

To the People of LANCASTER COUNTY! A Few Facts in the political History of THADDEUS STEVENS.

THADDEUS STEVENS, the Abolition candidate for Congress, was born in the State of Vermont. When a young man he left his Yankee home to seek his fortune in a more propitious clime, and finally pitched his tent at Gettysburg, in Pennsylvania, where he commenced the practice of the law about the year 1816. He was first elected to the Legislature in 1830, and continued in that body, with the exception of the time he spent in the Reform Convention, until 1840. In the campaign of 1835, which, owing to the division in the Democratic party, resulted in the election of JOSEPH RITTER to the gubernatorial chair of the Commonwealth, Mr. STEVENS was in the House, and was the acknowledged mouthpiece of that imbecile Executive, and the "power behind the throne" which controlled that reckless and profligate administration.

Having complete control of the Legislature, one of Mr. STEVENS' first acts of unprecedented wrong and outrage on the constitutional rights and privileges of his fellow-citizens, was to organize a sort of star-chamber Inquisition, with himself as Chairman, and compel the attendance (in mid-winter) of ex-Governor WOLF, Hon. GEORGE M. DALLAS, Rev. WILLIAM T. SPROLE, and scores of other gentlemen, equally respectable, for the purpose of forcing them to disclose the secrets of Free Masonry. But he met with such a scathing rebuke from several of those gentlemen, as to cause him to quit beneath the frowns of an indignant commonwealth.

His next outrage against popular opinion was the re-charter of the rotten United States Bank by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, after it had received its death blow in Congress. This effort concerned, by the sickly existence given to it by Mr. STEVENS, had a brief and inglorious career, and soon exploded, bringing ruin and beggary to hundreds of widows and orphans who were induced to place their all in its vaults on account of its re-charter.

His reckless extravagance was manifested during RITTER's administration, in building "Tape Worm Railroads," which began in the woods, and ended nowhere, the Wisconsin Feeder, and other foolish and unnecessary improvements, so called, which cost the State SEVERAL MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, and were of no manner of use after they were completed.

During 1837-8 he was a member of the Reform Convention, from Adams county, for amending the Constitution of the State, and only signalized himself by advocating an amendment to strike out the word "white," in the first section of the third article, so as to give negroes the right of suffrage; and because the Convention would not do it at his bidding, he refused to subscribe his name to the new Constitution. He thus early gave unmistakable indications of his Abolition proclivities, and he has maintained them from that day to this, with persevering and increasing tenacity.

But the crowning act in Mr. STEVENS' infamous legislative career, was in his bold and wicked attempt to defraud Governor PORTER out of his election in 1838, by treating the election "as though it had not been held," and urging JOHN MONTGOMERY, an honest member of his own Anti-Masonic party, to "throw conscience to the devil," in order to aid him in revolutionizing the government by trampling under his unhallowed feet, the Constitution and laws, and the solemn decision at the ballot box, of the sovereign people of the Commonwealth. And, in order still farther to accomplish, if possible, his treacherable purpose, he initiated the celebrated and odious "Buckshot war," and thus made the diabolical effort to overturn the State government by the aid of a large body of armed troops! This bold and infamous outrage, which was commenced on his part by jumping out of the back window of the Senate Chamber and escaping in the darkness of the night, from

the swift retribution which then and there awaited him, was brought to an end, but not until it involved the Commonwealth in an expenditure of not less than TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS! This ended his legislative career at Harrisburg.

Having broken down as a politician in Adams county, and completely destroyed the ascendancy of the Whig party in that previous stronghold, he packed up his duds and came to Lancaster, about the year 1842, for the purpose of bettering his political and financial fortunes. In 1848 he had so far ingratiated himself into the good graces of the then overpowering Whig party, that he was elected to Congress, and again in 1850, claiming both times to care more for the tariff than any other political issue. But what did he do when elected? Nothing whatever for the industrial interests of his constituents; but the negro, and the negro alone, came in for any share of his affectionate attention and sympathy. Every speech made by him in both Congresses (and the record can be appealed to for the truth of the declaration), was filled with abuse of Southern men and Southern institutions. This was the hobby, and only hobby, he rode by day and by night, from 1849 to 1853, and he opposed, with all his talents and insulting sarcasm, the compromise measures of 1850, brought forward and advocated with great eloquence and ability by the immortal HENRY CLAY, and supported by all the leading and patriotic statesmen of that period, without distinction of party.

After an interregnum of six years, Mr. STEVENS was again elected to Congress in 1858, then again in 1860, and is now, for the fifth time, once more a candidate for the same exalted and responsible station. His record is before the people, and a successful contradiction is challenged when the avowment is made that his most intimate associations have always been with the radical men of the Abolition stripe—with such disunion agitators as SUMNER, and GIDDINGS, and GREELEY, and WENDELL PHILLIPS, and GARRETTSON, and LOVEJOY, and WADE—and that all his speeches, whether upon the floor of Congress or before assemblages of the people, have been mainly composed of the utterance of Abolition sentiments, and in total disregard of the interests of white men.

Mr. STEVENS would set the Constitution of the United States aside, (as he attempted with the Constitution of Pennsylvania, in 1838), and would trample under foot, as an unholy thing, that sacred instrument which is the only guarantee we have for the security of our rights of person and property as free American citizens. He would do all this—aye, more, he would see our glorious old Union "shattered into ten thousand atoms," rather than there should be any compromise for the adjustment of our national difficulties. He would rather (and so avowed it before the convention which placed him in nomination), carry fire and sword, death and indiscriminate destruction to every homestead in the South, and clothe the North with the habiliments of mourning for fathers, sons, and brothers slain in battle, and saddle the people of the free States with an incalculable burden of debt, from which ages will not be able to extricate them, rather than give up a single Abolition dogma or principle he has ever uttered. With that notorious Abolitionist, BEN WADE, of Ohio, he holds the infamous sentiment that "the man who quotes the Constitution now is a traitor," and he has never been known, in public or private, to utter a single word against the Abolitionists or their pet measures in Congress; but, on the contrary, has even gone so far as to denounce the administration of President LINCOLN for not freeing the negroes and allowing them to emigrate North and come in competition with white labor—although Mr. LINCOLN has stated that the freed slaves will do nothing but eat, and the Government is daily obliged to issue thousands upon thousands of rations to support these lazy and worthless people, whilst many of

the families of the brave men who are engaged in fighting the battles of their country are permitted to starve at home.

But, enough of the everlasting negro question. Nobody ever doubted, nobody now doubts, that STEVENS is a rank, uncompromising Abolitionist, so bitter and malignant in his feelings and prejudices as to make him the most odious and objectionable member of Congress from any of the free States, and the greatest hindrance to the restoration of the Union. The Union never can be restored if such men as THADDEUS STEVENS are again returned to Congress, and the people of Lancaster county have, therefore, an immense responsibility resting upon them which they cannot shirk if they would.

It is stated above that he broke up the Whig party in Adams county more than twenty years ago. Has he not attempted the same thing in Lancaster county? Did he not essay to defeat BENJAMIN REINHOLD, the Whig candidate for County Treasurer, in 1855? And did he not, when failing to have PETER MARTIN elected Prothonotary, in 1857, attempt the same game here (only on a smaller scale), that he did in Harrisburg, in 1838, by treating the election of WILLIAM CARPENTER as a nullity, and thereby saddling the county with several thousands of dollars in the shape of costs? And the respectable Judges, who honestly and conscientiously decided the matter in Court, incurred his bitter hatred and ill-will, and for this he prevented their re-nomination in 1861, and procured the nomination of two ultra Abolitionists in their stead; but the conservative people of the county, in their righteous indignation, rallied in their strength and re-elected Judges LONG and BRINTON, over the pet candidates of this arch demagogue, by a handsome majority.

The above is a brief summary of the doings of THADDEUS STEVENS for the last quarter of a century. But the half has not been told respecting this bold, bad man. Page after page might be written to show the desperate character of this pestilent agitator and rank Abolition Disunionist. It might be shown that he has no feelings in common with the great mass of his constituency, that he is nothing more nor less than a rank and turbulent Abolitionist of the GREELEY school, and therefore totally unfit to represent the conservative masses of this district. It might also be demonstrated that he is no real friend of President LINCOLN, and that he is an open and avowed enemy of the gallant and accomplished General MCCLELLAN. It is also apparent that his sole object, since the commencement of hostilities, has been to frustrate the wishes of the President, and convert it into a bloody war, not for the restoration of the old Union as it was, but for the emancipation of the negroes; and if time and space permitted, any number of extracts might be quoted from his speeches, to prove the undeniable fact. But enough has been said at this late stage of the political campaign which is now rapidly drawing to a close.

The people of Lancaster county have the case fairly stated, and it will be for them to determine at the ballot box, whether they will be any longer willing to basely bow the knee to the dark spirit of Abolitionism, which broods over our once happy country like a death pall, and saddle themselves and their posterity with a grievous burden of debt to free and support in idleness four millions of negroes; or whether, by electing GEORGE M. STEINMAN, a pure and honest man, and a true patriot, they will cling to the Constitution and the Union of our fathers, as "the shipwrecked mariner clings to the last plank, when night and the tempest close around him," to use the language of the great WEBSTER, and drive the foul spirits of disunion—Abolitionism and secession—"to the vile depths from which they sprung, unwept, unhonored, and unsung."

The following letter from Henry Clay was written to the Rev. Mr. Colton, one of his warmest political and personal friends, and may be found in Colton's Life of Henry Clay. The letter speaks for itself:

"ASHLAND, September 23, 1843.

"MY DEAR SIR:—Allow me to select a subject for one of your tracts, which, treated in your popular and condensed way, I think would be attended with great and good effect. I mean Abolition.

"It is manifest that the ultras of that party are extremely mischievous, and are hurrying on the country to fearful consequences. They are not to be conciliated by the Whigs. Engrossed with a single idea they care for nothing else.

"And yet they would see the Administration of the Government precipitate the nation into absolute ruin before they would lend a helping hand to arrest

its career. They treat worse, denounce most, those who treat them best, who so far agree with them as to admit slavery to be an evil. Witness their conduct towards Mr. Briggs and Mr. Adams of Massachusetts, and towards me.

"I will give you an outline of the manner in which I would handle it. Show the origin of slavery. Trace its introduction to the British Government. Show how it is dispensed by the Federal Constitution, that it is left exclusively to the States, except in regard to fugitives, direct taxes, and representation. Show that the agitation of the question in the free States will finally destroy all harmony, and finally lead to DISUNION, POVERTY, AND PERPETUAL WAR. THE EXTERMINATION OF THE AFRICAN RACE—ULTIMATE MILITARY DESPOTISM.

"But the great aim and object of your tract should be to arouse the laboring classes of the free States against Abolition. Depict the consequences to them of immediate Abolition. The slaves, being free, would be 1,000,000

throughout the Union; they would enter into competition with the free laborer—with the American, the Irish, the German—reduce his wages, be confounded with him, and affect his moral and social standing. And as the ultras go both for Abolition and Amalgamation, show that their object is to unite in marriage the white laboring man and black woman, to reduce the white laboring man to the despised and degraded condition of the black man.

"I would show their opposition to colonization. Show its humane, religious and patriotic aim. Why do Abolitionists oppose colonization? To keep and amalgamate together two races in violation of God's will, and keep the blacks here that they may interfere with, degrade and debase the laboring whites! Show that the British Government is co-operating with the Abolitionists for the purpose of dissolving the Union. I am perfectly satisfied that it will do great good. Let me hear from you on this subject.

HENRY CLAY."