The Constitutional.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF ALEXANDRIA.

C. W. BOYCE, ... EDITOR

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SATURDAY, A.....OCTOBER 27, 1860

TERMS:

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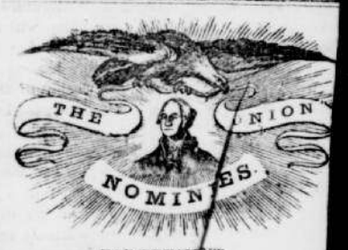


FOR PRESIDENT,

JOHN BELL,

OF TENNESSEE.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,

EDWARD EVERETT,

OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Presidential Electors:

DIST.—	ELECTORS—	SUBSTITUTE—
1.	Rivers Barkers,	G. Duperier,
2.	Randell Hunt,	J. Lavergne,
3.	C. Pelius,	Duncan Cook,
4.	J. Fuqua,	H. M. Favrot,
5.	T. Lewis,	V. Fournet,
6.	John Ray,	B. L. Hodge.

Constitutional Union Party Platform.

Whereas experience has demonstrated that platforms adopted by the partisan Conventions of the country have had the effect to mislead and deceive the people, and at the same time to mask the political divisions of the country, by the creation and encouragement of geographical and sectional parties: Therefore,

Resolved, That it is both the part of patriotism and of duty to *recognize* no political principles other than

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNTRY,

THE UNION OF THE STATES, AND

THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS,

and that as representatives of the Constitutional men of the country in National Convention assembled, we here pledge ourselves to maintain, protect and defend, separately and unitedly, these great principles of public liberty and national safety against all enemies at home and abroad, believing that thereby peace may once more be restored to the country, the just rights of the People and of the States re-established, and the Government again placed in that condition of justice, fraternity, and equality which, under the example and constitution of our fathers, has solemnly bound every citizen of the United States to maintain in "a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity."

The Constitution, The Union,

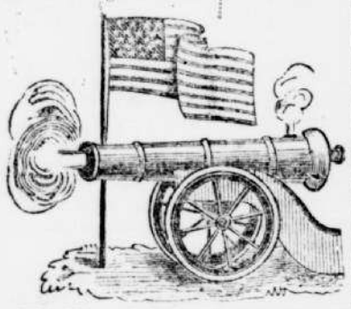
AND THE

ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS.

There will be a GRAND RALLY of the friends of the Union and of Bell and Everett, their nominees for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency, on

SATURDAY, OCT. 27,

at the Court House Square in Alexandria. The BANNER OF THE UNION will be brought out on the occasion, and will peal forth, for three times, in thunders, the glorious motto of States which now encircle one glorious center.



The Hon. RANDELL HUNT and other distinguished speakers will be present.

COME ONE! COME ALL!!

FREE DISCUSSION

is respectfully invited.

BARBECUES!

There will be a Barbecue at Mrs. Casson's Summer residence at Big Creek on Saturday Nov. 3rd, and will be addressed by Mr. Blocker and others.

There will be a Barbecue and Grand Rally at Holloway's prairie Monday Nov. 5th, and will be addressed by Mr. Blocker and others.

FREE DISCUSSION!

☞ **Let our friends at every Precinct be on the alert, and see that no illegal vote be cast, for the tenders of the Breckinride party will do anything, no matter how debased, to carry out their plans of Disunion.**

☞ IT IS A POSITIVE FACT, THAT SENATOR BRIGHT OF INDIANA recommended to the FRIENDS OF BRECKINRIDGE to vote the Republican ticket, and he did so himself. The Louisville "Courier" (Breckinridge paper) justifies this as a choice of evils between Republicanism and Douglasism.

☞ Western Texas is beyond a doubt the paradise of the world.

TO ALL FRIENDS OF THE UNION.

The eventful hour hurries on with rapid strides. Ere many days have elapsed, the great Presidential contest of 1860, which has brought out into lively exercise many of the greatest minds of the country, will have been decided and will also passed we sincerely hope will be necessarily excited the angry passions so long Issue shall have ted. Before our numerous and distant reached all of our [illegible]

[redacted]

[illegible] the original, natural physical formation of the country reads Union, and its subsequent development, weaving a network of railroads and telegraphs over the land, with the interdependence of one section upon the other, in all the thousand and one ramifications of life, extending through all its branches, social, political, and commercial, reiterate the original decree—Union. Yet a State may attempt secession a large party might come to assist her, blood be shed, and civil war engendered, the result would be not dissolution, but a war of extermination, the very prospect of which sends a thrill of horror through every patriotic heart.

The election of Lincoln may cause this, it should not do so, but the South would justly feel aggrieved at this expression of Northern sentiment, and there is no conceiving of what would follow the violent excitement raised.

It is therefore the unanimous desire of us all that he should be defeated, and the only question remaining to be decided is how shall it be done, will you do it by uniting upon Mr. Breckinridge? Here you are met by the object, he is a sectional candidate equally as offensive to the North as Lincoln is to the South; then again there are a great many of his party strongly advocating disunion, and further, his party has evinced no strength in any of recent elections. Mr. Douglas is a national candidate, but the people evincing no disposition to unite upon him he cannot be regarded as the proper man. The Constitutional Union party present to us John Bell and Edward Everett, they are the only party possessing those real elements of nationality by which we can alone defeat Lincoln; those patriotic men that nominated them evinced great wisdom in realizing at the very commencement, that the only issue was the salvation of our country, and with that sound policy which distinguish wise statesmen and true patriots, threw aside old party associations and partizan feeling, announcing the simple but glorious platform of our fathers, "The Union, the Constitution and the Laws," upon which all parties may unite without the sacrifice of any priciple.

With their election, the tiger of human passion, so long abroad in our land, is sent back abashed to his howling den; peace returns, distributing to all its benign blessings; activity in commerce and trade is brought about, giving prosperity alike to the farmer, mechanic and merchant; while happiness and contentment become the inmates of every home.

Fusion Between Breckinridge and Lincoln. A Traitor in the Camp.

Such strange things happen now-a-days that it is not expected for one to be startled at any remarkable phenomenon, yet we think it quite pardonable to have been taken a little aghast by the last new phase of political affairs, which the progress of the campaign has developed in all its horrible and threatening form. The truth before dimly seen through the dust and confusion of warfare, is now made to assume the tangible demonstration of fact. Let Union men, true Southern men, all those who have a deep and abiding interest in the preservation of our government intact, and with it their own institutions and rights, take warning. There is a most dangerous enemy in our midst, openly professing the sincerest friendship and tenderest regard for the rights of the people, yet being found at the same time secretly intriguing with our avowed enemies. They are in reality but wolves in sheep's clothing seeking to catch the unwary.

A solemn league and covenant has been entered into between the Breckinridge party, and the Black Republican party, an agreement smelling of the fumes of sulphur, an enormous bargain and sale complete with fraud and corruption, in which the Buchanan Breckinridge Democracy have through the instrumentality of the Black Republicans sold themselves body and soul to that notorious arch traitor and father of sedition, and for what consideration? Merely that they might be permitted to gorge themselves around the flesh pots of Egypt.

Is the language too severe? Let the evidence speak for itself. Both parties are working upon one and the same platform of sectionalism. Both parties avow one and the same purpose of disunion. James Buchanan has as we have seen used all the wealth, power and influence, at his command, in the States of Maine, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Pennsylvania, to elect the Republican ticket. The members of his party in those States openly and above board done the same thing, both in their official and individual capacity which cannot be denied. The members of his party in the Southern States leaders and all others declare from the stump and through the press, their preference for Lincoln, acknowledgeing their sympathy with him, and the identity of their joint designs. While the most notorious abolitionists at the North recognizing this sympathy of interests and identity of objects, proclaim from the rostrum with equal alacrity their preference for Breckinridge. So great is the feeling of sympathy between the two parties, that they are found borrowing one from the other caricatures and mottoes for their torchlight processions.

A Breckinridge man declared to us a few days since, that the Breckinridge party had carried Pennsylvania in the recent State election, which at first somewhat excited our risibilities at his supposed credulity, knowing that the Republican ticket was successful by some 20,000 majority, yet second thought convinced us he was right, the success of Lincoln or Breckinridge is but one and the same thing, this however was the first time we had heard it acknowledged by the party in this vicinity.

With this startling testimony before us, will the people of the South ratify the corrupt bargain? Will the citizens of Louisiana suffer themselves to be entrapped? Our confidence in human nature, and the sound practical sense of the Southern people assures us it will not be done.

Let the People Know.

That John C. Breckinridge was a sympathizing member of the the late Know Nothing "party" the principles of which proscribed citizens of foreign birth as well as citizens of the Catholic faith. That J. C. Breckinridge delivered an address, in which was said, all things being equal he would vote for a native born citizen, or a citizen of his own religious preservation, in preference to one of foreign birth, or one of another persuasion.

And Wm. L. Yancey in a speech lately delivered in Richmond Va., denounced the entire body of our foreign born citizens, in the very strongest terms, he called them all abolitionists, charged them with being an injury to the country, and for himself wanted none of them.

Here we have the chief representative of this fugitive faction, and "this man Yancey" the originator and now main spring of the faction seeking to subvert the rights which our foreign born citizens have acquired under the Constitution, entirely ignoring the fact, that they are no more aliens, but made by the Constitution to become free American citizens.

Here we see also the despotism of this Breckinridge faction, in refusing to recognize the liberty of conscience but would force every one to be of their mode of thinking, of their religious faith. Here we see also the spirit that animates this faction party, the destruction of our dearest natural, as well as civil rights are nothing, so they but succeed.

DEMOCRACY.

Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and the home of all manner of abominations and witchcrafts is fallen; she who made many rich, around whose festives boards princes have sat and sung, whose people have been decked in purple and fine linen, at whose nod thousands came and went obedient to the sign. Alas oh Democracy! Democracy! how sadly have thy fortunes changed. The decree has gone forth.—Thy doom is sealed. A mighty nation art sitting in judgement at thy trial. The indictment charges, thou hast murdered in cold blood peaceable and unoffending men, thy own countrymen, yea thine own brethren. The evidence is the record of the last four years, the history of the Buchanan Breckinridge administration. Read it.

In the streets of Washington, in broad daylight, beneath the shadow of the National Capitol, by the direction of Jas. Buchanan acting without authority and contrary to law, peaceable and unoffending citizens have been shot down while exercising their right as freeman, the elective franchise, and those murdered victims have been consigned to their untimely graves without even the notice of a coroners inquest. Witness again the tragedy enacted in your own commercial emporium, New Orleans some two years since, Buchanan Breckinridge Democracy sought to bring the municipal authority of that city into their own hands, but knowing it was an almost hopeless task, unless some violent means were resorted to; concocted in the city of Washington the scheme of a vigilance committee, which was carried into execution by her minions in New Orleans, thus hoping to ride into power upon the destruction of our liberties. They placed an army in our midst in a time of peace seeking to force an election to accord with their wishes, by the presence of the military, thereby violating the common law and the very principle that lies at the foundation of Constitutional Government, and the blood that was made to flow there is chargeable upon the Buchanan Breckenridge Democracy who alone originated and worked out the plan and who alone must be responsible for the result. We have still further evidence in the case of Kansas, behold the deep seated malice and deadly hate operating there with such terrific power as to bring out citizens of one common country arrayed in two antagonistic parties upon the field of battle, to decide by force of arms moral or political questions, and say what was the cause of such a deplorable event, Democracy repealed the Missouri compromise, a measure which, animated by the powers of a Henry Clay had lifted its clarion voice above the turmoil of the political waters for thirty long years, crying "Peace, be still," was at one fell swoop most ruthlessly destroyed, and all the human passions unrestrained let loose to lay waste and destroy.

A new governmental policy was inaugurated and the question of slavery thrown into the Territories to be decided by the strongest party. Here both North and South sent their armed emissaries into Kansas to determine by powder and ball whether it should be free or slave, and the blood that was made to flow so freely and saturate the soil of Kansas to-day calls for vengeance upon Democracy as the sole cause.

We might take up other charges in the indictment and lay open the abominable disgrace and corruption of this Buchanan Breckinridge Democracy, as shown by the history of the Point Willets affair, the sale of Fort Snelling, the provisioning the army of Utah, the navy yard, and the public printing; crimes which had they been fastened upon any private citizen, would have removed him far from the limits of respectability, and perhaps, have confined him within the walls of a penitentiary. And we might also show that all our present troubles are but the work of this Buchanan Breckinridge Democracy, but we forbear space will not permit.

Do you ask us then to keep in power this party whose hands are stained with the blood of our fellow-countrymen. We answer, never. Every true and honest man must separate himself from it and be clear, and clean.

Who now will defend the desperate fortunes of this condemned criminal? Lo! one man speaks. A most distinguished citizen of our town was employed as counsel; how much fee he received, or whether it was a fee simple, deponent saith not, but he opened his mouth and spake for near six long hours before six hundred people, men, women, and children—we give the number claimed by their own organ as present—now if it takes six hours to defend his case before six hundred people—men, women, and children—how many men and how many hours will it take to defend his case before thirty millions of people? Verily, we fear the canvass will have to be lengthened out.

☞ It will be seen by perusing our advertising columns, that Mrs. A. Legras has sold out her interest in the Millinery and Ladies' Fancy store on front street to Mrs. M. A. Zenker, and R. Legras Esq. The business will be hereafter carried on under the firm and style of M. A. Zenker & Co., at the same place. They have made arrangements to be always supplied with all articles of Millinery and Fancy goods. Dress making done to order. We know that they will be well patronized.

☞ Some of our planters have commenced grinding their cane. We have not learned whether it yields well or not.

DISUNION AND SLAVERY.

Now that Mr. Breckinridge the candidate of the Disunionists refuses to respond to the questions which one of the electors of that party in Virginia propounded to Mr. Douglas, and which said elector pledged his *honor* Mr. Breckinridge *should* answer we can suppose nothing else but they are for immediate disunion if the pending canvass should unfortunately result in the election of the Old "Rail Splitter."

If such be their determination as so often shouted forth by their stump orators and press, the question very naturally arises have the States, without denying to them perfect sovereignty, North or South, or any of them a Constitutional right to secede at pleasure and thereby break up the Confederacy? If it be admitted that it can be done, it would be the most fatal stab ever aimed at the institution of slavery. The simplest mind must see at a glance, that we loose at once all control which we have over this peculiar species of property. Let us suppose a State has not only the right of peaceable secession at pleasure but the corrolative duty of other States to protect her in that secession, and then suppose that Ohio or Indiana, either of them should declare an independence, and refuse, as either of them most assuredly would, and as all nations now do, to enter into treaties to deliver up fugitives from menial servitude, by that single act as a matter of course every negro would as soon as landed upon their soil, be declared free and emancipated from his recent slavery. If we take Ohio as an example we would soon have another Canada and her British policy and Wilberforce doctrine, and if Ohio would be a Canada, the remainder frontier States would be so many Canada's, ready to throw open their portals as asylums of the oppressed, and reproduce as far as possible beneath the very wings of the proud bird of Washington, all the dark and bloody scenes of St. Domingo.

If then the Constitutional right of a State to secede be admitted, any Northern State by retiring from the federal compact may destroy slavery. Then indeed is the Union an army of bristling bayonets to protect slavery, and this is well known to the creatures of the "irrepressible conflict," for they say that the very best method of destroying slavery is to dessolve the Union.

Will not then the continuing of Mr. Breckinridge in the field aid the Black Republicans, and more than ever imperil the Union and therefore the institution of slavery? Why don't he decline!!!

The Disunionists do not contend that a dissolution of the Union would enlarge the area of slavery, for without a war for that purpose, the destruction of the Union would leave matters precisely as they stand now—that if, slavery would exist actually in only fifteen States, and the remainder would remain still Free Soil States. Throwing aside all idea of an enlargement of the bounds of slavery by a dissolution of the Union, let us see what effect that awful event would have upon that institution as it now exists in its present limits.

Suppose we divide the Union into a Northern and Southern Confederacy, and the Southern composed of fifteen States, arranged on the slavery basis—that is, a confederacy of States united for the protection of slavery within the limits of each State. As that institution is the connecting ligament of the confederation of course it would be an indispensable pre-requisite to membership for the possession and the consequent recognition of slavery, so that any one State abolishing the institution would at once become totally disqualified to remain in the confederacy. But is it not morally certain that in the course of a very short time, that the States bordering upon the Northern confederacy—harassed by border feuds—impeded by an insecurity in the tenure of their slaves and a consequent decline in their value, would abolish slavery in their limits, from those border States thus becoming free soil, the remaining would secede and form a new confederacy upon the same basis as before, and by this process of disintegration the association would be finally dissolved and slavery become extinct. This final issue would be accelerated in proportion to the disintegration, for the area of slavery would be contracting instead of enlarging, and owing to the great augmentation of the slave population, there would necessarially follow a diminustion in price and a great burden for their support. There could not be derived a better plan to effectually destroy the institution of slavery than the dissolution of the Union. And that is why the Abolitionists are so urgent for its destruction.

But let us look at the matter in another light. The moral sentiment of the world is against slavery, and the very isolated position it is sought to place it would ultimately extinguish it.

The free States by a tie of common government and as the thing now stand, are the aiders and protectors of slavery. Dissolve the Union and these same free States, who were yesterday our confederates, become to-day our open enemies, and by their very position become sources of annoyance and injury to all contiguous slave Territory.

Again would not a Northern confederacy be very likely to respect less the institution of the South, than now, that they are under a solemn compact to do it. In the one case we have a Constitutional obligation, in the other we have none. If it is destructive to slavery to worship at the same altar, and live beneath the same aegis of liberty with the free States, would it not be more perilous to live so in close proximity without any restraint upon their aggressions.

So far then from dissolving the Union the people of the South should cling to it with an unyielding pertinacity as the very bulwork of their peculiar institution. Dissolve it and so sure as the stars and stripes "now float over the land and the sea, so sure will slavery achieve exodus from the South—peaceably it may be, but in all probability through the fire and blood of a war among the descendants of those from whom we inherited liberty.

STARTLING!!

Among the dusty records of the ancient past is found this incident: A young prince returning home in the early hours of the morning in that condition which bespoke a night of debauch, found the entrance to one of the schools of philosophy already open, and the sages of his country engaged in the discussion of questions of law and morals, he entered, intending to make their debates the subject of ridicule, his noisy intrusion however disturbed not the dignity and composure which dwelt within, but the presiding officer arose and delivered an address upon sobriety and temperance, so truthfully were its delineations, so powerful were its appeals that the young man came forth to enter upon a new career in life, and afterwards governed his country with the most distinguished ability and credit.

And as we have lingered within the precincts of the sacred temple of our Union, admiring the beauty and harmony of its vast proportions, the simple grandeur of its original design, charmed by the classic purity and oriental richness of the eloquent teachers there—or again, as we have sat instructed by the vast erudition, and wisdom of these time honored seers, the thought has arisen, could we but bring our Breckinridge friends within these hallowing influences, some hope would be entertained for their recovery.

But Alas! Alas! That arch-fiend who originally entered these lower regions in his serpent like form, and crushed the hopes of a new born world, hath in these latter days reappeared upon our earth in the form and shape of "Breckinridge Democracy," seeking to destroy the last remaining hope of humanity. He hath led Mr. Breckinridge to the high peaks of a Southern Confederacy, and dazzling his brain by the vain but glittering promise of all the kingdoms of the world, now leads him captive at his will.

The people are then forwarned of the impending danger, let them beware, be not tempted by the fair looks, or flattering promises, the penalty is death.

Hoping that there may be some Breckinridge men not yet too far gone, we take pleasure in informing them that the doors of mercy are still open, but they will remain so but a very few days longer, hence, we would beseech them in that most endearing language: "Come and let us reason together, though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow—though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

☞ By some hook or crook we got hold of the last number of the La. *Democrat*, and find in it the following announcement:

"GRAND RALLY AT HINESTON, 103 LADIES AND 300 VOTERS PRESENT, all for Breckinridge!!"

Now we are authorized by a number of gentlemen who were present at that barbecue to say that there were about 250 present, ladies and all, the ladies forming nearly one half of the crowd. Out of the voters about 70 were for Bell, who became so disgusted at the speech of Dr. Myers, which they say was a tirade of abuse throughout, that they left.

As this is the fourth time we have failed to receive the La. *Democrat*, we presume the proprietors do not wish to exchange with the *Constitutional*, we will therefore quit even on that score, with the simple remark that we shall have two numbers of our paper to devote to a far better purpose, among the people. The demand for our paper is so great that we cannot supply the demand. Here will be two copies towards it.

☞ The most disgraceful slur upon the poor man appeared in the Breckinridge torch-light procession at Alexandria on the night of the 13th inst. The transparency bore upon it, a lean haggard individual with his clothes worn thread-bare and torn, with his rifle, leading a dog of lean and miserable appearance, with the motto, "a DOUGLAS VOTER." Are the poor men of our country to have slurs of this kind cast upon them, because they see proper to vote for the man of their choice, by a set of office holders who have been living for years off of the poor man's hard earnings,

The poor man has rights, and we know they dare maintain them. We wish that every man in the parish could have seen it. They would not support men who would dare attempt to to cast rediculе upon them on account of their poverty.

☞ The Mayor elect of Baltimore is a supporter of Bell and Everett and was elected as a reform candidate. This is so, the statements of the Breckinridge press to the contrary notwithstanding. That 5000 majority hurts them.

☞ We are pleased to state to the public that Joseph McEvoy Esq., at his Jewelry establishment at the Ice House Hotel, has lately received an elegant assortment of Jewelry, Fancy Goods, Guns, Pistols &c. Those wishing to purchase should call and examine his goods, and we think that they will be satisfied both with his article and price.

Gov. Moore Dodges the Questions.

We published in our issue of last week the interesting correspondence between Gen. G. Mason Graham and Gov. Moore, upon what have been designated the Norfolk questions. As is well known, these questions were propounded to Mr. Douglas at Norfolk by Mr. Lamb, a Breckinridge elector, and were promptly, boldly and fully answered—aye, answered in a way that met the applause and approbation of Union-loving men everywhere. Mr. Lamb at the same time pledged himself to Mr. Douglas that he would submit the questions to his candidate, Mr. Breckinridge. Mr. Lamb accordingly sent them to Breckinridge, but he, like Gov. Moore and his other followers, cannot be induced to touch them with a forty foot pole.

Gen. Graham, like all "good men and true, having a large interest at stake in the country, and feeling a deep and anxious solicitude in the political aspect of the times, submitted to Gov. Moore, in a pertinent, respectful but foreible manner, these questions—questions in effect the same as those answered by Mr. Douglas—questions that should be propounded to every stump speaker who advocates the election of Breckinridge.

The questions submitted by Gen. Graham are as follows:

1st. If Mr Lincoln shall be elected President of the United States in accordance with either of the modes prescribed in the Constitution, will you deem *that* a sufficient and justifiable cause for a dissolution of this Union?

2d, And if so, would you be in favor of, counsel and advise *resistance* to his inauguration?—or

3d. Would you be in favor of, counsel and advise withdrawal from this Union, and the formation of a Southern confederacy?

4th. And in either case would you in your Executive capacity either convene the General Assembly of the State, or call a convention of the people in order to inaugurate measures for resistance, or dissolution?

In reading the reply of Gov. Moore to Gen. Graham, it is evident that he was sorely perplexed. There was an irrepressible conflict in his mind between the native honesty of his heart and the inexorable behests of his party leaders. The meshes of John Slidell proved as toilsome to him as the bright tissue of the spider's web to the entangled fly. He tells Gen. Graham he is sorry to say that "I take a different view of the relations that exist between the Executive and the citizen. I do not think the citizens of the State have any right, whatever, to require me to reply to such questions as they may ask.....If your note had been addressed to me as from one old friend to another, or simply from a fellow-citizen, and had asked my opinions and purposes, as far as might be consistent with my sense of public duty to disclose, then I should have taken great pleasure in responding fully.....Nor have I any desire to conceal the opinions I entertain upon the aspect and probable future of public affairs. Indeed I have received a letter from a number of gentlemen of New Orleans, requesting to be informed of my position and opinions, to which I shall take an early opportunity to reply," &c.

This is the sum and substance of Gov. Moore's answer to the above vital questions—questions upon which he as Governor of the State will, in all probability, ere long be called to act—questions in which is involved the weal or woe of our happy land. Gov. Moore says he does not think the citizens of the State have a right to require him to reply to such questions as they may think proper to ask. Why not? were you not elected by the citizens of the State? and, we were about to say, are you not the servant of the people, but we forgot that you are the mere follower of a faction, and the head of that faction John Slidell—he who corrupts and degrades every thing he touches. Look at poor Buchanan, of whose administration he was the "power behind the throne"—so rotten that none are so poor as to do him reverence. Gov. Moore may claim the right to decide as to the proper time of answering these questions, but we do not agree that he has any right to say that the citizens of the State have no right to require him to reply to such questions as they may think proper to ask.

Nor have I any desire to conceal the opinions I entertain upon the present aspect and probable future of public affairs.

Then we say, why not answer these momentous questions at once? Let us know what the aims of your party are *before* the election. We have charged it upon the party to which you are attached, that its object is secession. If you answer these questions now in the affirmative, no doubt can exist as to your aims, and the sense of the people of Louisiana will be fully and unmistakably tested in the election as to whether they are for or against disunion. We have the right to construe your silence as giving consent to the propositions. But we would prefer the bold and out-spoken course of the fearless Douglas, who scorns the base idea of obtaining votes under false pretences.

John Slidell said in 1856, in a published letter, that "if John C. Fremont was elected President of the United States *the Union could not, and ought not to be preserved*." If you persist in being silent upon these questions, and Louisiana should unfortunately cast her vote for Breckinridge, John Slidell, and you, and all the Yanceyites will claim her as acknowledging the right of secession, and involve us in the mad schemes of South Carolina. Upon this issue fairly made we are willing to fight the battle and will stand by the voice of our adopted State, be that what it may.

☞ The river is rising slowly at this place. We however have the pleasure to say that boats arrive at our wharf two or three times a week. The Eleanor, Capt. Male, arrived here on Tuesday, and left on Thursday.