

# THE PLYMOUTH DEMOCRAT

A. C. THOMPSON, Editor

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## Lincoln's Inaugural.

In this issue will be found President Lincoln's Inaugural. We have not room for comment and will only say that we regard it as being very good—non-nominal, and time will alone give it a meaning.

## Inauguration of Mr. Lincoln.

### His ADDRESS.

*Fellow Citizens of the United States.*—In compliance with a resolution of the 31st of December, I appear before you to address you briefly, and to take in your presence, the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States, to be taken by the President before he enters on the execution of the duties of his office.

I do not consider it necessary at present, for me to discuss the measures of administration, about which there is no special anxiety or excitement—

the Southern States, however, will be fully satisfied.

The Republican Administration, their property and their peace and personal security are to be secured, and

there has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension.

Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of these speeches, when I declare that "I have no purpose, direct or indirect, to interfere with the institution of slavery where it exists." I believe I have a lawful right to do so, and I leave my such right to the judgment of the law.

My countrymen, one and all, think calmly and well upon this whole subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. If there be an object to injury any of you in hot haste, to stop which you would have to take deliberately, that object will be lost in the taking time. But no good object can be frustrated by it.

Such of you as are now dissatisfied, still have the old Constitution unimpaired, and on the side points the laws of your own framing under it.

The new Administration will have no immediate power, if it would, to change either. If it is admitted that who you are dissatisfied, hold the right side of the dispute, there still is no single reason to suppose action.

Intelligence, patriotism, chivalry, and a general reliance on Him who has

never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust in the best way all our present difficulties.

The new Administration, and elected, did, go with the full knowledge that I had made this and many similar declarations and had never recanted them; and more than this, they placed in the platform for my acceptance, as a law to themselves, and to me, the following and emphatic resolution which I now read:

"Resolved, That the maintenance, Indefinite of the Slave power, and especially of the institutions existing in its own dominions, is essential to the perpetuity of the Republic. And that we denounce the lawless invasion of an armful of the sort of any State or Territory, no matter under what pretense, among the greatest of crimes.

I now reiterate the sentiments, and in doing so, only repeat the publick attention to the most conclusive evidence of which this case is susceptible, that the power, and the right, and the section are to be, and must, subordinate to the now incoming Administration. I add, too, that the protection which consistently with the Constitution and the laws can be given, by cheerfully giving to all the States when lawfully demanded for whatever cause, is exclusively to the section as to another.

There is much controversy about delivering fugitives from service or labor. The clause I now read is as follows written into the Constitution as it now stands:

"No person held to service or labor, in any State under the laws thereof, escaping into another State, or into the service of another State, shall be delivered up, but shall be delivered on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due." It was instigated by those who made it, for the reclaiming of what we call fugitive slaves, and the intention of the master is the law. The members of Congress swear to this, and the whole Constitution to this provision, that slaves who escape from the service of one master, shall be delivered up to another master.

On the first vote the Franklin plan of settlement was agreed to by a vote of sixteen to five.

If in any such case will succeed, either

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