

DEMOCRATIC BANNER.

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DEMOCRATIC BANNER.

"UNITED WE STAND—DIVIDED WE FALL."

VOL. 4.]

LOUISIANA, PIKE COUNTY, MISSOURI, MONDAY, JULY 31, 1848.

[NO. 17

The following article was designed for last week's paper, but was crowded out on account of its length:

THE POLITICAL DISCUSSION.

On Tuesday, the 18th inst., Major Rollins and Judge King addressed the citizens of Louisiana and vicinity, in canvass speeches, touching most political topics of the general government, as well as matters of State policy. Major Rollins spoke first for an hour and a half, and commenced by telling the people he had undertaken the canvass of the State, notwithstanding the fact that older and more experienced men had shrunk from the duty—that the whigs had been so often and so signally defeated in Missouri, that the shining lights in his party had not the spunk to enter upon the canvass. He launched out then upon the sea of national politics, endeavored to prove that the whigs of the present day were the same in principle of the whigs of the early government. He made an elaborate argument in favor of a National Bank, quoted Washington and Madison to sustain his argument, and endeavored to prove it was the measure of the Republicans, without telling the people who were its true advocates and opponents—That Hamilton urged and Jefferson opposed it as a measure, while Washington signed it with reluctance and doubt. After building up his argument in favor of the Bank, however, he demolished it himself as a child would slap over a cob-house of its own construction, by telling the people that under all the circumstances he thought it would be bad policy to charter a Bank now. The most of them talk so before elections, but when they get power, circumstances change. He was opposed to the use of the Veto Power, and thought it the only Federal feature in the U. S. Constitution—a new definition of Federalism, truly. Every President ever had, from Washington down, except M. Van Buren, used the veto power, and we believe were always sustained by the people. From his arguments one would infer he was in favor (of what he dared not proclaim) of amputating the Constitution to strike out this Federal feature.

On the subject of the Tariff he was in favor of protection. He endeavored to show that all our former Presidents, down to Jackson, were in favor of that policy; to prove which he talked long of the fostering tariff passed during Washington's administration. He did not tell the people, however, that that tariff act ranged at about one tenth, and in some instances one twentieth part as high as the tariff of '42, which he advocated.

On the subject of Internal Improvements by the General Government, he was with the whig politicians of the day. He charged the democrats with opposition to every kind of improvement by the general government, and labored to show an inconsistency in the resolutions upon that subject passed by the last two National Democratic Conventions. He charged falsely that the resolution passed in 1844 by the Baltimore Convention did not contain the word "general" before "system of internal improvements," in which he said it differed with the resolution on that subject passed in the late convention. It will be seen from the following extract, copied from the official proceedings of the Convention of 1844, that his charge is groundless. It reads:

"That the Constitution does not confer upon the general government the power to commence and carry on a general system of internal improvements."

He pretended to read from the official acts of those bodies, and practised this fraud in the face of those people whose votes he was asking. His time having expired Judge King rose to reply. He paid but little attention to the Major's cob-house feat with the National Bank, further than to place Washington, Madison and Jefferson right before the audience. He demonstrated that the Sp. Treasury fully met the expectation of its authors, and that the people were satisfied with it. He followed the Major in his argument that the whigs were the republicans party, and placed him in his proper place upon that question. He showed that the measures advocated by the federalist in the days of Jefferson and Adams

were, many of them, the same advocated by the whigs of the present day. That the position of the federalist in the late British war was the same occupied by the whigs in the Mexican war. The federal morings had hung to their ship and trimmed its course under every name and in every storm. He said the measures advocated by the old federal party had grown unpopular, and they ceased to advocate them. The measures heretofore advocated by the present whig party have grown unpopular, and they cease to make them issues before the people. He exposed the conduct of the late whig convention in Philadelphia in a masterly style. When a resolution was introduced to lay down the principles of the whig party it was decided "Out of order." An effort to require the candidates for a nomination to subscribe to the doctrine of the party was decided "Out of order." A secret session was then had to appease these whigs who contended for a declaration of principle; here, said he, met the Bank men of the North and the anti-Bank men of the South; the Protective Tariff men of the East, and the Revenue Tariff men of the West; the Wilmot Proviso men of the North, and the anti-Proviso men of the South; the Natives and the anti-Natives, all insisting upon their views, formed a great heterogeneous mass, incapable of settling upon any fixed principles to submit to the people. Hence they stifled their measures, smothered their doctrine, turned from their leaders, and sanctioned the non-committalism of Gen. Taylor.

Upon the subject of the Tariff, Judge King was peculiarly happy in his remarks. In a plain practicable illustration he brought its workings forcibly before the people.—Suppose 15,000 bbls. of flour is the consumption of Pike county, 1000 bbls. of which is manufactured in the county, while 500 is brought across the river from Illinois, which has to pay a tax of one dollar per barrel by a tariff law of Pike county. They can sell the flour here for \$4 per bbl., but after this tax of a dollar they must have \$5. The fifth dollar goes into the county revenue, making \$500 on the 500 bbls. The manufacturers in the county are enabled to get \$5 per barrel also for the 1000 barrels they sell, which could have been had from Illinois at \$4. The consumer is therefore forced to pay \$1000 more for this 1000 barrels by virtue of the tariff law, which goes into the pockets of the manufacturer; or in other words they are taxed \$1500 to get \$500 revenue. Whigs contend that high tariffs increase the number of manufacturers, and their competition makes low prices. If by their competition they bring down the prices and can live by the reduced prices, surely they could live by the high prices before they reduced them. If protective tariffs reduce the price, then where is the protection? and if in their operation they are to force the manufacturer to sell lower, then why do those sagacious men ask for them?

Upon the subject of internal improvement by the general government, he charged unfairness in the arguments of his competitor. That the democrats are not opposed, as Mr. R. endeavored to show, to every kind of improvement by the general government, but they oppose a "general system" that will include rivers and harbors of not sufficient importance to gain the sanction of the people upon their own merits, without being log-rolled together. The whigs favor the log-rolling system, the democrats oppose it. In the last congress only 12 whigs could be induced to vote for the simple proposition to improve the large rivers of the West, the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri. In the present congress they have been clamorous for a bill including near one hundred small rivers and harbors, which were tacked on to the thoroughfares of the West to ride through upon their merit. The democrats have always favored necessary constitutional bills, stripped of log-rolling incumbrances. Jackson did favor correct bills and large appropriations were made during his administration, but he vetoed a number of bills of a sectional and log-rolling character. Cass will oppose no pure bill for the improvement of

the great national highways in the west. Judge King had but little time left to devote to matters of State policy. He opposed a reckless system of internal improvements by the State, such as will require borrowed capitol and burthensome taxes upon the people. Upon this matter we feel assured his remarks met the approbation of the masses of the people of Pike. He was in favor of applying the resources of the 500,000 acre fund to its legitimate object—of husbanding our means, and encouraging judicious improvements without borrowing capitol.

He was in favor of a liberal school system, and equalizing representation. Being here informed that his time was about expiring, he wound up with an easy and descriptive eulogy upon Cass and Butler, and drew a striking contrast between the qualifications of the former and Gen. Taylor. In Judge King the democracy have an able standard bearer of whom they have cause to be proud. In point of political information and sound argument he has few equals, certainly not in his competitor.—Major Rollins is unquestionably a graceful and easy speaker, but is compelled, in the presence of King, to resort to sophistry and false reasoning, which he does very readily to sustain his cause.

For the Banner.

Mr. Editor,—Looking over some of my papers a few days since I was singularly struck with the language of the Hannibal Journal. In speaking of the whig candidate for the Legislature of Marion county, it makes the following remark: "He is a whig, every inch of him is whig, and he knows nothing but whiggery;" the same paper in speaking of Gen. Taylor's claims to the Presidency says: "He is emphatically the man of the people, he belongs not to party but to the nation." From these two conflicting sentiments I am led to the following reflections: The whigs are now striving for power in this State, urging the plea that their ascension to power would be to the advantage of the State, on account of its principles; at the same time they are calling upon the people from Maine to Texas to vote for Taylor for President. On account of principles? Nay, verily! but because he has no political principles—the exponent of the principles of neither party. He is a fit man for the Presidency because he belongs to no party. The other is a suitable man for the Legislature because he is every inch whig. Can these two conflicting opinions be amalgamated? In my most deliberate judgment it is impossible. Has the whig party, then, any principles? They answer yes. Do they believe those principles available, they have always contended they did, then why not show us their faith by their works? but do they say examine our works? we answer we have examined them, and what do we find? we find that one of two things is true, either they have no principles, or they do not believe those principles available. If they believed they were available, why did they not nominate a man who was neither afraid nor ashamed to be the exponent of their principles?—have they done so? not one of them will dare to say so; on the contrary it was with reluctance he agreed to be called by their name. He defied them to nominate any other man, and while they have been proclaiming throughout the length and breadth of the land that Locofoco measures would bring this country to destruction and disgrace, he calmly tells them he has not voted for forty years, and has not formed an opinion upon the measures that divide the parties, and still they nominate him. Then I conclude they have no principles. They have abandoned them for availability, just as have the wire-workers and political tricksters of this county done. Did they not in the first place nominate the champion of their party, in this county, for the Legislature, and where is he now? just so soon as the news of the Philadelphia Convention reached here, they commenced truckling and shuffling, and their champion commenced grunting and—backed off.—And who did they take up next? a man who is a good citizen, and made a good sheriff, but if they were to take a stand on a public highway, and send every man that passed, to the legislature, four times of five they would send as suitable a Legislator as the man of their choice. I have lived in this county a long time, and have too good an opinion of the good sense and intelligence of the people, to believe they can be gulled or humbugged in this way.

The New York Globe, (Locofoco,) of the 30th ultimo, says: "The election of Cass is a result that no sane man supposes can be accomplished," and subsequently in the same article adds: "The only candidates that will have a respectable vote in the electoral college will be Van Buren and Taylor."—Hannibal Journal.

Does the Journal not know that the "Globe" is one of the Barnburner bolters, and perfectly hostile to the Baltimore nominees? Why then does the Journal quote its sayings as "Locofoco" evidence? is it not a deception upon the unwary? Why not tell the whole truth in connexion with the sayings of the Globe, instead of designating it "Locofoco"? Van Buren or Barnburner print would have been just as easy and made no false impression.

FROM CALIFORNIA.

Arrival of Lieut. Kit Carson—Murder of Gen. Elliott &c, Mr. Charles Town, and two others, in the Raton Mountains. Lieut. Kit Carson, arrived Tuesday morning, on board the St. Joseph, from Fort Leavenworth, having made the entire trip from California, via Santa Fe and Taos, in eighty days. He brings the melancholy intelligence of the murder of Gen. Elliott Lee, and Mr. Charles Town, (the two survivors of the massacre of Taos,) in the Raton Mountains, by the Apache Indians. Lieut. Carson left California on the 5th of May. Governor Mason was in command of the military, and all was quiet. He arrived at Santa Fe on the 14th June, and left for Taos on the 26th. There was nothing new at Santa Fe. He met with no personal adventures of moment on his whole journey.

At Taos, he heard of the murders above referred to. It seems that when Messrs. Lee and Town reached the lower crossing of the Arkansas, they left their company, who went by the lower route to Santa Fe. They took the route by the way of Bent's Fort and Taos. Some distance above Bent's Fort, their party was swelled to fourteen, by falling in with some men going to Taos. The united party proceeded on their way, until they had got into the Raton Mountains, where, on the 14th, June, while passing through a deep ravine, they were attacked by over one hundred Apache Indians. The ground was poorly adapted to defense, and the Indians possessed great advantage. They not only fired on the small party, but hurled heavy stones down the declivity—by which means several of the men and animals were crippled.

The party were compelled to abandon their property and animals, and attempted to save themselves by retreating. Early in the engagement, Mr. Charles Town received a contusion which fractured his ankle. His companions for some time endeavored to bear him with them, but becoming very faint, he requested that they would leave him. "Take care of yourselves, boys," he said, "I cannot proceed farther." They left him, and a short time after, saw many Indians approaching him. Town still possessed his rifle and pistol, and with them killed 2 of the enemy, ere he was immolated.

Shortly after this Gen. Lee received a ball in one of his thighs, which shattered it. He was carried about a mile by his companions, where, at his own request, he was left. He said he could not proceed further, and that if he should not be overtaken by the Indians, who were in pursuit, he would either bleed himself to death, or shoot himself. There was but little life remaining in him when he was left, as he had bled very profusely.

In the course of the action, in which the small party killed a number of the Indians, a Mexican by the name of Jose Carman, and a Frenchman by the name of Pasear Riviere, companions of Lee and Town, were killed, and five others were wounded.

When about fifteen miles from Taos, the survivors met a party of forty men, who, instead of going in search of Gen. Lee, returned to Taos.

Lieut. Carson appears in excellent health, and proceeds at once to Washington, the bearer of despatches.

A younger brother of Charles town, was of the party who went by the lower route to Santa Fe. Both Lee and Town have many friends in this community who mourn their untimely fate.—[St. Louis Dispatch, July 26th.

"I wish you would give me that gold ring on your finger," said a village dandy to a country girl, "for it resembles the duration of my love for you—it has no end." "Excuse me, sir," said she, "I choose to keep it, for it is likewise emblematical of mine for you—it has no beginning."

Gen. Shields.—At the Baltimore meeting in Chicago, Gen. Shields was present, and in the course of his speech made the following hit:

"I am a Democrat—a regular Democrat—a Cass and Butler Democrat. I am neither a log-roller, a stable brazier, nor a church member. Such names have no fascination for me. I am content to stand by the proud banner of Democracy, to fight under its broad folds, and to conquer or die with its glorious colors waving over my head. I care not who raise the shout of disunion; my voice will never swell the cry. If there be any who trouble with apprehension of defeat, let them have our ranks, let them try once. No field was ever won by cowards. We shoot deserters in the army, but here, deserters shoot themselves. In victory or defeat, in weal or woe, in unity or dissimilarity, I stick or stand with the great national Democratic party."

From the Chicago Gazette: MARTIN VAN BUREN AND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

Extract from Martin Van Buren's letter to the Indiana Democratic State Convention of 1843—dated "Kinderhook, Feb. 15th, 1843."

"My name and pretensions, however subordinate in importance, shall never be at the disposal of any person whatever, for the purpose of creating distraction or division in the Democratic party. Every attempt to use them for such a purpose, whenever and wherever made, shall be arrested by an interference on my part, alike prompt and decisive. I regard the presidency as the highest and most honorable of political distinctions, yet it is only as the undoubted and free will offering of the democracy of the nation that I would accept it, because it is in that aspect only that I could hope to render the discharge of its high duties either useful to the country or honorable to myself. M. VAN BUREN.

This same Martin Van Buren, who has been kept in office during nearly a whole lifetime by the suffrages of the democratic party, and a strict adherence to party usages and regular nominations, is now, it seems, lending his name and influence in opposition to the chosen standard bearer of the democracy of the Union. How different his present course from the unequivocal and patriotic language which we quote above from his Indiana letter. We can scarcely believe our own eyes as we read the declaration of Martin Van Buren, that he shall oppose the nominees of the Democratic National Convention, for President and Vice President!

So glaring an instance of base ingratitude and political treachery cannot be found in the annals of the country, as this.

DANIEL WEBSTER.—This eminent Whig has not yet ascertained "where he will go." He was invited to make a Taylor speech in Baltimore, but kept aloof. A writer in the New York Evening Post says:

You are probably not aware that "the godlike" was invited to address the great ratification Taylor meeting in Canal street, held some little time ago. He declined, and gave his reasons. The Whig Committee have tried to keep them secret, but they have leaked out. They are to the effect "that southern statesmen have monopolized the highest offices in our government four-fifths of the time since the declaration of independence, to the exclusion of northern men equally gifted and equally capable, and he thinks the moment has now arrived when a stand should be taken by the north for his part, he cannot support, neither will he publicly oppose, the election of General Taylor."

OGLE STEWART falsely charged Gen. Cass with having received \$60,000 extra pay during his Governorship of Michigan. The facts show that for extra services, included in his official duties, he received only 12,712 in the course of 17 years.

Gen. Taylor has been paid out of the U. S. Treasury for regular services, saying nothing of extra allowances, only the small sum 127,000.

A Sharp Youth at a Bargain.—"Sally" said a green youth, in a venerable white hat and gray pants, through which his legs projected half a foot, perhaps more.—"Sally, afore we go into this ere Museum to see the ENCHANTED HORSE, I want to ax you somethin'."

"Well, Ichabod, what is it?" "Why, you see this ere business is a guinea to cost a quarter apiece, and I can't afford to spend so much for nuth'n. Now, if you will have me, darn' ef I don't pay the hull on't myself. I will pos-si-tiv-ly."

Sally made a non-committal reply, which Ichabod interpreted to suit himself, and he strode up two steps at a time, and paid down the "hull-on't."

Gen. Cass's Personal Character.—Abbot Lawrence, in a speech at a Taylor meeting at Burlington last week, made this remark of the democratic candidate for the presidency:—[Boston Post.

"I know him well. I have broken bread with him in his own house, and he with me in mine. He is a gentleman—a man of unblemished personal character, against which nothing can justly be said."