

# THE FOOTHILL INQUIRER

*THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE*

fhinquirer@ftcnet.net

Monday December 14, 2009

Volume 2, Issue 23

## **Fathoming Foresthill Forest Ranch Meets County**

By Roy West

In the last issue I wrote a small article stating that the Ryan family et.al. is beginning to surface again with what they call a "Specific Plan" for Forest Ranch.

I happen to be the current Chairman of the Foresthill Forum and as such I receive the Forum mail in a P.O. Box. A couple of weeks ago I received a memo stating that the County was scheduled to hold a "Pre-Development meeting" with the Ryans to discuss their "project". I showed up with the intention of listening only; I was not going to ask any questions or make

any statements.

Planning Dept. Head Mike Johnson came into the meeting room and announced that, "The applicant is paying for the meeting with the County", so I and a few other "members of the public" were invited to leave. I showed Mr. Johnson the memo from Planning that had Foresthill Forum listed as a participant and he deferred to County Counsel who explained that since the Forum is an advisory body, it also should be excluded from the discussion at this point.

Ultimately I did leave since I was not there to cause a stir and knew that the information would be forthcoming anyway.

The information so far is that the Ryans still do not really have an actual plan for the 2,600 +/- acres

outside of town and was admonished by more than one County department head to hire a development team to put a real plan together.

A source tells this reporter that the County basically told the Ryans that they must produce a plan and not expect the County to do it for them.

They were also told to produce fifteen copies of their document for all of the various departments; their reply was that the County could keep the one copy and make the needed copies themselves and send a bill to the Ryans. The County declined this offer.

It sounds like once again they are getting the cart before the horse. We'll soon see what sort of promotion campaign is in store for the good people of Foresthill.

## **Septic Update: New Set of Regulations Expected Soon**

From Assemblyman Ted Gaines' December newsletter

This past week, I sent a letter to the State Water Resources Control Board reminding them to heed the concerns so many of you shared this past year regarding potentially costly septic tank compliance fees.

Earlier this year, I introduced a bill to repeal Assembly Bill 885, which would require residents with septic tanks to pay costly inspection fees. I received hundreds of phone calls and e-mails from constituents outraged about this one-size-fits-all regulation that will result in costly and burdensome requirements on local residents, especially rural property owners throughout my district.

My bill, Assembly Bill 268, was defeated on a party-line vote in the

Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials.

The initial proposed regulations that were released in November of 2008 would require residents who have a septic system to pay for an inspection fee to receive a waiver, exempting them from the new regulations. If the inspection fails, homeowners would be forced to pay tens of thousands of dollars to replace and upgrade their septic system.

After receiving strong opposition, the State Water Resources Board decided to re-evaluate the implementation of the regulations. I will be working hard in the coming months to make sure that when the new regulations are released, that septic systems

remain in control of local agencies.

I am also currently working on a bi-partisan bill with Assemblywoman Alyson Huber, D-El Dorado Hills, that will help ease the septic inspection requirements and give local jurisdictions more control.

I will make sure any legislation moving forward will give local jurisdictions the final say to determine what is best for their constituents and will not impose new fees on taxpayers.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (919) 774-4430 or e-mail me at [Assemblymember.Gaines.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Gaines.ca.gov).

More Gaines updates can be found on page 2

**Community Briefs**

**Note:**  
 The Foresthill Forum, FPUD and Fire Protection District board meetings are filmed by the *FhInquirer*.  
 Copies of these meetings can be rented from the Foresthill Library or can be purchased from the *Inquirer*.  
 Contact *fhinquirer@ftcnet.net*

**The Foothill Inquirer**  
 fhinquirer@ftcnet.net

The Foothill Inquirer is an independent newspaper/newsletter that covers news-of-interest mostly dealing with the foothill area but also covering State and national issues.  
 Our goal is to provide current and accurate news for the foothill area.

The FhI is published twice a month. On the second and fourth Monday of the month. The FhI can be procured at our newsstands outside of the Foresthill Post Office, Worton's Grocery store and next to the Library, or by contacting us at our email address and requesting that you be placed on our email loop. If you would like to place an advertisement the priced is \$12.00 for two issues or one months worth of advertising. Contact us at our email address to place an advertisement. If you have a community

Meeting	Date	Time	Place
<b>Foresthill Fire Safe Council</b>	Tuesday December 15	5:30 p.m.	Foresthill Fire District office 24320 Main St. Foresthill
<b>WAC MAC</b>	Wednesday December 16	6:00 p.m.	Colfax Memorial Hall, 22 Sunset Circle, Colfax

The **Widowed Person's Association of California (WPAC)** will hold it's monthly luncheon meeting on Friday December 18, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. at the Sizzler Restauraunt in Auburn. Call Jeanette at 888-6880 by December 16, to make reservations. All Widowed People are invited to attend three activities of this organization prior to joining our membership. Other activities include: card playing, luncheons, bingo, bowling, trips to Reno, coffee clatches and special activities.

For a free newsletter call 530-878-1728 for one on one grief support call 530-885-8298. Submitted by Ann Steinhart 530-367-3586 Publicity Chairperson.

**The Bluegrass Jam** has been moved to Auburn for the winter. The jams will be held on the third Sunday of every month in the Beecher Room at the Auburn Library from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

**More from Assemblyman Gaines**

From Assemblyman Ted Gaines's December newsletter

Last month, I brought to you the latest sales tax revenue rates that have been collected since the tax was increased by the Legislature in February.

I voted against that package of irresponsible tax increases and just as I predicted, the increase in the state's sales tax has failed to increase our revenue.

In an effort to keep you informed, I will be including the running tally of sales tax revenue here each month. As you will see in the chart below, even though the sales tax was increased by 1 percent, the amount of revenue collected is far less than what was generated the prior year.

July, the only month we see a substantial revenue increase, coincided with the federal government's "Cash for Clunkers" program, when residents took advantage of taxpayer funded, economic incentives to trade in their old cars.

Based on this data, currently the state budget deficit is predicted to be nearly \$20 billion by

2008	2009	Difference
April: \$888,314	April: \$436,555	-\$451,759
May: \$3,409,977	May: \$3,151,394	-\$258,583
June: \$2,781,384	June: \$2,486,729	-\$294,655
July: \$888,314	July: \$1,073,300	+\$184,986
Aug.: \$3,248,340	Aug.: \$3,191,693	-\$56,647
Sept.: \$2,110,098	Sept.: \$2,130,177	+\$20,079
Oct.: \$876,098	Oct.: \$1,043,842	+\$167,744
<b>Total: \$14,202,525</b>	<b>Total: \$13,515,699</b>	<b>Total: -\$686,826</b>

**A LITTLE HISTORY**

**Tanyards and Wisconsin Hill and Elizabethtown**

Re-printed from the Placer County Directory of 1861

**TANYARDS**

In our general statistics of the county, we purposely omitted giving any notice of this branch of the mechanical pursuits of the people of the county, as we intended to give the only tanyard in the county more than a passing notice. Observing that saw mills, water ditches, turnpike roads, toll bridges, quartz mills, etc., formed the main feature of the report of the County Assessor of this county, and no mention whatever was made of this important branch of industry, we think it worthy of more than a passing notice.

The Iowa Hill Tanyard is situated upon Indian Canon, about two and a half miles above Iowa Hill. Although it might be considered a small concern, yet the proprietor, JOHN RUTHERFORD, being himself a tanner and currier, informed us that he was fully satisfied, from past experience in the business, that he can make the business at that place self-sustaining. He states that with his present facilities he can

turn out two thousand sides of sole and harness leather per annum; and can furnish leather to customers at a small advance upon prices paid for a similar article in the markets of the Eastern States.

Spruce, balsam and oak barks are used by the proprietor in tanning, a sufficient supply of which can be had in the forests contiguous for a number of years to come, even should the business increase to twenty times the capacity of the yard at the present time.

This experiment in the tanning business in Placer County, when found to be successful, as it must, cannot fail to draw the attention of tanners and induce them to enter into the business upon a more extensive scale, and eventually check the present extensive exportation of hides from, and importation of leather in return to this State. Hides can be procured at a low price; bark is easily obtained convenient to the yard; natural water exists in the

canon in great plenty, and there is nothing that one can conceive of except the high price of mechanics' wages to prevent the manufacture of leather in that locality as cheap as in any part of the United States.

**WISCONSIN HILL AND ELIZABETHTOWN**

Wisconsin Hill and Elizabethtown are situated on the southerly side of Indian Canon and about two miles from Iowa Hill. The two places are about three-fourths of a mile apart, and, were it not for a deep ravine which separates them, and the two different appellations which distinguish them, they might be considered as one village. Elizabethtown was settled by miners early in the fall of 1850, and took its name from the wife of one of the early settlers, who moved with his family to the place

See Elizabethtown page 6

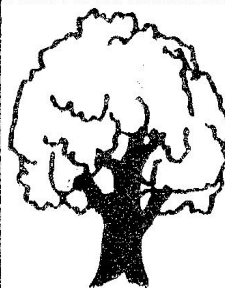
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## The Editor's view

### Charity and Congress Part 2

Continued from last issue

*Editor's Note: This is a continuation of the article begun in the last issue of the Foothill Inquirer, if you missed the first part of it, e-mail me at [fhinquirer@ftcnet.net](mailto:fhinquirer@ftcnet.net) and I will send it to you.*

#### Charity and Congress

*Continuation of the story being told by Crockett of his conversation with the farmer.*

“Well, my friend; I may as well own up. You have got me there. But certainly nobody will complain that a great and rich country like ours should give the insignificant sum of \$20,000 to relieve its suffering women and children, particularly with a full and overflowing Treasury, and I am sure, if you had been there, you would have done just as I did.”

“It is not the amount, Colonel, that I complain of; it is the principle. In the first place, the Government ought to have in the Treasury no more than enough for its legitimate purposes. But that has nothing to do with the question. The power of collecting and disbursing money at pleasure is the most dangerous power that can be entrusted to man, particularly under our system of collecting revenue by a tariff, which reaches every man in the country, no matter how poor he may be, and the poorer he is the more he pays in proportion to his means. What is worse, it presses upon him without his knowledge where the weight centers, for there is not a man in the United States who can ever guess how much he pays to the Government. So you see, that while you are contributing to relieve one, you are drawing it from thou-

sands who are even worse off than he. If you had the right to give anything, the amount was simply a matter of discretion with you, and you had as much right to give \$20,000,000 as \$20,000. If you have the right to give to one, you have the right to give to all; and, as the Constitution neither defines charity nor stipulates the amount, you are at liberty to give to any and everything which you may believe, or profess to believe, is a charity, and to any amount you may think proper. You will very easily perceive, what a wide door this would open for fraud and corruption and favoritism, on the one hand, and for robbing the people on the other. No, Colonel, Congress has no right to give charity. Individual members may give as much of their own money as they please, but they have no right to touch a dollar of the public money for that purpose. If twice as many houses had been burned in this county as in Georgetown, neither you nor any other member of Congress would have thought of appropriating a dollar for our relief. There are about two hundred and forty members of Congress. If they had shown their sympathy for the sufferers by contributing each one week's pay, it would have given \$20,000 without depriving themselves of even a luxury of life. The Congressmen chose to keep their own money, which, if reports be true, some of them spend not very creditably; and the people about Washington, no doubt, applauded you for relieving them from the necessity of giving by giving what was not yours to give. The people have delegated to Congress, by the Constitution, the power to do certain things. To do these, it is authorized to collect and pay moneys, and for nothing else. Everything beyond this is usurpation, and a violation of the Constitution.”

“I have given you,” continued

Crockett, “an imperfect account of what he said. Long before he was through, I was convinced that I had done wrong. He wound up by saying:

“So you see, Colonel, you have violated the Constitution in what I consider a vital point. It is a precedent fraught with danger to the country, for when Congress once begins to stretch its power beyond the limits of the Constitution, there is no limit to it, and no security for the people. I have no doubt you acted honestly, but that does not make it any better, except as far as you are personally concerned, and you see that I cannot vote for you.”

“I tell you I felt streaked. I saw if I should have opposition, and this man should go to talking, he would set others to talking, and in that district I was a gone fawn skin. I could not answer him, and the fact is I was so fully convinced that he was right, I did not want to. But I must satisfy him, and I said to him:

“Well, my friend, you hit the nail upon the head when you said I had not sense enough to understand the Constitution. I intended to be guided by it, and thought I had studied it fully. I have heard many speeches in Congress about the powers of Congress, but what you have said here at your plow has got more hard, sound sense in it, than all the fine speeches I ever heard. If I had ever taken the view of it that you have, I would have put my head into the fire before I would have given that vote, and if you will forgive me and vote for me again, if I ever vote for another unconstitutional law I wish I may be shot.”

“He laughingly replied: “Yes,

See Crockett on page 5

## Foresthill Police and Fire Reports

### Placer County Sheriff's Association

The PCSA calls for service for the month of October 2009 included:

Disturbance; 1. Trespass; 1. Assault; 1. Commercial Burglary; 2. Residential Burglary; 1. Domestic Violence; 1. Felony Drug; 1. Misdemeanor Drug; 1. Forgery; 1. Hospice Deaths; 2. ID Theft; 1. Missing Persons (adults); 3. Out of county warrant arrests; 1. Other Reports; 9. Felony sexual assault; 1. Thefts; 2. Vandalism; 5. Weapons violation; 1. 9 Citations issued. 2 Arrests.

For the month of November, the PCSA had 292 calls for service. The breakdown of calls for November will be printed when they come in.

### Montana Gunning for Gun

**Laws** Re-printed with permission from The New American magazine November 9, 2009 issue

Montana is leading the way when it comes to reasserting state sovereignty on the issue of gun rights. The state legislature openly challenged Congress' authority to legislate on gun issues under the guise of the interstate commerce clause, by passing the Montana Firearms Freedom Act (MFFA). The MFFA, which took effect October 1, states that the feds have no jurisdiction over any firearms manufactured and sold solely within state limits. Now activists are taking their case to state courts to uphold those principles of federalism. Missoulian.com reported on October 2 that "if gun advocates win,

the state could decide which rules, if any, would control the manufacture, sale, and purchase of guns and paraphernalia. And Montana would be exempt from rules on federal gun registration, background checks and dealer licensing."

Gary Marbut of the Montana Shooting Sports Association is leading the lawsuit, along with the Second Amendment Foundation. "For guns, it means we can make our own in Montana and sell them in Montana as long as they are stamped "Made in Montana" and don't leave the state... We will be able to do that without federal regulation, or having the ATF (the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives) breath down your neck," Marbut told the local media.

The ATF doesn't see it that way. In

a letter to gun dealers, assistant ATF director Carson Carroll wrote that federal laws still apply in Montana regardless of their state sovereignty resolution, and that dealers still need to march to the beat of the federal drum. Carroll reiterated that it doesn't matter if the guns are even used in interstate commerce. "These, as well as other Federal requirements and prohibitions, apply whether or not the firearms or ammunition have crossed state lines." People across the nation will be very interested to see how this issue plays out in the state courts, as well as how the feds react if the ruling doesn't go their way.

### Crockett

Continued from page 4

Colonel, you have sworn to that once before, but I will trust you again upon one condition. You say that you are convinced that your vote was wrong. Your acknowledgment of it will do more good than beating you for it. If, as you go round the district, you will tell the people about this vote, and that you are satisfied it was wrong, I will not only vote for you, but will do what I can to keep down opposition, and, perhaps, I may exert some little influence in that way.'

" 'If I don't,' "said I", " 'I wish I may be shot; and to convince you that

I am in earnest in what I say I will come back this way in a week or ten days, and if you will get up a gathering of the people, I will make a speech to them. Get up a barbecue, and I will pay for it.'

" 'No, Colonel, we are not rich people in this section, but we have plenty of provisions to contribute for a barbecue, and some to spare for those who have none. The push of crops will be over in a few days, and we can then afford a day for a barbecue. This is Thursday; I will see to getting it up on Saturday week. Come to my house on Friday, and we will go together, and I promise you a

very respectable crowd to see and hear you.'

" 'Well, I will be here. But one thing more before I say good-by. I must know your name.'

" 'My name is Bunce.'

" 'Not Horatio Bunce?'

" 'Yes.'

" 'Well, Mr. Bunce, I never saw you before, though you say you have seen me, but I know you very well. I am glad that I have met you, and very proud that I may hope to have you for my friend. You must let me shake your hand before I go.'

"We shook hands and parted.

See Crockett on page 7

## Elizabethtown

Continued from page 3

and opened a boarding-house, his wife, Elizabeth, being the first white woman who ever visited the place. The diggings at Elizabethtown were good, and soon after their discovery the place grew to be a considerable town, sporting several provision stores and drinking saloons, the requisite number of hotels to furnish accommodations to travelers, prospectors and the sporting men who favored the place with their presence—this class being looked upon at that day, in California, as being as essential acquisitions to a town as “round tents” and grocery stores, and without whom no place could flourish. The place grew rapidly, and was the most noted place north of Shirt Tail and south of the North Fork, until it was eclipsed in 1854 by its rivals, Wisconsin Hill and Iowa Hill. The era which marks the rise of the latter places also marks the downfall of “Elizabeth,” it dwindling down until nothing remained to mark the spot where it stood but a few scattered miners’ cabins and an apology for a hotel, dignified by being called “the boarding-house.”

Wisconsin hill took its rise in 1854, and gained immense accessions to its population, caused by reports of rich and extensive hill diggings being discovered in the hill upon which the town was built, and those adjacent. About this time there was quite a mania for tunneling, and about one hundred companies were formed, who staked off claims and commenced running tunnels into the hills in the vicinity of the town. The operatives in the tunnels were men who owned shares in the claims in which they worked, yet, as every claim was owned by joint stock companies, the wages received by the working men in each was sufficient to keep up the assessments upon their own shares

and supply them with sufficient means to pay their board, purchase their clothes and leave them a handsome allowance for spending money. The laboring population of Wisconsin Hill proper perhaps never amounted to more than one hundred and fifty-men; but there were a number of miners on Shirt Tail and the tributaries of Indian Canon who resorted to the place weekly for the purpose of purchasing their supplies and indulging in a Sunday’s recreation, and as this class usually had plenty of money and there were plenty of inducements offered them for investment, they managed always to deposit enough in the different institutions to keep up some half dozen saloons, two hotels, several restaurants, clothing establishments, grocery stores, etc., until the spring of 1856, when the tunnels commenced to reach the center of the hills, and no rich deposits being struck, capitalists ceased to furnish the wherewithal to pay men for driving the tunnels, and claims were “laid over” to wait for future developments. From this time they commenced to dwindle; but soon again the hopes of the business men and property-holders were revived by the completion of a turnpike road across Shirt Tail Canon, connecting the place with Yankee Jim’s, and another across Indian Canon, connecting it with Iowa Hill. But instead of these roads inducing an increased population, by rendering the place easy of access, they furnished the superabundant population with an easy mode of transit from it to some more favored locality, where men could invest their labor to better advantage, and so the place continued to decline until the completion of several ditches leading water to the place furnished such increased facilities for washing that the

few miners remaining, by washing away the hill-sides by the hydraulic process, could make mining a paying business, since which a slight improvement in the business appearance of the place is perceptible. It now supports two provision and grocery stores, two butcher shops, two boarding-houses, a hotel, and several drinking saloons. The residents have also, within the last twelve months, renovated a number of the old dilapidated buildings upon either side of the street, which gives the town an improved appearance.

### IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS

152 YEARS AGO

Placer Press

August 8, 1857

Supervisor nominations. By the law of last winter the number of supervisors for this county is changed from five to three. By the new regulations Townships No. 1, 2, 3, 9 and 10 from District No. 1. As these Townships will be represented at our Convention today, it would be advisable for the delegates from them to assemble a District Convention and nominate a candidate for Supervisor. In making a selection for that important and responsible position, too much care and discrimination cannot be observed. A clear-headed, business man and one well acquainted with the affairs of the county is the only kind of a man fit to occupy the position. The office is not a political one, and the best man nominated will receive the support of the thinking and taxpaying portion of our citizens.

## Crockett

Continued from page 5

It was one of the luckiest hits of my life that I met him. He mingled but little with the public, but was widely known for his remarkable intelligence and incorruptible integrity, and for a heart brimful and running over with kindness and benevolence, which showed themselves not only in words but in acts. He was the oracle of the whole country around him, and his fame had extended far beyond the circle of his immediate acquaintance. Though I had never met him before, I had heard much of him, and but for this meeting it is very likely I should have had opposition, and been beaten. One thing is very certain, no man could now stand up in that district under such a vote.

“At the appointed time I was at his house, having told our conversation to every crowd I had met, and to every man I stayed all night with, and I found that it gave the people an interest and a confidence in me stronger than I had ever seen manifested before.

“Though I was considerably fatigued when I reached his house, and, under ordinary circumstances, should have gone early to bed, I kept him up until midnight, talking about the principles and affairs of government, and got more real, true knowledge of them than I had got all my life before.

“It is not exactly pertinent to my story, but I must tell you more about him. When I saw him with his family around him, I was not surprised that he loved to stay at home. I have never in any other family seen such a manifestation of so much confidence, familiarity and freedom of manner of children toward their parents mingled with such unbounded love and respect.

“He was not at the house when I arrived, but his wife received and welcomed me with all the ease and cordiality of an old friend. She told me that her husband was engaged in some out door business, but would be in shortly.

She is a woman of fine person; her face is not what the world would at first sight esteem beautiful in a state of rest there was too much strength and character in it for that, but when she engaged in conversation, and especially when she smiled, it softened into an expression of mingled kindness, goodness, and strength that was beautiful beyond anything I have ever seen.

“Pretty soon her husband came in, and she left us and went about her household affairs. Toward night the children - he had about seven of them - began to drop in; some from work, some from school, and the little ones from play. They were introduced to me, and met me with the same ease and grace that marked the manner of their mother. Supper came on, and then was exhibited the loveliness of the family circle in all its glow. The father turned the conversation to the matters in which the children had been interested during the day, and all, from the oldest to the youngest, took part in it. They spoke to their parents with as much familiarity and confidence as if they had been friends of their own age, yet every word and every look manifested as much respect as the humblest could manifest for a king; aye, more, for it was all sincere, and strengthened by love. Verily it was the Happy Family.

“I have told you Mr. Bunce converted me politically. He came nearer converting me religiously than I had ever been before. When supper was over, one of the children brought him a Bible and hymnbook. He turned to me and said:

“ ‘Colonel, I have for many years been in the habit of family worship night and morning. I adopt this time for it that all may be present. If I postpone it some of us get engaged in one thing and some in another, and the little ones drop off to sleep, so that it is often difficult to get all together.’ ”

“He then opened the Bible, and read the Twenty-third Psalm, commencing: ‘The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.’ It is a beautiful composition, and his manner of reading it gave it new beauties. We then sang a hymn, and we all knelt down. He commenced his prayer “Our Father who art in heaven.” No one who has not heard him pronounce those words can conceive how they thrilled through me, for I do not believe that they were ever pronounced by human lips as by him. I had heard them a thousand times from the lips of preachers of every grade and denomination, and by all sorts of professing Christians, until they had become words of course with me, but his enunciation of them gave them an import and a power of which I had never conceived. There was a grandeur of reverence, a depth of humility, a fullness of confidence and an overflowing of love which told that his spirit was communing face to face with its God. An overwhelming feeling of awe came over me, for I felt that I was in the invisible presence of Jehovah. The whole prayer was grand - grand in its simplicity, in the purity of the spirit it breathed, in its faith, its truth, its love. I have told you he came nearer converting me religiously than I had ever been before. He did not make a very good Christian of me, as you know; but he has wrought upon my mind a conviction of the truth of Christianity, and upon my feelings a reverence for its purifying and elevating power such as I had never felt before.

“I have known and seen much of him since, for I respect him - no, that is not the word - I reverence and love him more than any living man, and I go to see him two or three times a year; and

See Crockett Page 8

## Crockett

Continued from page 7

I will tell you sir, if every one who professes to be a Christian lived and acted and enjoyed it as he does, the religion of Christ would take the world by storm.

“ But to return to my story. The next morning we went to the barbecue, and, to my surprise, found about a thousand men there. I met a good many whom I had not known before, and they and my friend introduced me around until I had got pretty well acquainted - at least, they all knew me.

“In due time notice was given that I would speak to them. They gathered up around a stand that been erected. I then opened my speech by saying:

“ ‘Fellow citizens - I present myself before you today feeling like a new man. My eyes have lately been opened to truths which ignorance or prejudice, or both, had heretofore hidden from my view. I feel that I can today offer you the ability to render you more valuable service than I have ever been able to render before. I am here today more for the purpose of acknowledging my error than to seek your votes. That I should make this acknowledgment is due to myself as well as to you. Whether you will vote for me is a matter for your consideration only.’

“I went on to tell them about the fire and my vote for the appropriation as I have told it to you, and then told them why I was satisfied it was wrong. I closed by saying:

“ ‘And now fellow citizens, it remains only for me to tell you that the most of the speech you have listened to with so much interest was simply a repetition of the arguments by which your neighbor, Mr. Bunce, convinced me of my error. It is the best speech I ever made in my life, but he is entitled to the credit of it. And now I hope he is satisfied with his convert and that he



“Be sure your right, then go ahead.”

**Davy Crockett**

will get up here and tell you so.’

“He came upon the stand and said: “ ‘Fellow citizens - it affords me great pleasure to comply with the request of Colonel Crockett. I have always considered him a thoroughly honest man, and I am satisfied that he will faithfully perform all that he has promised you today.’

“He went down, and there went up from that crowd such a shout for Davy Crockett as his name never called forth before. I am not much given to tears, but I was taken with a choking then and felt some big drops rolling down my cheeks. And I tell you now that the remembrance of those few words spoken by such a man, and the honest, hearty shout they produced, is worth more to me than all the honors I have received and all the reputation I have ever made, or ever shall make, as a member of Congress.”

“Now, sir,” concluded Crockett, “you know why I made that speech yesterday. I have had several thousand copies of it printed, and was directing them to my constituents when you came in.

“There is one thing now to which I

will call your attention. You remember that I proposed to give a week’s pay. There are in that House many very wealthy men - men who think nothing of spending a week’s pay, or a dozen of them, for a dinner or a wine party when they have something to accomplish by it. Some of those same men made beautiful speeches upon the great debt of gratitude which the country owed the deceased - a debt which could not be paid by money - and the insignificance and worthlessness of money, particularly so insignificant a sum as \$10,000, when weighed against the honor of the nation. Yet not one of them responded to my proposition. Money with them is nothing but trash when it is to come out of the people. But it is the one great thing for which most of them are striving, and many of them sacrifice honor, integrity, and justice to obtain it.”

The hour for the meeting of the House had by this time arrived. We walked up to the Capitol together, but I said not a word to him about moving a reconsideration. I would as soon have asked a sincere Christian to abjure his religion.

I had listened to his story with an interest which was greatly increased by his manner of telling it, for, no matter what we may say of the merits of a story, a speech, or a sermon, it is a very rare production which does not derive its interest more from the manner than the matter, as some of my readers have doubtless, like the writer, proved to their cost.

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Would to God we had more politicians like Davy Crockett.