

VEVAY TIMES AND SWITZERLAND COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

Gen. Harrison's Certifiers.

The National Intelligencer, brings forth a letter of Mr. Cushing of the House of Representatives, denying that Harrison's name was struck out of the resolution proposing thanks and a gold medal to Shelby and Harrison for the success at the Thames. Mr. Cushing says:

"The allegation, that the thanks of Congress were refused to him is founded upon the authority of an imperfect, and therefore erroneous, paragraph in one of the newspapers of the day, and upon the article of suppressing most of the material facts of the case as they appear in the journals of the Senate and House of Representatives."

Mr. Cushing then goes on to give the history of the resolution of 1816, as follows:

"The resolution was discussed in Committee of the Whole, and it is the action in this Committee of the Whole, separated from the responsible action of the Senate itself, which is unfairly cited alone, by those to whom your letter refers, as evidence against the honor of General Harrison. The journals of the Senate show that, instead of striking out the name of General Harrison from the resolution, the Senate, by a vote of ayes and noes, refused to concur in the amendment of the Committee of the Whole to that effect; that is to say, the Senate, in the most formal manner, expressly rejected the proposition to strike out the name of General Harrison. After which, suspending for the present a final decision on the resolution, the Senate ordered it to be recommitted, without change, to the Committee on Military Affairs for further consideration. This was the 20th of April, 1816.

"The objection, to the adoption of the resolution at that time, on the part of certain of the members of the Senate, 'gave out of a groundless and malicious attack on the integrity of General Harrison by persons concerned in some of the army contracts' for the supply of the Northwestern army."

This statement of Mr. Cushing is deceptive in regard to the vote of the Senate, and utterly untrue in the statement of motive on which he pretends that vote turned. The facts as to the votes taken in the Senate, will be seen on recurring to Niles's Register, pages 125, 151; vol. 10.

"The Senate resumed the consideration of the joint resolution directing medals to be struck, and, together with the thanks of Congress, presented to Major General Harrison and Governor Shelby, and for other purposes.

"After some discussion on the expediency of adopting such a resolution at this time, and of coupling the names of General Harrison and Governor Shelby,

"Mr. Lacock moved to amend the resolution, by striking therefrom Major General William Henry Harrison."

"This motion was determined in the affirmative by the following vote:

"YEAS—Messrs. Dana, Gaillard, Gore, Hunter, King, Lacock, Mason of N. H., Roberts, Tait, Thompson, Tichenor, Turner, Varnum—13.

"NAYS—Barbour, Barry, Condict, Horsey, Macon, Mason, Morrow, Ruggles, Talbot, Wells, Williams—11.

"The further consideration of the subject was then postponed to a day in next week, on motion of Mr. Roberts."

"The Senate resumed the consideration of the resolution for presenting medals and the thanks of Congress to Major General Harrison and Governor Shelby. On the question to concur in the previous decision to strike out the name of Major General William Henry Harrison, it was decided in the negative, as follows:

"YEAS—Messrs. Campbell, Daggett, Gaillard, Gore, King, Lacock, Mason N. H., Mason, Va., Roberts, Tait, Tichenor, Turner, Varnum—13.

"NAYS—Messrs. Barbour, Barry, Chace, Condict, Harper, Horsey, Macon, Morrow, Ruggles, Sanford, Talbot, Wells, Williams, Wilson—14.

"The resolution was then, on motion of Mr. Horsey, recommitted to the military committee."

The Congress of 1816 thus put the matter to rest. It was, in fact, negatived by that body; for although upon the second trial, the vote did not sustain the amendment, yet it was evident that the resolution would have failed on final vote, with a full Senate; for Messrs. Dana, Dana, Hunter, Mason, and Thompson, who voted against Harrison in the first instance, were absent at the second vote, which showed that the division of the chamber on the final question would have been 17 against and 14 for the vote of thanks to Harrison. His friends therefore wisely let it drop.

But we now bring forward a witness against Mr. Cushing, whose statements on the subject that gentleman will hardly deny.

"To the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, who composed the army that operated upon the river Thames in Canada, in the fall of 1813.

"Fellow CITIZENS: It has excited no little surprise that an army which achieved the conquest of a province from the enemy, restored to the jurisdiction of our country a territory which had been wrested from it, and which attacked and defeated in its position, and an enemy now known to have been at least equal in numbers, with itself, should alone have remained unnoticed by our government, which had bestowed its plaudits and its honors upon every other successful exertion, either of our land or naval forces.

Until the last session of Congress the cause of this mortifying exception remained unrevealed. It is now ascertained that the real and supposed demerits of your commander has hitherto deprived you of that reward, so precious to the heart of a Republican soldier—the approbation of his country. Ignorant, as I was, until late in the session, that prejudices capable of producing such an effect existed against me, and still later informed of the ground of those prejudices, it was impossible that I could take any steps to remove them.

I hesitated, indeed, to give credit to the first information as to the former; but my doubts were soon removed. A vote of the Senate of the United States has attached to my name a disgrace, which, I am fully convinced, no time or no efforts of mine will ever be able to efface.

Their censure is, indeed, negative, but it is not, on that account, the less severe. Could a vote, positively expressing my unworthiness, attach to us more obloquy than one which declared that I was the only man in the army that I commanded, who did not deserve the thanks of the nation?

Could any thing but cowardice or treason justify this excessive rigor? And yet it is not pretended that I was guilty of either. What, then, is my crime? And what the reasons upon which the vote of the Senate was justified? Why, "an investigation before the House of Representa-

tives was pending, solicited by myself," and some one or more persons had impressed every member of Congress to whom I was unknown, with the belief that I deserved no merit for the success of the campaign, and that I was forced against my inclination to pursue the British army."—*Niles's Register*, vol. 10, p. 424.

This letter shows in what sense Harrison understood the vote, and that he did not understand it as Mr. Cushing would now have the public to understand it.

As to the motive of the Senate for the refusal to command Harrison, Mr. Cushing is altogether at fault. He says it grew out of "a groundless and malicious attack on the integrity of Gen. Harrison, by persons concerned in some of the army contracts," &c.

Harrison himself declares that the vote against him was the consequence of the opinion entertained of his "deserter" by the majority of the Senate, and having reference to his conduct of the campaign for which the honor was claimed at the hands of the Senate.—*Globe*.

From the Louisville Gazette:

AWFUL CALAMITY!

A most disastrous fire—thirty-eight large and heavy establishments burnt out. Half million of property destroyed.

On Thursday night, about the "dead o' night," the most calamitous fire occurred that ever visited our city. It has been suggested that it was the work of an incendiary, who bore some ill-will to John Hawkins, in whose furniture establishment on Pearl street, the fire was first discovered. The wind was high and the flames were borne onward with fearful rapidity. A large portion of the merchandise which was removed from the stores, was burned up in Main street, although the width of the street is at least ninety feet from banquette to banquette.

In some instances, it was with great difficulty that lives could be saved. They were frequently in the most imminent danger. There seemed to be at one time, an unaccountable apathy on the part of the citizens not connected with the fire companies. Although the goods were removed from the buildings where the most danger was to be apprehended from falling walls, it was then suffered to remain and take fire and be consumed, although there were bands enough, idle and in their pockets to have saved thousands and tens of thousands of dollars. We hear rumors that the Insurance Offices of our City and the agencies have suffered severely. Our merchants are generally sure-footed and guard themselves against accidents—and in proportion to their care, the Insurance Offices must suffer.

We annex the names of the sufferers with a feeble estimate which is far below the mark. The fairest portion of our city is a waste of ruins. The largest business houses are destroyed. The times are such that we cannot hope that it may be rebuilt until we have a change in our prospects and present condition.

The alarm was given about half past 12 A. M. and the fire was not subdued until nearly day light. The breeze was brisk from the south-east and the flames were borne onward in one sheet that not only threatened, but brought destruction as they rolled on their resistless way.

At one time it was feared that the whole block between Main and the river, and Fourth and Fifth streets would be burned down—the wind driving in that direction and threatening to bear all before it. Although we were more than half a square off, apprehension were entertained that we would be minus a *Printing Office* in the morning, and some of our men, who at the first alarm stood by the office, went so far as to bring our books and papers to our domicil, for which turn we owe them one.

This is the largest and most disastrous fire that ever occurred in Louisville, in proportion to the size of the place, it is greater than the great fire in New York, that par excellence stands out more prominent than all others, and the shock sustained at the present time, will not be easily removed.

A number of persons were in critical danger. At one time it was supposed that several were killed. Mr. Chew, of the firm of Toy's and Chew, was dangerously wounded by jumping on a garden-rake; the teeth being up. Mr. Wm. Garvin was injured, and through bruises and excitement, was borne to his residence in a state of insensibility. Our city makes to-day, a gloomy appearance. It will take it some time to recover from this dreadful catastrophe. The only consolation is that the flames did not spread further. At one time we feared that the whole city north of Market street, would be a heap of ruins.

We have noticed above, the fire originated in the chair manufactory of Mr. Jno. Hawkins, who is now absent from the city, and spread on each side, (the west side of Pearl street,) and stopped only at Logan's Iron store one door from the Post Office.

The fireman worked with great ardor, but it seemed to us that they worked rather behind the flames than making any attempt to arrest them by anticipating their progress.

The following list of sufferers is perfect with the exception of the estimate of the losses, which are set down it is believed below the mark.

The establishments burned out are 38—nearly all large houses, and the most of them doing an extensive business. The ways of Providence are inscrutable.

F. Ratt, Fruit Store, \$1000
Wm. W. Wall's Looking Glass Store, 1,800
Alfred Borie, Confectionary, 3000
Mrs. Pedro, Milliner, 800
John Hawkins, Chair Manufactory, 6000
Holt & Harris, Painters, 1,700
J. Atkinson's Piano Manufactory, 1,400

J. Holmes' Venetian Blind and Mattress Factory, 2,50
M. Dickinson, Gunsmith, and Gun Store, 5000
Jas. Rudd's vacant store, 3000
Wm. Hefferman's Liquor Store, 3000
Joe Redding, (Pearl Street House,) 3000
John W. Redding, Merchant Tailor, (Corner,) 5000

Misses Beers, Milliners, 1000
Wallace & Lithgow, Tanners and Coppermiths, 4000
Wm. Garvin & co., Wholesale Dry Goods, 40,000

Jacob Keller & co., Wholesale Grocer, 25,000
Swearingen, Grant & co., Quisenware, 45,000

McMoran & McMechan, Liquor Store, 18,000
Addison Cleden & co., Wholesale Dry Goods, 60,000

Joseph T. Clark, Bookstore, 9000
T. T. Mathack & co., Wholesale dealers in shoes' hats and boots, 7000

The flames were arrested at the house of Bowles, Shreve & co., next door to the Louisville Bank. They crossed Main street and first attacked the house of the Merchants Insurance Office, J. E. Tyler's Exchange Office, Franklin Insurance Office, John Magnus, Merchant Tailor, —, Boarding House, Dennis Spurrier, residence, paints and paper store, 18,000

J. S. Chenoweth & co., Wholesale Grocer and commission and forwarding merchants, 1000

John Anderson & co., Wholesale Dry Goods, 1000

T. J. Martin Wholesale Grocer, 17,000

A. S. Whithlock & co., Wholesale Shoe Store, 3000

Rowland Smith & co., Wholesale Grocer and forwarding merchants, 14,000

Gamble & Lane, Wholesale Grocers and Iron merchants, 25,000

C. Gallagher, Rectifier, 25,000

Louisville Marine and Fire Insurance Company, 3000

J. Tevis & Chew, Wholesale Dry Goods, 1,500

Mrs. Bacon's boarding house, 25,000

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