

There was an exciting debate in Congress last week. Randall (Dem.) of this State moved to suspend the rules and proceed to the consideration of the amnesty bill, which pardons and unconditionally restores to citizenship all unpunished participants in the late rebellion. This was agreed to without objection, whereupon Randall moved the previous question on the passage of the bill, and immediately refused permission for amendment or debate, solicited by Blaine, (Rep.) of Maine. He evidently thought it was matter of the situation. The previous question was ordered by a strict party vote, 156 to 95, and after some skirmishing the vote was taken on the final passage of the bill and it was defeated by 112 to 95, a two-thirds vote being under the constitution required to remove political disabilities. As soon as the result was announced Mr. Blaine moved to reconsider the vote, and this being a privileged question, gave him the right to the floor and to discuss the measure. He thus gained control of Randall's bill, and a chance to make the speech which he (Randall) had so persistently tried to prevent.

Mr. Blaine took the ground, in regard to the oath of allegiance required by his bill, that it was the least that could be asked of the persons it was proposed to admit to citizenship and was unjust to those who had already been relieved of their disabilities through their own petitions, that others who would not do so should have citizenship thrust upon them. He would accept Jefferson Davis from the operation of the bill because of his responsibility for the horrors of Andersonville. (Mr. Dem.) of New York replied, deploring the late "domestic calamity." The next day Hill (Dem.) of Georgia, was put forth as the "most moderate" of the late Confederates to answer Mr. Blaine, and he launched into a general defense and justification of Jeff Davis and the horrors of Andersonville, a denunciation of the conduct of the war by Mr. Lincoln, and charges that the sufferings in the Northern prisons were as horrible as those of the South.

Mr. Blaine, in reply to the speech of Mr. Hill, said that he was not a Confederate, and he would not defend the conduct of the war by Mr. Lincoln, and charges that the sufferings in the Northern prisons were as horrible as those of the South. He said that he was not a Confederate, and he would not defend the conduct of the war by Mr. Lincoln, and charges that the sufferings in the Northern prisons were as horrible as those of the South. He said that he was not a Confederate, and he would not defend the conduct of the war by Mr. Lincoln, and charges that the sufferings in the Northern prisons were as horrible as those of the South.

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