

THE DEMOCRAT.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
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ELECTION ITEMS.

The election in Center township came near going radical, by default. The democrats, confident in their strength, stayed at home in such numbers as to really endanger the success of the ticket. The radicals, taking advantage of the lethargy of their opponents, strained every nerve, and the consequence was our majority only ranged from 70 to 120, whereas we have in fact a majority of 250. The most disreputable practices were indulged in by the radical candidates and their friends, and truth and decency were totally disregarded. A few democrats, only, however, allowed themselves to be duped into the support of an unprincipled demagogue and negro-equalityite. Our light majority is wholly owing to the light vote. With nearly 1,200 voters in the township, less than 800 votes were polled, and we owe our light majority wholly to ourselves.

In Green township, where the vote has for some time been almost evenly divided, the democratic majority reached 13 on trustee, which was good enough.

In Union, where the radicals have had the trustee for several years, the democrats aroused themselves and made a clean sweep, removing all stain from their banner, and setting old Union squarely in the line of reliable democratic townships. The boys in Union are good workers if they will only try their best, and all that can be asked of them now is to keep the ball in motion and work for 100 majority. We have more than that figure when a square vote shall be taken on negro-suffrage.

In the other townships the result was about as usual.

It is impossible to procure anything like a full vote at these spring elections, and neighborhood difficulties and local causes very often tend to give a false coloring to the returns. Especially in strong democratic townships we are very liable to over-estimate our strength and suffer defeat when the victory is in our easy reach. A few defeats of this character might have a salutary effect, and democrats who are willing to sacrifice the welfare of their party to gratify some petty malice or foolish whim, have an opportunity of showing themselves in their true light.

INDIANA.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., April 5.—A far as reported, the township elections in Indiana passed off without any interest manifested by either party.—The vote was light, and in many places no opposition was made.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 5.—But little excitement was manifested in the township election, to-day. Not one-half the usual vote was polled. The regular republican was elected over the independent republican for trustee, by 661 majority.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., April 6.—Colton, the democratic candidate for the legislature in Whitley county, Ind., is elected by about 200 majority.

OHIO.

FORT WAYNE, April 5.—The municipal and township elections in Ohio were, in some towns, attended with considerable excitement. Bucyrus elected the entire democratic ticket. No opposition. A light vote was polled. Crestline, in the same county, polled a heavy vote and there was a spirited contest between the regular democratic and the people's ticket.—The people's ticket which is composed of democrats and republicans, was elected by a small majority. The republicans were quite elated over their supposed victory. Wooster elected a republican mayor, and four republicans and four democratic councilmen, a republican clerk, and a democratic street commissioner. Mansfield elects a democratic mayor, and three democratic councilmen out of five—an average democratic gain of nearly 300 votes. Salem elected a republican or working-men's ticket. Both democrats and republicans supported it. In Massillon, the republican ticket was elected, —a small gain over Grant's majority.

CLEVELAND, O., April 5.—The municipal election, to-day, resulted in the re-election of Mayor Buhler by 1,000 majority. Returns come in slowly, but it is safe to say two more democrats being elected. The democracy are rejoicing everywhere in honor of this victory.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, April 6.—Full returns from the charter election held in this city make the result extraordinary and significant. The democrats have elected a majority of their ticket.

CINCINNATI, April 6.—A majority

of the names on the republican ticket were elected by 1,200 majority, though three were defeated by overwhelming majorities.

The election in Napoleon, O., resulted in the success of the entire democratic ticket, by an increased majority. Defiance, O., elected the democratic ticket by 150 majority.

Further returns from Ohio show democratic gains.

IOWA.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, April 5.—At our city election, to-day, J. M. Palmer, independent democrat, gave D. C. Bloomer a sharp contest for mayor, reducing the republican majority of last fall from 140 to 29. Capt. Fargo, independent republican, who was supported by the democrats, was elected over Williams, republican, by 68 majority. J. T. Oliver, and Huntington, democrats, were elected to the council. There was no opposition to the balance of the republican ticket.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, April 5.—At the charter election, held to-day, the democracy were victorious, electing the entire city ticket, and three out of five aldermen.

MICHIGAN.

DETROIT, April 5.—The state election passed off very quietly, and with a light vote. The republican state ticket is elected. The republican state ticket is elected by from 20,000 to 30,000 majority. The democrats elect Judge Patchen, in this city circuit; Judge Sutherland, in the Saginaw circuit, and both of their candidates, probably, on the Upper Peninsula circuits, and stand some chance in one or two others. In this county the democrats carry all. In the city the vote on chief justice foots up: Cooley, republican, 1,241; Hughes, democrat, 1,531. The interior elections are guided mainly by local issues.

DETROIT, April 5.—A light vote was cast to-day. The republicans elect Thomas M. Cooley, for justice of the supreme court, and Jonas McGowan, and Joseph Estabrook for regents of the state university, by probably the usual majority. They also elect circuit judges in nearly all the circuits. In this city, the total vote is only 2,775. Last fall it was over 12,000. The democratic majority on justice of the supreme court in this city is 288.

DETROIT, April 6.—Returns from Muskegon county show that R. W. Duncan, democratic candidate for judge in that circuit, has run far ahead of his ticket. It is not known whether he will be able to overcome the large republican majority in the circuit.

NEW YORK.

ROME, N. Y., April 6.—At the charter election, to-day, the democratic ticket was elected by an average majority of 42.

CONNECTICUT.

HARTFORD, Conn., April 6.—The majority of the radical candidate for governor will be about 500. The senate will be composed of 14 republicans and 7 democrats. The republicans have about 20 majority in the house.

ILLINOIS.

SPRINGFIELD, April 6.—The result in this township is very close, but it is believed the democracy have elected their entire ticket.

PEORIA, Ill., April 6.—We have achieved a splendid victory, and elected our whole township ticket.

JACKSONVILLE, April 6.—The election resulted in the success of the entire republican ticket, save two aldermen.

WISCONSIN.

MILWAUKEE, April 6.—There was no opposition to the democratic city ticket, and all are elected.

MADISON, April 6.—The city council will stand eight democrats and four republicans. The judicial vote was nearly all republican.

MISSOURI.

St. Louis, April 6.—The election to-day resulted in the triumph of the straight radical ticket by a large majority.

The Plymouth Democrat says that a hen's egg was left at that office last week, on one end of which was formed the image of a serpent. We suppose the hen that laid it must at sometime have been frightened at the copperhead of the Democrat.—Register.

We suppose if seeing a copperhead would cause a hen to lay an egg with the image of a serpent on it, seeing a donkey would cause a hen to lay an egg with a mule in it. If the deduction is correct we advise our friends of St. Joe county to take the editor of the Register around to their hen coops, and cheapen the raising of those most useful animals. We would suggest that it would be well enough to watch him when he leaves the coop, however, else they may not be able to "find their mules."

THE SPECIAL SESSION.

The Indiana legislature will convene again to-day. The democratic members are in Indianapolis, and of course will stand by the policy which caused their resignation. If the radicals desire the passage of appropriation bills and the transaction of other business, there will be no difficulty in accomplishing their purpose, if they will proceed with that class of business first, and bring up the 15th amendment afterward; otherwise we are confident there will be no session of the legislature.

The democratic members are fully and heartily indorsed by their constituents in their determination to submit the question of negro suffrage to the people, and they will not be driven from their source. If the radical members think they can make capital and strengthen their party by continuing the course they marked out during the last session, it is their glorious privilege to try it. The democracy have no fears as to the result and will again go before the people and receive their verdict. One thing is morally certain; and that is that the present legislature cannot force negro suffrage on the people of Indiana. If the people desire it, and so express themselves, when the opportunity is presented, the sweet boon cannot be consistently withheld from them. But every intelligent man in the state knows full well that the people do not desire it, and will reject it by a majority counting into tens of thousands; and the honest servants whetted their rights will receive their gratitude.

"Equality."

Benjamin F. Wade, of Ohio, has written the following reply to an address from the national executive committee of colored men:

To George T. Downing, Esq., and others of the national executive committee of colored men:

GENTLEMEN: Since my retirement from public life I have received many kind and complimentary communications from my friends, which I value greatly, but nothing has given me so much pride and satisfaction as the proceedings of your national executive committee. To know that one's labors are appreciated and approved by those on whose behalf they have been performed, is indeed gratifying.

It is true that for more than thirty years, whether in the legislature of my own state, as a judge upon the bench, in the senate of the United States, or in private life, I have, with resolute and determined purpose, labored to bring the constitution and laws of my country into harmony with the laws of God, who "is no respecter of persons."

Equality before the law and exact justice to all men, without respect to race, color, or nationality, has been the polar star to guide me in all my efforts, and the prize for which I have fought. Nor am I conscious that I have ever during that time, subordinated those great principles to any other, or compromised them for any other consideration whatever. Yet I claim no special merit for this. It was but the performance of a plain and palpable duty which every man owes to his God, to his country, and to humanity. Had I done less, it would have been a self-degradation for which I should have despised myself, even as I have despised all others who may have compromised these great principles through cowardice, self-interest, or ambition. And now, thank God, after thirty years' battle, I have lived to see these principles triumphant, every man in our great republic equal before the eyes of the law, and the laborer relieved from the foulest and most degrading violation of his rights.

But, in my judgment, much more remains to be done; for I can never believe a government perfect while it is possible for one man to appropriate the avails of the labor of thousands, while those that perform the labor pine away their life in poverty and destitution, or to monopolize an unlimited extent of God's earth to the exclusion of others. These evils are yet to be corrected, and may I not expect that you who have been so lately emancipated from the foulest oppression and injustice will take the lead in these great and necessary reforms.

Please accept my thanks for the kind sentiments contained in your letter. Yours, with respect,

B. F. WADE.

Jefferson, O., March 16, 1869.

—A man stole a dog recently, and the owner detected the thief, who promised, under a fair threat, to return the animal the next day. The individual received a package at the appointed hour, on which was written: "This is your dog," but on opening it the astonished man discovered ten pounds of freshly made sausage.

Congressional Despotism.

There is no doubt that there is a great under-current, a ground swell, so to speak, of movement in the world's affairs. But it is generally unrecognized, except in some conspicuous instances where sharp outlines are thrown against the past so vividly as to attract universal attention. Thus, we have abolished slavery, and all the world knows it. But we have also been at work abolishing the historic cabinet, and this the world does not generally know.

The fact that congress has been administering this government the past three or four years, in substantial independence of the executive, marks our course toward new methods of political development. This tendency to the limitation of executive authority is especially worthy of philosophic observation. Under our present national constitution, two-thirds of congress make the laws, and by means of the power to impeach, they may create agencies to execute them. The taste of this process is still fresh in the mouth, and it is not disagreeable to those whose palates it has tickled. How long will it be before the idea will be advocated that it may be better to have this power intrusted to a majority than to require two-thirds for its exercise? Is not the concurrent judgment of two large and experienced legislative bodies a safe test of political action? Is not—so people will reason—the veto power a relic of past ideas and practices which we can afford to dispense with?

The first step in the work of enlarging the legislative authority in the government is to belittle the influence of the executive; as it is also the first step toward the constitutional change which shall finally extinguish that branch.

It is therefore in congress rather than elsewhere that we place our hopes for a successful future. That is the great power now, and the still greater looming power in the time to come. We must look there for the intellectual forces which in after days are to guide the republic. Where the predominance of experience and of brain is, there we must necessarily expect to find the initiative, as well as the controlling energy of the government; and if in the progress of events the various departments are to fade into bureaus, and become clerical establishments merely, it will be for congress to inspire their administration, to dictate their methods, and to control their action.

The Herald says: "All the free governments that ever flourished became tyrannies, and fell in exactly the same way. History is monotonous with the story of the ruin of nations by the same events in the same order. Always the motive power is a minority of plotting politicians. They study first to secure to themselves the plunder and spoil of the national wealth. They can only succeed in this by getting power, and they cannot get power so long as those constitutional forms are intact by which power belongs to the majority. Down goes the constitution, therefore, crippled at first by a restriction at one point, an addition at another, and overlaid by changes of every sort. But the most important change is that the executive is always reduced to a nullity. In a free government, especially a federal government, the executive is the only direct expression there is of the majority of the whole people. He represents the popular unity, while all other representation is of parts. He is the keystone of an arch. He is the will of the nation,—its initiative. And if a nation is to be really vital among nations,—to be respected, strong and free,—the only theory of government upon which it can stand is that the executive is the government, and all other parts are but safeguards to prevent tyranny. This is the reverse of what the oligarchs say,—they holding that a congress is the government, and the executive the functionary of congress. Pursuing this idea, the ambitious minority always works upon the fears of the people by representing the executive as aiming at tyranny, and thus executive power is given into the hands of the legislature. Then follow in the conflict of schemes and counsels disorder, license, corruption, anarchy, the destruction of property, the loss of all public morality, till the nation becomes a banditti and is blotted out, or till some fellow halts his guard in front of the legislative hall, strides in and declares himself first consul, king or emperor, and has the applause of the nation because he at least represents order and safety. One might write a formal history of republics on this outline of events, changing the names to suit occasion, and it would be always true."—N. N. Sun.

Radical Tactics in Connecticut.

The following circular which has been put in circulation among the radicals of Connecticut, has found the light and shows how the contest has been conducted:

"NEW HAVEN, March, 1869.—Dear Sir: It has been deemed advisable to caution republican editors and speakers against being too free in asserting that democrats pay a large price for voters. The assertion that in some towns \$50, \$100, and even higher prices have been paid for votes has had a tendency materially to damage the republican party. Such statement induce a large class of voters to assume an equivocal attitude in hopes of getting a high price for their suffrage, when otherwise they would come out squarely for us.

It is good policy to charge the democrats nominees for governor and for congressmen, and especially the one in the Fourth congressional district, with gross corruption in the past; but it ought to be intimated that our late law concerning bribery will be effectual to prevent such practices in the future.

"By order of the committee."

More About the Cabinet.

Don Piatt, in one of his letters, says: "Little by little the inner history of the making of the cabinet comes to light. It is now known that up to 10 o'clock of the night before the names were sent in, the president had not determined upon the men who were to be his constitutional advisers. A. T. Stewart engaged rooms at the Ebbett house, for four days only, and those who enjoy his confidence assert that the selection of himself was as much a surprise to Mr. Stewart as it was to the public. His first impulse was to decline. The utter impossibility of so arranging his vast interests as not to sacrifice them, struck him with great force. But, being urged, the more he considered it, the more attractive this new field of enterprise appeared. He then undertook to make himself eligible. As he worked up to this, however, the president seemed to cool off, and when, at last, he carried his deeds of trust in one hand and his resignation in the other, the president quietly accepted the latter. And, with this acceptance, Stewart's influence seemed to pass away. His efforts to nominate a successor were unavailing, and he returned to New York a disappointed man.

"Wilson was offered the state department, but doubted his ability, and said so earnestly, and in good faith. To give him time to consider it, Washburne was put in, with a clear understanding that he was an *ad interim* only. Washburne, it is said, could not resist the old politician's habit of dispensing patronage, and began filling the office. Whereupon, two gentlemen grew offended. One was Grant, and the other Wilson, who positively declined the place; and thereupon Mr. Hamilton Fish intervened.

This is the talk of very shrewd, well-informed people, but you can take it for what it is worth.

A Genuine Windfall.

Henry Murty was many years ago employed as a deck hand about Pittsburg, on steamers owned by the Poe family. More lately he was with Capt. Tom Rogers on the St. Louis and New Orleans packet, W. H. Osborn. Capt. Rogers was his warmest friend, taking great interest in his welfare, and befriending him by example and advice in such a manner that Henry entertained a strong affection for him. Henry was only a deck hand or fireman, and certainly never rose to a higher grade than watchman, but he was a shrewd fellow when sober, which he generally was. He seemed contented with his position and his wages, little thinking what great things were in store for him. It will be remembered with what ghastly minuteness there was published in the papers less than two years ago an account of the discovery of the decomposing corpse of a human being in the lonely room of a large building in this city. The corpse was that of a man named Sullivan. Henry Murty was this man's cousin and his heir. Sullivan was an old citizen of unsober habits, and was possessed of great wealth, as the sequel shows. Murty, as heir of the deceased, through the agency of his lawyer, Mr. Broadhead, has lately handed the sum of \$195,000, and the real estate, lands, and stocks which accrue to him will raise the entire amount of wealth now possessed by this lately friendless and seemingly contented Irishman, to four or five hundred thousand dollars. What'll he do with it?—St. Louis Democrat.

—Fifty thousand acres of excellent land in Logan county, W. Va., were sold lately at 25 cents per acre.

Dunham allas Conover.

This man, who made himself notorious as a witness in the conspiracy trials, and also in the trial of John Surratt, wrote a letter to a friend, from Richmond, Va., August 18, 1865, extracts from which have been published. Conover acknowledged that he swore falsely on the conspiracy trials, and that the testimony of Merrill and Montgomery was a tissue of the most atrocious falsehoods. He says they were fabricated to dovetail with his own testimony, although they were sworn first.

In the same letter Conover speaks of his intimacy with Judge Advocate Holt, and of the wish of the latter to manufacture evidence against Davis and Clay. As Conover is, by his own acknowledgment, a liar and perjured wretch, anything said by him will only be credited when backed by circumstances which make it appear probable, or when he had no motive in misrepresenting. In this case, outside of Conover's testimony, there is much to warrant the belief that Holt knew Conover's character before he came upon the stand.—Times.

Good Policy in Advertising.

The real estate dealers in Chicago have been holding a meeting and fixing up an organization that they call a Union. The main thing under discussion at the meeting was the price of advertising in the Chicago newspapers. It is very curious that the dealers seemed to think that one newspaper was as good as another to advertise in, and that they should discriminate against those that charged high prices. The fact that an advertisement in a paper that charged twelve and a half cents per line might be worth ten times as much to the advertiser, as if it were in a paper charging four cents a line, did not seem to occur to the dealers; and several of them were so idiotic as to talk of running up the circulation of a newspaper with cheap advertising. There is nothing that kills a newspaper as fast as cheap advertisements. They fill up the space in which the paper could be made interesting, and being unprofitable, the whole concern sinks. The only healthy policy is to charge a good price for advertisements in proportion to circulation—that is, the number of papers circulated, and the class of persons among whom they are circulated—and thus obtain a large revenue out of small space, and use the larger portion of the paper for reading matter of general interest, keeping up the circulation and increasing it, and with it maintaining and advancing the value of space. The sickliest and most hopeless printed sheets, in which there are great masses of advertising, cheap and nasty, tumbled in without order, cared for by no one, and therefore worthless.—Cincinnati Commercial.

A Deadly Kiss.

A singular practice prevails among the Luneros: it is that of inoculation with the juice of certain plants possessing alexipharmic virtues, after which the most poisonous snakes may be handled with impunity. It appears, nevertheless, absolutely necessary to renew the inoculation at different epochs of man's life, as in the case of vaccination, it loses its power after a time. It was, no doubt, owing to his neglect of the rule, that a gentleman in the town of Ocumare, some years ago, fell a victim to his blind confidence in this sort of inoculation. Don N. Ungarte had kept a rattlesnake in a drawer during four years; with it he occasionally amused himself, no more harm resulting therefrom than if it had been a kitten. One day, on returning home from his rounds in the plantation, he felt in the humor of playing a little with his old pet, and accordingly he took him out of his berth and placed him upon the writing desk before him. One of the children who had also been inoculated happening to be near, the father suggested that he should kiss the reptile; to this the child objected very decidedly; the foolish parent, however, insisting, the mother interfered and begged that her child should not be compelled to touch the loathsome creature; whereupon the father exclaimed: "How foolish you are! I will show you how it kisses me. Now, then, pet, give me a kiss!" and so saying, he leaned forward toward the snake. True to its instincts, the reptile sprang to his lips and implanted such a kiss that its master never recovered from the effects.—Both fangs of the snake went quite through his upper lip, and he at once felt himself to be mortally wounded. A physician was sent for without delay, but he expired before assistance could reach him.

A Mystery Uncarthed.

Intense excitement has been occasioned in the First ward by the discovery of four human skeletons in the excavation for a cellar, on the north side of Green street, between Second and Third streets. The bodies had evidently been thrown into the bog and sunk to the depth of 18 or 20 inches. The old settlers will remember that before the opening of the streets and the improved drainage in this part of town the bog was impassable. Horses and cattle were often mired, and we remember, within 15 years, that a valuable cow got into the swamp, between Second and Third streets, and was rescued with difficulty. A temporary platform was built and the animal hauled out by ropes. Yesterday afternoon, in digging a cellar, four human skeletons were discovered lying very near together, and but a few inches below the surface. The place where they were found gives color to the suspicion of foul play. George Brown, the architect, and one of our old citizens, remembers a mysterious disappearance which took place here about the year 1844. A man from Pennsylvania came here on horseback and stopped at Dave Rannion's hotel, a two-story brick, which stood on the present site of O. W. Pierce & Co.'s wholesale grocery house. He came to buy land, and was understood to have money. About dusk one evening, he started out toward the south part of town. He had been drinking freely and told some one he was going to a house of ill-fame, kept by an old colored woman near the foot of the hill, on the old state road. This was the last of him. His horse, saddle-bags, and some clothing remained at the hotel, but the man never turned up. One of the girls at the house above named intimated that he had been killed, and buried in the swamp by a notorious bully, who made headquarters at the bagnio in question, but there was no investigation. Two other landbuyers from Pennsylvania had disappeared no less unpleasantly, and it is not improbable that the skeletons found in the excavation yesterday, may furnish a clue to their fate. The four were evidently adults. In one of the skulls the brain and a part of the scalp are well preserved. The thigh bones and a part of the ribs are in good state of preservation, and are of a dark brown color, owing doubtless to the action of the sulphur water in the swamp. We hope the remains will be carefully preserved, and an investigation ordered.—Lafayette Courier.

A Tennessee Ghost Story.

On the evening of the 12th inst., about one and a half miles south of Jamestown, a young lady by the name of Albertson, distinguished for her piety, prudence, and veracity, had occasion to go to the spring, a short distance from her father's residence, about the time the sun was setting; and, as she staid herself, never thought of being afraid, for she was always characterized for courage beyond her sex. Miss Albertson went tripping along the frequented path, apprehensive of no danger whatever, carrying a bucket on each arm and singing a favorite song. When she reached the spring, it being a small stream, she had to wait some time for her buckets to get filled; so she placed the vessel under the spout, sat down on a stone near by, still singing, and on arising to receive her burden, and wend her way home, she saw standing before her the figure of a man, with arms extended upward, shining as a flame of fire. The girl says the light which was reflecting from the mysterious visior gleamed and sparkled against the snow on the hillside before her. While she stood tremblingly gazing upon the radiant image, it spoke in a clear and audible tone. "Be not afraid," and then it began to ascend and was soon lost in the distance above the trees. The girl made haste to evacuate her position, reaching home in a few minutes, exhausted, pale and trembling, relating the circumstance to her parents, and cannot since be prevailed on to revisit the scene of so much terror to her unless quite a number of persons accompany her.

No one has been able to comprehend or even to conjecture what the strange visitor was or what was the mission. No one has the slightest idea that the young lady dissembles in regard to the mysterious figure, because they know she is incapable of anything so wicked or debasing; therefore we leave it to a thinking community to demonstrate.—Knoxville Whig.

—The citizens of Auburn, Maine, have accepted the city charter granted them by the present legislature. Auburn is the thirtieth city in Maine, and Ellsworth will soon be the fourteenth.