THE MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL.

BY M'CLANAHAN, TROUSDALE & DILL. MEMPHIS, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1860. VOLUME XI.—NUMBER 14.

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SPEECH OF HON. ROGER A. PRYOR,

OF VIRGINIA,

On the Principles and Policy of the Black Republicans Party; Delivered in the House of Representatives, December 29, 1859.

Mr. Pryor said:

Mr. Clerk: The member from Pennsylvania (Mr. Grow) charges the Democracy with the responsibility of the disorganization of Congress. In so far as the charge imputes blame, it is unmeasurable; in so far as it implies praise, it is perfectly true. If the gentleman means to assert that the Democracy are responsible for the non-organization of the House, by the election of a sectional Speaker, and the ascendency of a sectional party, we readily and cordially admit the truth of the declaration.

Nay, we hoist the fact, and claim a monopoly in the glory of the achievement. Let it go to the country, that, on the deliberate assumption of the Black Republican Representative, that the Democracy have so far prevented the success of the anti-slavery party, in a capital object of their malarious enterprise. Let it go to the country, that, sooner than expose the Republic to the shame and calamity of installing a Black-Republican Representative in the chief office of the Government, we, the Democracy, albeit of small consequence on the score of numbers, did yet oppose an immovable barrier in the path of his promotion; and that, at last, when, despite our most obstinate resistance, the wrong was consummated, if it shall be consummated, we emerged from the struggle with honor untarnished and courage unabated. This be our pride; and the intended reproach of the member from Pennsylvania the country will distinguish as our highest title to applause. So believing, I beg to assure the honorable member that we are resolved to persist to our course; and that when his nominee assumes that chair, he will take it against the unanimous protest of the Democracy of this House. No chance of destitute constitution, in peril of perjury, will avail to shake us in the strength of our purpose; far, greater than any individual wrong, greater than any private calamity, we have regard the wrong and the calamity of aiding Black-Republicanism a single step in the consummation of its mischievous schemes.

In support of the unwarranted imputation of blame on the Democracy for the non-organization of Congress, the member from Pennsylvania brings forward in particular instances of that we are responsible for the introduction of the slavery issue in this controversy. The untruth of the allegation is manifest through the veil of sophistical reason employed to conceal it. In the same that he raises a wanton and indecent clamor who cries fire when he detects the touch of the incendiary in the sense that he is guilty of a breach of the peace who repels the assault of a robber—in that sense, and in the sense only, are the Democrats to be for the agitation of the slavery issue in this debate. The nomination of Sherman for the Speakership proclaimed, in fact, a declaration of war, and gave the signal of hostilities. In presenting a man, who, besides his general concurrence in the schemes of the anti-slavery party, is abominable on the ground of his complicity in a most mischievous and treasonable publication; a man, who has indorsed a proposition to train the slaveholders as Philistines, and to desert their wives to a sanctified intercourse, and the annoyance of human fellowship—the nomination, of such a man, I say, is probable cause for the dissolution of the House, and to determine its legislation, was the provocative cause of the disruption which the member and his associates now profess to deplore.

They apply the spark, and then affect astonishment at the explosion. It is a way they have, not to recognize the relation between cause and effect. Well, let the guilty agencies into operation, to disclaim responsibility for the logical result. So after arming the country beneath and with Sharpe's rifles, publications of violence and sedition, they are amazed at the irruption of armed men into Harper's Ferry. The country will accordingly determine where responsibility for the consolidation of the slavery issue in this controversy—as those who are responsible for the obstruction to the organization of the House, by insisting on the election of a sectional Speaker, and the ascendency of a sectional party, we readily and cordially admit the truth of the declaration.

Nay, we hoist the fact, and claim a monopoly in the glory of the achievement. Let it go to the country, that, at the deliberate assumption of the Black-