

THE PLYMOUTH DEMOCRAT.

S. G. OSBORNE & L. HARVEY, Editors.

PLYMOUTH, INDIANA:

THURSDAY, DEC. 21, 1865.



Our State Legislature.

A Chicago daily speaking of our State Legislature, aptly styles it the "In & Out o'is Legislature." Well, for all the good it has done thus far, for the people of the State at large, it might as appropriately have been called together solely to enact laws for the corporation of the city of Indianapolis, and the benefit of a set of scheming speculators, as for any other purpose. Indeed we incline to the opinion that these were the *real* objects for which it was called by His Excellency, O. P. M. It may possibly be that we are mistaken in the matter, and that we misjudge the temper and spirit of that august body—a few days more will determine, as by law the session must soon come to a close. If when it ends any body can point out to us any important action taken for the public good, we shall be happy to make the *amende honorable* by proudly confessing our mistake. The difficulty in the way of beneficial legislation seems to consist principally of an overbearing desire on the part of republicans to endorse everything good, bad, and indifferent, done by the State and national administrations during the last four years, and to oppose any and all efforts on the part of democrats to bring back the government to the old paths and landmarks which rendered it so prosperous in days gone by, never, we fear, to return. The leaders of the dominant party act as though they were the divinely appointed custodians of the happiness and welfare of the people, and more than intimate that democrats must be kept down, without regard to their rights, even at the risk of a revolution if necessary. We shall see how it all will end—it is to be hoped, however, that moderate counsels will prevail, and justice be accorded to all.

The fanaticism of abolitionists fits its victim's brain for any idea—except a sensible one. The system of reasoning by which an abolitionist justifies the taking of his neighbor's property without compensation, and then punishing that neighbor for having owned said property, is but one step in the way of mental derangement which pervades their entire course. They easily prove, as it suits their convenience, that the scriptures are a lie or true; that traffic in liquor is a legitimate business or the most cursed of curses; that black is white and white is black; that the Union was never dissolved or that it is now dissolved. By ceaseless gabble they prove everything; and success makes them bold. At present this progressive party have concluded to disgrace womankind and convince the world that women and negroes have alike the right to vote. As, in their creed, Boston is the hub of the material universe, so is Henry Ward Beecher the hub of the intellectual creation. His brain originates and their restless tongues execute his benificent designs. The next act on the programme of American self-government is foreshadowed in the following:

(Special Despatch to the Chicago Tribune.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Henry Ward Beecher's speech, intended to have been delivered as an offset to what old friends have recently in his recent "black-filling." He argued that the compensation promised by Lincoln would not be complete till the freedmen were given all the rights which liberty means in this land to any other free man. He scouted the idea that suffrage was not a natural right. It is, if it were not, then liberty was not; for it was absurd to talk of giving liberty without all the rights by which that liberty is to be maintained. He is going beyond this, he insists that not only all men, but all women, have the right to vote.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.—The Goshen Dancer of the 13th inst., records the following terrible accident:

A most horrid accident occurred at New Paris, six miles south of this place, on Saturday last. A little son of Mr. J. C. Gilson was trying to draw a lead from an old gun barrel which he had picked up somewhere, when the contents of portion of them were discharged into his face, tearing one eye out, and cutting a terrible gash in his forehead. The little fellow is still living, but suffering great pain.

The oft-repeated humbug story, "that the nigger troops were needed to put down the rebellion," has had a quietus given to it by Secretary Stanton. The total number of white troops called out during the war is 1,655,553; total number of nigger troops 178,975. The greatest number of nigger troops in the service at any one time was in July, 1865, some four months after the war was over, when these sable warriors counted 123,156. So it appears, after all that Sumbo did not "bear the pain."

Chief Justice Chase presided, and the exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. Highland Garnett, a negro of amazing blackness and fine education.

The old doorkeeper at the House says it was the largest audience ever gathered there in their recollection.

We may safely conclude that Beecher's desire in this respect will meet with prompt response all over the country. Already it is endorsed by those "mighty to command." Chief Justice Chase and the reverent Highland Garnett have given it their support. With the mighty trio of Chase, Beecher, and the "negro of amazing blackness" as its champions, who can doubt the result? Already is their power felt in the country. In the proceedings of the legislatures of our own great State on the 14th we find the following:

HOUSE.

The House met at 9 a.m. The committee to whom was referred the joint resolution proposing to amend the State Constitution so as to allow females 21 years of age to vote, reported the same back recommending its passage.

For the great principle of negro and woman suffrage we now have Beecher, Chase, the nigger and Indiana. What next? How does our neighbor stand on the new "principle?"

Indiana Legislative Proceedings.

In the Senate, on Saturday, the following bills were passed:

To amend section 35 of the valuation and assessment act.

To provide for the payment of watchmen in any of the cities of the State.

To authorize the Common Council of any town in the State to appoint a Town Attorney.

Amending section 83 of an act to provide for a general system of common schools, etc.

To establish and create a State Normal School.

Empowering incorporated cities to erect and construct gas works, etc.

Legalizing the acts of the March session, 1865, of the Whitley county Common Pleas Court.

In relation to the laying out and opening of public highways.

The bill in relation to fires on Railroads coming up, a lengthy discussion ensued, and the bill was recommitted.

The bill in relation to the per diem and mileage of members and officers of the Assembly passed—yeas 31, nays 8.

The bill declaring forfeited the right of way to certain Railroad Companies to branch roads, etc., was passed.

In the afternoon session a number of bills were read the first time and by title only.

A bill in relation to the Common School Fund was introduced, and after some debate passed—yeas 33, nays 4.

The bill amending the charter of the Evansville Insurance Company was passed.

The bill in relation to the erection and maintenance of Houses of Refuge was passed.

The bill amending an act to enable owners of lands to drain and reclaim the same, passed—yeas 32, nays 4.

In the House Saturday a number of reports from committees were made.

The bill amending the Free Banking law, authorizing the administrator of a deceased owner of a free bank to settle up the business of the bank, passed—yeas 33, nays 9.

The soldiers' relief tax bill was taken up and debated during the balance of the morning session, and made the special order for 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

In the afternoon session, the Life Insurance bill was taken up, but failed to pass for want of a constitutional majority.

The joint resolution [H. R. 29] for the passage of a law by which soldiers and non-commissioned officers may be placed on an equal footing, etc., was passed—yeas 71, nays 28.

The soldiers' relief tax bill [S. No. 198] being the special order, was taken up and after being passed—yeas 71, nays 4.

The bridge bill (to erect a bridge across the Kankakee river) was passed.

The bill to prevent the killing of birds failed for want of a constitutional majority.

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Resolutions in relation to the Gas Company, and the furnishing of gas, were adopted.

The city corporation bill was taken up, and after being amended and discussed for some time, the further consideration was postponed and the bill made the special order for ten o'clock this morning.

A motion to have a night session was lost.

EXTENSIVE LOSSES BY FIRE have occurred in several of the large cities in the west within a short time past. Last week Chicago suffered to the tune of over half a million of dollars. Madison, Wisconsin lost over \$10,000, and several other places less amounts. This is the season of the year when destructive configurations are most apt to occur in both large and small places, and no prudent business man can afford to be without insurance in some class company. We take pleasure in saying to our readers that there are several such companies represented here, the names of some of which, and the terms of insurance, can be learned by calling on the senior editor of this paper at his office over the Branch Bank.

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