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## Belknap's Impeachment.

The impeachment articles against Mr. Belknap, reported to the House by the Judiciary Committee, are five in number, and are worded in the usual legal phraseology, one being largely in repetition of the other.—The first article is as follows:

That William W. Belknap, while he was in office as Secretary of War, on the 8th of October, 1870—had the power and authority under the laws of the United States, as Secretary of the War, to appoint a person to maintain a trading establishment at Fort Sill, a military post of the United States; that said Belknap promised to appoint one Caleb P. Marsh to maintain said trading establishment at said military post, and thereafter the said Caleb P. Marsh and one John S. Evans did enter into an agreement in writing, substantially as follows: [Here the articles of agreement are set up in extenso;] that thereafter, on the 10th of October, 1870, said Belknap, as Secretary of War, did, at the instance and request of said Marsh, appoint said John S. Evans to maintain said trading establishment at Fort Sill, and in consideration of such appointment that said Belknap did, on or about the 2d of November, 1870, unlawfully and corruptly receive from said Marsh the sum of \$1,500, and did at divers times thereafter, that is on or about the 17th of January 1871, and about the end of each three months during the term of one whole year, while he was still in office as Secretary of War, unlawfully receive from said Marsh like sums of \$1,500 in consideration of the appointment of said Evans; and in consideration of his (Belknap's) permitting said Evans to continue to maintain said trading establishment at Fort Sill, whereby the said William W. Belknap, who was the Secretary of War, as aforesaid, was guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors in office.

The second article recites:

That said Wm. W. Belknap, while Secretary of War, as aforesaid, did, on the 4th of November, 1873, wilfully, corruptly and unlawfully take and receive from said Marsh the sum of \$1,500, in consideration that he would continue to permit John S. Evans to maintain a trading establishment at Fort Sill, and that he did improperly permit the said Evans to continue to maintain the said trading establishment at the said military post, and the said Belknap was there by guilty, while he was Secretary of War, of high misdemeanors in his office.

The third article recites:

That said Wm. W. Belknap, while Secretary of War of the United States, did appoint John S. Evans to maintain a trading establishment at Fort Sill, and that said Evans by virtue of such appointment had since, until the 2d day of March, 1876, maintained that trading establishment, and had before he was so appointed, and in order to procure such appointment and be continued therein, agreed with Marsh that in consideration of said Belknap's appointing him (Evans) to maintain said trading establishment, at the instance and request of said Marsh, he (Evans) would pay to him (Marsh) a large sum of money quarterly in advance from the date of his said appointment by said Belknap—to wit, \$12,000—during the year, and other large sums quarterly during each year, in order that he, the said Evans, should be permitted by said Belknap to maintain such trading establishment at such post; that Evans did pay to Marsh such sums of money quarterly during each year until the month of December, 1875; that Marsh, upon the receipt of each of such payments, paid one half thereof to Belknap, and the said Belknap, while knowing

these facts, and having power to remove Evans, from such position at any time, criminally disregarded his duty as Secretary of War, and basely prostituting his high office to his lust for private gains, did unlawfully and corruptly continue said Evans in such position, and permit him to maintain his establishment to the great injury and damage of officers and soldiers of the army of the United States stationed at such post, as well as to emigrants and freighters and other citizens of the United States, against public policy, and to the great disgrace and detriment of the public service, whereby William W. Belknap was, as Secretary of War, guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors in office.

Article 4 charges Belknap with having received from Marsh large sums of money for and in consideration of his (Belknap's) having appointed Evans to maintain a trading establishment at Fort Sill, and in consideration of his continuing him therein, whereby he (Belknap) had been guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors in office. This article is accompanied by seventeen specifications setting out various times and circumstances of payments of money. Article 5, after reciting the same general facts, charges that Belknap was induced to make the appointment of Evans by the influence and request of Marsh, and that Evans paid to Marsh in consideration of such influence and request, divers large sums of money at various times, amounting to about \$12,000 a year from the date of such appointment to the 2d of March, 1876, all of which facts the said Belknap well knew, yet said Belknap, in consideration that he would permit said Evans to continue to maintain said trading establishment, and that such payments might continue to be made to said Marsh by said Evans, corruptly received from said Marsh, either for his own (Belknap's) use or to be paid to the wife of said Belknap, divers large sums of money at various times, setting out the dates and amounts; all of which acts and doings were while the said Belknap was Secretary of War, and were high misdemeanors in office.

The close of the document is as follows:

And the House of Representatives, by protestation, saving to themselves the liberty of exhibiting at any time thereafter any further articles of accusation or impeachment against said Wm. W. Belknap, late Secretary of War of the United States, and also of replying to his answers, which he shall make unto the articles herein preferred against him, and of offering proof to the same and every part thereof, and to all and every other article of accusation or impeachment which shall be exhibited by them as the case shall require, do demand that the said Wm. W. Belknap may be put to answer for the high crimes and misdemeanors in office herein charged against him, and that such proceedings, examinations, trials and judgements may be thereupon had and given as may be agreeable to law and justice.

The committee also report the following:

RESOLVED, That seven managers be appointed by ballot to conduct the impeachment exhibited against Wm. W. Belknap, late Secretary of War of the United States.

One night last week some fiend went to the house of Capt. Richard Moss, and opening the door saying: "your money or your life," fired upon him as he lay before the fire, and then fled. Capt. Moss received a slight wound in the thigh. He is an old man lives some five miles from Spartanburg and says that he thinks the attempted robber and murderer was a black man. The ball has not been extracted.

## The Lancaster Affair.

Judge Mackey's charge to the grand jury of Chester in which he made a statement of the action of the grand jury of Lancaster, on account of which he had discharged them before they had performed all the duties enjoined upon them by law. The Ledger contains the following in reply to the Judge's remarks:

In a brief manner we will note the falsity of Judge Mackey's statements in the case alluded to above.

1. The Court was not in session when the difficulty occurred, nor did the presiding Judge know anything about it until about one hour after it did occur. And he was then informed of it by the Clerk of Court.

2. Consequently, there was no crowd rushing from the Court House or through the streets.

3. The editor of this paper visited the wounded man in company with the Sheriff about one and a half hours after the occurrence, and found his wound dressed and him comfortably sleeping in his room at the hotel.—There was no excitement on the streets, and but very little at the time the affair occurred.

4. Gardner, who the Judge says is a notorious desperado, is a young man about 20 years old. This is the first difficulty we have ever known him to be engaged in. The young man who was shot was about the age of Gardner, and they were intimate acquaintances. They were both under the influence of liquor at the time of the occurrence.

5. The ball did not enter the head, but entered the right side of the face and came out on the left side of the nose.

6. The facts (?) recited by Judge Mackey were never made known to the grand jury; and the Judge must have picked them up on the streets or in his secret caucusses.

7. As to the dogs "licking the blood of Gardner's victim," such an expression is characteristic of Judge Mackey. It is unnecessary for us to contradict such a statement. Every sane man knows that it is not true.

8. The Judge charges the Grand Jury of Lancaster with "a deliberate violation of a most solemn oath." In other words, that they have perjured themselves. The Grand Jury of Lancaster are made out of different material from what we think they are, if they do not give Judge Mackey the opportunity to prove this assertion in the courts.

Mr. W. L. DePass, who it will be remembered, was represented by Gov. Chamberlain as condemning the grand jury and justifying the action of Judge Mackey, has written to the Ledger to deny the statements attributed to him by the Governor. The feeling in Lancaster continues to be one of intense indignation alike at the action of the Judge, and at that of the House of Representatives in refusing an investigation. A meeting of the citizens was called for Monday last, to give expression to the feeling of the people. The grand jury were likewise requested to meet at the same time.

The more we learn of this unfortunate affair, the more are we convinced that there should be a full investigation of Judge Mackey's course towards the grand jury of Lancaster. There can surely be no reasonable objection to a searching inquiry into the matter: it would be as much in justice to Judge Mackey himself as to those who deplore and condemn the course he pursued towards the grand jury on the occasion in question. In deed, he should seek an investigation, as the surest and speediest mode of vindicating his judicial character.

Pinchback says he "expects to see a colored landside to the Democracy, and a solid Democratic South in the electoral college." He says he "would not be surprised if there is no Republican electoral ticket in the Southern States at the next election."

Lucy Kennon, of Kentucky, aged 123 years, is in poor health.

## The Latest Treason.

The Union is threatened. Secret and subtle enemies are at work to destroy it. The war of secession was an open and declared movement supported by great resources, determined valor, and genius of the highest order. The result demonstrated the utter helplessness of attempt; but the fall of the Confederacy did not secure the perpetuity of the Federal compact. The Union to day is menaced by its professed friends, and dying from the blows of its avowed champions.

Americans have not yet forgotten the great principle enunciated by Webster in the peroration of that famous speech which he delivered in reply to Hayne: "Liberty and Union, one and inseparable."

It would be impossible to express the conditions of Federal prosperity in fewer words. They mean not only that without union there can be no liberty, but also that without liberty there can be no union. The term union comprehends the confederation of equals, not such a commingling and consolidation of parts as destroys their several identities. In a word, the policy of centralization, if persevered in, will prove fatal to that system of government which secession left intact. Let the present policy of the Administration at Washington be adhered to, let the central power strip sovereign States of their autonomy in the interest of a party, let local elections be placed under the control of Federal influences, and before another Presidential term shall have elapsed the magnificent scheme of the fathers of the constitution will have proved a hopeless failure.—Centralization is the crime which Republicanism is laboring to commit. The secessionists strove to separate the State; the Republicans are striving to destroy them. Jefferson Davis with all his armies at his back, was never so formidable an enemy of the Union as are General Grant and the administration clique, with that host of office holders, whose silent and baneful influence is slowly sapping the foundations of free institutions in every section of the country. It would be a fatal mistake to suppose that this influence has as yet only extended to a few Southern States. It has undermined the whole Union. The case is one of those in which the patient's unconsciousness of his peril is his worse symptom.—

Wherever a postmaster, a custom house officer, a United States Marshal has been stationed because of his partisan devotion, there the seeds of central despotism have already begun to germinate. In Louisiana a United States Marshal assists in reversing the result of an election; in Missouri a lot of revenue officers enter into a conspiracy to defraud the public Treasury and raise a campaign fund. In both States the central power has been attempting to strengthen itself at the expense of the public honor and liberty.—New Orleans Picayune.

Considering all the opportunities the late Francis P. Blair enjoyed and the prominent positions he occupied in life, it is rather surprising to know that he died worth only \$500, as appears by the letters of administration granted recently at St. Louis on his estate. He was three times a member of the House of Representatives, and at the beginning of the war was chairman of the military committee.—He served throughout the war and rose to the rank of major general.—Then he went to the United States Senate and came out of that poor. In an era when so many of our public men make money and very few rise to eminence without it, Gen. Blair's success in attaining a certain degree of eminence, and then dying next door to penury, is quite remarkable.

## Responsibility of the Republicans.

The New York Herald remarks that "it is idle rhetoric to attempt to show that the crime of a man like Belknap is an evidence of the corruption of a whole party or a whole people." This is perfectly true; but the crime of Belknap, unfortunately, does not stand alone. The Whiskey Ring extends from Chicago to New Orleans, when Babcock was indicted Attorney General Pierpont paralyzed the Government. The "party" is certainly responsible for this. The corruptions in the War Department are not confined to the late Secretary, together with those of Babcock, have been making fortunes out of jobs.—The "party" is certainly responsible for this. The Navy Department has expended vast sums to control elections and the Philadelphia Yard, worth \$3,000,000, was sold for \$1,000,000. The "party" is certainly responsible for this. The Freedman's Bank has plundered the credulous people of color of millions, and the "party" is certainly responsible for this. Mr. Minister Schenck has pulled out the tail feathers of the American Eagle in London, and the Emma Mine scandal has brought the blush of shame to the cheek of every American abroad. The "party" is certainly responsible for this. We all know that great sums were spent in straw contracts in the Postoffice Department, and for this the "party" is certainly responsible.

It is a matter of common notoriety that Grant has been intimate with the lowest men in the country—the Fiskes, the Murpheys, and the McDonaids, and that he has always refused to interfere with an official "underfire;" that is, he has treated public opinion with as much contempt as if he were a second Peter the Great, and not a constitutional magistrate. The "party" is responsible for this.

Last of all, it is a lamentable fact that when the Republicans had a majority in the House no investigation could be made, no rascals were brought to justice, no reforms introduced, and for this the "party" is certainly responsible. Yes, the responsibility now rests with the Republicans, but the people must take it up and bear it to their everlasting shame unless they hurl the thieves and robbers from office.—Telegram.

The New York Herald says: Had the decision of the Supreme Court, declaring the enforcement law unconstitutional, been rendered at an earlier period, before the Republican party lost control of the House of Representatives, Congress would forthwith have passed a new bill avoiding the objections made against that which is now adjudged void. The Court fully admits that Congress may pass a law for ensuring the civil and political equality of the negroes. If the Republican party had sooner known that by attempting too much they had accomplished nothing, it would have been in their power to substitute appropriate legislation for the unconstitutional law which they enacted. But this decision of the Supreme Court, coming when it does, not only annuls the Enforcement Act, but puts that provision of the constitution in abeyance which authorizes Congress to pass laws for the protection of negro equality. After the unscrupulous abuses of legislation practiced by the Republican party under color of that authority, and which the Supreme Court has condemned, the Democrats are not likely to consent to any further legislation on the ensuing two years at least, will have to depend for protection on the State government. There will be no further interposition of Federal authority supported by Federal bayonets to support their rights or redress their wrongs. This important decision marks the beginning of a new era in the political relation of the negro race in our Southern States.

If the Southern governments should be just, humane and considerate, they can easily detach their colored citizens from the Republican party and virtually annihilate that party throughout the South. The negroes will be likely to class this bogus Enforcement law with the broken Freedman's Savings Bank. They will feel with keen resentment that their rights have been no safer than their money in the custody of the Republican party. Finding their hopes disappointed, their confidence abused, and that they must, after all, depend for protection and prosperity on the communities with which their lot is cast, they will be disposed to co-operate more cordially with their immediate fellow-citizens than they have ever been since their emancipation. They have nothing to depend upon now but their own industry and sobriety and the justice and good will of their neighbors. If the whites act with sense and moderation, the undecieved negroes will hereafter give them no trouble.

CHESTER C. H., April 2.—The trial of F. B. Lloyd, School Commissioner of this county, came off yesterday before Col. F. W. McMaster, appointed Judge by the Governor, under the special provision of the constitution; Lloyd being the brother-in-law of Judge Mackey, the latter could not preside. Judge McMaster, after hearing argument in the case, instructed the jury to find a verdict of not guilty. The jury retired and remained out twenty minutes, and returned with a verdict of guilty, whereupon Judge McMaster ordered the verdict to be set aside, and further, upon his own motion, ordered that the indictment be not pressed. He decided that it was no offense, under the law, for a School Commissioner to buy teachers' pay certificates issued by his predecessor in office.

The trial B. G. Yocum was referred to a special term of the court, to be held on the 18th of April. The Grand Jury presented to the court the fact that the amount of \$1,800, provided by law for court expenses for 1876, is entirely exhausted; that the expenses of the court for the term held last September are not paid, and that there will be at the end of this year, on that account, a deficiency of \$3,500.

THE DYNAMITE FRIEND.—Official investigation of the dynamite explosion at Bromerhaven develops the following regarding Thomas: That his real name was Alexander Keith, Jr.; that he was born in Halifax, N. S.; that he harbored and aided blockade runners and became one himself, and that he absconded from Halifax in 1864 with \$150,000 or \$200,000, entrusted to him by the Confederates to buy provisions for the Southern army. The report states that the amount embezzled was equal to the larger amount above mentioned, and included \$32,000 insurance on the steamer Caledonia, which was lost at sea. Keith subsequently lived in New York as Alexander King Thompson, but his connections there are unknown. In 1865 he appeared at Highland in possession of \$80,000. He married there Miss Coelia Paris. A Confederate Colonel named Smoot, whom he had defrauded, had him arrested and taken to St. Louis, when the matter was compromised, he fearing other prosecutions. In 1866 he came to Europe with his wife. No accessions to the Bremerhaven crime have been discovered. The model submitted by Her Fuchs is the original work made to order for Keith by the workman Rinn. The report concludes by stating that the inquiries in England are not yet definitely concluded.

The fact that Taft is a Unitarian gives ground to the hope that he will not leave the punishment of the war department thieves to be inflicted in another world.—Chicago (Indiana) Times.