

MEMPHIS APPEAL

ALBERT PIKE & CO.

Vera Aique Honesta Dicere.

THE GREAT DEMONY OF TENNESSEE

What Manner of Candidates Tennessee Jacobinism Prefers.

Robespierre was styled "The Incorruptible." Marat lived and died poor, and was never suspected of peculation.

Legendre, the butcher, did not despoil the Commonwealth. After all, American Jacobinism is but a plagiarized imitation of the original, making a Third Seven a Salut, and of Ben Butler a Chevalier Bayard.

On the 12th inst., a Jacobin Convention assembled at Nashville with Horace Maynard for its President, a man who prebends to an extraordinary degree of Christian piety, and, except when he commands to stand a political opponent, to all the self-possession of a mind conscious of its rectitude.

In that Convention it was proposed to nominate candidates for the place of member of Congress for the State at large, and upon this a negro put in nomination the name of Thomas A. Hamilton, of the county of Shelby.

Upon that, J. M. Tomney, of Shelby county, rose to speak as to certain facts relative to this candidate, and was called to order by one Williams, of Smith county, because he proposed to make a personal attack on one of the candidates.

The President decided, as he had decided before, that "any remarks respecting the candidates" were in order; and Mr. Tomney proceeded, pledging his "honor and reputation" to sustain by proof the facts stated by him, if they should be denied. He said this:

It is doubtless known to every member of this Convention who reads the dispatches published yesterday morning, that Mr. Thomas A. Hamilton, of my county, who has been named by the Convention for member of Congress for the State at large, has been indicted by the Grand Jury of the county of Shelby, Memphis, for the crime of perjury. And, sir, I believe that a jury of my countrymen and his peers, upon hearing the evidence and examining the facts, will pronounce him guilty of the charge. Gentlemen of the Convention, I want you to understand the facts before proceeding to give your votes for such a nomination.

Sirs, it is a notorious fact to those who have lived in Memphis throughout the rebellion, that in 1862 Mr. Hamilton did accept and exercise the functions of the office of Sub-Provost Marshal, under Colonel McKelick; that he seized sugar in the hands of loyal and disloyal men alike, and caused the same to be carried out to the bluff and piled up ready to be destroyed on the approach of the Union army. I, sir, lived in Memphis all through the war; have known Mr. Hamilton for eight or ten years, and I know what I state to be true. As a Confederate Sub-Provost Marshal, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, he seized sugar in stores, warehouses and cellars; and it moved out to the bluff before the Union burned to prevent its falling into the hands of the Federal army. The cotton-planters of this city, who were proud of the occupation of Memphis by their troops. For his official acts, and for the same sugar seized for the Confederate States as his property, and put the proceeds into his pocket.

I know, gentlemen, you will be skeptical, but remember that the loyalists know the facts. Every man who has lived at Memphis during the rebellion knows them. A suit was brought in the United States Court at Memphis against Mr. Hamilton, by Dr. A. J. Park, of Chicago, for the value of sugar seized from him, and the proof on the trial showed conclusively that Mr. Hamilton, after the fall of Memphis, had sold the sugar seized from Park, and had appropriated the proceeds to his own use.

The proof, I say, was clear and conclusive. As a justification of the loyalty of Mr. Hamilton, and he compromised with Dr. Park by paying two thousand dollars, and the case was closed. The record of that proceeding is on file in the office of the United States Marshal, and is open to the inspection of all who are skeptical. This is but one of many cases.

Mr. Tomney said, also, "I don't expect in a few minutes to overcome the wire-working and scheming of months." These facts, he said, had been true and again charged against Mr. Hamilton, and never denied; and he added, "I AM PERSONALLY AND FAMILIARLY ACQUAINTED WITH THEM."

John Rowland endeavored to show that the matter deserved no consideration, because the Grand Jury that had indicted Hamilton was composed of rebels.

We do not intend any charge against Mr. Hamilton. We only reproduce here the allegations of a prominent member of his own party, of one of whom we once had some hope that he would see the error of his ways; but of whom we have hope no longer.

It is certain that Hamilton has been indicted by the Grand Jury, for taking what he ordinarily called the candidate's oath, which no man can take without committing perjury. If he ever held any office under the Confederate Government, or sympathized with the Confederates, or gave it aid and comfort in any way whatever. It is certain that Hamilton has twice taken that oath—once in Massachusetts, and once here, preparatory, each time, to being a candidate here.

When he was sued in the United States Circuit Court for the value of sugar seized by him, he pleaded (as we have it direct from the plaintiff's counsel), that he was an officer of, or acting in the service of the Confederate Government, and as such seized the sugar. The plaintiff assured him that he would at once dismiss the suit if he would show that he acted in the Confederate Government for the proceeds of the sugar. He did not do so. A single factor saved him from a verdict and a judgment for some sixty thousand dollars; and he afterwards effected a compromise. Of the influences that swayed that single person, we should, if we are rightly informed, be sorry to speak.

It is entirely just to measure the excellence or baseness, the honesty or scoundrelism of a party by the merit or worthiness of its candidates. Not because we have a right to argue that a party will almost always select men to be its candidates, who represent it not only in opinion, but in its very character and nature; but because the candidate is the fruit, of which the party is the tree. The party adopts his acts as its own, and announces by his name, by making him its representative.

Notwithstanding the charges made by Mr. Tomney, the Jacobin Convention preferred and accepted Mr. Hamilton,

BY TELEGRAPH.

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