrity and patriotism crowned.

A. M. Brown Esq. spoke in substance, as follows: We stand to day with sorrowing hearts and dimmed eyes, looking into the open grave of a great lawyer and a great statesman, whose early demise has cast a deep gloom over a continent.

The world ever admires true courage, whether it be the courage of Christianity, which sustained martyrs in the Amphitheatre, at the stake, and on the rack; the courage of patriotism, which inspired thousands in this land to realize the historic fable of Curtius, and fill up with their own bodies the yawning chasm that imperilled the Republic; the courage of humanity which, regardless of shot and shell and messengers of death in a thousand forms on the battlefield, calmly gathered up the fallen braves and ministered to the wounded and dying; which entered pest-houses and hospitals, and visited and comforted the homeless, friendless and suffering; or the courage of statesmen, which was so nobly illustrated in the life of the statesman whose death we mourn to-day.

Edwin M. Stanton—popularly known in this country as our great Secretary of War, but recognized throughout the world as America's great War Minister—was conspicuous for his indomitable courage. In the early days of the rebellion, he was faithful among the faithless, and he continued fearless and faithful to the end; unawed by power and untribted by gain. With stern integrity and

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and with an evenness of the prescription of the Union, he gave his life for his country as truly as the bravest of the noble heroes who died on the crimson battlefields of our land.

It is fitting that the nation should render the honor which is due to one of her martyrs, and it is peculiarly appropriate that we who knew him so well should now, in this court room, the scene of his earliest judicial triumphs, and the threshold of his life of tireless devotion to the cause of human freedom, express the grief of sincere friendship, and return thanks to the great War Minister who has gone to answer the great roll call above, where the myriad hosts of the living will be voiceless in the presence of the Prince of Peace.

Mr. Marshall said he had been requested by the committee to say a word in regard to Mr. Stanton, but so many had already spoken that it scarcely seemed proper or necessary to add anything to what had already been said. The great alchemy of Mr. Stanton's success was his devotion to his labor. He was born, as the great mass of the people in this county, of parents of moderate means, and with scarcely sufficient means to give him a rudimentary education. Mr. Stanton had contributed nothing else to command the admiration of his fellow men, but the example given by thirty members of the bar, was sufficient to last as a monument while time lasts. There was another phase of his character which could not be passed. In the times of peculation and plunder among public men, he having handled the money of the nation for years, and could have amassed a fortune of untold millions, yet he died a poor man. His worst enemy could not charge a single dollar had been unjustly appropriated by him.

District Attorney Carnahan said in reply to Mr. Brunot, that he fully concurred in what had been said of Mr. Stanton as a lawyer, jurist and statesman and as a member of the bar, and a private citizen felt that he had a right to add a word to what had already been said. "For one act alone, the people of this nation owed Mr. Stanton a debt of gratitude that could never be repaid. At the commencement of the rebellion, when the Chief Magistrate was unable to decide a question upon which the life of the nation hung, Mr. Stanton decided that question. He said that the Government had the power to combat treason and suppress rebellion, and for this decision the speaker would ever feel grateful.

J. F. Slagle, Robert Woods, John McClaren, Esqs., also made remarks, in which were narrated many incidents of striking interest in the life of Mr. Stanton.

The resolutions were then adopted.

Mr. Slagle moved that the Committee on Resolutions be continued, and that they be instructed to make the necessary arrangements for holding the meeting suggested in the 7th resolution.

The motion was adopted.

On motion of A. M. Brown, Esq., the meeting adjourned.

MEETING OF CITIZENS.

Pursuant to the Mayor's proclamation, published yesterday morning, a meeting of citizens was held at Wilkins' Hall, at twelve o'clock M., yesterday, to give expression of the public sorrow in consequence of the death of Hon. Edwin M. Stanton. The attendance, although not large, was fair and many of our leading citizens were among the number present.

The meeting was organized by calling Hon. Jared M. Brush to the chair.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Bishop Kerfoot.

A long list of Vice Presidents were appointed and the reporters of the city press designated as Secretaries.

Mr. James M. Cooper addressed the meeting ably, giving a detailed history of the life and public services of Mr. Stanton, and concluded by paying a high and eloquent tribute to the memory of the deceased. He then moved that a committee be appointed to prepare resolutions to be submitted to the meeting for action.

The motion was adopted and the chairman appointed Messrs. Jas. M. Cooper, M. W. Beltzhoover, C. F. Von Bonhorst, B. F. Jones and Wm. M. Herch.

Hon. J. K. Moorhead addressed the meeting in substance as follows:

At three o'clock A. M., on the 15th of April, 1865, I was aroused from my slumbers by the violent ringing of my front door bell. I hastened to the door to ascertain the cause of such an untimely disturbance, and there learned from a messenger sent to me by the Mayor, the terrible news that President Lincoln had been assassinated. Such a shock I had never before received. On Friday morning last, the 24th inst., as I traveled from my house to my place of business, I met what was to me a still greater one—Edwin M. Stanton, the great War Minister, is dead." was on every tongue and depicted in every countenance. The sad news had reached the city by telegraph, and a deep gloom hung over the city whose inhabitants knew him so well and loved him so faithfully. It is proper and fitting, my friends, that we should assemble to do honor to his memory. We owe it to him as citizens; we owe it to him as patriots. Our city, our State, our nation, all owe him a debt that can never be paid. But I regret to have learned that it was proposed to make this a party meeting. An eulogy on Edwin M. Stanton! Whilst I thank the gentlemen who called this meeting for their kind intentions, yet it is impossible; I cannot do it. Our relations were too close; our friendship too deep and abiding. As well might I be asked to fill the office for a brother or a son.

If I can control my feelings, and you can bear with me for a few moments, I will give you an instance of the closeness of the ties that bound us as friends.

In the year 1856, when he was the partner of Judge Shaler, late of this city, and I spent most of my time in his office, I had occasion to be absent a few days on business. Judge Shaler, I then thought, dreamed a terrible and frightful dream about my friend Stanton, and awakened in alarm. I felt anxious to see him, and to that end was given the name of a few citizens who, it was thought, would be the most respected. When the news of these gentlemen read the heading of the subscription, which states that the "friends and neighbors" of Mr. Stanton propose to erect this monument to his honor. "Sir," said he, "I am neither the friend or the neighbor of Mr. Stanton." I said to him, "Come, come here with him it is enmity, for he has injured me, but I appreciate the services he has rendered my country in certain things; the time mentioned in your letter was the most perilous moment of my life." This was never after explained to me.

I am, therefore, not the man to lay before you in detail a history of his life, I should not have undertaken it if I had.

How his heart hated treason and how he despised traitors is known to the world. Some of the most perilous times which have to day been paid to the eminent statesman, whose death the nation is now mourning. He was a great War Minister, but was his services, how great his sacrifices do appear to us, now that entire and full death brightens the grief which it inflicts, by brightening the merits of the departed; the infinite remorse leaves nothing to be discerned but the holiness and brightness of the man.

But, Mr. Chairman, it is not my purpose to trespass upon the time of this assemblage with thoughts which gentlemen have with more skill than I can so gracefully and fully expressed; I desire to add but one modest flower to the wreath upon his tomb, in the relation of an incident which tends to illustrate his great kindness of feeling. It has been frequently charged that Mr. Stanton had no friendships, and delighted only in antagonisms which could display his wonderful intellectual power and force. The incident which I am about to relate refutes the charge, and it is only to do some justice to him in this regard, that I presume to address you at all.

In 1853 or 1854, Mr. Stanton, as you are all aware, was engrossed in the cares of an immense practice. He rose to the energy which characterized him; frequently passing entire nights in the preparation of his briefs. At that time I was a very young man, engaged as a reporter for the press, and of course was frequently in the courts in the line of my business. I was at the same time endeavoring to premre myself for my profession. I had no acquaintance with Mr. Stanton, and had never spoken to him. I did not suppose he even knew my name. I was therefore much surprised one morning to receive a note from him making an appointment for me at his office that evening. I was received in the kindest manner. He said that in his youth a word of encouragement had been given him by an older man, and that he felt it his duty to do the same to one whom he saw to be in similar circumstances. His kind inquiries drew from me a statement of my affairs, then dark and lowering. He advised me to proceed to recount the history of his own life; how in early youth he had been obliged to assume responsibilities which seemed to preclude all hope of acquiring his profession; how he had struggled through all difficulties, never once yielding; encouraging me to fix myself then on an object in life, and never to give up, be circumstances what they might, until it was attained. He passed the entire evening in similar discourse, which came to me at the most desponding moment of my life. What I had and have possessed a power of arresting his facts and the decisions applicable to them, that made him almost irresistible when they were placed before a court and jury.

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Hon. Robert McKnight followed, and in the course of his remarks related several interesting incidents in the public life of Mr. Stanton. His first interview with him after he became a member of Mr. Buchanan's Cabinet, was in relation to the removal of cannon from this city under the order of Secretary Floyd. He found Mr. Stanton engaged in the trial of a cause in the United States Court, and asked him what the people of Pittsburgh should do in the premises. He replied that they should not resist forcibly (as it would give the traitors who were seeking for a pretext for their treason, some cause to talk; they would in justification of their own acts refer to the rebellion in Pittsburgh, but if they could only hold out until Saturday there would be no further trouble, as Floyd in his thoughts would not remain in the Cabinet longer. This occurred on Thursday, and on the following Saturday Floyd resigned.

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A. M. Brown Esq. spoke in substance, as follows: We stand to day with sorrowing hearts and dimmed eyes, looking into the open grave of a great lawyer and a great statesman, whose early demise has cast a deep gloom over a continent.

The world ever admires true courage, whether it be the courage of Christianity, which sustained martyrs in the Amphitheatre, at the stake, and on the rack; the courage of patriotism, which inspired thousands in this land to realize the historic fable of Curtius, and fill up with their own bodies the yawning chasm that imperilled the Republic; the courage of humanity which, regardless of shot and shell and messengers of death in a thousand forms on the battlefield, calmly gathered up the fallen braves and ministered to the wounded and dying; which entered pest-houses and hospitals, and visited and comforted the homeless, friendless and suffering; or the courage of statesmen, which was so nobly illustrated in the life of the statesman whose death we mourn to-day.

Edwin M. Stanton—popularly known in this country as our great Secretary of War, but recognized throughout the world as America's great War Minister—was conspicuous for his indomitable courage. In the early days of the rebellion, he was faithful among the faithless, and he continued fearless and faithful to the end; unawed by power and untribted by gain. With stern integrity and

"The unconquerable will
And courage never to submit or yield,"

and with an evenness of the prescription of the Union, he gave his life for his country as truly as the bravest of the noble heroes who died on the crimson battlefields of our land.

It is fitting that the nation should render the honor which is due to one of her martyrs, and it is peculiarly appropriate that we who knew him so well should now, in this court room, the scene of his earliest judicial triumphs, and the threshold of his life of tireless devotion to the cause of human freedom, express the grief of sincere friendship, and return thanks to the great War Minister who has gone to answer the great roll call above, where the myriad hosts of the living will be voiceless in the presence of the Prince of Peace.

Mr. Marshall said he had been requested by the committee to say a word in regard to Mr. Stanton, but so many had already spoken that it scarcely seemed proper or necessary to add anything to what had already been said. The great alchemy of Mr. Stanton's success was his devotion to his labor. He was born, as the great mass of the people in this county, of parents of moderate means, and with scarcely sufficient means to give him a rudimentary education. Mr. Stanton had contributed nothing else to command the admiration of his fellow men, but the example given by thirty members of the bar, was sufficient to last as a monument while time lasts. There was another phase of his character which could not be passed. In the times of peculation and plunder among public men, he having handled the money of the nation for years, and could have amassed a fortune of untold millions, yet he died a poor man. His worst enemy could not charge a single dollar had been unjustly appropriated by him.

S. Schryer, Esq., said:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I have listened with deep interest and I trust profit to words which have to day been paid to the eminent statesman, whose death the nation is now mourning. Regardless of his character, how vast his services, how great his sacrifices do appear to us, now that entire and full death brightens the grief which it inflicts, by brightening the merits of the departed; the infinite remorse leaves nothing to be discerned but the holiness and brightness of the man.

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