

Bedford Inquirer.

REDFORD, PA. FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 1868.

NATIONAL UNION REPUBLICAN TICKET.

FOR PRESIDENT, GEN. ULYSSES S. GRANT. FOR VICE PRESIDENT, HON. SCHUYLER COLFAX. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS...

STATE TICKET.

GEN. JOHN F. HARTGRANT, AUDITOR GENERAL. GEN. JOHN F. HARTGRANT, GOVERNOR...

DISTRICT TICKET.

HON. JOHN CESSNA, CONGRESS. COL. D. WATSON ROWE, DISTRICT JUDGE...

COUNTY TICKET.

COL. LEWIS A. MAY, CO. COLONEL. JACOB EVANS, CORONER...

WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE?

It is generally conceded that the press of to-day wields a moulding influence on public opinion unequalled by any other instrumentality whatever. The lawyer, the author, the teacher, each exercises a certain influence in moulding public sentiment on moral, social, or political questions, in his sphere. But the all-pervading, everywhere penetrating, and continually operating power of the day is the newspaper press. On the editors of these papers and their moral integrity and political honesty depends, more than on any other class of men whatever, the political, social and moral condition of our country. This we believe every intelligent, thinking and observing man will unhesitatingly concede. How great then the responsibility resting upon those in whose hands is placed this great power for good or evil. Yet how little do the people, who buy and read and place in the hands of their children the newspapers of the day, regard the character either of the papers themselves or the men who control them. Men are careful as to whom they select as the teachers of their children in schools, extremely particular about their ministers, yet have no regard at all for the character of their family newspaper the most powerful instrument in moulding and fixing the habits, character, and morals of their children. When we take up the newspapers of the day we shudder to think how little this important matter is considered either by publisher or patron. The newspapers that may be read through in the family circle, without bringing the blush to the cheek of all who are not devoid of common modesty, may be numbered on one's fingers. The great mass of daily, semi-weekly and weekly papers large and small alike teem with unseemly and obscene advertisements, extended and disgusting police reports, minute accounts of crimes of every character, and everything calculated to pollute the mind, harden the conscience, and corrupt the morals of the young, and familiarize him, whether reader or old, with crime of every grade and character. Such are the messengers that, under pretence of giving us the news of the day, daily find their way to our firesides and scatter broadcast over the whole land an insidious, silent, pestilential influence, that slowly but surely, produces an appalling harvest of vice, immorality and crime. It requires no great degree of intelligence to trace a large portion of the crimes that now fill our prisons with criminals to this most fruitful source. We unhesitatingly declare, and that without fear of successful contradiction, that no more fruitful source of general corruption exists in the land than the vast mass of newspapers of every kind controlled and edited by corrupt men whose only aim is to make money out of their publications, without regard to the influence the exert upon the community. And further we declare that the fearful responsibility rests not alone upon the publishers of these vicious sheets, but also, and equally, upon the thoughtless or indifferent who patronize and sustain them. Reader, are you among the guilty? Examine your weekly and your daily papers and if you find any one of them falling in the class above referred to, unhesitatingly cut it off, permit it no longer to come within your door or be read in your family. If you do remember that you are contributing your portion toward swelling the tide of wickedness that already floods our whole land, filling our prisons with criminals and our almshouses with paupers, and laying upon us at a tax more burdensome than all the tax laws that were ever enacted.

GEN. GRANT'S SPEECHES.

[From the New York Tribune.] The Democratic party has greatly exercised about Gen. Grant's speeches, and predict disaster to the country in the election of a man who, (they say) cannot make a glittering oration. One of these carping critics is Gen. S. B. Buckner, now the editor of the Louisville Courier, the chief Editor- Democratic of Kentucky. Editor Buckner sharply reviews Gen. Grant's style and ideas, and thinks he won't do. But Mr. Buckner possibly may remember one little speech or composition of Gen. Grant. It was as follows: HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE FIELD, CAMP NEAR DONELSON, Feb. 16, 1862. To Gen. S. B. Buckner, Confederate Army: Yours of this date, proposing an armistice and appointment of commissioners to settle terms of capitulation, is just received. No other terms than unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted. I propose to meet immediately upon your works. I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, U. S. GRANT. Brigadier-General U. S. A., Commanding. Gen. Buckner called these terms ungenerous and unchristian; but he made, accept them. For once, at least, he clearly comprehended Gen. Grant's style. Some time afterward, Gen. Grant was visited in his camp before Vicksburg by Gen. Pemberton, who was anxious to know upon what terms that city could be relieved from a siege just then pending. Here are the speeches: PEMBERTON.—Gen. Grant, I meet you in order to arrange terms for capitulation. What terms do you demand? GRANT.—Unconditional surrender. PEMBERTON.—You mean I am to surrender? Never, so long as I have a man left me. I will fight rather. GRANT.—Very well. But Gen. Pemberton reflected a little, and as soon as the full force of Gen. Grant's brief speech became clear to his mind, he, too, made haste to comply. "Again, on the road to Richmond, after the battle of Spotsylvania Court House, Gen. Grant indulged in a speech or dispatch to those tolerably clear works: "We have now ended the sixth day of very heavy fighting, and the result to this time is much in my favor. "I propose to fight it out on this line if I have to live on it." We believe Gen. Lee was in no doubt as to the meaning of this speech. If he was, those doubts were settled by the next which we shall quote of Gen. Grant's speeches. The scene this time is at Appomattox Court House: "I propose to receive the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia upon the following terms." We need not quote the terms. It is enough to say that Gen. Lee very clearly understood them, and lost no time in complying. Since that time Gen. Grant has made few speeches; but few and brief as they are, they are by no means so ambiguous as those Democratic critics would have us believe. His late and noblest speech reads as follows: "Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the National Union Convention: I will endeavor in a very short time to write you a letter accepting the trust you have imposed upon me. (Applause.) Expressing my gratitude for the confidence you have placed in me, I will now say but little orally, and that is to thank you for the unanimity with which you have selected me as a candidate for the Presidential office. I can say in addition, I looked during the progress of the proceedings, at Chicago with a great deal of interest, and am gratified with the harmony and unanimity which seem to have governed the deliberations of the Convention. If chosen to fill the high office for which you have selected me, I will give to its duties the same energy, the same spirit, and the same will, that I have given to the performance of all duties which have devolved upon me heretofore. Whether I shall be able to perform these duties to your entire satisfaction, time will determine. You have truly said, 'in the course of your address, that I shall have no policy of my own to enforce against the will of the people.' "We have had four Generals in the Presidential chair, not one of whom was brilliant as an orator. George Washington, when given the command of the Revolutionary Army, could scarcely say 'I thank you.' The only real speech he ever made was written by Alexander Hamilton. Andrew Jackson was no orator; but when he said: "By the Eternal! the Union must and shall be preserved." and he came up to the great city of New York, and he was understood, even in South Carolina. Gen. Harrison and Taylor were men of little oratorical ability, yet they made us to understand intelligible English. Julius Caesar was an indifferent speaker, yet his words were solid pith in his 'Veni, vidi, vici.' Napoleon (the first) was a wretched orator, and still men of every tongue found no difficulty in getting at the meaning of the few brief speeches he had occasion to make. There are other notable examples that "speech is silver, but silence is golden." These, however, will suffice; and as to Gen. Grant, we think our Democratic friends will manage to understand what he may hereafter say, quite as clearly as they did his humbling address at Fort Donelson, Vicksburg, Spotsylvania, and Appomattox. Meanwhile, we recommend them to carefully study his very latest effort—the brief and noble letter accepting the Republican nomination, the text of which is in these words: "To Gen. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY, President National Union Republican Convention: In formally accepting the nomination of the National Union Republican Convention of the 21st of May inst., it seems proper that some statement of views beyond the mere acceptance of the nomination should be expressed. The proceedings of the Convention were marked with moderation, patriotism, and I believe with the feelings of the great mass of those who sustained the country through its recent trials. I endorse the Resolutions. If elected to the office of President of the United States, it will be my endeavor to administer all the laws in good faith with economy, and with the view of giving peace, quiet, and protection everywhere. In times like the present it is impossible, or at least eminently improper, to lay down a policy to be adhered to, right or wrong, though an administration of four years. New political issues, not foreseen, are constantly arising; the views of the public on old ones are constantly changing, and a purely administrative office should always be left free to execute the will of the people. I always have respected that will, and always shall. Peace and universal prosperity—its sequence—with economy of administration, will lighten the burden of taxation, and will constantly reduce the National debt. Let us have peace. With great respect, your obedient servant, U. S. GRANT. LAST WEEK closed on the national debt seven billions of dollars less than on the 20th of April. So steadily decreases this baggage of the Democratic party by honest payment, and we may be proud as well as proud of it. Every million of lessens the chance of Pennington and the reprobators. A few years of regular liquidation, and the cut-throat Democracy will not dare breathe the propositions of dishonor and treason which have already cost us so much.

THE DEMOCRATIC DILEMMA.

The Democratic party is now in Mr. Micawber's expectant condition, waiting for something to turn up. To the Fourth of July Convention it looks forward with mingled hope and fear—hope that something lucky will happen, fear that the elements of discord will result in a grand rout. The Democracy came out of the war pretty badly whipped, and with the consciousness of having deserved more punishment than it got. In 1864, while Grant and Stanton were organizing the final victory, the Democracy solemnly declared the war a failure, and consistently nominated the man who had done most to make it so. McClellan did not help the ruined cause. Since then the party has been like Japhet in search of his father, looking for a good candidate for the Presidency, with the moral certainty of finding a bad one. It will not be easy for them to unite upon any one, however distinguished he may be. There is Brick Pomeroy, who wants the whole debt repudiated, and there is Mr. Belmont, who wants it paid. There is Pennington, who would pay it in greenbacks, or not at all, and Seymour, who is opposed to anything which Pennington advocates. There is Hancock, who helped to hang Mrs. Surratt, and the Abbe Mc Masters, who declares that execution a brutal murder of an innocent woman. Hancock won all the distinction he has by fighting against the rebels, and to him comes Mr. Vallandigham, the champion of the peace party, who protests against the nomination of a Lincoln man. A dozen other candidates are arrayed, each with his favorite leader, and there is likely to be a pretty fight when they meet in the New York Convention of July. Then there are the Democrats, whose eagle vision perceives the weakness and unpopularity of the leaders of the party, and who are sure that neither Pennington, nor Vallandigham, nor Hancock, can be successfully opposed to Grant, and who consider it policy to steal the Republican thunder. These are the gentlemen who would turn the party inside out, revamp it, abolish all its more odious features, and then present it, washed and brushed, as a free-will offering to Chief Justice Chase. But these astute politicians simply add to the trouble. In the first place, it is highly improbable that the Democrats could be induced to pay any attention to the views of the party, and there is likely to be a pretty fight when they meet in the New York Convention of July. Then there are the Democrats, whose eagle vision perceives the weakness and unpopularity of the leaders of the party, and who are sure that neither Pennington, nor Vallandigham, nor Hancock, can be successfully opposed to Grant, and who consider it policy to steal the Republican thunder. These are the gentlemen who would turn the party inside out, revamp it, abolish all its more odious features, and then present it, washed and brushed, as a free-will offering to Chief Justice Chase. 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