

Albany Register.

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Good and Bad Political Character.

Benjamin Franklin attributed his success as a public man, not to his talents, or his power of talking—for these were but moderate, we are told—but to his known integrity of character. A good name, the result of principles of belief practically carried out in his life, gave him access to the confidence and trust of his fellows. To political parties the same principles apply. If they are practically what their principles call for; honestly what they desire to appear; in adversity true to their platforms as well as in prosperity; and such has been their history, nothing but more popular principles joined to as good a character can measure arms with them successfully. They are a power in the majesty of a good character. Even though the principles of such a party may in time become so much out of joint with the progressive ideas of the day, as to incur their rejection by the popular voice at the polls, and the party may die, yet, as in the case of the Whig party, an odor of sanctity, because of its good name, follows it to the grave, and its more successful rivals are proud to enroll the names of its surviving children among their followers. But men fail of success in public walks—gifted men at that—because they sacrifice their integrity. They become mere servants and time servers, mere demagogues for selfish purposes. A good name is of no account to them unless it "pays out" profits or honors to them. Like Duke Chartres is reported to have boasted: "No one could have less real regard for character than himself; yet he would gladly give £20,000 for a good one, because he could immediately make double that sum by means of it." This principle, as well as the first, is also applicable to political parties. The so-called Democratic party of to-day is as good an example as history affords of a party of this class. If ever it possessed a good character, it departed years ago. If it ever was consistent in its faith and practice, no such character identifies it now. Temptation long since undermined its integrity. Its sense of justice was darkly clouded by an inordinate desire for wealth and power, and today it is but a poor, shattered, broken, half-crazed wreck of its former self. While claiming to be the party of universal freedom and equal rights, it degraded the poor white man by seeking to forge tighter the chains of negro slavery, and built up one of the most heartless and oppressive aristocracies the world ever saw. Professing the most extravagant and undying devotion to the Constitution of the country, when that instrument could no longer be tortured into a practical upholding and extending the institution of slavery, it became its deadly enemy, and at once sought its destruction. Since it was thwarted in that, total demoralization has characterized its efforts. It has been unprincipled, double-minded and divided against itself—the completest example of the strolling vagabond in politics the country has ever seen. Democracy feels its need of a good character most keen-

ly. If it sets itself up as a critic to point out and condemn the errors it sees in others, its assumption is at once seen, and all its words react upon itself. Every intelligent observer can see, that like Duke Chartres, it isn't regard it has for character that prompts its words, but desire for profit; and hence they turn away from it in disgust.

THEIR PHILOSOPHY.

Such Democratic journals as the Salem Mercury and Albany Democrat have, as illustrated in the position they take upon Senator Mitchell's case, substantially become the advocates of enforcing the principle of abstract justice against public men for all of their offenses against morals committed in the past, unpalliated by any efforts towards reform made by them in subsequent years. They virtually shut the doors of mercy and hope against every public man who has in the past committed a single offense against virtue. A Thomas Jefferson, whom they claim as their political father; a General Jackson, whom they frequently allude to as a model leader; if either of these worthies had been judged by this law which these degenerate and presumptuous sons have set up, neither would have ever reached power. Their youthful indiscretions, nosed out by the Mercury process, would have debarred them forever from public life. No Democratic party would have been founded; no model leader would have been furnished from either of these sources—in fact, the doors of the executive department, the judiciary, the legislative branches of this Government, of all the official positions in the gift of the people, from a road supervisor to a resident, would have long since rotted from idleness. No one could have been found without "moral delinquencies" to enter them. Even the editors of these pretentious journals, whose earlier and present lives one would suppose from their philosophy to be models of usefulness, could not be entirely without error, for the Bible says; "all men have sinned;" even they could not enter a solitary door of public life, much less give the weight of their powerful ability in laboriously holding the very responsible military positions in the State militia they now occupy. We might go on and show how such a philosophy as they are now demanding should be applied to our new Senator would, if carried out, entirely destroy the remedial dispensation of law; but we forbear at this time.

The Albany Democrat, of last week, speaking concerning our article on "What Assumption," says that in its first forty lines there is not a full stop; and then expresses itself unable to understand how we could hold our breath so long. We don't wonder at its ignorant surprise at all. It has been connected with an unsound and wind-broken party so long, that it has become, like it, sickly and short of breath. We have sound political lungs, because we belong to and advocate the principles of a party which is in good health.

The Government payments on interest on Pacific Railroad bonds amounted to \$2,000,000 during July, making the total sum paid for interest on Pacific Railroad bonds, \$31,000,000, or \$16,000,000 more than the roads have repaid by transportation of troops and mails.

A Little Democratic History.

A person uninformed as to the "buncombe" character of modern Democratic writing, the genuine selfishness and hypocrisy which individualizes their editorial productions, would suppose from their pretentious language that they were the personification of goodness and consistency themselves, and always had been; that they had never committed any errors themselves, or supported any one for office who had. Especially would such an inference be drawn from the position assumed by the leading Democratic journals of Oregon, concerning the case of Senator Mitchell. What an assumption of holy horror they put on over his case! The Salem Mercury, especially, how it raves, anathematizes, calls names; and the Democrat, how it splutteringly effuses! But, in order to show the relation of Democracy to moral delinquents, let us instance just one case—the case of Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky. We don't do this with any pleasure at all, but because their position calls it out to show their hypocrisy. Richard M. Johnson was a Democrat. His public service extended over a period of thirty-four years. He was in Congress from 1807 to 1819. From the last date to 1829 he represented Kentucky in the United States Senate. He was then returned to the House, where he served until 1837, when he was elected by the Senate as Vice President of the United States. Here he served out the full time. At the time of his death, he was a member of the Legislature of Kentucky. Now, what was his known moral character during this time? He was known to be living in an open adultery with a colored woman, by whom he had several daughters. Democrats knew this to be the case—as did everybody else—while they were voting for him. His relation to this woman was a notorious scandal. It was even reported at the time that a certain individual refused an offer of \$50,000 from the Vice President as an inducement for him to marry one of his colored daughters. Democrats were here found electing a known adulterer to the highest offices. Not so in the case of Mr. Mitchell. His crimes were noted out by his personal enemies, after his election, and they were committed a dozen years before. Mr. Johnson never sought, so far as we know to atone for his crimes, but kept right on, unmolested, too, in them. Not so, Mr. Mitchell. His Oregon years bear upon their surface, at least, years of endeavor to atone for the past. With such family reminiscences as these, our Democratic neighbors would do well to give the real reason for all their fuss, and quit trying to act the pious hypocrite. They want a Governor Grover appointed in Mitchell's place. That's it and that's all.

Our would-be facetious neighbor, last week, in trying to give a warlike description of our attack upon the Mercury and his Democrat, uses this language: "Don Quixotic like, he (referring to us) cuts and lashes the air (italics ours) with his sword, etc." Our neighbor's candor in thus acknowledging the volatility of his and his brother cotemporary's character, is gushing. Truly, a couple of thin coves, they be. "Air," neighbor? Yes, you are a couple of very fickle and sickening political winds.

EXPOSED.

Our neighbor of the Democrat, in his effort to excuse himself from the charge of trying "to send the farmers to the rear," now that a member of Congress is to elect, says he based his "prediction upon the intelligence and good judgment of the farmers." If that journal had not been apprehensive that the farmers would attempt to bring out a candidate, what did it say anything about it for? Why does it use language which is susceptible of no other interpretation than that of an effort to discourage the farmers from such undertaking, telling them that it would "defeat the object which they are striving to accomplish," if it were not afraid? If it believes the farmers to be the men of "intelligence and good judgment," which it talks, why don't it leave them to act for themselves, without volunteering its advice? The fact is, that journal seems to have been so apprehensive lest the farmers should attempt to bring out a candidate for Congress—which would interfere with Democratic plans—that in its anxiety it forgot to practice its usual prudence. In its haste to prevent it, off fell its mask which it wears for farmers, and out came its real face of selfishness.

EASTERN NEWS.

The New York World, on the 2d, had a double headed editorial on the Democratic party and its allies. The article begins thus: "The natural allies of the Democratic party at the present time are two, more or less imperfectly organized bodies of citizens, namely, the Liberal Republicans and Farmers' Granges. The true thing to do is to encourage other organizations, but resolutely to maintain ideas of political doctrine, for unless Democracy can be again made a living conviction in the public mind, the reforms of government will never be made more than skin deep.

Frederick Monks, a young German, of New York, who ran away with his uncle's wife, on being discovered by his uncle in his hiding place, 49 Ludlow street, shot himself dead. The wife threatened suicide, and in the struggle for the possession of the pistol which she drew, discharged it, seriously wounding herself.

The colliding of two trains near Cunningham, Pa., on the 1st, killed a boy and two brakemen.

Gen. Quesada is reported to have enrolled in New York, about 300 men, mostly Americans, for service in Cuba against the Spaniards.

A dangerous \$5 coin is in circulation, dated 1872. It contains pure gold to the value of \$4.50, and in bulk it is similar to genuine coins, having mixed with its gold some alloy, the nature of which assayers have as yet failed to discover.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington is in receipt of information to the effect that valuable deposits of gold have been discovered by army officers stationed in Alaska.

Two Italian boys, of New York, lately appeared before the Consul General of Italy in that city, and asked him to protect them against their padrone, Carcone, whom they charge with having inflicted upon them the most barbarous cruelties. The boys were given to him for a consideration of \$40 with the understanding that they were to be taught music and to be well taken care of.

A letter from Fort Black, Texas, reports the forays of the Indians to be increasing to an alarming extent. Scarcely a day passes without the finding of the body of some isolated frontiersman is found. Stock and horses are also frequently run off, notwithstanding cavalry are scouring the country.

Isidore Kinkel, of Crawford, N. J., got drunk while holding a wake over the dead body of his newly born infant, a few days ago, and brutally beat his wife, who was bed-ridden, from the effect of which she died. He was arrested.

The Bleaching and Coloring Works of Norwich, Conn., were burned on the 1st. Loss \$75,000.

At Baltimore, Aug. 1st, Nicholson and Hallowan, the murderers of Mrs. Lamprey, were executed.

Professor Hall of the Washington National Observatory, on the night of the 30th ult. observed the comet discovered by Borely at Marseilles, France, July 27th.

Ten per cent. is to be paid to informers hereafter by the Treasury Department, instead of six.

The public debt statement for July shows a decrease of \$375,000.

Thos. E. Lloyd, a leading lawyer of Washington, died there on the 31st ult.

The Ku Klux in Owen and Henry counties, Ky., are getting very bold. They visited a Louisville packet, recently, with the evident intention of doing mischief, and were only deterred by the threats of the officers of the boats, who were well armed.

A mob near Frankfort, Ky., on the night of the 2d, killed a negro accused of an attempt to outrage a white woman.

A prize fight between Siddons and Chambers took place on the 3d, near Prospect Park fair grounds, Brooklyn, N. Y. The former was whipped.

On the 4th at Sand's Point, Long Island, N. Y., a prize fight took place between Jack Boylan and Peter Cracker. After 25 rounds, Boylan was defeated. His face was beaten almost to a jelly.

Cholera has appeared at Union Hill, N. J., opposite New York.

During the past week the following postal changes were made for the Pacific coast: Offices established: Butter Creek, Umatilla county, Oregon, John S. Vincent, Postmaster; Park City, Washington Territory, George Snyder, Postmaster. Postmaster appointed: Jefferson, Marion county, Oregon, C. B. Rolanda.

Robert S. Chew, chief clerk of the State Department, at Washington, who was struck with paralysis about a week ago, died on the morning of the 3d. He was appointed from Virginia, and had been employed for nearly 40 years in that Department.

On the 3d some vandals entered old Christ Church, Alexandria, famous as the place where Washington worshipped, and turned the furniture upside down, destroying the music, saturating the cushions and prayer books with oil, and removing the silver plate from Washington's pew, besides committing other depredations.

The Albany Register seems to think that since Dr. Chapman's apostasy the Democratic party "has no head." With a sufficiency of body and soul, neighbor, and the heads that will appear around the polls on the 13th of October with Democratic tickets in their hands, we think we can get along.—Albany Democrat

A wonderful exhibition is then to transpire next October. "Heads" are to "appear around the polls with Democratic tickets in their hands?" Horrible! Heads with hands on—awful! What will they be made of, neighbor, wood, metal, or genuine mutton? And the shape—will they be square, round, or will they be modeled after the head of some congenial animal—the historic quadrupel with long ears, for instance? No matter what shape those heads may appear in, you will not frighten Republicans, for they are used to your "dead heads" and know how to render them "dead beat."