

THE ASHEVILLE PIONEER.

"NO NORTH, NO SOUTH, NO EAST, NO WEST—OUR WHOLE COUNTRY"

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SPEECH OF HON. A. H. JONES, OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Delivered at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Re-Union Meeting, held at Washington, D. C., on the 28th of July, A. D., 1868, endorsing the nominations of Grant and Colfax for the Presidency.

CITIZENS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Though feeling honored in being placed on the list of speakers for this occasion, I should decline to appear but from a sense of duty.

Though North Carolina, but a short time since, was arrayed in arms against the Union, through the instrumentality of a kind Providence, she, at this good hour, stands redeemed, regenerated. [Cheers.] Over one hundred thousand men in North Carolina, in defiance of the influence, threats, and intimidations of the traitorous, unrepentant instigators and propagators of the rebellion, have spoken at the ballot-box in tones not to be misunderstood. [Prolonged cheers.] True it is that treason dies hard; but die it must.

Notwithstanding the people were left without a leader, thousands of them in that portion of North Carolina bordering on East Tennessee never bowed the knee to Baal, and thousands of others only when they were compelled. Situated nearly at the center of the so-called Confederacy, these faithful among the faithless were subjected to a yoke of tyranny, usurpation, and torture unequalled in the history of the civilized world.

Let us, by way of illustration, place ourselves on Mitchell's Peak, at the summit of Black Mountain, (the most elevated point of land east of the Rocky Mountains) and take a telescopic view, east, west, north, and south, and at every point of the compass may be seen the unrepentant leaders in the rebellion, instigated by the rebels who figured in the late New York Convention, marshaling the Union-hating hordes of the South with the view of accomplishing with the ballot that which they failed to accomplish with the bullet. [Voices, "that's so,"]

The active spirits in the late New York Convention from the South were those who led off in secession and rebellion. The delegate from my own District, Thos. L. Clingman, schooled the people in that section in the dogma of secession, was expelled from the Senate of the United States for disloyalty, and served in the Confederate army as a General. Colonel Cooke, who fled from East Tennessee on the approach of General Burnside into that section, was selected as his alternate. The motto of the ruling spirits of that Convention is rule or ruin. Verily, "they are held together by the cohesive power of public plunder."

What is the platform of this so-called Democratic party? It is revolution! It boldly declares that the reconstruction acts of Congress are unconstitutional and void. The Blair letter defiantly declares war as the means of undoing all the work of reconstruction.

This letter breathes fire, devastation, and slaughter in almost every line; it does not squint at violence; it is a bold and defiant declaration of war against the general Government, and for the spirit it breathes its author was nominated, by acclamation, by the Democratic Convention for the next highest office in the gift of the American people. It was the leading, unrepentant, defiant rebels of the South that demanded the declaration of principles set forth in the Blair letter, and the nomination of its author sent up a rebel shout unequalled except at the disaster of Manassas, and the enthusiasm of traitors was never more excited except when Major Anderson, from starvation, was forced to surrender Fort Sumter. Are we again to witness, at the instigation of the Democratic leaders, other fields of fratricidal blood, other scenes of rapine and carnage? The whole world of civilized mankind are for peace and progress, except the Democratic party, so-called. [Cheers.]

While the leading rebels of the South were in New York, on the 4th of July, plotting war, the Republicans of North Carolina, on the same day, were pledging themselves to the support of the laws, and devising means for future peace and happiness. The Republican party is the party of peace and happiness. The Democracy, so-called, is the party of anarchy and blood. There is but one issue before the American people. The issue is, PEACE OR WAR. It is Grant and Colfax and the reign of law and order, or Seymour and Blair and a reign of revolution, anarchy, and ruin. Let the people choose between the parties. The issue is fairly and squarely before them, and it must be met. There is no way to avoid the issue; there can be no compromise. What, then, is the plain duty of every American citizen who is a friend to law and order, to truth and justice, to liberty and equal rights under the law? If a man has one spark of loyalty in his soul, regardless of what he may have been under other circumstances, he cannot now consistently refuse to lend his support to men whose loyalty, integrity, patriotism, and purity stand unimpaired and unquestioned. The time has arrived when motives prompted by passion and prejudice should be laid aside; but to these alone should control the public affairs of the country, and as one by one the Union-hating leaders of the rebellion are shaken off into the waters of infamy and oblivion their groans and howls reverberate throughout the land. Since the veil of falsehood and deception has been removed, the scales are falling from the eyes of the honest laboring masses of the people, and they say let them groan, let them howl.

To imagine that those who led and forced the unintelligent, unsuspecting masses of the people in the South into the rebellion, and have never repented for it, are now friends to the Union, is a mistake. To suppose that those who willingly hunted down the patriots of the South with blood-hounds, hand-cuffed, chained, hung, and shot, and incarcerated them in Confederate bastilles, and held them as prey to vermin, starvation, and premature deaths by slow degrees, and have never repented of these things, are now friends of the Union, is to suppose a most egregious error.

To suppose that those who hate and deride Union men, traduce and ostracize socially their wives and daughters, solely on account of their devotion to the Union and honest convictions of right, are friends to this Republic, is only equal to supposing that a wolf is a lamb.

To suppose that those who yell so loudly for a white man's government would be so very particular if they could obtain the vote of the black man, is another mistake, for I, as a Southern man, can testify to the contrary. It was the boast of many of the very men who now make such a hue and cry about a white man's government that they could and would control the negro vote of the South. But no sooner than the test was made, and it was found that even the poor colored man had no confidence in them, and had sense enough to vote for the maintenance of his own freedom, the dog was dead, and the tail cold. But notwithstanding this, every means, fair and foul, will be resorted to in order to induce the freedmen to vote with them in the approaching contest. They will not scruple at the attempt to turn every renter, white and colored, out of house and home who will have the courage and independence to vote against them. This is plain language, but it is, nevertheless, true, as regards the more vindictive and unrepentant rebels. What they have done in one instance they will not hesitate to attempt in another. Should they, by such means, succeed in their nefarious purposes, may God help the Unionists of the South in sections where they are not strong enough to help themselves; for, notwithstanding the piteous lamentations that are being constantly heralded forth by the leaders of such into the ears of the people North of their down-trodden condition, a more unrepentant, unfeeling, vindictive, and defiant set of rebels never existed. [Voices, "that's so, that's so."] On the other hand, the Unionists of the

South seek not vengeance; they seek not re-venge for injuries received in the past, nor a return of persecution for persecution. What they ask and desire is that those who sought the life of the nation shall not be trusted with the power to make the second attempt at its destruction. What the masses desire is peace, but the rebel manipulators of the New York Convention have, as it were, again placed them out on a lake of ice, and it is cracking under their feet, and unless the people arouse themselves to the importance of the occasion, a lava-stream of blood will again sweep over the land. Again the tocsin of war has been sounded by the leaders of the Democratic party, and the only assurance of averting the storm is to be prepared to vote, at all hazards, for men of whose patriotism there can be no doubt.

The election of Seymour and Blair would be the worst misfortune that could befall the South, and every man who casts his vote for them will be giving aid and comfort to the worst enemies of this Republic, whether so intended or not. Every movement made by the leaders of the Democracy is a strain in their foot-prints of 1860-61. Every unrepentant rebel South of Mason and Dixon's line, who votes at all, will vote the Seymour and Blair ticket, and every man who votes with them will be standing cheek by jowl with those who would seize the first opportune moment to overthrow this Republic together with the peace, and happiness, and liberties of the people. May He who rules the destinies of nations help the people to avert such a dire calamity. To this end I can but pledge the best efforts of the National Union Republicans of the old North State, who have so recently, in despite of the most gigantic efforts of the opposition, moored the old ship of State safely into the harbor of the Union, there to remain, I trust, so long as the sun, moon, and stars continue to illuminate the American continent. [Prolonged applause.]

- #### Advantages of Under-Drainage.
1. It prevents drought.
 2. It furnishes an increased supply of atmospheric fertilizers.
 3. It warms the lower portion of the soil.
 4. It hastens the decomposition of roots and other organic matter.
 5. It accelerates the disintegration of the mineral matters in the soil.
 6. It causes a more even distribution of nutritious matter among the parts of the soil traversed by roots.
 7. It improves the mechanical texture of the soil.
 8. It causes the poisonous excrementitious matter of plants to be carried out of reach of their roots.
 9. It prevents grasses from running foul.
 10. It enables us to deepen the surface soil, by removing excess of water.
 11. It renders soil earlier in the spring.
 12. It prevents the throwing out of grain in winter.
 13. It allows us to work sooner after rain.
 14. It keeps off the effects of cold weather longer in the Fall.
 15. It prevents the formation of acetic and other acids, which induce the growth of sorrel and similar weeds.
 16. It hastens the decay of vegetable matters, and the fiercer combination of the earthy parts of the soil.
 17. It prevents, in a great measure, the evaporation of water; and the consequent abstraction of heat from the soil.
 18. It admits fresh quantities of water from rains, &c., which are always more or less imbued with the fertilizing gases of the atmosphere, to be deposited among the absorbent parts of the soil, and given up to the necessities of plants.
 19. It prevents the formation of so hard a crust on the surface of the soil as is usual on heavy lands.
 20. It prevents, in a great measure, grass and winter grains from being winter killed.

Immediately upon the nomination of General Grant the Democrats began to assert that there was no enthusiasm; that the thing fell dead, and argued the defeat of the ticket. Wait, said they, till we nominate at New York, and we will show you what enthusiasm is. Well, they have nominated their ticket, but where is the enthusiasm? We don't see it.

It is very natural that the nomination of General Grant, at the time that it was made, should be calmly received by the people, as he had been placed in the field long before by them. The convention simply ratified the nomination which the people had made with out the aid of a convention.

But the Democratic enthusiasm over their ticket, where is it? Will not some one please to tell us? Difference between the candidates for the Vice-Presidents. One presents cold facts to the people, and the other warms falsehoods. The Chicago Post says: "The last act of the rebels before the war was to vote the Democratic ticket. The first act of the rebels after the war was to vote the Democratic ticket. As there was but one step from Democracy into rebellion, there was but one step from rebellion back into Democracy." The inference is a plain one, and loyal and Union-loving people will not vote for a party "that stands in such a close relation to traitors that the latter fly to it as to a city of refuge."

The Zanesville (Ohio) Germania, the only German paper published there, which has hitherto been Democratic, repudiates the candidates nominated at New York, and shows a decided leaning towards Grant and Colfax. The Peoria Democrat, the principal organ of the German Democrats of Illinois, does not like the nomination of Seymour and Blair.

The Prospect To-day.

Let us turn away from the despondency of the Northern and the desperation of the Southern Democrats, and take a look into the condition of the Republican party. Taking the Republican papers for our guide, the first thing apparent is the prevailing harmony and energy of our political friends. The campaign has not yet fairly opened. The great agricultural population are still engaged closing out superabundant harvests; the active men of business are either resting at their own homes or at the seaside and country-houses, waiting for the reopening of trade; and members of Congress and others, candidates and canvassers, are passing for the commencement of political hostilities; and yet it is easy to see that, when the campaign is fairly begun, the Republicans will move in massive column and with resistless force.

General Grant's tour to Colorado and the West, though characteristically quiet, has developed a degree of enthusiasm among the people unexpected even to those who know his warm, strong hold upon the popular affections, and full of admiration to those who believed that this hold had been weakened by the attacks of Andrew Johnson and the rebels upon the great soldier. Having accepted the Republican and soldiers and sailors' platform, and written his formal letter, his position is a marked contrast to that of Horatio Seymour, who, after three weeks of reflection, has not yet mustered courage to write his promised massive acknowledgment of the rebel Democratic nomination. The Democratic soldiers, as a body, have not yet honored him by a call; and the party itself is everywhere corrodling with alternate factions and feuds.

Speaker Colfax, also on his Western tour, is the equally significant counterpart of General Blair, the Democratic candidate for Vice-President. He has not yet made a formal political speech, but when he begins his glowing eloquence and sound statesmanship will present a far different study to the intelligent citizen from the passionate and threatening harangues of his revolutionary competitor.

The Northwest offers no one sign of defeat to the Republican party. We cannot see any defection in a single Congressional district. Most of the able Congressional leaders have been renominated, and most of them will be re-elected.

Indiana, where Senator Hendricks is running as the Democratic candidate for Governor, begins to be stirred into unwonted activity; and with Colfax on the ticket for Vice-President, and the eloquent Morton on the stump, assisted by such statesmen as Henry S. Lane, Orin Shanks, Julian, and Coburn, we look for a decisive triumph in October.

Ohio works under the stern resolution to recover from last year's disaster, and, if they had nothing else to stimulate them, her Republicans would devote her entire energy to recover her former high position; but Ohio has other and higher incentives. Grant was born in Ohio, and his name is a watchword and a talisman where there lives a Union soldier, or the widow and children of those who fell for their country, and wherever there is a patriot who feels that to him more than any other living man we owe our liberties. All the Republican demagogues are preparing to take the field. Wade, Sherman, Schenck, Bingham, Garfield, Delano, Governor Hayes, Lawrence, Schialberger, and Ashley; and nobody counts on less than fifty thousand majority in October, and twice that majority in November.

Illinois is coming to the rescue with more than her usual impetus. Here Republican union and confidence is greatly aided by weak Democratic nominations. It is admitted that the latter are the worst selections that party has ever made. The Republican ticket here, as in Indiana, is almost entirely made up of Union soldiers, most of whom were former Democrats. Our candidate for Governor, General John M. Palmer, and the candidate for Congressman at large, General John A. Logan, are already on the stump, including a host of young orators. Most of the able Representatives in the present House are for re-election, and all are equipped for an effective canvass. Illinois is Grant's adopted State, and will give him her electoral vote by at least sixty thousand majority.

There is almost no contest against Grant in Michigan, Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Kansas, and Minnesota. The Democracy are dull and disheartened; and every day some new sign of disaffection appears in their ranks.

The conflict in Missouri will be fierce, but the Republicans will carry it high and dry. The rebel element is strong, and, as negro suffrage is in direct issue in the canvass, the rebel Democracy will work harder than elsewhere; but these Missouri Radicals have been baptized in the blood and annealed in the fire of civil war, and always fight the fiercer the more sharp and defined the conflict.

In all these States the Republican papers are conducted with extraordinary ability. Their columns disclose the organization that is being perfected to make victory assured, and their industry and zeal presage uncommon results.

If we turn to the Middle States, we find the prospect equally cheering. Pennsylvania never was in finer health politically. The difficulties in Philadelphia happily settled, there is not a jar in the machinery of the organization in that metropolis. Most of the present Republican members of Congress have been or will be renominated, and those who are not will be succeeded by men as sound as themselves. The Democrats are hopelessly demoralized in several of their heaviest districts, and the prospect of a Republican Legislature is cheering. In this State the military element is enlisted heartily for the Republican nominees. Both the candidates for State offices, Generals Hartranft and Campbell, fought bravely for the old flag, and will lead the column to a triumph in October. Not even at the election in 1864 was the Republican party of Pennsylvania more united and confident.

New Jersey catches the general inspiration. Here, as elsewhere, Republican feuds fade out in the blaze of Republican enthusiasm. The nomination of Mr. Blair for Governor is admitted, even by the adversaries, to be for-

lunate, and judging by the spirit with which it has been received, and the arrangements for the campaign, we should not be surprised if every State that decided for McClellan in 1864 should pronounce for Grant in 1868.

New York, confidently claimed by the Democrats, and in fact the only adhering State they honestly claim, will not be abandoned without a manly struggle. The Republicans have to carry the crushing vote of the city into the interior. But there is every reason to hope that this load may be reduced, and that the honest ballots of the country will give the State to Grant. Thousands of capitalists and business men must at last see that party, which is almost confessedly for repudiation, is no party for the protection of interests wholly dependent upon good government and commercial integrity.

New England will take care of herself; and Connecticut will wheel into line and complete the circle.

From the Pacific we have but good news; and those better able to judge presage the full redemption of Oregon and California. Of Nevada nobody entertains the slightest doubt. In casting the horoscope of the Pacific States, where population is sparse, owing to the difficulty and delay of the ocean and overland passages, we must not forget that it was here that secession, under Gwin, in California, and Joe Lane, in Oregon, gathered a number of proselytes in 1860; and that the debris of these organizations still exist, increased by large rebel additions from the South. Since the death of the confederacy. To overcome these contributions requires hard toil and honest harmony; and the latter we have not had in the last year; but all is comfortable now, and we have good reason to look for success in November.

The campaign in the South is conducted under trying circumstances by the beleaguered Republicans; but they will make a gallant fight, and will win in a majority of the restored Commonwealths. Tennessee, West Virginia, North Carolina, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, and Louisiana may, we believe, be confidently counted for Grant. The rebels are active and threatening, but in proportion as the certain success of Grant in the North and West, herein foreshadowed, becomes visible to the certainty that Congress in September will establish new penalties and guard against any future usurpations and violence, they will see the folly of contending against fate, or, refreshing to see it, prepare for the consequences. We cannot, therefore, under the Radical plan of reconstruction by Congressional action; the Senate will continue a bar to its repeal. Must we submit to it? How can it be overthrown? It can only be overthrown by the authority of the Executive, who is sworn to maintain the Constitution, and who will fall to do his duty if he allows the Constitution to perish under a series of Congressional enactments which are in palpable violation of its fundamental principles.

If the President elected by the Democracy enforces or permits others to enforce these reconstruction acts, the Radicals by the accession of twenty spurious Senators and fifty Representatives will control both branches of Congress, and his administration will be as powerless as the present one of Mr. Johnson. There is but one way to restore the Government and the Constitution, and that is for the President elect to declare these acts null and void, compel the army to undo its usurpations at the South, disperse the carpet-bag State governments, allow the white people to re-organize their own governments, and elect Senators and Representatives. The House of Representatives will contain a majority of Democrats from the North, and they will admit the Representatives elected by the white people of the South, and with the co-operation of the President it will not be difficult to compel the Senate to submit once more to the obligations of the Constitution. It will not be able to withstand the public judgment, if distinctly invoked and clearly expressed on this fundamental issue, and it is the sure way to avoid all future strife to put the issue plainly to the country.

I repeat that this is the real and only question which we should allow to control us: Shall we submit to the usurpations by which the Government has been overthrown, or shall we exert ourselves for its full and complete restoration? It is idle to talk of bonds, greenbacks, gold, the public faith, and the public credit. What can a Democratic President do in regard to any of these, with a Congress in both branches controlled by the carpet-baggers and their allies? He will be powerless to stop the supplies by which idle negroes are organized into political clubs—by which an army is maintained to protect these vagabonds in their outrages upon the ballot. These, and things like these, eat up the revenue and resources of the Government and destroy its credit—make the difference between gold and greenbacks. We must restore the Constitution before we can restore the finances, and to do this we must have a President who will execute the will of the people by trampling into dust the usurpation of Congress, known as the reconstruction acts. I wish to stand before the Convention upon this issue, but it is one which embraces everything else that is of value in its large and comprehensive results. It is the one thing that includes all that is worth a contest, and without it there is nothing that gives dignity, honor, or value to the struggle.

Your friend,
FRANK P. BLAIR.
Colonel James O. Broadhead.

The Cincinnati Commercial says that it is the unceasing complaint of Democratic newspapers that Grant will not talk. It might not, however, be a source of regret to them if Seymour talked less.

In Virginia the Democrats have one Lafayette Washington, a negro and Virginian, stumping the State against the new Constitution. He is regarded with great favor by the Democracy, and is fully recognized as a "man and a brother."

"The war is over," said a Seymourite the other day to a one-armed soldier who was turning a hand-organ in Union Park. "It may be over to you," said the brave Boy in Blue, lifting up his stump, "but it isn't over by a good deal, to me." The Copperhead vaunted.

The Boston Journal says: "A prominent member of the Democratic party said last night, 'I have talked to over a hundred Democrats this afternoon and evening, and they all think as I do—that no honest man can vote for Seymour, and no white man for Frank Blair.'"

A Mississippi daily has at the head of one of its columns a cut of a Rebel flag, with cannon underneath, and the words, "The guns that will kill Radicalism are, for President, Horatio Seymour; Vice-President, Frank P. Blair."

In South Carolina the Republicans of the Legislature are desirous of electing Governor Orr Chief Justice of the State.

A Missouri paper calls the nomination of Frank P. Blair on the ticket with Seymour letting "the tail go with the hide."

Every negro becomes "intelligent," "moral," "refined," and "white," the moment he votes the Democratic ticket.

General Blair says, "let us have peace."—General Blair says, "we must have a President who will execute the will of the people by trampling into the dust the usurpations of Congress, known as the reconstruction acts."

The Democracy propose not only to repudiate the National debt, but also the 14th Amendment, the Reconstruction acts, the restored State governments of the South, and the war itself.

Will not miles O'Reilly apply his valuable poetical and musical genius to setting the war speech of the rebel Toombs, of Georgia, to music? The first stanza might read thus: "Hark! from the Toombs a doleful sound, Come, rebels, attend the cry. Ye copperheads, come view the ground: Where you already lie."

"BREAD AND BUTTER."

[There is practical good sense as well as "poetry" in the following stanzas, composed by one of the committees of the last Fair of the Worcester County, Mass., Agricultural Society:]

The girl engaged in molding bread Shall make some sweetheart flatter, With hope to get that dairy maid To make his bread and butter.

She may not play the game croquet, Or French and German stouter, If well she knows the curd from whey, 'Aid makes sweet bread and butter.

In meal or cream she's elbow deep, And cannot stop to putter, But says if he will sow and reap, She'll make his bread and butter.

The dairy maid, the farmer's wife, Shall be the toast we utter; Alone, man leads a wretched life, Without good bread and butter.

Frank Blair's Revolutionary Letter.

The following letter, deliberately written by the Democratic candidate for the Vice-Presidency, in view of his probable nomination by the New York convention for the first or second place in the gift of the nation, foreshadowed the character of the platform to which the rebels and Copperheads dare ask the people to pin their political faith. It needs no comment. He who runs can read in it only anarchy and revolution. Let it be passed around for general inspection and the denunciation of every well wisher of his country.

WASHINGTON, June 30, 1868.

DEAR COLONEL:—In reply to your inquiries I beg leave to say that I leave to you to determine, on consultation with my friends from Missouri, whether my name shall be presented to the Democratic convention, and to submit the following, as what I consider the real and only issue in this contest:

The reconstruction policy of the Radicals will be complete before the next election; the States so long excluded will have been admitted; negro suffrage established and the carpet-baggers installed in their seats in both branches of Congress. There is no possibility of changing the political character of the Senate, even if the Democrats should elect their President and a majority of the popular branch of Congress. We cannot, therefore, under the Radical plan of reconstruction by Congressional action; the Senate will continue a bar to its repeal. Must we submit to it? How can it be overthrown? It can only be overthrown by the authority of the Executive, who is sworn to maintain the Constitution, and who will fall to do his duty if he allows the Constitution to perish under a series of Congressional enactments which are in palpable violation of its fundamental principles.

The Tipton Times, the most influential Democratic paper in the VIIIth Indiana District, throws aboard Seymour and Blair.