

# WHY HE SUPPORTS CLEVELAND.

## AN OHIO CLERGYMAN'S VIGOROUS LETTER EXPLAINING HIS VOTE.

The Rev. W. E. Lincoln, a Congregational minister, of Painesville, Ohio, has written a vigorous letter giving his reasons for voting for Gov. Cleveland rather than Mr. Blaine: "I have been a Republican all my life," he says, "save as once I cast a Prohibition vote. Before the war I was an abolition preacher, which fact you will find noted in Helper's 'Impending Crisis,' where my name occurs with those of the Rev. J. G. Fee and Cassius M. Clay as opposed to and laboring for the downfall of slavery in the South. I have been carried in irons by a United States Marshal for rescuing a fugitive slave from their hands whom we landed safely in Canada. I have been months in prison for the same crime.

"I have never voted the Democratic ticket till now. \* \* \* I admire many of the qualities of Blaine. I feel kindly to him, and sorrowful that such talents cannot be wisely used in the Republic for high station, but I take it the man lacks that which is the basis of all noble manhood, a conscience which responds readily and swiftly to all appropriate appeals. He lacks fearfully that sense of right and wrong which always characterizes great and truly successful statesmen. Pitt died poor; England reverences the grand man. Gladstone is great in ability and conscience, the latter giving him his strong hold on the English heart. But Blaine, when confronted with the Mulligan letters, with the 'Burn this letter' to Fisher, with the Hocking Valley proofs, with his 'Gail Hamilton-Blaine' letters, yahoo-like, bespattering nobler men and greater; with his Irish suspect conduct, &c., calmly claims that in this there is nothing but what is consistent with the most scrupulous integrity and honor. Either the man is honest in this last assertion, and therefore totally disqualified for the Presidency by lacking conscience, or he is dishonest, and therefore just as totally disqualified in the opinion of all discerning and honorable men. I do not, will not, believe till I am compelled that the American people, so grand, so clear-seeing in the long run, can so lower themselves in the eyes of the on-looking world by electing to the Presidency a man so fatally deficient in conscience and truth and honor as James G. Blaine. Ananias seems to have been a man similarly lacking in conscience and honor. God could find no use for such a man, and hence slew him. Political death will equally be the fate of James G. Blaine on Nov. 4 at the hands of public opinion at the ballot box.

"I hold Cleveland to be a far greater man than we generally think. The mode in which he has controlled men and compelled honesty, and the way in which he has held the balance between the rich and the poor and the poor and the rich seems to me a proof of genius for government. \* \* \* Thus testing, I take Cleveland to be a far greater statesman than Blaine, if Blaine can even claim that honor at all. I, for myself, have never seen the proof. Believing thus, I shall vote for Grover Cleveland in the fear of God and love of my fellow-men on Nov. 4.

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