

# Plymouth Democrat.

J. McDONALD, Editor.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1868.

## DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

For Governor,  
THOMAS A. HENDRICKS, of Marion.

For Lieutenant-Governor,  
Alfred P. Edgerton, of Allen.

For Secretary of State,  
REUBEN C. KISK, of Cass.

For Auditor of State,  
JOSEPH V. BEMUS-DAFFER, of Franklin.

For Treasurer of State,  
JAMES B. RYAN, of Marion.

For Clerk of the Supreme Court,  
JOHN S. LARSON, of Cass.

For Reporter of the Supreme Court,  
M. A. O. PACKARD, of Marshall.

For Superintendent of Public Instruction,  
JOHN R. PHILLIPS, of Davis.

For Attorney General,  
SOL. CLAYPOOL, of Putnam.

For Collector at Large,  
JOHN R. COOPEROTH, of Huntington.

Contingent,  
JASON B. COOK, of Jackson.

WILLIAM M. FRANKLIN, of Owen.

For District Electors,

First District—Thomas R. Cobb, of Knox.

Contingent—R. S. Sprague, of Vanderburgh.

Second District—C. S. Doubleday, of Martin.

Contingent—John D. B. Ladd, of Martin.

Third District—James Givin, of Decatur.

Contingent—Eliham C. Devore, of Jennings.

Fourth District—John S. Reid, of Fayette.

Contingent—Benjamin L. Thompson, of Fayette.

Fifth District—John D. Ladd, of Marion.

Contingent—Samuel C. Biddle, of Marion.

Sixth District—A. D. Carlton, of Lawrence.

Contingent—Samuel R. Hamill, of Sullivan.

Seventh District—T. F. Davidson, of Fountain.

Contingent—B. D. Daily, of Carroll.

Eighth District—John R. Phillips, of Howard.

Ninth District—John Colicker, of Allen.

Contingent—Samuel A. Shoaf, of Jay.

Tenth District—O. H. Main, of Elkhart.

Contingent—E. Van Long, of Noble.

Eleventh District—not appointed.

## THE DEMOCRAT.

The present number of *THE DEMOCRAT* is sent to many who are not subscribers. "Not to put too fine a point on it," as the amiable *JEEMS* would remark, we do this in order that our democratic friends throughout the country may know that we are publishing a live, democratic paper. The importance of the coming campaign cannot be over-estimated, and it is the duty of every democrat to keep himself thoroughly posted in the issues of the hour; and in what way can he more effectually accomplish this than by taking his home paper? Can you find any better electioneering document than the county paper, which circulates through every portion of the county, and is eagerly read when long-winded speeches and addresses are merely glanced at? We ask our friends to aid in increasing the circulation of *THE DEMOCRAT*. We desire the paper to succeed upon its merits alone, however, and not from any mistaken sense of "duty" on the part of its patrons. If it is worth the subscription price, take it; if not, don't do it.

The campaign is opened, our standard-bearers are selected, and our banners are "flung out upon the outer walls." To the support of the ticket nominated on the 8th day of January, *THE DEMOCRAT* will devote whatever of ability and strength it may possess, not doubting that with "HENDRICKS" for their watchword, the democracy will come out of the contest conquerors and more than conquerors.

## DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

The 8th of January convention, held at Indianapolis, was the largest, most enthusiastic and harmonious political meeting that ever assembled in the state; every county in the state being represented, and nearly all of them by full delegations.

Old gray-haired men were there, giving to the convention dignity and force of character, and their greatest desire seemed to be to live until their country should be redeemed from the rule of oppression and wrong. Middle-aged men were there, giving direction, shape and harmony to the deliberation; and young men were there to give life, energy and enthusiasm. All professions and occupations were represented, and all were prompted with one desire and animated with one hope,—to put before the honest voters of the state a plain declaration of principles as a platform, and to place upon it as candidates, men in whom the people have confidence as statesmen and public servants; and the democracy of the state have good reason to congratulate themselves upon the work of the convention.

The convention was more harmonious and enthusiastic than former assemblages of the kind, from the fact that the acknowledged leaders and orators spoke what the masses felt and believed; and this being the first treat of the kind the people have been favored with since the beginning of the war, it is not to be wondered that it was keenly appreciated.

The resolutions speak the sentiments of all honest, sensible men who have their country's interest at heart. And as to the candidates it is only necessary to say here, that the ticket is headed by the Hon. THOMAS A. HENDRICKS, whose reputation as a statesman and an honest man is world wide. With such a man as our standard bearer we expect to come off victors in the coming contest. He and his associates on the state ticket will do their whole duty,—let us do ours, and all will yet be well.

Indianapolis, the "vilest sinner" in the land, has done "works meet for reparation." All honest republicans who believe that if greenbacks are good enough for soldiers and sailors, they are also good enough for bond-holders, and are averse to being called "liars" and "cowards" in the house of their friends, should come into the folds of the democratic party, that party which stands with its doors wide open to receive the prodigals who are returning after many months of weary "fattening" on the dry husks of taxation and bond-age.

NEARLY one hundred millions of dollars are yearly expended in enforcing the so-called reconstruction laws. Congress compels the people to pay this sum, that radicalism may be continued in power. We think this is a large sum to pay for violations of the constitution.

NEXT week we intend publishing a few extracts from the speech of Hon. D. W. VORHEES, at the state convention.

## GENERAL GRANT.

Perhaps, at the present time, there is no one who occupies so great a share of public attention as General Grant. His name is kept constantly before the people; and a large portion of the republican press have announced him as the candidate of that party for the highest office in the nation; therefore his character and qualifications become a proper subject for discussion and scrutiny. He is a West Point graduate, who arose, after a varied career of disaster and success, during our late unhappy war, to the rank of general of all the armies of the United States. As a military commander, his tactics consisted simply in brute force,—in hurling superior numbers against his opponent, and filling his broken ranks with reinforcements. In all his successful battles his forces greatly outnumbered those of the enemy; and in his campaign before Richmond his army outnumbered the rebels three to one. During that campaign he sacrificed the lives of more soldiers than Lee had in his entire army; and yet Lee, with his small force, held him at bay for months, outgeneraled him in every engagement, and only yielded when his resources had become exhausted.

When the impartial historian writes up the history of our late struggle, he will write down Grant, a general who lacking skill, made the most reckless sacrifice of the lives of his soldiers. As a military commander he does not compare with McClellan, Rosecrans, Sherman or Hancock. He happened to be the officer in command when the rebellion ended, and the north in its great rejoicing over the event, forgot the means employed and the sacrifice made, and the man who, had he failed, would have received their execrations, became the hero of the hour. The Americans, as a class, are given to hero worship; but of them all none has been more overestimated than Grant. Without experience as a statesman, he lacks those fixed political principles so necessary in public life. His last vote was cast for Buchanan, but now he is an enigma. When some anxious individual broaches politics to him he replies by "talking horse." When the president proposed to remove Stanton, he remonstrated in the strongest terms, and yet accepts Stanton's place himself. He opposed the removal of Sheridan and Sickles, two of the most contemptible military despots that have yet cursed the south, and threatened all sorts of calamities as the consequence, yet he weekly sits in the war office and promulgates the president's orders. And this is the man whom a majority of republicans present as their presidential candidate. The honest portion of their party detest him; Wendell Phillips denounces him; Greeley's paper describes him as "the bay horse U. S. Grant; age —; dam, Victory; sired by West Point; ridden by E. B. Washburne; colors, red, white and blue, with a black hoop"; Butler hates him, and Wade curses him; but Thurlow Weed, Jay Cooke & Co., the Wall street brokers, and bondholders generally, have found in him a man just suited for their purposes;—of a yielding disposition, easily influenced by the wire-pullers who control him, knowing nothing of civil affairs, in their hands he will be as easy to be moulded to their will. They hope to elect him on his military glory, or "sing" him into office as the whigs did Harrison in 1840.

If the people desire to be hewers of wood and drawers of water for the bondholders the rest of their lives, and leave their bondage as an inheritance to their children, then let them vote for Grant. In that case he is their man. If not, they had better think twice before committing the destinies of this nation into the hands of a man whom even his friends distrust.

## WHILE THE LAMP HOLDS OUT TO BURN."

The Republicans of Marion county, at a convention held by them at Indianapolis, on Saturday last, are reported to have had a stormy time. The telegraph says that such words as "liar" and "coward" were freely bandied among the delegates. We hope there is not a democrat in the state, who recollects the cowardly conduct of Indiana republicans during the war, in inciting the troops to charge upon an assemblage of democrats at that place who were transgressing no law, and taking no privileges which had not been accorded to all similar assemblages from time immemorial, that will dispute their claim to the titles of "liars" and "cowards." Some of the most despicable acts of the republican party have been performed at Indianapolis, and democrats had well-nigh given up all hope of any change for the better. While there is life there is hope," as the following resolution adopted by that convention abundantly proves:

Resolved, That the bonds and other obligations of the General Government which do not expressly stipulate for a payment in coin on their face should be paid at their earliest date, and that the same be our delegation to the State Convention be instructed to vote for a resolution in the State Platform embodying this proposition.

Indianapolis, the "vilest sinner" in the land, has done "works meet for reparation." All honest republicans who believe that if greenbacks are good enough for soldiers and sailors, they are also good enough for bond-holders, and are averse to being called "liars" and "cowards" in the house of their friends, should come into the folds of the democratic party, that party which stands with its doors wide open to receive the prodigals who are returning after many months of weary "fattening" on the dry husks of taxation and bond-age.

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## THE RULE OF RADICALISM.

The preamble of the constitution of the United States declared, that "to promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity," were among the purposes for which it was established. In accordance with these purposes, its framers imposed restraints upon, and defined the powers of, the government, and when either transcends its constitutional limits, or usurps powers not granted, the objects for which the government was established are frustrated.

A just and equal system of taxation; a judicious fostering of the interests of labor; a rigid economy in public expenditures, and a commerce unfettered by prohibitory tariffs, are among the chief elements that contribute to the general welfare.

The general welfare is the aggregate happiness and prosperity of citizens. Whenever, by any means, these are diminished, the purposes designated fail of their intent. As the general welfare may be promoted or retarded, and liberty preserved or destroyed by legislative enactment, it is to that department, more than to any other, that we must look for the promotion of national prosperity and happiness, and the conservation of liberty. The overstepping of those guards and guarantees which the constitution has fixed as the limit to the exercise of power, is destructive of the objects for which the government was created. There can be no sense of security when unwarranted powers are assumed, and there can be no permanent national prosperity so long as this sense is prevalent.

In the legislation of congress within the last few years we have a striking proof of the truth of this proposition. Its wanton disregard of the fundamental law of the land has caused wide-spread distrust and fear, retarded the restoration of the union, and induced general prostration of business interests throughout the country. Its unjust and unequal system of taxation bears heavily upon labor which should be "lightly burdened." Its legislation in the interests of capital and wealth has crippled the great sources of revenue, because a species of property, which only capital can control, is exempt from taxation. Its high prohibitory tariffs have driven commerce from the seas. Its profligacy has depreciated our bonds that they command no more in the markets of the world than those of unenlightened Turkey.

"To secure the blessings of liberty to us and our posterity," can a loftier, grander object be conceived of the province of government than to secure the inestimable blessings of liberty to the present and future generation? The framers and founders of the union not only desired liberty for themselves, but also for their posterity. One of the fundamental safeguards of liberty is the right of the people to make and amend their constitutions of government, to change their organic laws in a legitimate manner. "Usurpation," said WASHINGTON, in his farewell address, "is the customary weapon by which free governments are destroyed." The enemies of liberty proceed gradually, and always under some specious pretext of promoting the public welfare. The republican party leaders have sought to destroy the reverence of the people for the constitution and then its entire overthrow would have been speedily completed. Their legislation has perverted the object of the government from the means of securing the blessings of liberty, to depriving the citizen of all liberty. Ten states of the union are governed by the sword. The will of a brigadier or major-general is their supreme law. The constitution is as much a nullity in those ten states as in Europe. The district commander possesses consular powers, and may at pleasure suspend the writ of *habeas corpus*, deny the right of trial by jury, muzzle the press, and prohibit the freedom of speech. These are a part of the rights and blessings of liberty, yet congress denies them. These are privileges which freemen should never surrender but at the point of the bayonet. They are granted by the constitution to the citizen and cannot be taken away without its wanton violation. It is the determination of radical politicians, in the event that they have the power to accomplish it, to consolidate the states and powers of state governments. 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