

Indiana American.

C. H. BINGHAM, Editor.

— BROOKVILLE —

Friday Morning, September 2, 1870.

Joint Discussion.

Judge Wilson and Judge Gooding will hold a joint discussion at the Court House in Brookville on Saturday next, Sept. 3. Republicans and Democrats take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

Republican Meetings Next Wednesday.

Hon. Delano E. Williamson, Attorney General of Indiana, will address the people at Metamora next Wednesday afternoon, and will also address the people at Brookville on next Wednesday evening. Mr. Williamson is a first class speaker; let everybody turn out to hear him, and let him have rousing meetings.

Hon. Godlove S. Orth in Brookville.

Hon. Godlove S. Orth will speak in Brookville on Thursday, Sept. 22, at 1 o'clock P. M. Mr. Orth is one of our very best public speakers, is entirely familiar with National and State politics, and our people should therefore be on hand to hear him.

The War News.

The whole tenor of the dispatches on Tuesday morning shows that a battle has probably begun on which depends the fate of France. McMahon, with the bulk of the French army, moved rapidly to the North, and Monday morning occupied a line from Rethel to Montmedy, with Belgium in her rear. The position is in a valley five miles wide. The Prince Royal of Prussia has stopped his march to Paris and turned North to confront him. Steinmetz, leaving sufficient force to keep Bazaine closely imprisoned, has also moved off to the Northwest, and thus the two great armies stand face to face. McMahon has taken up a position from which he does not intend to retreat. He is evidently staking all on the chances of a single battle. If he wins a decisive victory, the advance of the Germans on Paris is stopped. The Crown Prince must fall back to succor his colleagues and to protect his own communication. McMahon, winning the contest, becomes even; losing, his cause is lost. The entire German army moves to Paris, and we do not believe the Capital will stand a siege.

A dispatch from Arlon, Luxemburg, dated Monday evening, says a battle raged all day at the village of Durn, which is some twelve miles south of Metz. Another dispatch dated Paris, midnight, says it is believed there that a tremendous battle was being fought on Monday. Nothing is said of the results, though at Arlon there was a report that McMahon had been defeated.

The march of the Crown Prince on Paris is advancing more slowly. He is probably watching the conflict to the northward, and to a certain extent awaiting its result, ready, if necessary, to aid the main army. If McMahon fails to gain the battle, then he is ready and near at hand with his 220,000 men to march on Paris, which he can reach in about three days.

LATEST.

The dispatches Wednesday morning contain no confirmation of those sent on Tuesday about fighting on Monday. Probably the reports of battles arose from a number of skirmishes that occurred, although reports still come of heavy cannonading being heard in the direction of the armies; otherwise the situation presents no new features Wednesday morning.

The Americans in Paris are leaving that city as rapidly as possible.

Lew Wallace and Munson have arranged for a joint canvass of the Seventh Indiana District, commencing on the 12th of September.

The Rev. W. C. Anderson, ex President of Miami University, and for many years pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of San Francisco, died at Junction City, Kansas, on Monday.

Governor Baker made a fine speech last Saturday night, at Indianapolis, showing up the State finances. He proved by the books that the Republican party had reduced the debt more than nine millions of dollars in ten years, and that the State is now practically debt free.

The Ft. Wayne, Munroe & Cincinnati Railroad was completed on Saturday, making a continuous line from Cincinnati to Ft. Wayne, 175 miles in length. At Ft. Wayne it will connect with the Grand Rapids road, 200 miles long. All of this is expected to be in operation by the 15th of September.

Events and places since Saturday may be partially summarized as follows: Louguyon has refused to surrender; Vitré surrendered on Thursday morning, with 16 guns and 650 French soldiers; the sieges of Strasburg, Toul, Thionville and Metz have made no progress; the capitulation of Bawaine for want of supplies is expected; Prussian scouting parties have appeared at Meux, one hour from Paris; a battle reported at Reims lacks confirmation, as does also a fight at Verdun; and all correspondents have been ordered to quit the French army.

On next Saturday we will have an opportunity in Brookville to hear Wilson and Gooding in joint discussion.

Keep it Before the People.

That from 1849 to 1860, the Democrats levied and collected a tax for the payment of the funded debt of the State, but never paid one dollar for that purpose.

That in ten years the Republican party has paid that, and all other accumulating debts, in full.

That nearly every Democrat in Congress voted against the repeal of the income tax.

That the local taxes of every Democratic county in this District are higher than in any of the Republican counties.

The Indianapolis Fair will be held on the 5th to 10th of September, just four weeks before the State Fair.

A letter from Rastadt, in the Journal de Bruxelles, gives as follows the losses of the Germans in the three combats: At Weissenburg about 7,000 men; at Woerth 15,000 or 16,000; and at Saarbruck nearly 9,000; total, 31,000 or 32,000, wounded included.

Men look up and say that the march of the Crown Prince is bold and hazardous. He may be cut off, he may be beat; he will be destroyed. All of this may be; and some Providential event may interfere to drive him back, or destroy his army. All this may be, but as it now looks, it will have to be a most extraordinary event to produce such a result. It is not probable.

A correspondent of the St. Louis Democrat says: "At the present rate of progress, Indiana will in twenty years at least be even with the proudest of her sisters, and will then merely have commenced the development of her resources. It is today, in reality, much younger State than Illinois. A great amount of talent and capital that have hitherto passed through it to more attractive territory, are now returning to remain there."

It really seems as if the clique of Paris were so busy watching each other in their anxiety to secure—each clique for themselves—the sceptre which is falling from Napoleon's hands, that the Prussian army will at last find them unprepared, when it appears before their walls. Troshu and the Empress have a misunderstanding; Palikao asserts the right to control the Committee of Defence; that committee and a proposed Committee of Public Safety will eventually clash; and so they all go—every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost.

The tactics of Marshal McMahon appear to be gather up his broken corps, and thereby swell the ranks of his new levies, and then sweep along the borders of Belgium, avoiding any encounter with the Prussians that would be likely to involve a pitched battle. By this movement he will be enabled to leave the Prussians on the south, and probably effect a junction with Bazaine, north of Metz. If successful in this, McMahon will, it is thought, strike the Prussian line of communication at St. Avoil. This is believed to be the strategy which Count Palikao hinted at some few days ago in his communication to the Corps Legislatif.

Fourth District.

Early in the campaign, Dave Gooding, thinking to make a little cheap capital for himself, challenged his competitor, Judge Wilson, for a joint canvass. To this Judge Wilson replied that he could not at that time enter into any arrangements, on account of business matters. Taking their cue from this, the Democratic papers grew wonderfully eloquent in dilating upon the inability of Wilson to cope with his adversary upon the stump. But quietly bidding his time, the Judge modestly accepted the challenge, met the brawling demagogue, and in the estimation of all who heard them, got decidedly the better in the argument offered.

The Judge is a cool, calm, earnest thinker and reasoner, fully informed on the great financial questions of the day, while Gooding is simply a loud, foul-mouthed blackguard upon the stump, and depends upon good lungs and a large amount of brass in his face to carry him through. He has no practical ideas at all, either on financial affairs or political economy.—Winchester Journal.

Meeting Between Gooding and Wilson.

Correspondence Indianapolis Journal.

FOUNTAINTOWN, Aug. 21, 1870.

On Monday afternoon, the 22d, Judges Wilson and Gooding addressed the people at Fountaintowm. The audience was large, and all present appeared to take a deep interest in what was being said. Owing to circumstances the speakers were limited to one hour and fifteen minutes each. Judge Gooding took the lead and spoke one hour; his subject was the same "old Democratic theme" of "greenbacks, negro equality, taxation of bonds and the extravagances of radical rule." While speaking of the national expenditures, the learned Judge entirely forgot to say anything about what it cost "Uncle Sam" to subdue a Democratic rebellion.

Judge Wilson spoke for one hour and a quarter on the issues of the day, and at the same time answered his opponent's questions in a manner that was satisfactory to a majority of the people. Judge Gooding attempted to reply in a speech of fifteen minutes, but we think entirely failed to subvert the truths uttered by his antagonist. Judge Wilson spoke well, and his polished manners bespoke him very much of a gentleman. He made a favorable impression, and we think he is the man to represent our district in the next Congress.

SCRIPTOR.

The Franklin Democrat has resorted to all manner of misrepresentation and lying about Judge Wilson. No man of any respectability or intelligence believes any such stuff. The Democrat has to resort to it, however, to dupe, and please, and satisfy the rank and file of its party.—Concordville Times.

Don't fail to hear the Joint Discussion next Saturday.

Some Reasons Why I Can't Vote the Democratic Ticket.

1st. I can't vote it, because in doing so, I should be lending my aid in returning to power the same party, who, when last entrusted with the control of the Government, proved unfaithful to the interest of the people, and an enemy to the Government itself, and connived at, aided and encouraged the inception and organization of the late rebellion of its own members against the Government, which it betrayed into their hands, and permitted them, with out objection or resistance, to carry on the disruption and dismemberment of the Union, in accordance with the ancient teachings and principles of the Democratic party, on the subject of State Rights, nullification and secession, and thus entailed upon the people of this and coming generations, all the misery, the suffering and the waste of the late war, together with its constant burden of debt and taxation, of which they now complain so much. Such a history, and such a legacy, is enough for one party ever to leave, and I cannot assist in bringing it into life again.

2nd. As a citizen of Rush county, especially, I can not vote the Democratic, or fusion ticket, which signifies the same thing. Let us compare our taxes with that of adjoining Democratic counties. We will take the counties of this Congressional District. There are seven; three Democratic, Shelby, Hancock and Franklin; and four Republican, Rush, Fayette, Union and Wayne.

The taxable property of Rush is \$12,086; 780 her tax for county purposes, last paid, was \$21,033.22, which is just 15 cents on the \$100. The taxable property of Shelby is \$10,773.225; her tax for county purposes, last paid, was \$54,189.98, or about 50 cents on the \$100, just three and one-third times the rate of Rush. Which needs reform most, Shelby or Rush? Again, Fayette and Franklin lying side by side in the same valley; Fayette has a taxable property of \$7,775.745, her tax for county purposes, last paid, was \$13,217.80, about 17 cents on the \$100. Franklin, with a property of \$8,224,770, collected for county purposes, at the same time, \$63,453.73, about 77 cents on the \$100, making every citizen pay five times as much on the same amount of property, as do the citizens of Rush or Fayette. Franklin would be a good place to start a fusion newspaper, and offers a fine field for the enterprise of gentlemen of the "Times." But they don't want fusion there; the fusion movement is only started in localities where they are hopelessly in the minority, for the purpose of catching a few restless and disappointed characters, who are destitute of principle and ready for anything, without investigation, so it only brings them notice and flattery.

But let us put all three of the Democratic counties of the 4th District together, and compare them with the four Republican counties. The former have a taxable property of \$24,109,360; they paid upon this, for county purposes, \$138,297.83, being 57 cents to the \$100; the four Republican counties have a taxable property of \$44,314.125, and they paid upon this, for county purposes, \$127,821.66, which is 28½ cents to the \$100, showing a difference in the rate of taxation, for the one item of county purposes alone, but over which the politics of the country have more control than any other item, of 25½ cents to the \$100, or in other words, in the Republican counties it is just one-half what it is in the Democratic counties; and let it be remembered, too, that there is one more, and consequently, that much extra expense of the latter than of the former. We would be pleased if some one would explain to us why these things are so, and why some champion of reform has not exposed them, and held them up to the public gaze? Why swallow, with smooth faces, such elephants as these, and strangle upon imaginary gnats? We can never, Mr. Editor, vote the Democratic ticket until these matters are satisfactorily explained. Yours for fair play and low tax.

They were with a mitrailleuse, was making fearful havoc in the Prussian ranks! I heard frantic bravos announcing its new exploits. The fire was so well directed, the precision so great, that each fire was positively mowing the Prussian ranks, who were fighting in a desperate way; their artillery replying to the other, and destroying the French battalions right and left. At 7 P. M. the Prussians were making a movement taken from the French, and although it is only one of the hundreds of incidents of the battle, I mention it, as it led to an important result.

For the last hour, one of the greatest efforts of the French had for its object the dislodgement of the Prussians from the woods of Borny, their troops being protected by natural rampart. The brave colonel of the 44th infantry, second division, in retaking the mitrailleuse, was the cause of an immense body of Prussians emerging suddenly from the woods and precipitating themselves as an infuriated torrent on the French divisions. It was only a pretext, for it was expected the Prussians would follow the same tactics as at Forbach and Froeschwiller, which consists of keeping out of sight the masses of their best divisions, and when the result of battle seems in favor of their opponent to change defeat into victory by a powerful movement of immense bodies of troops plunging suddenly on the enemy. But this time Bazaine had prepared a match for them. The Imperial Guard, commanded by Bourbaki, had been kept in reserve. The artillery from their strong position began the defensive, the Grenadiers advanced, and from that moment till a quarter to nine you would have thought you were in the middle of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Fort De Quatin sweeping with its powerful batteries the flank of the advancing columns of the regiments of cavalry charging on the wings. At a quarter to nine precisely the Prussians were retreating, leaving from 23,000 to 24,000 men *hors de combat*. The French have lost close on 40,000 men killed and wounded. 140,000 Prussians took part in the fight, against 70,000 Frenchmen, "positively."

Owing to Fort Quentin slanting the enemy, the Guard, except its artillery and a brigade of Grenadiers, did not fight. They were kept in reserve to the last. During the combat the rest of the French army was retreating on the route to Verdun, and at 9 o'clock I followed the Imperial Guard, retreating in the same direction. General De Caen has been wounded in the leg. General De Costagney had an arm cut, and Marshal Bazaine himself received a slight contusion on the head. I heard the sight of the Champs de Bataille was horrible in the morning. In retiring, they marched over the dead bodies, which were in heaps in some spots.

Let Well Enough Alone.

[Correspondence of the Indiana American.]

METAMORA, IND., Aug. 29, 1870.

Mr. Editor.—Ever since I was a little boy—and that was a long time ago—I have heard the maxim repeated, "Let well enough alone," and I have no doubt in thousands of instances the persons to whom it was addressed would have been greatly benefited by heeding the advice thus given. And I would just ask, How shall we be benefited by yielding to the importunities of the Democratic party and press throughout the land to change our rulers and place them in power again? Judging the future by the past, I would say, "let well enough alone."

I know they are just now claiming that they are the party of progress and reform. Echo answers, in what? Is what? Why, they would reduce the expenses of the government and remove the burthen of taxation from the people, by a reduction of duties on imports. Are they in earnest in this matter? Let us see for a moment. At the last session of Congress a bill was offered and passed to reduce the Tariff twenty three millions of dollars, but not one Democratic vote in its favor. So much for Democratic reform. And still here is another. Congress proposes to take off fifty seven millions of internal revenue tax, but not a single Democratic vote is given for it. So we find eighty millions of a reduction of taxes, but no Democratic Senator or Representative voting for it. And they are the party of retrenchment and reform! I say, "let well enough alone."

But they point us to the past as security for the future. Well, the past was a long, long time ago, and wont do now, nor for the last ten years back. The account is too dark and damaging, when compared alongside of the Republican record. I am no politician, but I have carefully observed the doings and sayings of both parties, and cannot for the life of me see how it is that we are to be benefited by a change.

Let us examine the record a little. In no one single instance can you find one act during the long and bloody struggle for the life of the nation that they did not oppose and stand arrayed against.

No measure brought before Congress for the suppression of the Rebellion but what they denounced it as unconstitutional.

When the President and Congress were straining every nerve to raise men and money to put down treason and traitors, the Democratic leaders were stamping the States telling the people that greenbacks were nothing but rags, and not worth the paper they were printed upon. Editors of Democratic papers called the President a tyrant, and the soldiers who had left their homes and families to shed their blood and give their lives to save the nation, were called "Lincoln's hirelings," "Lincoln's dogs," "Sherman's cut-throats and thieves."

And while that noble patriot, Oliver P. Morton, was doing all that mortal man could do for the brave and noble soldiers of his State, all the venom and vituperation of the carion carcasses of the Democratic editors was poured out against him. While he was going day and night, at the sacrifice of health and comfort, to save his State and nation, they were in their midnight dens concocting murder and treason. God have mercy on them; but I don't think any of them will ever get into power by my vote. "Let well enough alone."

The Republican party came into power ten years ago, and what has it done? It found the nation bankrupt, with a Democratic rebellion on its hands; its Navy scattered to the four winds of earth; its forts, arsenals and arms in the hands of traitors. It has put down the rebellion, raised the credit of the nation, abolished slavery, given equal and exact justice to all the inhabitants, restored the rebellious States to their former relations to the Union, and never since we were a nation were we in so prosperous a condition as we are to-day. True, there is a heavy debt hanging over us, but it is a debt of Democratic origin, and they ought to be the last to say a word about repudiating it. "Let well enough alone."

If the Democratic party is the party of all honesty and reform, how does it happen that the tax in Democratic counties throughout the State are from 25 to 40 per cent more than they are in Republican counties? If they are the party of retrenchment and reform, how does it happen, when they had the control of the State of Indiana for seventeen years they never paid one dollar of the public debt? The General Government gave them one million two hundred and fifty-two thousand six hundred and thirty eight acres of land, worth at least three millions of dollars, not one dollar of which ever entered the State Treasury, although Governor Wright in his message of '53 estimated that one million of dollars at least ought to be added to the school fund from this source; but never a dollar, though every acre was sold. They also received from debtors to the State three hundred thousand acres of land in Georgia, for which I think Asbury Couwell paid one thousand dollars. There was a loss of two hundred and nine thousand dollars, as the land was heavily timbered and could not have been worth less than one dollar per acre.

And this is not all. In seventeen counties they lost thousands by illegal deposits in banks, defalcations in one county of one hundred and twenty thousand, and in another twenty-five thousand, to wit: M. B. Batszner and others. And yet they claim to be the honest savers of the money entrusted to their care! Well, yes; they are too careful of it; it never gets into the State Treasury; that's the difficulty.

Now what have the Republicans done? They have had the State government under their control for ten years, and they have not lost a dollar by defalcations, neither. The taxes are much less in Republican Counties than in Democratic counties. They will have the entire public debt paid by the first of January, 1871. They have increased the school fund to over nine millions of dollars. They paid nearly all the cost of the Northern Penitentiary. They doubled the capacity of the Insane Asylum, built the Soldier's and Orphans' Homes, created a Normal School and a fine building for the State Office, besides other useful appropriations, making in all about eight hundred thousand dollars; besides, sending over a hundred regiments to help put down the Democratic "unpleasantness" in the South.

Owing to Fort Quentin slanting the enemy, the Guard, except its artillery and a brigade of Grenadiers, did not fight. They were kept in reserve to the last. During the combat the rest of the French army was retreating on the route to Verdun, and at 9 o'clock I followed the Imperial Guard, retreating in the same direction. General De Caen has been wounded in the leg. General De Costagney had an arm cut, and Marshal Bazaine himself received a slight contusion on the head. I heard the sight of the Champs de Bataille was horrible in the morning. In retiring, they marched over the dead bodies, which were in heaps in some spots.

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