

THE DEMOCRAT.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
T. & P. McDONALD.
PLATT McDONALD, Editor.
PLYMOUTH, INDIANA.
THURSDAY, JUNE 20TH, 1861.

SEEMS TROUBLED.

The Republican seems very much troubled about our suggestion in favor of holding a Democratic convention. Why this should cause it any more uneasiness at this time than the same suggestion 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 disfranchised, or be compelled to "bow in meek 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 Mattiny says there is no party,) to sail on the Union breeze which is just now blowing in the North, he denounces all as 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 flag in the past 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 be no doubt 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—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 obtuse mind that 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 assigned 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.

Mattiny'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 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 scavengers 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. Mattiny is opposed to them. He is therefore an enemy of the Union. An enemy of the Union is a traitor. Ergo, Mattiny is a traitor!

WHO 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 special 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 out 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 see that it is properly trained.

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 special champions of the Union.

Here is a specimen of the doctrine 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."

In the face of such statements as the above, Democrats have been denouncing for saying that they believed it was the intention of the Administration to abolish slavery, "before the close of the war"—in Mattiny'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 detestable for serious consideration. The man who will give expression to such sentiments, or endorse them, is as rank 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 pulp-it in this country, that this war 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 Mattiny 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 commend itself to the heart of the American people. He was our greatest statesman, and the favorite of his countrymen. Let the respect we have for him when living, find expression in liberal donations toward the erection of his monument. There is no doubt but the citizens of this country 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 Boonville.
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 Boonville, Mo., brings the news that Gen. Lyon had attacked and completely routed the State forces at Boonville, 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.

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

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

It is reported by reliable persons from Boonville that a fight had taken place between the Federal troops and State forces, and that 300 secessionists were killed and a large number prisoners. One report says that seventeen, and another 29, Federal troops were killed. Gov. Jackson has fled, and the State forces are completely routed.

St. Louis, June 18.

The *Democrat* has just received the following dispatch from Jefferson City:

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

Gen. Lyon landed four miles below Boonville 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, and called 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 Boonville.

Gen. Price was taken with a violent diarrhoea at the beginning of the battle, and was taken on a steamer and carried to his home in Charleston.

Gov. Jackson viewed the battle from a distant hill, and fled for parts unknown after the defeat of his forces.

There is great rejoicing among Union men here, and the stars and stripes are hoisted on the Capitol, guns were fired, and the Star Spangled Banner was played by the Regimental Band.

Scouting parties will be sent out in all directions to-morrow to cut off the retreat of the rebels.

The steamer Swan has arrived, with two cannon, ammunition, and artillerie, which have been planted at Col. Doernstein's headquarters.

Mr. Fitzpatrick, one of the most violent secessionists in the State, took the oath of allegiance to the United States government, in presence of all the officers here, to-day.

Ohio Troops Fired on by Rebel Batteries.
WASHINGTON, JUNE 18.

Late last night Gen. Scott received the following dispatch:

"I left camp according to instructions, with the First Ohio Regiment, 698 strong, and went on the expedition to Fall's Church, to patrol rounds in that direction. I then proceeded to Vienna with four companies—Company F, Capt. Padlock; Company C, Capt. Woodward; Company B, Capt. Bailey; Company H, Capt. Mallett—total 275 men.

On turning the curve within a quarter of a mile of Vienna, we were fired upon by a battery of (I think) three guns, with shell, round shot and grape, killing and wounding the men on the platform and in the cars. When the train stopped, we could not, on account of damage to some part of the running machinery, draw the train out of the fire, the engine being in the rear. We left the cars and retired to the right and left of the train, through the woods.

Finding that the enemy's batteries were sustained by what appeared to be a regiment of infantry and cavalry, which force we have since understood to be 1,500 South Carolina troops, we fell back on the railroad, throwing out skirmishers on both flanks. This was about 1 P.M.

Thus we retired slowly, bearing off our wounded for five miles, to this point, which we reached at 10 o'clock.

The following is a list of the casualties: In Capt. Hazlett's company, H, 2 known to be killed, 3 wounded, and 5 missing; Capt. Bailey's company, G, 3 killed, 2 wounded and 2 missing; Capt. Padlock's company, E, 1 officer slightly wounded; Capt. Peas' company, C, 2 missing.

The engineer, when the men left the cars, instead of retiring slowly, as I ordered, detached the engine with one passenger car from the rest of the disabled train, and abandoned us, running to Alexandria and we have heard nothing from him since. Thus we were deprived of a rallying point and all means of conveying the wounded, who had to be carried on litters and blankets.

We wait here, holding the road for reinforcement. The enemy did not pursue.

I have ascertained that the enemy's force at Fairfax Court House, four miles from Vienna, is now about 4,000.

When all the enemy's batteries opened upon us, Maj. Hughes was at his station on the foremost platform-car. Col McCook was with me in one of the passenger cars. Both these officers, with others of the commissioned officers, and many of the men, behaved most coolly under this galling fire, which we could not return, and from batteries which we could not flank or turn. From the nature of the ground.

The approach to Vienna is through a deep cut in the railroad. In leaving the cars, and before they could rally, many of my men lost their haversacks and blankets, but brought off all their muskets, except, it may be, a few that were destroyed by the enemy's first fire, or lost with the killed.

(Signed) "ROBT. C. SCHENCK, Brigadier General."

Another Tragedy in St. Louis.
St. Louis, June 17.

As a part of Col. Kallman's Regiment Reserve Corps, were returning from the North Missouri Railroad, about 11 o'clock this morning, when on the Revere's Court room, on Seventh street, between Olive and Locust, a company near the rear of the column suddenly wheeled and discharged their rifles, aiming chiefly at the Recorder's Court and the second story of the adjoining house, killing four citizens, mortally wounding two, and slightly injuring one.

The statements regarding the cause of the firing 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 houses.

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 Franz received three balls in the legs, and will undoubtedly die. The names of other persons who were killed on the present before are not ascertained.

The window just behind the Recorder's desk was riddled with bullets, and broken glass scattered over his desk. The bodies of the killed were removed by the Health Officer. A thorough investigation of the affair will be had, when the particulars will be given.

SECOND DISPATCH.

It is impossible to arrive at the truth relative to the cause of the firing upon citizens to-day by volunteer 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. Reiche, 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, Leuci 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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From the Baltimore Patriot, June 15.

The steamer Adelaide arrived this morning from Old Point Comfort, which place she left yesterday afternoon. Our reporter had conversation with

several of the passengers and some of the soldiers who came up as an escort with the remains of Lieut. Greble, and from them obtained the following particulars of the condition of affairs at Fortress Monroe.

It has been ascertained that the actual loss of the Federal troops in the battle was twelve killed and forty wounded. Of the killed seven bodies had been buried at Hampton.

A large number of those previously reported as among the missing had returned to the Fort. Their absence had excited apprehension for their safety, and their return accounts for the reduced number of the casualties first reported.

The masked battery at Great Bethel was commanded by Col. J. B. Magrader, and there were 2,800 men in the entrenchments, two Louisiana regiments having arrived an hour after the fight. They are reported to have thirty pieces of rifled cannon in possession.

Another battery is situated four miles above Great Bethel, on the road to Yorktown, and occupied by about four thousand men.

The number of troops at Richmond is estimated at about thirty thousand.

It is supposed that it was the intention of Gen. Butler to make an attack upon the battery at Great Bethel with the whole of the forces under his command, leaving only men enough in the fort to garrison it.

One of the men who was in the fight said that at the time it was going on, General Pierce was one mile distant from the scene of action, seated on his horse, and appeared to be entirely speechless. No order was given by him either to retreat or advance, and being without a proper head, the troops were compelled to retreat in a rather disorderly manner.

Great indignation continued to be expressed at his conduct, and the universal opinion was that he was utterly incompetent for the position. He is said to be a near relative to ex-President Pierce.

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locomotive boilers will be used as loads.—The car is to be placed in front of a locomotive, and with fifty men inside armed with Minie rifles, and men to work the cannon, there are few more terrible instruments of destruction.—*Scientific American.*

Prussian Officers for the U. S. Army.

It is stated by the Washington Correspondent of the Baltimore American that "the King of Prussia has given permission to officers in the Prussian army to offer their services to the government of the United States during the war for the maintenance of the integrity of the republic." This is important, if true, for it is the strongest evidence of sympathy on the part of the most warlike of the German nations—a power which possesses the most perfect infantry of Europe, and has more well-trained soldiers in proportion to its population than any other country in the world. Prussia has two laws which distinguish it from the rest of Europe. One is that every man must send his children to the public school; the other that every man, from the prince downwards, must serve seven years in military training. Consequently the whole population are soldiers. Hence it is that this little State has been able to hold its own ever since Frederick the Great