Albany Register.

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Speaker Blaine's Letter to Senator Sumner.

WASHINGTON, August 2.

The following letter was handed to Senator Sumner to-day:

AUGUSTA, Me., July 13, 1872.

Hon. Chas. Sumner, United States Senator:

DEAR SIR: Your letter published in the papers of this morning will create profound pain and regret among your former political friends throughout New England. Your power to injure General Grant was exhausted in your remarkable speech in the Senate. Your power to injure yourself was not fully exercised until you announced your open alliance with Southern secessionists in their efforts to destroy the Republican party of the nation. I have but recently read, with much interest a circumstantial and minute account, given by you in the fourth volume of your works, of the manner in which you were struck down in the Senate chamber in '56 for defending the rights of the negro. The Democratic party throughout the South, and, according to your own showing, to some extent the North also, approved of that assault upon you. Mr. Toombs, of Georgia, openly announced his approval of it in the Senate, and Jefferson Davis, four months after its occurrence, wrote a letter to South Carolina in fulsome eulogy of Brooks for having so near taken your life. It is safe to say that every man in the South who rejoiced over the attempt to murder you was afterward found in rebellious conspiracy to murder the nation. It is still safer to say that every one of them who survives is to-day your fellow laborer in support of Horace Greeley.

In 1856 he would indeed have been a rash prophet who predicted your alliance, sixteen years after, with Messrs. Toombs and Davis in their efforts to reinstate their own party in power. In all the startling mutations of American politics nothing so marvelous has ever occurred as the fellowship of Robert Toombs, Jefferson Davis and Charles Sumner in a joint effort to drive the Republican party from power, and hand over the Government to the practical control of those who so recently sought to destroy it. It is of no avail for you to take refuge behind a Republican record. Horace Greeley—conceding for the sake of argument, as I do not in fact believe that Horace Greeley would remain firm in his Republican principles—would be powerless against the Congress that would come into power with him in the event of his election. We have had a recent and striking illustration, in the case of Andrew Johnson, of the inability of a President to enforce a policy or even a measure against the will of Congress. What more power would there be in Horace Greeley to enforce a Republican policy against a Democratic Congress than there was in Mr. Johnson to enforce a Democratic policy against a Republican Congress? and, besides, Horace Greeley has already in his letter of acceptance taken ground practically against the Republican doctrine so often enforced by yourself of the duty of the National Government to secure the rights of every citizen to the protection of life, person and property.

In Mr. Greeley's letter accepting the Cincinnati nomination he pleases all the Ku-Klux in the South by repeating the Democratic cant about local self-government and in good rebel parlance against centralization, and finally declaring that there shall be no Federal subversion of the internal policy of the several States and municipalities, but that each shall be left free to enforce their rights and promote the well-being of its inhabitants by such means as the judgment of its own people shall prescribe. The meaning of all this, in plain English, is, no matter how the colored citizens of the South may be abused, wronged and oppressed, Congress shall not interfere for their protection, but leave them to the tender mercies of local self-government administered by white rebels. Do you, as a friend of the colored man, approve of the position of Mr. Greeley? You cannot forget, Mr. Sumner, how often during the last session of Congress you conferred with me in regard to the possibility of having your Civil rights bill passed by the House. It was introduced by your personal friend, Mr. Hooper, and nothing prevented its passage by the House except the rancorous and factious hostility of the Democratic members. If I have correctly examined the *Globe*, the Democratic members on seventeen different occasions resisted the passage of the Civil Rights bill by the parliamentary process known as filibustering. They would not even allow it to come to a vote. Two intelligent colored members from South Carolina—Elliott and Rainey—begged of the Democratic side of the House to allow the Civil Rights bill to be voted on, and they were answered with a denial so absolute that it amounted to a painful jeer of the rights of the colored man, and now you lend your voice and influence to the reelection of these Democratic members who are co-operating with you in support of Mr. Greeley. Do you not know, Mr. Sumner, and will you not, as a candid man, acknowledge that, with these men in power in Congress, the rights of the colored men are absolutely sacrificed so far as those rights depend on Federal legislation?

Still further, the rights of colored men in this country are secured, if secured at all, by the three great Constitutional amendments, the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth. To give these amendments full scope and effect, legislation by Congress is imperatively required, as you have so often and so eloquently demonstrated. But the Democratic party are on record in the most conspicuous manner against any legislation on the subject. It was only in the month of February last that my colleague, Mr. Peters, offered a resolution in the House of Representatives affirming the validity of the Constitutional amendments, and of such a reasonable legislation of Congress as may be necessary to make them in their letter and spirit the most influential. This resolution is very mild and guarded, as you will see, and was adopted by 124 yeas to 58 nays. Only eight of the yeas were Democratic. All the nays were Democratic. The resolution of Mr. Peters was followed a week later by one offered by Mr. Stevenson, of Ohio, as follows:

Resolved, That we recognize as valid and binding all the existing laws passed by Congress for the enforcement of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments of the Constitution of the United States, and for the protection of citizens in their rights under the Constitution as amended.

On a vote upon this resolution there were 107 yeas to 65 nays. All the yeas were Republican, and they are now unanimous in their support of General Grant. All the nays were Democrats, who are now equally unanimous in their support of Mr. Greeley.

It is idle to affirm, as some Democrats did in the resolution offered by Mr. Brooks, of New York, that "These amendments are valid parts of the Constitution," so long as the same man, on the same day, voted that the provisions of those amendments should not be enforced by Congressional legislation. The amendments are but sounding brass and tinkling cymbals to the colored man until Congress makes them effective and practical. Nay, more, if the rights of the colored man are to be left to the legislation of the Southern States without Congressional intervention, he would, under Democratic Administration, be deprived of the right of suffrage in less than two years, and he would be lucky if he escaped some form of chattel slavery or bondage, and in proof of this danger, I might quote volumes of wisdom and warning from the speeches of Charles Sumner.

When, therefore, you point out to the colored men that their rights will be safe in the hands of the Democratic party, you delude and mislead them. I do not say willfully, but none the less really. The small handfull of Republicans compared with the whole mass who unite with yourself and Mr. Greeley in going over to the Democratic party cannot leaven that lump of political soundness, even if you preserve your own original principles. The Administration of Mr. Greeley, should he be elected, would be in whole and in detail Democratic, and you would be compelled to go with the current, or repent and turn back when too late to mend the evil you had done. You argument that Horace Greeley does not become Democratic by receiving Democratic votes, illustrating it by analogy of your own election to the Senate, is hardly pertinent. The point is not what Mr. Greeley will become personally, but what will be the complexion of the great legislative branch of the Government, with all its vast and controling power. You know very well, Mr. Sumner, that if Mr. Greeley is elected President, Congress is handed over to the control of the party who have persistently denied the rights of the black man. What course you will pursue towards the colored man is of small consequence after you have transferred the power of the Government to his enemy. The colored men of this country are not, as a class, enlightened, but they have wonderful instincts, and when they read your letter they will know that at a great crisis in their fate you deserted them. Charles Sumner co-operating with Jefferson Davis is not the same Chas. Sumner they have hitherto idolized, any more than Horace Greeley, cheered to the echo in Tammany Hall, is the same Horace Greeley whom Republicans have hitherto trusted. The black men of the country will never be ungrateful for what you have done for them in the past, nor in the bitterness of their hearts will they ever forget that, heated and blinded by personal hatred of one man, you turned your back on the millions to whom in the past years you have stood as a shield and bulwark of defense.

Very respectfully, your obedient serv't,

JAMES G. BLAINE.

POLITICAL.

"Whereami? washamatter?" were the brilliant thoughts of Gratz Brown on awaking from his attack of soft crabs.

"Uncle Horace" can say a true thing very tersely when he sets out so to do. Here is a specimen: "General Grant is a man of the people; one in heart and feeling with the men who dig and plow and weave."

The movements of Messrs. Sumner and Banks are alarming the Greeley Democrats of the South. Thus the Richmond *Enquirer* don't want too many Republicans to join the party—only just enough to defeat Grant. "We have not dreamed," it adds, "of merely swapping the devils we now have for such witches as Sumner and Banks."

August Belmont says the Democracy must endorse Greeley or die. An African clergyman, in a fervid sermon once exclaimed: "Bredrin—Da is two roads de one leads to perdition, and de oder to damnation, which will ye take?" Isn't Belmont's alternative very like?

We learn with pleasure that quite a number of the Democratic leaders have resolved to push B. Gratz Brown, the new Governor of Missouri, for next President. We do not see how they could better this choice. Gratz isn't much to look at, but he has ideas in his head, and is rather honest for a successful politician. He was a good, second-rate editor, makes a fair speech, is a radical free-trader, and can get some negro as well as some white Republican votes; whereas, any known copperhead will get none of either, but those who can't help themselves. If the Democrats were in the ascendant they wouldn't touch him with a ten-foot pole—that we all understand; but they are the under dog at present, and must resort to strategy to get the uppermost.—*Horace Greeley, One year ago.*

They claim that George Francis Train is insane. What a pity that his type of insanity is not contagious. It must have been a remarkable lucid moment with him when got off the following, to-wit: "The Cincinnati Convention was a double barreled shotgun. One barrel killed Judge Davis, and the other mortally wounded Greeley, while the kick knocked out what little brains there was in the Democratic party."

NEW DRESS.—The Albany REGISTER of this week comes to us in a new dress, new makeup, and with a mechanical appearance vastly improved. It also has the first of a series of illustrations of Oregon scenery—a view on the Columbia river. The REGISTER is evidently flourishing, and it ought to, for it is an enterprising journal.—*Oregon Statesman.*

Sangamon county, Ill., reports fifteen Republicans who have gone over to Greeley and four hundred Democrats who have declared against him.

At McClellan's reception in San Francisco, he said it was too late to change the decision at Baltimore.

The superiority of some men is merely local. They are great because their associations are little.—Johnson.