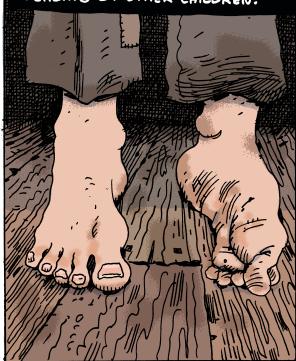


THADDEUS STEVENS WAS BORN APRIL 4, 1792 IN DANVILLE, VT. HE HAD A DEFORMED FOOT, WHICH WAS SEEN AS THE MARK OF THE DEVIL AND SUBJECTED HIM TO TEASING BY OTHER CHILDREN.



HE WAS THE SECOND OF FOUR BOYS BORN TO SARAH AND JOSHUA STEVENS.





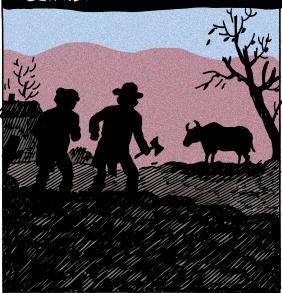


SARAH STEVENS MOVED HER FAMILY TO PEACHAM, VT TO BE CLOSER TO THE LOCAL ACADEMY.



THADDEUS DID WELL IN SCHOOL AND ATTENDED DARTMOUTH COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT.

WHILE AT THE UNIVERSITY, THADDEUS AND ANOTHER STUDENT USED AN AX TO KILL A COW THAT WANDERED THE CAMPUS LEAVING DROPPINGS BEHIND.



ANOTHER STUDENT WHO THEY HAD TAKEN THE AX FROM WAS FALSELY ACCUSED OF THE ACT.



THADDEUS CONFESSED TO THE FARMER AND PROMISED TO PAY THE COW'S VALUE.



THE FARMER TOLD THE UNIVERSITY A SOLDIER HAD KILLED THE COW AND THADDEUS LATER PAID FOR THE COW AND THE FARMER SENT HIM A HOGSHEAD OF CIDER.







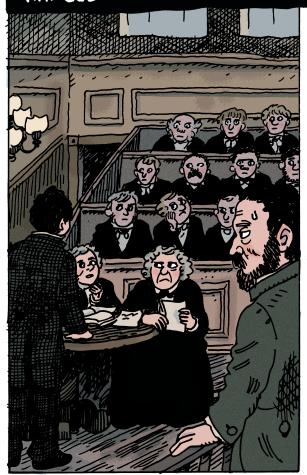




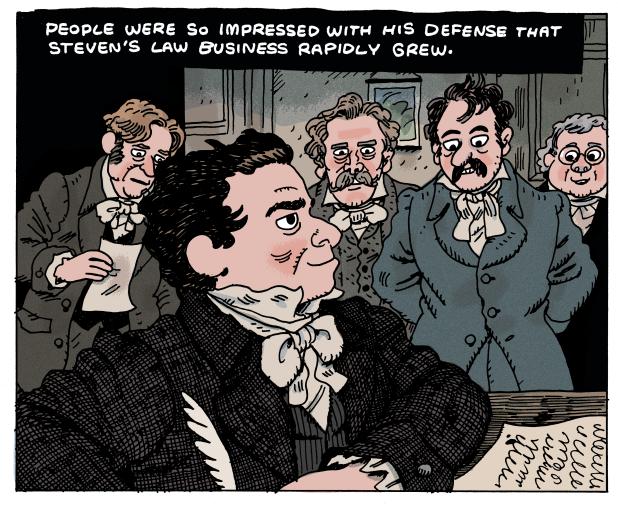




EVEN THOUGH STEVENS LOST THE CASE AND HUNTER WAS HANGED...







STEVENS BECAME VERY INVOLVED IN LOCAL AFFAIRS AND HELPED TO RUN A BANK, START A WATER COMPANY AND A LIBRARY ...





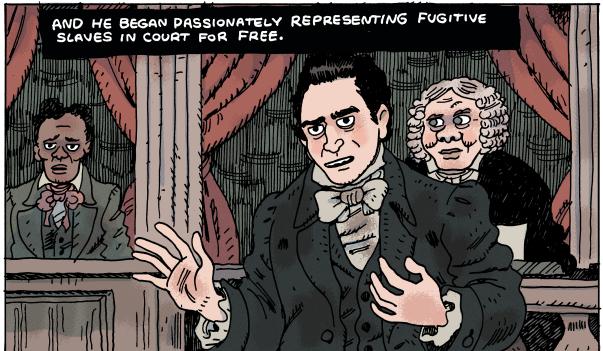


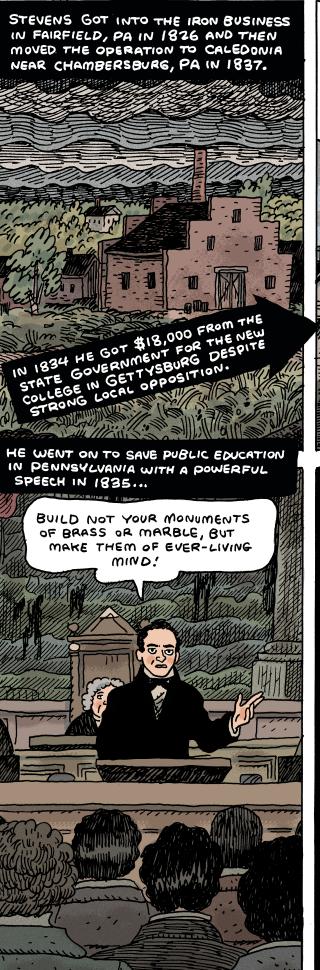
IN 1821 HE REPRESENTED A SLAVE OWNER IN A CASE THAT SENT CHARITY BUTLER AND HER TWO CHILDREN INTO SLAVERY. AFTER THAT, STEVENS BECAME A VOCAL ABOLITIONIST.



TO THE NEXT PRESIDENT - MAY HE
BE A FREE MAN, WHO NEVER
RIVETED FETTERS ON A
HUMAN SLAVE.

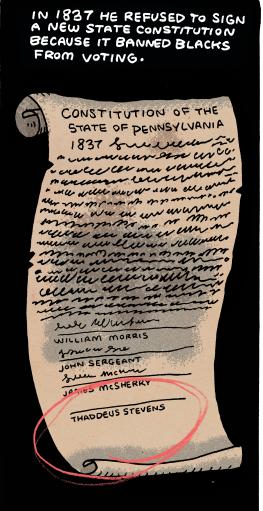






LET DEMAGOGUES NOTE IT FOR FUTURE USE, AND SEND IT ON THE WINGS OF THE WIND TO THE EARS OF EVERYONE OF MY CONSTITUENTS, IN MATTERS OF THIS KIND, I WOULD RATHER HEAR THE APPROVING VOICES OF ONE JUDICIOUS, INTELLIGENT, AND ENLIGHTENED MIND -





IN 1838 HE LOST POLITICAL POWER AFTER THE SO-CALLED "BUCKSHOT WAR" WHERE A MOB TOOK OVER THE STATE CAPITOL AFTER A DISPUTED ELECTION AND STEVENS HAD TO JUMP OUT OF A WINDOW TO ESCAPE HARM.



THEN IN 1842 STEVENS DISCOVERED HIS CALEDONIA IRON MILL WAS DEEP IN DEBT ...

I MAY BE FORCED TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF THE BANKRUPTCY
LAWS IN THE NEXT WORLD,
BUT THAT I WILL NEVER
DO IN THIS LIFE.



AS A RESULT, THE STEVENS SPONSORED RAILROAD FROM GETTYS BURG TO WESTERN MARYLAND LOST FUNDING.







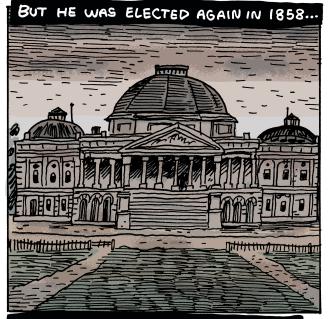
OUR ENEMY HAS A GENERAL NOW, THIS MAN IS RICH, THEREFORE, WE CANNOT BUY HIM. HE DOES NOT WANT HIGHER OFFICE. THEREFORE WE CANNOT ALLURE HIM.

HE IS NOT VICIOUS, THEREFORE, WE CANNOT SEDUCE HIM. HE IS IN EARNEST.

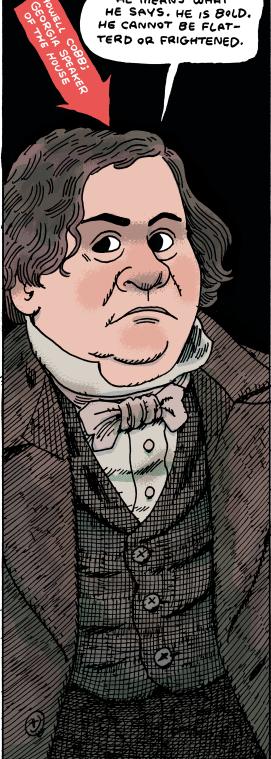
> HE MEANS WHAT HE SAYS. HE IS BOLD. HE CANNOT BE FLAT-TERD OR FRIGHTENED.







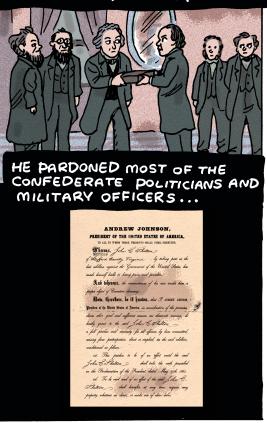


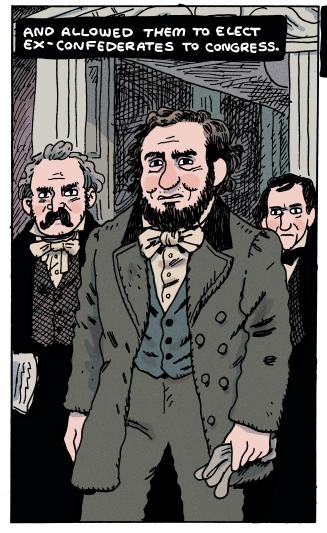






AND ANDREW JOHNSON, A SOUTHERN SLAVE OWNER, BECAME PRESIDENT.





THEY PLANNED TO REINSTATE SLAVERY, BUT STEVENS KEPT THEM OUT WITH A BRILLIANT PARLIAMENTARY MOVE.



IN DECLINING HEALTH, STEVENS HAD TO BE CARRIED INTO CONGRESS TO PURSUE HIS LEGISLATIVE GOALS.



HE REALIZED ONE OF HIS GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS IN 1866 WHEN THE 14TH AMENDMENT WAS PASSED BY CONGRESS AND THEN RATIFIED BY THE STATES IN 1868.

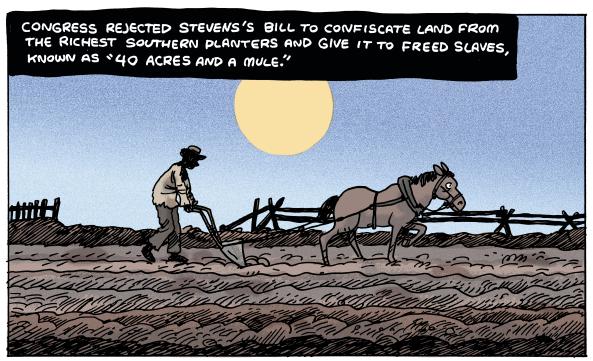
THE

THE AMENDMENT REQUIRED EQUAL TREATMENT UNDER THE LAW AND EXTENDED THE BILL OF RIGHTS TO THE STATE LEVEL.

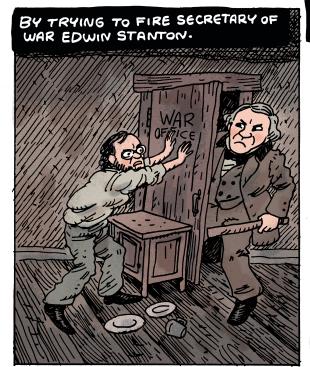


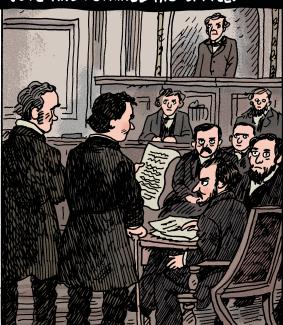
IN REACTION TO VIOLENCE AGAINST BLACKS IN THE SOUTH, STEVENS SPEARHEADED MEASURES TO IMPOSE MILITARY CONTROL ON THE FORMER CONFEDERATE STATES IN 1867, ALLOWING BLACK MEN TO VOTE.













HIS BODY LAID IN THE CAPITOL ROTUNDA, GUARDED BY A BLACK HONOR GUARD.



HE WAS BURIED IN THE ONLY CEMETERY IN LANCASTER THAT ACCEPTED BOTH WHITE AND BLACK PEOPLE.



ON THE MONUMENT ABOVE HIS GRAVE IT IS WRITTEN:

I repose in this quiet and secluded spot

Not from any natural preference for solitude

But, finding other cemeteries limited as to race
by charter rules
I have chosen this that I might illustrate
In my death The principles which I advocated
Through a long life

EQUALITY OF MAN BEFOREHIS CREATOR