

The Compiler.

OUR FLAG



THE UNION OF STATES—THE UNION OF RACES—
THE UNION OF HEARTS—THE UNION OF IDEAS—
AND THE KING OF OUR GOD—AMEN

J. F. STABLEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

GETTYSBURG, PA.

MONDAY MORNING, AUG. 26, 1861.

MEETING OF THE DEMOCRATIC COUNTY COMMITTEE.

County Convention to be held on the 9th of September.

The Democratic Standing Committee of Adams county met at the public house of Charles Wolf, in Gettysburg, on Saturday, the 24th of August instant—James B. Seaver, the Chairman, presiding, and J. F. Stabley, the Secretary. The attendance of members was unusually large.

Resolutions from the People's Committee, inviting this Committee to unite with the Opposition in forming a county ticket, were then read, when the following resolutions, adopted as the Bedford Resolutions, were submitted and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Democratic Party for years past, in its various organs, and particularly in the Star, have been distinguished by its fidelity to the Union and its independence of section, and its devotion to the preservation of the Union, and its opposition to any and every measure which would result in a bloody and horrible civil war.

Resolved, That while the present civil war is one of our sorest afflictions, and what we deprecate and deplore its existence, and earnestly hope and pray for its early termination, we are yet true to the Constitution, and whose faithful devotion to the Union is attested by the whole history of our lives.

Resolved, That while we believe in the support and sustain the Government in all its Constitutional acts in every emergency, we desire "Republicans" as a party, distinctly to understand that we will not and cannot be dragged into the support of Abolitionism in any form.

Resolved, That we regard the Constitution of the United States as the only bond of union between the several States and the only rule of action to be observed in the present condition of our country; that we will support it, as we have always done, in all its parts, in its letter and spirit, and in our interpretation of its meaning on controverted points, we will be governed by the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, believing that the decrees and decisions of that branch of the Government should be respected and obeyed, by every law-abiding citizen.

Resolved, That we denounce mob law in every form and under any pretext whatever, whether exercised by secession conspirators at the South, or fanatic enthusiasts at the North, and that we are for the enforcement of the laws, and the punishment of all law-breakers, and officers in all parts of the country.

Resolved, That we look upon the doctrine of interference with the institution of slavery in the several States as the only bond of union at the North, and the doctrine of secession as promulgated by conspirators against the Union at the South, as equally subversive of the Constitution, the liberty of the people and the safety of the nation.

Resolved, That the Agents of the Federal Government, in their efforts to maintain their military affairs of the Commonwealth, it is desired and should receive the unqualified commendation of every patriotic citizen.

The Democracy Firm.

We had many opportunities, last week, of conversing with Democrats from all parts of the county, and found but one determination to exist among them—to stand by their old-time tried principles and organization. And they "see through" the "trap" set by the Republican leaders, and will not be gulled into it. They know and feel that the Democratic party has always been the true Union party—always "right on the record"—always for the country and its sacred constitution. So convinced, they see no reason why their party should be abandoned, but have every reason for adhering to and preserving it. If the Opposition, in their weakness, and it necessary to change their name, they have the right to do so, but that is no argument for Democrats to follow them. The Democracy were, a few months ago, decisively repudiated by the voters. They are willing to wear that name, now and hereafter. Their flag is and always has been the flag of the country.

Respectfully Decline.

The Republican Executive Committee of Washington county, Ohio, addressed a communication lately to the Democratic Executive Committee of the same county proposing an arrangement to avoid party conventions and party nominations this Fall. The Democratic Committee unanimously declined, for several reasons: 1st. Want of power to disband or destroy the Democratic organization. 2d. The Democracy of the county are opposed to fusion with Republicans. 3d. The Democratic Party of the county is not in favor of the proposed arrangement. 4th. The constant change of Republicans in power that where they have the power they will use it for Republican party purposes. 5th. The controlling element of the Republican Party is for waging the present war for the extermination of slavery, which object is opposed by the Democracy. 6th. The blighting of State lines, as mediated by leading Republicans, demands an active Democratic organization. 7th. The maintaining its organization, the Democratic party will accomplish a great work for the Union and the Constitution, and for law and order throughout the country.

The Massachusetts Platform.

The Democratic Executive Committee of Massachusetts has issued the following patriotic call for a State Convention. While the interests of party are declared subordinate to country, as they always must be with every patriotic party, it is demanded that the public affairs shall be conducted hereafter on broader principles of constitutional duty and patriotism, and that corrupt men shall be expelled from office.

Resolved, That the Democracy of Massachusetts should issue a call for a State Convention to be held in the city of Worcester on the 15th day of September next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of selecting candidates for State officers; the basis of representation being one delegate for each county, and one delegate for one additional vote for every five Democratic votes cast for Governor at the last election.

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From the Chamberburg Star.

Where We Stand. We learn by the exchange papers, from all parts of the State, that the Democratic party indignantly reject all overtures for amalgamating with the Republicans. And why should they not? The Democratic party has shown its loyalty to the country, and its determination to sustain the present Government in its efforts faithfully to execute the laws of the country, and what more do our political opponents ask? Do they desire to wipe out the Democratic party altogether? They have been trying ever since the Government was established to effect this, and have not succeeded, and are not likely to succeed now. Their new device of "no party" will not serve them any better than a thousand similar schemes which they have tried, time and again, to overthrow the Democratic party. To ask a Democrat to unite with Republicans is tantamounting that he cannot be a patriot and belong to the Democracy party. Is there a Democrat in the land that will submit to such an insult, and join with a party that would heap such reproach on all its political holds tear and dear. Democrats will stand by their name and principles of their party, and by their loyalty in sustaining the Constitution and the Union, show that they are real patriots, and their party the only party that can restore peace to our distracted country and re-establish the Union.

We assert, that we have the best evidence for believing to be true, that there are not ten men in the Democratic party, outside the borough of Chambersburg, that approve a union with the Republican party, or who will support a merged ticket got up by such an alliance. We never saw the Democratic party so aroused on any matter as they are on this, and so determined that it shall be the political grave of any and every Democrat that goes into the foul arrangement. The Democracy party, in this country, will maintain its organization pure and undivided. The time-honored banner of Democracy is the standard around which we will rally, and it will be victory or defeat we never strike our colors.

Party Issues and the Union. There seems to be a great desire at present by the Republican leaders throughout the entire country to have all party issues dropped. And in order to screen their misdeeds from a scrutinizing public, they propose to form a grand Union party out of the disorganized hordes of secession party, and what they can draw off the Democrat organization, which has always been the "Union" party. Democrats will always insist upon the distinction between the Government and the Republican party. As Democrats and good citizens, it is their duty, which will never fail to perform to support the Government, but "they will never cease to war upon the dominant party until it is swept from power." They can do no better than adjust their ambitions and fanaticism, and fall into the ranks of the good old Democratic party, that has ever stood up for our country, its constitution and laws, and has never known compromise. Some party must manage the Government, and all experience shows that the Democratic party alone can do it.

Won't Go Down. The Chambersburg Star says:—We are surprised to find that many leading Republicans in this place are opposed to the Union dodge. They view it as a cunning move on the part of a few leaders to lure the offices among themselves. Already a sort of half and half ticket has been patched up between the "high contracting parties." Certain men are named for the Judge, Legislature, and down to the minor offices. Many Republicans openly declare that they will sever every Democratic name that is placed upon their ticket. They say they have no objection to the old members of their own party and giving the offices to outsiders who are with their party only to get office. We cannot blame them for this, but we wonder at their boldness in presuming to talk at the schemes of the leaders of their party who have so long controlled it for their own purposes, and with the sole intent of having their own pockets.

Resolved, That we look upon the doctrine of interference with the institution of slavery in the several States as the only bond of union at the North, and the doctrine of secession as promulgated by conspirators against the Union at the South, as equally subversive of the Constitution, the liberty of the people and the safety of the nation.

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Party and No-Party.

"At this time, when the Government is engaged in a struggle for its very life, party organizations should be abandoned, and the people should with one accord unite in upholding the Administration in its efforts to subdue rebellion by force of arms." Such is about the substance of the language which we constantly hear from Committees and Conventions of the Republican party. It contains some truth and a great deal of error. The first duty of every citizen is to support the Government. Democrats recognize this obligation as imperative. Upon this platform they can unite with their fellow citizens of every party name. But the Republicans demand that Democrats shall go a step further, and pledge themselves to endorse unqualifiedly every act which the Administration has done, or may do, for the suppression of rebellion, whether wise or unwise, lawful or unlawful. In other words they are required to consent that the Administration shall not only act for them, but think for them also.

Union upon such terms would be no Union, but a mere survival-qualified capitulation. Republicans give up nothing—Democrats everything. They do not propose to meet us halfway, but demand that we go over entirely to them, not even reserving to ourselves the privilege of objecting to unwise and un-constitutional acts, or of exposing and denouncing palpable corruption. We do not conceive that this course would strengthen the Government. The individuals composing the Administration are bad men, liable to all the errors of judgment and the frailties of other men. Should they pursue a course calculated to prevent the success of our arms, public opinion, instead of sustaining them in error, should labor to set them right. But if the people determine to uphold them in all things, right or wrong, the Government may drift, with the deceptive current, right into the midst of disasters, without a warning voice to restrain it.

Many of the organs of the Republican party, while demanding a union of parties upon their own terms, utterly fail to evince a union spirit. They are more savage and proscriptive to the Democrats than ever. They labor incessantly to divide the party, by denouncing all invading men whose only crime is that they exercised the right of voting as they deemed best at the last Presidential election. Yet while pursuing this extreme course, they habitually write about the necessity of a "union-party" to country. A little more practical and less precept, would certainly conduce better to the attainment of this desirable object.

As far as the Democrat party is concerned it is not to be lulled into objecting to every measure that the Republican leaders may choose to propose, as necessary to the welfare of the country. Upon all public questions they intend to exercise the right of independent judgment. The Democratic organization is designed to uphold the Government and the Union, and not to destroy them. Its aim is the welfare of the country and the restoration of the Union, and while pursuing these objects, it will tread carefully in the path of duty and patriotism.

Resolved, That we look upon the doctrine of interference with the institution of slavery in the several States as the only bond of union at the North, and the doctrine of secession as promulgated by conspirators against the Union at the South, as equally subversive of the Constitution, the liberty of the people and the safety of the nation.

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Democratic Papers "Presented."

The Grand Jury of the Circuit Court of the United States for the Southern District of New York, a few days ago, presented to the Journal of Commerce, Daily News, Brooklyn Eagle, and Freeman's Journal—the three first Democratic, and the latter Catholic—the Jury stating that they would be glad to learn from the Court that such newspapers are subject to indictment. Judge Shiplin asked if the Grand Jury desired instruction on their paper in relation to whether they merely desired to have the Court call the matter to the attention of their successors.

The Foreman, Mr. Gould, replied that the present Grand Jury having been in session for a long period of time, now desired to be discharged. They had made the suggestions contained in their paper in order that the Court might call the attention of their successors to the facts therein contained. Judge Shiplin then remarked that no other Grand Jury will be in session until October, when Judge Nelson would be present, and a copy of the paper, just read, would be handed to him for his consideration.

The Journal of Commerce, speaking of the presentment, remarks: "We do not complain of this, but rather congratulate ourselves and the community, that a legal and constitutional course has been adopted to determine whether in any thing we have transgressed our rights as public journalists—instead of resorting to mob violence, as has been done in the case of several journals elsewhere, in defiance of law, and of the Constitution. If the presentment should lead to an indictment, and a trial, it will then be seen whether the allegations of the Grand Jury can be sustained, by the fair construction of our language; or whether the allegations themselves, if made by an individual not shielded by his official position, would not affect a sound mind of action against him in any Court of Justice. We shall be ready to dispose of them effectually when the proper time comes."

Great events may occur before October, but whatever they are, we shall be ready, as ever in time past, to settle for the best interests of our country, whose independence most of our ancestors of the Revolutionary period aided in achieving, and for which one of them gave his life. We shall do this so long as Providence enables us, even though our only reward is the consciousness of endeavoring to do our duty in self-representation, republicanism, less personal inconvenience, the alliance of friends, and other needless and unappreciated self-denial for the public good."

The Brooklyn Eagle thus vindicates itself from the "presentment" of the Grand Jury. "We need inform no reader of the Eagle that we have never expressed agreement with the position of the rebels; that we do not advocate secession, or the right of demand, nor express dissatisfaction with the employment of force to overcome them."

The following article from the Philadelphia Ledger of the 26th inst., is well worthy of the perusal of those who feel disposed to appeal to violence, either to get rid of a troublesome opponent, or to gratify the brutal passions of a degraded nature.

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Mob in Eastern Pennsylvania.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Express, (Republican). Easton, Pa., Aug. 20, 1861.—Our town was last evening, or rather night, the scene of a most disgraceful mob, originating in the difference between Philip Johnson, the Democratic candidate for County Clerk, and the Democratic County Clerk yesterday afternoon, at which Col. Johnson took occasion to defend his course in the extra session of Congress, and to make some pointed remarks in reference to the administration. After the meeting was declared adjourned, the Rev. Mr. Mitchell, of Philadelphia, N. J., attempted to reply to Colonel Johnson, but was prohibited. This naturally created excitement, and a mob of personal warfare was kept up among the crowd till evening, when a large number of men and boys resolved upon burning the residence of Philip Johnson, and the glorious work of "convinching a man without life will" commenced—but it was finally voted to suspend operations here for twenty-four hours to give one of more loyal spirits, occupying the story above, a chance to move out or to be killed. After the suspension in order was given, ex-Senator Broadhead, when on his way to the jail, fell into the residence of that gentleman—but he was not to be caught napping—and the wretches found him not only sitting in his own chair, but also in the arms of the Stars and Stripes, who were peacefully watching from the window above him—his "heretofore profane" this house his castle—where "none should molest or make him afraid." A few words from the Hon. ex-Senator, and again the mob moved on to the residence of Col. Hunter and demanded the Stars and Stripes.

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