

## THE PLYMOUTH WEEKLY DEMOCRAT.

## THE PLYMOUTH DEMOCRAT.

J. G. OSBORNE, :: : : Editor.

PLYMOUTH, INDIANA:

THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1864.



DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

For Treasurer

D. O. QUIVEY.

For Sheriff

H. M. LOGAN.

For Coroner

J. B. N. KLINGER.

For Commissioner, 1st District,

H. A. RANK.

9TH DISTRICT  
DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

A Democratic Convention of Delegates from the Counties composing the 9th Congressional District in Indiana, will be held at

Valparaiso Thursday, July 21, 1864.  
At 11 o'clock A. M., to nominate a candidate for Congress, and transact other business.

S. A. HALL,  
Ch's 9th Dist. Dem. Com.

Logansport, June 29th, 1864.

## FREE SPEECH AND FREE PRESS.

Article 1st of the amendments of the Constitution of the United States reads as follows, viz:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and petition the government for a redress of grievances."

This is no "glittering generality," or mere rhetorical flourish. It means that a free press and free speech are among the inestimable rights of the people, and shall not be wrested from them by Congress, if it means any thing at all. And so long as this provision remains in the Constitution, just so long will the people have the legal right to give expression to their opinions on all subjects of public policy, whether favorable to the party in power for the time, or otherwise. The framers of the Constitution ever jealous of the encroachments of power upon the rights of the people, erected this as they supposed insuperable barrier to the destruction of those rights. So far then it is clear that Congress has no authority under the Constitution to abridge the freedom of speech, or of the press. Is this authority vested in any other department of the government? The President is invested with the "executive power" of the government, and makes a solemn oath that he will, to the best of his ability, "preserve, protect, and defend, the Constitution of the United States." It is also made a part of his duty to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed." Clearly the "executive power" has no authority to abridge the freedom of speech, or of the press, and no man ever pretended that the judicial department of the government possesses any such authority. Where then may it be found?—for the power (not the authority) has been found and executed in a thousand instances during the last three years. We answer, it has been usurped, and that too, by the very man who with head bare, and hand uplifted in the presence of Almighty God, solemnly swore to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution." It has been usurped by military commanders, "dressed in a little brief authority" in direct violation of the awful solemnity of the oath, resting upon them, to "support the Constitution of the United States," under the tyrants plies of military necessity. And there are found those so lost to all sense of the value of liberty as to justify them for so doing; they seem to forget that one of the causes of complaint by our revolutionary fathers against the King of Great Britain was that, "He has affected to render the military independent of, and superior to, the civil power." What King George effected to do, King Abraham has done; what our fathers feared, we their sons have suffered, and yet the party at whose hands we suffer, boldly and unblushingly charge us with disloyalty, because we dare complain of the monstrous usurpations of those in power. We have a right to complain to remonstrate against the destructive course pursued by our would-be-imperial rulers. As citizens we have the right freely, fully and thoroughly to canvas and discuss the public official acts of our rulers. The following from an able cotemporary fully expresses our views on this subject, that we give it place:

NAPOLEON B. TAYLOR, Esq., candidate for Supreme Judge, in a letter to a friend in this place, after noticing the mention made of him two weeks ago, says:

"As far as Democratic principles are concerned I have never swerved from the true faith of the fathers; and have no intention to do so, come what may. I do not know what the result will be between Judge P. and myself, and shall not trouble it whether favorable or otherwise. Judge P. has great advantages over me in having held the office so long, and in his extensive acquaintance. He has also a deservedly high reputation as a jurist which gives much additional strength to his claims on the party."

The postponement of the Chicago Convention took us all by surprise, but after mature deliberation I am inclined to the opinion that it is for the best. I hope now that the Democracy, when they meet on the 29th of August, will be bold and outspoken in the truth—that they will act like men; and take the tyrant by the beard, and not let go nor cease their labor until he has been pulled down from his high place and trampled under foot, humbled and helpless, with the breath of life scarcely left in his loathsome carcass. This, to me, would be a greater and more lasting satisfaction than the nomination to the most exalted position. Then we might have some assurance that we could enjoy life, family, friends and property in peace and prosperity. But as it is, what a picture is before us! What have we to cheer us now or in the future? Nothing but shadows clouds and darkness!"

The Abolitionists at Baltimore nominated a monkey and a tailor as their standard bearers. "Nineteen tailors and a monkey make a man" according to an old adage, hence only eight more tailors are required to make the full complement of one man on their ticket.

peacefully urge upon the administration, the propriety and necessity of such recognition. If men believe in Monarchy, or in an established Church, they have a perfect right to say so, and to urge their fellow citizens to adopt them. The right of a State to secede, or the right of the Federal Government to use force to coerce, stand upon the same plane, so far as the right to discuss are concerned.

These facts are so patent that it is humiliating for an American to have to state them. Any measure, or any constitution of Government or any party that cannot stand the test of discussion, ought to be repudiated or abandoned.

This principle should ever be maintained. Every citizen owes it to his dignity and self-respect to insist that his neighbor shall treat his views with the same deference that he yields to his in discussion or argument. No man should ever admit that the right to express political or religious views depends at all upon their character. Whenever it is so declared, there is eminently a case for a personal rebuke of the offending party who is guilty of the arrogance and folly."

## REPUBLICAN COUNTY CONVENTION.

The adherents to the waning fortunes of the administration, met in solemn convention at Woodward's Hall on Saturday last, and went through the farce of nominating a County ticket. The victims selected for the autumn sacrifice were Schlarb for Treasurer, Babington for Sheriff, Tyner for Commissioner and G. Blain for Coroner.

Schlarb has been until within a few days past a rabid Fremontite and was nominated to secure the German vote. We understand that on the day of the convention he told some of the leaders here that he could control the German vote of the county for Fremont, but if they would nominate him he would "hold the Germans level for Lincoln," and upon this assurance he was nominated, in the hope thus to buy up at a low price the German vote of the county. Vain hope! that apple will turn to ashes on their lips. We also learn that in as much as Babington is in the employ of the government at three dollars a day, it was concluded that he could *letter off* to make the race and be slaughtered, than any other man who could be induced to accept the nomination. Of course the leaders have no hope of electing a man on the ticket, the nominations were made on the score of policy—Schlarb is a new recruit and needs tying to the party. Babington has been diligently doing that portion of their party work which they could get no other man to do, and needs be encouraged with a show of party confidence to keep him well at his work. Tyner was the only man in his district who wanted the nomination, and Blain we are told has manifested symptoms of independence lately, more creditable to him than agreeable to his party, hence the importance of placing him if possible under stronger obligations to stand firm during the canvass. Who are the nomination for coroner purchase his silence? We think not.

The attendance at the convention was very small, the people apparently taking no interest in the affair. We are safe in saying that there have been full as many persons in town almost every Saturday for the last three months as there were on the day of the convention, notwithstanding it had been freely announced as a mass convention, and that Dr. Belford, "the gifted, the talented, the eloquent Belford" would be present and address the masses. The thing was a complete failure, hardly amounting to a respectable fizzle, and when it was over the participants departed with elongated faces and lugubrious countenances to ponder upon the mutations of political life, and the prospect of an early accomplishment of their darling scheme of negro equality.

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## Arbitrary Arrest.

Day before yesterday as the Confederates officers, Chenoweth and Morgan, were leaving the Bates House, ordered to Camp Morton, Mr. Daniel Noe, recognized one of them as an old California acquaintance, and on the impulse exclaimed, "How are you, Colonel?" Immediately Mr. Noe was arrested, Gen. Carrington himself stepping in to headquarters under guard, there undergoing examination. Mr. Noe stated that he had known Captain Cal Morgan in California years ago; that a week previously he had been permitted to talk to him by the Lieutenant commanding the guard having him in charge; and that, meaning nothing disloyal, he had merely on the impulse of the moment recognized an old friend. He conceived that such recognition was one of the privileges of an American citizen, military or no military. Mr. Noe was of course discharged. But the point is this:

Gen. Carrington, who himself has never been to war like Capt. Cal Morgan. Gen. Carrington, who was once dispatched for good cause before he got beyond the Union Depot—Gen. Carrington, who has never been in the field like Morgan and Chenoweth—who has never risked his precious carcass or split a drop of his blood—Gen. Carrington, a patriotic popinjay and loyal automaton from Ohio comes into this free State of Indiana, and dressed in shoulder straps, pretenses to arrest a citizen for exchanging words of civility with a friend!

Are these infinitesimal grubs of the government, mole-eyed fellows here at home, whose hearts would faint like a sparrow's if anything they had about them should happen to go off half cocked—are such men hereafter to be allowed to step up and tap a free American citizen on the shoulder and demand him as a prisoner, simply because of some whimsical authority of their own or their masters? If Carrington, or those whom he serves, want to take prisoners, let them go upon the battlefield and do it. But it is mighty foolish to hint anything of the kind. Carrington has not been to war, and does not design to go, as we have said. In fact, as we have stated, he can't be trusted further in that direction than the Union Depot—Yes, he once went to Louisville, but there were many miles and brave soldiers between him and John Morgan. Brave and chivalrous Carrington, hail and farewell.—*State Sentinel*.

THE NEWS.

From the Chicago Times, July 4.

At latest advices from Grant's army, artillery was being placed for the purpose of bombarding Petersburg. There were indications of a speedily approaching conflict at Foster's position, north of the James River. Wilson's cavalry had done great damage to the Danville and Richmond and the Petersburg and Lynchburg Railroads, burning the bridges and destroying the track for many miles. On attempting to rejoin the army, they were intercepted by a large force of rebels, and the 6th Corps had been dispatched to their relief.

Particulars are at hand of the disaster to Gen. Sherman on the 27th ult. It appears that, on the morning of that day, an assault was made upon the rebel works along the whole line, with the object of driving Johnston from his position at Kenesaw Mountain. The Federals charged gallantly, but could not withstand the terrible fire poured in upon them, and were compelled to retreat, having suffered a loss of some 3,000 men. One account states that Gen. Hooker was dangerously wounded; while others make no mention of such an occurrence, but report the killing of Gen. Harker. The Nashville Union of the 30th ult., however, announced that Gen. Joseph Hooker had died from wounds received in the battle, and that his remains were expected in that city on that day.

It is considered certain that Senator Fossenden, though with great reluctance, has accepted, or will accept, the position of Secretary of the Treasury.

The conscription bill, as passed by both houses of Congress yesterday, abolishes conscription; gives fifty days for volunteering before a draft; allows recruiting in rebel States, with the exception of Tennessee, Arkansas, and Louisiana; and fixes the bounty at \$100 for one year's service, \$200 for two years, and \$300 for three years.

From the Chicago Times July 6th.

On Sunday, General Grant made a demand for the unconditional surrender of Petersburg. What answer was made by the rebels is yet unknown.

President Lincoln informs Gov. Seymour that a rebel force of 15,000 to 20,000 has invaded Maryland, attacking Martinsburg and Harper's Ferry, and is threatening the Petersburg and Lynchburg Railroads, burning the bridges and destroying the track for many miles. The Federals charged gallantly, but could not withstand the terrible fire poured in upon them, and were compelled to retreat, having suffered a loss of some 3,000 men. One account states that Gen. Hooker was dangerously wounded; while others make no mention of such an occurrence, but report the killing of Gen. Harker. The Nashville Union of the 30th ult., however, announced that Gen. Joseph Hooker had died from wounds received in the battle, and that his remains were expected in that city on that day.

Mr. Fossenden has accepted the Secretaryship of the Treasury, and entered upon the duties of the office at noon yesterday. The rebels in Arkansas are operating to cut Gen. Steele's White River communications. Doubts are expressed as to their success.

In the Dano-Germanic Conference the proposition for arbitration was rejected, and the belief was entertained that hostilities would recommence on the termination of the period fixed for the armistice.

Gold closed in New York yesterday at

An editor, in speaking of a steamboat, said: "She had twelve berths in the ladies' cabin." "Oh, me of me," exclaimed an old lady upon reading the above, "what a dreadful squalling there must have been."

Jenkins says the draft of a speaker's remarks he heard the other night, was higher and cooler than any showoff he ever saw.

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