

# York School of Business

GEORGE R. PROWELL, PRINCIPAL AND PROPRIETOR  
RUPP BUILDING, CENTRE SQUARE

5  
YORK, PA. Feb. 21, 1917.

Miss Lottie Bausman,  
Lancaster, Pa.

Dear Miss Bausman:

I received a letter from a publisher in Cleveland wanting a portrait of Thaddeus Stevens. In replying to his letter I gave your name, stating that probably your Society would have a good steel portrait of "The Great Commoner".

I saw Mr. Stevens in my early boyhood and went with an Uncle to his office in Lancaster. The following year he came to York to try a case before Judge Fisher. It was interesting for me to watch his motions while questioning witnesses and arguing the case. He did not take any notes but depended entirely upon his memory to supply him with facts for his speech before the jury. Stevens and his associate, the late William C. Chapman, of York, were counsel for the defense.

When a school boy of fourteen years, I marched in line with the funeral procession of Thaddeus Stevens at Lancaster. A few months later, other school boys and myself joined the marching column to the last resting place of James Buchanan. <sup>few months before his death</sup> We had called upon the former President at Wheatland and met him sitting in a grove near his residence.

Lying on the ground near him were a dozen daily newspapers which he was reading. He talked with us for twenty minutes in a fatherly way. My visit to him made an



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#2

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impression never forgotten.

In all my experience of more than twenty years as a newspaper correspondent, no public men left a stronger impression upon my mind than Thaddeus Stevens, James Buchanan and Jeremiah S. Black. According to my opinion, Judge Black had one of the clearest minds of any of the one hundred great lawyers that I met in thirty states of the Union. He had a marvelous memory and a profound knowledge of the law.

I spent six months with him as his amanuensis and went with him to New York when Black was the chief counsel in the Vanderbilt will case.

Both Stevens and Buchanan were eminent statesmen. I suppose you know that while Stevens was conducting the impeachment trial at Washington, he was taken to the Halls of Congress in a wheel-chair. One time, when he reached the elevator, leading to the House of Representatives, he turned to his black servant and said: "Tom, how will I get here to Congress when you are dead"? Stevens lived only four months longer and Tom, I understand, is now living at the age of seventy five.

I enclose a newspaper clipping or two which you may read when you have leisure. I am sorry I did not get to Harrisburg when the Federation met.

GRP-JPS

Sincerely yours,

*George R. Prowell* (over)



can you please hand Mr. G. H. Hostetter  
the enclosed articles, after you have  
looked them over?

G. R. P.  
Per A.

LancasterHistory