

The Watchman.



C. T. ALEXANDER, Editors
JOE W. FUREY,

BELLEVILLE, PA.

Thursday Morning, May 29, 1862.

Democratic State Convention.

In accordance with a resolution of the Democratic State Executive Committee, the DEMOCRATIC WILL meet in STATE CONVENTION, at HARRISBURG, on FRIDAY, the 4th day of July, 1862, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to nominate candidates for AUDITOR GENERAL, and SURVEYOR GENERAL, and to adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary for the welfare of the Democratic party and the country.

WILLIAM H. WELLS,
Chairman of the Democratic State Ex. Com.

The rebel leaders told the Southern people at the commencement of this war, that the object and intention of the Lincoln Government was to abolish the institution of slavery, and bearing the consequence of emancipation among them of four millions of negroes, they followed their four millions of slaves in their work of destroying the government.

That this war is not waged on the part in any spirit of oppression, or for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, but in defense of our established institutions of those States, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and to preserve the Union, with all the dignity, equality, and rights of the several States unimpaired; and that as soon as these objects are accomplished the war ought to cease.

Under this resolution, six hundred thousand Union volunteers rushed to the rescue of our capital, and are still in the field hazarding their lives in defense of the Government. Is the object of the war on our part still the same that it was, and are the rebel leaders still deluding their followers with declarations that we do intend overthrowing their local institutions? The abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia looks very much as though it was being slightly interfered with even in the face of the resolution of the extra session of Congress:

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On the 1st of May, the Congress of the United States, at the commencement of the session, passed a bill authorizing the President to call out the militia of the several States, to repel invasions, or suppress insurrections, or to put down sedition, or to suppress rebellion, or to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and to preserve the Union, with all the dignity, equality, and rights of the several States unimpaired; and that as soon as these objects are accomplished the war ought to cease.

If any man will take the Congressional *Globe*, and read the column after column of Abolition speeches that are daily being made, and look at the votes that have been taken as indicating how the majority will vote on the emancipation bills now up, he will certainly come to the conclusion that the object of the war on our part is not what it was at the beginning, and that Congress, when it sat the above quoted resolution, did not mean what it said, and in tended only to deceive the people, or that the present Congress is recreant to the past pledges, and is misrepresenting the will of the people composing this Government.

This Congress is doing just what the rebels want them to do, and just what they told the mass of the people (who, otherwise, would have been for the Union) they would do. It gives them aid and comfort by firing up the flagging spirits of the masses who, at the beginning, were disposed to doubt the representations of their leaders.

When will this war be ended, if these men who are disunionists at heart, are permitted to go and feed the flame of rebellion in this manner. Old Age has imposed more than one Democrat without even a mock shadow of a trial for less cause than this. If he is honest, he will treat these men the same.

General Order No. 23.

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA MILITIA, J. HARRISBURG, May 26, 1862.

On the receipt of the requisition of the President of the United States in the present emergency it is ordered:

That the several Major Generals, Brigadier Generals, and Colonels of regiments, throughout the Commonwealth muster without delay all the military organizations with in their respective districts, or areas of control, together with all persons willing to join their commands and proceed forthwith to the city of Washington, or to such other points as may be indicated by order or decree.

By order of A. G. CURTIN,
Governor and Commander in Chief.
A. L. RUSSELL, Adj. Gen.

TO ARMS! TO ARMS!

We have barely time to call attention to the proclamation of the Governor received at a late hour last evening, and published in our paper this morning.

The appeal is an urgent one, and not made without the most pressing cause.—That it will be patriotically responded to by the people of Pennsylvania there can be no doubt whatever.

Banks has been defeated by a large force of the enemy, and driven north of the Potowmac. We are without particulars, but fugitive soldiers who have arrived at Hagerstown report the rebel force at 100,000 men. This is doubtless an exaggeration, but emboldened by their success the enemy may push on to Washington or Baltimore. In any event there is no time to lose in raising men to check them. There is no cause for unnecessary alarm, but if ever there was time for prompt action that time has now arrived. Patriot & Union.

Liberty and Slavery—What are They?

Upon planning at the head of this article, many readers will silently say how simple, how foolish, or how ignorant must be the man that will ask such a question? Does not everybody in this free government know what liberty is? Don't we see it? Don't we feel it, don't we know it, and while in the very enjoyment of the thing itself, how ignorant must be the man who will ask the question—what is liberty?

And as for slavery, why, is it not every man that knows it? Now, reader, stop—not too hasty to pronounce judgment upon him who asks the above question.—Are you quite sure that you can give a correct and definite answer? If you can, and all men had equal knowledge with yourself, were you quite honest, that blessed government which protects you in the enjoyment of liberty, would not be impeached and its friends shaken to their centre by the shock of civil war. Let us demonstrate for the welfare of the Democratic party and the country.

WILLIAM H. WELLS,
Chairman of the Democratic State Ex. Com.

The rebel leaders told the Southern people at the commencement of this war, that the object and intention of the Lincoln Government was to abolish the institution of slavery, and bearing the consequence of emancipation among them of four millions of negroes, they followed their four millions of slaves in their work of destroying the government.

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Now what is the municipal law? To quote from our able jurist again, "It is a rule of action prescribed by the supreme power in a State commanding what is right and prohibiting what is wrong. The law, therefore, is a barrier to the enjoyment of a man's natural liberty. He is not permitted to act as he pleases, but must conform his acts to the laws of the land."

No man, therefore, who lives under this municipal law, and is well regulated, can or enjoy his natural liberty. It is always curtailed by the municipal law. But why put a restriction upon that freedom of action which the Almighty gave to every human being at his creation? Simply because mankind are so wicked, vicious, and depraved that without such restraint no society or order could be maintained in any community. Riot and disorder would run wild; the stronger would overpower the weaker, and thus a general tumult would be kept up all the time, that would render any man's life a curse to him.

Mankind are not yet sufficiently civilized to enjoy this liberty without abusing it. Even we, white American freemen, who boast so much of our intelligence and civilization, cannot do it, and, therefore, we have created the municipal law, and set it over us to keep us from doing evil in our words, to restrain our natural liberty which we acknowledge to be a fundamental right of the public.

The abolitionists, as Phillips says, have striven for the last thirty years to overthrow this government, because the Constitution recognized and protected this system of apprenticeship. They have misrepresented the nature of civil liberty and slavery to the people, and aroused to hostility the North to the latter institution, who resolved upon its overthrow. This gave the South the pretext for rebellion—the result is the present civil war, the end of which is not yet visible.

The Decision of the Supreme Court

The decision of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as delivered by Judge Wood, declaring the army vote unconstitutional, is so exhaustive and conclusive that it cannot fail to receive the concurrence of the public. However much the Court may have regretted the necessity of this decision it obviously could not have determined otherwise consistently with its duty to expose and point to the fundamental principles of the law of the land.

The rejection of the army vote will have the effect of displacing Mr. Ewing from the office of Sheriff in Philadelphia, and Mr. Stevenson from that of Clerk of the Orphan's Court, and also give the Republicans a majority in the common council of Philadelphia.

At least five Republican members of the last House of Representatives were elected over their Democratic opponents by the army vote, viz: Messrs. Hall and Russell, of Luzerne, Bushy, of Adams, Crane, of Wayne, and Daugherty, of Schuylkill. These men sat and voted as members of the House, and gave the Republicans their majority in that body. By their votes John Bowles was elected Speaker, and the most iniquitous Congressional gerrymander that ever disgraced the state books of the Commonwealth was passed. Had this decision been rendered before or during the session of the Legislature, it would have changed the political complexion of the House.

Whether the decision will oust persons who now hold county offices in different parts of the State by virtue of the army vote in cases where a contest was not commenced within the time prescribed by law for filing petitions in cases of this description, is a point upon which we do not feel competent to venture an opinion.—*Patriot and Union*.

The Secretary of War, in his statement to congress at the commencement of the present session, represented that we had then in the field some six hundred and ninety thousand men. Since the last requisition has been made, it is stated by Republican speakers that we never had more than five hundred thousand men.

There is evidently a lie here somewhere. Such a statement is not true, and the most iniquitous Congressional gerrymander that ever disgraced the state books of the Commonwealth was passed. Had this decision been rendered before or during the session of the Legislature, it would have changed the political complexion of the House.

According to our first definition of what the term slavery properly means, it will be readily admitted that real slavery does not anywhere exist in the United States. It remains only therefore, for us to examine very closely what it is said and thought to exist, according to the understanding of the people. We have seen in our discussion of the term liberty, that our own liberty is restrained within certain limits by the municipal law. That the best governments, of which ours is the very best, grants to its subjects the enjoyment of the greatest possible amount of their natural liberty which their intellect and degree of civilization fit them to enjoy, without abuse to themselves and others.

The African race being much inferior to us, both in intellect and civilization, have much more necessary to restrain their natural liberty. The less the degree of civilization the greater must be the restraint. Now, what are the facts as they really exist, strip-

Democratic Patriotism.

Of all acts of partisan baseness which the abolitionists have cloathed them. In the first place we have only restrained his liberty by the same wholesome laws that we have restrained our own.

The not being of itself sufficient, owing to his ignorance and lack of civilization, we have allowed a master to be placed over him whose duty it is to see that he obeys the law. The master is responsible to a certain extent for the violations of the law by those under his control, and to remunerate him for this risk, he is allowed to enjoy the proceeds of his labor after providing for his necessities and wants. And while the master is bound to provide for him while in his infancy, when by reason of his helplessness his wants are many, and his value nothing; and in his old age, when his feeble renders him valueless, the Constitution of our country has given him a property in his labor during those years of manhood when his services are valuable, which enable him to reclaim him when he runs away, and to dispose of his labor to others for a valuable consideration.

Natural liberty, says Blackstone, (than whom let another cannot be named,) consists properly in a power of acting as one thinks fit, without any constraint or control except by the law of nature; that is, a right inherent in us by birth, and thence as asserted by the abolitionists—the traffic being only in the labor of the individual.

The relation existing between master and slave, is the same as that existing in Pennsylvania and other Northern States between master and apprentice: the only difference being that the slave is black and an inferior being to his master, while the apprentice is generally white and the equal of his master.

That this is the institution of slavery—an apprenticeship for life with the right of transfer by the master of the property he has in the slave, is a fact; in human flesh and blood, as is asserted by the abolitionists—the traffic being only in the labor of the individual.

Now what is the municipal law? To quote from our able jurist again, "It is a rule of action prescribed by the supreme power in a State commanding what is right and prohibiting what is wrong. The law, therefore, is a barrier to the enjoyment of a man's natural liberty. He is not permitted to act as he pleases, but must conform his acts to the laws of the land."

Now we have said that if everybody understood the meaning of liberty and slavery in their true light, and then have striven to only to promote the true interest of the whole people up to the government, our country would not now be racked to its centre by the shock of civil war.

The abolitionists, as Phillips says, have striven for the last thirty years to overthrow this government, because the Constitution recognized and protected this system of apprenticeship.

They have misrepresented the nature of civil liberty and slavery to the people, and aroused to hostility the North to the latter institution, who resolved upon its overthrow. This gave the South the pretext for rebellion—the result is the present civil war, the end of which is not yet visible.

How Mortars are Loaded and Fired.

The following description of the mortar practice is by a correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial*:

"I took a position on shore near the point and alongside the mortars, to witness their practice. The firing of a mortar is the very poetry of a battle. A bag of powder weighs from eighteen to twenty pounds is dropped into the shell, and the fuse is lit.

The derrick drops the shell in the cradle; the fuse is calculated; a long cord is attached to the primer; the gunner steps out upon the platform, and the balance of the crew upon the platform. The captain gives the word, and the gunner drops the fuse into the shell, and completely hidden from sight in which it is calculated; a long cord is attached to the primer; the gunner steps out upon the platform, and the balance of the crew upon the platform. The captain gives the word, and the gunner drops the fuse into the shell, and completely hidden from sight in which it is calculated; a long cord is attached to the primer; the gunner steps out upon the platform, and the balance of the crew upon the platform. The captain gives the word, and the gunner drops the fuse into the shell, and completely hidden from sight in which it is calculated; a long cord is attached to the primer; the gunner steps out upon the platform, and the balance of the crew upon the platform. 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