

The Democratic Mass Meeting on the 29th of August

Every Democrat in every county of the State should take an interest in this gathering. Every county should be fully represented at it; and it should be made memorable in future history as the spontaneous outburst of a people's enthusiasm in the cause of union, justice and Democracy.

Indiana occupies a proud but perilous position. It is not extravagant to say that she is the Thermopylae of the nation's hopes. New England is hopelessly abandoned to her treasonable delusions, given over to God and man to believe in lies. New York and Pennsylvania are distracted by internal dissensions and uncertain in their action. The South will indeed present one unbroken phalanx against the encroachments of fanaticism and disunion. But the South unaided can do nothing to preserve the integrity of the country.

All national men look with interest and anxiety to Indiana. The defeat of the Democratic party in this State in 1856 will be the prelude to the downfall of the republic; and this is not the language of exaggeration but of frank soberness. We say so indeed not with the timidity of croakers, for we have no apprehensions of defeat; but in order to arouse the people to a sense of the importance of coming events. The next presidential contest will be one of the grandest ever fought—the battle of pure Democracy against fanaticism, the fight between good and evil, between light and darkness, not only in the soul of man but on the broad area of a continent.

We want a gathering of the tribes, a multitudinous assemblage whose voices shall be like the waves of the load-rolling sea—let the farmer leave his field, the mechanic his workshop, the merchant his counter and come up to Indianapolis to give one shout for the Union and the Constitution, in opposition to political profligacy, New England fanaticism and midnight conclaves.

We did not hear Mr. CAMPBELL on Saturday night, but a friend says he declared himself in favor of disunion and bloodshed rather than the extension of slavery. He said, after describing the evils of disunion, that for him self he was willing to take this position, rather than see the slave power extended and slavery run rampant over the land, and if to prevent it the country would be deluged in blood, he would take his share in such an investment, bend his share in all assessments, and take his dividends whatever they might be.

Our respected friend Dr. DALEY of Bloomington, has not been making political speeches, and we are very glad of it. When clergymen begin to make political speeches it is a bad omen for the country. It is a business for which we are very well suited if we only had religion. But wanting that essential element, and having "the taint of secularism" pretty strongly about us, we have never ventured on this high vocation. But we shall make bold to preach to the preacher whenever we hear that they are disgracing their calling by taking sides in politics.

Such men as HENRY WARD BEECHER have no more claims to the sanctity and dignity of eloquence than we have. They make the pulpits a rostrum from which to criticize the laws and government of the country—a thing never done by Jesus Christ. My Kingdom, said the Saviour, is not of this world. He was of deep significance, implying that Christians should not be engaged on external institutions but on the soul and conscience of the individual man.

"Let politics alone," said Dr. Norr to a young clergyman, and he added, "Clergymen who need more, have generally less common sense than the members of other professions. They often know much of books, and little of men."

The New Albany Tribune. Mr. GREGG takes us to task for the inconsistency of our editorials on the platform of the recent Abolition Convention. Now the truth is, the inconsistency is in the platform, not in us. When we address Mr. GREGG, we say in substance, how can you profess to be a Henry Clay Whig, stand a platform full of abolition as the whole scope and tenor of the Fusion resolutions are. But when we speak to our friends of the Journal, we say, how can you endorse resolutions, which, if honestly interpreted in one of their clauses, allow slavery in a part of the territories, and as to that sanction the principle of the Nebraska bill?

The editors of the Journal are certainly in a quandary on this point; but we think they are men of more political honesty than Mr. GREGG. It is a much easier thing for the Journal to treat the cause about the Missouri compromise as a nullity, than for the Tribune to disregard the whole tendency and spirit of the resolutions, and cling to one little phrase which is very much out of place in its connection.

We admit, however, that the Tribune is true to its principles, for it is like the Vicar of Bray. The vicar was reproached for changing his religion three different times during the reigns of HENRY VIII, MARY and ELIZABETH; but he replied that though he had changed his faith he had stuck to his principles, the most important of which was to live and die the Vicar of Bray. So with the Tribune; to enjoy political ascendancy and the spoils of office is the guiding star of its conduct.

A Southern Party. A few unreasonable men like the editors of the Charleston Mercury advocate the formation of a Southern party. This is madness and folly, and is properly rebuked by the Richmond Equivocal. "The Democratic party as now composed is adequate and ready to secure the North and South, the East and West their several rights and immunities." This sentiment is wise and patriotic; any other is foolish and treasonable. Let the South be united, but let it be with the Democracy of the North; this is her only hope of salvation, her only security for the maintenance of her rights.

A gentleman of long experience in the political world says, that Matthew R. Hall's chance to be a candidate of the next Fusion in Indiana, for Governor, next year, is decidedly good. Indeed, he thinks he will be their nominee—Beware of Jacksonism.

Well, MATTHEW is sound on the nigger question, and is quite as honest as any of his Abolition brethren. Why should we not have their candidate for Governor? He belongs to the CHASE and GIDDINGS school of politics.

The American party of Evansville have passed resolutions fully endorsing the platform adopted by the National Convention at Philadelphia. The resolutions are published by order of the councils, in the Journal.

The Democracy of Johnson in Council

The days of refreshing have come, and the Democracy of Indiana are enjoying a revival of the good old times of '44, when the political skies were bright and the broad banner of "Union—now and forever," floated in every breeze and the notes of rejoicing were heard on all sides. These good old days are returning, and we rejoice to see the Democratic Party fully aroused to the dangerous tendency of the teachings and dogmas of their enemies.

Saturday last was a proud day for the Democracy of Johnson County. From four to five thousand of the Freemen of Indiana assembled at Franklin on that day, with all the paraphernalia of enthusiastic Democratic meetings; a mighty crowd, with music and banners, which struck terror to the hearts of every Slave on the ground. The meeting was addressed by Lieut. Gov. WILLARD and other distinguished speakers, and the greatest enthusiasm pervaded the assembly.

Over six hundred persons were present from Martinsville, in Morgan county, and its vicinity—delegations were in attendance from Shelby county—from Brown, from Barkolomeus, and from Marion. And all expressed themselves determined to go into the contest in October next fully equipped for the battle.

We would impress upon our Democratic friends in Johnson the necessity of perfecting a thorough organization in every neighborhood and township in the county—of acting together, shoulder to shoulder, against the common enemy. And thus will they secure a most glorious victory over the combination of tims now opposed to them.

WARREN TOWNSHIP.—The Democracy of Warren Township assembled in council on Saturday last, to the number of four or five hundred; and from their proceedings we have no doubt that they had a glorious gathering of the old '44 spirit. Music filled the air "with a concord of sweet sounds," while the stars and stripes floated over the crowd, and the eloquent appeals of the speakers filled every heart with patriotism. The Democrats of Warren were awake, and have an eye upon the striking, skulking disciples of "Slavery" whom they have marked for annihilation in October next. We hope to see the Democracy of the other townships holding meetings and thoroughly organizing. The Owls and Bats have already commenced their midnight flights through the country, and are assembling all those whom they can deceive, into their dens and caverns. Organize, then, Democrats—organize thoroughly, and go into the battle to be fought in October, with all your strength arrayed against the enemy, and victory will perch upon your banners.

CRAWFORDVILLE MEETING.—The Democracy of Crawfordville County at their Mass Meeting at Crawfordsville on Saturday, 21st inst., passed the following Resolutions. They breathe the right spirit, and we commend a perusal of them in juxtaposition with those passed by the Abolition Convention held in this city on the 13th:

Resolved, That equal and exact justice to all men of whatever state or persuasion, religion or political opinions, is the cardinal principle of the American Republic.

Resolved, That the Federal Government is the common guardian of all the States and Territories, and that it is its duty to administer its own domestic affairs, with no restriction or limitation, except the Federal Constitution, should be fully guaranteed and secured.

Resolved, That holding no sympathy with the institution of slavery, and opposing its extension, we fully endorse the Kansas-Nebraska bill, as a measure of popular sovereignty, but we separate and denounce the lawless violence committed upon the rights of the citizens of Kansas at their late territorial election through the agency of the Know Nothing Loggers of Missouri.

Resolved, That while we do not believe in the right of the individual citizen to interfere with the exercise of the rights of the citizen, we believe it is the duty of every true American to place himself in the way of the extension of slavery, and to administer its own domestic affairs, with no restriction or limitation, except the Federal Constitution, should be fully guaranteed and secured.

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Proceedings in the Kansas Legislature

SHAWNEE MISSION, K. T., July 31. The Legislature convened at 2 P. M. The following message to the House from the Governor was read:

To the House of Representatives: I return to you, House in which they originated the bill entitled "An act to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors and games of chance within one mile of the Shawnee Manual Labor School, in the Territory of Kansas; and to amend an act to establish a ferry at the town of Atchison, in Kansas Territory, by my approval. I see nothing in the bills themselves to prevent my sanction of them, and my reasons for disapproval have been doubtless anticipated by you, and are necessarily resulting from the opinion expressed in my message of the 8th inst.

The question is of the powers of the Legislature, and whether the Legislature is now in session at a place recognized by the government where the business of legislation can be legally or legitimately carried on. The creation of a seat of government, in any case, by competent authority, is a necessary and an unavoidable implication from the meaning and force of the term that the laws which are to be passed for the government of the State or Territory shall be there enacted, and therefore makes it a necessary duty of the Legislature to perform their functions at that place. It can have no other object or purpose, and we cannot for a moment suppose that the authority which creates a seat of government contemplates that all the acts and powers of government might be performed, and exercised as well as at any other place. It clearly means that the enactment of laws which will be the highest and most important acts of the legislative power should be exercised at that place and no other.

This position is so plain that it will probably not be controverted; and its correctness should be admitted by the Legislature in the fact of the passage by them of an act constituting this seat of government before they would remove here from the place at which they are now sitting. Were that act valid and within the powers of the Territorial Legislature, the question could not arise. To its validity, however, I must give my assent, and propose now to state my reasons for that opinion.

The whole Territorial government is brought into existence by the act of Congress, passed May 31, 1854, and it is my duty to make the best use of the powers of the Legislative, Judicial and Executive powers. The 22d section provides that the legislative power and authority of said Territory shall be vested in the Governor and Legislature, and that the Governor shall be constituted, and the first Assembly elected; and at the close of the first following language: "The persons who are to be elected shall meet at such place and on such day as the Governor shall appoint; but hereafter, the time, place and manner of holding and conducting all elections by the people, and appointing the representatives of the people, and the members of the Council and House of Representatives according to the number of qualified voters shall be prescribed by law, and the day of the meeting of the Legislature shall be the regular sessions of the Legislative Assembly."

It will thus be seen, that although Congress gives the Legislature the power to determine the time when the Assembly shall meet, hereafter they do not confer power to fix the place. We will see, on further examination, the reason for this, and that Congress chooses to retain and exercise this power themselves.

By the 20th section it provides, "That the legislative power of said Territory shall be vested in the Governor and Legislature, and that the Governor shall be constituted, and the first Assembly elected; and at the close of the first following language: "The persons who are to be elected shall meet at such place and on such day as the Governor shall appoint; but hereafter, the time, place and manner of holding and conducting all elections by the people, and appointing the representatives of the people, and the members of the Council and House of Representatives according to the number of qualified voters shall be prescribed by law, and the day of the meeting of the Legislature shall be the regular sessions of the Legislative Assembly."

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Weekly State Sentinel

TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 31, 1855.

African Colonization.

African Colonization is a part of the organic law of Indiana; the fundamental compact of her people has affixed the seal of approbation on this beneficent scheme. Let us for a moment turn away from the exciting and baneful discussions on the extension of slavery, engendered by political ambition, theological fanaticism and vulgar malignity, and contemplate a plan of christian philanthropy and enlightened statesmanship.

The American Colonization Society was formed in 1817 with BENJAMIN WASHINGTON for its first president, and among the vice-presidents were JOHN CLAY, ASHLEY, JACKSON, W. H. CHANNING, JOHN TAYLOR, of Carolina, and RICHARD ROSS.

Such names are a sufficient guarantee of the character of the enterprise, and very few openly oppose or deride it. It is damned with faint praise, and stunted in its growth by the lack of that material aid and encouragement which are essential to its salutary action. Our own State while theoretically endorsing the project of colonizing free blacks, appropriated the paltry sum of five thousand dollars per annum; and even this we believe has been discontinued on the ground that the Board had money on hand unexpended—certain it is, nothing of the least consequence has been done, although Indiana has assumed the attitude of a patron of Colonization.

Talks on from little accounts grow, and Liberia is the germ of grand things; but needs funds in money to make it flourish. We know not what may be the feeling of the Democracy in this State, but for ourselves we should be willing to see such an amendment to the Constitution as would authorize the application of the federal revenues to this benevolent purpose; or if tampering with that sacred instrument should be deemed injudicious, then we would have each State for itself earnestly and honestly do what Indiana is now pretending to do. On the subject of applying the public revenues to colonization, Mr. WEBSTER speaks as follows.

"I have one other remark to make: In my observations upon slavery as it has existed in the country, and as it now exists, I have expressed no opinion of the mode of its extinguishment or melioration. I will say, however, though I have nothing to propose on that subject, because I do not deem myself so competent as some gentlemen on the south shall suppose a scheme of colonization to be carried on by this government upon a large scale, for the transportation of free colored people to any colony or any place in the world, I should be quite disposed to incur all my degree of expense to accomplish that object. Nay, sir, following an example set here more than twenty years ago, by a great man, then a Senator from New York, I would return to Virginia, and through her for the benefit of the whole South, the money received from the lands and territories ceded by her to this Government, for any such purpose as to relieve, in whole or in part, or in any way, to diminish or deal beneficially with the free colored population of the southern States. I have said that I honor Virginia for her part in this matter. I think she has received into the treasury of the United States eighty millions of dollars, the proceeds of the sales of the public lands ceded by her to this Government, and she has expended more than twenty millions of dollars, in relieving the whole South, the money received from the lands and territories ceded by her to this Government, for any such purpose as to relieve, in whole or in part, or in any way, to diminish or deal beneficially with the free colored population of the southern States. I have said that I honor Virginia for her part in this matter. 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