

THE PLYMOUTH WEEKLY DEMOCRAT.

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PEACE.

Except army speculators and office seeking politicians, four-fifths of the American people, both north and south, desire immediate peace. The experiment of subjugation has been thoroughly tested, and now that the administration openly avows that it has no intention or desire to restore the "Union as it was," has proclaimed that it shall not be restored as it was, but that there shall be a separation or a Union without slavery; the people, by an overwhelming majority, cry out "stop the war."

The following is an extract from the last speech Senator Douglas ever made in Congress; and we commend it to the careful perusal of our readers, and especially to our abolition neighbors who have recently learned new songs of praise for the lamented Statesman. The speech was delivered on the 15th of March 1861 in the U. S. Senate:

"But we are told, and we hear it repeated everywhere, that we must find out if we have got a government. 'Have we a Government?' is the question; and we are told we must test that question by using the military power to put down all discontented spirits. Sir, this question 'have we a government?' has been pronounced by every tyrant who has tried to keep his feet on the necks of the people since the sacrifice—we say 'return our brave sons—when we went forth to fight for our old Union, not for a new one such as abolitionists may see fit to make to us; relieve us of our taxation that is bearing us to the earth, and which we have cheerfully endured for our country, and government, which you declare is destroyed.'

The people now demand, in thunder tones of might and power, tones that must be heard, that must be obeyed—or their rebellion servants must beware of the consequences—*re-store the Union, observe the Laws and preserve intact the constitution, or cease this war at once.*"

No more blood and no more treasure for abolitionism. This cry will soon be caught up by our outraged soldiery, and then it will be irresistible. Let our servants be warned in time. Let them learn to fear the strength of the people. "The Lion slumbering, is nevertheless a Lion."

THE AFRICAN.—A long one column of editorial is devoted by the editor of the *M. C. Republican* in his last week's issue, to the "free American citizen, of African descent." He takes up, and argues fully, powerfully and tearfully, the Osgood case, and demonstrates clearly that because Osgood wanted a negro he was, in justice and humanity, entitled to have one.

We might have some charity for this man Osgood if necessity had prompted him to violate the law; but it was nothing of the kind; it was philanthropy—negro philanthropy—an ardent, but unwise, affection for the colored "men and brother," that brought him to grief. Negroes, he thought, had a right to live in Marshall County the same as white people, and he made the experiment, and for a time it prospered so well, that three or four of his neighbors, who believe in the intrinsic superiority of Africa over America, resolved that they would have, teach, a dear, delightful bigger of his own; and completed the arrangements by which they were to be made happy, and we were on the point of being blessed with a "colored population," but alas, for the "best laid plans of mice and men"—the Law, the disregarded and despised Law, was still green in the memory of a few of our citizens, and the bright hopes were blasted.

The St. Joe Register and Laporte Union make mention of the flogging of Osgood, just make an account of it as they would a murder case, wondering, doubtless, at the leniency of Plymouth. We're sorry, but will say plainly, we want none of their negroes and *will have none*. We but speak the voice of two-thirds of the citizens of the country when we say that negroes cannot settle here. When they come contrary to law they will be dealt with immediately, when they come, under any circumstances, they will have to "avocate." This is no good point for colonization.

ALARMING.—A disease has broken out in our own, of a very peculiar and fatal nature, which at one time bid fair to become an epidemic, but which at present is not so alarming as we had cause to fear.—The disease is an entirely new one, and one our physicians do not understand very fully.

The patients are usually attacked with chills and vomiting, which is followed by a stupor, during which blackish spots appear on the skin. We believe the disease is pronounced to be *cerebro spinal meningitis*. There have been several deaths from the disease, but there have been no new cases since the change in the weather, and we trust it will extend no further.

CONGRESS RE-ASSEMBLED last Monday, and are providing for the negro, to the best of their ability.

WILBUR.—In the statement of the Wilbur case in last week's *Republican* the editor does Mr. LOGAN gross injustice. The individual who informed the editor that our Sheriff made an effort to procure the order for the arrest of Wilbur, is an infamous, unmitigated, unqualified and despicable liar, to be plain about it. Mr. Logan received the order of arrest and discharged his duty by executing it.

We cannot account for the fury of our abolition neighbors about this matter.—They want to put down the rebellion, soldiers are needed for that purpose, every one helps. Wilbur and all the rest of the recruiting officers in the State, are perfectly useless, in that capacity; then why this great desire to keep them out of service, have them draw their pay and bore the humiliations in which they are located, with their idleness and insolence?

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The Barons demanded Magna Charta from King John at Runnymede, he exclaimed, "Have we a government?" and called for his army to put down the discontented Barons. When Charles I. attempted to collect the ship money in violation of the constitution of England, and in disregard of the rights of the people, he exclaimed "Have we a Government?"

In the fight between Gen. Sullivan's force and Forrest's cavalry, on the 1st instant, near Lexington, Tenn. the rebels were completely routed, losing 4,000 killed and wounded, 400 or 500 prisoners, canon, horses, arms, &c. The Federal loss was 800.

The Illinois Legislature will undoubtedly organize to-day. Col. Buckmaster will probably be Speaker of the House.

We have advice from Holly Springs that Gen. Grant's movements are only temporarily delayed by the damage done by the rebels to the railroad between Humboldt and Columbus. It appears that the Federals, as well as the Confederates have tried their hand at the destruction of railroads. Col. Dickey, some two weeks ago, inflicted great damage upon the Mobile and Ohio Road, between Okolona and Saltillo; and Gen. Grant has since utterly destroyed the Mississippi Central Road from Coffeeville to Oxford. When the rebels fell back from Holly Springs, Lee's cavalry pursued them, and captured a large portion of the booty they had taken.

Gen. Blunt telegraphs from Van Buren, Ark. that the rebels retreated on the night of the 28th ult. in the direction of Arkadelphia; and that the rebel forces in the Indian Territory had been driven across the Arkansas River. The rebel loss in the battle of Prairie Grove is acknowledged to have been 4,000.

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The California steamer Ocean Queen has arrived at New York, with \$300,000 in treasure. This is one of the vessels relative to whose capture by the Abolitionists some apprehensions have been entertained.

On the 28th ult. the 10th Kentucky Cavalry, Major Foley, from Gen. Grant's army, surprised a rebel camp of 800, in Campbell county, Tennessee, and demolished it. The surprise was most complete, for, without the loss of a man killed or wounded, the Federals killed 30, wounded 52 took 57 prisoners, captured 97 horses and destroyed the entire rebel camp, arms, stores, &c.

The rumor prevalent at Louisville that 15,000 rebels are moving on that city is not credited by the military authorities.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.

After some fighting on Friday and Saturday, the rebels evacuated Murfreesboro, and retreated towards Tallahoma. Bragg may, it is said, make a stand near that point, but the probabilities are that he will not do so north of the Tennessee River. The Federal loss in killed and wounded is about 6,000, and the rebels claim that they took 4,000 prisoners. The loss of the enemy is reported as being fully as great as ours, if not considerably greater.

Gen. Grant telegraphs to Gen. Halleck, under date of Holly Springs, the 4th inst., that he learns from rebel sources that the Grandam *Appeal* announces the capture of Vicksburg by the Federals. A dispatch from Vicksburg to Richmond, dated the 30th ult., claims that the Federals had been repulsed with heavy loss on each of the three preceding days, and that severe fighting was then going on. Col. Wyman of the 13th Illinois, is among the Federal leaders.

Reports from Washington are, that a large portion of Lee's army has been withdrawn from the Rappahannock; that Burnside has resigned, and Hooker been ap-

pointed in his stead; that Butler is to be sent to a thickly populated slave district, to organize an army of negroes; that England and Russia have reconsidered their action upon the French proposition for intervention; and that iron clad have been sent to Wilmington to cut off railroad communication with Charleston. The appropriation bills during the present session of Congress will, it is said, cover the sum of \$1,000,000,000.

THE NEWS.

WASHINGTON Jan. 5.

We received no dispatches from the East last evening, in consequence of the wires being out of order.

The battle of Murfreesboro, or Stone's River, was still undecided at last advices. It continued throughout Thursday and Friday, and at the close of the latter day, our forces had gained a decided advantage, but were unable to press it on account of the approach of darkness. The engagement was to have been renewed on Saturday. Our loss up to Friday night, was estimated at 4,000 killed and wounded, several thousand prisoners, and thirty-two cannon; the rebel loss at 4,000 to 5,000 killed and wounded, 1,000 prisoners, and four thousand.

Later.—It is said that the Governor of Indiana received on Saturday night a dispatch from Gen. Rosecrans calling for immediate reinforcements, as the enemy were receiving fresh troops from Richmond.

Advices from Vicksburg are to Monday last. There had been terrible fighting for five days. Gen. Sherman had carried three of the enemy's lines of works, and indications were that the fourth and last, only two miles from the city, had also been taken.

The belief is expressed that Vicksburg is, by this time, in the hands of the Federals. Sherman was reinforced, on Sunday, the 28th ult., by 9,000 men from Grant's army. An engagement is reported between the gunboats and the rebels batteries at Yazoo City. The result is not stated.

The renowned iron-clad Monitor foundered on Tuesday last, south of Cape Hatteras.

Forty lives were lost by the casualty. The existence of the Monitor has been brief but glorious.

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I shall not on this occasion dwell upon the condition of our country. The power and the position of our own State have been happily alluded to by my predecessors.

My views upon this subject will be laid before you in a few days, in my message to the Legislature.

This occasion, fellow-citizens, when official power is so courteously transferred from the hands of one political organization to those of another, holding opposite sentiments upon public affairs, is not only a striking exemplification of the spirit of our institutions, but highly honorable to the minority party. Had our misguided fellow citizens of the South acted as the minority of the citizens of our own State (a minority but little inferior in numbers to the majority) are now acting in this surrender of power, the nation would not now be involved in civil war. [Applause.]

These constitutions do not conflict. The line of separation between the responsibilities and obligations which each imposes is well defined. They do not embarrass us in the performance of our duties as citizens or officials. [Applause.]

I shall not on this occasion dwell upon the condition of our country. The power and the position of our own State have been happily alluded to by my predecessors.

What is the state of the country? What are our prospects? We are approaching the end of the second year of the war, the Government has expended over a thousand millions of dollars; two hundred thousand loyal soldiers have been sacrificed in their heroic devotion to the Union cause; we have, in round numbers, an army of a million of men in the field, a navy numbering between three and four hundred vessels of war, and employing thirty thousand men; we are spending hardly less than three millions of dollars a day; and while a bill providing for another thousand millions of public debt is pending before Congress; our tax-paying people, in contemplation of these heavy burdens, and disheartened by repeated disasters and failures, are unanimously and earnestly inquiring, What are our prospects?

Under the existing condition of things, we can only answer that our prospects are gloomy enough. We have fought many bloody battles; the Union forces have effected a lodgment here and there in every rebellious State; several doubtful States, and that close of my official term may find our people united in peace and fraternal affection, and the Union restored to what it was while we listened to the advice of our Fathers. [Cheers.]

While fully aware that I shall have but little control of public affairs, in the position to which I have been called, and cannot do much to shape events, I yet venture to trust that, before the end of my term of service, the country will again be great, glorious, and united as it once was;

and, in conclusion, I now offer to Almighty God my fervent prayer that the clouds which overhang us may be scattered, and that the close of my official term may find our people united in peace and fraternal affection, and the Union restored to what it was while we listened to the advice of our Fathers. [Cheers.]

FELLOW CITIZENS—I thank you for this kind reception. I thank those who differ with me politically for their presence here and participation in this scene, for it affords emphatic testimony to the constitutional obligations yet felt by the people of this great State. [Immense applause, amidst which the Governor withdrew.]

Protest Against The Indemnifying Bill.

In the House of Representatives, on the 22d, Mr. Pendleton of Ohio offered a resolution that the protest and remonstrance of thirty-six members of the House submitted therewith against the unconstitutional and injurious nature of the bill recently passed indemnifying the President and others for suspending the writ of habeas corpus be entered on the journal. After stating the circumstances under which the bill was passed, their protest, concludes as follows:

They protest against the refusal of the House to permit the consideration and discussion of the bill as an arbitrary exercise of power by the majority, unjust to the men, unjust to their constituents, and derogatory to their character as a Legislative body.

They protest against the passage of the bill.

First. Because it purports to deprive the citizen of all existing peaceful legal

modes of redress for admitted wrongs, and thus compels him tamely to submit to the injury inflicted or to seek illegal or forcible remedies.

Second. Because it purports to indemnify the President and all acting under his authority for acts admitted to be wrongful at the expense of the citizen against whom the wrongful acts have been perpetrated, in violation of the plainest principles of justice and the just, familiar percepts of constitutional law.

Third. Because it purports to confirm and make valid by act of Congress arrests which were not only not warranted by the Constitution of the United States, but were in palpable violation of its express prohibitions.

Fourth. Because it purports to authorize the President during this rebellion at any time, as to any person, and everywhere throughout the limits of the United States, to suspend the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus, whereas according to the constitution the power to suspend the privileges of that writ is confined to the discretion of Congress alone, and is limited to the places threatened by the dangers of invasion or insurrection.

Fifth. Because, for these and other reasons, it is unwise, and unjust, and an invasion of private rights, an encouragement to violence and a precedent full of hope to all who would usurp despotic power and perpetuate it by the arbitrary arrest and imprisonment of all who oppose them.

I have also sworn to support another Constitution—the Constitution of the States of New York with all its powers and rights. I shall uphold it. [Great applause.] I have sworn faithfully to perform the duties of the office of Governor of this State, and with your aid they shall be faithfully performed. These constitutions and laws are meant for the guidance of official conduct and for your protection and welfare.

The first law I find recorded for my observance is that which declares "It shall be the duty of the Governor to maintain the sovereignty and jurisdiction of the States" [Applause]; and the most marked injunction of the Constitution to the Executive is, that he "shall take care that the Laws are faithfully executed." [Cheers.]

These constitutions do not conflict. The line of separation between the responsibilities and obligations which each imposes is well defined. They do not embarrass us in the performance of our duties as citizens or officials. [Applause.]

Sixth, and finally. Because in both its sections, it is a deliberate, palpable and dangerous violation of the constitution, according to the plain sense and intention of that instrument, and is, therefore, utterly null and void.

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