

none." Point to the man who can say that Andrew Johnson ever acted with infidelity to the great mass of the people. [Great applause.] Men may talk about beheading and about usurpation; but when I am beheaded I want the American people to be the witness. I do not want it by informants and indecent remarks in high places, to be suggested to men who have assassination brooding in their bosoms. Others have exclaimed that the Presidential obstacle must be gotten out of the way. What is that but I make use of a strong word—but inciting to assassination? No doubt, I say, the intention was to incite to assassination, so that the obstacle which the people had placed here could be got out of the way.

Are the opponents of this Government not yet satisfied? Are those who want to destroy our institutions and to change the character of the Government not satisfied with the quantity of blood that has been shed? Are they not satisfied with one martyr in this place? Does not the blood of Lincoln appease their vengeance and their wrath? Is their thirst still unslaked? Do they still want more blood? If they not honor and courage enough to seek to obtain the end otherwise than through and by the hand of an assassin? I am not afraid of an assassin attacking me; one brave and courageous man will attack another. I only dread him when in disguise, and where his footstep is noiseless.

If they want blood, let them have the courage to strike like men. I know they are willing to wound, but afraid to strike. If my blood is to be shed because I vindicate the Union and insist on the preservation of this Government in its original purity, let it be shed, but let an altar to the Union be first erected, and then, if necessary, take me and lay me upon it, and the blood that now warms and animates my existence shall be poured out as the last libation, as a tribute to the Union of these States. [Great applause.] But let the opponents of this Government remember that when it is poured out the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church. This Union will grow, and it will continue to increase in strength and power, though it may be cemented and cleansed in blood.

I have already spoken to you longer than I intended, when I came out. [Go on.] I merely intended to make my acknowledgments for the honor you have done me; but before I close, allow me to say a word in regard to the question of amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

Shortly after I reached Washington for the purpose of being inaugurated as Vice President of the United States, I had a conversation with Mr. Lincoln in regard to the condition of affairs. We talked particularly in reference to matters in my own State. I told him that we had called a convention, that we had amended the Constitution, that we had abolished slavery in that State, which was not included in his emancipation proclamation. All these things met his approbation, and he gave me words of encouragement. We talked then about affairs generally, and upon the subject of amendments to the Constitution of the United States. He said: "When the amendment of the Constitution now proposed is adopted by three-fourths of the States, I am pretty near done, or indeed quite done in favor of amending the Constitution, if there was one other adopted." I asked him, "What is that, Mr. President?" He said, "I have labored to preserve this Union. I have tried, during the four years I have been subjected to great calumny and misrepresentation and my desire has been, to preserve these States intact under the Constitution as they were before." I asked him again, "Mr. President, what amendment is that which you would propose?" "Why," said he, "it is that there should be an amendment added to the Constitution which would compel the States to send their Senators and Representatives to the Congress of the United States." [Great applause.]

The idea was in his mind that, as a part of the doctrine of the means to break up this Government was that the States if they saw proper might withdraw their Senators and Representatives, or refuse to elect them; he wanted even to remove that difficulty by a constitutional amendment compelling the States to send Senators and Representatives to Congress.

But what do we now find? The Constitution of the country, even that portion of it which allows amendments to the organic laws, expressly provides that no State without its consent shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate, and it also provides that each State shall have at least one Representative in the House of Representatives; but yet the position is taken that certain States have not been represented. We impose taxes upon them, we send our tax-gatherers into every region and portion of the States. Their people are fit subjects of government for the collection of taxes; but when they ask to participate in the legislation of the country, they are met at the door and told, "No, you must pay taxes, you must bear the burdens of Government, but you cannot participate in its legislation, that legislation which is to affect you through all time to come." Is this justice? Is it fair? ["No, no."] I repeat, I am for preserving all the States. I am for admitting into the councils of the nation all their representatives who are unmistakably and unquestionably loyal. A man who acknowledges allegiance to the Government, and who swears to support the Constitution, must necessarily be loyal. A man cannot take that in good faith unless he is loyal. A mere infliction of the oath but makes no difference, as the principle, whatever test is thought proper as evidence and as proof of loyalty, is a mere matter of detail

about which I care nothing; but let a man be unmistakably and unquestionably, loyal, let him acknowledge allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and be willing to support the Government in its hour of peril and its hour of need, and I am willing to trust him. [Applause.]

I know that some do not attach as much importance to the point as I do, but I regard it as fundamental. One principle that carried us through the revolution was that there should be no taxation without representation. I hold to that principle, which was laid down as fundamental by our fathers; if it was good then it is good now; if it was worth standing by then, it is worth standing by now. It is fundamental, and should be observed as long as free government lasts. I am aware that in the midst of rebellion it was said by some that the Constitution had been rolled up as a piece of parchment and laid away; that in time of war and rebellion there was no Constitution. We know that sometimes, in great necessities, under great emergencies, unconstitutional things must sometimes necessarily be done in order to preserve the Government; but if it was good then it is good now; if it was worth standing by then, it is worth standing by now.

The people, somehow or other, although their sagacity and good judgment are very frequently underrated, under estimated, generally get to find out and understand who is for them and who is against them. They do it by instinct, if in no other way. They know their friend they know in whom they can confide. So far, thank God, I can lay my hand upon my bosom and state with heartfelt satisfaction that in all positions in which I have been placed—in many that were as trying as any in which mortal man has ever been placed, I have never deserted them, nor do I believe they will desert me. ["No, no."] Applause.] Whom have I betrayed? What principle have I violated? What sentiment have I swerved from? Can those who assail me put their fingers upon any one? ["No, no."] In all the speeches that have been made, no one has dared to put his finger upon a single principle I ever ascribed from which I have deviated. Have you not heard some of them, at some time, attempt to quote my predecessor, who fell a martyr to his country's cause? But they can give no sentiment of his that is in opposition or in contradiction to anything that I have done. The very policy that I am now pursuing was pursued by me under his Administration, I having been appointed by him in a particular position for that very purpose. Inscrutable Providence saw proper to remove him from this to, I trust, a better world, and I came into his place and there is not a principle of his in reference to the restoration of the Union from which I have departed. ["None, none."] Then the war is not simply upon me, but it is upon my predecessor also. I have tried to do my duty. I know that some are envious and jealous, and speak of the White House as having attraction for the ~~riches~~. Let me say to you, the charms of the White House have as little influence upon me as upon any individual in this country, and much less upon me than those who are talking about it. The little that I eat and wear does not amount to much, and the difference between what is enough to sustain me and my little family—it is very small, for I am not kin to many folks by consanguinity, though by affinity I am kin to everybody—the difference between the little that suffices for my stomach and back, and more than enough, has no charms for me. The proud and conscious satisfaction of having performed my duty to my country, to my children, and to the inner man, is all the reward I ask. [Great applause.]

In conclusion, let me ask this vast concourse here to-day, this sea of upturned faces, to come with me or I will go with you, and stand around the Constitution of our country. It is again unfolded; the people are invited to read and understand; to sustain and maintain its provisions. Let us stand by the Constitution of our fathers, though the heavens themselves should fall. Though fact may rage, though taunts and jeers may come, though abuse and vituperation may be poured out in the most violent form, I mean to be found standing by the Constitution of my country. Stand by the Constitution as the chief ark of our safety, as the palladium of our civil and our religious liberty. Yes, let us cling to it as the mariner clings to the last plank when the night and the tempest close around him. Accept my thanks, my countrymen, for the indulgence you have extended to me while submitting to you extemporaneously, and perhaps incoherently, the remarks which I have now made. Let us go away, forgetting the past, and looking to the future, resolved to endeavor to restore our Government to its pristine purity, trusting in Him who is on high, but who controls all here below, that ere long our Union will be restored, and that we shall have peace, not only with all the nations of the earth, but peace and good will among all parts of the people of the United States. I thank you for the respect you have manifested to me on this occasion, and if the time shall come during the period of my existence, when the country is to be destroyed and its Government overthrown, if you will look out you will find the humble individual who stands before you endeavoring to avert its final destruction.

#### An Indignant Magistrate.

Some years ago, in Egypt Illinois, a rough looking man was brought before a country Justice on a charge of assault and battery. As he had beaten some one very badly.

"I am astonished," said his honor, "at your arrest on such a charge. You have beaten the man horribly, and I must punish you severely. Why did you do it?"

"Because," was the reply, he provoked me. "What did he say?"

"He said that, sir, I was a thief."

"Won't do, sir. I shall have to fine you heavily."

"He said I was a liar."

"Won't do—no excuse."

"He charged me with having poisoned my Grandmother."

"Shouldn't have beaten the man so badly."

"He said I was the offspring of a canine species of the female sex."

"Not sufficient provocation. Should have been so severe. Should have got a warrant. Any other excuse?—must punish severely."

"Yes, your honor, he accused me of being a Republican."

"Did he? the scoundrel! Called you—you sir—called you a Republican?—If you had shot the scoundrel dead no jury in the world would have found you guilty. I dismiss the case."

A MASS meeting of Republican radicals was held at Springfield, Illinois, on Monday night. Governor Oglesby denounced the President in bitter language.

friendly and familiar conversation. "That man Johnson is a lucky man. [Laughter.] They never can defeat him." [Laughter.] Now I will tell you what constitutes my luck. It is in doing right and doing for the people. [Great applause.]

The people, somehow or other, although their sagacity and good judgment are very frequently underrated, under estimated, generally get to find out and understand who is for them and who is against them. They do it by instinct, if in no other way. They know their friend they know in whom they can confide. So far, thank God, I can lay my hand upon my bosom and state with heartfelt satisfaction that in all positions in which I have been placed—in many that were as trying as any in which mortal man has ever been placed, I have never deserted them, nor do I believe they will desert me. ["No, no."] Applause.] Whom have I betrayed? What principle have I violated? What sentiment have I swerved from? Can those who assail me put their fingers upon any one? ["No, no."] In all the speeches that have been made, no one has dared to put his finger upon a single principle I ever ascribed from which I have deviated. Have

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The President retired amid a perfect storm of applause.

Judge Perkins.

We see some of our exchanges are in favor of making Judge Perkins president of the next Democratic State Convention. We second the motion. We are in favor of Judge Perkins for any position he desires. The *Herald* which he edits, is one of the best papers in the West. The tremendous blows which he deals black Republican fanaticism must tell fearfully on the ranks of that party. Success to the *Herald* and its able editor.

The Journal Penitent.

The JOURNAL, in this week's issue, takes the ground that President Johnson did right in vetoing the infamous Freedmen's Bureau Bill. It says:

"President Johnson has vetoed the Freedmen's Bureau Bill, and thus all probability, will demonstrate that he did right, as far as we are concerned, we can see no great necessity for any new act on the subject of freedom."

So far so good. An honest confession is said to be good for the soul. Now that our neighbor has spoken out in meeting and made a public acknowledgment to his readers, that President Johnson did right in vetoing the Freedmen's Bureau Bill, we expect it to be equally frank and give in its adhesion, in its next issue, to the policy marked out in the President's speech on the 22d of February, in which he urges the immediate admission of the southern representatives to Congress, simply on taking an oath to support the constitution, and agree with the President that Thad Stevens, Charles Sumner, Wendell Phillips and their followers are traitors seeking to subvert and destroy the government.

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