

under the Administration of General Franklin Pierce, whose Pro-Slavery glory is now eclipsed by Mr. James Buchanan.

Mr. Cushing²⁰ was the honored orator of Old Tammany, that favored resort of all that is decent, patriotic, and Democratic, in the City of New York.²¹ Mr. Everett was favored with a select audience of Democrats (Democrats again you see) at the Revere House, over or under a dinner table—only costing \$10 a plate.²² Quite a democratic dinner that. While Mr. Cushing was addressing the Democracy of Old Tammany, and Mr. Everett, saying his speech at the Revere House, Mr. Choate was discharging a perfect whirlwind, (not of periods, for he don't use any, but of

Whig party in New England. Jean V. Matthews, *Rufus Choate: The Law and Civic Virtue* (Philadelphia, 1980); Claude M. Fuess, *Rufus Choate: The Wizard of the Law* (New York, 1928); *BDAC*, 690; *DAB*, 4 : 86–90.

20. Caleb Cushing (1800–79), a Harvard graduate, practiced law and edited the local paper in his native Newburyport, Massachusetts, before pursuing a career as a diplomat and politician. Originally a Whig, Cushing served in the Massachusetts legislature beginning in 1825 and held a seat in Congress from 1835 through 1843. Cushing broke with the Whigs in 1841 when he supported President John Tyler's vetoes of Whig bills for a national bank. Tyler rewarded him with the post of commissioner to China. There in 1844 Cushing signed the Treaty of Wang Hiya, which opened limited Sino-American trade. During the Mexican War, Cushing raised a regiment and participated in the expedition to capture Mexico City. Twice defeated for governor of Massachusetts, he served as mayor of Newburyport from 1851 to 1852 and then as an associate justice of the state supreme court. Appointed attorney general by Pierce, Cushing became a leading national spokesman for anti-abolitionism, union, and expansionism. His Independence Day speech, to which Douglass alludes, was delivered at New York City's Tammany Hall on 5 July 1858. Cushing, who was then a Massachusetts legislator, used the occasion to lash out at abolitionists as "noisy and half crazy agitators" and to declare that the idea that the slave power had great influence in the national government was "utterly destitute of any foundation in fact." Cushing later supported John C. Breckinridge in the 1860 election but converted to Republicanism during the Civil War. After the war he practiced law in Washington and served in a number of diplomatic posts. Claude M. Fuess, *The Life of Caleb Cushing*, 2 vols. (1923; Hamden, Conn., 1965); *New York Times*, 7 July 1858; *BDAC*, 768; *ACAB*, 2 : 38–39; *NCAB*, 4 : 151–52; *DAB*, 4 : 623–30.

21. Cushing spoke in the headquarters of the Society of Saint Tammany on Frankfurt and Nassau Streets in New York City. The building, erected in 1812, originally bore the name "The Wigwam," in keeping with the Indian rituals practiced by the Tammany Society. Since it hosted meetings of the General Committee of the New York City Democratic party as well as activities of the secret society, which was itself often involved in supporting the campaigns of regular Democrats, the building came to be popularly identified as Tammany Hall, a term also loosely applied to the regular Democratic machine and to the Tammany Society. Jerome Muskhart, *Tammany: The Evolution of a Political Machine, 1789–1865* (Syracuse, N.Y., 1971), 1–5, 45.

22. Everett and Choate both appeared at a Democratic benefit on 5 July 1858. The dinner, costing \$10 a plate, was held in Revere House, a Boston hotel on Bowdoin Square at the corner of Bulfinch Street. *New York Times*, 6 July 1858; Samuel Gilman Brown, ed., *The Works of Rufus Choate With a Memoir of His Life*, 2 vols. (Boston, 1862), 1 : 234–35; *The Boston Directory, for the Year 1852*, . . . (Boston, 1852), 306; Edward Everett, *Orations and Speeches on Various Occasions*, 4 vols. (Boston, 1850–68), 4 : 3–51.