

THE DEMOCRAT.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY

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SEEMS TROUBLED.

The *Republican* seems very much troubled about our suggestion in favor of holding a Democratic county convention. Why should cause it any more uneasiness at this time than the same suggestions would at any other time we are at a loss to know. The Democrats have held a county convention once every year since the county was organized, and those opposed to them have not heretofore thought strange of it, or called them traitors for so doing. If the editor of the *Republican*, "or any other man," can show wherein the Democracy have been guilty of such a great political crime that they must be disfurnished, or be compelled to "bow in mock submission to the great moloch of abolitionism," we should be glad to have him do it.

Democrats were fighting the battles of the Union, while the leaders of the Republican party were advocating the policy of letting it slide—denouncing it as a league with hell—and marching under flags representing the free States only. But now, when it is the policy of the Republican party (although Mattingly says there is no party), to sail on the Union breeze which is just now blowing in the North, he denounces all traitors who will not trample upon and ignore every political principle, and throw up their hats for the Union merely because he and some other recent converts to the cause of the Union are doing it.

It is necessary that the Democrats should maintain their organization, that when the Republican dash in the pan has subsided, they will be ready to take the government back into their hands, and go about the work of re-construction, as it will doubtless need it after passing through one Republican administration. Democrats are Union men from principle. Republicans—if we are to judge from the leaders, and the acts of the party—are Union men from policy. *Policy* has been the main-spring of every act of the party. It was policy to nominate Fremont in 1856, as he had little or no political record for the Democrats to pick at. It was policy to nominate Lincoln in 1860 because he was a Western man, and supposed to be conservative; and the West must be propitiated. It was policy to appoint a few Democrats to important military stations, as that might be instrumental in obtaining Democratic money and Democratic muscle to carry on the war. Now it is policy to proclaim that there is but one party in the North; and it will be but a short time before it will be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the most obstinate what that party is, or rather what it is not. The "one party" is not the Democratic party, nor a party holding to its principles, except so far as relates to the enforcement of the laws; and Democrats need not leave their party on that account, as the "Union, Constitution, and Laws," has ever been the motto of the Democracy. We have not yet seen any reason why Democrats, who are governed by principle, should leave their party, and join the "no party," or Republican party. Democrats can be, and are, patriots now just the same that they were in the days of Jefferson and Jackson.

Mattingly's suggestion—"Let the convention be held by all means"—will be carried out, probably in a manner not very satisfactory to such new-fangled Union men as are now so clamorous for the enforcement of the laws. We have no doubt but the convention will take a firm stand for the Union, and the principles on which it was formed. The Democracy should organize themselves into a "home guard," for the purpose of repelling the insults which a set of political scoundrels and mercenary harlequins are constantly heaping upon all who refuse to endorse an abolition administration.

The arguments by which he attempts to prove that all who are opposed to the Republican party are rebels and traitors, are certainly very convincing to a susceptible mind, and exhibit a rare order of demonstrative talent. We will try our hand: Democrats are Union men. Mattingly is opposed to them. He is therefore an enemy of the Union. An enemy of the Union is a traitor. *Ergo*, Mattingly is a traitor!

WE ARE TO BLAME?

A great many Republicans appear to think that Democrats ought to lay aside their principles of opposition to abolitionism, and engage in a war which, we are told by its especial champions, is to end in the abolition of slavery. By such declarations, they keep thousands of conservative men out of the army of the government, who are just as loyal as those who are denouncing them as traitors. Democrats are as willing to protect the government, which they have been mainly instrumental in erecting, as any citizens in that government; but they do not wish to enlist in a crusade against any institutions of the States, except such as are in violation of the Constitution, under pretense of protecting it. Of the thousands of Democrats who have enlisted, there are very few who will be willing to carry on the Republican programme of abolishing slavery instead of aiding the government. By declaring it to be the intention of the administration to abolish slavery, more injury is done to the cause of the government, by Republicans, than their labors have benefitted it. When fanatics come to their senses, they will see that conservative men were the best friends of the government.

MILITARY OFFICERS.

Our government has already seen some of the evil effects of appointing inexperienced men to responsible military positions. The affair at Great Bethel fully demonstrates the necessity of having experienced military commanders to make the forward movements.

So far as relates to officers, the Southern volunteers are equal, if not superior, to the Northern. A delay of actual hostilities will be for the advantage of the government volunteers, as it will enable them to attain a greater proficiency in military drill. The Northern troops are eager to test the statement which has frequently been made, that Southern troops were superior to them in all the points that go to make up the soldier. We think it makes no difference with a man's courage what part of the country he is from. But it is a fact, that military knowledge has heretofore been held in higher repute in the South than in the North; and consequently a knowledge of military matters is more generally diffused among the Southern people. The North has as good material for soldiers as the South, and will doubtless hereafter get possession of Bonnville.

WHAT ARE WE FIGHTING FOR?

The above question has been frequently asked and answered in different ways. The last answer we have seen is contained in the *Republican* of last week. We have no doubt but the sentiments in the extract are the sentiments of a majority of those who consider themselves the especial champions of the Union.

Here is a specimen of the doctrines of the "No Party," which Democrats are invited to endorse:

"Should hostilities prove the downfall of slavery, as Harper's Weekly predicts, and as millions more hope and pray, it will be SOME CONSO LATION for the expenditure of blood and treasure which the causeless rebellion has rendered necessary. That there is a growing disposition among the people to wipe slavery out of existence in some way, before the war closes, there is no doubt, regarding it as they do as the real cause of the rebellion; and were the government to declare that it is a war of freedom vs. slavery, it would not only have the sympathy of all Europe in a manner that would render it impossible for any government to run counter to it, but, could procure all the men and money on the other side of the Atlantic that might be needed to conquer the rebellion."

The face of such statements as the above, Democrats have been denounced for saying that they believed it was the intention of the Administration to abolish slavery "before the close of the war"—in Mattingly's own language. It is certainly high time that the people were looking about them and viewing the tendency which things are taking, when such sentiments are uttered and endorsed by a party that is trying to rally the entire North under its banner of enforcement of the laws. In abolishing slavery by the sword, what laws are they enforcing? In depriving citizens of Southern States of their property, are they acting according to the requirements of the Constitution, which guarantees equal rights to all? But such sentiments are too detectable for serious consideration. The man who will give expression to such sentiments, or endorse them, is said to be an Abolitionist as Garrison, Phillips, or Redpath. He is in favor of John Brown raids, on a large scale. At the beginning of hostilities, the only avowed object in calling for volunteers and increasing the army, was to enforce the laws and maintain the Constitution. Now we not infrequently hear it stated that this would be a good time to give the death blow to slavery. It has been stated, and but a few weeks ago, in a pulpit in this county, that this was God's instrument for the abolition of slavery. And yet Democrats are denounced because they fear this war is designed to aid Abolitionism more than to defend the government.

A great many Republicans are now beginning to speak their real abolition sentiments, and Mattingly is one of them.

THE DOUGLAS MONUMENT.

On our first page will be found an address to the people of the United States, and especially to the citizens of Illinois and the West, recommending the erection of a suitable monument to the memory of Senator Douglas. The call is signed by the most prominent men in Illinois, headed by the Governor.

The object is one that will command itself to the heart of the American people. He was our greatest statesman, and the favorite of his countrymen. Let the respect we had for him when living, find expression in liberal donations toward the erection of his monument. There is no doubt but the citizens of his county would be glad to have an opportunity of assisting in so worthy an enterprise. For this purpose, a committee should be appointed to receive and forward donations.

We hope the matter will be attended to without unnecessary delay.

NEW ILLINOIS SENATOR.

The great agony is over, and we have another evidence that "there is now but one party in the North." As we expected he would, Gov. Yates has appointed a Republican, named Browning, of whom little or nothing is known outside of his own State. This was according to programme, and nobody thinks strange of it. It is true that Democrats have been appointed to some offices, but there is generally a motive different from that ascribed to the appointing power.

TOWNSHIP CONVENTION.

The Democrats of this township should remember that next Saturday is the day appointed for holding the Democratic convention, to select delegates to the county convention, on the 29th inst. Democrats throughout the township should attend promptly.

LATEST WAR NEWS.

Union Victory at Bonnville.

St. Louis, June 18. The *Democrat* has a special dispatch from Jefferson City, which says: "A citizen of this place, who has just arrived in a skiff from six miles below Bonnville, Mo., brings the news that Gen. Lyon has attacked and completely routed the State forces at Bonnville, killing 300 and taking 600 prisoners. Gen. Price was mortally wounded. The Federal troops lost 17 killed. Owing to the place whence this news is derived, full confidence cannot be placed in it.

The statements regarding the cause of the fight are very conflicting, one being that a pistol shot was fired from the window of a house corner of Seventh and Locust, which took effect in the shoulder of one of the captains, when he gave the word to fire; another, that a soldier accidentally discharged his rifle in the ranks, at which the whole company became frightened, and discharged a full volley into the crowd on the sidewalk and at the windows of the house.

The Recorder's Court was in session, crowded with prisoners, spectators and police officers.

Pratt was shot in the side, and died in ten minutes. Deputy Marshal Franzo received three balls in the legs, and will undoubtedly die. The names of other persons who were killed on the ground are not ascertained.

Col. Boernstein is continually sending scouting parties into the country around Jefferson City. One company have returned, bringing in a large number of kegs of powder from one of Gov. Jackson's depots in the interior.

The secessionists of Boone, Holloway and Harvard counties are fleeing, and the Union Home Guards are beginning to organize in these counties."

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Mr. Gordon, of St. Louis, and other gentlemen from above, give the following account of the battle at Bonnville:

Gen. Lyon landed four miles below Bonnville and opened a heavy cannonade against the rebels who retreated and dispersed into the adjacent woods from whence, hidden behind bushes and trees, they opened a brisk fire on our troops. Gen. Lyon then ordered a hasty retreat to the boats, and the rebels, encouraged by this movement, rallied and followed the troops into a wheat field. Lyon now halted, fired his troops about, and, bringing his whole force of artillery to bear, opened a murderous fire on the rebels, 300 of whom were killed. The balance fled in all directions, leaving their arms on the field. Gen. Lyon then moved forward and took possession of Bonnville.

SECOND DISPATCH.

It is impossible to arrive at the truth relative to the cause of the firing upon citizens to-day by rebel troops. Scores of statements by eye-witnesses say that pistol shots were repeatedly fired from the windows of a house adjoining the Recorder's court room, and from the pavement; while an equal or greater number assert that no pistols were fired from windows or any other quarter; that the first and only shot before the general firing was the accidental discharge of a rifle in the ranks. The wound of Capt. Reische, however, is of such a character as to induce the belief that he was shot from a second or third story window, the ball entering his coat just back of the point of the left shoulder, tearing the skin across the spine, and passing out at the lower point of the right shoulder blade. Two or three members of the same company are said to be wounded by buckshot.

A large number of witnesses have been summoned to attend the coroner's inquest to-morrow morning, when it is hoped that the facts will be learned.

The following are additional names of those killed: Jabez Ferris, Curran Tracy, Louie Cella, and a man named Burns of Chicago.

Much excitement exists, but we hear of no demonstration of any character having been made.

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