

I have only to say in reply to my friend that if there were soldiers here from anywhere else who voted for McClellan, I am very glad they are gone. And if those who are here came from Maine, voting as they have voted on this occasion, I am very glad they are here; and I hope they will stay here long enough to make good Union people out of some other people that are here. As to the merits of these two gentlemen—the candidates for the presidency of the United States—they are before the world. As to General McClellan, all I have to say of him is this, that I feel toward him as a simple lad felt about a sheep on a certain occasion. The father died, leaving two sons. In his estate, to be divided, was a flock of sheep. One of the brothers was sharp-witted and the other was dull; and the latter was particularly attached to Billy, his pet lamb.

Mr. MILLER (in his seat.) We have heard that story before.

Mr. SANDS. It may do you good to hear it again, and if it is not a new story, it is a new application of an old story.

The sharp brother went to work and divided the sheep into two lots, putting all the best into one lot, and all the good-for-nothing and scabby ones into the other, and then put Billy, the pet lamb among the scabby sheep, confident that his silly brother would choose the flock to which Billy belonged. The half-witted young man came to the pen and looked at his favorite. "Billy, I love you. I have always liked you, Billy. I like you still, Billy. I would like to keep you, Billy, but I can't do it; you are in bad company, and I must quit you."

That is exactly the way I feel toward General McClellan. He has got into company I cannot possibly keep, and if I quit him it is his fault and not mine. He is now the candidate of the peace democracy, who illustrated their peace principles out at Chicago the other day by a fight upon the floor of their convention. He is the gentleman of whom my friend from St. Mary's (Mr. Harris,) following Mr. Long, said: "For Heaven's sake, don't put such a weight as this upon a weak platform. The platform is bad enough, but put this man on it and he will crush you."

I would not have said anything that I sympathize with the class of men who voted, more than I do with the peace advocates upon this floor. They are men who have risked their lives in the cause of the country. They have left home and all that is dear to them, and spent their time for years and their blood in oceans for the land of my birth, and I love them. I am sure that the vote placed upon our record here to-night is only a faint indication of that which is going to be placed in the ballot-box in November next; for I am sure that the brother soldiers of those who voted for McClellan have since ex-

pressed themselves ashamed of the act. I trust that whatever may be the result of these little indications, in hospitals, railway cars, and steamers, the people mean to press onward to the great end to be accomplished in the next four years—the preservation of their country from disruption and destruction, which is the object every true patriot has at heart. It is not the question of any little party power, which may result in placing McClellan, or anybody else, in high position, but of such action as is going to result in the re-establishment of this Union in all its integrity and power. The people have made up their minds to this, and even if they have to war four years longer, and wade through a deeper sea of blood, they are going to that end. God speed them to it. It is your salvation and mine to war on this side of the Potomac with those who are now striving to divide the country in order to get you and me by the throat to become their victims. I trust in God first to preserve my country, and then I trust in the brave men who are battling for it this day.

Mr. BELT. I desire simply to say that the magnificent and characteristic reply of the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Daniel) did not come upon us more like a thunderbolt than the appearance of the gentleman from Howard (Mr. Sands.) If anybody had known he was in the house there would not have been a word said. If he had been here the remarks of my colleague would unquestionably never have been uttered. The gentleman left here with an open, public declaration, that he had gone home to attend court, and did not intend to come back any more.

Mr. SANDS. The gentleman is as wide from the facts there as with regard to the soldiers voting. I expected to be back last night but was kept away by important business.

Mr. BELT. With reference to any hopes that the remarks of any person here will now change any one's politics, I am astonished that after four months of tri-weekly war-speeches, harangues in support of the administration, and demonstrations against the peace party, the gentleman should ever have supposed that those who had proved refractory under that infliction, or that administration of physic, I may say, would ever be capable of being cured by the application of anything of a sterner sort.

There is only one remark more I have to make to close this matter up, so far as I am concerned, and that is that I do not want my coming to the support of this cause to be taken in the widest sense, as an entire indorsement of the action of the democratic party. That may require some consideration. Although being very practical in my political course, I think it quite probable that I may agree to the present arrangements.