

NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS UPON THE PAPER ON  
THADDEUS STEVENS

Appearing in the March Number

Attention is called to the fact that the paper on Stevens was not read before the Society at the March meeting. It was published by its author in 1916; and was merely presented at March meeting so as to be made a part of the proceedings of this Society.

Attention is also called to certain omissions of matter which were parts of the original paper and which somewhat modify the sense of the whole.

The next to the last sentence in the second paragraph, page 49, should state that from 1856 until his death, Stevens made his home at the place stated.

In the third paragraph after the third sentence the following lines should appear: "About the spring of 1844, the late Emanuel C. Reigart erected on the west side of South Queen street, between Centre Square and Vine streets, three three-story brick dwellings. One of these, then numbered 11, but now numbered 38, he leased to Mr. Stevens, and the others were occupied by Hon. Thomas H. Burrowes and Charles B. Penrose, Esq., the grandfather of Senator Boies Penrose. Mr. Penrose was then a practicing lawyer in this city. Mr. Stevens remained in this location until 1856, when, owing to the pending marriage of Mr. Reigart's daughter to the late William P. Brinton, he was obliged to vacate. He then moved across the street to his own house. Mrs. Brinton was married on November 12, 1856, and shortly thereafter moved to the South Queen street property, where she continued to reside, as we all know, until recent years."

After the first sentence, second paragraph, page 51 stating that Mr. Stevens cared nothing for social life the following lines should appear: "but he, nevertheless, did not disregard what he deemed were the amenities to his position. During his later Congressional years he gave large parties, which many prominent people of this city attended. The following is a copy of one of his invitations, now in the possession of Mr. George Steinman:

"Lancaster, August 21st, 1860.

"Mr. Thaddeus Stevens requests the company of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wright on the evening of Friday, the 24th inst."

Owing to his having no female relatives in his home, at one of these parties his friend and neighbor, Mrs. Brinton, received for him, and at another Mrs. Oliver J. Dickey performed the same service. The purpose I have in view of recalling these functions of bygone days is to show that Mr. Stevens, instead of being a man of low character and associations, as asserted by his detractors, was recognized and esteemed in this community as a gentleman of standing."

Following this paragraph the following should be inserted as the next paragraph: "Pennsylvania College was founded in 1832 at Gettysburg, under the auspices of the General Synod of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Stevens was, as I have said, at that time practicing law in Adams county, and he resided there. In 1834 he was elected a trustee of this institution, and he continued to hold that position during the rest of his life. In its earlier years he took a conspicuous part in the business of the college, and by his will he bequeathed to it the sum of \$1,000. It will be remembered that Gettysburg was then, and is even now, a small town, where members of the Bar, especially, were well known. Mr. Stevens would not have been thus connected with this church institution, if, at that time, his morals were as questionable as Dixon asserts."