

Democrat and Sentinel.

THE BLESSINGS OF GOVERNMENT, LIKE THE DEWS OF HEAVEN, SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED ALIKE UPON THE RICH AND THE LOW, THE RICH AND THE POOR.

NEW SERIES.

EBENSBURG, PA. WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1860.

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POLITICAL.

The President's Endorsement of Breckenridge and Lane.

His Address at the Serenade.

The Washington Constitution, contains Mr. Breckenridge's endorsement of the Breckenridge ticket at the serenade given him on Monday evening, after the ratification meeting in Washington. It is as follows:—

Friends and Fellow Citizens:—I thank you very much for the honor of this visit. I fully congratulate you on the preference you have expressed for Major Breckenridge and Gen. Lane as candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency of the United States over all competitors. [Applause.]—I am glad to know that you are all men whose names are known to me; they need no eulogy from me. They have served their country in peace and in war. They are statesmen as well as soldiers, and in the day and hour of danger will ever be at their post. They are conservative men; and the course of their administration they will equally just to the North and to the South. First and foremost of all, they are friends of the Constitution and of the Union, [cheers,] and they will stand by them to the death.— [Renewed cheers.]

It is not to be forgotten that they are friends of the equality of the sovereignty of this Union in the common Territories of the country. [Cries of "Good."] They maintain that principle, which should receive the cordial approbation of us all. Equality of every citizen of the United States is equal before the Constitution and laws; and why should not the equality of sovereignty composing this Union be in like reverence? This is good Democratic doctrine. Liberty and equality are the rights of every American citizen; and just as surely as the day succeeds the night, so shall this principle of Democratic justice eventually prevail over all opposition.— [Cheers.] But before I speak further on this subject, and I shall not detain you very long, I wish to remove one stumbling-block out of the way.

I have ever been the friend of regular nominations. I have never struck a political tick in my life. Now, there was anything at Baltimore to bind the political conscience of any sound Democrat, or to prevent him from supporting Breckenridge and Lane? No, no! I was contemporary with the movement of the old Congressional Convention. Under the old Congressional Convention no person was admitted to a seat except by the House of Representatives. This rule I absolutely certain that the nomination of Breckenridge and Lane would be sustained by the Democratic States of the Union. By this means it was rendered possible that those States which would not elect a vote for the candidate when nominated, should control the nomination. I believe that the Democratic States who would be their nominees.

This system was abandoned—whether wise or not, I shall express no opinion. The National Convention was substituted in its place. All the States, whether Democratic or not, were equally to send delegates to this convention, according to the number of their Representatives in Congress. A difficulty at once arose which never could be arisen under the Congressional Convention system. If a bare majority of the National Convention thus composed, could nominate a candidate, he might be nominated by the anti-Democratic States, against the will of a large majority of the Democratic States. Thus the nominating power would be separated from the electing power, which would not fail to be destructive to the strength of the Democratic party.

To obviate this serious difficulty in the organization of the National Convention, and the same time to leave all the States their voice, the two-thirds rule was adopted. It was believed that under this rule no candidate could ever be nominated without embracing within the two-thirds the votes of a majority of Democratic States. This rule was substituted adopted to retain, at least in a measure, the power to the Democratic States, which they would have lost by abandoning the Congressional Convention system. It was a main pillar in the edifice of the National Convention. Remove it and the Convention would be broken to pieces at Baltimore by the Convention which nominated Douglas.

After this body was no longer a National Convention, and no Democrat, however devoted to his support, was bound to give according to the dictates of his own judgment and conscience. And here in passing, I observe that the wisdom of the two-thirds rule is justified by the events passing in Kansas. Had it been faithfully observed, the will and the wishes of almost every Democratic State in the Union, against all the Democratic actors and more than three-fourths of the Democratic representatives in Congress.

It is not to be forgotten that they are friends of the equality of the sovereignty of this Union in the common Territories of the country. [Cries of "Good."] They maintain that principle, which should receive the cordial approbation of us all. Equality of every citizen of the United States is equal before the Constitution and laws; and why should not the equality of sovereignty composing this Union be in like reverence? This is good Democratic doctrine. Liberty and equality are the rights of every American citizen; and just as surely as the day succeeds the night, so shall this principle of Democratic justice eventually prevail over all opposition.— [Cheers.] But before I speak further on this subject, and I shall not detain you very long, I wish to remove one stumbling-block out of the way.

enridge and Lane.") Holding this position I shall present some of the reasons why I proffer Mr. Breckenridge to Mr. Douglas. This I shall do without attempting to interfere with any individual Democrat or any State Democratic organization holding different opinions from myself. The main object of all good Democrats, whether belonging to the one or the other wing of our unfortunate division, is to defeat the election of the Republican candidates; and I shall never oppose any honest and honorable course calculated to accomplish this object.

To return to the point from which I have digressed, I am in favor of Mr. Breckenridge because he sanctions and sustains the perfect equality of all the States within their common Territories, and the opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States establishing this equality. The sovereign States of this Union are one vast partnership. The Territories were acquired by the common blood and common treasure of them all. Each State, and each citizen of each State, has the same right in the Territory as any other State possess. Now what is sought for at present is, that a portion of these States should turn around to their sister States and say "We are holier than you are, and while we take our property to the Territories and have it protected there, you shall not place your property in the same position."

That is precisely what is contended for.— What the Democratic party maintain, and what is the true principle of Democracy is, that all shall enjoy the same rights, and that all shall be subject to the same duties. Property—this Government was framed for the protection of life, liberty and property. They are the objects for the protection of which all enlightened Governments were established.— But it is sought now to place the property of the citizen under what is called the principle of squatter sovereignty, in the power of the Territorial Legislature to confiscate it at their will and pleasure. That is the principle sought to be established at present; and there stands to be an entire mistake and misunderstanding among a portion of the public upon this subject. When was property ever submitted to the will of the majority? ("Never.")

If you hold the property as an individual, you hold it independent of Congress or of the State Legislature, or of the Territorial Legislature—it is yours, and your Constitution was made to protect your private property against the assaults of legislative power. [Cheers.] Well, now, any set of principles which will deprive you of your property is against the very essence of republican government, and to that extent makes you a slave; for the man who has power over your property to confiscate, and yet it is contended that although the Constitution of the United States confers no such power—yet a Territorial Legislature, in the remote extremities of the country, can confiscate your property.

[A voice.] "They don't do it; they ain't going to do it!" There is but one mode, and one alone, to abolish slavery in the Territories. That mode is pointed out in the Cincinnati platform, which has been as much misrepresented as anything I have ever known. That platform declares that a majority of the actual residents in a Territory, whenever their number is sufficient to entitle them to admission as a State possess the power "to form a constitution with or without domestic slavery, to be admitted into the Union upon terms of perfect equality with the other States." If there be squatter sovereignty in this resolution, I have never been able to perceive it. If there be any reference in it to a Territorial Legislature it has entirely escaped my notice. It presents the clear principle that at the time the people form their constitution, they shall then decide whether they will have slavery or not.

And yet it has been stated over and over again that, in accepting the nomination under that platform, I endorse the doctrine of squatter sovereignty. I suppose you have all heard this repeated a thousand times. [A voice.] "We all know it was a lie!" Well, I am glad you did.

How beautiful this plan principle of constitutional law corresponds with the best interests of the people! Under it, emigrants from the North and the South, from the East and the West, proceed to the Territories. They carry with them that property which they suppose will best promote their material interests; they live together in peace and harmony. The question of slavery will be a foregone conclusion before they have inhabitants enough to enter the Union as a State. There will then be no "bleeding Kansas" in the Territories; they will all live together in peace and harmony, promoting the prosperity of the Territory and their own prosperity, until the time shall arrive when it becomes necessary to frame a Constitution.

Then the whole question will be decided to the general satisfaction. But, upon the opposite principle, what will you find in the Territories? Why, there will be strife and contention all the time. One Territorial Legislature may establish slavery, and another Territorial Legislature may abolish it, and so the struggle will be continued throughout the territorial existence. The people, instead of devoting their energies and industry to promote their own prosperity, will be in a state of constant strife and turmoil, just as we have witnessed in Kansas. Therefore, there is no possible principle that can be so injurious to the best interests of a Territory, as what has been called squatter sovereignty.

ing by admitting this principle. In doing this they only yield obedience to the Constitution of their country as expounded by the Supreme Court of the United States. While for the North it is comparatively a mere abstraction, with the South it is a question of equal State sovereignty in the Union.

If the decrees of the high tribunal established by the Constitution for the very purpose are set at naught and disregarded, it will tend to render all property of every description insecure. What, then, have the North to do? Merely to say that, as good citizens, they will yield obedience to the decision of the Supreme Court, and admit the right of a Southern man to take his property into the Territories, and hold it there, just as a Northern man may do; and it is to me the most extraordinary thing in the world that this country should now be distracted and divided because certain persons at the North will not agree that their brethren at the South shall have the same rights in the Territories which they enjoy.

What would I, as a Pennsylvanian, say or do, supposing any body was to contend that the Legislature of any Territory could outlaw iron and coal within the Territory? [Laughter and cheers.] The principle is precisely the same. The Supreme Court of the United States have decided—what was known to all to have been the existing state of affairs for fifty years—that slaves are property. Admit that fact and you admit everything. Then that property in the Territories must be protected precisely in the same manner with any other property. If it be not so protected in the Territories, the holders of it are degraded before the world.

We have been told that non-intervention on the part of Congress with slavery in the Territories is the true policy. Very well. I most cheerfully admit that Congress has no right to pass any law to establish, impair, or abolish slavery in the Territories. Let this principle of non-intervention be extended to the Territorial Legislatures and let it be declared that they in like manner have no power to establish, impair, or destroy slavery, and then the controversy is in effect ended. This is all that is required at present, and I verily believe all that will ever be required. Hands off by Congress and hands off by the Territorial legislature. [Loud applause.] With the Supreme Court of the United States I hold that neither Congress nor the Territorial Legislature has any power to establish, impair, or abolish slavery in the Territories. But if, in the face of this positive prohibition, the Territorial Legislature should exercise the power of interfering, then this would be a mere transfer of the Wilmett Proviso and the Buffalo platform from Congress, to be carried into execution in the Territories to the destruction of all property in slaves. [Renewed applause.]

An attempt of this kind made in Congress, would be resisted by able men on the floor of both houses, and probably defeated. Not so in a remote Territory. To every new Territory there will be a rush of free soilers from the Northern States. They would elect the first Territorial Legislature before the people of the South could arrive with their property, and this Legislature would probably settle for ever the question of slavery according to their own will.

And shall we, for the sake of squatter sovereignty, which, from its nature, can only continue during the brief period of Territorial existence, incur the risk of dividing the great Democratic party of the country into two sectional parties, the one North and the other South? Shall this great party which has governed the country in peace and war, which has raised it from humble beginnings to be one of the most prosperous and powerful nations in the world—shall this party be broken up for such a cause? That is the question.

The numerous, powerful, pious and respectable Methodist Church has been thus divided. The division was a severe shock to the Union. A similar division of the great Democratic party, should it continue, would render under one of the most powerful links which binds the Union together.

I entertain no such fearful apprehensions. The present issue is transitory, and will speedily pass away. In the nature of things it cannot continue. There is but one possible contingency which can endanger the Union; and against this all Democrats, whether squatter sovereigns or popular sovereigns, will present a united resistance. Should the time ever arrive when Northern agitation and fanaticism shall proceed so far as to render the domestic firesides of the South insecure, then and not until then, will the Union be in danger. A united Northern Democracy will present a wall of fire against such a catastrophe.

for the kind attention you have paid to me, and now bid you all good night. [Prolonged cheering.]

MISCELLANEOUS.

MINNIE'S WATCH.

BY MISS LUCY A. RANDALL.

Up and down—up and down—through the quiet paths of the old garden, unconsciously crushing the white creeping stars of the tangled strawberry vines under his feet, and deaf to the soft undertone of the plashing fountain, whose silvery shower gleamed faintly through the overhanging branches—the young man paced, with the abstracted, uneasy footstep of one who is in doubt and perplexity, while the red, fiery dot of light that marked the locality of the half-smoked cigar—that faithful friend that never forsakes mankind in trouble—shone riddily through the gathering dusk. And the myriad sounds and murmurs of the city came softened and subdued to his ear, as if the dense hedge of the blue-plumed lilacs were a magic well to shut out all discord to tumult; and the fire-flies flashing through the haze of purple gloom, and the strange, indistinguishable sweetness floating up from borders of magnolias and clustering heliotropes, wore themselves into one soft atmosphere of enchanted silence.

As Walter Redesdale pursued his lonely walk, the flutter of a light dress came down the gravelled path, and almost ere he was aware of the vicinity of any one but the moving branches, a rosy little hand was slipped under his arm and his sister looked anxiously up into his eyes.

"Still thinking, Walter? And what is it about?" "That's a curious question to ask said Redesdale, tossing his cigar into the very center of a knot of crimson pinks, and making a dolorous attempt at a smile. Just as though you women didn't know beforehand everything that passes through a man's mind, when he is once within the power of your race! Why, about Minnie, of course."

"Dear little Minnie," said the girl, earnestly. "And how soon shall you put the eventual question, Walter?—Come, you may as well tell me all about it at once, for you love I am determined to know. I am sure she loves you. Those shy glances from under her eye lids, and the blushes that fit across her cheek like clouds over a Summer meadow, at the sound of your voice or the echo of your footstep, have long ago revealed the secret to me, and I don't suppose you have been absolutely blind to them. Tell me, now—how soon I am to have a precious little sister-in-law?"

"Susy," said Walter, with an expression of doubt and perplexity that was comical enough "the truth is, I'm afraid to do it!" "Afraid! That's rather a new sensation for you—ain't it?" "Not afraid in your acceptance of the term—but afraid of venturing all my heart's love in the keeping of one woman, who may be what I fancy her, or may not. Sometimes I fear she is too light—too frivolous—too vain, to make me happy. Did you ever notice how delightful she is with trifling articles of dress, jewels, and such knick-knacks? I don't like to see her so taken up with mere outside show!"

"Oh, nonsense!" said Susy, putting her hand laughing over her brother's mouth. "Why, it's just as natural for a pretty woman to be happy over trinkets as it is for a bird to get into the sunshine, or a flower to blossom! You wouldn't be such a savage as to object to that!" "Now, this morning," went on Walter, scarcely heeding his sister's interruption; "you remember how overjoyed she was in showing us that new watch. Just like a child with its latest toy! Upon my word, I expected every moment to see her lug and kick it!" "I shouldn't have been a bit surprised—and where would have been the harm?" interjected Susy.

"A woman of intellect and soul should be above such childish delight in a jeweled toy; and I am afraid, Susy, that the girl who is so devoted to worldly decorations and show, can not be what I want and expect in a wife. And yet, it is hard to think differently of that sunny, bright-haired little creature. Oh, Susy, if it had not been for that watch!"

ever and anon, as the remembrance of some word or look of Walter Redesdale's came across her heart, the radiance brightened over her sweet face like sunshine in some flowery dell, and the soft refrain of the warbling lark had grown low with the intense depths of an untroubled happiness.

"Miss Minnie," said a servant, opening the door, "here's the seamstress come to see about that dress you want made up for Miss Redesdale's party?" "Very well, tell her to come in, Jane," and Minnie put her vase on the mantel, and brushed away the fallen rose-leaves and flower stalks that strewed her lap, as a pale, haggard woman with that constant shadow of care hovering around her forehead that is so unmistakable a badge of struggling poverty, came modestly in.

Minnie greeted her with that bright kindness that was a part of her pure and innocent nature. "You are tired, Mrs. Evans—sit down and rest yourself for a little while, while I show you the beautiful flowers Susy Redesdale has just sent me. There—don't you think that camellia is perfectly beautiful?" "Yes, but I like the fragrant tuberoses best. You are very fortunate in having pretty things. Miss Minnie—some one was telling me you had a splendid new watch."

"O, yes—let me get it for you to admire," said the young girl, joyously springing to her bureau drawer for the small white velvet case; "Isn't it a perfect little gem?" Mrs. Evans looked first at the tiny bijou with its case of deep blue enamel, bedropped with lustrous pearls, and its exquisite delicacy of workmanship, and then at the bright, upturned face of the eager fairy who was kneeling beside, looking eagerly into her countenance for the expected approbation—and she scarcely knew which was the prettiest.

"Isn't it lovely, Mrs. Evans?" "I never saw anything half so beautiful, Miss Minnie," returned the seamstress. "How much did you pay for it?" "Fifty dollars—now don't you think me extravagant. If you only knew how long this watch has been the object of my ambition, and how fearfully economical I have been to purchase it, you wouldn't blame me!" Mrs. Evans smiled, and yet there was a sad longing at the heart. Fifty dollars! It seemed like a mine of wealth to the struggling, hard working creature, whose consumptive husband and helpless little ones, barely subsisted on the wages of a constant and unremitting toil, and she could not repress a sigh as she unfolded the light rose colored tulle, and began to discuss the important question whether it should be trimmed with ribbon or puffs.

At length, when the matter was definitely settled, and the 'cutting and fitting' over, Mrs. Evans rose to go, and tied on her worn bonnet with the same soft, deep sigh. "Oh, by the way," said Minnie, as they stood together at the door, "I forgot to ask you about your husband. Is he any better?" "No, Miss Minnie," said the seamstress sadly, "his cough is very much worse, and I am sometimes afraid he never will be any better. The doctor says his only chance is in being moved out into the country. A few weeks of country air and change of scene, might perhaps revive his sinking strength. But it's no use thinking about it, I suppose," she added, with a world of unspoken anguish in her tones.

"You will make the trial, at least?" questioned Minnie, the tears coming into her eyes, with loving sympathy. "Oh, Miss Minnie!" returned the woman with a grief that went to the girl's heart, "we can not! We are too poor. I can scarcely supply my babies with bread from day to day, and so I must see him dying for lack of the healing balm that is utterly beyond my reach as if it were in another world. Thank you for your kind sympathy, Miss Selwyn," she added, as Minnie pressed both the wan hands in her own; "I can only pray that this bitter cup may never come to your sweet lips!" She went away with weary step and downcast head, toward the darkening street, while Minnie returned to her room with a shadow of thought deepening through the washed tears that glittered in her soft hazel eyes.

She took up the tiny jeweled watch and mechanically counted the pearls that dotted its azure surface—she remembered how long she had been laying aside her small savings for its acquisition, and her innocent, harmless pride in its possession—and then she thought of poor Mr. Evans, dying in the narrow crowded court, where no sunshine ever came and even the soft winds of heaven were laden with pestilential vapors!

promised not to say a word, but then as you seem to know the watch there can be no harm in telling you what a sweet little angel that girl is."

And he related the whole story, which had been confidentially imparted by Minnie to him, as a reason for requesting him to take back the watch at its former valuation—how the innocent girl had given up her treasure in order that poor Mrs. Evans might have the means to remove her sick husband to the country, and how her gentle, womanly nature had triumphed over all childish vanity. It was a simple recital—and yet it effected Walter Redesdale to the heart. How he had misjudged Minnie Selwyn!

"You are not going to buy that watch, Walter?" exclaimed his sister in astonishment, as he spoke earnestly to the jeweler. "Certainly I am. Why not?" "Nothing," returned Susy, with the least perceptible spice of satire in her tone, "only I thought you disapproved of such trinkets." Walter was silent; he smiled quietly, and assisted his sister into the carriage without a word of excuse; but as they were driving homeward, he said after a long pause: "The old man was right, Susy. She is an angel!"

He took the watch himself to Minnie Selwyn that very evening, but somehow the interview proved so engrossing, and they had so many interesting things to say to one another, that the white velvet case was entirely forgotten until the very last moment. And even then, Minnie had scarcely a thought for the enameled contents and only saw them through a bright mist of happy tears. Her loving heart was so full of the consciousness that Walter Redesdale loved her better than the whole world beside!

At least he said so, and if he wasn't good authority, we'd like to know who on earth was.

TERMS:
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