

# The North Branch Democrat.

HARVEY SICKLER, Proprietor

"TO SPEAK HIS THOUGHTS IS EVERY FREEMAN'S RIGHT."—Thomas Jefferson.

TERMS, \$2.00 PER ANNUM

NEW SERIES,

TUNKHANNOCK, PA., WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3, 1866.

VOL. 6 NO. 9.

A weekly Democratic paper, devoted to Politics, News, the Arts and Sciences &c. Published every Wednesday, at Tunkhannock, Wyoming County, Pa. BY HARVEY SICKLER.



Terms—1 copy 1 year, (in advance) \$2.00  
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J. B. SMITH.

## HOW THE WORD WHITE IS TO BE GOT OUT OF THE CONSTITUTION.

THE RUMP AMENDMENT TO SUPERSEDE A DIRECT VOTE OF THE PEOPLE.

"The question of negro suffrage does not and cannot enter into this campaign for Governor. It is not before the people in any shape. The members of the Legislature to be elected this fall cannot act on this subject. Gen. Geary, as Governor, will have no duty to perform in the premises during his first term. The people themselves must first act before the Governor can do anything on the subject. Here, then are the facts. Negro suffrage is not an issue in this contest. The law forbids the question being an issue."—Harrisburg Telegraph.

The above tissue of falsehoods shows how anxious the Gearyites are to avoid the real issue in the present contest. The question of negro suffrage can and does enter into this campaign for Governor, first, because it can be made an issue at any time, and second, because it has been made an issue, by every speaker now on the stump for Geary; by every newspaper in Geary's interest in Pennsylvania; by fully one-half of the Disunion nominating conventions; by the mixed Brownlow-Douglass convention now in session in Philadelphia; and by the rump amendment to the Constitution, which proposes to grant full political "privileges and immunities" to all men born in the United States, without regard to color or race.

The members of the Legislature to be elected this year can act on the subject. The Constitution was amended last in 1854 and five years thereafter, (in 1859), can be amended again. The members to be elected this fall will constitute the Legislature of 1867. They can pass an amendment to the parliamentary requirement. The Legislature to be elected next year for 1868 can ratify it and call a special election in January, 1869, to have it ratified by the people before the assembling of the Legislature of 1869; or they can submit it at a special or general election in 1868, and call an extra session on the first of January, 1869, to count the votes, and if adopted add it to the Constitution. Thus State Senators to be elected this fall, for three years, can vote for a negro suffrage amendment in 1867, and again in 1868. Even if the matter should not be broached till 1868, the Senators now to be elected would have to act upon the preliminary passage. It is clearly evident, therefore, that the members now to be elected can act upon this subject.

We are willing to grant that "General Geary, as Governor, will have no duty to perform in the premises," because there is no probability whatever of his election. Suppose, however, for illustration, that he should be elected. His term would not expire till after the 7th of January, 1870, so that he could approve such an amendment, whether preliminary proceedings were started in 1867 or 1868.

The statement that the "law forbids the question being an issue," is a very stupid falsehood. Where is there any law forbidding it? It would be a good thing if there were a prohibitory law.

It is true that a negro suffrage amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania would have to be submitted to a vote of the people after affirmative action of two successive Legislatures, but such a question should never be allowed to go so far. Men favorable to such a change in the Constitution should not be elected as members and Senators. They are not trustworthy upon other questions, if favorably to that. But there is another point of greater importance. It is this:

The Legislature to be elected this fall will be called upon to ratify or reject the amendment to the Federal Constitution proposed by the late Rump Congress. One of its sections proposes to make citizens of all persons born in the United States; to prohibit any State from abridging the privileges and immunities of the citizens thus created, and to prevent any State from depriving any person of life, liberty, property or equal protection of the laws. All this is clearly intended for the benefit of the blacks for all men born in the United States have always enjoyed those natural, civil and political rights, except the negroes. The proposed amendment makes so clear a contrast between the natural and civil rights (life, liberty, property and protection) and political "privileges and immunities," (the privileges of voting, holding office, &c.) that there can be no reasonable doubt thrown against the belief that it is a well conceived though covert scheme intended to establish and enforce negro suffrage and equality in all the States without submitting the question to a direct vote of the people! This amendment, when once incorporated into the Federal Constitution will be binding upon all the States. The Federal Constitution says it shall be "the supreme law of the land, and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding." Thus the word "white may be struck from the Constitution without a legislative amendment, and without submitting the question to the people! When the Rump amendment shall be passed, the question then goes beyond the jurisdiction of our State Courts, our Legislature and the people. Salmon P. Chase and his Radical, negro suffrage Court will have exclusive authority to interpret and determine.

These facts show the great importance of electing Representatives and Senators at every party.

the coming election, pledged and sworn against the issue of negro suffrage, (or citizenship), which is now before the country in the shape of the Rump amendment. The Geary Disunionists fear to go before the people upon a direct vote to strike out the word "white," and therefore they are laboring to elect men who will ratify the Rump amendment to the Federal Constitution, and thereby override our State Constitution and the will of the people. It is but a modification of the game which the same school of politicians played successfully upon the people of Wisconsin.

People wake up! White men, if you want to preserve the ballot-box pure, and to bequeath to your children the same white man's Government which you received from your ancestors, arouse and defeat the tricksters, who, to subvert their own base purposes, tell their adherents to "throw conscience to the devil," who says that "it is numbers not intelligence we want;" and who blasphemously cry—"To hell with the Constitution!" Now is the time to strike for your country! The issue is clearly before you, and if you fail to meet it now, and defeat Disunion and Negroism the last hope will be gone forever!

## GEARY'S PHOTOGRAPH.

During Geary's Governorship in Kansas, the N. Y. Tribune said of him:

"Gov. Geary is not a General Jackson. He is not, on the other hand, a respectable tyrant, nor yet an imbecile. He is merely a politician, and the miserable tool of a miserable faction. He came here not to make it appear that there was peace; nor to put an end to iniquity, but to cover up iniquity for a little while, so that the smoke of its burning might not ascend to Heaven as an evidence against the perpetrators of all these villainies. Gov. Geary has indiscreetly boasted that he had a "Presidential candidate to carry on his shoulders." Under this impression, he had a "Presidential candidate to carry on his shoulder."

Proud of this anticipated imperial weight, the Governor has not for an instant relinquished his executive nerve to be unsteady by groans of an enslaved young empire. The bleeding ruin of American liberties has been scattered at his feet, and not one man y-republican throbs has stirred his heart to the bold thorough action he owes Kansas. All his efforts have to bolster and strengthen the Pro Slavery party; hence they remain satisfied with their master; while at the same time he is loud in his professions and declarations of impartiality, justice, &c. Gov. Geary is either a very dignified man or a very pompous one—perhaps a little of both. He is a profound egotist, and talks about what he is and intends to be, in a somewhat ostentatious manner. Gov. Geary is a determined man, without the capacity to determine on any systematic course. He has an iron will without a purpose, his only aim being to carry the aforesaid Presidential candidate safely on his shoulders, and that is under instructions."

Geary is now indeed the "miserable tool of a miserable faction." But this time he has the negro to carry on his shoulders.—Will the people help him to carry the load?

AN ELECTION FUND VOTED BY CONGRESS.—A good deal of surprise has been expressed that Congress did not postpone the vote increasing the pay of its members until the next session. The extra \$2,000 was needed to secure their re-election.—Each member has that sum extra to be devoted to this specific purpose. The Radical members are thus put in possession of a grand corruption fund amounting to something over \$300,000, taken directly out of the public treasury, and distributed among its members—nearly every one of whom is to be a candidate for re-election. It was proclaimed before the session closed that congress must be sustained by the re-election of its present members. It is now clear that this increase of pay was one of the practical measures by which this result is to be brought about.

WHITE MEN, recollect that the abolition candidate for Governor John W. GEARY, walked in the procession with negroes at the Philadelphia convention, sat on the same platform with them, made speech (a excuse as he can't do) "spoke" from the stand they did, received them, welcomed them, applauded them, and in every possible manner, proved that he believed them HIS EQUALS. Do you think they are your equals? If so vote for Geary who says he would "rather associate with decent negroes than with dirty faced, white copperheads."

THE TWO CONVENTIONS.—After reviewing the proceedings of the Philadelphia convention—the National convention of the 14th of August and the Radical convention which has just closed its proceedings, the New York Sun (Rep.) tersely sums up as follows:

"Taking the proceedings of the two conventions together, and banishing all political prejudices, the only conclusion to which a candid man can come is this: The conservative convention ignored party for the sake of the Union; and that the other convention ignored the Union for the sake of party."

## GEARY'S HUMANITY.

In a late number of the Lancaster *Intelligencer* appeared the following article, which should be read by every friend of humanity in the country. When any Catholic is asked to vote for the Know-Nothing Geary, let him remember this statement of authentic facts!

## BRUTAL TREATMENT OF SISTERS OF CHARITY BY JOHN W. GEARY.

John W. Geary, with his narrow intellect and bigoted nature, we have no doubt made a most acceptable member of that infamous political organization which proscribed men on account of their birth or religious belief. His hatred of Catholics did not end with the short-lived triumph of the Know-Nothing party. It adhered to him, and was afterwards displayed in the most offensive manner possible.

One of the most intelligent, wealthy, and respectable citizens of Frederick, Maryland, sends us the following statement of an occurrence, which shows in its true light and tyrannical character of the vain upstart who is the Radical candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania. We give the facts in his own language.

DEAR SIR: It occurs to me that justice demands that the rude and brutal manner in which some Sisters of Charity were treated by John W. Geary, should be known in order that the Catholic citizens of Pennsylvania may understand the character and the spirit of the man who appeals to them for support at the coming gubernatorial election. The facts will be sufficient without any comment, though you are, of course, at liberty to use them as you see fit.

In the fall of 1864, under protection of a pass from General Scott, some four or five Sisters of Charity left the St. Joseph's House at Emmitsburg, on their mission to nurse the sick and wounded soldiers of both armies. They had permission to visit any point along the line of contest from Winchester to Richmond, as their services might be needed. While traveling on the cars of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, under permission from the Commander-in-Chief at Washington to go where they pleased in discharge of the duties of their sacred mission, they were arrested at Point of Rocks by Colonel John W. Geary. In a rude manner they, with their baggage, were removed from the cars and left among crowds of soldiers and rough camp followers, sitting without shelter on their trunks by the roadside. It was not until after repeated solicitations that Colonel Geary consented to grant an interview to the principal sister, a lady of education and refinement, as were her associates. Finally this military dignity gave orders to have her led into his august presence by a guard.

In vain did she explain fully the charitable character of her holy mission; in vain did she exhibit the general unrestricted pass given her by the Commander-in-Chief at Washington, authorizing her to go, with her associates, wherever their holy mission might call them, or wherever they might be needed to nurse the wounded and console the dying; in vain did she beg to be allowed to proceed as several parties of Sisters had been allowed to do unmolested before, over the same route; in vain did she speak of the crying wants of the wounded, the sick, the dying soldiers of the Union army, to relieve and succor whom was a great part of her mission; in vain did she assure this petty tyrant (Geary) that she had nursed the sick and wounded soldiers of all parties in the Crimean war, without molestation or hindrance, receiving from Turk and Russian no less courtesy and kindness than she did from Frenchmen and Englishmen: in vain did she protest with tearful entreaties against such usage in her native land, after having traveled on a similar mission all over Europe unmolested. John W. Geary, a bigot by nature and a petty tyrant in his position, thrust her and her companions into the cars and sent them back to Frederick City, on their way to the House of St. Joseph, from which they came.

The Surgeon-General at Frederick, a high toned gentleman, and a native of Philadelphia, hearing of the manner in which the Sisters of Charity had been treated by Geary, and fearing the damaging effect which such brutal conduct would have upon the many thousands of Catholic soldiers who were fighting in the front ranks of the army, at once dispatched an orderly to General Banks at headquarters near Poolesville, with a letter containing a statement of the conduct of General Geary, which letter will be found officially recorded on the backs of the Medical Director. The adjutant, after riding all night, returned to Frederick with an imperative order, commanding General Geary to escort in person and place safely on the southern side of the Potomac the said Sisters of Charity, and to give to them every assistance to aid them in the discharge of their sacred mission of mercy. With what grace he could after his brutal conduct, Geary did escort them beyond the Potomac, after having endeavored to set himself up as superior to the Commander-in-Chief.

Any soldier who was under Geary at Point of Rocks at the time alluded to will remember his treatment of these Sisters of Charity. He will not dare to deny one word of the above statement. If he should the Medical Director and the Sisters will testify to the entire truthfulness of what is here written.

furnished in the shape in which they appear, as we have stated, by one of the wealthiest, most intelligent and honorable men in the City of Frederick. They show what a mean and miserable bigot John W. Geary is. We hope our contemporaries will give the statement a wide circulation.

GENERAL GRANT will soon be as bitterly opposed by the Radicals as the President himself. Not being able to obtain his assistance to carry out their treasonable designs upon the country, they will now let loose their hounds upon his track. Thus Jack Hamilton, in a speech recently made at Cleveland, alternated his usual abuse of the President with assaults on Congress, and said, that if Andrew Johnson should be deposed by a writ of impeachment, and an military commander, even Grant himself should respond to his call on the military commander would be unmade even more speedily than he had been made. This is Radical gratitude towards the leader of the "Boys in Blue."

The Radicals just now are loud in their eulogies of the "Boys in Blue," and are constantly talking of the debt of gratitude which the nation owes them. But when the Radical Congress gave a practical illustration of the Radical idea of a debt of gratitude, they did so by voting two years' extra pay as follows: For each white soldier, \$50; for each negro soldier, \$100. That mode of liquidating a debt of gratitude is peculiarly Radical. If the "Boys in Blue" doubt their sincerity, and attribute their apparent friendship rather to hypocrisy than to patriotism, the Radicals must not blame the soldiers.

John W. FORNEY, the big gun of the Geary-Disunion party, gives up the contest in despair. He has been traveling through the different sections of the State making speeches for General Geary, but he has seen the hand writing on the wall, and knows that no earthly power can prevent Hon. Hiestor Clymer from being the next Governor of Pennsylvania. *Lancaster (Pa.) Intelligencer.*

In addition to the above, we are informed by one of Mr. Forney's confidential advisers, that he is, also, in utter despair at the slimness of his chances for United States Senators. He can only count seven votes in the Rad cal caucus—two in Bucks, and three in Berks, and two in Montgomery provided his party carries the election in those districts!

IN BOSTON, PARSON BROWNLOW SAID: I am on a political expedition, fitted out at Philadelphia, our main object being to wipe out the mosses tracks of Andrew Johnson, Wm. H. Seward, and the other untamed and unmitigated copperheads who are creeping and slinking along in their wake.

The "untamed and unmitigated copperheads" who composed the party of the President were General Grant, General Meade, Admiral Farragut, and other brave men of the army and navy, and these are the men against whom the political "Forest and Turpentine" expedition was fitted out at Philadelphia.

The New York *Herald* thus ridicules the attempt of the Radical leaders to blarney adopted citizens, by going to their meetings and pretending friend-ship for them:

These old Know Nothings and Puritanical fanatics think they can come "the rich Irish brogue" over our Irish fellow citizens. The idea of these negro worshiping politicians of the Puritan New England school, pretending to have any love for Irishmen is supremely farcical. This only shows to what humbug and deception the Jacobin faction will resort in their desperate efforts to save their party.

## THADEUS STEVENS!! NEGRO EQUALITY!!! BLACK, BLACK, BLACK.

Thad Stevens, Alick McClure and John Williamson made speeches on Tuesday night, September 4th in Bedford, and each one spoke for NEGRO SUFFRAGE and NEGRO EQUALITY. Old Thad said the "NEGRO IS THE ISSUE, GERMAN, IRISHMEN, AND AFRICANS WERE ALL EQUAL SO LONG AS I LIVE I WILL MAINTAIN THIS DOCTRINE."

McClure said he would never agree to the restoration of the Union UNTIL THE NEGROES UPON A PERFECT EQUALITY WITH THEMSELVES. Williamson said, "A NEGRO HAS AS MUCH RIGHT TO VOTE AS AN IRISHMAN, AND MORE." Now here is the doctrine of the Radicals. Republicans cannot deny this. We can prove it by a hundred witnesses. In the name of heaven, can any decent man endorse it?

The Radical Disunionists are crowing considerably over a new advocate of their sinking cause in the person of Bennett of the New York *Herald*. Bennett knows the loyal thieves may offer him, but at the same time he tells them some very unpalatable truths. The *Herald* estimates that the conservatives in the present campaign, will gain fifty Congressmen, and gives them figures as proof. Their new convert must have little faith, verily!

## WHO IS THE TRAITOR?

John W. Geary said at Huntingdon, the other day, in a two minute speech, that "He would not prove a traitor because Andrew Johnson did."

To whom or to what has Andrew Johnson proved a traitor? Not to the Union, for he is doing all in his power to restore it, in all its integrity. Not to the party which nominated and elected him in 1864, for the platform upon which he was made Vice President, says—

"That it is the highest duty of every American citizen to maintain against their enemies, the integrity of the Union and the paramount authority of the Constitution and laws of the United States;" and that there shall be no terms of peace offered except—

"such as may be based upon an unconditional surrender of their hostility and a return to their just allegiance to the Constitution and laws of the United States."

The rebels have returned to "their just allegiance to the Constitution and laws of the United States," and President Johnson as his "highest duty," is now endeavoring to maintain, against the present Northern Disunionists, as he did against Southern secessionists, the integrity of the Union and the paramount authority of the Constitution and laws. Where then, is the treason?

Further than this. In July, 1861, Congress passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That this war is not waged on our part, in any spirit of oppression or for any purpose of conquest, or for interfering with the rights or established institutions of these States; but to DEFEND and MAINTAIN the SUPREMACY of the CONSTITUTION, and to preserve the Union with ALL THE DIGNITY and RIGHTS of the several States UNIMPAIRED."

President Johnson (then Senator) introduced this resolution. Has he ever denied or repudiated it in word or act? Did the Republican convention at Baltimore, which nominated him, ask him to repudiate it? By no means. Andrew Johnson was taken as the Republican candidate with that resolution as his pole star and though the demagogues, who followed him to gather the spoils of office and the wreck of war, have thrown away the chart, President Johnson continues to steer the ship of State by that fixed point in the Northern political heavens. Is that treason?

But who is this Geary? A Whig—A Portage Railroad Democrat—a Know Nothing—a Jim Lane Freesoiler, by his own confession—a Democrat without prefix or suffix—and now a negro suffrage Disunionist, working against "the integrity of the Union and the paramount supremacy of the Constitution and laws of the United States."

Voters, who is the traitor?

The Disunionists accuse Johnson, Cowan, Doollittle, and the thousands of Union men who are supporting the Union policy, of treason to their party. Will they please say what that party is? In 1854 there was a Know Nothing party which, after a brief existence in a chrysalis state, came out of its shell and called itself the "Republican party." Before it got out perfectly dry it called itself the "People's party," but soon afterwards changed that for the "American Republican party." Soon after this prefix was dropped and another substituted, making it the "Democratic Republican party." The war came, and off went the old skin and out came the animal as the "Union Party." Since then its adherents have been pleased to style themselves variously as "Union-leaguers," "oyalists," "Unionists," "war democrats," "patriots," "radicals," &c.—Now they call their organization the "Union Republican party," or "Radical party," as suits the company. To which of those various stages of existence have the persons alluded to become traitors.

GEN. BUTLER, who, we believe, intends to stump Pennsylvania for Gen. Geary, indicated his preference for negro suffrage, last week, in this emphatic manner: "Had the negro been armed, the result would have been far different. We armed him with the musket when he was fit to use it; shall we not arm him with the ballot? There is a prejudice against the negro on the question of labor. When the labor-saving machinery was introduced into England, it because they thought it would take away the work that brought them bread. Suppose we were only looking for expediency. The States must come back.—We want a loyal constituency in those States. Where will they come from? As a matter of self-protection, as a matter of economy, the negro must have a vote."

As soon as the Radicals get the power they will strike the word "white" from the Constitution of Pennsylvania. Let the honest tax-payers remember this at the ballot-box.