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The Pittsburgh Gazette.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

A leading religious weekly gives a copy of an advertisement taken out of a Calcutta paper by an establishment at Birmingham, England, which manufactures goods for the Orientals. It reads: "Yamen, the god of the dead, in fine copper, embossed, very tastefully wrought; Birodi, the prince of demons, splendidly designed; the giant on which he rides in perfect model, and his sword is of a modern pattern. Vatoni, the god of the sun—a brilliant piece of art; the crocodile is of copper, and has a silver tail. Beaberin' the god of wealth; this is of superior workmanship—the manufacturers have expended their best skill upon it. Also, other small demi-gods and inferior divinities. A very large assortment. Credit will not be given, but a discount made for cash payments. It seems incredible that men who now the worship of idols is offensive to God are yet willing to make "graven images" for the heathen to bow down unto and worship. The maker of the idol in the sight of God is no better than the worshipper. The editorial under the caption of "Christian Manufacture of Idols," taking the advertisement as a text, shows that there is a traffic in many forms in which men make money out of others, and refuses to be conscientious in their business? These hardware men of Birmingham. All the sinners do not live at that place. The forms of this traffic in the category of "idol manufacture" runs thus: Christians of England and America pursued the slave trade with unconscionsness of doing wrong. War at Christian statesmen waged to sustain the item trade in China, is just as wicked as the traffic in graven images. Worse. Opium will destroy both soul and body. The manufacture and sale of poisonous drinks, to intoxicate their neighbors, destroying both soul and body, is more fearful than the consciousness of idolatry involves. Strange to say, persons who call themselves Christians, whose income—derived from the manufacture and sale of liquor, is involved with the same guilt of the Birmingham manufacturers. Men who make and sell bad locks, who distribute the poisonous stuff, are the same category of the idol makers of England. Worshippers of Mammon—the idolatry of Christendom—are in the same line of business with the Birmingham manufacturers. How many minister to his temple service, live in the midst of a generation that serves him, and no man can serve God and Mammon. The following are the closing words of this able editorial: "Let us be charitable to these Birmingham people. Some ten years ago we were on the coast of Asia Minor. The vessel that landed us, also landed there a part of her cargo on the shore, where there was no dock, no warehouses, no city. A number of camels, the ships of the desert, were lying on the ground waiting for their burdens, and these animals were to convey the merchandize into the interior. We saw the freight put on shore, and read on the barrels, 'PUNCH—Rum.' Birmingham and Boston, England and America, Christian nations sending Bibles and missionaries into Asia, and with them idols and Rum."

—Bishop Clark, one of the newly elected Bishops of the M. E. Church, shortly after his ordination the first work assigned him was to visit the Pacific coast to preside over the California and Oregon Conference, and visit the churches as far as he could during his stay. He left New York July 4th, and reached home on Saturday last, by the Panama route, during which time he travelled 14,160 miles. He intended to return by the Overland route, but owing to the unsettled and uncertain condition of that route, he abandoned his original design. Bishop Simpson another of the new Bishops was appointed to India and other points where missionary stations are located in connection with the M. E. Church.

—Rev. Peter Young, the oldest minister of the Church of Scotland, died September 19, at Wigtown. He was in the ninety-second year of his age and the sixty-sixth of his ministry.

—The fifth Baptist church in Philadelphia is dedicated, free of debt, seventy-eight thousand dollars. The architecture of the church and chapel is rigid Gothic. Congregational singing is made a speciality. To carry out their favorite plan of pastor, one hundred and dollars has been expended in hymn books. The wisdom of congregational praise was beautifully illustrated on the occasion of dedication, when one thousand persons sang Old Hundred and Coronation.

—According to the *Monde*, the Pope will decide nothing, which puts an end to the rumors entertained by some sanguine persons that he would do for the sake of peace and quietness. Cardinal Antonelli, it appears repudiated in the following words: "The Church knows how to suffer and combat, but it will never humiliate itself; it will never abdicate, it will never yield to modern infamy." Added, "what the Papal government is to-day it will be in two years, it will be forever, for it represents the Church, like its divine leader, is unchangeable."

—The urgent appeals of the Reformed Dutch Board of Foreign Missions have aroused a spirit of liberality in the several Classis of the Dutch Church.

—The Wesleyans in the United States have a law of discipline against connection with fellowship masonry.

—In accordance with a call, which appeared in the Methodist Episcopal Church papers some time ago, the leaders of choirs and Superintendents of Sabbath Schools of that denomination, have just held a Musical Convention in New York City. The object of the convention was to cultivate musical taste and talent, and the improvement of church singing generally. The exercises consisted of singing and instrumental practice, lectures, sessions, closing with two grand concerts. The exercises lasted nine days. It was decided that the assignment of singing to a church few, practically to the exclusion of the congregation, was at variance with the spirit of Divine worship and subversive of its purposes." Among the resolutions adopted was one recommending the use of the organ as an *accompaniment* to the voice, and advising the Church to make more liberal appropriations for securing educated musicians.

—At a meeting of the Baptist Union of Maine, recently held, it was ascertained that the total debt of the Baptist Churches or chapels was $507,500, of which $37,000 had been paid during the past year. It was resolved to raise during the coming year $100,000 as a building fund.

—The two hundred and thirty-first anniversary of the school of the Collegiate Church is announced to be held in the Middle Dutch Church, Lafayette Place, November 24.

—The following story deserves a wider circulation: It seems a young minister in a very elaborate sermon which he preached several times, "The commentators do not agree with me here." Next morning a poor man came to see him, with something in his apron. She said her husband heard his sermon, and thought it was a very fine one; but she said, what common-talers did not agree with him, he had sent him a pot of best of kidneys."

Loyal Democratic Convention—Address of General Dix.

We spoke in our morning edition of the late Convention of Loyal Democrats in New York, as one of the most significant, important and hopeful movements of the day—one that will soon leave the Copperhead wing of the Democratic party, now headed by General McClellan, an impotent, despised and execrated faction—a faction in comparison with whose record that of the Cow-boys and Tories of the Revolution will be bright and enviable.

We now give the address of General Dix at that Convention, and commend it to all honest Democrats, to be carefully read and pondered. Any Democrat who can read this, and still vote for McClellan, must be given up as an incorrigible Copperhead:

ADDRESS OF GEN. DIX.

To the Democracy of the Union.—The Democratic party had its origin in the two closing years of the eighteenth century. Its organization has had an efficient and unbroken existence for sixty-six years. For more than a quarter of a century it bore the name of republican. This designation was exchanged for that of democratic under the popular impulse given to its practical measures and its abstract opinions by the political school of Jefferson. For nearly a half century it was a bold, manly, upright, consistent and fearless exponent of its organic principles. It had in its early stages, that test of all conservative sentiments—the opposition of a party (the Federalists,) as truthful and resolute as itself.

Whenever the public honor or the public interest was in peril, it was always the first to rush to arms; always the last to quit the field: never consenting to lay aside its armor till the country's cause was vindicated. Controlled and illustrated in all its acts by a lofty and disinterested spirit of patriotism, it gained, and for more than forty years, preserved, unimpaired, the respect, the confidence and the support of the American people. In 1840 it was overthrown under the influence of a great commercial crisis, but not until a section of its followers, more solicitous for their own interests than the welfare of the country, had adulterated its creed and its policy by the introduction of maxims and measures at war with its fundamental principles.

It was at this juncture that its opponents, having become demoralized by a long-continued series of defeats, adopted as a rule for the selection of its candidates for the highest offices the principle of availability instead of talent and experience, laying the foundation of a far more pernicious and pervading system of demoralization. The success of the opposition candidates, thus selected in 1840, was followed, by the success of the Democratic candidates selected on the same principle in 1844. From that period there has been a gradual deterioration in the qualification of those who have been put forward to fill public offices—not merely in the highest official positions, but in all the departments of the general government and in the States.

The legislative as well as the executive branches have participated in the general depravation. For this scheme of political management, having immediate party success and not the permanent welfare of the country for its object, both the principal political organizations are alike responsible. And it is impossible to conceal the humiliating truth that the evils the country is now suffering, beginning in a loose and unsteady administration of the public affairs, and ending in a treasonable attempt to overthrow the government, are all due to incompetency and inexperience. A great government demands, as an indispensable condition of its success, great qualities, in those who control and direct its movements.

It is under this system of political management that we have been plunged in a war larger in its dimensions, and pregnant with more important consequences to the human race, especially to the cause of a stable government, than any that the conflict in the annals of society. It concerns not merely the stability of our own political institutions, but those who commenced it assert the right of any member of a social compact to repudiate it at pleasure, though framed and ratified under the most solemn sanctions which communities of men are capable of exchanging with one another. The very essence of the contest is an assertion on the one hand, and a denial on the other of the right of a single party to a social organization founded on the mutual agreement to destroy it without the consent of the other parties. If the affirmative of this proposition could be maintained, it would bring into contempt a principle which lies at the very foundation of all individual as well as public contracts, and lead to a dissolution of all the bonds of human society.

If the Southern States, after calm deliberation, and after carefully canvassing all the consequences, had decided, with the consent of the others, and with a full recognition of their responsibility to the Union, to withdraw peaceably from it, there are many of us who would have preferred separation to civil war. But when a portion of the States, openly renouncing their obligation to the constitution and the Union, commenced a parricidal war against the government, inaugurating the national flag, seizing arsenals, mints and revenue vessels, and finally attacking one of the public forts garrisoned by the national troops, and compelling it by famine and overwhelming superiority of numbers to surrender, no man, unless lost to all self-respect and all sense of the national honor, could hesitate to accept intestine war, with all its acknowledged evils, rather than to submit meanly to aggressions which, if unatoned, would have made our name a reproach throughout the civilized world, and transmitted to our children an inheritance of undying obloquy and shame.

It was under this conviction that the people of the North, with a unanimity almost unparalleled, ranged themselves on the side of the government, and pledged their lives and property for its defence. Although the war has been of unparalleled magnitude, it has originated, developed and brought with it from time to time many disheartenings for the friends of the Union. It has been prosecuted with a perseverance on the part of the government, a heroism on the part of the army and navy, and a disregard of sacrifices on the part of the people, which no other nation has surpassed.

For eighteen months, after the commencement of the war the course of the democratic party was worthy of its traditional patriotism, courage and fidelity to the country. But under the malign influences which, since the fall of 1862, have controlled the executive policy of the state of New York, and, through it the democratic movement in other states, its leaders, with a want of elevation of thought and feeling eminently "illiberal" and "unstatesmanlike" for control, have lost sight of the vital issues involved in the contest, and have gone step by step from hostility to the government into hostility to the war. This is the great body of the democracy are faithful to their principles is not disputed; nor is it doubted that they will assert themselves ere long against the despotic sway of those who have perverted the party organization to their injury and dishonor.

In 1828 the party was betrayed by its leaders into open opposition to the act of Congress to fix by a tariff the rates of the army, thinged by disease and the worse blight, a civil war. A similar measure was proposed in Congress in 1814, during the war with Great Britain, with the approbation of Madison, Monroe, Tompkins and Van Buren. It was denounced by the democratic leaders in 1828 as unconstitutional and oppressive; thus denying the right of a government—a right universally admitted by jurists and writers on public law—to provide for its own preservation by calling on those who live under its protection to arm in its defence. Thus the democracy, in the two critical periods of the war, were involved by its leaders in the odium of resisting an indispensable measure for carrying them, planning the only means of success in our history in the attitude of withholding it at a moment when the government in a contest to maintain its existence.

Notwithstanding this gross misrepresentation of the democratic feeling, it was still hoped by those who had the interests of the country at heart, that the Chicago Convention would vindicate the tarnished honor of the party, by a declaration in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war until the armies of the insurgents should be disbanded. This hope has been painfully disappointed. They have spoken the word of censure for the unavoidable, over which we have brought upon the country a crisis of overwhelming war; and who, in a factious attempt to overthrow the government, have caused the destruction of half a million of lives. They have not expressed a single sentiment indicating exalted love of country, or resentment for its wounded honor. They have exhibited none of the patriotic forecast which looks beyond the evils of the hour to the national annihilation, the social disenchantment, and the unending dissention and conflict between the separated States, which disunion would inevitably bring with it. But the very moment when our armies were achieving the most decisive victories, when Grant and Sherman, and Sheridan and Farragut, and their gallant followers were dictating the most heroic valor, and when the insurgents were giving evidence of speedy exhaustion, the Chicago convention, assuming to speak for the Democracy of the Union, declared the war a "failure," and called on the people to make "immediate efforts" for "a cessation of hostilities with a view to an immediate convention of all the States," &c.

It is well known that a large number of the democratic men openly in favor of putting an end to the war and acknowledging the independence of the insurgent states; and the unanimity with which the resolutions were adopted by the Convention, while it would seem to justify the inference that they express the convictions of the whole body. The inference is warranted also by the repeated declarations of the rebel authorities at Richmond, that no overtures to a reconciliation would be received except on the preliminary condition of acknowledging their independence. It is confirmed by the interpretation put upon the resolutions by the most distinguished southern men. They are accepted as a harbinger of peace, but of peace with disunion. The invocation to a convention of all the States is regarded as a proposition for the deliberation of the States in their sovereign character—not in the Union but out of it—recognising disunion as an established fact, virtually admitting the right of secession, and surrendering every principle for which the war has been waged.

A complete confirmation of this position of the Southern States will be found in the declaration of SIX of the Governors, including those of Georgia and North Carolina, in response to the Chicago platform: that it is "our firm and unalterable purpose to maintain our right of self-government, to establish our independence and to uphold the right and sovereignty of the States, or to perish in the attempt." That those who framed and those who adopted the Chicago resolutions foresaw all these consequences cannot be doubted without an imputation of their intelligence. We are constrained, then, to conclude—for any other conclusion would be illogical—that the Convention, or those, at least, who shaped its action, meant to recommend a cessation of hostilities, which they knew must end in disunion.

We can have no companionship with this infidelity to the country and to the Democratic party. We repudiate the action of the convention as untrue to all the obligations of duty, and as a misrepresentation of the feelings and opinions of those for whom it assumed to speak. We believe that the great body of the Democracy are in favor of prosecuting the war with unabated vigor till the insurgent forces lay down their arms; that they are opposed to any negotiation for a settlement of existing differences with those who are threatening to overthrow the government by force; and that an indispensable preliminary of any such negotiation is an acknowledgment of the Union as a compact in full and binding force.

If General McClellan had met in a manner worthy of his high position, the responsibilities with which he was invested by a nomination tainted by the declarations of the party, he would have presented himself to the country with a strong claim to its confidence. If, without ceasing the chances of success or defeat; if, regardless of the effect his opinions might have on the ballot, he had denounced a suspension of hostilities with a disinterested and courageous frankness, and declined the nomination on the conditions annexed to it as an impeachment of his patriotism and his judgment, he would have gained an elevation of greater honor in the eyes of his countrymen than any measure of political success could give him.

But he accepted the nomination without dissenting from the resolutions, thus making himself a party to them, and causing some of his best friends to doubt whether he has the firmness and independence necessary to carry the country successfully through the dangers by which it is surrounded. Regarding him as the exponent of opinions and purposes which he conceive to be of fatal tendency, and, believing, whatever may be his private convictions or his personal good qualities, that the want of decided purpose his letter of acceptance discloses, would insure his submission to the influences which controlled the convention, we reject his nomination as an essential part of its proceedings.

In coming to this determination, two important questions present themselves:

1. What course shall we, as individuals, pursue at the approaching election?

2. What measures shall we adopt to aid in restoring the democratic party to the confidence of the country?

In regard to the first question, we have no advice to give, except that no democrat should support the nominees of the Chicago convention, or the policy it has proclaimed, believing, as we do, that such a co-operation would place us in the same relation to the country as that in which the federal party stood, in the days of its decline, as opponents of the war of 1813. When the existing war, with its dangers, its trials, its sufferings and its sacrifices, has passed away, we believe that no man can have any greater cause for regret than that of having supported a candidate for the highest honors of the republic, who is bound by the declaration put forth as the basis for his action, to ask rebels with arms in their hands to grant us "a cessation of hostilities."

In regard to the second question, we intend to lay the foundation to-day for a reorganization of the democratic party, on the principles of Jefferson and Jackson. We have not come together as war democrats, but simply as democrats, and as an integral part of the Democracy of the Union, representing its principles, under a sense of imperious duty to the country in its great extremity, from those through whose mismanagement, lack of sagacity, and want of disinterested patriotism, it has fallen into disunion and reproach. From this depth it can never rise again under the auspices of those who have thus misled and betrayed it. The conditions of its reorganization, which we regard as fundamental, are:

1. A prosecution of the war with all the vigor that can be infused into it until the rebellion is suppressed; not for the subjugation of the southern people, but for the overthrow of their leaders, who reject all compromise under the constitution, and who should be expelled from the country or compelled to submit to the authority of the government, and suffer the punishment due to their crimes.

2. The support of the State governments in all their rights under the constitution, as defined by Jefferson in his inaugural address in 1801.

3. A scrupulous abstinence from the exercise of all powers not clearly conferred by law.

4. The selection of the ablest and best men for office, and an utter repudiation of the degrading rule of availability.

5. An amendment of the constitution of the United States, which shall allow every citizen to vote directly, for President and Vice President, instead of the present system of voting by electoral colleges, which leaves him no alternative but to lose his vote, or to cast it for one of the candidates presented by party conventions.

6. An amendment of the constitution, which shall render the President ineligible after one term of service.

7. A preservation of the Union—not as a reconstruction, which we hold to be fallacious as a perpetual compact, with none of its rights, duties, powers or guaranties impaired or capable of being modified, except in the mode prescribed by its own stipulations.

On this basis of principles we appeal to the democracy of the Union for their co-operation and support. We act in the name of the great men in its councils, who, from the fall-election