

The Watchman.



P. GRAY MEEK, Editor.

BELLEFONTE, Friday Morning, August 7, 1863.

Democratic State Ticket.

FOR GOVERNOR, GEORGE W. WOODWARD, OF LUZERNE. FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT, WALTER H. LOWRIE, OF ALLEGHENY.

Democratic Editorial Convention.

Agreeing to the resolution passed at the meeting of the 10th inst., the Democratic Editorial Convention will meet at the Merchants' Hotel, in Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 11th of August next, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Democratic County Convention.

By order of the Standing Committee, the Democratic Convention of Centre County will meet at the COURT HOUSE, in the BOROUGHS OF BELLEFONTE, on WEDNESDAY, the 5th day of AUGUST, at 10 o'clock, P. M. Meetings for the selection of delegates to said Convention will be held in the several townships and wards, at their respective places of holding elections on SATURDAY, the 23rd day of AUGUST at 3 o'clock, P. M.

J. D. NOLAN, Chairman.

Consistency.

Immediately after the battle of Gettysburg, Mr. Stahl, editor of Gettysburg Compiler, hung to the breeze a beautiful flag in honor of the success of General Meade. Its starry folds had scarcely been kissed by the winds of Heaven, when a couple of sneaking, cowardly, black backed Abolitionists, tore it from its place and trampled it in the dust, afterwards gathering it up and tearing it to shreds, swearing that the "damned copperhead rag should not float in their faces from that place." It has been several weeks now since the occurrence took place, and we have not seen a single abolition paper, or heard an abolition voter denounce the act. With them it is all right, notwithstanding the love they pretend to bear, for the emblem of our fathers.

Scarcely any of our readers have forgotten the arrest and incarceration of the Rev. John Dashiell of the M. E. church in Baltimore for simply removing a flag that had been placed over the door of his chapel, and none of them who recollect the charges, and were grieved forth upon his head by the abolition crew, for committing, as they said this "most atrocious act," and how they howled about him as a "traitor," a "rebel," a sympathizer with rebellion," and declaring that he should be "strung up" without judge or jury, or confined in the loathsome cell of some military prison and made to suffer. Here we see the consistency of the party that is now asking the people to support an abolitionist for the next governor of our Commonwealth. When a minister of Christ refuses to denigrate his pulpit by preaching politics, and will not disgrace himself or his profession by acting, hypocritical prayers for the success of Abolitionism, and quietly removes a flag from his own church door, he is seized, torn from his home and family, and made to suffer all the abuses that Abolition malice can heap upon him. He is harassed as a "traitor," scorned as a "rebel" and treated as a brute; but when the abolitionists tear the emblem of our country from its staff, spit upon it, and rent it to pieces, not one of the whole crew, speak of the act as an "outrage," but apply the miscreant as "patriots," and loyal men. Let us hear no more of this raving about the "flag," from the lips of the supporters of this administration. If a nigger is not considered within it, it is a nigger to be respected beneath his folds, it is nothing to them but a "damned copperhead rag."

Some ten days since, a son of Mr. D. I. Pruner of this place was arrested by the Provost Marshall. Messrs. Orvis & Alexander applied to Judge Linn for a writ of Habeas Corpus which was granted, but the Marshall refused to bring up the prisoner in obedience to the writ. He was taken to Harrisburg and delivered to Captain Spence, who has charge of deserters at that place. A writ of Habeas Corpus was applied for to Judge Pearson, which was granted, the prisoner returned up and discharged. He then delivered home and on last Monday was again seized by Marshall Butts and hurried off, nobody as yet knows where. Why Mr. Pruner, who is not yet of age, should have been arrested the second time, after having been discharged is unaccountable unless it is done by the undertrappers of military authority to show their contempt and disregard of law. The party in power has always been a law breaking, law defying, law spurning crew, and it can hardly be expected to regard the decisions of our courts now—especially when arrests are worth to the Marshall ten dollars each, besides expenses. But a day of reckoning is coming, and we be to them that usurp authority and violate the plain provisions of our laws, —be ye ready Pruner, Marshall and all others who are seeking to ruin this great government for ye know not the day nor the hour when justice runs and certain will be meted out to you.

Is 'Slavery' the Cause and Should it be Abolished?

Of all the ideas advanced by the abolition party, that which suggests slavery as the cause of the war, and demands its utter extinction as necessary to the restoration of peace and Union, is the most foolish and the most repulsive to common sense. Influenced by the most surprising bigotry and fanaticism, the advocates of this pernicious and damnable doctrine, will be content with nothing less than the triumph of their people, if principle it can be called, to the Union, the Constitution and the Law, should perish in the struggle and the liberties of thirty millions of people be overturned forever. That any portion of a people, hitherto so blessed with the privileges of constitutional law, should become so radically regardless of the rights and interests of another portion, is a matter of the deepest regret, and one at which future generations, when the present terrible storm shall have passed away, will wonder with condemnation and surprise.

That an institution, guaranteed to the people of the South, by the Constitution of the country, and acquiesced in by the whole nation for a period of eighty years, should be the cause of a desolating and sanguinary warfare, is a contradiction so palpable, that none but the whois willfully blind can fail to see it. But in this day of prejudice and evil feeling, we find many who, intentionally closing their eyes to the truth as it is held up before them, are given up to "believe a lie," and rush on, with shouts and hurrahs, regardless of all obligation to God or man, to the attempted overthrow of one of the constitutional institutions of the country, and the consequent violation of the sacred law of the land.

To show the folly of the assertion that negro slavery must be extinguished in order to once more restore tranquility to the country, we cite the intelligent reader to two or three precedents in the history of our country, which go to prove that the advocates of this doctrine are either not as well informed as they should be, or else are demagogues of the deepest and most infamous type, and entirely regardless of the truth of history and the rights of their fellow men.

The proposition of the Abolitionists, then, is that the cause or foundation of a thing must be removed in order to do away with the thing itself; in other words, negro slavery must be abolished in the South before the war can cease or the Union be restored. That is the proposition. Now, let us see whether it will hold good, premising that if correct in one case it must be so in another.

In 1832 the people of South Carolina became dissatisfied with some of the tax laws imposed upon them by the General Government, and attempted to nullify them. The disturbance became serious, and for a time threatened to result in civil war. Wise counsels, however, prevailed, and the disturbance was quelled without the shedding of blood. The cause of the difficulty was, nevertheless, not removed, although the difficulty itself was. South Carolina became convinced of the folly of attempting to resist a law of the federal government, and after fair representations had been made to her, she returned peacefully to her duty as a member of the Union. This is one instance wherein it was not necessary to remove the cause, taxation, in order to do away with the result, rebellion.

Again, as another instance, prior to the one above quoted, we cite the "Whisky Insurrection," of 1794, in Washington and Allegheny counties in this State. In this case whisky was the cause of a most formidable rebellion, to meet which a strong army was collected, and placed under the orders of Gen. Washington. Happily, however, as in the case above quoted, law and order triumphed over madness and folly, and no blood was shed. Still the cause was not removed, and no one who pretends to say that no whisky is sold in Washington and Allegheny counties. Some may argue that it was not whisky that caused that insurrection, but the excise duties on that article. This, however, will not hold good, because, although the excise duties may have been the immediate cause of the insurrection, yet they were not the primary or first cause, which was the article whisky itself.

Of more recent origin is the Mormon war in Utah, under the administration of Mr. Buchanan. Here was a war caused by that "peculiar institution" of the Mormons, Polygamy. Yet this too, was subdued, and polygamy, as the cause, was not overthrown but still remains an institution of as much force and power among the Mormon people as ever.

We have hope and faith to believe that the people will trace, if they have not already traced, the war to its proper source and hold its authors to a just and terrible retribution.

In this hope we wait calmly, confident that in the triumph of the democracy, there is yet hope for our bleeding and much beloved land.

If true abolitionists expect to make any capital out of the names applied to the Democratic party or hope to create dissension and division in its ranks by denouncing its members as "copperheads," we can tell them plainly that they had better save their wind for there is anything that Democrats can stand without winking, or willing it harsh names. Democracy was once considered a term of reproach, and was applied as such to the descendants of the Tories of the Revolution, to the republican party of that day, that party has worn the title ever since and today it is one of the proudest most popular and honored words in the vocabulary of our American language, it is the synonyme of liberty, of law, of justice.

It is, in fact, of all that is honorable and right, just or patriotic. No man that is given to the members of the Democratic party but is made honorable and mighty—no spirit that is applied to them but becomes the slogan of success, the watchword of liberty, while every opposition that is chosen by the opposition no matter how honorable, or powerful at the time, is but a "Copperhead," but becomes weak, scornful and degraded. Look for the names they have chosen in years gone past, what are they now? The scorn and contempt of every lover of his country and will remain so long as time exists. Let no Democrat consider it an insult to be denounced as a "Copperhead," it is an honor, in these times, for it shows opposition to the hellish policy and principles of this Administration.

Amid groans and hisses, Andrew G. Curtin has again been nominated by the Abolition party of Pennsylvania for its next Governor. No man in that crew could have been chosen for that position, whose defeat would have been more certain, or who deserved it as much as the present Governor. We are pleased with the proceedings of the convention—thankful to the men that composed it for giving the honest voters of the Keystone State a chance to show their detestation of the insane policy and imbecile course that has marked the Administration of A. G. Curtin, and that they have a chance to drive him back to the obscurity from whence he was unseated.

The Laboring Man.

When the party now in power were laboring to overthrow those national and constitutional principles which have secured us our present happiness and prosperity to the American people, they exhausted every resource, promising high wages, and promising times, light taxes, "freedom of person, speech and press," "national peace," and "the high hopes inspired by their promises of the authors of today. Where labor is in many cases injured or destroyed, for every yard of muslin, pound of coffee, or other articles of consumption, they are forced to pay an increase, in some cases five or three times as much as they were to pay for former times. Suppose they were to pay one dollar per day and buy muslin at 40 cents per yard, they can get 2 1/2 yards for their labor of twenty-four hours, but if they are to pay one dollar and buy muslin at one dollar, they can only get one yard for their labor of the same amount.

Here then is the difference, and what is it but a question of the difference of 5 to 2 1/2. But again, their freedom is usurped, and they themselves are forced to leave their homes or give the land to the speculator, who can profit by their reduced labor, can buy his exemption, and not feel the loss, but the poor man whose family needs his support, must leave them perhaps homeless and in hardships and perils for their labor. Can it be any man's duty to still be indignant to support this ever changing and yet needless and soulless party, that are now in power? Can it be any man's own pride and deep necessity demand that the principles of former years should be retained? They protect the poor and rich alike. Can any man mistake his duty? Is not that the charge present argument enough that a change is indispensable.

Who is George W. Woodward.

The following sketch of the "next" Governor of this State we take from a newspaper called the Pennsylvania, published twenty-five years ago, when Judge Woodward, at that time was a young man: "George W. Woodward, of Luzerne, sits next to Mr. McCash. He is very tall and slender and very pale. His look, voice and manner indicate that he is a young man of no ordinary cast, and of his age—he is but twenty-eight years of age. I question whether he has many superiors, either in Pennsylvania or in the Union. Cool, firm and dignified, the observer will at once perceive, when he touches a subject, that a giant's grasp is upon it. His voice is clear and agreeable—his language plain but well chosen, and he possesses that rare faculty of knowing when to stop, and seldom says either too much or too little upon the theme in discussion. He is always listened to with the greatest attention, and the best evidence of the estimation in which he is held may be found in the fact that such men as Chaucney, Hopkins, Forward, &c., are generally found to overlook others in order to grapple with him. To a stranger, Mr. Woodward appears self-poised, coldhearted, and calculating, but in private life he is understood to be warm in his attachments, and probably more pressing than health, is subject to great fluctuations of spirits. He is gifted, however, with an unusual degree of self control. He is a lawyer. The political party to which he is attached has reason to be proud of such a member, and constitutional reform has few sincerer or more fervent advocates."

Uncle Sam will soon be after you boys. Your money only 13000 for your precious life.

The Designs of France in Mexico.

The most portentous event for this country that has happened since our civil war began, in the recent action of the Mexican Assembly of Notables, declaring Mexico an Empire, and inviting the Archduke Maximilian of Austria, to accept the throne. If that Prince should decline the offer, then Louis Napoleon is to have the selection of the person who is to sway the destinies of the new monarchy. What does all this mean? We naturally ask. It signifies much more than is yet clearly revealed.

So far as Mexico herself is concerned, the exchange of anarchy for perpetual revolution, for any stable and beneficent government, would certainly be a great gain. Her people have, for many years, proved that they are utterly unable to govern themselves, and, therefore, not eventuating to decide whether they will or will not have a government that will be competent to protect them against their chronic turbulence, and disorder. Hence it would be the very extreme of Quixotism for the Government of the United States to interfere in behalf of Mexico, to the injury of the other nations were about to save her, without her consent, from self-destruction.

She will come in as a ready and willing establishment of a monarchy in Mexico, under European auspices, on the ground of charity, is there no other motive for us to interfere? The American Administration will probably plant itself on the "Monroe doctrine," and try, on that plea, to rouse a country against France and her designs. But what will be the use of such opposition now? The Government at Washington has its hands full—it is assailing the security of the Mexican Republic, and has thus far proved invincible. Before it can prudently engage in war with several of the most powerful nations, it had better settle its domestic troubles. This is the condition of Mexico is a much bigger thing than the Washington Cabinet may imagine. It will have France, Spain, and the South American Confederacy, uniting against her, and all enemies, and should necessarily require it, England, Austria, Prussia, and Russia, to be called into the compact.

What necessity? It may be asked, "Europe is gaining for the great States of Europe a decisive influence in the affairs of the world, and the United States, on this side of the globe, that balance of power system which has so long prevailed in Europe, and that scheme, as we have sketched it, should be carried out. To whom and to what will we owe it? To the security of the Mexican Republic? We shall be indebted to Abolitionism much more than the dissolution of our national unity and the destruction of our national institutions. We shall owe it to the sacrifice of the great vital principle of our merchant vessels are, rightly and justly, the property of the United States. Secretary Seward gave up to England, and also the practice, overture of the "Monroe doctrine," which the anti-slavery party have been so long and so loudly denouncing, and which the Government to maintain, now that it is first formally assailed.

And so we see that the people of the once United States of America will owe their national ruin to the folly of our former national policy, and to the help of disintegrating their country, and more it is civil war, only to try the experiment of setting negroes free by intestine war. They are likely to pay too dear for their whistle.—Sunday Mercury.

With What Measure Ye Mets, It Shall Be Meted to You Again.

The Abolitionists of this country are beginning to realize the force of this scriptural quotation. When the first cent of a terrible civil war were transpiring, they took it upon themselves to judge of the morality of the act, and in the height of the excitement attendant upon those circumstances, that it was written that with whatsoever judgment they judged, so should they be judged. Then, infuriated mobs, urged on by incendiary appeals from radical Abolition newspapers, through the streets of our cities and towns, destroying the property of those whom they could not compel to second their aims, and to band the knee along at the billows of the popular excitement toward their own destruction, until now they see the fearful abyss yawning beneath their feet. The storm upon which they have so furiously ridden, has well spent its fury. But there can be heard the distant mutterings of another, more terrible—it is the vengeance of an outraged, and insulted people. That reactionary storm of popular indignation that always succeeds the too tyrannical exercise of illegal powers by governmental authorities has commenced here. It may be slow—but when it does come, the greater will be its rage, and the more terrible destruction will mark its course. We have warned the Abolitionists before, and we tell them now, that it will ere long come. We cannot stop it, as much as we have counselled against it. They might have prevented it, by listening to the calm counsels of calmer men, but they refused, and it is now too late.

We have always approved of obedience to laws, however oppressive, until they were repealed, or legally set aside. We have de-

manded obedience of law at your hands, we counsel it at the hands of all others.

There is a point in the exercise of tyranny such as you have wielded over the people where forbearance ceases, and avengement begins. When that point is reached the voice of reason is powerless. Mark you that point is near at hand.

The uprising in the city of New York, and the threatening aspect in other places, however we may regret them, are the consequences of your own action.—They are but the beginning what will be to Abolitionism a terrible end.—Men are changeable in their natures.—They will long submit to wrong, the like of which they will commit themselves, when the turning point in their minds has been reached upon those who have been aggressors upon their rights.

While the Abolition Press is howling over the acts of infuriated men, aimed at a destruction of their property, let it remember that its own party commenced these outrages, and that it is written in the Good Book, "Judge not, that ye be not judged; for with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged, and with what measure ye mete it shall be measured to you again."—Parmer Millersburg Ohio.

Our Danger.

The greatest danger impending over the nation is not the destruction of the Union. The doctrine of secession is not half so dangerous to human liberty as that advocated by Abraham Lincoln, and those who assist in his unhallowed plans. All mankind are directly interested in the fate of the Republic, and in future years, all mankind shall know that its most dangerous enemies are those who have sworn to protect and defend it. The voices of all those to whom we have been taught to look for example have been raised to warn us from the path in which we are to-day treading. Our people have been lulled into a security as false as that which pervaded the minds of the people of Pompeii a moment previous to the catastrophic which hurried them into ruin. If ever a nation stood upon a shimmering volcano, ours is doing so now. The dangers which threaten us are frightful above any that ever hung over a nation before; and is increased by the apathy with which our people look upon the monster which is stealing away our very hope.

We think war is terrible, we think it a fearful thing to have our fathers, brothers and friends struggling upon bloody battle-fields, or sleeping in blood graves. The loss of human life and the destruction of property in this war is a danger to appal the soul of Nero; but oh, a danger far more terrible threatens us, a danger a thousand times worse than any we have ever met or ever passed. An "unlimited treaty, bloody scotched," is guiding the destinies of America, and his unprinciples minions are digging our national catastrophe which hurried them into ruin. Men stand in doubt and inquire whether or not we should allow these usurpations, whether or not Abraham Lincoln has overstepped the bounds of the Constitution. There is no necessity for doubt. The Constitution of the United States is in the reach of every one; read it as our last hope and stand by it to the death. The humblest citizen of this Republic has as perfect a right to read it and form his opinions upon it as Mr. Lincoln; and we do not believe that any honest man can carefully read that document, as prepared by the mighty men who gathered its principles from amid the blood and dust of our Revolution, and compare it with the acts of this administration, and not conclude that our only hope lies in hurling from authority those who so shamefully abused the power with which they have been entrusted. Democracy does not ask any one to believe its assertions, unsupported by proof, it looks for its triumph to the good sense of our people, their devotion to the good and their ability to examine every question of interest. If they can be aroused to a sense of their danger, and induced to examine, each man for himself, the situation of affairs our country is saved.

An idea seems to have been introduced among us, and also believed by many, that as Abolitionism triumphed in 1850, it must do so as it places for four years. The rights and duties of a president are as strictly defined by law as are those of the lowest citizen, and any violation of either is punishable in one just as much as the other. The Constitution is made to protect minorities in the exercise of certain rights; a majority will protect itself, and unless we demand and maintain the rights given by the Constitution our government is in peril of ruin.

We have asserted that our greatest danger is not the destruction of the Union. Fanaticism may howl "Union for the sake of Union" until the end of time; but we say Union for the sake of principle, or no Union at all. The Union of these States was formed for the purpose of securing the blessings of liberty to the people of the States; if liberty is in danger, if the rights of the people are in jeopardy, if the danger of destruction, we hold that the danger is far more fearful than if it were only the destruction of the Union, if liberty survive. We want not the casket when the gems are lost. An eloquent member of the last Congress says, "Were I one of but a single community, insignificant in numbers, but secure in a guarantee of pure republican administration of affairs, I would be proud of my citizenship. But the union of a thousand states, each one as great and populous as the noble one (New York) among whose Representatives I have the honor to be, I would detest it, if the holding together of its component parts should create a necessity for the assumption of despotic power."

And so say we; perish the union forever rather than the principles enshrined within it; Democracy would save both together if possible; but liberty, as the most precious, before Union.

No one presumes to deny the unconstitutionality of a majority of the acts of this administration, except he do it through ignorance.

We have been asked to point out an act of Mr. Lincoln which was not in accordance with the Constitution; but we find far more difficulty in finding one which was to show the utter contempt in which they hold that instrument, we give a single instance out of many. We admit that there may be some things in the Constitution about which the wisest heads may differ; and in that case the Supreme Court is the only authority; but who understands the first principles of our language can doubt the meaning of the following— "Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishment inflicted." Amend— "Consent to Constitution, Art. 8.

Now, allowing the arrest of Mr. Vallandigham to have been perfectly legal, and his trial to have been conducted Constitutionally, we would inquire whether the Constitution was not violated in his punishment? If his banishment from one State to another was not an "unusual punishment" we do not understand the meaning of words.

The only hope of a government like ours is in adhering strictly to the very letter of the written Constitution. Revolution, anarchy, and destruction will inevitably follow if made less for Assembly. For every departure from this rule, there is where lies a danger, greater far than the triumph of secession and the dismemberment of the Union. Our last chance is in the triumph of right at the polls. It is useless to speak of constitutions to the party now in power, for

"It is a vain attempt To bind the ancients and unjust by treaties: They they stand a thousand species ways, Or if they cannot find a fair pretence, They'll break not in the face of heaven to break them."

Howard, Aug. 4, 1863. Assembly.

Mr. Editor.—The Democratic County Convention will soon assemble in this county, to select candidates for the coming campaign. The most important nomination to be made is that for Assembly. For years our legislative halls have become little better than mere gambling hells, where all kinds of corruption, intrigue and villainy have been unblushingly practiced, in consequence of the carelessness of the people in selecting their representatives. Incompetence and corruption have characterized the majority of our legislature, totally ignorant of the present condition and defects of our land for many sessions. Men are selected to legislate for three millions of people, not having the capacity to understand and appreciate the interests of the Commonwealth, they naturally turn their whole attention to private speculation, which in this situation, simply means race and corruption. The Democracy of this county have been fortunate for the last two years in having an intelligent, firm and upright man for their representative. We should be careful to have our future Assemblyman possess the same qualities. He should be a man of intelligence; one having at least a general knowledge of our system of jurisprudence, so as to enable him to act for the best interests of the community at large. His private business and political character should not only be good, but even above the reach of suspicion. He should not be a man who has always been announced, but large in having an intelligent, firm and upright man for their representative. We should be careful to have our future Assemblyman possess the same qualities. He should be a man of intelligence; one having at least a general knowledge of our system of jurisprudence, so as to enable him to act for the best interests of the community at large. 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