

SPEECH OF GEN. CASS ON THE AUSTRIAN DIPLOMATIC QUESTION.

Mr. Cass, of Michigan, moved that the special order of the day be postponed, with a view to allow the consideration of his resolution on suspending diplomatic relations with Austria.

Mr. Cass said, I do not know that this resolution will be opposed. It is of importance only, not of action; but as I should not have intended it, had I not intended to ask the opinion of the Senate upon the subject, whatever may be the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations; and as the measure is not a usual one, I deem it proper briefly to state the reasons which have induced me to propose it.

The intercourse subsisting between the independent nations of the world were not regulated by special conventional arrangements, but is regulated by each for itself, subject to the established principles of the law of nations.

The great improvement in the mechanical arts, and the general progress of the age, united to that spirit of enterprise, commercial and scientific, which was never more usefully employed than now, have given increased energy to this intercourse; and having, in fact, broken down the barriers of space which separated nations—have opened each to the knowledge and business of all this general inter-communication, especially among the nations of Christendom, create a community of interest, and in some measure, a feeling which becomes a bond, however slight, uniting them together into one great political family.

Mr. President: I do not mistake the position of my country, nor do I seek to exaggerate her importance by these suggestions. I am perfectly aware, that whatever we may do or say, the immediate march of Austria will be onward in the course of despotism, with a step feebler or firmer as resistance may appear, near or accurate till she is stayed by one of those upheavings of the people, which is as sure to come, as that man longs for freedom, and longs to strike the blow which shall make it; his pride is blind and power tenacious; and Austria's pride and power, though they may quail before signs of the times, before barricades and fraternization, by which streets are made fortresses and armies revolutionized.

New, but mighty engines in popular warfare, will hold out in their citadel till the last extremity—but many old things are passing away, and Austria will pass away in its turn. Its bulwarks will be shaken by the rushing of mighty winds, by the voice of the world, whenever its indignant expression is not restrained by the kindred sympathies of arbitrary power.

I desire not to be misunderstood I do not mean that in all the revolutionary struggles which political contests bring in, it would be expedient for other governments to express their feelings of interest or sympathy. I think they should not; for there are obvious considerations which forbid such action, and the value of this kind on moral interposition would be diminished by its too frequent recurrence. It should be reserved for great events, marked by great crime and oppressions on the one side, and great misfortunes and exertions on the other, and under circumstances which carry with them the sympathies of the world—like the partition of Poland and the subjugation of Hungary.—We can offer public congratulation as we have done to people crowned by success in their struggle for liberty.

He then pronounced a fine eulogy upon Kossuth, tracing his history and achievements down to the time of his final betrayal and overthrow, his flight and his hospitable reception in Turkey. He then eulogized the Grand Turk, and referred in an eloquent strain to his own acquiescence with the present Sultan. He asserted that the Americans here are no propagandists. They do not undertake to determine what political institutions are best for other nations, or to establish elsewhere their own, to maintain that liberty cannot be maintained under a constitutional monarchy, would be to contradict the existence of our senses; for as we know that a republic is best, and therefore we have it. But there is no American who does not sincerely desire the restoration of the masses of all people to their rights, and to the dignity of human nature. Action, such as now proposed, will encourage the oppressor of Europe to bear their evils bravely, while they must, as men who hope, and when driven to resist, by oppression which cannot longer be borne, to exert themselves as men who peril all upon the effort.

Mr. Cass then read from the London Times an Address to Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston, from eighty-three members of the House of Lords and Commons requesting the interest of the British Government to endeavor to restrain that of Austria from further butchery. He passed under review the rights of Hungary with reference to its constitution and its connection with Austria.—He examined the chart obtained of the Hungarian Government, which swept away the liberties of Hungary and justified that power in every subsequent step which she took.

He described the condition of Hungary as to her sufferings and rights, in the glowing words of Kossuth himself, and then sketched the events of the war, of the conquest of the Austrian armies by the brave Hungarians, the call upon Russia for help, and the final overwhelming of that unhappy country.

The Russians scented the blood from afar, and Hungary, like Poland before the Cossack and the Pandour, and the everlasting reproach to the contempters of the laws of God and man, accomplished these nefarious schemes. He had represented this brief review of the rights and wrongs of Hungary, not as the direct motive for adopting his resolution; he chose to put that upon another ground, the ground of atrocious cruelty; but because he desired to take from Austrian advocates if there were any in this country; he knew there were none in the Senate.

The last excuse for these violations of the common feelings of our nature, by showing that the attack upon Hungarian independence was as reckless and unjustifiable, as were the cruelties inflicted upon the Hungarian people. After painting the horrors of Austrian reprobation on Hungary, and quoting from Kossuth's noble appeal to Lord Palmerston, on the occasion of his being solicited to turn renegade to his religion, he continued, And, now, sir, I say it without reserve, that a power thus setting at defiance the opinion of the world, and violating the best feelings of our nature, in the very wantonness of successful cruelty, has no bond of union with the American people. The sooner our diplomatic intercourse is dissolved with marks of indignation reprobation the sooner shall we perform an act of public duty, which, at home and abroad, will meet with the feelings of kindred sympathy from all, wherever they may be, who are not fit subjects for the tender mercies of Austrian power.

Mr. Cass referred, for a precedent, to the action of the French Government, "which through the Chamber of Deputies year after year, reproved the conduct of Austria, Russia and Prussia in the dismemberment of the remnant of Poland, though he would not attempt to disguise the fact that the action of our government, if it acts at all in this matter, will extend the principle farther than was carried in France. We have many good men among us who are alarmed at any proposition for public action, unless the very same thing has been done here or elsewhere.

If the case is not in the books, no remedy can be applied, however imperious the circumstances. They have an instinctive dread of progress, believing that what has been done has been well done, and ought to be done again, and that nothing else should be done. This spirit of standing still little becomes a country like ours, which is advancing in a career of improvements with an accelerated pace unknown in the history of the world.

Mr. Cass then drew a parallel between the spirit of conservatism and the spirit of progress, and exhibited the latter as a spirit far excellence of Americanism to those, however, not here, but elsewhere, who trembled at innovation. The example of the French chamber may divest the proposed action of half its terror; the other half may be safely left to time. They will gradually learn that the great political truth of our day is contained in the sentiment recently announced by the distinguished member from Massachusetts, "We are in an age of progress."

Mr. Cass then quoted from Mr. Canning, to reassure those who are inclined to think that no good can come out of our political Nazareth, but that what comes from England is best and wisest. He also referred those who are disposed to arraign the great free of debate upon this occasion, to the debates in the English House of Commons and in our own Congress, and especially to take a lesson in the etiquette of political affairs, where human rights are in question, from Brougham and Clay. He used those names historically—those masters of scathing rebuke.

Mr. Cass concluded as follows:—Mr. President, there is one topic I desire briefly to touch. In the allusions I have seen in many of the papers, and what I have heard in conversations on this subject, the name and personal claims of the gentleman who has recently departed on a mission to Austria, have been brought into question. As they had some necessary connection with the object of this resolution, I trust, Sir, these views will not be sustained here. The measure proposed is fully independent of such personal considerations, and had we a minister at Vienna equal in character and experience to Franklin or Jefferson, it ought not to change in the slightest degree the course of our action. This proposition is of a far higher nature than

the more question of personal qualifications. Let us let its importance be admitted by any such considerations. But, Sir, I was in the relations existing between that gentleman and myself thus publicly to say that if I were called upon to give my vote upon his nomination, I should give it for the office, that vote would be given in his favor.

I have known him since his boyhood, and mutual regard and kindness have always existed between us. I consider him fully competent to discharge the duties of a foreign mission, and I do him this act of justice because he is absent, and exposed to severe censure, and because as a political opponent, I may thus speak of him without any danger of being misunderstood. But, sir, while I say this, I shall say also, and with equal truth that his departure from the United States for the very eve of the meeting of the Senate, interposes, in my opinion, insurmountable objections to his confirmation.

Whether a foreign minister may go abroad upon a mere Executive appointment, except in rare cases of public urgency, may well admit of doubt. I do not say this as a party man. But as the session of the Senate approaches the procedure becomes the more improper, and is utterly inexcusable when it occurs upon the very eve of its commencement.

I saw a paragraph in one of the city papers only three or four days ago, stating that a distinguished citizen, for whom I have much personal regard, had left Kentucky on the 22d of December, to proceed upon a mission to Mexico. He will never receive my vote to remain there. I do not understand this unseemly haste, this flight from the judgment of the Senate, as though confirmation were rendered necessary by the public expense they incurred, and a sort of obligation consequently imposed upon this depository of a portion of the Executive power to conform its action to the action of the President. I trust that no such motives will influence our conduct, but that we shall take a course which, while it asserts the rights of the country will restore to the Senate its efficient control, and will not yield, I will not say to the cupidity, but I will say to the earnest desire of office, which was never more powerful nor more powerfully displayed than now.

Mr. Seward, of New York, expressed his deep regret that a speech so able and so eloquent as that to which the Senate had just listened should have been embarrassed at the close with remarks relative to the fitness and actions of the highly honorable gentleman who fills the mission proposed to be suspended.

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LAST NOTICE. Any debts due to the subscriber, are hereby notified that if not paid within the next week, they will be sued without respect to persons. C. S. BOGAR. The Book, &c., are in the hands of Esquire Yeiser, for settlement. Sunbury, Jan. 15, 1850.

SUSQUEHANNA. The subscriber having had several years experience in the County, and being well qualified to conduct a

WRELLY EXPRESS. Between Philadelphia, Sunbury, Northumberland, Anville, Millersburg, New Berlin and Selinsgrove, commencing January 15, 1850. We will call at the Brosses and Horvats in the above named places, on Friday and Saturday of each week, to receive orders and deliver Goods and Packages previous to the departure of the Express. He will attend to the buying and delivering of all kinds of Merchandise, and such other articles as may be wanted, and transact all business entrusted to him with care and despatch, including the selling of produce, &c., &c. He is determined to use his utmost exertion to give general satisfaction to all who may favor him with their patronage.

Persons living at a distance from the above named places, can have their articles left with such persons as they may direct. All orders sent and directed to Thompson's Susquehanna Express, at Sunbury or Philadelphia will be promptly attended to. W. H. THOMPSON. Sunbury, January 5, 1850.

Estate of Henry Vothelmer, dec'd. NOTICE hereby given, that letters of administration have been granted to the subscriber on the estate of Henry Vothelmer, of Upper Augusta township, Northumberland county, dec'd. All persons having claims to said estate, are requested to present them for examination, those indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment. FREDERICK LAZARUS, Adm'r. Sunbury, Jan. 5, 1850.—6t

BUFFALO ROBES, Fresh from the Plains of Oregon. CHARLES S. BOGAR, respectfully informs his old friends and former customers, that he has just arrived from the West with a large assortment of elegant Buffalo Robes, of every size and quality, which he offers for sale at the most reasonable prices. These robes were carefully selected by himself and can be seen at the store of John W. Friling in this place, who is his authorized agent for his sale. Sunbury, Dec. 29, 1849.—

LETTER envelopes, of various kinds, for sale at this office.

LIST OF JURORS. For Northumberland County for January Term A. D. 1850.

Table with 3 columns: Name, Occupation, Residence. Lists names of Grand Jurors and Traverser Jurors.

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