

The Democratic Watchman,

BELLEVILLE, PENN'A. P. GRAY MEEK, Editor & Proprietor JOHN P. MITCHELL, Associate Editor,

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Democratic State Ticket. FOR AUDITOR GENERAL, HON. CHARLES E. BOYLE, of Fayette County. FOR SHERIFF GENERAL, GEN. WELLINGTON H. KENT, of Columbia County.

The Situation.

The question now arises seriously in the mind of every man of sense, is there anything we can do to save our institutions from destruction? Men of all parties, who are not wholly blinded by fanaticism, feel the peril upon us which many failed to see approaching...

Ten states of our once glorious union are crushed to the dust. Every vestige of liberty has been destroyed throughout the entire South, not a solitary principle for which our race has so long struggled, but is violated in the rule to which those are subjected who surrendered to us...

But they have gone further than this. They have almost annihilated one of the three branches of this government, and usurped its powers. Of Andrew Johnson personally we have nothing to say to Republicans

But of the importance and dignity of the office he holds, we have. Who that has thought of the reasons why our fathers divided this government into three branches, and gave to each distinct powers and duties, but must tremble with alarm, when they see an attempt on the part of any one of them to usurp or destroy the powers of any other? We cannot think it necessary to urge upon any citizen of this country the vital necessity for this arrangement...

We urge upon our fellow-citizens, especially those who hold different political opinions from our own, to examine carefully the articles of impeachment (published elsewhere in this paper) which have been preferred against our President, and to reflect that the design of those who urge on the trial with such indecent haste, is to remove from office a man elected by their suffrages...

The articles of impeachment are ten in number, and if we admit that there is evidence to fully sustain every one of them, there is not the shadow of ground to base the charge of "high crimes and misdemeanors" upon. They charge him with having done what all his predecessors in office, from WASHINGTON to LINCOLN, claimed the right to do without question from any one...

These are serious questions, and they demand the most candid, careful, unprejudiced examination of every citizen of this country. It is a time now when all mere party strifes, and the bitterness they engender, should be lost sight of, in the other great question of how to regain the liberties which have been violently torn from half our people...

Governor GEARY lives in a palatial residence, besides which the houses of former executives are hovels. This is provided for his excellency out of the money taken from people, many of whom are next door to starvation. What a fine thing it is to keep the "poor man's party" in power!

The Last Chance.

It is hard to bring one's mind to the acknowledgement that the primary principles upon which our government is based are not understood by the people. It is hard for us, who have so long boasted of the intelligence of the masses, and vain-gloriously paraded our fancied superiority in this respect in the eyes of the world, to admit that it was all fustian, and that we really do not know as much about our own fundamental principles as our ancestors did three hundred years ago...

In plain language, nearly all our able writers have failed to discuss the simple, though important principles of our government, because it seems almost an insult to intimate that the people do not understand them. It would seem like telling a middle-aged man that fire would burn him to the bone...

We have spent our time pleasantly within the strong walls our fathers reared, like Belshazzar at the feast, while the outer defences have been wholly neglected, we have expended every effort in beautifying and enriching the interior, while a bold, crafty and unscrupulous foe was battering down the unguarded walls...

The question for us to decide is not only whether we shall drive out this foe, but have we the power to do it? It is easy to talk about the people being sovereign, and about them not permitting themselves to be enslaved, but when we look about us for some means by which we may remove the despots who have usurped our powers, we find that they have forestalled us...

It sounds well to talk about the people being too numerous and too fond of liberty to be enslaved by the few who now hold the powers of government. But despots are always erected by the few over the many, and certainly the majorities which have been so often crushed to the dust did not desire such a fate any more than we do.

When we seek some hope to lighten the gloom which now surrounds us, we confess we find but little. Nearly all the avenues of escape have been sought but and securely closed by the cunning foe, and the only glimmer of light which penetrates the darkness is the remote prospect that the honest portion of the Republican party will see the imminent danger which we are in, and unite with us to avert it...

By the present arrangement of the finances of this country, the government pays the bankers annually twenty millions of dollars in gold for furnishing us with a depreciated currency. If paper is to be issued at all, why may the government not as well save this vast amount of money by issuing it itself? Let the poor men from whom taxes are extorted, and who continue to support the party which controls the finances, seek an answer from those they serve.

The People and the Platform.

As far as they go, we have little or nothing to object against the platform so far put forth by the delegates representing the democracy of the several States that have held their state conventions. They all contain matter of great moment, weighty truths, which should command the serious attention of all men of all parties, sound principles, upon the triumph of which and their application in public affairs by any party in power, depend the success and perpetuity of our system of government...

And yet no means of meeting such an emergency has been even remotely suggested, no signal of danger ahead requiring other than moral means to overcome; no note of preparation for a struggle that must, if it comes, be fierce and bloody, has been sounded by any Democratic State Convention that has yet assembled. In this respect the people are far ahead of the politicians who have laid down platforms for them, they are wiser in their conception of the stern duties which the aggressions of unlawful power, growing more oppressive and exasperating every day, impose upon them, and less timid in accepting them with all their responsibilities and perils...

Let taxpayers remember that the Legislature costs this State a thousand dollars for every day it is in session. Let them then cast about for the benefit the State at large has received for all the outlay of this winter. Let them turn through the monstrous volumes issued by the last four or five sessions of the Legislature, known as "pamphlet laws," and see how much good has resulted from it all...

Chief Justice CHASE once voted, in the Congress of the United States for the dissolution of the union, and has always been a disunionist. It is fitting that he should sit in the trial of JOHNSON for trying to restore the union, and natural that he should be unwilling to try Mr. DAVIS, for trying to destroy it.

Whatever may be the result of our difficulties, the record of those Democrats who opposed the war from the outset, as an instrument of revolution and ruin, is one their descendants will always be proud of.

An Absurd Pretext.

The assumption set up by those who are in favor of the course of the Radicals towards the Southern States, that the negro needs the protection of the federal government to preserve him from destruction, bears absurdity on its very face. No one certainly can doubt that the object of the southern people has been, and is now, to secure happiness to themselves and their posterity. There can be no prosperity and no happiness in this world without labor. We mean real, solid labor, such as is required to produce from the earth the many materials which are necessary for our consumption and wear...

This argument ought to be sufficient in itself to convince any candid mind that the pretence of those who desire to control the Southern States by military power are mere pretences. It should not be forgotten that the Southern people are made of the same material that we are, and that it is only a little while since we were proud to call them brethren. The very same objects which have been held steadily in view by all human beings of all classes, are still cherished by the people of the South. They seek prosperity and happiness, and their desire to get their civil affairs in a proper shape would naturally be much stronger than ours to have them do so...

Thousands of people who could not see the past any further back than the "firing on Fort Sumpter," are getting their eyes open to the fact that the revolution commenced with the elevation to power of the men who now boldly stride over the constitution, and deliberately annihilate ten of the constituent parts of the Union. People are beginning to feel what they refused to see; and the party which so long preserved the government is daily receiving accessions to its ranks...

The "reconstruction" laws of Congress were prepared by THAD. STEVENS. He declared them to be unconstitutional, and every one of sense who has paid any attention to them at all, would arrive at the same conclusion without his declaration. Yet the revolutionists who prepared and passed them, are hounding JOHNSON for alleged violations of a constitution which they openly violate themselves...

Granny Geary declines the Vice-Presidential nomination of the radical party. Soar grapes.

The "God and Liberty" Party.

Since the time when Christ uttered the divine truths recorded in the New Testament, the earth has not supported from its fruitful bosom a more self-righteous, boastful, lying, deceitful, cruel and persecuting sect of Pharisees than comprise the bulk of the misnamed Republican party of our day. Wrapped up, not "in the grandeur of their own solitude," but in the slime of their filthiness of heart, they imagine themselves the oracles of a Divinity, fashioned after their own false conceptions, and shock the moral sense of communities, as did the Pharisees in Christ's day, by their absurd pretensions and profane utterances. Only a few days ago a leading paper of that sect, which has earned the position it enjoys by the profanity and unscrupulous mendacity in which, under every change of editors, it habitually indulges, declared in substance—if not in the very words we quote from memory—that "disgrace or blink the truth as we may, it is nevertheless true that God Almighty demands the conviction of ANDREW JOHNSON" by the court of impeachment now organized for trial...

If this habitual lying and unprincipled and unscrupulous show were an exception to the general conduct of others engaged in the same bad cause, we should not note its language now as a reason why good men should ponder well before they consent to follow where such lead, but it is the common language of the Republican pulpit and the Republican press; it is the fruit of the impure and infidelity born of and nurtured in New England Colleges, academies and seminaries, and thence sown broadcast over the length and breadth of the land, creeping into our common schools, reaching, through Yankee professors, our highest institutions of learning, and vitiating in its course every branch of education, popular and select, mental and moral. It is for this reason that we call attention to it, and implore those who act with the republican party only through false notions of its aims, objects and superior morality, to pause and consider before they go further, whether a party which is constrained to back up its pretensions and maintain its most flagitious actions by making the Deity not only a participator but a leading active and commanding spirit in them, is a party which is at all likely to reform either the politics or the morals of the country.

In the light in which we look upon it, it was to such as these that Christ addressed the words, "Woe unto you Scribes, Pharisees, Hypocrites! Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers! How can ye escape the damnation of Hell?"

It seems probable that Satan will not spare his servant—THAD STEVENS—long enough to see the consummation of his life-long purpose—the enslavement of the white people of America.

BEN. WADE is anxious to get into the white house; but if he succeeds, he may be like the free bird which struggles to get into a gilded cage—equally anxious to get out again in safety.

Mongrel patriotism only extends to the River Potomac. The patriotism of the Democratic party reaches from ocean to ocean, and from the St. Lawrence to the Gulf.

We hear many Mongrels complain of the stagnation of business. Have they yet to learn that a country cannot prosper while its government is being revolutionized?

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