

great and good man whose memory we celebrate—and teach all the people over whom it is exercised, the same spirit. That is Washington's government—and that is the government we are seeking to restore. Upon different occasions his eulogy has been pronounced. The silver-voiced Everett has exhausted the stores of his matchless rhetoric upon the subject—and nothing further in words can be added. But what a eulogy would that be upon the life and character of our peerless Washington, if, upon this day—when the public heart must be chastened by the endearing memories it suggests—our erring brethren, softened by the recollections of the past, and convinced of the utter hopelessness of the cause in which they are engaged, would return once more, in the language of the Address, to the only “palladium of their political safety and prosperity.” What an auspicious day for such a return—not as the cowed victims of subjugation—not as prisoners of war; but as freemen, who have made a fearful mistake, it is true, but who are ready, at the same time, to acknowledge it! But let them understand that such an acknowledgment is due, and will be demanded, and that no proposition of peace can be entertained until Confederate banners are furled and Confederate arms grounded. They struck the first blow—they must make the first amends.

Upon them, not upon us, rests the responsibility of this war. It can only end when the old flag shall again wave from Fort Sumter, where it was first stricken down, and until every foot of rebellious territory, from the Potomac to the Gulf, again claims its protection and recognizes its authority. When that day comes the pilgrim will again wend his grateful way to Mount Vernon, and as he pauses amid the quiet and solitude of that sacred spot, more dear will be to him the memory of Washington, and more profound the veneration for his wisdom, since he not only founded the best Government ever bequeathed to man, but so fixed it in the affections of the people that no combination under heaven can accomplish its destruction.

On motion of Mr. Alexander,

Ordered, That the thanks of the House be tendered to Mr. Findlay for his eloquent and patriotic address just delivered, and that he be requested to deliver to the Clerk a copy thereof, to be entered on the Journal of the House and to be published in pamphlet form for the use of members of the two Houses of Assembly; and, in the event of his compliance with this request, one thousand copies thereof be printed for the purposes aforesaid.

The Benediction was pronounced by Rev. Thomas Sewall, D. D.; and

The Honorable, the Speaker, declared the House adjourned until Monday morning, at 11 o'clock.