

## THE PLYMOUTH DEMOCRAT.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
T. & P. McDONALD.

PLATT McDONALD, ::::::: Editor.

PLYMOUTH, INDIANA:

THURSDAY, MAY 15TH, 1862.

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE,  
JAMES S. ATHON,  
OF MARION.FOR ATTORNEY OF STATE,  
JOSEPH RISTINE,  
OF FOUNTAIN.FOR TREASURER OF STATE,  
MATTHEW L. BRETT,  
OF DAVIES.FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
OSCAR B. HORD,  
OF DECATUR.SUTTER INSURANCE,  
SAMUEL L. RUGG,  
OF ALLEN.

## OBJECT OF THE WAR.

"Of all the sad spectacles, an aimless civil war is the saddest. The curse of the South American revolution has been, that they settled no question. Suppose the result of this war shall be to 'restore the Union as it was'—what shall we have gained? After all our outpouring of blood and treasure, we shall be just where we were before, and with no better assurance of lasting peace. But if we root out the cause of discord, that will be indemnity for the past and security for the future."

The above is from the Chicago Tribune of the 10th inst. We make the extract as embodying the sentiment of the President and the Administration. The Tribune is the recognized organ of the President in Illinois; and its statements may be regarded the same as if made by the President himself. It is useless to say that the President does not endorse the sentiments enunciated by the Tribune, for the facts prove the contrary to be true. If they did not meet his approbation, think you he would lavish upon it thousands upon thousands of dollars of patronage, and give it the first position among the Republican press of the State, by permitting it to be recognized as the organ of his Administration?

It is unnecessary to notice the sentiment contained in the above extract. It is diabolical in the fullest sense of the term. No man with a spark of patriotism would utter it.

The adoption of a policy for the extirpation of slavery, and not the restoration of the Union as it was, and the preservation of the Constitution as it is, is advocated by not only the disunion sheet above alluded to, but by the leading papers of the party which elected Mr. Lincoln. Instance the following from the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser:

"The Cincinnati Enquirer calls Vallandigham 'a constitutional' Democrat, who has no other desire than the restoration of the Union.' Yes, the restoration of the Union on the new ground and perpetuity of slavery. That's the only restoration he desires."

And the Syracuse, N. Y. Journal, commenting on the above, says:

"And in that respect he represents the sole remains of the Democratic party. 'The Union as it was,' is their motto. Thank God, that day of humiliation and peril is past."

That the President endorses such sentiments, and intends to adopt the policy advocated by the Tribune, there is little room to doubt. His emancipation scheme was merely to calm the radicals, until a more propitious season for adopting sum- mative measures.

We are safe in saying that at least two-thirds of the Republican party are in favor of the immediate and unconditional abolition of slavery in all the States. If conservative Republicans can act with a party advocating and attempting to carry out such doctrines, their conservatism is of a strange cast.

The Olive Branch, published at Indianapolis, says "the more taxes you pay, the plainer money will be." High taxes will doubtless make money plenty in the hands of the tax gatherer, but not among the people. To pay a tax of five per cent, or more may be a profitable investment, although we think it probable the O. B. will find it difficult to demon- strate to the tax payers.

The contractors and those high in office can doubtless see how "the more taxes you pay, the plainer money will be;" but it is not by any means certain that the tax payers will be able to see the 'pint' to it. In this instance we go with the masses.

We are under obligations to Hon. D. P. Holloway, of the Patent Office, at Washington, for some Cotton seed. Although not intending to compete with the darkies of the South in its production, we shall give it a trial.

We owe an apology for the quantity and quality of reading matter in this issue. Our time and attention have been devoted to matters outside the office.

Next week we shall publish the Address of the Democratic Members of Congress to the Citizens of the United States. It is an able document that should be in the hands of every voter.

## Naval Engagement on the Mississippi.

FLAG SHIP BENTON, May 10.  
To Gideon Welles, Sec'y Navy:

The Naval engagement for which the rebels have been preparing took place this morning. The rebel fleet of eight ironclad gunboats, four of them rams, came up handsomely. The fight lasted an hour. Two rebel gunboats were blown up and one sunk, when the enemy retreated precipitately under the guns of the fort.

Only two of our vessels were engaged. The Cincinnati sustained some injury from rams, but will be in fighting trim tomorrow.

Captain Stembel distinguished himself, and is seriously wounded.

The Benton is uninjured.

The rebel squadron is supposed to be commanded by Hollins.

C. H. DAVIS,  
Commander pro tem.

OFF FORT PILLOW, May 10.

At last the monotony is broken. We have had a fight and a glorious one too, purely naval, with nearly an equal number of boats on each side, and have sent the rebels back down the river badly crippled.

Early this morning, as usual, our mortar boats were towed down to their position for firing, it being a point on the Arkansas shore about one mile from the end of Craighead Point. The gunboat Cincinnati ran down as a convoy.

Scarcely had the mortars been moored in their position when the rebel ram Louisiana appeared coming round the point, accompanied by four other gunboats. The ram immediately opened fire on the Cincinnati, to which the latter replied with interest.

The rebel boats were all held in check by the Cincinnati alone, when the rest of the Federal fleet got under way and came to her assistance.

In the meantime the rebel ram, finding her guns ineffectual against the iron armor of the Cincinnati, approached her with the evident intention of running her down.

Captain Stembel, of the latter, prepared to meet the assault of the ram by opening his steam batteries and putting them in readiness for use.

As the rebel craft approached within close range, the Cincinnati turned her head about, causing the ram to run close beside her, when Capt. Stembel drew his pistol and very coolly shot the pilot, killing him instantly; but, a second afterwards, a musket ball struck the gallant Captain in his left shoulder, inflicting a painful and serious wound.

At this time the contest between the two boats was most intensely interesting. The crews of each were armed with carbines, cutlasses and boarding pikes, and were discharging volleys after volleys in succession at each other; while the ram was also endeavoring to run into her antagonist.

Just then the steam batteries of the Cincinnati were opened with terrible effect, throwing heavy volumes of steam and water into the rebel crew, causing the craft to withdraw in haste.

In the meantime the rebel fleet had been reinforced by three other vessels, and among them the new iron clad gunboat Mallory, lately built at Memphis. These three ran immediately up to the Cincinnati and engaged her at once. She withstood the assault most nobly, the shot of the enemy glancing off from her iron plating without causing the slightest damage, while her own guns were raining shot and shell with fearful effect upon the enemy.

At last the assault was repulsed, the Merrimac having been severely damaged, and the rebels were compelled to withdraw.

At 4 o'clock this morning a bright light was observed from Fortress Monroe in the direction of Craney Island. Presently at half-past four an explosion took place, which made the earth and water tremble for miles around. In the midst of the bright flame which shot up in the distance the timber and iron of a steamer could be seen flying through the air. No doubt was entertained that the Merrimac had ceased to exist.

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