

## THE PLYMOUTH DEMOCRAT.

J. G. OSBORNE &amp; S. L. HARVEY, Editors.

PLYMOUTH, INDIANA:

THURSDAY, JULY 6, 1865.



## Radicalism in Missouri.

Not the least odious among the fanatical vagaries of the radicals of the present day is the attempt on the part of Gov. Fletcher, and Secretary of State, Rodman, to foist upon the people of the State of Missouri what is known as the "Drake Constitution" recently enacted by the charocal convention of that state. This infamous document, by which no one who is opposed to negro suffrage, and the whole system of radical usurpations, is to be permitted to participate in the conduct of affairs in Missouri, has been submitted to a vote of the people, and condemned scouted, spit upon and defeated by a majority of the voters, is nevertheless, by the seroundrelism of Gov. Fletcher and his political associates to be declared the supreme law of the State. Secretary Rodman for a time permitted the returns of the election to be examined and telegraphed to St. Louis and elsewhere, but as soon as it was ascertained that by a system of fraud the returns could be so manipulated as to afford an excuse for declaring in favor of the new Constitution, he suddenly discovered that he had no right to allow any one except the Governor to see the election—His course in this matter is at variance with both law and custom from time immemorial, and there is no doubt but that they intend by this manouvre to saddle upon the people of that state a constitution never adopted by them, and which by its terms will perpetuate the power of the charcoals for a long time to come.

The Saint Louis Dispatch, independent in politics, though a decidedly loyal paper that expresses itself relative to the high handed outrage of Fletcher Rodman & Co.

The proof thickens that the fraudulent combination between Secretary Rodman and Thomas C. Fletcher, and others to count a majority of voters in favor of the New Constitution will be persisted in—There are not a few facts fixing conclusively the most shameful and criminal frauds in almost every part of the State to increase the vote for, and diminish the vote against the Constitution.

These facts are many of them known to the conspirators. But there are other facts which more directly and personally implicate the Governor and Secretary of State. One of the most significant of these is the refusal of Rodman to allow any opponent to the Constitution to see the returns on the in his office."

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"Persons are daily and hourly inquiring of us what news we have from Jefferson City. What additional returns have been received? How does the vote stand now? Is the New Constitution adopted or rejected? These questions are on everybody's lips. They are prompted by that many interest in the preservation of their liberties, which American laws have always encouraged American freemen to exhibit. But no answer comes to them. We are utterly in the dark. The Secretary of State's office is shrouded in mystery, and darkness. His office is barred against the people. The records and papers, which are the property of the people, are jealously guarded against their scrutiny. What the vote is—whether the Drake Constitution has been adopted or rejected, are matters of which the Secretary of State permits the people to know nothing.

Was such an extraordinary spectacle ever before witnessed in a free country?

Since writing the above, we learn that the new Constitution has been declared adopted by a majority of 1800, and will go into operation immediately.

"The Republican is out in favor of negro suffrage—just as we expected—Dem.

The Democrat is opposed to negro suffrage for the reason that it is afraid the black man, if he has half a chance, will rise higher in the scale of morality and intelligence than the masses of the Democracy, and we acknowledge that its fears are not without grounds.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Democrat is opposed to a black man with a white, loyal heart having the privilege of voting, but has not the least objection to a white man with a black, disloyal heart, with hands red with the blood of loyal men, exercising that privilege?" Republican.

The Republican admits that it is in favor of negro suffrage, and seeks to turn attention from its odious position by knowingly uttering an infamous falsehood as to the motives of the Democrat in opposing it. The Republican will not be able to convince its readers that it has spoken the truth, and we enter our disclaimer, only that our silence may not even seem to endorse the assertions of the Republican.

The officiating clergyman at the marriage of a deaf and dumb couple, wittily and gallantly wished them unspeakable bliss.

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## NUMBER 44.

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## A Christian View.

Why men in the north who have suffered comparatively little from the war should be so much more bitter in their feelings to the rebels than the loyal people of the border slave states are, we are unable to divine. The Saint Louis Dispatch, a paper that has steadily supported the administration in its efforts to crush the rebellion, and which is also an able exponent of anti-slavery principles, discourses as follows:

"To us the white people of the South, though lately insurgent, are still Americans of the same race, blood and language with ourselves. *Nig, they are in fact our near kinsmen*, and may claim the hospitality of kinsmen from their conquerors. When the Israelites had sufficiently punished the Benjamites for the cruel outrage which a few young men of that tribe had inflicted upon the concubine of a Levite temporarily sojourning in one of their cities, they remembered that the beaten Benjamites were their brethren, children of the same ancestors and one of the twelve tribes. The reflection disarmed them of their wrath, and they immediately set to work to heal the wounds which their fury had inflicted, and restore Benjamin to his ancient dignity, equality, and power. The people of the South are our brethren. We had to forget that they were our brothers, during the war; but it becomes us to remember it now, when we are asked, after vanquishing them, to place them under the feet of a race which has all the galling memories of recent subjugation to goad them to a remorseless use of their new power. It would indeed be a spectacle of perfect retribution to give the ballot to the blacks that they might make slaves of their late masters; but let us beware how we demand that perfect retribution be meted out to others. We are not altogether sinless in this matter. *We ourselves helped to cast off the negroes of the South*—We brought them from Africa, placed fetters on their limbs, sold them to Southern masters, and *legalized the iniquity in the Constitution of the United States*. We in, what we vainly called the spirit of liberty, abolished slavery in Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut and other Northern States; but we sold our slaves to the South for a price.

These are ugly facts, and we would rather forget them, in counting up the wickedness of, and the responsibility for, slavery. But it is necessary to remember them, in computing our share in the iniquity."

## An Important Issue.

It is easy to perceive that the question of negro suffrage is to become an important issue in the politics of the country, and in congress during the next two months. Already the jacobin philanthropists are forcing it upon the people. Gen. Butler, who has done so little for the country and so much for himself during the war, has announced his platform containing only two planks, viz.: Negro suffrage in the south, and the division of southern lands among the soldiers. This platform if once adopted would make the white population of the south slaves to the negro element there. Wendell Phillips demands negro suffrage, and threatens in case of refusal, the repudiation of the national debt.—Ashley of Ohio, Beecher of New York, and the Tribunes of the press, are raising a violent clamor against president Johnson for his refusal to espouse the Butler platform, and are taking the initiatory steps to organize a new party in opposition to his administration, the first duty of which will be to bring a sufficient amount of pressure to bear upon the next congress to force it to grant the elective franchise to Americans of African descent, and ex-Governor ex-Secretary, now Supreme Judge Chase, has been on a tour in the southern states making stump speeches as the champion of the new idea. An able contemporary, discussing this subject, says: "When it is remembered that negro suffrage in Alabama, and South Carolina, where the negroes are larger in numbers than the whites, and are continually multiplying in a more rapid rate, means the subjection of the whites to negro domination—then the question becomes another thing altogether. There are many persons in the north who could witness the subjection of the whites of the south to negro rule with savage delight. This class is composed of doctrinaires upon whom the chains of friendship, kindred and race have no hold; and persons in whose bosoms the late war engendered a hatred for the insurgent people of which, even the spectacle of their utter humiliation cannot quench. The former demand negro suffrage to satisfy an abstract logic; the latter demand it to appease a savage thirst for vengeance."

The granting of the franchise to the negroes of the south, we have said, would enable them to outvote the whites and dominate over them with brutal rule. It would do more. It would lead to a material change in our whole system of government. The negroes of the south would become mere auxiliaries of the north, would side with the north in every party contest, and thus the southern states instead of continuing states, would degenerate into mere provinces; while the struggle of the white race, inferior in numbers, but superior in intelligence, and spirit, against the unaccustomed degradation, would make insurrection an ever present feature in our economy, and lead to perpetual strife."

The case of Palmer, editor of the *States and Union*, against the town of Concord, N. H., a suit for damages for the destruction of his newspaper office by a mob, in 1861, was carried to the full bench for a decision upon the constitutionality of the law making larceny liable for damages by mobs. At the late term of the Court, in Manchester, the law was declared to be unconstitutional. The case will now be tried by jury.

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Gen. Cartington leaves the city to-morrow, for Columbus, Ohio, subsiding formally into private life. Indiana can spare him.

Great preparations are in progress for the next state fair, at Fort Wayne, which will probably surpass any previous exhibition of the sort in Indiana.

## Death of Mr. Edmund Ruffin.

We are distressed to see by the Richmond papers, that this remarkable and high-souled Virginian committed suicide a few days since, at Danville unable, as he declared, to outlive the loss of liberty in the grand old commonwealth he loved so well. Mr. Ruffin was of the old rebel and heroic school of Washington, Henry and Marshall, but he was also one of the most progressive and advanced men of the day, and did more for the agricultural improvement of Virginia, and perhaps of the whole country, than any other man of his generation. He never was a disunionist, indeed, was one of the truest and soundest Union men in the land, and it was only when the common government of the State was usurped by the Abolition faction, and war was forced on the South, that he, with millions of other good and true men, were forced into resistance. It is an awful trial for Virginia, it is true, the proud old State whose sons made the Union all it was, to now lie prostrate at the feet of New England Federalists and lunatic Abolitionists, but she will yet emerge from her despair and degradation, and, we doubt not, become even more glorious in the future than when she trained her Washingtons, Jeffersons, Clays and Monroes for the common country.

The Logansport Pharos has entered upon its 22d volume, and has been under the management of the present proprietor from the commencement of its existence. In commencing the new volume the proprietor has enlarged its size to a nine column sheet, making it the largest weekly paper, we believe, in the State. The editor in alluding to the cause for enlarging says the present size of the Pharos has been literally forced upon its proprietor by the demands upon its advertising columns made by the intelligent and public spirited business men of that city. The Pharos is a live paper, ably conducted, and entitled to the combined support of the democratic citizens of Cass County.

Brute HUNTER.—The Doylesstown (Pa.) Democrat gives the following account of the President of the "Vigilance Committee Court," at Washington, Brute Hunter. It says:

On his retreat from Lynchburg, last year, a wounded sergeant of cavalry, who had walked a long distance, one day took a big nigger with two horses, and asked him to lend him one to ride to camp. He refused, and the sergeant took the rains of one, and sat down on the roadside, not having ridden the horse a foot. The negro reported to Hunter that a soldier had stolen one of his horses, when he and his staff rode to the spot, where the soldier still sat. Hunter, in his brutality, ordered a member of his staff to whip the soldier, which he did, in his mean subversiveness, until great welts were raised on his body. That night the negro was shot. General Hunter has not yet been called to account, but will be when the stars are off his shoulders. The soldier who was thus cruelly outraged lives but a few miles from here, and himself and friends know how to obtain satisfaction for a great wrong.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, July 2.

The selection of Benj. F. Perry as provisional governor of South Carolina gives great satisfaction to the delegation now here from that state. Although he has filled the position of confederate judge, the President's personal knowledge of his ability and integrity, coupled with Gov. Perry's earnest desire to restore civil rule in that state, subservient to the general government, overweighed the objections which were urged against him.

The commissary general of rebel prisoners received information to day that nearly all of the rebel prisoners under the rank of colonel, had been released. The last lot of 1,500 left yesterday. Quite a large number of rebel prisoners are in hospital.

Gov. Cox, candidate for governor of Ohio, was received last night at the Ohio state agent's office by a large number of distinguished gentlemen, including Postmaster General Denison and Gen. Kube.

The secretary of the treasury will to morrow decide an important case involving \$300,000 or \$400,000 worth of high-taxes, seized under the internal revenue law at Dubuque, Iowa. It seems that the parties who advanced this amount of money on this property on the representation that it had paid the government tax, claim that its seizure for a failure to pay the revenue should not fall on those who took it as security.

Gen. Hallock has arrived from Richmond. He goes soon to the Pacific coast.

Gen. Meade has left for Philadelphia, to assume command of the military division of the Atlantic.

Gen. Pope arrived to-night.

From Indianapolis.

INDIANAPOLIS, July 1.

Gov. Morton continues seriously sick. Lieut. Gov. Baker officiates in his stead, to day receiving the 65th, 38th, 12th batteries, and 18th cavalry, 800 in all.

A Minnesota regiment, numbering 1,025, with contrabands and many "dodgers" passed through to day homeward.

Rains continue in this locality and are positively damaging the wheat. High winds prostrate the corn, and uproot fruit and forest trees. The season is extraordinary.

It is reported that all veteran reserve troops, except, those absolutely needed at the Soldiers home will be speedily sent from this point, and that Gen. Hovey contemplates resigning, conceiving that there is no further use for him in this district of the department. He is a brave soldier, and will retire to the practice of military law in Posey county, where he was born and reared.

Charles Carter, an old policeman, was shot through the breast by a discharged soldier at a drunken saloon this afternoon, and will probably die.

INDIANAPOLIS, July 3.

More troops, fragments of regiments, were received to day by the customary military and civil authorities. During the reception, a sad accident happened—Joseph Ruible had his right hand blown off and his right arm torn into shreds by the premature discharge of a cannon.

E. Seidle, holding the vent, had both thumbs blown off, and his eyes probably put out.

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