

# THE DEMOCRATIC WATCHMAN.

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## Half-Sheet.

We are again compelled to issue a half-sheet. We have no hands yet and it is uncertain when we will be able to get any. Probably not till after the election.

**Obituary of Luther C. Neff,**  
Who was Killed at the Second Battle of Bull Run, fought August 29th, 1862.

Many are the hearts that feel sad at the announcement of the death of this noble young man. He was greatly beloved by a large circle of acquaintances and his loss will be severely felt by many whose delight it was to call him friend.

His native and unstudied attractiveness of manner had greatly endeared him to those with whom he associated, but his amiability of character and agreeableness of manners were the least of his virtues when compared with the strength and beauty of his mind. A retentive memory had accumulated a store of useful knowledge, which he imparted with great success as a teacher. Though young, the fires of patriotism had already blazed high in his manly bosom, and when he saw the ominous cloud, charged with all the elements of civil strife, lower upon the political horizon of his beloved country, he sought by every means in his power to avert the impending danger. Like a true patriot he supported conciliatory measures as the surest course to quell the rising storm.

But the muttering thunder of the coming tempest grew louder. He saw the fearful contest hastening on, but an instinctive dread of imbruing his hands in the blood of his own countrymen, caused him still to pause, and it was only after he saw the fearful earnestness of his country's enemies in their endeavors to destroy a Government which nature had taught him to love, that he went forth to battle for the Constitution and the Union. And now he has fallen!—Far away on the bloody field, without a tender hand to ease the dying posture, his noble spirit took its flight. The realization of his dearest hopes have been denied him. The restoration of peace to our distracted country, for which he so ardently looked, his eyes have not seen; but we trust he has gone to that happy land where "nations learn war no more," and where peace and happiness abound forevermore.

In his early death his parents mourn the loss of their youngest child. Who will wonder that their hearts are almost distracted with grief, that their almost sightless eyes send forth torrents of tears, or that their gray heads are bent down with sorrow?

But let those of us who survive him emulate his virtues, and trust that his early removal, on account of which we feel so sadly bereaved, is his infinite gain.

W. A. M.

"Give us a rebel victory, let our armies be destroyed, Maryland conquered, Washington captured, the President exiled and the government destroyed; give us these and any other calamities that can result from defeat and ruin, sooner than a victory with McClellan as General."

Reader, you may be surprised at this infamous sentiment; and would naturally think that it originated in the latitude of Charleston, but this is not the fact. It was coined in the loyal State of Illinois—the "Rail Splitter's" own State—and by the Presidents leading organ in that State—the Chicago Post.

We wonder where a Democratic newspaper would land if it would utter such language in reference to an Abolition General? It is very remarkable how careless these new "Union saviors" are in the choice of their language.

**THE POINT OF DIFFERENCE**—One of our Democratic exchanges thus points out the difference between an abolitionist and a "rebel":

"The difference between an abolitionist and a 'rebel' is, that a 'rebel' wants to set up a new Government, and the Abolitionist wants to upset the old one.

The Democrats are for the old Government.

## Protest

To Hon. JOHN A. GAMBLER, President, and the other members of the Democratic Congressional Conference.

GENTLEMEN:—The undersigned, conferees from the counties of Clinton and Centre, respectfully but earnestly protest against the action of the Conference, both as to irregularity of proceeding in detail, and as to its refusal to make a Democratic nomination.

We protest against the action of a majority of the Conference in permitting a Conferee from Lycoming to cast the two votes for Tioga county. The absurdity of such action was fully demonstrated in the Conference when four of the other Conferees voted for the candidate of Tioga county, who was defeated for nomination only by the Lycoming substitute of Tioga casting the votes of that county against its own nominee, and in violation of its instructions.

We protest again, that the Conferees were elected to nominate a Democratic candidate for Congress, and for no other purpose; as is fully shown by the fact that the Democratic appointed Conferees to assemble together for the purpose of agreeing upon a candidate and each (except Potter) named a Democrat as its first choice for the nomination. It was not proposed in any of the County Conventions that any other but a Democrat should be nominated, or that no nomination should be made. The Conferees therefore, who voted against making a nomination, ceased to represent the authority that appointed them, and their action thereafter could have no binding force upon any person.

We protest against the action of the Conference, in refusing to make a nomination, because the avowed object of such action was to induce Democrats to abandon their party organizations and vote for Mr. JAMES T. HALE, the present Republican member for re-election to Congress, thus, in effect endorsing and approving of the action of those Democrats who, at the last election, joined the so-called "Union" organization, and who were therefore denounced by nearly the whole of the Democratic party in Clinton, Centre and Lycoming counties.

We further protest against such action as would make Mr. HALE the candidate of Democrats, because he has never belonged to their party—has never supported one of its principles or measures—was the bitter and vindictive reviler of ANDREW JACKSON, of JAMES K. POLK, of FRANCIS R. SHUNK, of STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, and of all the men who sustained any of those distinguished patriots or the measures which they advocated—because he was always an Abolitionist, and we believe is so still—because in Congress he voted for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, to the great disgust of all Southern Union men, and to the delight of the Rebels—and he also voted for (or refused to vote at all) revolutionary, incendiary and secession measures—because he failed as a Representative not only to resist these measures, but also neglected to oppose the corruptions and frauds committed by Government agents, the evidence of which had been reported to Congress by committees composed of members of his own political party—and because his course in Congress was generally injurious or of no service to his district or the nation.

We protest against your action because for Democrats to vote for Mr. HALE would be to approve and endorse his course in Congress, which would include an endorsement of all the corruptions of the Federal office-holders which he neglected and failed to expose. We have not the record in our possession, but we believe he even refused to vote for the resolutions censuring CAMERON and WELLES for their wholesale plundering so ruinous to the National cause, and to the soldiers who fight our battles and the people who pay the taxes.

We protest against action which presents Mr. HALE as the favorite of the Democracy, because he has ever been their active, efficient and virulent opponent—always actively supporting their antagonists, whether known as Whigs, Know-Nothings, Americans or no-party men, or by any other name.

In extenuation of these objections it is urged that Mr. HALE desires to effect a junction with the Democratic party—that he has almost or quite lost confidence in the ability of the Republicans or any other but Democrats to govern the nation, and that he entertains the utmost contempt and disgust for Abolitionists. But no evidence has been given to the Conference that this is true excepting the declarations of those of the persons who are pressing his cause who have had private conversations with him. Before we do any act that will commit the Democratic party, on such grounds, we want the information in such shape that they and we can see or hear it, and well weigh the terms in which it is couched, in order that there may be no misunderstanding.

We protest against this HALE movement because, if we must have a Representative who is not a Democrat, the Republicans and not the Democrats ought to be responsible for his action. It is just that those who elect a Representative should be held to a

strict accountability for his acts; and as Democrats we object to being held for the political or official acts of any but Democrats.

We protest against any refusal to make a nomination, because the Democratic party is desirous of continuing the work of convincing the public that its tenets are true, and ought to be adopted—that its members are sincere when they assert that none but Democrats can save the Nation, now plunged into anarchy and threatened with destruction, in a great measure, caused by the political follies and incapacity of the men Mr. HALE labored so earnestly to put into power—because the Democracy desire to show that they work for principles, not for office or a temporary political triumph—and because, as the experience of the old Whig and other opposition parties amply proves, such attempts at fusion, bargain, trick and humbug, are and ought to be, destructive of any party.

We protest against any adjournment until a Democratic nomination is made, because the Conferees were appointed for that very purpose, and had no other business in this body.

We protest against the action of the Conference because we believe that a regular Democratic nominee stood a fair chance of election, and that to have made a nomination would have only represented the wishes of the party that made us conferees.

Respectfully submitted,  
H. L. DIEFFENBACH,  
C. T. ALEXANDER.

PICTURE OF NAPOLEON. In *Marius* we have the following picture of the great captain:

He was everything. He was complete.—He had in his brain the cube of human faculties. He made codes like Justinian, he dictated like Caesar, his conversation joined the lightning of Pascal to the thunderbolt of Tacitus, he made history and he wrote it, his bulletins are Iliads, he combined the figures of Newton with the metaphors of Mohammed; he left behind him the Orient words as grand as the Pyramids; at Tilsit he taught majesty to Emperors; at the Academy of Sciences he replied to Laplace; in the Council of the State he held his ground with Merlin; he gave a soul to the geometry of those and the trickery of these; he was legal with the attorneys and sidereal with the astronomers; like Cromwell blowing out one candle where two were lighted, he went to the temple to cheapen a curtain tassel; he saw everything; he knew everything; which did not prevent him from laughing a good man's laugh by the cradle of his little child; and all at once startled Europe listened, armies set themselves in march, parks of artillery rolled along, bridges of boats stretched over the rivers, clouds of cavalry galloped in the hurricane, cries, trumpets, a trembling of thrones everywhere, the frontiers of the kingdoms oscillated upon the map, the sound of a superhuman blade was heard leaping from its sheath; men saw him standing erect in the horizon with a flame in his hands and a splendence in his eyes, unfolding in the thunder his two wings—the grand army and the old guard—and he was the archangel of war!

## A Protest.

We enter our most solemn protest against the Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, bearing date the 24th day of September, A. D. 1862, as in violation of the Constitution, and as not warranted by the circumstances, if it were clearly in accordance with the Constitution. We protest against it as an invasion of individual rights, as a blow at the personal liberty of the citizen, at the liberty of speech and of the press. We protest against it as an act of despotism unwarranted and uncalled for, arresting the administration of the civil law, and subjecting us to military arrest, trial and punishment. In the name of the Constitution and of civil Liberty, in the name of Reason and of Justice, in the name of Peace which it threatens, and Blood which it invites, we most solemnly and fervently protest against it.—*Pat. & Union.*

## THE "STAR" IN THE EAST

The Maine State election on the 8th inst., carried by the Republican, of course; but their majority of last year was reduced more than one-half, and the Democrats elected one member of Congress, (Mr. SWERT.) which is more than they have had from the State for several years. This is indication of popular sentiment which cannot be mistaken. The great reaction has commenced in the East, and it will go on swelling and increasing in magnitude, until every vestige of Abolitionism is rooted out of the councils of the Nation. Then, and not till then, will the old Union be restored, and peace and tranquility re-established in our borders.

Orpheus C. Kerr, wishes to know why our people cannot realize that a nation, like a cooking stove, cannot keep up a steady fire without a good draft.

## A Tyrant's Order.

A MILITARY DESPOTISM ESTABLISHED UPON THE RUINS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN DICTATOR AND THE PEOPLE SERFS.

WHEREAS, It has become necessary to call into service, not only volunteers, but also portions of the militia of the States, by draft, in order to suppress the insurrection existing in the United States; and disloyal persons are not adequately restrained by the ordinary processes of the law from hindering this measure and from giving aid and comfort in various ways to the insurrection;

Now, therefore, be it ordered,  
First—That during the existing insurrection, and as a necessary measure for suppressing the same, all rebels and insurgents, their aiders and abettors, within the United States and all persons discouraging volunteer enlistments, resisting militia drafts, or guilty of any disloyal practice, affording aid and comfort to the rebels against the authority of the United States, shall be subject to martial law, and liable to trial and punishment by courts martial or military commissions.

Second—That the writ of *habeas corpus* is suspended in respect to all persons arrested, or who are now, or hereafter, during the rebellion, shall be imprisoned in any fort, camp, arsenal, military prison or other place of confinement, by any military authority or by the sentence of any court martial or military commission.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.  
Done at the City of Washington this 24th day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,  
Secretary of State.

## State Rights In Vermont.

A speck of trouble has arisen lately for the Government in a quarter where it was least to be expected. There is a possibility of a contest in Vermont between the Government and the Federal Judge of that District. It seems that some parties had been arrested by the United States Marshal for discouraging enlistments, and were put in jail in Burlington. A writ of *habeas corpus* was issued by Judge Smalley in behalf of one of the men. The Marshal reported the facts to Washington, and received the following dispatch from Judge Advocate Turner:

"Pay no attention to the *habeas corpus* for the liberation of Lyman, Barney and Field, and if any attempt be made to liberate them from custody, resist it to the utmost and report the names of all who attempt it."

On the return of the writ on the 1st inst., the Marshal returned that he had arrested the man under the order of the Secretary of War, of Aug. 8 directing the arrest of all persons discouraging enlistments, and that all their cases be reported for trial before a military commission, and that the man was held under another order suspending the *habeas corpus* in such cases, and the order above set forth.

The suggestion was made that the proceedings should lie over till the authorities at Washington could be further heard from, but the prisoner's counsel opposed it, and the Judge decided that the return was insufficient, in as much as the Secretary of War could not suspend the writ.

He accordingly ordered the Marshal to produce the man within four hours, or he would make an order that the Marshal show cause at the next term of the Circuit Court why he should not be punished for contempt of Court. The Marshal, choosing to obey the order received from Washington, did not produce the man, whereupon the order to show cause was made.

The next term of the Court is not held until October, and many changes may take place between now and then. It remains to be seen whether the Government or the Judge will yield.—*N. Y. Times.*

## Cry Secesh Like the Devil.

A Perry county gentleman informs us that he met a "Union" (?) man from Spencer county, last week, who accosted him in language something like this:

"How are things going politically up in Perry county?"

"All for the union in Perry county," said our informant. "How is it in Spencer?"

"Well, we have some Union men down here in Spencer, and I am afraid the d—d Democrats are going to beat us this fall; our only chance of defeating them is to cry secesh like the D—d."

Such is, doubtless, to be the programme throughout the State.