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Presidential Discourse on Masculine Anatomy

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“**Y**ET, it was not until the 17th of September, 1862, that the Battle of Antietam was fought, and Lee defeated—and then only to be allowed to slip back, across the Potomac, on the 18th—McClellan leisurely following him, across that river.

“This was probably about the time of the occurrence of an amusing incident, touching Lincoln, McClellan, and the fortifications around Washington, afterwards told by General J. B. Barnard, then Chief Engineer of the staff of General George B. McClellan.—See New York Tribune, October 21, 1885. It seems that the fortifications having been completed, McClellan invited Mr. Lincoln and his Cabinet to inspect them.” “On the day appointed”, said Barnard, “the Inspection commenced at Arlington, to the Southwest of Washington, and in front of the enemy. We followed the line of the works southerly, and recrossed the Potomac to the easterly side of the river, and continued along the fortifications on the northerly side of Washington. When we reached this point the President asked General McClellan to explain the necessity of so strong a fortification between Washington and the North.

“General McClellan replied: ‘Why, Mr. President, according to Military Science it is our duty to guard against every possible or supposedly contingency that may arise. For example, if under any circumstances, however fortuitous, the Enemy, by any chance or freak, should, in a last resort, get in behind Washington, in his efforts to capture the city, why, there the fort is to defend it.’

“‘Yes, that’s so General,’ said the President; ‘the precaution is doubtless a wise one, and I’m glad to get so clear

an explanation, for it reminds me of an interesting question once discussed for several weeks in our Lyceum, or Moot Court, at Springfield, Ill., soon after I began reading law.’

“‘Ah!’ says General McClellan, ‘What question was that, Mr. President?’

“‘The question,’ Mr. Lincoln replied, ‘was, “Why does man have breasts?”’ and he added that after many evenings’ debate, the question was submitted to the presiding Judge, who wisely decided ‘That if under any circumstances, however fortuitous, or by any chance or freak, no matter of what nature or by what cause, a man should have a baby, there would be the breasts to nurse it.’”

Contributed for the Record by W. J. McPherson of the Denver Bar, 1927.

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Many attorneys recently licensed to practice in this State and some who have practiced here for a considerable time, desire to obtain positions in this city.

For the convenience of the members of the Association and as an accommodation to these lawyers, arrangements have been made for the filing of applications of these lawyers with the Secretary.

Any member of the Bar desiring assistance in his office may call at the Secretary’s office and inspect these applications. Such matters, of course, will be kept entirely confidential and the members of the Bar will be saved much time before discussing the qualifications of applicants with them personally.

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