

THE FREE SOIL BANNER.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY W. B. GREER & L. WALLACE.

"HE IS THE FREEMAN, WHOM TRUTH MAKES FREE; AND ALL ARE SLAVES BESIDE."

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VOL. I.

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PUBLICATION OFFICE OF THE
BANNER IS ON
PENNSYLVANIA STREET,
Three doors north of Washington Street.

From the Utica Democrat.

The Van Buren Gathering Song.

They're rousing, they're rousing in valley and glen,
The noble in soul, and the fearless of heart;
At freedom's stern call, to the combat again,
They march with a zeal no man can impart,

From the old Maquoketa a dark forest of pine,
To the fertile glades where the calm Wabash

flows,

True sons of their fathers! the People combine,

To keep off the chains of their tyrants and foes,

They're gathering, they're gathering, on hill-side and plain,

They sway every vale and overshadow each river,

Each hamlet and dell is made vocal again

With the soul-thrilling cry of "Our Country forever!"

The Flag of the Free to the breeze is unfurled,

Around it they rally to guard its fair fame,

And well may the proud sons of freedom be bold

In the glory and strength of VAN BUREN'S great name.

Where the noble Ohio in wild beauty sweeps,

Where the swift Susquehanna bears onward its waves,

And even where the Hudson in calm grandeur sleeps,

There are thousands of freemen who scorn to be slaves.

Around them, true hearts! to the battle once more,

And Douglass faces quail at your gallant array!

You will conquer again, as you've conquered before,

And Hope's morn will brighten to shadowless day.

Tremendous Outpouring of the
Free Soilers in New York.

The city of New York witnessed on Monday evening, Oct. 9th, the greatest demonstration which it has known for years. Nowhere in the present canvass has there been such an immense gathering of true hearted men, devoted to the great cause of human freedom.

The New York Tribune says:

"Say as you will about Free Soil, its principles are deeply rooted in the hearts of the people. The meeting in the Park last night, in point of enthusiasm, numbers and respectability, was one of the greatest displays of the season. We have no correct numberometer to guide us in a correct estimate, but we should think the numbers present could not have been less than 15,000. On and around the stand they were crowded thickly to hear the speakers, and away back on the steps of the City Hall thousands clustered, where seeing was easier than hearing.

The stand was densely embowered with flags and paintings of various descriptions. Several portraits of VAN BUREN were conspicuous among them. Bonfires flamed on each side of the meeting, and when the Fourteenth Ward Free Soil Delegation entered the Park with their banners and torches, the scene was exceedingly grand. A perfect roar of applause went up from the crowd, while every man seemed to have a piece of fireworks in his hands, from which a perfect inverted shower of blazing balls went up from Roman candles. Trees, houses, and everything around seemed crimsoned into a magic glare by the varying colors of the fireworks.

John Van Buren, "Prince John," the pride of the People, the *beau ideal* of the Barnburners, the indefatigable enemy of Old Hunkerism, was the principal speaker, and he showered his compliments in every direction, particularly on the left hand. Now John is a "broth of a boy," when he gets fairly started. His powers of sarcasm are inexhaustible, his energies untiring, his wit as keen as a blade just fresh from Damascus, his lungs like gutta percha, his voice pleasing, his manner captivating, his self possession perfect, and his popularity with a crowd unbounded. There's John Van Buren for you."

The meeting was called to order by John Cochrane, Esq., and was organized by the appointment of HENRY EVERSON as President, with 108 Vice Presidents and 36 Secretaries.

Samuel J. Tilden then made a report of the doings of the Utica Convention, which was received with great enthusiasm.

A series of resolutions were read by Mr. Cochrane, endorsing the Buffalo Platform, and advocating principles of reform.

John Van Buren was then announced and came forward amid great applause, holding the attention of the audience for nearly an hour, in a speech replete with argument and wit.

We take the following extract from the Tribune's report:

He denied that personal revenge wro't the nomination of his father. This crisis in the cause of Freedom only caused his re-appearance again on the political stage. He said his father was desirous that his name should not be used in connection with the Presidency, from the Utica to the Buffalo Conventions, preferring the comfortable retirement he at present enjoys, with the best of health. No individual could be less solicitous for the result, and he asked for no man's vote. He said that much good had already resulted from this agitation at the North, and that Mr. Webster had acknowledged that the Free Democracy are on the right

track, probably thinking that they had made a mistake in the discovery of the North Star. (Cheers.) He demonstrated the preposterousness of the idea that this strike for Liberty would dissolve the Union, remarking in the language of Col. Benton, that the women and children would prevent such a result! He said that Calhoun himself admitted that the Free Soil party would prove victorious in 1852. He thought there was a general disposition with some to take an early train.

Texas was brought into the Union in the early war, and contrary to the stipulation Polk had made to Messrs. Dix, Tappan, Blair, &c., the thirty-first State, we say, shall be free in spite of any such intrigues. (Cheers.) Now is the time to settle this great question. Never had there been an agitation that had caused so great a commotion in so brief a period. He referred to the miserable Northern traitors in the House who had dwindled down to four in number, who had all lost a renomination. (Three groans were given for Birdsall.) He said the constituents of Mr. B. would soon settle his case.

He then gave an account of the enthusiasm for the movement throughout his travels, particularly in New England, where a great majority of the people were aroused for the cause. He also pointed to the buoyant accounts continually being received from that section of the country which had experienced the great blessings of the Jeffersonian Ordinance—the States of the North-west. He also read a cheering letter from Mr. Giddings, pledging Ohio and the Reserve by about the same majority which Harrison received. In New York, he said, four-fifths of the "Democratic" party were for Van Buren, and a great portion of the Whig party, with many of the leading Whig orators and statesmen—Willis Hall, (loud cheers), Joseph L. White, &c. &c. [A voice in the crowd suggested "Where's Greeley?" also.]

To this allusion, Mr. Van Buren, ever ready with reply on any emergency, remarked: I am sorry to say that that distinguished gentleman, who had declared his unalterable opposition to mere military chieftains, intends to vote for Gen. Taylor, whose only claims for office were founded solely on these grounds, coupled with being also an extensive slaveholder. This man claimed to be an advocate of Land Limitation, and made some pretensions to be an Anti-Renter, but still he refused to vote for the Land Limitation and Anti-Rent candidates. He announced his intention of going with us if he thought we should succeed without him. (Laughter.)

In conclusion, the following letter was read from WILLIS HALL, which was given as the choice *morceau* of this immense gathering.

GENTLEMEN: I have received your invitation to address the Ratification Meeting of the Friends of Free Soil, to be held in the Park on Monday afternoon. You are not mistaken in supposing that I take a deep interest in the subject, and would gladly lend my feeble aid, in any way in my power, to its advancement.

But my voice is too feeble to enable me to be heard in the open air, and my official engagements on Monday afternoon and evening render it impossible to be present with you on this great rally of the Free Democracy. They might exclaim "surely this cannot be I," and straightway proceed to insist that by some magic in the mirror, another face had been presented instead of their own. However, at the risk of losing our labor in attempting impossibilities, we should like to make trial of convincing them, that when they taunt the whigs with supporting an old democrat, it is quite possible that they themselves are "cutting the ridiculous figure." We do not now speak of the original Taylor men, who bolted long before the nomination, and were determined that Taylor should be the candidate at all events; but of those Whigs who resisted his nomination to the last. The bare possibility of his nomination, made them irate. They were not going to stand such nonsense, not they. So hostile were they to it, that in this city they would not allow a Taylor man to go to Augusta. They were pretty much of the opinion of the Jonesboro Tennessee Whig, that Taylor was a *perfectly ridiculous candidate*.

Yet in one week after the nomination they made but one wry face and swallowed him, "war, blood, thunder," and all. A pretty set of people, truly, to "run" conscience whigs for supporting Martin Van Buren.

Now look at the matter a little further. Did you not say that one of the cardinal principles of the Whig party was resistance to executive usurpation? Did you not say so when Jackson was nominated? Did you not then assert that of all men, a military leader was the most likely to be dogmatical, imperious, arbitrary? The most likely to make his own will an arbiter in the affairs of the nation? What are you doing now? Supporting not merely a military chieftain, but a chieftain whom you laud for that very iron firmness, which in Jackson you looked upon with so much alarm. Are you precisely the men, to scorn those whigs who, still true to their old principles, have determined to cast their votes for a *civilian whose administration was eminently pacific*.

Again. Did you not, with that grand old leader Henry Clay, whom with remorseless arms the men who represented you at Philadelphia hurled into the depths of the sea, deprecate on many other accounts the accession of a war chief to the executive power? Did you not denounce Gen. Jackson as a military man, notwithstanding he had been a Judge of the Superior Court of his own State, and successively a Representative and Senator in

Mexico was purchased by the common blood and treasure, gives any one the right to hold slaves upon it, is absurdly false. New York was redeemed from the domination of England by the common blood and treasure; but does that give any one a right to hold slaves here?—to drive three-fourths of our most valuable population from their fields and their work shops, and darken our land with the curse of Slavery?—Every State has a right to say what shall be property within its own jurisdiction. The United States have the same power to resist the introduction of Slavery in the one case as in the other.

The Missouri Compromise is totally inapplicable. That restricted Slavery in what had been the Territory of Louisiana, where Slavery had been established.

We seek to prevent the extension of Slavery to territory where it has never existed.

The friends of Free Soil seek no sectional advantages—violate no law—infinge no obligation which rests upon them as American citizens ready to "do or die" in defence of their country.

Please accept my thanks for the flattering terms of your invitation, and be assured of my hearty co-operation in the great cause in which you are engaged.

With highest respect, your obedient servant, WILLIS HALL.

New York, Oct. 7, 1848.

To JOHN COCHRANE, and others, Committee.

A Mirror for the Taylormen.

The most amusing thing going just now, is the stolid simplicity with which the Taylor men try to pour contempt on the true Whigs who refused to abandon the party and join the great "National Taylor Club." Perfectly delightful is the assurance, the infinite self-complacency with which they walk up to you and exclaim, "Oh, going to vote for Van Buren, hey! Don't you cut a ridiculous figure?"

How are we to account for so extraordinary a phenomenon? Simply, we suppose, on the ground that when a man is made he imagines all the rest of the world to be crazy. It was our intention when we began this article, to advise them to look into a glass. But we forbear; because seeing their own features so distorted, it is possible that like the old woman in the nursery tale, they might exclaim "surely this cannot be I," and straightway proceed to insist that by some magic in the mirror, another face had been presented instead of their own.

However, at the risk of losing our labor in attempting impossibilities, we should like to make trial of convincing them, that when they taunt the whigs with supporting an old democrat, it is quite possible that they themselves are "cutting the ridiculous figure."

We do not now speak of the original Taylor men, who bolted long before the nomination, and were determined that Taylor should be the candidate at all events; but of those Whigs who resisted his nomination to the last.

The bare possibility of his nomination, made them irate. They were not going to stand such nonsense, not they. So hostile were they to it, that in this city they would not allow a Taylor man to go to Augusta. They were pretty much of the opinion of the Jonesboro Tennessee Whig, that Taylor was a *perfectly ridiculous candidate*.

Let us tell you in conclusion, that before you can convince the community that it is we and not you who are cutting "the ridiculous figure," you will have to appear in some other dress than the spotted skin of the clown in the circus.—*Portland Inquirer*.

Cost of Mail Transportation.

The following exhibits the annual

cost of mail transportation, and the annual

receipts of postages, for the year

preceding July 1, 1847, as we learn

from an official source, viz :

Congress? What are you doing? Supporting a *mere military man*, who has not had the slightest experience in civil office, but whose whole life has been spent in border forays.—Are you the men to launch anathemas at those Whigs, who true to their old principles, have determined once more to throw their votes for a *sagacious statesman, all whose days have been spent in the civil service of the Republic?*

Further. Did you not say that the war with Mexico was wicked, inhuman, outrageous? What are you doing now? Supporting for the chief office in the nation, the chief instrument in that war. Are you the men to accuse us for adhering to our principles in voting for a man who, *had been in power, would have prevented that war!*

Still further. Did you not say, that resistance to the slave-power was one of the cardinal principles of the Whigs? That the Whig party was the great Anti-Slavery party of the Union?

What are you doing now? Supporting as your standard bearer an old slaveholder from the extreme South, who was buying slaves at the very moment of his nomination, who has distinctly assured his friends that "the South ought never to sanction the provisions of the Wilmot Proviso," and who, the Southern Whigs aver, is with the South and for the South, and will be the faithful guardian of its interests.

Are you the men to censure us for taking as our leader a man who honestly and openly avows himself the advocate of that

great principle which you, by enlisting under the black flag, have so unequivocally abandoned?

Nay more. Under Van Buren shall we not gain, at least, the River and Harbor bill? And are we not left free by the Buffalo Platform to contend, if we choose, for a Protective Tariff? But in what Whig doctrine has Taylor avowed his belief?

Has he told you, that he believed in the Internal Improvement system, or in the necessity of a Protective Tariff? Not a word of it.

And are you the men to accuse us for throwing our votes for a man who has avowed his adhesion to several Whig doctrines for which we have always strenuously contended, *while the man whom you support has avowed no principles at all?*

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States. Cost. Revenue.

Maine, \$41,964 \$59,440

N. Hampshire, 25,560 40,680

Vermont, 26,563 34,338

Massachusetts, 107,392 218,201

Rhode Island, 9,187 26,833

Connecticut, 45,797 64,157

New York, 229,307 494,757

New Jersey, 58,930 39,285

Pennsylvania, 115,412 252,176

Delaware, 7,862 8,789

Maryland, 133,751 81,656

Virginia, 192,615 92,292

North Carolina, 172,520 31,797

South Carolina, 118,157 50,335

Georgia, 153,001 55,859

Florida, 45,193 10,883

Ohio, 170,295 158,869

Michigan, 38,211 38,491

Indiana, 52,430 43,334

Illinois, 102,485 52,359

Wisconsin, 15,045 26,703

Iowa, 9,722 9,495

Missouri, 49,720 41,506

Kentucky, 89,5