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Mr. Bell's Letter of Acceptance.

WASHINGTON HUNT TO JOHN BELL.
BALTIMORE, May 11, 1860.

DEAR SIR:—It has become my agree-
able duty, as the presiding officer of the
National Union Convention, which terminated
its session in this city last evening, to
inform you that you have received the nomi-
nation of that body as its candidate for the
office of President of the United States.
After a frank interchange of sentiment, in
which the merits of all the distinguished
candidates presented for our consideration
were canvassed in the most friendly spirit,
the Convention resolved with entire unani-
mity and great enthusiasm to place your
name before the American people as the
chosen representative of its principles of
constitutional liberty and union. With a
just appreciation of your known modera-
tion and justice, your uniform support of
wise and beneficent measures of legislation,
your firm and heroic resistance of the re-
peal of the Missouri compromise and all
kindred measures calculated to engender
sectional discord, and your life-long devo-
tion to the union, harmony and prosperity
of these States, it was decided, with one
accord, that you are the man for the crisis;
and that with your honored name inscribed
on our banner, an earnest appeal shall be
made to the people to rally for the preser-
vation of our national institutions. We
feel, one and all, that your election to the
Presidency would ensure the integrity of
our government, restore the peace of the
Union, and afford an unfeigned guarantee
for the supremacy of the Constitution and
the laws. I have the honor to be, with
high respect, your obedient servant,

WASHINGTON HUNT.
To the Hon. JOHN BELL.

JOHN BELL TO WASHINGTON HUNT.
NASHVILLE, May 21, 1860.

DEAR SIR:—Official information of my
nomination to the Presidency by the Na-
tional Union convention, of which you were
the presiding officer, was communicated to
me by your letter of the 11th inst., at Phil-
adelphia, on the eve of my departure with
my family for my place of residence in
Tennessee, and confident as I was of my
worthiness, I did not hesitate to signify
my intention to accept the position assigned
to me by that distinguished and patriotic
body. But for convenience, and under
a sense of the propriety of acting in no
grave a matter with greater deliberation, I
concluded, as I informed you at the time
by a private note, to defer a formal accep-
tance until after my arrival home.

Now that I have had all the leisure I
could desire for reflection upon the circum-
stances under which the nomination was
made, the purity of the motives and the
lofty spirit of patriotism by which the Con-
vention was animated, as evinced in all its
proceedings, I can appreciate more justly
the honor done me by the nomination; and,
though it might have been more fortunate
for the country had it fallen upon some one
of the many distinguished statesmen whose
names were brought to the notice of the
Convention, rather than myself, I accept it,
with all its possible responsibilities. What-
ever may be the issue of the ensuing can-
vass, as for myself, I shall ever regard it
as a proud distinction—one worth a life-
long effort to attain,—to be pronounced
worthy to receive the highest office in the
government at such a time as the present,
and by such a Convention as that which
recently met in Baltimore—a Convention far
less imposing by the number of its mem-
bers, large as it was, than by their high
character.

In it were men venerable alike for their
age and for their public services, who could
not have been called from their voluntary
retirement from public life but by the stron-
gest sense of patriotic duty; others, though
still in the prime of life, ranking with the
first men of the country by labors and dis-
tinctions already acquired in high official
positions; State and national; many of
these statesmen worthy to fill the highest
office in the government; a still greater
number occupying the highest rank in

their respective professional pursuits;
others distinguished by their intelligence
and well earned influence in various walks
of private life, and all animated and united
by one spirit and one purpose—the result
of a strong conviction that our political
system, under the operation of a complica-
tion of disorders, is rapidly approaching a
crisis when a speedy change must take
place, indicating as in diseases of the phys-
ical body, recovery or death.

The Convention, in regarding the use
of platforms, exacts no pledges from those
whom they deem worthy of the highest trusts
under the government; wisely considering
that the surest guaranty of a man's future
usefulness and fidelity to the great inter-
ests of the country, in any official station
to which he may be chosen, is to be found
in his past history connected with the pub-
lic service. The pledge implied in my ac-
ceptance of the nomination of the National
Union Convention is, that should I be elected
I will not depart from the spirit and tenor
of my past course; and the obligation
from the consideration that none is required
from me.

You, sir, in your letter containing the
official announcement of my nomination,
have been pleased to ascribe to me the
merit of moderation and justice in my past
public career. You have likewise given
me credit for a uniform support of all wise
and beneficent measures of legislation, for
a firm resistance to all measures calculated
to engender sectional discord, and a life-
long devotion to the union, harmony and
prosperity of these States. Whether your
personal partiality has led you to overstate
my merits as a public man or not in your
enumeration of them, you have presented a
summary—a basis of all sound American
statesmanship. It may be objected that
nothing is said in this summary, in express
terms, of the obligations imposed by the
Constitution; but the duty to respect and
observe them is clearly implied, for without
due observance in the conduct of the gov-
ernment, of the constitution, its restrictions
and requirements, fairly interpreted in ac-
cordance with its spirit and objects, there
can be no end to sectional discord—no
security for the harmony of the Union.

I have not the vanity to assume that in
my past connection with the public service
I have exemplified the course of a sound
American statesman; but I have deserved
the favorable view taken of it in your letter,
I may hope, by a faithful adherence to the
maxims by which I have heretofore been
guided, not altogether to disappoint the
confidence and expectations of those who
have placed me in my present relation to
the public; and if, under Providence, I
should be called to preside over the affairs
of this great country as the executive chief
of the government, the only further pledge
I feel called upon to make is, that to the
utmost of my ability, and with whatever
strength of will I can command, all the pow-
ers and influence belonging to my official
station shall be employed and directed for
the promotion of all the great objects for
which the government was instituted, but
more especially for the maintenance of the
Constitution and the Union against all op-
posing influences and tendencies.

I cannot conclude this letter without ex-
pressing my high gratification at the nomi-
nation to the second office under the gov-
ernment of that eminently gifted and dis-
tinguished statesman of Massachusetts,
Edward Everett, a gentleman held by gen-
eral consent to be altogether worthy of the
first.

Tendering my grateful acknowledg-
ments for the kind and complimentary
remarks with which you were pleased to
accompany the communication of my nomi-
nation, I am, dear sir, with the highest
respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN BELL.
To the Hon. Washington Hunt.

OLD ABE'S PERSONAL PULCHRITUDE.

The New York Express of Thursday evening
has the following "Personal" item about the
Black Republican standard bearer:
One of the speakers at the inauguration of
the Republican Wigwag in Brooklyn, on Tues-
day evening, related a "Lincoln story" some-
what in the following strain. "A hunter once
accompanied Mr. Lincoln, and pointing his rifle
towards the Rail splitter, was on the point of
firing when the latter asked him what he meant.
The hunter told him that he had made an oath
that if he ever met an uglier man than him, self
he would shoot him. Lincoln thereupon re-
sponded, "Well, if I am any uglier than you
are, fire away!"

We will only add that if the likeness in Har-
per's last Weekly bears any resemblance to the
original, then the man in the "story" who did
not shoot "Old Abe" at sight, certainly deserv-
ed to be doubly shot himself. We have seen
some faces of the ultra-ugly stamp in our day,
but this photograph of Harper's beats them all
out of sight. The election to the Presidency
of a man with so horrible a phiz, would be, of
itself, cause enough for a dissolution of the
Union. We have heretofore thought that gog-
gones were merely fabulous existences, but af-
ter reading the above anecdote, and seeing
"Old Abe's" photograph with our own eyes,
our decided impression is that such realities
are rendered extremely credible by this living
Black Republican specimen of infinite ugliness
in the person of its nominee.

Petersburg Express.

"Lawks!" exclaimed Mrs. Partington,
"what monstrous these master-builders must be!
I am told some on 'em have as many as a hun-
dred hands."

SUBSTANCE OF THE REMARKS OF HON. GEO. E. BADGER, BEFORE THE WAKE COUNTY AD VALOREM CLUB.

At a meeting of the Ad Valorem Club,
of this County was held at the Court House
on Monday evening last. On motion of Kemp P. Battle, Esq., Mr. Har-
ris, of Forestville, was called to the Chair.
It being generally known that the ob-
ject of the call of the meeting was for the
purpose of hearing an address from North
Carolina's most distinguished son, the Hon.
George Badger, one of the Opposition
Electors for the State at large, on the pen-
ding questions of the day, the Court House
was crowded with a large and intelligent
audience. Major H. W. Husted made a
few humorous remarks by way of intro-
ducing the distinguished gentleman to the
audience, stating that he had seen it in
print that Mr. Badger would not dare to
meet his competitor before the people, and
that the Club had asked Mr. B. to appear
under their protection, so that it might be
ascertained whether he could venture to
risk himself in public debate.

Mr. Badger arose, and after thanking
Major Husted for the flattering terms in
which he had been pleased to call him up,
and briefly referring in a humorous manner
to the remark of a Democratic journal that
he would not meet Mr. Haywood, one of
the Democratic electors for the State at
large, on the stump, he proceeded to say
that he appeared before that audience on an
intimation that the Wake County Ad
Valorem Club desired to hear him upon the
pending questions of the day. Even if he
had felt at liberty to do so, he was not dis-
posed to decline the call.

We have, said Mr. B., two important
questions now before us, demanding our
earnest consideration: One directly pres-
sing upon the country, and the other of the
highest importance to our State and her
people, viz: the subject of so altering our
Constitution as to permit the Legislature
to take the property of the people of the
state upon the Ad Valorem system.

The pending question before the country
is that of the election of a President of
the United States. This country is now
in a situation in which it never before was
placed. We have but two National candi-
dates before the country for the exalted
offices of President and Vice President.—
Lincoln and the party that nominated him
cannot be called National—they are sectional.
With regard to my Democratic
fellow-citizens, said Mr. B., their party is
shattered to pieces, and is, in my opinion,
totally unable to re-unite. But the people
of the United States have now before them
the names of two men distinguished for their
statesmanship, conservatism and patriotism
—I allude to John Bell, of Tennessee, and
Edward Everett, of Massachusetts. (Ap-
plause.) He felt called upon especially to
say a word in reference to that nomination,
because, as one of the Opposition Electors
for the State at large, it had been rendered
peculiarly necessary that he should say
something, particularly in reference to Mr.
Bell. He had served with him in the Sen-
ate of the United States, and knew him to
be a true man—there was no truer man to
be found. (Applause.) He had led no
armies to victory, but he had been long
known to the country in the civil walks of
life—in the administration of National af-
fairs—and not one blemish can be found
upon John Bell, either as a politician or a
patriot. (Applause.) A friend had asked
him (Mr. B.) shortly after the nomi-
nations were made at Baltimore, how he liked
Mr. Bell? He replied—very well. (Laugh-
ter and applause.) But, said his friend,
he don't like you. What has that to do
with it? said Mr. Badger. A man may
make a very good President, and yet not
like me. Those who think that I, said Mr.
B., am indifferent to John Bell's success
are mistaken. He possesses statesman-
ship, patriotism and administrative ability,
and indeed, every qualification essential to
the office of the Chief Magistrate of this
Republic. (Applause.) If he knew that
Mr. Bell hated him, he would be just as
ready and willing to support him as he was
now. (Applause.) The country would be
safe in his hands—safe to the South and to
the North, because Mr. Bell was a devoted
Union man. (Applause.) John Bell was
above calculating the price of his country
—he would give everything to his country.
(Applause.) If he were to say that he
preferred Mr. Bell to everybody else, he
would say what was not true. Nothing
would have pleased him so much as the
nomination of his distinguished fellow-citi-
zen, that pure patriot, honest and capable
man, Wm. A. Graham. (Applause.) Next
to Mr. Graham, he would have preferred
his venerable person and political friend,
John J. Crittenden, of Ky. (Applause.)
With these two exceptions, there was no
man in the country whom he would be so
much pleased to see elevated to the Presi-
dency as John Bell, of Tenn. (Applause.)
He did not believe that Mr. Bell disliked
him; indeed, so kind and generous was
his nature, he did not believe that Mr.
Bell could dislike anybody. His feelings
towards Mr. Bell were those of sincere and
cordial respect. (Applause.)

In reference to the candidate for the
Vice Presidency of the Constitutional
Union Party, where in all this broad land
will you find a man more unexception-
able than Edward Everett? True, he ex-
pected shortly to hear that he was a rob-

ber, a burglar or something of the sort,
[Laughter] but where is there a man of a
purer and more spotless character, or one
more unexceptionable in every respect?
The very moment that Massachusetts be-
came Abolitionized, they turned Mr. Ev-
erett out of the Senate, because he could
not speak the voice of Massachusetts.—
No, Edward Everett was too honest and
patriotic to suit the Abolitionists. Edward
Everett was a scholar, patriot, and he liked
to have said Statesman; but somebody had
told him that his young friend, the Hon.
D. M. Barringer, had said in a speech a
short time since that Mr. Everett was no
statesman!

Mr. Barringer—Will the gentleman al-
low me to interrupt him in order to correct
him? I did not say that—

Mr. Badger—No, sir, I cannot give way
to the gentleman.

Mr. Barringer—I saw you on the street
and told you what I said.

Mr. Badger—I was just coming to that.
My young friend is too impetuous. He
should have more patience. When he
heard that his young friend had made that
remark, he began to think that possibly he
might be mistaken in his estimate of Mr.
Everett's statesmanship, as he (Mr. Badger)
unlike his friend, Mr. Barringer, had never
been a Minister to a foreign country; nor
indeed had he ever been a Secretary of
State. But the impression was pretty
general throughout the country that Mr.
Everett was a statesman, and he thought
if he was not it would be very hard hearted
in Mr. Barringer to tell on him. [Laugh-
ter.] Mr. B. had represented his country
as Minister at the court of St. James, where
he acquitted himself with signal ability, and
had been Secretary of State, in which po-
sition he had displayed such ability as to
command the admiration and applause of
the whole country. Indeed, everybody
was under the impression that Mr. Everett
was a statesman. But even if he were not,
what difference would that make? We only
intend to make him Vice President.—
[Laughter and Applause.] Therefore, as
we do not intend to make him President,
he thought our Democratic friends had no
cause for complaint. He met Mr. Barringer
on the streets a few days ago and asked
him if he had made the remark imputed
to him in reference to Mr. Everett. Mr.
Barringer told him that he did not say
that Mr. Everett was no statesman, but
that it was not a first-class statesman,
such as Clay and Webster. Well, if Mr.
Everett came next to Clay and Webster,
he thought he would do pretty well. [Ap-
plause.] Clay and Webster are gone, and
cannot be got back again, and he thought
it would be a pretty good compromise to
get the man that comes next to them.—
[Applause.]

Mr. Barringer—Will the gentleman ex-
cuse me. He has—

Mr. Badger—The gentleman must ex-
cuse me. I cannot give way—

Mr. Barringer—[persisting] you have
not asked the question as it occurred
between us. I said that Mr. Everett was
both a scholar and a statesman, but more
of a scholar than a statesman.

Mr. Badger—The gentleman might have
said that in his speech, but he did not say
it to me; and several gentlemen who heard
his speech have told me that they did not
hear him say it then. [Applause.] He
found his Democratic friends very hard to
please, and particularly those who had of
late left our party and joined the Demo-
crats. [Applause.] They would be satis-
fied with nothing we could do. He thought
it was the best joke of the campaign for
anybody to attempt to maintain that Ed-
ward Everett was not a statesman. Ever-
ett was not only an orator, sage, patriot,
but a statesman, too. He has sufficient
statesmanship to govern this country in
such a manner as to restore it to peace and
happiness. [Loud Applause.]

Mr. B. had felt bound to say this much
on National affairs. Our Democratic
friends have held their Convention at
Charlotte, but what was the result?—
They had disagreed upon a platform, a
portion of the members had seceded, and
they had finally broken up, one portion to
meet again at Baltimore and the other at
Richmond. We can't tell what they will
do. Mr. Randolph had once made a very
severe remark about the cohesive power of
the "five loaves and two small fishes" with
the Democrats; but it was now doubtful
whether that power would have the effect of
re-uniting them. He didn't think they
could get together again. But as matters
now stand there are but two National can-
didates before the people.

We come now, said Mr. Badger, to some-
thing which particularly interests us all,
viz: the question which had led to the for-
mation of this Club. He begged the audi-
ence to excuse him if, in the course of his
remarks, he should accidentally use two
little I-tin words. The question referred
to was whether there shall be equality in
taxation. As the Constitution now stands
the Legislature has the right to tax every-
thing according to value except slaves.—
Slaves now are required only to pay a poll
tax, and that only when they are between
the ages of 12 and 50. By the present
mode of imposing taxes, the Legislature is
bound to put too much tax on some things
and too little on some others. What are
the positions occupied in reference to this
matter by the two parties in this State?—
The following is the position occupied by
the Opposition party:

WHEREAS, Great inequality exists in the
present mode of taxation, and it is just and
right that all property should contribute its
proportion towards the burdens of State:

Resolved, That we recommend a Conven-
tion of the people of the State be called on the
federal basis as early as practicable for the
purpose of so modifying the Constitution that
every species of property may be taxed ac-
cording to its value, with power to discriminate
only in favor of the native products of the
State and the industrial pursuits of her citi-
zens.

Can anybody deny the justice of that posi-
tion? If a negro slave valued at \$1,000 is only
taxed 80 cents, or 8 cents on the \$100 value,
is it right to tax land 20 cents on the \$100
value? In the resolution just read there are
two exceptions allowed to the general rule of
equal taxation, viz: With power to discrimi-
nate only in favor of the native products of
our State and the industrial pursuits of her citi-
zens. What man can stand up in the face
of the people of this State and deny the jus-
tice of these discriminations? If a man owns
\$20,000 in slaves, why not tax his property
equally with that of the man who owns \$20,
000 in land?

We all know that before the Convention of
1835 was called, the West had been for a long
series of years urging the calling of a Conven-
tion and some of the Western people had gone
so far as to threaten to hold a Convention
themselves and to change the Constitution,
whether the East was willing or not. In 1835,
several causes operated to induce the East to
agree to the calling of a Convention. The
West could not have called the Convention
without the consent of the East. The Con-
vention was called for a specified purpose, and
the members were sworn not to disturb the
Constitution in any other respect. One of the
Constitutional compromises agreed upon by that
Convention was the maintenance of freehold
suffrage. Why was that insisted upon? It
was the idea of the East that if the West got
the power she would increase the taxes upon
the slave property and lessen it on land, while
the West feared that the East might burden
land with taxes, to the partial exemption of
slave property. And thus the compromise was
effected—the landholder being protected by
freehold suffrage from oppressive taxation, and
the slave holder being protected by the opti-
on tax from undue taxes on his property.—
We have abolished one of these compromises
by the adoption of free suffrage, and what could
be more just than now to change the other so
as to admit of the one being taxed equally with
the other, according to value? Can anybody
give a reason that it should not be so? One
of the things that give value to property is
the ability to dispose of it. What is the rea-
son that one Treasury note is worth more than
a dozen promissory notes? It is because the
Treasury note can anywhere be converted in-
to gold in an instant. So with the negro. If
a man wishes to sell his land it will take him
probably five years to get a purchaser, while a
negro can be sold in 48 hours. Nobody pro-
poses to burden the negro, but to tax him
equally with other property.

What do our Democratic friends say in the
11th resolution of their Platform?

"Resolved, That we are opposed to disturb-
ing any of the sectional compromises of our
Constitution State or National." Who talks
about disturbing the National Constitution?
This is merely a tub thrown to the whale.
They are now devotedly opposed to disturb-
ing the compromises of the Constitution. How
were they a few years ago in regard to Free
Suffrage? Mr. B. continued to read from the
Democratic platform—

"and that we especially deprecate the introduc-
tion at this time by the Opposition Party of
North Carolina into our State politics of a
question of Constitutional amendment affecting
the basis upon which our revenue is raised."

"Deprecate at this time," repeated Mr. B.
What other time would be more suitable than
the present? What particular objection have
they to this time? They go on to tell us—
"believing it to be premature."

What do they mean by "premature"? This
use of the word "premature" in the Demo-
cratic platform reminded him of a fellow at Chap-
el Hill, some years ago, who on a certain oc-
casion was desirous of attending the races at
Hillsboro, which were to come off some days
thereafter. He was not a very bright youth,
and upon applying to one of the factors for per-
mission at that time to go, was informed by the
Tutor that his application was "premature."
Never having heard the word "premature" be-
fore, he took it for granted that it implied per-
mission to go; so off he went at once. On his
return he was brought before the Tutor for
disobedience. The Tutor asked him why he
went to Hillsboro without his permission.
The boy replied "You gave me permission."
"I gave you permission," said the Tutor,
"what did I say?" "Why, sir," responded the
boy, "you said it was premature, and I thought
by that that you meant to give me permission."
Mr. B. thought when he discovered an evil
with then was the time to remedy it. If slaves
paid their full proportion of taxes, then might they
with some property call it premature. \$50,
000 in land pays 20 cents on the \$100 value,
or one-fifth of one per cent. What reason was
there why \$50,000 in land should pay \$100,
while \$50,000 in negroes only pay about \$40?
But the Democrats say it is "premature," and
we are left in doubt as to their meaning. Mr.
B. then read from the platform the word
"impolitic." "premature" and "impolitic." What
policy is there in continuing to tax in North
Carolina one species of property double as
much as another kind is taxed? I presume
that it is impolitic in their estimation simply
because the proposition comes from the Opposi-
tion. Very well. (Continuing to read from
the platform.) "Dangerous." To whom? asked
Mr. B. Who is it going to damage? The
only danger that he could see to result from it
would be that some people's property in slaves
would have to pay as much tax as their neigh-
bor's lands. If that's the only danger, it
needn't trouble us much. (Continuing to read
from the 11th resolution.) "unjust." What
sort of an idea have our Democratic friends of
justice asked Mr. B. Negroes don't pay 61
cents on the \$100 value, while land pays 20
cents on the \$100. Is it unjust for them to
stand upon the same footing? This distinc-

tion should not be made in favor of the slave-
holder. When he read the 11th resolution of
their platform and came to the word "prema-
ture," he was under the impression that their
objection to equal taxation was only for the
present. He thought that they might not op-
pose it at another time. And when he read
"dangerous" he still hoped that when the
"dangerous" time passed they would become
its advocates. But when he came to "unjust"
his hopes vanished. A thing may be "dange-
rous" to-day and highly safe to-morrow; but to
say that it is "unjust" shows that they never
will agree that this species of property shall be
taxed like other property. Perhaps they
meant that it was a "dangerous" proposition
for them to oppose, and "unjust" because they
believe they alone are entitled to the exclusive
power and control over public affairs. After
the being "premature, impolitic, dangerous and
unjust" to alter the Constitution so that the
Legislature may tax slaves equally with other
property, what do they propose—

"at the same time we deem it the duty of the
Legislature when passing acts for the raising
of revenue, so to adjust taxation, as to bear as
equally as practicable within the limits of the
Constitution, upon the various interests and
classes of property in all sections of the State."

That is to say, while they deem it "prema-
ture, impolitic, dangerous and unjust" "at this
time," to have fair taxation, they regard it
the duty of the Legislature to tax equally, every
species of property, except negroes. Why
exempt slaves? It is reasonable to exempt
slaves from taxation equally with other prop-
erty, and to exempt nothing else? I am a
slaveholder myself, said Mr. B. though not a
large one, and I don't see why I should not
pay as much tax on my property, according to
its value, as any one else. If a person owns a
large number of negroes, the natural increase,
in the course of 20 years, will double the
value of his property, while land don't increase,
but on the contrary, will in 20 years become
completely worn out. Two tracts of land don't
beget a third tract. (Laughter and applause.)
What do our opponents say in opposition to
our platform? They are in trouble because
they profess to think we are going to tax the
poor man's tin cups, and make an in-road on
his hen roost. They will know, however, that
nobody ever proposed or contemplated such a
thing. So great is their affection for the work-
ing man that they really believe what they
don't believe. (Laughter.) They ought to
be ashamed of themselves. (Continued Laugh-
ter and Applause.) Our plan is simply to so
alter the Constitution that all property may
be taxed equally, according to value. But
even if we were going to tax tin cups, let us
see what such a tax would amount to, at 10
cents on the \$100 worth. He would allow 5
tin cups to each family, though he thought
this allowance was too liberal, for he had too
much respect for any man to suppose that he
would prefer a tin cup to a gourd, unless it was
for the purpose of drinking whiskey, when per-
haps the tin cup would be preferable. (Laugh-
ter.) Five tin cups valued at 5 cents a piece,
would be 25 cents. The tax on 5 tin cups for
one year would amount to one fortieth part of
one cent, or in other words one cent would pay
the tax on the tin cups of one family for forty
years. Now let us see what would be the tax
on chickens; but by the way, he would object
to that, because he had them to buy, and if
they were taxed the country people would be
sure to raise their prices on them. Suppose
we allow 100 to each family. At ten cents a
piece they would be worth \$10. The tax on
\$10 worth for one year would be one cent.
The United tax on the chickens and the tin
cups of one family for one year would be one
and one fortieth of a cent. (Laughter and ap-
plause.) I will leave it to some better arith-
metician than myself to calculate what per cent
of this amount the collector would receive
(Continued laughter and applause.) Five cents
would pay the tax on all the chickens and tin
cups of one family for four years. Can any-
body conceive of men making such complete
asses of themselves as to suppose that we had
any idea of taxing these things? But let us
see what the whole tax in the State would be
on all the chickens and tin cups. We will
suppose there are 90,000 families in the State.
As it is only the poor people who so much
excite the compassion of our Democratic
friends, we will suppose that out of the 90,000
families there are 40,000 poor families. The
whole tax for one year on the tin cups and
chickens of the whole 40,000 families would
only amount to \$10. There are two clever
gentlemen on the Democratic ticket in this
county, Messrs Mordecai and Cox, each of
whom he supposed owned at least 100 negroes.
—If the principle of Equal Taxation should
be adopted, these gentlemen would each have
to pay on their negroes about \$100 taxes in-
stead of \$40, as now. Of course, though they
don't object to the increased taxation on them-
selves, but they object to Ad valorem because
it will tax the poor man's tin cups. Nobody
supposed that the resolution in the Opposition
Platform in regard to a Convention ever con-
templated such a thing as the taxing of tin
cups. When the resolution was before the
Opposition Convention, Mr. Turner wanted
to amend it so that it would exempt tin cups,
power plates, &c, but knowing that the Demo-
crats would misrepresent it anyhow, he (Mr.
B.) opposed any change in the wording of it.
The resolution provides that we shall discrimi-
nate "in favor of the native products of our
State." What does that mean? Why, that
as between what is produced by our own peo-
ple, and the productions of the people of other
States, we shall discriminate in favor of the
former. "And the industrial pursuits of her
citizens." What is the meaning of that? It
means that the workingman's horse, furniture,
tin cups, if you please, and many other things,
shall be exempt from taxation. It was never
contemplated by the Opposition that these
things should be taxed.

If he were disposed to criticize the Demo-
cratic platform, he could show that they go
for taxing tin cups, chairs, &c. They say in their
platform that the Legislature should "so adjust
taxation as to bear as equally as practicable
within the limits of the Constitution upon the
various interests and classes of property in all
sections of the State." He did not, however,
attribute any such purpose to them; but merely
wished to call attention to the same feature in