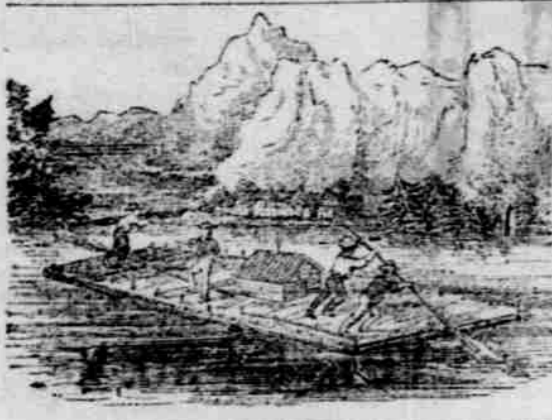


RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.



S. B. ROW, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CLEARFIELD, PA., JULY 25, 1860.

FOR PRESIDENT, HON. ABRAHAM LINCOLN, OF ILLINOIS.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT, HON. HANNIBAL HAMLIN, OF MAINE.

FOR GOVERNOR, HON. ANDREW G. CURTIN, of Centre Co.

OUR NEW NEIGHBORS.

The Clearfield Republican came out last week under the editorial management of Geo. B. Goodlander & Co., who say the paper "must be improved in its appearance and its character, in its influence and usefulness," and we have no doubt that it will. Politically, however, there is to be no change—it is to remain as thoroughly Democratic as ever, with the success of its party as a paramount object. In the present disorganized and confused state of the Democracy, the new editors will have abundant opportunity to exercise their talents in the way of bringing order out of confusion, and we see that they are, from the outset, applying themselves busily to the task. Whether the course they have adopted is the best to bring about the result they may have in view, or not, is a question that perhaps will elicit different answers from different persons. For our part, we can see how the Unaffiliated will be able to decide who are the nominees of the party, when their organ has flying at its mast-head two candidates for President—Douglas and Breckinridge—and two for Vice-President—Johnson and Lane—without telling outright who it prefers. We are inclined to think, after considering their position fully, that the new editors are for Breckinridge and Lane. We know they do not say so. But the fact that they urge the Democracy to vote for the present Electoral Ticket, whether their first choice be Breckinridge or Douglas, leaves but little ground of doubt; for there is nothing more certain than that the "mongrel" ticket idea is as strenuously opposed by the Douglas wing, as it is vigorously advocated by the Breckinridge. And good reason have the former for opposing it. They don't know whether they are voting for Douglas or Breckinridge—for a man advocating Popular Sovereignty, or for one favoring a Slave Code for the Territories. They have everything to lose, and nothing to gain by it—all the special pleading about "the contest being between National Democracy and Black Republicanism," and that either of the candidates "must be infinitely preferable to a Black Republican with all Democrats," to the contrary notwithstanding. But suppose that they should agree to unite upon one Electoral Ticket, and by doing so the election should be thrown into the House, what chances would Mr. Douglas then have of becoming President of the United States? Why, just none at all. He could not command the electoral vote of perhaps more than one State; and no choice were made before, on the 4th of March the Senate would probably select Joe Lane, Douglas' worst enemy, as its presiding officer, and thus, under the Constitution, he would become President. So it is very apparent that Mr. Douglas must be the loser by the operation. The game, upon the whole, is a shrewd one, and the Breckinridge men can well afford to drop the old watchword of "Stick to the Ticket," and insist upon all joining in the new, but delusive, shibboleth of—"Stick to the Electoral Ticket." It was a happy conceit also of the new editors, when, like a Delaware cotemporary, they "didn't know who to holler for" under existing circumstances, to adopt as their motto, "Principles, not Men." We admire their astuteness; and wish them pecuniary success in their new enterprise.

DOUGLAS STATE CONVENTION.—R. J. Halde-man, Esq., a member of the National Democratic Committee, appointed by the Baltimore (Douglas) Convention, has just issued an address, according to the instructions given that Committee by the said Convention, protesting against the action of the State Committee to unite on the electoral ticket, and calling for a mass and delegate convention to be held at Harrisburg, on Thursday the 26th day of July, when the various Democratic organizations favorable to the election of Mr. Douglas will assemble and form a straight electoral ticket.

HON. JOHN HICKMAN.—Much speculation has for some time been indulged in respecting the political attitude this gentleman would assume during the present campaign. All doubts, however, are pretty well set at rest by the announcement, we suppose of course made by authority, that he will speak at a meeting of the friends of Lincoln, Hamlin and Curtin, at West Chester, on the 27th inst.

MISSOURI.—The State election takes place in Missouri on the first Monday in August. There are four candidates for Governor in the field—Jas. B. Gardenhire, (Lincoln) Semple Orr, (Bell) Hancock Jackson, (Breckinridge) and C. F. Jackson, (Douglas). The chances favor Orr, as many of the Republicans, knowing that they cannot elect Mr. Gardenhire, will vote for Mr. Orr.

The two Democratic platforms and the Dred Scott decision will be found on the fourth page of this paper. Read them carefully.

THE DEMOCRACY IN COM-MOTION.

The "Irrepressible Conflict" in Clearfield.

A HIGH OLD TIME GENERALLY.

Notice was given in the Clearfield Republican last week that a meeting would be held in the Town Hall on Thursday evening for the purpose of organizing a Democratic club. The Breckinridge men, suspicious that the Douglasites intended to play off some game at their expense, at once went to work, and, lo and behold! when the hour for assembling had come and the admirers of the Little Giant were wending their way to the Hall, the sounds of martial music, in the distance, suddenly disturbed the stillness of the night, and breaking upon their ears, soon convinced them that the Breckinridge leaders had not been idle, and were literally drumming up forces in the surrounding country. After marching and counter-marching through the streets, the music, surrounded by noisy juveniles and a few boisterous recruits, proceeded to the Town Hall, where the hostile forces drew up in battle array—the Breckites taking possession of a lower room, and the Doug's the large room upstairs. Whilst the latter were consulting about the officers, and just as they had concluded to wait until all were present, the Breckites came rushing into the Hall, and before the surprised Doug's fully comprehended the maneuver, the enemy succeeded in electing the temporary chairman. From the outset it was apparent that the Breckites did not want to endanger their position, or throw themselves open to attack, and hence when a motion was made to form a "Breckinridge Club," they opposed it, and carried off dubbing it the "Foster Club of Clearfield Borough." Another resolution, offered by the Douglas men, setting forth that all who had heretofore acted with the Democracy, or such voters as were willing to pledge themselves to support the National and State nominees of the Democratic party, should be permitted to vote at the election of officers and become members of the club, was also voted down by the Breckinridge forces, and determined the subsequent course of the Douglasites. Then, as alleged by the latter, contrary to the rules of the party, in such cases made and provided, an election of permanent officers was immediately held, Gen. Jas. H. Larrison being chosen President; Isaac Johnson, John Hilburn, and Geo. B. Goodlander, Vice Presidents; and J. M. Kratzer and J. B. Walters, Secretaries. Whether the Breckinridge forces were more or less numerous than the others, we shall not pretend to say; but it seems strange that at least one of their officers won't have a vote this fall, and another, who declines serving, is a firm Douglas man, and refuses to have any affiliation with the "Seceders." James L. Morgan was chosen one of the Secretaries, and also declined the "honor." Others also refused to have anything to do with the club: L. J. Crans, Esq., who was tendered a position as Vice President, declined with remarks substantially as follows:—

MR. PRESIDENT.—It is due to this meeting and myself that whilst, personally declining an election as one of the permanent Vice Presidents of your club, I should give the reasons which compel me to do so. In view of the fact that the Democratic State Central Committee have appointed an early day for re-assembling, and in the hope that at their meeting such counsels would prevail as would enable all who profess to belong to the Democratic organization—shoulder to shoulder and with hearts bountiful with hope—to face and overthrow those already hostile to the Democratic faith, in the early part of this evening, advised that we be not hasty in our action, and urged that, as heretofore has uniformly been the course, we should not elect permanent officers until a constitution providing for their election be prepared and adopted. Such a course would have tended to harmonize differences and made the club a unit. But when I found that, for reasons not avowed, and which we are at liberty to conjecture, the permanent organization was to be precipitated, I felt it my right to know of what material the club was to be composed and what was to be its course in the approaching contest, before agreeing to become a member thereof. Therefore I moved—that all citizens heretofore acting with the Democratic party, or who may at the next election be entitled to vote, and who are willing to pledge themselves to support the National and State nominees of the Democracy, be permitted to vote at the election of officers and become members of the club. I could see nothing retrograde in the proposition, and I know that it was in accordance with the time-honored usages of the party. The defeat of the resolution determined me to participate no more in the deliberations of this assembly and to decline political association with the club. In offering the resolution, Sir, I did not seek to be invidious or to cast a doubt on the Democracy, or to make any man present, for I recognize amid many a man, who in hard fought contests, have labored by my side in achieving democratic victories. If this club is to be composed of democrats, the adoption of the resolution would have excluded those only who have no right to affiliate with us. It is not, then, I seek no union with it.

A glance, Mr. President, at the paper which was recognized as the Democratic organ of the county, shows at the masthead the names of two gentlemen for President, and the like number for Vice President. If I mistake not, the constitution of the United States provides for the election of but one person for each of the said offices, and as a constitutional Democrat I can support but one. Among those names is that of John C. Breckinridge—a man whom of all others I should have liked to have supported for the office of President, for he is a gentleman of character, of honor, and of intelligence. Along side of that name is the name of his peer, Stephen A. Douglas, the regular nominee of the party, and therefore entitled to my cordial support despite personal preferences. I admit, sir, that Mr. Douglas was not my choice; but fairly nominated, I would be derelict in duty in failing to work zealously for his support.

It is idle to deny it, and madness to endeavor to convince ourselves, that there are not divisions and dissensions in the Democratic ranks. These are the result of partisan feeling, and not produced by advocacy of conflicting principles. A glance at the past will enable Democrats to ascertain who are in the right, and then their course is plain. A few months since a full democratic meeting assembled at Reading. It was apparently the most harmonious and united Democratic gathering for years. It was resolved that the reason for difference among Democrats no longer existed after the settlement of the question which had caused the variance of opinion. The question of Slavery in the Territories was left where it should be, recognized by the constitution, pro-

ected against unfriendly legislation by the decisions of the judiciary, and denying to Congress any right to legislate upon the question. Delegates were selected to attend the National Democratic Convention which was to assemble at Charleston. Our Delegates met at Charleston, and the National Convention was re-affirmed the Cincinnati platform and explaining the views of the National Democracy upon the vexed question of slavery in the Territories, simply endorsed the platform which, when adopted by our State convention, gave so much pleasure to the Pennsylvania Democracy. Mr. President, the right spirit did not pervade the Charleston Convention. Bitter partisans were there. They seemed determined to prevent the nomination of one, who had a decided majority of the delegates. Had these men been in a convention they could have accomplished that end, because the nominee of the party could not then have secured a two-third vote. They succeeded. The Convention then adjourned to meet at Baltimore. The Pennsylvania Delegation again met with the Convention. Another secession takes place, our delegates retaining their seats. After a few ballots, Stephen A. Douglas was declared the nominee, and that nomination was sustained unanimously by the National Convention. Mr. Douglas alone should receive the support of those who desire to preserve the Democratic organization intact. He received all the votes necessary under any circumstances to entitle him to our support.

It was once the rule for the Democratic members of Congress to make the Presidential nominations. That was changed and the power delegated to a National Convention selected according to the rules of the party. A majority made the nomination. When Martin Van Buren was a candidate for nomination he had a majority of delegates in convention. Some of those who were instructed to use all honorable means to secure Van Buren's nomination, struck hands with the minority, and through an unholy and corrupt coalition, compassed his defeat, by agreeing to the two-third rule. It was partisan spirit which accomplished this end. It caused the defeat of the Democratic nominee and gave rise to that miserable heresy—free-soilism—which for years was proved a festering sore on the Democratic body. Is partisan spirit again to triumph? Because the administration and its backers are hostile to the nominee, must ignominious defeat sully our banner? If the maintenance of democratic principles is not to be the object of our party organization, but a spirit of man worship or a mere expression of personal preference or particular likes, is it to invade the rights of the party, and to divide the party, then, for one, I say, the sooner the party is disbanded and a new one, governed by correct political principles, organized, the better.

Mr. President, my first vote was cast in this county. It was democratic. I have since stood by the Democratic organization. Recognizing the soundness of the democratic doctrine—principles not men—I have ever supported the regular nominee of the party. I shall do so still. In the last Presidential contest, for months I labored by day and night to forward the cause of James Buchanan. I did so, whilst hostile to the nominee, because I thought there might still be some Federal blood coursing through his veins, and I believed him as one of his friends once remarked, so cold that icicles hung around his heart in the midst of August. And I will now support Judge Douglas, against my first choice, because he has fairly received the nomination, and because when the Administration overstepped the bounds and established a new test in the party, he manfully resisted it—because in his own State, when the Administration and Republican party combined sought his political downfall, he came out more than conqueror. If personal hostility to Judge Douglas is sufficient reason to cause secession and bring about defeat of the party, let it come and let the responsibility rest where it should. The support of any but a Douglas electoral ticket will demoralize the party and produce when the Administration is admitted that a convention is packed, or fraudulent and corrupt means are used to defeat the popular will, the members of a party are not bound to support the nominees. But such cannot be urged against Douglas's nomination, or given as a reason for secession. I know it was said by some Southern Democrats that the Democratic party must pledge itself to the passage of a Slave code by Congress; and the failure to do so was given as the cause for their disaffection. Whilst I wish our platform had been more explicit in regard to this question, I can never agree to support the view taken by the extreme Southern Democrats. At the call of the party, I shall be ready to controvert the Republican position that Congress has the right to prohibit Slavery in the Territories—to maintain the doctrine that has been promulgated by our late State convention, and which since the Cass election has been the Democratic doctrine; but, sir, I shall never stultify myself so much, as, in opposition to the views expressed in 1856, to defend the converse of the Republican doctrine—to say that Congress has a right to legislate for the protection of slavery in the Territories, and thus countenance as untenable a position as any supported by our opponents.

Speeches, on the part of the Breckinridge wing, were made by W. A. Wallace, I. Test, and R. J. Wallace, Esquires, but we have not the room to give an abstract of them. After the meeting had adjourned, the Douglasites organized separately and formed a club of their own. On Saturday evening they again met, and elected the following permanent officers:—L. J. Crans, President; John Hilburn, W. J. Lemphill, Vice Presidents; James L. Morgan, Rec. Sec.; Walter Barrett, Correspondent; David McGaughey, Treasurer; Maj. John B. Hisey, Michael Hegarty, Committee on Finance; Wm. Behan, P. C. Purviance, D. Connelly, Com. of Correspondence. We understand the club are about calling a Douglas Ratification Meeting, to be held at Curwensville, on Saturday the 4th of August.

Thus it will be seen that things are growing interesting with the Democracy of Clearfield; nor are they likely to improve until both wings get a good dressing at the hands of "honest old Abe."

THE GOLD BLENDING MANIA has invaded the land of the "blue noses." Major Norton, U. S. Consul at Pictou, Nova Scotia, sends a telegram to Boston Post, stating that the telegraph is intended to be attended upon the recovery of gold at about fifty miles from his residence. He says that thousands have already gone to the "diggins," and many more are preparing to start. The yield thus far is not given, but (of course), there seems to be no doubt that it will be abundant.

ONE THOUSAND HOUSES BURN.—A tremendous fire broke out in Constantinople on the morning of the 10th of June, near the mosque of Sultan Achmet. The houses, which in that quarter of the town are all built of wood, burned with great rapidity. Four hundred to a thousand were consumed before the fire could be got under. The whole work of destruction was done in about eight hours.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

THE DANGER TO THE UNION.—Judge Orr, who is now stumping Missouri as an Opposition candidate for Governor, ridicules the idea of danger to the Union from the success of the Republicans, and tells the following story to illustrate the absurd character of such threats:—"The people are beginning to know them as well as the lion knew the donkey, with whom he was traveling. The pair becoming hungry, the donkey proposed that they should turn aside to a cornfield. They did so, and the donkey, having feasted to his content, was preparing to leave; but the lion said, 'What am I to do? I cannot eat corn.' 'True,' said the donkey; 'but if you lie in the bush, here, I will go into the thicket, yonder, and frighten the deer with a bay, so that you can catch one when they attempt to escape.' The lion agreed, and the jackass, going into the thicket, brayed so terribly that all the deer in it came running out. The lion seized one, and made a meal of the prey. On coming back, the donkey, with much conceit, asked 'Didn't I scare them?' 'Yes,' replied the lion, 'and you would have scared me, too, if I hadn't known who you were.' Just so we might be frightened by the predictions of danger to our country: 'The people are beginning to know them as well as the lion knew the donkey, with whom he was traveling. The pair becoming hungry, the donkey proposed that they should turn aside to a cornfield. They did so, and the donkey, having feasted to his content, was preparing to leave; but the lion said, 'What am I to do? I cannot eat corn.' 'True,' said the donkey; 'but if you lie in the bush, here, I will go into the thicket, yonder, and frighten the deer with a bay, so that you can catch one when they attempt to escape.' The lion agreed, and the jackass, going into the thicket, brayed so terribly that all the deer in it came running out. The lion seized one, and made a meal of the prey. 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