

In the presidential campaign of 1864 he presided over a mass meeting in the capitol park which was constantly interrupted and violently disturbed by newly enlisted soldiers from Camp Randall; and had it not been for his presence, bearing and address on that occasion a serious collision could hardly have been avoided. The moral grandeur of the man never shone forth with greater luster than when he stood before the excited and almost infuriated multitude and commanded peace and order and obedience to law.

The professional and political career of Gen. Smith, though national in character and already a matter of State history and State pride, will be less enduring than his fame as a private citizen. And if the wishes of the deceased could be consulted, he would doubtless have it so. No man placed a higher estimate upon the honor, the dignity and the usefulness of independent citizenship in a free country. Public position may afford broader opportunities, and carry with it higher responsibilities, but it almost necessarily circumscribes the sphere of action to the narrow limits of party politics. The moral grandeur and intellectual greatness of Charles Sumner could not overstep these bounds without losing the suffrages and the support of the most conscientious, the most cultured constituency on the globe. Wm. Lloyd Garrison, the earliest, the ablest and most loyal advocate of the abolition of human slavery in this country, will outlive the men who were carried into power and place when his teachings became popular. Whether or not he ever held public office is forgotten in the recollection of the great service he rendered to the cause of human freedom. His name is linked with a great idea, and it will stand as the representative of an important era in the world's progress when the renowned of his age shall slumber in unremembered graves. There was none of that radicalism in Gen. Smith's nature which originates great reforms, and still less of that burning enthusiasm that inspires the zealot and the martyr. He, however, possessed a character which, though less rare, is hardly less useful in a democracy. With deep convictions and firmness of purpose, he united an independence of thought, and an impartiality of judgment, which enables a man to be truly conservative without being wholly indifferent to public affairs. Such, during the later years of his life, was the position