

THE DEMOCRAT.

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THE RADICAL PRESS ON THE RESIGNATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS.

We have before us the principal radical journals of northern Indiana, published at Laporte, South Bend, Valparaiso, Crown Point, Rochester, Columbia City, and Warsaw; also the State Journal and Cincinnati Commercial. These journals each contain an editorial article on the "breaking up of the legislature," and after perusing them all one cannot fail to be impressed with their remarkable similarity of thought and expression. We quote as to the points of difference. The democratic members, in all the articles are assailed for the expense occasioned the state by their action; for drawing the pay due them up to the time of their resignation; because they left several of their number at the capital to protect their rights and the rights of the people; because they took their copies of the statutes of the state, voted to them by the radical majority, and for several other grave offenses. But not one single journal produces, or even attempts to produce an article denying the correctness of the principle on which they acted. Something must be said in denunciation of the action of the democratic members, and as no plausible argument can be invented by the most ingenious of them they all by common consent fall to blackguarding and pettifogging. One commences thus:

"In the year of grace, 1869, no man is fit to be a democrat unless he stands ready to do the meanest and most mischievous thing that anybody can think of."

Another, after the usual routine of bosh, says:

"They dare not go before the people, except where they were backed by a strong party majority."

Another, with most remarkable perspicuity, says:

"The 'unscrupled' can be called so no longer, for forthwith, without any kind of a test vote committing the republicans to the amendment, thirty-seven from the house and seventeen from the senate tendered their resignations and went home."

The editor of the Valparaiso Vindicator, who was a leading radical member, and knows whereof he affirms, says:

"They said negro suffrage was distasteful to a majority of the people. We answered 'how do you know when the question has not been submitted to them?' We came here as the representatives of the people, and, we believe, reflecting their sentiments. We propose to dispose of this matter, ratifying the amendment if we can, but at any rate acting upon it fearlessly and immediately, and make way for further legislation."

The great thunderer of the state, the Journal, thus explains the cause of the trouble:

"Five dollars for every twenty miles of travel, on a free pass, proved too great a temptation for these ravenous harpies to resist, and to make sure of that, those of them who represented strong democratic majorities resigned just in time to prevent the passage of the bill to provide means to support the insane, the blind, the deaf and dumb, and the soldiers and sailors' orphans whose care and support has been assumed by the state."

And Colfax's "home organ," referring to the above article, with the wisdom of Solomon, says:

"A consideration of the attending circumstances shows that this was undoubtedly the true secret of their plot to break up the legislature."

And one more gem is presented:

"The 'bolters' are vainly endeavoring to screen their villainy behind the plea that the disorganization of the legislature was to prevent the ratification of the 15th amendment, yet the miserable subterfuge is too flimsy to bear investigation. It is known to every one conversant with the status of the legislature that the ratification of the suffrage amendment was very doubtful when brought to a vote, and it is also well known that although the time for the proposed action on the amendment was fixed for Thursday, a considerable number of republicans, in both houses, were decided in favor of postponing action until Saturday, and thus give sufficient time to finish all needful legislation before the exciting question of the amendment should be acted on."

And the Commercial, of Cincinnati, feels called upon to mix in our affairs, thusly:

"Had the members waited till the question of ratification had been taken up, and no other way of defeating it but by resigning been open to them, then the propriety of resigning would have been in order."

But we have produced extracts sufficient to convince any man that the radical press, in this matter, is reduced to the most pitiable condition of de-

fense, and is resorting to the most palpable and contemptible humbuggery ever witnessed. If proof were necessary to sustain the democratic members these journals furnish it by their silly assaults, and refusal to consider for one moment the great principle really involved.

THE EXPENSE.

About nineteen out of twenty of the radical journals in the state figure up the expense occasioned by the resignation of the democratic legislators at \$200,000, but the Valparaiso Vidette figures the thing up to the modest sum of \$1,196,000; and the South Bend Register counts in the expense of the next April and October election as part the cost! Truly, these gentlemen are "awful good on figures."

AMUSING.

One radical journal says of the "little difficulty," now agitating the state. "In view of the fact that the republicans have a large majority in both branches of the legislature, and in order that the responsibility of the needless expense thus incurred may rest where it belongs—upon the democratic party—the republicans of their county will take no part in the election. Let the reckless demagogues who rendered the election necessary shoulder the full measure of the responsibility, unaided by a republican vote or voice. We write advisedly in this matter, having consulted a large number of the leading republicans of the county."

This from the Commercial, of Columbia City, Whitley county, where the democratic majority was about 200 or 300 last fall. The following is from the Sullivan county Union, where the democrats had about 1200 majority last fall:

"The issue these few democrats endeavored to shun, must be met now, and we consider no man fit to represent a free people who is afraid to record his vote, either for or against all issues presented."

Which one of these oracles is the true one? It is most certainly a difficult matter for a radical to do the right thing in this case.

Ex-President Johnson.

BALTIMORE, March 11.—Ex-President Johnson arrived in this city as its guest, about 11 o'clock to-day. The committee of invitation, on the part of the common council, accompanied him from Washington, and the other members of the council met him at Annapolis Junction. On arriving at Campion station, he was met by Gov. Bowie and other state officials, and Mayor Banks and a number of city officers. The procession had already formed on Eutaw street, and the line of march was soon taken up. A squadron headed the procession, followed by the 5th Regular Maryland National Guards, with full ranks. Following the regiment was an open carriage, containing the ex-president, Gov. Brown and Mayor Banks. Next followed the 2d regiment of militia, and carriages containing distinguished guests and the city authorities. Among the former were Hon. 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