

*Conclusion.*

its own will. They held that we were not one nation, but as many nations as States, bound together in co-partnership by articles called the Constitution, and which might be dissolved at pleasure.

As to the Union, there would be none if the Democratic party of the North had not been defeated at the poll, and the Democratic party of the South had not been defeated upon the field of battle, and it will be a curious sight to see confederate officers and soldiers, members of the rebel Congress, guerrillas, Northern Democrats and "sons of Liberty" sit down together in council in Philadelphia, and resolve that they constitute the "National Union Party," devise measures for future protection, and make plasters for the wounds inflicted by the rebellion.

History records that a lawless army once resolved, that the earth and the fishes thereof belonged to the Saints, and then resolved that they were the saints."

#### BIRH TAXES.

Every Democratic orator and newspaper agonizes upon the subject of high taxes. They dwell pathetically upon the oppression of the people, and pretend to thank God that the Democratic party has no responsibility in the matter. But, how stands the great fact? These high taxes, one and all, were levied by the Democratic party. That party is the author and creator, absolutely, of the great debt which now rests upon the country, not, indeed by direct legislation, but by bringing upon the country the terrible necessities out of which it has grown. Had it not been for the assurances given by the Democratic party of the North, to the people of the South, that no resistance would be offered to secession, and that the Government and the people of the North would be held still while the work of establishing a Southern confederacy should be performed, the rebellion never would have been undertaken. This is an historical truth that is well established as the fact that Washington lived, or that Custer was discovered America. The blood, the vast treasure, the happiness of families, to say nothing of the untold suffering of this dreadful war, rest upon the party which deluded Southern rebels with the belief that they might procure their schemes of secession and destruction secure from all resistance.

But suppose that, after the war began, all parties had united in supporting the Government, filling up the arsenals and prosecuting the war to a successful conclusion, how long, I ask, could it have lasted? Certainly, not more than two years; probably not more than one. Now that is over and the eternal history of the rebellion is laid bare, we know that the last two years of the struggle existed entirely upon the hopes of defeat and victory from the success of the Democratic party in the North. They had friends and correspondents in every Northern neighborhood. They were in receipt of all our newspapers, and were thus perfectly informed of every political movement in our midst, and of the tendency of public sentiment. They were assured by every Democratic speaker of sympathy and support, and strengthened by the declaration that the Democracy everywhere recognized the war as wicked and unconstitutional on our part, and would, when it came into power, withdraw our armies and acknowledge the Confederacy.

The success of the Democratic party in the election in 1862 filled the rebels with high hope that it would succeed, and thus give them the victory; and when the Chicago Convention declared the war a failure and demanded immediate peace, they hoped for joy and believed that the hour of their deliverance was at hand.

But when Mr. Lincoln was reelected by an overwhelming majority, and the Democratic party was everywhere overthrown, the hopes upon which they had lived at once expired, and from that hour all regarded the cause as lost.

Hence we say to the Democratic party, you have levied these taxes; you have created this debt; you have inflated the price of gold, and if you were placed in power this day you have no remedy against the high taxes you have levied but repudiation.

When a Democratic politician comes around you chattering about high taxes, you can turn to him and say, "Nathan did to David, 'then art thou man?'" The encouragement you gave to rebels that levied these taxes. The assistance you gave to rebellion continued them, and the persistent and devilish malice with which you traduced the Government, the army, and the great cause for which we struggled caused them to what they are; and now you go about as public destroyers, by falsely ascribing to others the direct consequences of your own wickedness.

#### DAMAGE TO RESULT FROM DEMOCRATIC SUGGESTION.

And now let me invite your attention to the danger which threatens the nation should the calamity happen that the Democratic party, or the party to be formed out of it, at Philadelphia, comes into power. In that case we are able to predict, with absolute certainty, their first measures, and to survey in advance the total line of policy which would be pursued. The right of State secession would be at once asserted as the fundamental law of the constitution. Every rebel clings to it to-day with the tenacity with which he clings to life, and a large proportion of Northern Democratic politicians proclaim the right while there are none who deny it heartily and in earnest. The fruits of victory would be surrendered, and the glory of our arms tarnished, by the final dishonor of the cause in which our soldiers fought. The rebels would at once be restored to political power, and rewarded by the highest positions in the Government, while Union men would be driven from an official place and subjected to every ignominy which could be inflicted by their vindictive enemies.

The valor, the endurance, the unequalled heroism of the Union army would

be systematically degraded, and their success ascribed solely to the overwhelming numbers and brute force; while the "Chivalry" and story of the exploits of the rebel army would be magnified through every medium, and extorted by every means that power exercised by treason could devise.

They would place rebel officers and soldiers upon the same equality before the law, with those of the Union armies, and pay them and pension them the same and make like provisions for their widows and orphans. They would assume the payment of the rebel war debt, and decree compensation for emancipated slaves. They would make payment for Southern property destroyed during the war, and compensate for all the damages inflicted by our armies, upon the ground that they were ruthless invaders of Southern soil.

They would repeal or nullify the operation of the Civil Rights Bill leaving the freedom to the intelligent oppression of their late masters, who would virtually reduce them to slavery, by denying them the enjoyment of all civil rights.

They would hold every Union officer responsible in damages for the arrest and imprisonment of conspirators, spies, bounty-jumpers, "runaways" from the draft.

Already the Union men of Kentucky have had a foretaste of what would be done upon this subject. And if you but give to the rebels the unopposed control of the Government, they will in some form or by some process seize upon and confide the estate of every Union man in Kentucky, and as in Kentucky, so elsewhere.

They would abolish all punishments, disfusions and penalties for treason — They would defeat all amendments to the Constitution. They would prevent representation from being equalized, and would retain in the hands of rebels, for all time, the unjust advantages they now possess. In short they would do all in their power to undo the residue of the work to repair the damages the rebels have sustained in reasserting the principles upon which the rebellion was founded, and accomplish by legislation and fraud, the original scheme of secession and national destruction which was defeated on the 1st of June.

THE UNION MEN OF KENTUCKY.  
And now let me address a word to the Union men of Kentucky, many of whom are here to-day, and inquire who compose the Democracy of your State? Do they not number among them the very who, in the guise of confederate officers, soldiers and guerrillas, laid waste and ravaged Kentucky, plundered her towns, carried away her horses and cattle, destroyed her railroads, murdered thousands of her citizens, and drove thousands of others to seek safety by flight? Do they not number among them the men who followed John Morgan into Illinois, and, with their plundering excursion was at once converted into a flight, and who were transformed from invaders into fugitives and prisoners?

Sixteen months ago they called themselves Confederates, to-day they call themselves the Democracy, and after the 14th of August will call themselves by whatever name may be agreed upon at Philadelphia. The blood, the vast treasure, the happiness of families, to say nothing of the untold suffering of this dreadful war, rest upon the party which deluded Southern rebels with the belief that they might procure their schemes of secession and destruction secure from all resistance.

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It is and was throughout the war, radically opposed to equal representation.

It is radically opposed to every principle of justice, humanity and liberty, which our fathers engrafted upon the Government.

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