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will read another quotation from his speech. "Our prisoners suffered in federal hands, and we know how, if we choose to tell, thousands of our poor fellows came home from Elmira, from Delaware and other places, with fingers frozen off and their teeth fallen out." Was that in the line of what I had said, or was it a simple assertion from the gentleman from Georgia?

Hill—"I said these were necessary incidents to all prisons."

Blaine—"Do I understand that the gentleman is now going to back down from that assertion?"

Hill—"I saw them with my own eyes."

Blaine—"The gentleman from the Elmira district, Walker, and I honor him for it, was not held in lash by party fidelity and by southern sympathy, but he came out like a man and vindicated his constituents. There are on that side of the house two gentlemen who represent, in part, constituents that surround Camp Douglas. I refer to Caulfield and Harrison, and I ask them to say whether, to their best knowledge and belief, there was any cruel treatment of prisoners at Chicago. I yield to them for that purpose."

Caulfield, rising on the democratic side of the House, said, "The gentleman has seen fit to call on me for my testimony in regard to the treatment of prisoners at Camp Douglas. I do not wish him to suppose from my silence that I fully acquiesce in what he has said."

Blaine, interrupting—"In what who has said, the gentleman from Georgia or myself?"

Caulfield—"In what the gentleman from Maine has said."

Blaine, sneeringly—"Oh!" (laughter.)

Caulfield—"I rose to say that there were hardships in Camp Douglas which were experienced by prisoners from the South, but these hardships were incidental to the climate and to the emergency of imprisonment."

Hill, in a low tone—"That's right; in that I agree with you."

Caulfield—"I do not, however, say, but there were certain instances of cruelty which occurred in that camp to my knowledge, but they were not of such number or such character as to make a general charge against the officers of that camp."

Hill, in a low tone—"That's right, and I make none."

Caulfield—"I remember some instances myself. I happened to be one of a number appointed to ameliorate the sufferings of prisoners at Camp Douglas; they were brought there in winter, the weather was cold, and it was impossible to make them comfortable, and there was a great deal of suffering, but I regarded that suffering as only incidental to the circumstances which surrounded them at the time. Every effort was made to make them comfortable, both on the part of the State and the government, but there were some cruelties inflicted there to my own knowledge; but I do not think it would be fair to charge the government with that, they were chargeable to the inhumanity of certain individuals in charge of them."

Hill—"That is all that meant."

Blaine, to Caulfield—"Will you state whether the prisoners who came from Ft. Douglass did not share the same quarters and have exactly the same accommodations as the troops had had who left Camp Douglass, which was their camp, and went to Ft. Douglass, changing places with the prisoners."

Caulfield—"My memory doesn't serve me."

Blaine, ironically—"Oh! The gentleman does not recollect that Camp Douglass was made for Union soldiers, and was the great recruiting camp of northern Illinois?"

Caulfield—"Now that you bring it to my recollection I think the fact was so."

Blaine, still more ironically—"Oh my, what a recollection! That is equal to the recollection of the gentleman from Georgia, who did not recollect the other day whether he offered the resolution which I read."

Caulfield, severely—"My dear sir, I want you to understand that when I state what my recollection is about a certain point I do not wish you to stand on this floor and question my veracity."

Blaine—"I said it was a strange recollection, but I do not question the gentleman's veracity at all."

Caulfield—"Then if it is a strange recollection I am not responsible for it."

Blaine—"But I say this, if the gentleman does not recollect that Camp Douglass was the recruiting place from which those great, noble gallant regiments went out who represented Illinois in so many battle fields, he is the only man in all Illinois who does not."

Caulfield—"But sir—"

Blaine, waiving him down—"That is all I desire."

Caulfield, persistently—"My dear sir, you called me to the witness stand, and you cannot discredit me because I do not discredit myself. I have a right to answer your question fully, and say that when you first spoke of the question as to whether atrocities had been committed in Camp Douglas, my attention was naturally attracted to the time when these men were prisoners there and it was not drawn to the point as to whether that camp was first filled by federal soldiers or not; but now that the gentleman has drawn my attention to the fact, I say I think it is so. I may be permitted to add that the argument which he makes against my recollection is about as strong as any of the arguments the gentleman has advanced before the House to day or the day before."

Harrison also rose on the democratic side and said that he thought his colleague was wrong, and that Camp Douglass, the camp where the prisoners were retained, was not the same as Camp Douglas where the volunteers were. Many buildings had been erected for that emergency. When the Fort Donelson prisoners were brought up the weather had been exceedingly cold, and there was not a sufficiency of houses; but the people of Chicago came forward and attended to the comforts of the prisoners. He would state further, that there were charges made in the papers, charges which an *ex parte* witness could have sworn to, that there were cruelties practised at Camp Douglass; but these *ex parte* statements were not believed.

Blaine—"I did not yield for a speech from the gentleman."

Harrison—"You asked me a question, and I have answered it."

Blaine—"No, the gentleman has not answered the question at all, but he has gone into a long rignarole not touching the point at issue."

Harrison—"The gentleman has asked me a question; my silence would have been an acknowledgment that he was right."

Blaine—"I asked the gentleman whether he knew of cruelties at Camp Douglass?"

Harrison—"No, sir."

Blaine—"That is enough, now I will hear gentlemen on this side of the House from that neighborhood."

Henderson, rising on the Republican side, said that his colleague on the other side was mistaken in the assertion he had just made, and to his own personal knowledge the rebel prisoners confined at Camp Douglas were confined in the same camp from which the Union soldiers had moved out.

Harrison—"But they were not always the same barracks."

Blaine—"Oh, no, the barracks were increased for the rebel prisoners; they were enlarged for them."

Henderson—"I have no doubt but the rebel prisoners there were as well treated as any prisoners ever were on God's green earth."

Blaine—"I do not care, of course, to conduct this case as if it was in court, and to call any more witnesses, but if I did there are a cloud of witnesses. Here are honorable gentlemen on that side of the House, whom I will not indelicately mention by name, who know personally that their relations and mine are the most kindly and friendly, who have been in the Union prisons in the North, and who, I shall assume, by their silence, assent to the statement I have made."

Jones, of Kentucky, rose, and Blaine, addressing him, said—"Was the gentleman one of them?"

Jones—"I was, and am proud of the gentleman from Maine, and I now ask his courtesy for a few moments."

Blaine—"Well, sir, I will hear you."

Jones—"I was one of those gentlemen, Mr. Speaker, who had the honor of being a prisoner of the republic."

Blaine—"In what fort?"

Jones—"I will tell you if you will allow me time."

Blaine—"Tell me in what fort you were?"

Jones—"I was not a prisoner of war."

Blaine, contemptuously—"Oh."

Jones—"But a civil prisoner taken to Camp Chase."

Blaine—"I am not dealing with that class."

Jones—"You were asking for facts of history, and I want—"

Blaine interrupting—"No, sir, I am not; I am not dealing with that class of prisoners at all."

Jones—"I deprecate this unfortunate debate, but when the gentleman from Maine specially rises and appeals to gentlemen on this side of the House for facts of history, he must not object to hearing them."

Blaine—"If the House agrees to extend my time I will let the gentleman talk."

Randall—"I object to the time being extended."

Blaine—"Then I decline to yield."

Jones—"I appeal to the gentleman from Pennsylvania to do justice, and let me be heard."

Blaine—"I did not refer to the gentleman from Kentucky at all, and I did not know that he had ever been a prisoner."

Mills—"I ask the gentleman from Maine to withdraw his remark, that if the gentlemen on this side who were Confederate prisoners did not rise and deny his statement, their silence would be considered as an acknowledgment of its truth."

Blaine—"If any gentleman on that side desires to contradict, it I will yield to him."

Davis—"I was a prisoner of war at Ft. Delaware."

Blaine made a motion as, if he would not yield the floor any longer.

Davis—"He asked for facts, and when facts come out he will not have them."

Banks made a point of order that after Blaine's challenge to the other side, he had no right to decline to yield, but the Speaker overruled it.

Blaine—"Let them all rise and dissent, I do not object, but I do not intend to yield my whole hour."

Mills—"It is not the desire of this side to re-open any of the wounds of the late war. We have sat here and listened to charges, but we do not desire to answer them, or to have anything to do with them. We hope, however, that our silence will not be recorded against us as an admission of what we know to be false."

Cooke, of Ga.—"I was one of those who were wounded and crippled."

Speaker—"Does the gentleman from Maine yield any further?"

Blaine—"I do not."

Cooke—"Then take back what you said."

Blaine—"Yes, if that will do you any good, or you may all, over there, stand and dissent; I will wait for you to do that."

Randall—"We are not at school now."

Blaine—"If you are, you are a most unruly set of scholars. Now I desire to call attention to the speech of the gentleman from New York, Cox, who, as I said, delivered one speech and published another."

Cox—"I did not change anything in my speech."

Blaine—"I say that the gentleman made one speech and published another."

Cox, contemptuously—"Go on with your talk."

Blaine—"The gentleman talks about the committee on the conduct of the war being a humbug committee. In a debate in this House on the 21st October, 1864, the gentleman from Ohio said, 'This resolution provides for the infliction on the rebel prisoners who may be in your hands, the same inhuman, barbarous treatment inflicted on our soldiers; but it doesn't follow because the rebels have made brutes and fiends of themselves that we should do likewise.' To which Mr. Cox replied, 'That is a good reason. There is a law of retaliation in war; but no man will stand here and say, after he shall have reduced these prisoners, thrown into our hands, to the same condition exhibited by these skeletons—They are pictures of these anatomies brought to our attention; and it does not follow because your soldiers are treated in the way represented, and no doubt faithfully represented, &c.' I will now again ask the gentleman from Georgia if he has recollected whether he was the author of the resolution that I read the other day?"

Hill—"I stated day before yesterday that I did not recollect being the author of that resolution; I have no doubt the resolution was introduced, and will state that at that time there was a belief in the confederacy."

Blaine—"I did not yield for a speech, I just want to know whether you were the author of the resolution."

Hill—"I have the right to answer."

Blaine—"The gentleman has no right whatever to make a speech; if my time were extended I would not have any objection."

Hill, sitting down—"That resolution applied to spies."

Blaine, contemptuously—"Oh nonsense! It provides for every person pretending to be a soldier, and the gentleman says it related to spies."

Hill—"Yes, pretended to be."

Blaine, contemptuously—"Oh my! The gentleman admitted that he offered from the judiciary committee a resolution that every white who should act as a commissioned or as a non-commissioned officer of militia regiments should, if captured, suffer death. Did that relate to spies too?"

Hill, uneasily—"Will you allow me to answer?"

Blaine—"Yes, did that relate to spies?"

Hill, repeating—"Will you allow me to answer?"

Blaine—"No, sir, I will not. Another resolution was offered, that every commissioned or non-commissioned officer of the enemy who shall incite slaves to rebellion shall, if captured, suffer death. Did that relate to spies? I have searched in vain for anything in the world that rivals that, and I did find, and have among my minutes, the proclamation of Valmaseda, Captain General of Cuba, recalled to Spain because of his accused cruelties against the inhabitants of that island, and the worst thing of all the atrocities laid to his charge was a proclamation that every man, or boy over fifteen years of age, found away from his house, and not being able to give a satisfactory reason therefor, should suffer death. Valmaseda copied it from the resolution of the gentleman from Georgia."

Hill, in his seat—"That is not true, there is no resemblance in it."

Blaine—"We are told that all the allegations against Jefferson Davis should be forgiven because they are of the dead past."

Hill, in his seat—"I am alive, put me on trial."

Blaine—"We are told we should not revive them, there should be nothing in the world that would be calculated to disturb the peaceful serenity of centennial year, and that every motion of this kind is calculated to do that very injurious thing. The very last declaration we have from Davis authoritatively, in his life which the gentleman read from the other day in this text book, is in answer to the remark of some person that the cause of the Confederacy was lost. Mr. Davis said, 'It appears so, but the principle for which we contended is bound to reassert itself, though it may be another time and in another form.' I have here the Atlanta Constitution of January, 1875, in which there is reported a speech by Benjamin H. Hill, and the paper says it is the grandest speech he ever delivered."

Hill—"That is a mistake."

Blaine—"I know it is; I know the gentleman has delivered many grand speeches, but the editor says it was the grandest of all. Let me quote—'Fellow citizens, I look to the contest of 1873, not only as the most important that ever occurred in American history, but as the most important that ever occurred in the history of the world, for if the people of this country cannot be roused to give in a unanimous vote against the republican party, it will put itself in power by precisely the same means that the President has taken in Louisiana, and the people are powerless to prevent it unless they go to war. If we fail with the ballot box in 1876 by reason of force, a startling proposition will present itself to the American people. I hope the Northern people have had a sufficient subsidence of passion to settle this question fairly, but if we must have war—you see his voice is still for war.'"

Hill—"Never."

Blaine, continuing to quote—"If we must have war, if we cannot preserve the constitution and government by the ballot, if force is to

defeat the ballot, and if war must come, God forbid it shall, but if folly and wickedness and love of power decree that America should save her constitution in blood, let it come, I am ready."

Hill, rising—"Will the gentleman allow me one word?"

Blaine—"Not a word."

Hill, sneeringly—"Oh!"

Blaine—"In another speech made by the gentleman in Mo., he impressed on the colored men of the country the truth that if the folly and wickedness of the republican party were to result in war, the colored people would be the greatest sufferers; that if peace was preserved they were safe; but as sure as one war had freed them just so sure another would re-enslave them. That, said Blaine, was precisely the talk we had here by folios and reams before the other rebellion. Oh yes, you were for war then. The gentleman in his speech the other day said—'The Union is an unmixt blessing, that is provided the democratic party can rule it.'"

Hill—"That's a fact."

Blaine—"But if the republican party is to rule it he is for war."

Hill—"Only if they undertake to rule it by force."

Blaine—"But you will call it by force."

Hill—"It is force if it is against the will of the people."

Blaine—"That is pattering in a double sense. What the gentleman means is that if the South can come back and rule this country with the northern democrats he is in favor of the Union; but if the republican party is to have power he is for war."

Hill—"No, sir, I am for the Union everywhere and against provokers of strife everywhere."

Blaine—"Then you take back what you said at Atlanta."

Hill—"No sir. I said if you force us into war we will fight for the Union and Constitution; but it is you who are talking for war."

Blaine—"It was the gentleman from Georgia who was preparing the hearts of the people for war. In one of his speeches, talking about the removal of political disabilities, he says—'I would rather have my name recorded in the books of the Georgia penitentiary than on the books of the removal of disabilities. Do you not know my friends,' he continued, 'that when you go to Congress and ask for the removal of disabilities, you admit you have been traitors.'"

Hill—"From what do you read that?"

Blaine—"From the Cincinnati Daily Gazette, giving an account of a great meeting at which Howell Cobb, Robert Toombs and B. H. Hill made speeches, and this gentleman declared that he would rather have his name on the list of the Georgia penitentiary than on the list of the removal of disabilities. The gentleman from Ohio happened, in his speech yesterday, to mention the moral pejorative, and a good deal of feeling was exhibited by a gentleman on the other side. Now, I would like to ask the gentleman from Georgia one question, to which he can reply when he gets the floor."

Hill—"Will you not allow me to answer it now?"

Blaine—"Not now. Suppose that this great war that you have to inaugurate if the republicans get into power takes place, and you win it, and those who sympathize with you, and that you have all taken an oath to bear truth, faith and allegiance to the constitution of the country, what relation would your conduct bear to perjury?"

Hill—"That would be standing up for the constitution against you who would violate it."

Blaine—"Yes, but you are going to fight the Union."

Hill—"Oh no, not going to fight the Union, to fight the enemy. No sir, we are in and we are going to stay in; we are not going out any more."

Blaine—"The effect of this speech of the gentleman from Georgia seems to have been very tremulous down there, for one of his orators says—'We assert without fear of contradiction, that Hill, in his bitter denunciation of scoundrels and carpetbaggers, deterred thousands of them from re-entering the ranks of the radical party; they dare not do so for fear of social ostracism, and to-day the white people of Georgia are almost unanimously democratic as the result of the labors of Hill.'"

Cox—"Good for Hill."

Blaine—"In a certain event he is for war."