

# The Democratic Watchman,

BELLEFONTE, PENN'A.

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## To Our Patrons.

A happy New Year to all! A ten fold happy one, to the thousands of brave, true, Democrats who stood by us through the dark days of mongrel mobs and puritan despotism! To you, kind friends, are we indebted for that success which enables us to-day to send forth the WATCHMAN, equal if not superior, in size and appearance to any paper in the State. We hope as it comes to your firesides, again enlarged and improved, that you will remember that it was your support that has helped us make it what it is. For that support we most sincerely thank you—thank you in all earnestness, because it was bestowed, willingly, freely and cheerfully, without buying it with promises or securing it by pleading poverty.

As to the future course of our paper, we give the past as a guarantee. We intend to continue improving it—we intend that it shall be free, fearless and plain spoken—we intend that it shall do a full share in the great work of restoring to our country its former grandeur and greatness—we intend that it shall be a perpetual remembrance to the tools of tyrants and miserable wretches who outraged liberty and trampled justice under their heels, of their infamous acts, and brutal proceedings, when hanging, mobbing and murdering in the name of "loyalty." We have not forgotten the drunken mobs and street brawlers, who did the dirty work of dirtier politicians during the reign of the "late lamented," nor do we intend that they shall forget them.

We are not going to take stock in ANDREW JOHNSON'S policy—we are not going to throw up our hat for military candidates or policy politicians—we are not going to speak of wench worshippers, treasury robbers, bawdy-house bummers, puritan hypocrites, constitution violators, and the whole host of blackguards, black-legs and fools, who lead the black army of niggers and mongrels, as gentlemen, patriots or even respectable citizens. We shall say what we think and in words that any one can understand, and if thin-kinned individuals, of puritan persuasion, or even those of our own way of thinking, who labor harder to please their political opponents than to put in practice the principles of Democracy, do not like it, they can take the less of it.

We profess to be a freeman, and we intend that our paper shall be free—free to condemn the wrong, free to support the right—let who may applaud or denounce. Upon this platform we stand and make our fight. How do you like it friends? If it suits you, put your shoulder to the wheel, and help increase our lists of subscribers—help to put out spoken Democratic papers in the hands of every one who will read—help to spread Democratic truths, and thus secure Democratic victories.

Two or three of our Democratic exchanges, are out flat footed for Gen. Hancock for President, because he is a military man. The very reason why we would oppose his nomination. We have had enough of military men during the past six years. Every attempt they made to benefit the country only got it into deeper difficulty, and it will take some sensible, honest and patriotic civilian a long time to build up what these wearers of blue coats and brass buttons tore down in a very short time.

A son of the Martyr JOHN BROWN, was last week, placed in the insane asylum, at Columbus, Ohio.—Abolition Exchange.

If all the followers of the old-horse thief, murderer and fanatic, were with him in the warm climate, he is now enjoying, or with his son in the lunatic asylum, it would be a blessed thing for the country.

## "Is Thy Servant a Dog?"

The mongrels complain bitterly that the Southern people treat with respect and consideration the men who so gallantly led them in their brave, but unfortunate struggle for independence. This is only another proof of the shallowness of those who pretend to be trying to restore the Union, and shows to all reflecting men that they are utterly incapable of understanding the great principles which must naturally unite the States of this Union; if they are united at all. Was anybody in the North fool enough to suppose that the Southern people would be whipped into loving New England so that they would lick the hand which smites them? Did any one think that if the armies of the Confederacy were overcome those who had filled and led its ranks, would love us any better than before they had been whipped? Surely not, for this is not usually the result of a fierce and relentless strife.

There was but one proper course for those in power to pursue, and if they had adopted it, the Union would long ago have been restored, and the leaders of the late Southern Confederacy would not have stood half so high in the estimation of the people they tried to save from despotism. That course should have been simply to allow the laws of the United States already in force to go into operation in all parts of the Union as soon as hostility to their authority ceased. This would have restored the Union at once, and the Southern States would long ago have been taking care of their own people, black as well as white, instead of counting noses before the convention meets and all speculation as to who the man will be, amounts to simply speculation and nothing more.

For our part, we are for the nomination of a man, who can stand on a Democratic platform—a platform of old-time principles, a man who has had no hand in the bloody work of murdering American citizens, in order to destroy the Union of our fathers—a man who can be relied upon as a statesman, a man who has the courage to do right under all circumstances; a man who believes that this government was "established by white men, for white men"—in the sovereignty of the states, the liberty of our citizens, equal taxation, and the immortal principles of Democracy, as taught by the founder of our Republic. The country has grown sick of military men—tired of bombast, buttons and shoulder straps; and we hope that those who control our party will heed the voice, and obey the wishes of the people. If they do, blue coats, and brass buttons, will exercise but little influence in the selection of a candidate. We will have a man of true and tried principles, of known ability, integrity and honor, who the people can rally around, with the firm belief and assurance, that he will be able to rescue the country from the ruin that military men have brought upon it.

We have every hope, that our "leaders" have seen enough of the workings of "expediency," to open their eyes to the fact that a man, who was in no manner connected with the bloody abolition crusade, carried on as a "War for the Union," is the only proper person, to receive the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. And while there is every prospect of our mongrel opponents, meeting in convention in confusion and adjourning in despair, with such a man as THOS. H. SEYMOUR, or GEO. H. PENDLETON, as our nominee, we may confidently count, on obtaining at the hands of the people, a re-indorsement of the Constitution, so long despised, and a President who will see that the laws of the land, enacted under a strict observance of that Constitution, are faithfully executed in the true spirit of justice and right, which actuated the framers of our system and form of Government.

into war. They neglected this opportunity, and pursued an opposite course, and they alone are to blame that the affections of the people of the South are more widely alienated from us than ever. They are not dogs, but "men, high-minded men," and their conduct, under the circumstances, has been just what it ought to be.

## The Presidential Nominee.

Much speculation is just now being indulged in by our contemporaries, in regard to the next nominee of the Democracy for the Presidency. While it may be well enough to canvass the fitness of this or that aspirant with an earnest desire to select the best man, for that high position, it is the merest folly to attempt to predict who the choice of our party will be. Our opponents meet in convention, in Chicago, in May next, to put in nomination a man to be supported by bondholders, wench worshippers, thieves, and mongrels generally. Should their nominee be a military man, and the individual whom they talk about now—the butcher leader of the last Peninsular campaign—there is such a tendency as Doesticks would say to "dampoolery," in the breasts of the American people, and in the so-called leaders of the Democratic party, that our convention may be manipulated in such a manner as will secure the nomination of a military man, in order, as "policy" preachers will argue, to counteract the evil influence which the mongrel nominee, will be supposed to exercise over that class of people, who look only to military notoriety as the culmination of statesmanlike ability. So that there is no counting noses before the convention meets and all speculation as to who the man will be, amounts to simply speculation and nothing more.

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CAN'T WIN.—Our townsmen, Ex-Gov. CURTIN, is said to be making most strenuous efforts to secure a complimentary vote from his party in this State for vice president. ANDY DON'T all together understand the enormous weight that the old wincehago, has fastened upon the shoulders of his political aspirations. He hardly believes that CAMERON will have him laid out flatter than a busted bladder, long before the meeting of the Mongrel convention. But he will. Gov. CURTIN stands no more chance of getting the mongrel nomination for Vice President, or even a complimentary vote from his party in this state, than a bizzard would of flying to the North pole with its wings clipped and a "fifty six" hung to each leg.

The WATCHMAN—the white man's paper.

## Why We Will be Sustained.

The people of the United States have always loved the Union of which the constitution is the bond. The abolitionists who desired to destroy the government, declared years ago, through the mouth of WILLIAM H. SEWARD, that they would delude the people to its destruction by the cry of "Union." How well this purpose was accomplished, the torn, bleeding, desolated condition of the country attests. If the people of the Northern States had deliberately intended to do just what the war did do, or if they had seen and appreciated the purpose of the leading Abolitionists who commenced and carried it on, and still continued to support them, we would utterly despair of ever restoring the Union of our fathers. It is true the result has been disastrous, but the character of men is not always indicated by the results their efforts accomplish, for with the best motive in the world men may err in the means they employ, and accomplish nothing but evil. This is just what we think has been done by the people of the Northern States; and our hope for the future is based on the honesty of their motives, now that the work they did rises up before them in such ugly shapes and huge proportions.

The Democratic party had been so long in power that the people forgot that no other could properly administer the government, and supposed that our great success at home and abroad was entirely owing to some intrinsic merit in the form of the government itself. They did not realize that without a party which understood and believed the principles on which it was based it was a mere body without a soul; or if held possession of by a party having opposite principles, it became a terrible and dangerous instrument for the destruction of all it was erected to preserve. By craftily working on all the weaknesses of human nature, the Abolition leaders got false and wicked ideas widely disseminated, and believed before any but the wisest and most far-seeing dreamed of danger to our institutions. They next induced the people to believe that their doctrines could be carried out without interfering with our government at all, and finally persuaded them to do the work of disunion and despotism in the very names of union and liberty. But the very fact that this kind of artifice had to be employed, that the judgment of men had to be perverted in order to get them to confound good with evil convinces us that their hearts are right, and that all will be well in the future.

If the whole North had rushed to arms against the South, simply because of a blind and bigoted hatred to them, and had waged a savage and bloody war, wilfully intending to accomplish the only ends which were attained, we might just as well cease to struggle, and permit the republic to drift in to some sort of monarchy; and the sooner the better. But the armies of the North were mostly composed of men who were honestly fighting for "the Union," and the people would not have born the burdens of the war a single day if they had not been firmly convinced that it was being waged to maintain our institutions.

We believe now that those who honestly fought under the delusion that war could restore a Union which violence had torn asunder, and who gave their money, as well as their lives, with the hope of preserving the government of our fathers, will vote with and for the only party which ever was really for the Union, and which experience shows to be the only one under whose administration all parts of the country flourish. It was not a matter of much surprise to us that the party which had waged a successful war should be sustained while the people believed they were trying to reap its fruits, which they had been told would be a perfectly restored Union, and universal harmony and peace throughout the country. But when after, three years have been wasted in efforts to carry out the Abolition programme, and the Union is yet more widely severed than when the army of Gen. LEE surrendered, it ought to convince all that the whole thing is a gigantic failure, and many are being so convinced every day. The reconstruction measures of Congress and the condition of the South under them are driving thousands into our ranks who formerly opposed us.

All who honestly sustained the "war for the Union," must and will now support the party which has been demonstrated to be the only one under which the Union can exist, and we confidently expect that the Democratic candidate for president in 1868 will receive the largest vote of any man who was ever a candidate for that office.

## The Curse of Cowardice.

The great curse of the Democratic party for years back, has been the cowardice of its leaders—a lack of courage among the men who controlled its organization, and spoke for it at meetings and through platforms. In place of meeting questions forced upon them in an honest open manner, they have, whenever possible "beat about the bush," and shirked every issue that it required any courage to make.

When abolitionism first left its black foot-marks over the country, in place of showing up its hypocritical philanthropy, its infamous designs, and the wickedness of the idea that nature had done her work wrong in placing the African in an inferior position to the caucasian, and fitting him only to serve, many of our speakers and writers, fearing to do what was right would try to evade the issue, by admitting that so-called "slavery" was wrong, but that we had no right to interfere with it—thus hoping to please the poor fools who could be converted to any belief by the hypocritical tears of New England puritans, as well as the masses of our people who at that time had no idea of thinking that Almighty God, had made a mistake in creating one race to care for and protect another. It was this cowardice on the part of Democratic politicians, that first gave abolitionism a foothold by leading weak-minded and unthinking people to believe that it was right because those opposed to it feared to show that it was wrong.

Again when the opponents of the Democracy forced upon them the question of tariff, in place of meeting it as honest, brave men should—in place of assailing it as a legalized system of robbery, whereby, the manufacturers of the country was to be fed and fattened at the expense of the consumers—they compromised and became ostensibly the warmest supporters of the measure, thus again leading hundreds of well meaning men, who looked to them as the proper persons to express the Democratic opinions on public questions, to believe that tariffs as just what the country, and the tax-payer need.

And when abolitionism succeeded in inaugurating its infamous war against the people and institutions of the Southern States, notwithstanding the fact that the would-be leaders of the Democratic party had time and again warned the people that such a course would be the result of the success of their opponents, and had openly pledged themselves to resist it to the last—to oppose it in every way, shape and form, as unconstitutional, unjust, unholy, calculated only to destroy the Union, and trample personal liberty and state sovereignty, under foot, as soon as they heard the fanatic cry of "War for the Union," there was none who howled it louder, or made more vigorous efforts to have it succeed—simply because they believed such a course would be popular and would result in their attaining place and position. It was policy they said, and what was principle when policy demanded its sacrifice. "Let us once get into power" said they "and then we can administer the government according to Democratic ideas."

But the trouble was, this time serving popularity seeking, policy, only led hundreds of thousands to believe that the war was right and consequently the party that inaugurated it received their support, and justly enough, was the men who would have succeeded on a false platform, defeated.

Have we, as a party, learned a lesson from the past? Have the defeats brought upon our cause by cowardly shrinking from the issues of the day, taught us, that it is best always to stand up for what we believe to be right, whether it seems popular or not? If so, nothing can prevent us from succeeding in the near future. The people are right. They have had their eyes open to the fact that in the success of the good old Democratic doctrine after all, lies the only hope of the country, and all that is wanted, is for our "leaders,"—the men who make our nominations—to cut loose from military Gods, reconstruction policies, and everything that favors of the treasonable practices of those who recognize the acts of an illegal, treacherous body, styling itself Congress, as binding upon the country.

GEN. ORD, one of the military scoundrels, who was at one time supposed to be a decent man and for a while gave some evidence of liberality, has been exposed from the little sovereignty he exercised in the South by the President. Reason—he wasn't fit for the position on account of his tendency to mix black pepper in large quantities in white man's soup. He will not be regretted by anybody.

CHARLES LOBDELL, one of the editors of the La Crosse Democrat was killed in the late railroad disaster near Angola, New York, his remains being recognized by a ring on his finger marked "C. L." The last number of the Democrat makes its appearance draped in mourning, with an editorial in which Mr. POPEY announces the sad fate to his readers. Mr. LOBDELL was on his way east, where he intended to celebrate the holidays by getting married and the sad fate which has overtaken him, leaves his intended bride in an agony of despair. Poor LOBDELL! As "Brick" says "Poor Charley!" He was a young man—a writer of much ability and versatility, and of great future promise. The Democrat will miss him sadly, and its readers will realize that a pleasant and familiar pen is absent from its post. But let us hope that he is gone to a better land, and that, though his stay here was brief, he may find more than the realization of his hopes of earthly glory in that other world where we are told there is no darkness, and that neither sickness nor sorrow can enter therein.

JOHN POPE, the cowardly braggart of whom the President said that he "substituted tyranny for law," has been removed by Mr. JOHNSON from the command of the district composed of the States of Alabama and Georgia. This removal will be generally commended by the public, and is a just retribution upon one who thought it brave and manly to maltreat and oppress a defenceless and inoffensive people. He has been ordered to report at headquarters for further orders. What those orders will be is not known. They should be to strip him of the uniform he has disgraced by his brutality and cowardice, and to associate him in the private ranks of the army with the niggers he has attempted to elevate over the heads of the free white men of his own race. Posterity will curse him for a thieving poltroon, and history will write him a "scoundrel, whom 'twere base flattery to call a villain."

BILLY FOR BRICK.—The last number of the La Crosse Democrat, comes to us dressed up in an entire new suit of type, and enlarged to a forty eight column paper. Enterprise and pluck is what has secured the success that enables our Wisconsin cotemporary to come out looking as neat and prosperous as it does. Had it bowed the knee to the abolition baal, or cringed before puritan tyranny, we'll bet our hat that it would not count hundreds were it now has thousands of subscribers. We say success to "Brick" and his imitable paper.

The abolitionists were either liars before emancipation, or they are knaves since. Lord We know.

You need not bother yourself, General, in trying to decide which of the two is their leading characteristic, for we of the North, who have been doomed to live among them for years and years, can swear as often as you want us to, that we know the leaders of that party to be both, and besides, to be the biggest liars and most consummate knaves, that the good Lord ever put breath into. There is no discount on their ability or willingness, to lie, cheat, steal or do any other mean contemptible act.

WILL SOON LEAVE.—Reports from Washington, state that the health of THAD. STEVENS is failing so rapidly that his death at any time would not surprise his friends. While it might not be a surprise, it would certainly be an unhappy event for one of them—the devil,—for after the old "clove-foot," "shuffles off the mortal coil," there will be but little peace for him and his. Hell will be in a constant uproar, or STEVENS' will be the most miserable soul among the damned.

BETTER NOT MEET.—The Pennsylvania Legislature meets on Tuesday next. That the people will be benefited by its legislation there is little hope. It would be better for the tax-payers if it would not meet at all.

GENERALS MEADE and McDOWELL have been appointed by the President to succeed POPE and ORD; recently removed. These generals are supposed to possess some common sense. We will soon see whether that supposition is correct.

If GRANT stuck continues falling as it has for the past five weeks, at the end of six months it will be so low that a streak of lightning couldn't overtake it in an age.

One of the spiciest, ablest and most fearless Democratic papers that we have had the pleasure of receiving, is the Philadelphia Sunday Mercury.