

THE VIRGINIA FREE PRESS AND FARMERS' REPOSITORY.

Virginia Free Press,
BY GALLAHER & CO.
CHARLESTOWN,
THURSDAY MORNING,
AUGUST 9, 1860.

OUR PLATFORM.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNION
THE UNION OF THE STATES,
THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS
FOR PRESIDENT,
JOHN BELL,
OF TENNESSEE.
FOR VICE-PRESIDENT,
EDWARD EVERETT,
OF MASSACHUSETTS.
ELECTORS.

D. L. H. CHANDLER, of Norfolk City.
J. T. TRAVIS H. EPPES, of Norfolk.
J. THOMAS BRUCE, of Hanover.
John C. THOMAS, of Edenton.
W. P. JOHNSON, of Powhatan.
W. C. SCOTT, of Williamsburg.
R. B. SHACKELFORD, of Pasquoton.
John E. KENNEDY, of Jefferson.
John H. STUART, of Augusta.
W. R. STAPLES, of Petersburg.
J. W. P. PAXTON, of Washington.
J. J. JACKSON, Jr., of West.
A. B. CALDWELL, of Ohio.

PRECIPITATE A REVOLUTION.

Disguise their present purposes as they may, no sane man can doubt that a dissolution of the Union is the ultimate object of the Seceders who put up Breckinridge and Lane as their leaders. They pretend to split upon a principle, yet some of them are imploring the very men, whom they have repudiated, to join them in a fusion, and help to give at least the "Cotton States" to Breckinridge, so that the North being divided, the election of Lincoln will be the excuse to rally the South, and especially to precipitate the Cotton States into a revolution! If any body doubts the true object of putting up Breckinridge, let him read the subjoined extract from a letter of Wm. L. Yancey, of Alabama.

If the Seceders can elect Breckinridge, then the spoils will be perpetuated in the same hands for years, and there may be no necessity for precipitation. If their efforts result in the election of Lincoln, then the ultra measures may be adopted which Yancey foreshadows.

Are the border States of Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri, ready to promote schemes which will place them in the attitude of antagonists to the growing power of the North? The politicians can raise the whirlwind, but they cannot direct the storm. They are not the men to do the fighting. When trouble comes, the yeomanry and the mechanics, the hard-fisted sons of toil, have to bear the battle's brunt. The warlike spouters, the instigators of mischief keep shad. Who will trust Yancey and his treasonous confederates? Hear him:

"No National party, can save us; no sectional party can ever do it; but if we could do as our fathers did, organize committees of safety all over the Cotton States, and it is only in them that we can hope for an effective movement— we shall be the Southern heart, instruct the Southern mind, give courage to each other, and at the proper time, by one organized, and concerted action, we can precipitate the Cotton States into a revolution!"

Yancey, seeing that he has awakened the Union men of the South, is alarmed by his own "precipitation," and now pleads that his disunion letter to Mr. Slaughter was a private one, and not intended for publication.— So much the worse. He was acting "on the sly," as Aaron Burr did. And it is remarkable that Burr was brought to the bar of justice and barely escaped hanging for a far less offence. Burr only plotted against Mexico with a view to a Southern Confederacy, Yancey and Keitt are making war upon the American Union. In Jackson's day such treasonable sentiments as those uttered now by them would have brought them to the gallows as high as Haman's. Old John Brown was hanged for trying to erect a "Provisional Government," but his friends claim for him the merit of risking his own neck. Yancey and his confederates are raising the storm, but they are not prepared to head the revolution—they are so hot, in stimulating—They remind us of one of the old nursery couplets:

"Men of words, and not of deeds,
Are like a garden full of weeds."

THE HARMONIOUS MOVING.

Friday last the Breckinridge branch of the Democracy met in this town, for the purpose of appointing delegates to Charlotteville—Col. J. T. Gibson, in the Chair, and Dr. M. Argonne, Secretary, upon the motion of Thomas C. Green, Esq., an avowed and undisputed disunionist, and on whose motion, according to the official proceedings, "a committee of five was appointed to select delegates to the convention." The Chancery appointed the following: Dr. O. G. Mix, David H. Cockrell, W. H. Moore, John Humphreys and H. Hunter.

After retiring, the Committee reported the following gentlemen as delegates: Dr. O. G. Mix, R. H. Butcher, Jas. H. Campbell, Joe Moore, Dr. Dennis Murphy, Dr. Webb, A. Lucas, Thomas Rutherford and William J. Stephens.

Misses Shielton, F. Leeks and J. Randolph Tucker, were appointed alternates.

On motion of H. Hunter, Dr. Chancery and Secretary were added to the list.

On motion of John Humphreys, Thomas C. Green, was also added to the list.

If we mistake not, Mr. Thomas Rutherford belongs to the Douglas wing of the party, and will probably take part in the Douglass meeting on Friday next. Of this, however, we do not know, as Mr. H. Hunter, often attends political gatherings.

The Douglassites meet on Friday, according to dawning handbills, &c. We will endeavor to report progress next week.

BELL AND EVERETT MEETING AT NEW ORLEANS. New Orleans Aug. 2.—The Bell and Everett meeting which took place here last night was largely attended. Some documents were delivered.

THE ALLIES OF LINCOLN.

Whatever may be the disclaimers on the subject, the fact is indisputable that the seceders from the Democratic party are the allies of Lincoln. They complain of the sectional character of the Republican nomination, there being no properly chosen delegates from the Southern States in the recent go Convention. And the like may be said of the Breckinridge nomination. It is altogether sectional. The seceders assembled in the Hall of the American Institute, mustered 105, of which sixteen only were from the North, and thirteen of these were office holders, not appointed to a residual, but to a national Convention.

Breckinridge was not put up against the common adversary, but expressly to drive Douglas from the field. If this should not be accomplished, the effect must inevitably be to give the votes of the Northern States to Lincoln. It is not fair, then, to set down the wounding Democracy as the most efficient allies of the Republicans. There can be no illiberality in making this ascription, for whatever may be the motive, the fact is indisputable. They exhibit, too, an exquisite modesty in the whole proceeding. First, they split their party in enmity to Douglas, then seeing their own helplessness, they turn about and implore the Douglas men to save the party! The discarded portion of the party surely cannot be insensible to such winning appeals! They will doubtless help to save party, but their efforts will be to save it from the contest of disorganizers and secessionists. Truly does the New York News "regret the attempt of Buchanan and Lane to force a candidate on the party as a dishonest and disloyal act which deserves defeat."

To the honor of human nature, we have yet heard of no disposition on the part of the Douglas men to lick the hand that amites them. Senator Mason and Attorney General Tucker will bear, in a short time, that their fulminations will have but little effect. They cannot "slough off" the rank and file by an imperial power or insulting sneer. They have no materials to spare, and both of them will need the help of Douglas Democrats when the time comes for the people to pass upon self-appointed leaders and dictators.

THREE—AND NOW.

In the Presidential canvass of 1856 the Democratic Journals of the state charged Millard Fillmore with being an Abolitionist of the deepest dye; and, among other things, cited, as proof of the charge, his vote in the Senate upon a certain motion of Mr. Pallon of Virginia, in the House of Representatives, to suspend the rules in order to allow him to introduce a motion providing for the titling of all petitions for the abolition of Slavery, &c. This vote was passed to the people as clear and indisputable evidence of Mr. Fillmore's thorough abolitionism. Democratic buzzards and bats were up at a terrible rate, and Mr. Fillmore was rapidly made an abolitionist by the noise and confusion which followed this "most convincing and powerful and positive proof."

Now, in 1860, John Bell is denounced as an Abolitionist, and column upon column of these same democratic newspapers is devoted to the exposition of the testimony upon which they found the charge; and we are exultingly pointed to Mr. Bell's vote upon this same motion of Mr. Pallon to suspend the rules; and we have it thundered into our ears, that John Bell is a monstrous and vile abolitionist—a traitor to the South, because he voted in the affirmative—directly the other way from Mr. Fillmore!

HOW CAN THEY UNITE?

With such sentiments as conveyed in the following resolution published in the Richmond Enquirer of Friday last, of the Breckinridge meeting, at Williamsburg, how can the Democracy unite?—

"Resolved, That we know no difference between S. A. Douglas and Lincoln, and can unite in their efforts to restore our State and our liberty, at our first meeting."

A REFUTATION.

Had we space in our columns, we could beyond the shadow of a doubt, refute the aspersions of the disunion Breckinridges prints to mislead the people upon the Record of JOHN BELL, the only Union and reliable candidate now before the American People. By garbled extracts, interpolations, and every other species of fraud, an effort is made to show John Bell, a Southern man owing over one hundred and fifty negroes, an abolitionist! How, we ask, can prints assuming any regard for truth and fairness, and especially prints who profess a great love and reverence for the interests of the South, vilify such a patriot as John Bell, when it is evident that neither Breckinridge nor Douglas have the least shadow of a chance for election? Do they take their readers to be Jack Asses or Mules? They either do, or class them as fools or knaves.

We only desire that the people will take the Record of John Bell as it is—a man for half a century in public life—and examine it, and see if there is one single act which has not at least the good of the entire Union.

NEWSPAPER CHARGE.

The WINCHESTER REPUBLICAN, now in its fifth year, and generally in the hands of capable and influential conductors, has addressed a circular to the party throughout the Union, setting forth the state of the contest between the two wings. It is very long, occupying two columns of the Circuit, and we can only give the conclusion:

Fellow-Citizens—We have thus explained at length the controversy between the supporters of Breckinridge and Lane, upon the one side, and the regular nominees of the Democratic party upon the other:

Mr. John D. Ridgway, a skillful and energetic printer, is the new proprietor, and he has given the venerable and popular journal a new dress. The editor, Mr. Henry Deane, (a graduate of the Free Press Office) has already, in a brief experience, given evidence of ability and judgement in the management of a newspaper. The REPUBLICAN pursues the good old Whig pathway, and is doing good service in the cause of the Constitutional Union candidates, BELL and EVERETT.

Mr. B., in his introductory says—

"In politics the REPUBLICAN will continue an independent and firm supporter of the nation's conservative Whig principles. To my mind, there is something neoplatonic in the Whig banner. I embraced the faith in my infant age, when glorious 'Harry of the West' was at the zenith of his fame. That happy hour has upon my heart 'set a deep and deathless spell,' and if all our hopes should be blasted, and the world Whig ship finally sink to the bottom of the ocean, I can at least regard the Whig principles with a kind of awe, and admiration, as the noblest and purest of all the world's religions."

He exhibits, too, an exquisite modesty in the whole proceeding. First, they split their party in enmity to Douglas, then seeing their own helplessness, they turn about and implore the Douglas men to save the party!

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THE VOICE OF ROCKINGHAM.

The under-signed Democrats of Rockingham respectfully request their Fellow-Democrats to attend the STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION, to be held in STAMFORD, August 14, 15, 16, 17, for the purpose of

holding a Convention of clergymen, laymen and friends of our Church, in Rockingham County, (as well beyond as within the bounds of the Baltimore Conference) with one accord, and at the earliest practicable period, separate themselves, completely, from the now thoroughly abolitionized Methodist Episcopal Church.

3. Resolved, That it is highly expedient to hold a Convention of clergymen and laymen of our Church, in Rockingham County, (as well beyond as within the bounds of the Baltimore Conference) with one accord, and at the earliest practicable period, separate themselves, completely, from the now thoroughly abolitionized Methodist Episcopal Church.

2. Resolved, That in our deliberate and conscientious judgment the time is fully come when a decent self-respect; a true regard for Methodism, as transmitted from our fathers; a just reverence for social order; an enlightened estimate of the well-being of the Slave himself; and, especially, loyalty to the teachings of the Scriptures, in the primitive, unfeigned purity in which they were delivered, require that we disown our neighbors stick to the facts and iniquities of our countrymen, and the peace and unity of the church and nation.

4. Resolved, That we utterly repudiate the entire action on the subject of Slaveholding had by the late General Conference; whether reports of the Committee on Slavery, or a just estimate of the well-being of the Slave himself; and, especially, loyalty to the teachings of the Scriptures, in the primitive, unfeigned purity in which they were delivered, require that we disown our neighbors stick to the facts and iniquities of our countrymen, and the peace and unity of the church and nation.

5. Resolved, That we commit these issues to your determination. Their importance cannot be overestimated; they involve the fate of the Democratic party and of that Union which has so faithfully, and constantly, and zealously maintained.

MILES TAYLOR, Chairman.

W. E. POUGH,

ALBERT RUE.

THE VOICE OF ROCKINGHAM.

The above call is made by 232 of the voters of Rockingham. The Valley Democrat, publishing the call, says:

"The above list was gotten up within the last day or two, and had an effort been made, or time been sufficient, at least two thousand signatures could have been obtained."

The voice of the Rockingham Democracy, in this potential manner, speaks with much more force and authority than the primary assemblage of a few politicians. The list of names, composed, as far as we can learn, of clergymen, laymen and friends of our Church, is a proper index to the sentiments of the Rockingham Democracy. That this list is thoroughly and overwhelmingly for Douglas, there can be no doubt, and the idea of the "Cotton States" is a mere泡影.

It is the voice, and it will be seen that Mr. Bell is amongst the day. Let the reader, however, gaze his eyes over the "year," and see the names of Bright, Cass, Dickins, and Guion, now among the brightest lights in the Secession galaxy—A. W. H.

CHANGING TACK.

The Richmond Enquirer says that Mr. Bell failed to vote on the bill for the abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia, as transmitted from our fathers; a just reverence for social order; an enlightened estimate of the well-being of the Slave himself; and, especially, loyalty to the teachings of the Scriptures, in the primitive, unfeigned purity in which they were delivered.

5. Resolved, That we commit these issues to your determination. Their importance cannot be overestimated; they involve the fate of the Democratic party and of that Union which has so faithfully, and constantly, and zealously maintained.

6. Resolved, That we confide, as heretofore, in the loyalty of the preachers of the Baltimore Conference to the well-being, social and political, no less than religious, of the people under their pastoral care, and of the community at large, in the midst of which said clergymen reside.

7. Resolved, That if nothing be done, by the 1st of January, 1861, to secure the meeting of a General Convention, that, then, and only then, will we have power to act.

8. Resolved, That the course of the Baltimore Conference, to the well-being, social and political, no less than religious, of the people under their pastoral care, and of the community at large, in the midst of which said clergymen reside.

9. Resolved, That we agree to the action of the preachers of the Baltimore Conference, in the titling of all petitions for the abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia, as transmitted from our fathers; a just reverence for social order; an enlightened estimate of the well-being of the Slave himself; and, especially, loyalty to the teachings of the Scriptures, in the primitive, unfeigned purity in which they were delivered.

10. Resolved, That we will not, in any case, be bound by the action of the preachers of the Baltimore Conference, in the titling of all petitions for the abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia, as transmitted from our fathers; a just reverence for social order; an enlightened estimate of the well-being of the Slave himself; and, especially, loyalty to the teachings of the Scriptures, in the primitive, unfeigned purity in which they were delivered.

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