



J. B. STOLL, Editor and Proprietor.

LIGONIER, IND., JULY 11th, 1878.

"No man worthy of the office of President should be willing to hold it if elected in or placed there by fraud." — U. S. Grant.

Democratic County Convention.

The democratic voters of Noble county, and all others who subscribe to the principles enunciated through the Democratic State platform adopted at Indianapolis on the 22d of last February, are hereby requested to meet in their respective townships at their usual places of holding township meetings, on the 11th, 12th, and 13th, between the hours of 3 and 7 p.m., and elect delegates to attend a county convention, to be held in the town of Albion, on

Friday, August 16th, 1878,

at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of nominating candidates for Representative, Auditor, Treasurer, Sheriff, Two County Commissioners (one for the middle and one for the southern district), Supervisor, and State Auditor, and for the congressional convention of the 13th district, and delegates to a joint representative convention for the counties of Noble and Elkhart.

In accordance with the base of representation heretofore established, the several townships of the county are entitled to one delegate to each convention—one delegate for every ten votes, and an additional vote for a fraction over ten votes, cast for Governor Williams in 1876;

Washington 7 Orange 19
Sports 14 Wayne 46
Elkhart 19 Swan 15
York 11 Albion 12
Green 20 Total Delegates 266
Jefferson 22
Memory to a choice 14
By authority of the County Central Committee.

J. B. STOLL, Chairman.

COUNTY COMMITTEE:

Washington B. F. Ingles.
Sports J. D. Hartshorn.
Elkhart E. B. Gerber.
Noble M. H. Dodge.
Green G. H. Goss.
Orange C. R. Wiley.
Wayne Charles J. Weeks.
Swan D. H. Fife.
Albion Charles G. Aichele.
Jefferson J. B. Renkenberger.
By authority of the County Central Committee.

Memorandum of facts concerning the election to be made in the respective townships for the holding of township meetings for the election of delegates to this convention.

The old-time anti-slavery agitators are coming to the front in denunciation of the Sherman finance policy.

It is hardly necessary to call attention to the Fourth of July address of Gen. B. F. Butler, published in another column. Ben's utterances always attract attention.

The best policy for a political journal to advocate is that which is calculated to benefit the whole people. Merely partisan rancor cannot possibly promote the general good.

The Democracy of Indiana declares in favor of a 6 per cent interest law. The National's likewise. These two organizations will see to it that this promise is fully redeemed.

If we were a citizen of Massachusetts, we don't believe we would try very hard to prevent Ben Butler's election to the governorship. Some how or other, Ben's talk is beginning to have a pleasing sound to our ears.

The man who supposes that the finance question will be settled with the (possible) resumption of specie payments, will find himself greatly in error. There is more to do than the simple repeal of the resumption act.

If you want to know what further steps the Democracy intend to take on the money question, consult the Ohio democratic platform published in THE BANNER of last week. The Ohio brethren lead in this matter. They are the pioneers in the green back cause.

WENDELL PHILLIPS tells the bondholders of Massachusetts some whole-some truths on the money question. He distinctly whispers into their ears that laborers cannot in this country be reduced to servitude without resistance. He also predicts the election of a western soft-money Democrat to the Presidency in 1880.

DR. F. P. GRIFFITH, of Ligonier, at present a clerk in the Interior Department at Washington, would not object to being made the republican candidate for Congress in this District. The Doctor is by no means lacking in ability, as compared with some of the gentlemen representing this District during the past 14 years.

THE ARKANSAS DEMOCRACY last week adopted the major portion of the Indiana democratic platform as their own. They are "sold" on the greenback, silver, national bank and resumption questions. The Republicans of Alabama also met last week, voted down a resolution endorsing Hayes and broke up in disorder and confusion without making any nominations.

Still the signs grow in number and distinctness, that the country is on the eve of a new prosperity. The surplus of exported grain is shown to have been \$250,000,000 worth. These balance in the nation's favor is unprecedented in size. The excess of the export of American goods over foreign imports for the past five years is placed at \$600,000,000 worth. These are big items on the right side of the account. —South Bend Register.

But for the cussedness and villainy of the Sherman financiers, prosperity would have blessed this great productive country. Mother Earth has done her utmost to counteract the baneful effect of that vicious policy. Assisted by a mighty people at last thoroughly aroused, she will yet succeed in frustrating the evil designs of Shylocks, and once more gladden the hearts of the American people by enabling every willing laborer to feed and clothe his wife and children.

A picnic at Sugar Camp grove, near Pittsburg, Thursday, was suddenly overwhelmed with a terrible storm of wind and rain, and the blowing down of a tree upon a wagon, in which eighteen persons had taken refuge, killing seven of the number and wounding many more.

THE FOURTH AT ROME CITY.

Oration by J. B. Stoll.

After the delivery of the oration at Rome City, a motion was passed that the orator of the day be requested to publish his speech in THE BANNER. In compliance with that request a section of the oration was placed in type, in order to ascertain the exact space that would be required for the whole. This led to the discovery that about seven solid columns would be required, and as the Fourth of July address of Ben Butler had already been placed in the hands of the compositors, the necessity of an abridgement became painfully apparent. The preparation of a Fourth of July address, at best, is no light task; but to be obliged after its delivery, into about a fourth of its original space, makes the labor doubly arduous. With this explanation we hereby present to the readers of THE BANNER a brief outline of something over two-thirds of the address, and a full report of the remainder.

The speaker began by saying that the commemoration of Independence Day is an honorable custom of liberty-loving citizens—not of a single state or of one race, but of Freedom's entire domain. The "Fourth" is the common property of humanity. The event we celebrate is a great event,—great 102 years ago, great to-day, and to be great and memorable in the time to come. Other countries have their national festivals, yet the events they commemorate are in the main of mere local interest, and awaken but limited and partial sympathies. Their triumphant achievements are to the conquered only memories of defeat, agony and humiliation. In the day we celebrate there is no sorrow, no dark cloud. American independence wrought no wrong or ill. It established the doctrine of equal rights, and that the true function of government is to contribute to the happiness and security of the citizen. These truths eternal were ordained to be revealed in America to be the political creed of the peoples all over the earth.

* * * Whatever fate may befall this Republic, whatever vicissitudes or disasters may be before her, this praise, at least, can never be denied to her, that for over 100 years she has been hospitable and generous; that she ever gave to the stranger a welcome—opened to him all the treasures of her liberty, gave him free scope for all his ability, a fair career and fair play.

It has been fitly remarked that "man, in a state of simplicity, uncorrupted by the evil influence of bad education, bad examples, and bad government, is possessed of a taste for all that is good and beautiful. He is capable of a degree of moral and intellectual improvement, which adds to his nature to a participation with the Great Architect of the whole, fabric, he partakes of the delight with conscious dignity and glows with gratitude. He delighted with himself and all around him, his heart dilates with benevolence as well as piety; and he finds his joys augmented by communication. His countenance cheerful, his mien erect, he rejoices in existence, highly seasoned by virtue, by liberty, by mutual affection. God formed him to be happy; he became so, thus fortunately unmoored by false policy and oppression. Religion, reason, nature, are his guide through the whole of his existence, and the whole is happy. Virtuous independence, the sun, which irradiates the morning of his day and warms its noon—tinges the serene evening with every beautiful variety of color, and, on the pillow of religious hope, he sinks to repose in the bosom of Providence."

But where is man to be found, thus noble, innocent, and happy? Only where the rights of nature, and the virtues of simplicity are not violated by the base arts of corrupt and despotic government.

History teaches that, unfortunately, society has been almost universally corrupted, even by the arts designed for its improvement; and human nature is gradually depraved in its very progress to civilization. In many countries man appears diminutive and distorted animal, as compared with what he once was. He has become the dwarf of aristocracies, instead of the well-formed, majestic creature "who once bounded, in the glory of health and strength, over the forest and the mountain, glowing with the warmth of virtue, and breathing the spirit of independence."

Various are the causes which have wrought this change. He is corrupted by defective and erroneous education, by bad example; but bad, oppressive government corrupts him more than all other causes. It counteracts the beneficence of nature; men are degraded, while the human figure continues similar or the same. Man is rendered inactive and miserable. He is shut out from extraordinary excellence or achievements. He crouches beneath a despotic power, glad of the poor privilege graciously granted him to eat, drink, sleep, and die.

Oppressive power ever seeks its own enlargement and aggrandizement, either by secretly undermining or openly crushing the fabric of liberty—ever encroaching on the privileges and enjoyments of the unfortunate who cannot escape its grasp. Power thus wielded, with the assistance of flatters and sycophants, always endeavors to extend itself, beyond the limits of written law, and it is this which requires to be watched with a jealous eye. To resist such encroachments is among the most sacred duties of all who cherish liberty and the happiness of mankind—resistance of the manliest and most determined resolution of

virtue. True words were never uttered than these: "A country deserves no love when it ceases to be a country of liberty."

"External vigilance is the price of liberty." Therefore, whenever a people, free by law and constitution, are lulled into false security, by the withdrawal of their attention from the sacred rights and blessings vouchsafed unto them by the sacrifices of their patriotic fathers, it becomes the duty of the sentinels of liberty to sound the alarm and to urge upon the masses instant and unceasing vigilance. Experience amply demonstrates the fact that while the people slumber and sleep, the enemy is awake, and busily executing his insidious plans. Every inch of ground carelessly relinquished, is eagerly seized. The love of power, like the love of money, increases by accession. The *deceit for either artifice; the purpose of either the ensuement or the toiling milieus*—

"What are the evils that confront us to-day? A mountain of debt is resting upon the people. By converting obligations circulating as money during and at the close of the war, the funded debt of the United States is found to be in excess of 2,000 millions. The State, county, municipal and individual indebtedness adds at least 7,000 millions to the national debt. The annual interest upon this almost incalculable sum amounts to fully 403 millions. Need I add upon the question from whose soil this tribute to capital is wrung? Does not every thinking man know that the producing, the industrial classes—the bone and sinew of the land—must pay every dollar of this annual tribute? The banker and money changer create no wealth; their chief occupation is to live, to live, to live, and to profit upon the necessities of the people. When dust is thrown into their eyes, *more especially gold dust*, the political optimist must honestly endeavor to clear away the obstruction. Hence, it becomes every lover of his country, every true patriot, to warn his fellow-citizens of the danger whenever he observes the smallest encroachment on their rights, *generally reflected*—the speaker said, *in this case*—in consideration of the momentous question which above all others engages the thought of a suffering and injured people. While the successful suppression of the late rebellion has wiped from our otherwise fair eschew of the stain of human bondage, and while the perpetuity of the American Union has been gloriously established, burdens have been imposed upon the people that have crushed thousands upon thousands of active, enterprising and wealthy men of enterprise. The *treason* drafting upon the public treasury during the progress of the war was rendered necessary an extraordinary expansion of the circulating medium. Having exhausted its ability to borrow, and knowing no source from whence to procure money, the government reluctantly and with much hesitation resorted to the exercise of a power not hitherto thought of, *viz.* that of creating legal-tender paper money. The history of the struggle in Congress over that momentous question is a new one to American statesmen and legislators. There was no precedence to follow, or to guide legislation. At no time since the foundation of the government had it been deemed necessary or expedient to invest paper money with legal-tender functions. The circulating medium of the country, besides gold and silver, consisted mainly of notes issued by State banks. The expenditure of government having reached two million dollars per day, the limited supply of gold and silver was soon exhausted. Government forced its bonds upon the market and thus soon absorbed the available coin.—What next to do was the problem that sorely vexed those in authority. The Treasury was depleted; creditors of the government clamored for their dues. In this dilemma various schemes were proposed. Hon. E. G. Spaulding, M. C. and J. W. Fife, of Indiana, Dist. 10, conceived the legal-tender or greenback idea, advocating its adoption with great earnestness and zeal. In this effort he was ably seconded by the "great commoner" that vehement advocate, Thaddeus Stevens, and as relentlessly opposed by such men as Roscoe Conkling, Mr. Hooper, of Massachusetts, Mr. Pendleton, of Ohio, and others. As timid men in 1776 hesitated to assert the eternal truths set forth in the declaration of independence, and believed it impudent by the irresistible force of the law of events, so doubtful men in 1862 hesitated to proclaim the authority of Congress to affix the stamp of the government upon paper money and bid it to go forth on its great mission, *until driven to it by an emergency of the gravest character*. The then Secretary of the Treasury, Salmon P. Chase, hesitated long before giving the scheme his qualified endorsement. But the emergency necessitated that he finally found himself impelled to do so, and the passage of the bill was secured by the joint efforts of the two great parties.

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