THE JASPER WEEKLY COURIER.

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THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

Call for a Convention of Supporters of the President's Policy.

[illegible] September Seventeenth [illegible]

[illegible]

To the Soldiers and Sailors who Served in the Army and Navy of the United States during the late Rebellion:

[illegible] resolution of a meeting [illegible] in the Union army [illegible] evening, we invite those of you who approve the restoration policy of the President, and the principles enunciated by the National Convention at Philadelphia, to assemble at Cleveland on the 17th day of September next, for consultation [illegible]

We [illegible] hoped that at length the [illegible] of these [illegible], not your duty [illegible] settlement. After five years of [illegible] and destructive war, in which [illegible] were gloriously triumphant, the [illegible] which we fought to obtain, peace, [illegible] Why is this? We struggled [illegible] the rightful supremacy of the General Government, hereafter all who, in [illegible], disputed its authority, and to make every [illegible] citizen yield to its laws. We fought to maintain the war that the Union is indissoluble and its powers, as expounded by the courts, supreme; that no State can of its own motion, withdraw, or, at the will of the other States, be excluded, and that the duty of each State to maintain the Union and its right to take part in the Government under the Constitution. Every object of the war ever sought for by, or known to the army and navy, has been thoroughly achieved. The Southern people, decimated impoverished and prostrate, have for more than a year past abandoned the rebellion and acknowledged that Union for which we fought, should be recognized as existing, and that they may be dealt with as the Constitution and laws prescribe.

In their anxiety to restore the Union and heal the bleeding wounds of civil war, they have gone beyond a merely silent submission to the law. Through their delegates at the National Union Convention they solemnly renounced the doctrines of nullification and secession from which the war arose, repudiated the rebel debt, and declared of sacred obligation the national debt, proclaimed the faith of the nation pledged to the continuance of bounties and pensions to loyal soldiers and sailors, and their families, declared slavery forever abolished, and the freedmen entitled to equal protection of law in person and property with their former masters. Their platform is not only one of emphatic loyalty, but it is, moreover, most liberal in spirit on all the great issues growing out of the war. The character of the men who represented the Southern States in that Convention precludes us from believing this enunciation of principles to be insincere. They sent to it their foremost statesmen, men, who, like Rives, Graham, Orr, Parsons, Sharkey, Houston, Brockenborough, Hunt, Manning, and Stephens, have known throughout the land before the war as men of the highest character and influence. Among the five hundred delegates from the South, there was not a voice or vote dissenting from the resolutions adopted by the Convention. If the best of the Southern people are ever to be believed, we must accept their solemn declarations as sincere. We do accept them as conclusive evidence that a great majority of the Southern people, sick of war and anarchy, and longing for the restoration of a free Government, are ready to bear true allegiance to the Constitution and laws of the Union.

We are, therefore, unwilling to see the Southern people held longer in vassalage. They are our countrymen, citizens of the United States, who have incurred penalties, but who have rights. Those who willfully participated in the rebellion, and are unpardoned, are subject to the penalties prescribed for treason. But, though individuals may be tried, convicted, and punished, communities cannot; nor can the States and their people, without a flagrant violation of the Constitution, be denied the right of representation through men personally qualified, in the councils of the nation.

The intention of Congress seems to be to deprive them of representation just so long as it, and the purposes of the Radical party, may assume that it will concede the right whenever the constitutional amendment shall have been adopted, and each proscribed State shall have ratified it, but it is quite certain that the amendment will not be ratified by three-fourths of the States, and therefore that it will not be adopted. Some, perhaps many, of the Northern States will reject it, and we cannot expect its legal ratification by any of the lately insurrectionary States. If there were no other reason why the Southern States will reject it, it is enough that it proposes to disfranchise nearly all the men in the South who have influence over the masses of the people. If some were to be disfranchised except officers of the rebel army, we still could not expect the South to adopt it. For a large majority of men in the lately insurrectionary States, from compulsion or choice, served in the rebel armies, and their votes alone would overwhelmingly defeat it. Would Union soldiers, to recover political privileges, disfranchise their leaders whom they revere for their heroic virtues? How then can we expect Southern soldiers to disfranchise and degrade their old commanders?

As there is no probability that the amendment will be ratified by three-fourths of the States, the plan of restoration which Congress appears to have determined upon is, at best, impracticable. That proposed by the President, and approved by the National Union Convention, is feasible, and, we believe, safe.

We have no fear that the South can ever overthrow the Federal Government, or even disturb its career of power and glory. They will be the last of the States to rebel, and if they shall again rise in insurrection, the loyal people can and will subdue, and if need be, destroy them. The Government has asserted its power for self-preservation, and the devastation and misery of the South proclaim to this generation, at least, the crime and the terrible penalties of treason. Beholding their woes, and contrasting their weakness and our strength, we could afford to show the confidence and courage of magnanimity. We might well let our vanquished opponents live, and, like James Fitz James at Coilantogle Ford, staunch their wounds and forgive their treason. But we are not asked to be magnanimous, but only continent and just. This we cannot refuse to be without a violation of the Constitution of our country and a risk of its overthrow.

We seek and will have no association in political action with men, North or South, who are not avowedly of our opinion, sincerely faithful to the constitutional principles for which we fought. But if men, who have taught or practiced treason, now openly renounce their errors, and maintain with us the true principles of our Government, we shall not reject their co-operation.—When the restoration of the Union and the preservation of our Government are in issue, however much we regret to sever cherished political associations, and to co-operate with former enemies, we must prefer to act with those who have been wrong and are now right, rather than those who were right and now are wrong.

Believing that our Government is again in peril, we appeal to you who have fought to save it, and who ever hold it dearer and more sacred than all parties, to come to the rescue. Let the soldiers and sailors, agreeing with us in sentiment, but who cannot in person attend, send delegates through the action of their societies, or of local conventions. Let us meet in force at Cleveland on the 17th of September, the anniversary of the day when the Constitution was proclaimed by our forefathers, and let us aid in restoring the Union it created and the liberties it was ordained to secure.

G A Custer, Maj Gen U S A.
A McD McCook, Maj Gen U S A.
L H Rousseau Maj Gen.
Geo Crook, Maj Gen
S Meredith, Brevet Maj Gen
Thomas Ewing, Jr., Brevet Maj Gen.
Committee on Address.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 19th, 1866.

We cordially approve the call for the Convention and recommend the holding of local conventions to co operate in the movement.

John A Dix, Maj Gen.
James B Steadman, Maj Gen.
Frank P Blair, Maj Gen.
H W Slocum, Maj Gen.
Daniel E Sickles, Maj Gen.
Gordon Granger, Maj Gen.
John A McClernand, Maj Gen.
D N Couch, Maj Gen.
W W Averill, Maj Gen.
H. E Davies, Jr., Maj Gen.
Orlando B Willcox, Maj Gen.
Alpheus S Williams, Maj Gen.
G Watt, Maj Gen
Hugh Ewing, Maj Gen.
Theo Runyan, Maj Gen.
Thos Kilby Smith, Maj Gen.
Wm B Franklin, Maj Gen.
Thos L Crittenden, Maj Gen.
Marcena R Patrick, Maj Gen.
Alvin C Gillem, Maj Gen.
J J Bartlett, Maj Gen.
G K Warren, Maj Gen.
Jeff C Davis, Maj Gen.
A H Markland, Supt U S Mail.
H H Heath, Brevet Maj Gen.
Geo P Ihrie, Brig Gen.
G C Maxwell, Brig Gen.
A G McCook, Brig Gen.
J L Croxton, Brig Gen.
Samuel Beatty, Brig Gen.
J S Fullerton, Brig Gen.
M L Smith, Brig Gen
J W Fitzwill, Brig Gen.
C G Halpine, Brevet Brig Gen.
H S Commager, Brevet Brig Gen.
H C Hobart, Brevet Brig Gen.
C O Loomis, Brevet Brig Gen.
And 100 other officers.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Meeting.

In response to a call for a National Soldiers' and Sailors' Convention, to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, September 17, 1866; and in pursuance of the authority of the Auxiliary Executive Committee, appointed at Washington City, on the 20th instant, a meeting of the soldiers and sailors of the Federal army, residents of Indiana, was called in the city of Indianapolis, on the 20th of August, 1866.

The meeting was organized by electing Major General Love, President, and Colonel J. W. Blake, Secretary.

On motion of Colonel B. F. Mullen, it was

Resolved, That an Executive Committee of three from each Congressional District be appointed to assist in carrying out the purposes and principles of the National Soldiers' and Sailors' Convention, to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 17th of September, 1866; General Love to be chairman of the committee, by virtue of his appointment as executive officer of the State of Indiana.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The following persons were appointed in pursuance of the resolution:

First District—Colonel Chas Denby, of Vanderburg; Major James Fitz Williams, of Vanderburg; Captain James H Bryant, of Warrick.

Second District—Colonel Cyrus L Dunham, of Floyd; Captain De LaHunt, of Perry; Major W F Sherrod, of Orange.

Third District—Major John D Simpson, of Jefferson; Colonel Frank Emerson, of Jackson; Captain S A Spencer, of Jennings.

Fourth District—Colonel James Gavin, of Decatur; Colonel Hugh D Galligher, of Ripley; Colonel John F Cheek, of Dearborn.

Fifth District—General S Meredith, of Wayne; Major Will C Morgan, of Henry; Captain C C Dale of Henry.

Sixth District—Colonel C B Shaw, of Marion; Major H M Conklin, of Marion; Captain John M Flinn, of Shelby.

Seventh District—Colonel Robert Stewart, of Vigo; Colonel Jesse T Alexander, of Owen; Captain W Lane, of Putnam.

Eighth District—General Mahlon D Manson, of Montgomery; General Reuben C Kise, of Boone; Colonel W C Wilson, of Tippecanoe.

Ninth District—General Graham N Fitch of Cass; Colonel Norman B Eddy, of St. Joseph; Captain F B Thomas of Pulaski.

Tenth District—Colonel I B McDonald, of Whitley; Captain Marshal, of Kosciusko; Captain James McConnell, of Noble.

Eleventh District—General James R Slack, of Huntington; Captain A J Hill, of Adams; Captain J I Turpin, of Tipton.

On motion of Colonel B. C. Shaw, it was

Resolved, That the above executive committee, without delay either by joint co-operation or separately, are requested to appoint sub-committees in the counties and townships of their districts, and circulate immediately a paper for the signatures of soldiers and sailors favorable to the call for the National Soldiers and Sailors Convention, to held at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 17th day of September, 1866, which convention is held to indorse the platform of the Philadelphia National Convention, and sustain the policy of President Johnson.

The following resolution was offered by Major J. D. Simpson, of Madison:

Resolved, That all soldiers and sailors, who have served in the Federal army and navy during the late rebellion, and indorse the restoration policy of President Johnson, are hereby appointed delegates, and requested to attend the Convention and Mass Meeting at Cleveland on the 17th of September, 1866.

On motion of Captain John Schley it was

Resolved, That the members of the Executive Committee are earnestly requested to act without delay, and forward their lists of signatures, from time to time, by mail, to General Love, Indianapolis, so as to have all in by the 15th day of September.

On motion of Maj. H. M. Conklin, it was

Resolved, That all papers in the State, favorable to this object, are respectfully requested to copy the above proceedings.

JOHN LOVE,
Late Major General, President.
J. W. BLAKE, late Colonel, Secretary.

From the Indianapolis Herald.

Lincoln's Position.

As there may be some persons whose eyes may fall upon our paper, and the discussion we are attempting on the subject of the first proposed amendment to the Constitution, who have some regard for the opinions of Mr. Lincoln, upon the question involved, we give that opinion as expressed by him in a speech at Columbus, Ohio, after his canvass with Douglas:

"I will say, then, that I am not, nor never have been in favor of bringing about, in any way, the social and political equality with the white and black races; that I am not, nor never have been, in favor of making voters or jurors of negroes, nor of qualifying them to hold office or intermarry with the white people; and I will say, in addition to this, that there is a physical difference between the white and black races, which, I believe, will forever forbid the two races living together on terms of social and political equality. And inasmuch as they can not so live while they do remain together, there must be the position of superior and inferior, and I, as much as any other man, am in favor of having the superior position assigned to the white race."

How does this correspond with the provisions of the civil rights bill, which attempts to place the two races upon "a perfect equality before the law," and denounces heavy penalties upon any citizen or any officer who shall discriminate between the the two races. How does it correspond with that part of the proposed amendment of the Constitution which declares blacks as well as whites equally citizens of the United States and of the States wherein they reside; and that no State shall pass any law to the contrary, making any distinction. That is abridging their privileges and immunities. Nor shall the State pass any law denying to the negroes "equal" protection. Plainly the amendment, if adopted, will, bring about, so far as law can do it, a perfect equality of the races, civilly, socially and politically. The very thing that Lincoln said he was opposed to. He said one race must be "superior and the other inferior," not equal, and that he was favorable to the white race occupying the position of the superior race.

We commend the Columbus speech of Mr. Lincoln, as well as his Ottawa speech, to the careful consideration of the present furious, misgeneration, obstruction party. Let them, as members of the great "God and country" party, carefully weigh his arguments, and then rise up and condemn him as a copperhead, rebel, traitor, Democrat, copperhead, Johnson man; in other words, repeat a page or so of the Masonic Hall speech of his Excellency.

In contrast with this position of Lincoln, we present an extract from the speech of Governor Orr, and the remarks of the New York Tribune upon it. The Tribune shows what the radicals are driving at, that which they charge upon Governor Orr, of South Carolina, etc.:

"Fellow citizens, we have been knocking at the door for eight long months, asking Congress to admit us. If we are not to be trusted now, when are we to be trusted? Is it just that we should be excluded from these privileges? No! For the right of representation is regarded as one of the most sacred rights in the country. Is it just or fair, or generous that we should be excluded from legislation, while taxes are imposed upon us without our consent?"

"Governor Orr is one of the late rebel minority of the people of South Carolina. That minority denies to the large majority any voice whatever in making the laws by which they are governed or in levying the taxes which they must pay. "Is it just or fair, or generous," that the four hundred thousand loyal blacks of South Carolina should be excluded not only from all representation in Congress, but from all voice in the legislation of their own State, "while taxes are imposed on them without their consent?" We measure Gov. Orr in his own bushel. Whenever he will bring his three hundred thousand confederates in the late rebellion to accord to their loyal black fellow Carolinians the rights already enjoyed by themselves, we will do our utmost to have him and his colleagues admitted to seats in Congress.

Is not this fair? Nay, are we not in honor bound to stand by our fellow unionists of South Carolina, who, though a majority of the whole people are denied by Orr & Co., all voice in making the laws by which they are governed? When he and his set are ready to do justice to their unionist fellow citizens, we will entreat Congress to deal generously by them. But then no entreaties will be needed.

Human Nature.

They tell a good story of two bachelors down East, who lived a sort of a cat and dog life to their neighbor's discomfort for a good many years, but who had been at camp-meeting, were slightly converted, and both of them concluded to reform.

"Brother Tom, says one, when they had arrived at their home, "let us sit down now and I'll tell you what we'll do. You tell me all of my faults and I'll tell you of yours, and so we'll know how to get about amending of 'em."

"Good!" says brother Tom.

"Well, you begin."

"No, you begin, brother Joe."

"Well, in the first place, you know, brother Tom, you will lie!"

Crack goes brother Tom's doubled fist between brother Joe's "blinkers," and a considerable of a "skirmmage" ensued, untill, in the course of about ten minutes, neither being able to come to time, reformation was posted sine die.

☞ "George!" asked a minister of one of his parishioners' little boys, "where is your sister, Minnie?" "Gone to heaven, sir."—"What! is she dead?" "Oh, no, no, sir; she went to buy a box of matches."—"Why, you said she's gone to heaven."—"Well, you said last Sunday that matches were made in heaven, so I thought she went there."