

# The Daily Sentinel.

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## DAILY SENTINEL.

W. E. PELL, PROPRIETOR.

### THE SUFFRAGE SPECTACLE IN VIRGINIA.

Whilst Ohio has refused by an immense majority suffrage to the comparatively small number of colored men in her population, Virginia, with her vast body of emancipated slaves, has just been subjected to the experiment of colored negro suffrage in an election for a convention to form the organic law of the Commonwealth. We are much mistaken if the parade of returns from that election, and the figures, facts, and incidents connected with it, do not greatly accelerate the reaction in the North, which has been manifested in the late elections in Northern States. The spectacle which has been exhibited in the Virginia elections may well cause all men of any capacity of vision and forecast, even in the Radical ranks, to pause and reflect what is the end of such things. What we have just seen in Virginia is a solid organization of blacks, completely under the control of their leaders as an army under its general in time of war, not only marching to the polls to vote down conservative intelligence, but to vote down all moderate men, including those well known as the prominent Union men of the State, and literally to hunt down, to pelt with stones and threaten to hang those of their own color who attempted to vote the Conservative ticket, and furiously to assault the police when they endeavored to protect Conservative men of their own color from their violence. One illustration, out of many, of the manner in which the leaders of the blacks in Virginia have compelled their followers to draw the line between white and black, and make allegiance to one Hannibal, an agrarian white Radical, instead of Union principles, the standard of qualification in the late election of delegates to the convention, is the defeat of Franklin Stearns, Esq., in the County of Henrico. Mr. Stearns is a Northern man by birth, an original Union man of the strongest kind, a gentleman of high character, great energy, and fine business talents, and has large interests identified with the welfare of Richmond and Virginia. This gentleman, recognized as one of the most intelligent Republicans of Virginia, has been beaten by the president of a local negro league, who is understood not to have received a white vote in the county. Mr. Stearns had been altogether disengaged from the Convention, and only consented to go to the Convention, and only consented in order to save the county from being represented by a man thoroughly incompetent. Another case is that of a well-known leading Republican, Lewis McKenzie, Esq., of Alexandria, a gentleman of talent and political experience, formerly justly acknowledged by the colored men as one of their "best friends," who received only twenty-nine votes, while the selected chief of the extremists received 1,487.

The frauds in registration; the injustice of this appointment, which, with a large white majority in the State, so arranged the districts as to insure a majority to the blacks in the Convention; the contumacious ravaging of the blacks against old Union men; the inflicted and blood-thirsty assaults upon those of their own color, who declined to vote their ticket, and whose lives were only saved by the interposition of the military and the police, furnish ample food for reflection to all in the North who read the returns of the Virginia election, and will intensify the reactionary tide which has already set so strongly from Ohio, Pennsylvania, and other Northern States, and has compelled Radical leaders like Chief Justice Chase and the Governor elect of Ohio, feeling the ground giving way under them, to abandon an untenable and impracticable position and seek safety in more conservative ideas.

Anything so ridiculous and monstrous cannot stand—the evil must in time cure itself. *Baltimore Sun.*

**HOW JUDGE THURMAN, OF OHIO, INTERPRETS THE "REACTION."**

At a Democratic adjournment meeting in Alleghany city, Ohio, on the night of the 18th inst., Judge Thurman, late Democratic candidate for Governor of Ohio, after the platform on which he was speaking fell and interrupted the meeting for a time, said :

"On the second Tuesday of this month I got a little bit of a fall, but it did not hurt me a bit more than this little fall, to night, and that is just nothing at all. [Laughter.] Now, my friends, when the platform fell down I was asking the question what is the meaning of these Democratic victories this year? What is it that binds the great Middle States of Ohio and Pennsylvania in the bonds of a political union? What is it that makes Delaware, and Maryland, and Kentucky cling to us as their great hope in the dark future with which they are threatened? What is it that gives us our great strength? It is that the American people are not prepared to surrender constitutional government; secondly, that the white race is not prepared to surrender manhood and all its glorious traditions, and become serfs of the black race; thirdly, that the magnanimous and sensible people of the Republic are not willing to see the South converted into a Poland and governed by military despotism; fourthly, that they are not willing to see the material prosperity of their country destroyed in order to perpetuate the power of a party; fifthly, that they are not willing to see the lamp go out for a thousand years perhaps under a burden of debt and taxation such as this world never saw before, when it may all be heavily paid within the lifetime of a generation without reparation and without justice; and, finally, that they are not willing to see the Southern Confederacy, which has expanded our treasury, given over our property, and brought us to the very verge of national bankruptcy. This, it seems to me, is the lesson of the hour, and I thank my Maker that we have learned it before it is too late."

**THE SPIRIT OF THE LATE CONTEST.**

The spirit of the late election in this State will be very injurious if understood in the North, as it is fancied there that one of the parties was actuated by a desire to promote reconstruction, and the other by the disposition to obstruct it, or that one party represented Republicanism as it is supposed by respectable and intelligent men in the North, while the other stood in passive antagonism to it. These were not the issues in the contest or the inspiring motives of the contestants. The spirit and principle upon which the Conservatives struggled was the supremacy of the negro race,

and the subordination of the white race—the second one, which was incidental to the first, was the triumph of an ignorant, vindictive and agrarian Radicalism that threatened to throw the instruments of law and the institutions of government into chaotic disorder, and to subvert the very foundations of society. Against these things we made what resistance we could, and met it in the spirit of men who are contending for life, for liberty, for property, and whatever else is valuable.

As to the other side, it may be said, without the least exaggeration or coloring, that the idea of promoting reconstruction, or of sustaining the Republican party as the advocate or exponent of any principle or purpose that any decent member of that party would be willing to avow, never once entered the heads of the negroes. In its stead was only some vague but intense belief, that some laws and unnatural expectation that by supporting the Radical candidates they (the negroes) would in some way come into possession of the property and the social superiority belonging to the whites. An overturning and overturning of the state of things was what they were blindly aiming at. The handful of white Radicals, of course did not share these ideas. They saw their advantage in other ways, but they were very careful not to discourage the common negro insanity.

We have here very briefly but very candidly stated the issue and the animus of the late contest. Weak Northern men to consider calmly what is to be the result in Virginia and the other Southern States of the political ascendancy of the negro race. *Rich. Whig.*

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