

it was yellow fever, and he was afflicted. Because of some protest at the time, Dr. Mudd received a pardon, and as you all know, a pardon is not exoneration of guilt. As a matter of fact, a pardon presumes your guilt and merely says that you will not be made to suffer the full punishment for the guilt you have incurred. Since the man was not guilty of any crime, there should be more than a pardon. There should be exoneration of his name. Since there is serious activity in the United States Senate and United States House to restore to citizenship Robert E. Lee who did all he could to destroy this country in a military fashion, who rejected the offer of restoration of citizenship, if that guilty man's citizenship can be returned, a man guilty of trying to dismember the Union and destroy the country by military means, if his citizenship can be restored, certainly the least that can be done for a man whose innocence has been established to the satisfaction of most people who have reviewed his case, his name can be exonerated, not just for his sake, but for the sake of those who are his descendants. I don't know anything about this man other than what I have read in connection with this case. It is not my custom, it is not my habit to stand on this floor and plead for the exoneration of the name of any white person because I feel there are enough white people and agencies to do that. Since I come from a group who were enslaved, my primary responsibility has to be to try to remove the scars of slavery from the minds of my people, but when I have brought to my attention what I consider to be a patent injustice, I can't sit by and not try to do something to correct that injustice. This I feel is one. I take it very seriously. I am certain that the descendants of Dr. Mudd take this injustice very seriously. I am certain that if it had happened to a member of one of our families, then we would want to clear that name, not only for that individual, but I say again for those who live now and for those who will come after. So I am strenuously and as seriously as I know how supporting this resolution. I think the Legislature should go on record declaring that when the evidence shows that an individual is guiltless of a crime, the family of that member should not carry around a burden of guilt for a crime not committed by one of his or her forbears. So I hope you will vote to endorse this resolution.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President, I call for the question.

PRESIDENT: Are there five seconds? I see five seconds. The question is, shall debate now cease? Record your vote. Have you all voted? Have you voted? Record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 4 nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Is there anything to respond to, Senator Kelly? Senator Kelly, is there a response?

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, please indulge me as I show the local importance in this resolution which would be Dr. Richard Mudd, a grandson of Dr. Samuel Mudd. Dr. Richard's wife is a native Ravenna woman and there are many relatives of the Mudd family in Nebraska and the grandson does spend much, much time in Nebraska. We are dear to the Mudd's heart. Believe me, we are.