

G. B.
Gazette or
Advocate

Vol 1 No. 12

Story about STAMBAUGH

NOT getting
nomination as Indian
Agent ~~about~~ 1831

SIMON CAMERON.

A late Philadelphia *Times* is bringing to the front Old Simon Cameron, as an illustration of the secret of a long life:—says it is to “keep moving”:—that men grow old when they sit down long enough to get rusty: the Editor says Old Simon is fond of the young Company—that since his retirement from public life, he has travelled eight or ten thousand miles a year. There is doubtless some truth in the propriety of the “keep moving” theory, as a means of promoting health in the aged.

As to Old Simon, he is indebted for his greatness to types and printer's ink. Not all of us, as shakespeare has it, are either “born great—achieve greatness—or have greatness thrust upon us,” as we can see, any the more for being Printers: not even Caleb, with his 30 years constancy with the stick and rule seems to be growing much: Tom Simons, is the only one that is flourishing: if he keeps on a few years more, he indeed may achieve greatness; at least he will make any of us small fry kick the beam; he certainly has our good wishes.

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But to return to our story. No man since the days of good Old Ben Franklin has been equally fortunate, as a typo, with Simon Cameron:—It was on this wise. In 1827-8- & 9, Cameron and Samuel C. Stambaugh were publishing a paper in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, advocating the pretensions of Genl. Jackson: they worked together at the cases and press: Stambaugh was the most ready with the quill—quite an adept at those short articles—fifty little squibs, full of pith and point, that every one read with telling effect. Their paper was a great success: the state went for Jackson, and Cameron and Stambaugh claimed the principal credit for the result.

Immediately after the inauguration, Staubaugh went to Washington, and got nominated Indian Agent at Green Bay, Col. Boyd the whig incumbent being removed. Stambaugh

at Green Bay, Col. Boyd the whig incumbent being removed. Stambaugh appeared at Green Bay, early in the summer, and very soon laid his plans for a winter's campaign at Washington, by persuading the Menominee Indians that they must go to Washington—see the Great Father; and like other Indians, sell lands, and have annuities. Stambaugh scouted all opposition: the French and half breeds opposed: the Superintendent of Indian affairs—Gov. Cass, with held his assent: still Stambaugh persevered: and late in November left Green Bay with a large delegation of Menominees, N. Y. Indians, Rev. E. Williams and Wife, and several interpreters and clerks. Arriving at Detroit, the Governor for safety added Robert A. Forsythe & Stevens T. Mason to the delegation.

The party arrived at the Federal City just before the holidays, and were duly presented to Mr. Eaton secretary of war:—and the President appointed Mr. Eaton, & Col. Stambaugh Commissioners to treat with the Indians.

Rooms—a large parlor and ante rooms were set apart at Gadsby's Hotel for the Indians, the Agents, Interpreters & Clerks. A throng of visitors soon appeared to see these sons of the forest:—a marked personage of these visitors, was Mr. Simon Cameron of Pa. introduced by Col. Stambaugh as his particular friend:—the introduction secured for Mr. Cameron the highest consideration by every person of the delegation, and

his visits became frequent—almost daily. His manner and bearing discovered the man of good sense, making his conversation most agreeable and interesting.

After the morning visits it was noticed that he frequently lingered—and Stanbaugh having protracted discussions in which they both exhibited much heat:—finally abandoning all privacy in our presence, it appeared they were at issue about the appointment of a Post Master at Harrisburgh: each without consulting the other, and presuming on his right to dictate, having promised the place to two different parties:—these contests were repeated by them almost daily for many weeks, neither party yielding: it was not difficult to see which had the better claim:—Stambaugh, by his peculiar tact, at cunning and evasion, made many attempts to head his adversary—Cameron always coming off victor by straight forward honest purpose. Stambaugh made pushing efforts to have his man appointed in defiance of Cameron:—Old hickory said him nay—that they must agree before he could create a vacancy:—and so the matter ran on till March.

In the mean time Stambaugh, by excesses and discipation had made shipwreck of his affairs—had unnecessarily and unwisely thrown the Menominees into collision with the New York Indians: the Senators from New York, espousing the cause of the Oneidas, opposed and defeated Stambaugh's nomination as Indian Agent. The final result of which was, that the President gave him a private Commission to return with the

Agent. The final result of which was, that the President gave him a private Commission to return with the Menominees to Green Bay: and nominated H. B. Brevoort Indian Agent, which nomination was immediately confirmed by the Senate.

Stambaugh having thus disappeared, Cameron quietly took the appointment of Post Master for his friend.

It is not our purpose further to pursue the history of Simon Cameron: his course is matter of public record. It is said that all men are liable to mistakes: to us, it appears the great one of his life was that of abandoning the democratic party, (thus casting odium on his old friend, Genl. Jackson) stifling the convictions of his earlier manhood, and adopting the heresies of Radical Republicanism. We are glad he still lives! while the lamp holds out to burn, the vile sinners may return: we will not despair of yet welcoming him back to the true fold.