



[From the Boston Atlas.]
Great Whig Meeting in Marshfield.
DANIEL WEBSTER FOR GEN. TAYLOR.

Agreeably to notice given, a Whig meeting was held yesterday afternoon, at Marshfield, on a piece of land belonging to Mr. Webster, near the old Gov. Winslow house. At the place where the speaking was to be, a stage was erected, suitable to accommodate forty or fifty persons.

Early in the afternoon carriages were seen, filled with men and women, bending their way from all quarters to the place assigned for the meeting. At 3 o'clock, (the time appointed for the orator to speak,) there were from one thousand to fifteen hundred people present. At the appointed time, Mr. WEBSTER, accompanied by Hon. HIRAM KETCHUM, of N. Y., Hon. GEORGE ASH- MUR, of Springfield, Hon. ARTEMAS HALE, of Bridgewater, and several others, whom we did not know, appeared upon the stand, and were most heartily welcomed by the people.

Mr. Webster soon after commenced making his speech, a verbatim report of which we shall publish on Monday. He spoke about an hour and a half in a manner truly Websterian. We never heard him when he was more interesting, or when he appeared to feel more fully the importance of the questions now at issue before the people of the Union. His speech was devoted exclusively to the consideration of the Presidential question. He avowed himself fully and unequivocally in favor of electing General Taylor.

He said he believed him to be an honest man—one whose conduct had ever been marked by high principles. He said he was a man of little pretension—a modest, unassuming man. He had been made a candidate for the Presidency, a year before the Philadelphia Convention met. He was fairly nominated at that Convention. He believed him to be a true Whig. Our opponents said Gen. Taylor was a Whig, and they tried to disgrace him and the other Whig General, Scott, for it, by putting a Democratic civilian in command over them.

He did not believe that the slavery question had anything to do with his nomination. The convention believed him to be a Whig; they thought him to be the man who would, under existing circumstances, be the easiest to elect, and therefore they nominated him. Mr. Webster spoke in this strain for some time, vindicating the Whigs of the convention, and speaking highly of the character of General Taylor. He denied the correctness of that part of the Buffalo "platform," which said that the nomination of General Taylor was induced by a desire on the part of the Whigs to extend Slave Territory. Nor were the Whigs of the South to be held accountable for the nomination, whether it be good or bad. The free States had some sixty majority in that convention, and could have nominated whomsoever they pleased.

Mr. Webster went on to say, that in his judgment the question of who shall be our next President lay between Gen. Cass and Gen. Taylor. One of them will be elected. Who, then, should Whigs vote for? We all could not have our personal preferences gratified. The skies were not about to fall, so that we could catch larks. It was idle to talk about third candidates. We had enough of that in '44. Every vote given for Birney, in that election, was half a vote for Polk and the annexation of Texas.—And every vote given this year by Whigs, for Van Buren, or any other third candidate, was practically half a vote for Cass. He had warned the people against this third party folly in '44, and he would again warn them of its consequences.

He spoke of the Buffalo platform. He said what there was good in it, was what the Whigs had always advocated, and Van Buren and his friends always had gone against, and what there was new in it was unsound. He had no confidence in Van Buren. If he was to express confidence in Mr. Van Buren's "Free Soil principles," it would appear ludicrous; for he had opposed every thing that looked like free soil all his life; and he had no doubt, from the knowledge he had of the man, that were they together, Van Buren would laugh in his face when the "free soil" question was named; and were we alone, said Mr. Webster, we should probably both laugh at the folly that had made Mr. Van Buren an anti-slavery candidate for President.

Mr. Webster then went on, at some length, to show up Mr. Van Buren's conduct. He had always been the supple tool of the south, and the aider and abettor of slavery. He did more, said Mr. Webster, to defeat John Quincy Adams, and elect General Jackson, than any ten men in the country. He was

the soul and centre of the opposition to Mr. Adams. He spoke of his conduct while Secretary of State; his opposition to slave abolition in Cuba. He was the only President who ever, in advance, threatened to veto a bill, if Congress should pass such an one, to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia. He referred to his casting vote to rifle the mails of anti-slavery papers. He said that no one ever exercised a more controlling influence over his friends than Van Buren; and his friends all went with him.

He was, and so was his friends, in favor of annexing Texas. Southern Whigs, in both houses of Congress, voted against admitting Texas into the Union. The Van Buren men, those who now, for purposes of private pique or revenge, cry out for "Free Soil," were the very men who were the most vociferous for Texas. Mr. Webster had no confidence in any of them. Talk about "dough-faces," why, said Mr. Webster, the Van Buren men in Congress had not only dough-faces, "but they had dough hearts and dough souls. They were all dough." He said that there were gentlemen, Whigs, at the Buffalo Convention, whom he respected highly; but he thought it would have been proper, before they had taken up Van Buren, to have required of him "fruits meet for repentance."

He then proceeded to speak of Cass. He held him to be the most dangerous man that could have been put in nomination. He was opposed to the treaty of Washington. He was for the whole of Oregon; and the matter would never have been settled by peaceful negotiation, if he could have had his way. He was for continuing the Mexican war, and he could have stopped it at any moment he chose to. He is all war.

Now, said Mr. Webster, we are to choose between a man like Cass and one like Gen. Taylor. One or the other is to be elected, and no one else. It is Taylor or Cass. Gen. Taylor has been fairly nominated by a Whig Convention. He is a Whig. "If I believed him, (said Mr. W.) to be in favor of war, or of extending slavery, I should have opposed his election. I BELIEVE HIM TO BE IN FAVOR OF NEITHER. That is my opinion."

Mr. Webster proceeded to speak on various topics connected with the Presidency, but which we have neither time nor room to refer to-day. He concluded in an eloquent peroration.

WHIG STATE CONVENTION.

We commend to the attention of our readers, the following excellent resolutions, adopted by the late Whig State Convention. These were reported by Joseph R. Chandler, Esq., Chairman of the Committee appointed for that purpose:

The members of this State Convention, assembled to nominate a candidate for the office of Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, having discharged the first duty devolving upon them with a unanimity that denotes the popularity of the distinguished citizen selected, and is an augury of his success, deem it incumbent upon them to present the result of their deliberations to the people of the Commonwealth, with such a reference to general principles as will show that the choice was influenced by no feelings of mere personal preference, but was dictated by a sense of the requirements of the great interests of the Commonwealth, and the entire adaptation of the talents and experience, and previous pursuits of the citizen who has received the unanimous vote of this Commonwealth: Therefore,

Resolved, That the protection of Home Industry and Home Production is necessary to the permanent good of our growing country, and that the era of our own National and State prosperity have been at times when a Protective Tariff has preserved for the people the profits of their own industry, and made our country independent of the European work-shops and looms; and so prevalent has this opinion been in Pennsylvania, that in the Presidential canvass of 1844, the partisans of the successful candidates inscribed upon their banners, yet used the first moment of power thus obtained, to falsify their promises, and defeat the hopes and jeopard the interests of a confiding and betrayed people.

Resolved, That while we bow with deference to the authority of the Constitution of the country, that permits Slavery in the original states of this compact, and forbear to interfere with a measure thus sanctioned by compromise, we can discover no admissible motive for extending the limits of Slavery into newly acquired territory, (however obtained,) and we profess our abhorrence of a policy that would degrade the nation and bring reproach upon republican principles, by making territory acquired

the home of extended and perpetual bondage.

Resolved, That the time has arrived to arrest the alarming progress of Executive usurpation, by which a wholesome provision of the Constitution of the Nation and State is distorted into an authority to arrest the legislation of the peoples representatives, and make the executive the supreme authority of the land. Against this abuse, the candidate of the Whig party for the Presidency is solemnly and voluntarily pledged; while our opponents rely upon the equally solemn promise of their candidate to veto any bill which shall include a provision to prevent the extension of Slavery into newly acquired territory. Our principles and our candidates, (National and State,) stand opposed to the abuse of the Veto power.

Resolved, That this Convention heartily approve of the nomination of

ZACHARY TAYLOR

and
MILLARD FILLMORE
as candidates for the office of President and Vice President of the United States, and in the same spirit which lead to the nomination of these citizens distinguished for their services to the country, and their attachment to republican principles, above all party allegiance,

WILLIAM F. JOHNSTON,

of Armstrong county is presented to the people of Pennsylvania as a candidate for their votes to fill the office of Governor of this Commonwealth. It is not the object of these resolutions to eulogize Mr. Johnston, who is known to the people, and the remarkable unanimity that distinguished his nomination is proof of the attachment of the people to his principles, their confidence in his ability to sustain those principles in any office, and their desire that he should be made to share in that reform contemplated in the nomination of Taylor and Fillmore.

Resolved, That the evils under which our country labors are radical, and naturally consequent upon the policy of those in power, and are only thus early developed by the extraordinary weakness of the present National administration; and as these evils are generally felt and acknowledged by men of all parts of the Union, and in this State especially, an appeal is made to all good citizens, of whatever name or association, to come up to the work of reformation, by supporting the nomination of TAYLOR and FILLMORE for the good of the country at large, and of WILLIAM F. JOHNSTON, for the restoration of the prosperity and credit of the immediate interests of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That this Convention approve of the nomination of

NER MIDDLESWARTH,

of Union county, as a candidate for the office of Canal Commissioner. He is a citizen of approved principles, of tried honesty and sterling integrity, by whom the interests of our State, and the prosperity of her public works, will be eminently promoted.

A Newspaper.

A man eats up a pound of sugar, and the pleasure he has enjoyed is ended; but the information he gets from a newspaper is treasured up in the mind, to be enjoyed anew, and to be used whenever occasion or inclination calls for it. A newspaper is not the wisdom of one man, or two men; it is the wisdom of the age and of past ages too.

A family without a newspaper is always half an age behind the time in general information; besides they never think much, or find much to talk about. And then there are little ones growing up in ignorance, without any taste for reading.

Besides all these evils, there's the wife, who, when the work is done, has to sit down with her hands in her lap, and nothing to amuse her, or divert her mind from the toils and cares of the domestic circle. Who, then, would be without a newspaper!—Benjamin Franklin.

BE CAREFUL HOW YOU CONDEMN.—Judge not from circumstances. Speak not against a man's character without a thorough investigation. An intimation that a neighbor has deceived you or has cheated another, may half ruin him.—After you have traduced his character, and then ascertained your mistake, it is impossible to undo the injury produced. An ill-report spreads like wild-fire. Be exceedingly careful, then, how you condemn the course of another, without positive evidence of his knavery or dishonesty.—Portland Umpire.

Men are frequently like tea—the real strength and goodness are not properly drawn out until they have been a short time in hot water.

[From the Miner's Journal.]
THADDEUS STEVENS.

This distinguished lawyer of Pennsylvania, we are happy to announce, has just received the Congressional nomination of the Whigs of Lancaster county. His election by thousands of a majority is therefore rendered certain.

The past history of Mr. Stevens, as connected with some of the leading events in the politics of this State, is well known, and for a time, somewhat injured his standing before the people. But as his true character continued to be developed, the impressions of the people concerning him, have vaded away and he is now, without doubt, one of the most admired and justly popular men in the State.

As comparatively little is known of Mr. Stevens, previous to his entry into the political arena, we propose offering a few remarks from information at our hand.—Perhaps no man is more uncommunicative concerning his own affairs. There is no person at Lancaster, except it be himself, who knows his age, or anything of importance respecting his early history. He is a Bachelor and looks as if he might be fifty. He was born in Caledonia County, Vermont. His father, who died while he was quite young, was celebrated as being the best wrestler in the neighborhood. His mother is still living, and though quite an old lady, continues to farm the place where he was born. The family being large, and not very well off, Thaddeus, in some way or other, learned to make shoes—though he never followed it as a regular business. That he was sometime at Burlington College, is known, but whether he ever graduated is doubtful. He is, however, a pretty fair classical scholar.

When he first came to Pennsylvania, he taught school for some time in York county, and at the same time read law under the direction of a Mr. Kelly.

After reading something over a year, he applied for admission to the bar at Gettysburg, and was rejected—not for incompetency, but because, in our State Students are required to study two full years. Determined to get to the bar in some way, he went to Bell Air, in Maryland, and made application. At the Court there, it happened that there were several lawyers from Baltimore of high attainments—among them the late Gen. Winder. Thaddeus made his application, and a committee was appointed to examine him. They met after supper at the Village Inn. The Judge was present, the distinguished lawyers aforesaid were of the committee, and there sat Thaddeus, expecting a most thorough and complete sitting as to his knowledge of the law. His prospects in all future life depended on the decision—it was a trying moment!

The judge spoke, "Young man!" said he, elevating his spectacle, and casting a deliberate glance at the applicant—"it is a rule here, that every Student, before he's examined, orders in at least two bottles of wine." The wine was accordingly forthcoming, and the decenter were placed upon the table. Before emptying them, the examination proceeded. "Mr. Stevens," said Gen. Winder, "what books have you read?" He replied by stating that he had read Coke, Blackstone, a work on pleading, and one on Evidence. "He'll do—that's enough!" said the Judge—"let's take a drink." The certificate was made out and signed, and this was the whole of the examination! All the County Squires attending Court, then came into the room, and the new lawyer spent a considerable portion of the night with them playing "loo" for 12s cents a game. "I had just fifty-five dollars when I begun," said Mr. S. to a friend sometime after—"and when I paid my bill in the morning, I had but two dollars left!" Mr. Stevens, it is understood, used to be fond of an occasional game; but of late years, he has abandoned it altogether. The only pastime he has indulged in lately, is that of ten-pins, which is sought for exercise and recreation from his great professional duties.

After his admission, he returned to Gettysburg, where, after some little opposition, he was admitted to practice.—At one time, it is said, he was very much discouraged by having nothing to do, and was about leaving the place to seek his fortune elsewhere. At this juncture he took up a case of "breach of promise to marry," with a contingent fee of one-half. He obtained a verdict for \$4000; and this set him up in the world, and practice became abundant.

In 1831, he was elected to the Legislature from Adams county, and with the exception of one session, continued to represent that County till 1841, when he removed to Lancaster. From his appearance in public life, his acts have become a part of the history of the State, and most persons are already familiar with them.

As a citizen, it is our fortune to know Mr. Stevens. He is the most charitable man we ever saw. His large professional income, perhaps from twelve to eighteen thousand dollars per annum, is principally expended in private acts of charity—mostly in small amounts, but sometimes a single contribution amounts to thousands. Of the latter, there are several instances which might be mentioned. A much admired poetess in this State, who had been reduced on account of circumstances over which she had no command, was presented with a beautiful farm, which cost Mr. S. over five thousand dollars. The homestead of an aged widow lady, at Lancaster, upon her husband dying bankrupt, was purchased by Mr. S. for three thousand dollars, and presented to her. But the instances of smaller sums, contributed to poor persons seeking aid, are without number.

As an orator, Mr. Stevens will favorably compare with any other in the United States. His style is somewhat peculiar, but it has great force and eloquence. In Congress, the long neglected interests of Pennsylvania will find in him an able expounder and defender. The Keystone, from henceforth, is bound to be heard, and his witty repartee, his scorching sarcasm, his lofty eloquence, his great profundity, and his ponderous mind, will keep at bay the assailants of her character, and the ungrateful opposers of her true interests. He is well acquainted with the iron interests of Pennsylvania, being himself largely interested in their prosperity; and this, with the other paramount interests of our State, will receive the consideration which they deserve. Under such circumstances, we hail the name of Thaddeus Stevens with unmixed pleasure, and we anticipate the joy of referring to him hereafter at such times when our State shall need able and patriotic men on the floor of Congress,—as the star that always maintains its brilliancy and the honor of its circle.

THE TEST OF BENEVOLENCE.

A SHORT AND TRUE STORY.

"The hand that wiped away the fear of want, The heart that melted at another's woe, Were his—and blessings followed him."

DAVID WENTWORTH had the kindest of hearts. There was neither mete nor bound to his benevolence, except inability. And happy was any man that had a tithing of the prayers that were daily offered up for the welfare of my friend, by the wretched and unfortunate whom his hand had relieved.

I speak of prayers, for it was the only reward he sought, and of course the only reward he received; I mean here—but I forget.

David was paying attention to an excellent young lady of his native city. She was wealthy, beautiful and accomplished, and consequently had many suitors. Among them were richer and nobler, (in extraction, I mean) and handsomer men than David; n'importe, there was a kind of straight-forwardness about my friend, that could not fail to carry him somewhere near the heart of his discerning mistress, even if an emperor had been his rival.

The young lady hit upon a project to put the character of her lovers to the test. She had come across a poor widow in distress, in one of her excursions, and the idea struck her that it would be a good opportunity to ascertain the stuff that her lovers' hearts were made of. Letters were forthwith indited, setting forth the good woman's state, and forwarded to the different gentlemen, in the name of the widow, and requesting assistance.

The first was a lecture on idleness, beginning and concluding with the information, that the writer was not accustomed to give to those he did not know. This was from \$10,000 a year. The second advised her to apply to some of the benevolent societies, whose business it was to relieve those who were truly in want. This was from one who had a great reputation for benevolence, who had taken a leading part in several charitable associations, and whose pharisaical liberality had been blazoned in the Gazette. The lady thought that interested as he was in those institutions, he displayed a commendable reluctance about taking the business out of their hands. A third, from a good hearted and generous kind of a fellow, enclosed her a five dollar bill with his compliments. Several took no notice of the good widows petition.

But there was another answer which the lady read with far different feelings. It was from David—from \$800 a year—and I need not say, like himself, kind and consoling—spoke of the writers narrow means, and also of the principle he had adopted, of never giving unless persuaded of the worthiness of the object, and concluded by requesting an

interview. "If," said he, "I find myself otherwise unable to afford the assistance required, I may be of service in interesting others in your behalf."

Nor was this mere profession; for it was but a week before the widow found herself comfortably located, and engaged in a thriving little business, commenced by the recommendation, and carried on by the aid of my friend. And all this was done in genuine Scripture style. There was no sounding of trumpets; and the right hand knew not of the doing of the left. But his lady-love was a silent observer of his conduct, and he received many a kind glance in this quarter, of which he little suspected the cause. She began to think that the homage of a spirit like his, was a thing not to be despised; and she felt something very much like the palpitation of the heart, as she questioned herself respecting his intentions.

Such was the train of thought which, one evening, as is often the case, was interrupted by a call from the very person who had been its cause. Hour after hour passed by that night, and still David lingered. He could not tear himself away. She is a most fascinating creature, thought he, and as good as she is beautiful. Can she ever be mine? And a cloud came over his fine features, and he sat for a moment in silence. "This suspense must be ended," said he to himself as the clock told eleven.

"You will certainly think me insufferably tedious," said he, with a faint smile. "But I have been so pleasantly engaged, as to take no note of time.—And the sin of this trespass upon the rules of good breeding must lie at your door. Besides, I have lengthened the visit," he continued, after a pause, "under the apprehension that, as it has been the happiest, it might be also the last it shall be my good fortune to enjoy with Miss H."

The lady looked at him with some surprise.

"Nay," said he, "the matter rests with yourself. Will you forgive my presumption? I know that others more worthy of you, at least nobler and wealthier, and higher in the world's esteem, are striving for the honor of your hand. And yet I cannot restrain myself from making an avowal which, though it may be futile, is yet but a deserved tribute to your worth." And he popped the question.

The lady did not swoon or turn pale. But a flash of gratification passed over her face, and lightened her eye for a moment.

She frankly gave him her hand, and looked up archly in his face. "The friend of the fatherless and the widow," said she, (David blushed,) "cannot fail to make a constant lover and a worthy husband."

Keep your Promises.

We have often been shocked at the reckless disregard which many persons manifest for the fulfillment of their promises. They are ever ready to make engagements for the future, but when the time arrives for their fulfillment, they seem to have forgotten them entirely, or at least to treat them as though they involved no obligation whatever. Such conduct is sinful in the highest degree, and when indulged in by professing Christians, furnishes glaring evidence of essential defect in their Christian character. It is also highly injurious in its influence upon society itself, inasmuch as it necessarily tends to destroy that confidence of man in man, which is so essential to the happiness of the community. It is especially detrimental to the interest of the individual himself who is guilty of it, as he thereby forfeits the confidence and respect of his fellows. His word accordingly, is not relied upon, and he is obliged to suffer all the unhappy consequences. This sinful habit is one of the most inexcusable of which any one can be guilty. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred there is no absolute necessity whatever for one to break his word.—No one should ever make a promise, unless he looks well into the circumstances beforehand, and has every reason to believe, that it will be in his power to fulfill his promise. And whenever a promise has once been made it should be his fixed determination to keep it, and with a particular reference to this, his subsequent conduct should be shaped. Were this course to be faithfully pursued, not only would the serious evils resulting from a disregard to one's word be avoided, but also the confidence of those around speedily gained and enjoyed, and a character thereby eventually established, that will be of more value than "ermine, gold or princely diadem."

"Adam," said a gouty gentleman to a tricky son, "I would be on the eve to case you were I able."