

STATE RIGHTS DEMOCRAT. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1865. THE ELECTIONS EAST AND THE DEMOCRACY.

The result of the late elections in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Iowa, shows that it is not the voters that fully for the Democracy to have recourse to policy and expediency in their efforts to overcome the opposition. We thought and hoped that the inglorious defeat sustained in the Presidential election last year would have convinced our party brethren in the States across the mountains that the time for such questionable devices had gone by. But it seems these late defeats were wanting to complete the lesson, and the consequence is before us, and a terribly bear upon them. In the Presidential contest the singular spectacle was presented of a war man running on a peace platform; of a party, whose platform denounced all of the arbitrary acts and usurpations of the party in power, having for their own candidate a man who was foremost in arbitrary arrests, and who had, without protest, been the instrument through which some of the most odious usurpations of the Administration had been enforced. Gen. McClellan was tendered the nomination upon a given platform; he acted as no candidate of the Democratic party was ever permitted to act before—he took the nomination and not only rejected but repudiated the platform. It was a bitter dose for old or true Democrats to swallow; it was with manifest revulsion of spirit that many of them supported him. They did it in the hope that the evil would never be repeated, in the trust that good might flow from it. But it appears that the managing politicians who arranged that campaign were not yet satisfied with their experiment, and believed perhaps that a plan which failed in a Presidential election might succeed in separate State elections. The results given ought finally to convince them of their impolicy and error.

Of the candidates or campaign in Pennsylvania, we have little information. It is quite enough, however, to know that the State platform, while essentially sound and perfect in point of principles, contained a leak which could not but infect the whole thing. We allude to the endorsement of President Johnson and his policy. It was equivalent to saying that while the Democracy of that State adhered to the principles of Jefferson and Madison, the conduct of an Abolition Chief Magistrate was to be approved—that Democratic theories should be followed by Abolition practices. This was self-contradiction, and could deceive no sensible voter. If the party in State Convention were satisfied to manfully proclaim their real sentiments respecting man in power as well as concerning great principles, we cannot wonder that the misgiving of the Democratic voters were equally ashamed to approve such unbecoming and immoral conduct in their leaders, by casting their votes for the ticket presented.

In Ohio, the Chicago blunder was almost exactly repeated. After passing a sound enough platform of principles—but which was also befouled by an endorsement of President Johnson's policy—the ticket was made up of incongruities. The candidate for Governor was selected, not from among eminent civilians, but from the military class—a General who had held commission, and fought for the emancipation of the negroes, all through the war. Then among the other candidates were men who had sustained the war, who had refused to vote the Democratic ticket during the war, but who were now ready to enter the lists for the spoils.

As to Iowa, we do not count the election there a Democratic defeat, nor a real Abolition victory, but simply a triumph of the Radicals over the soldiers, the Conservatives of their own party, and of the odds and ends that were gathered under the main opposing ticket. There was no real Democratic ticket in the field, or if there were, it was made up at the last moment, not with any hope of success, but simply as a means to preserve and maintain the organization.

The defeat of our brethren in Pennsylvania and Ohio ought to serve as a lesson to the Democracy of Oregon. It should teach us that to triumph we must stand on principle, and infuse nothing into our platform which runs contrary to the spirit and practice of the Democratic faith and Democratic measures. Fortunately we are in better condition to do this than our party brethren in the older States. The war has been almost at their doors, and its demoralizing effects they have not entirely escaped. There are "military heroes" among them, and military spirit is paramount there. Soldiers' votes are to be played for and caught to insure success to any party, and unhappily there are too many greedy fishers for spoils in influential places in the Democratic ranks who care not so much how they managed so that their own ends are accomplished. To secure the votes of the dispersed and returned soldiers, therefore, Generals and high military men are selected for chief positions on the ticket, and if need be, an expediency plank is inserted in the platform. These devices may have some of the soldiers and small fry of place-hunters to the support of the ticket, but it drives away or keeps aloof

from it the thousands of honest, firm, sincere Democrats, who will never resort to discreditable or dishonorable means, even to win success. Here, the civilians, the people, not the soldiers, not the politicians, hold the sway and control the organization of our party. It is to the good sense, the honest convictions and patriotism of the people, that the Democracy of Oregon appeal for the support which shall yield them a triumph. They will use only honorable means to obtain, they will be willing to accept and enjoy only an honorable victory. It is not for offices and spoils they battle, but for principles and right, and to see that those are maintained through the period of control, they mean to select only the best and truest men for the positions to be filled. They have no pet Generals, ready to turn their backs on their own conduct during a four years' war to enjoy a civil position in future; they have no need to bait their platform with something which may catch soldiers' votes; they do not propose to take to their arms the apostate Johnson, and excuse all his past excesses by approving his present policy, merely because he simply does his sworn duty in obeying a very few provisions of the Constitution; nor do they propose to purchase success at the sacrifice of principle or party faith and duty in every manner whatsoever. They will not fall into a pit like that which the Democrats of Pennsylvania and Ohio dug for themselves, by avowing certain cardinal principles in their State platform, and nominating candidates who have most damagingly assailed those principles. The evil example of those States they will shun, let victory or no victory be the consequence.

Another Negro Church.

The Congregational Church Association of California have adopted resolutions in favor of the immediate enfranchisement of all men of full age without respect to color, birth or other circumstance who are not now voters, as have served in our armies during the late war, and all other men without distinction, as are able to write their names and to read the Constitution of the country in English. Mark, the negro is to vote whether he can read or write or not, "all other men without distinction"—provided they "are able to write their names and to read the Constitution of the country in English." This is a permission above the ordinary Radical gooseberry. But we cannot imagine why the Association stipulates that "all other men" shall be able to read the Constitution, unless it be to instruct them how to violate it, or at least inform them of its provisions so that they may regard the whole thing as forbidden fruit. Surely, the men who pass this sort of resolutions pay no heed to the Constitution, save to spurn and deride it.

The Association goes on to request the Legislature. At its next session to ratify the proposed Amendment to the National Constitution abolishing Slavery, and to adopt such measures as shall give to all citizens of the State, without respect to color or other circumstances not involving crime, the right to vote and all other rights of freemen. To escape the anathemas and imaledictions of the Church, no doubt the Legislature will at once pass the proposed Acts. Or, if they cannot do better, the majority might frame and pass a bill which shall declare any member of the Congregational Church of California entitled to all the rights, immunities, and privileges enjoyed by the negroes—provided, the aforesaid members are able to write their names and read the Constitution in English. They certainly could not grumble at such terms and conditions. It is their own pill done up in their own box.

The State Fair Election.

The Statesman copies the following from an article we printed about the State Fair some weeks ago:

Around the polls, busily electing, were some of the owners and employees of the Salem Steamship. They all appeared to mainly direct their energies to procure the defeat of Jas. H. Douthit, a farmer, but a Democrat, of Linn county, for President.

And adds: There is not a word of truth in the statement, now, why did not the Statesman, in quoting from us, copy exactly what we said, as follows: Around the polls, busily electing, were some of the owners and employees of the Salem Steamship. They all appeared to mainly direct their energies to procure the defeat of Jas. H. Douthit, a farmer, but a Democrat, of Linn county, for President, and of E. M. Waite, of their own party, but who proposes to publish the Plowman, for Corresponding Secretary.

This shows that paper to be guilty of garbling and misrepresentation to make out its own case. Now, we will prove its denial as it quoted us, of what we stated, to be false. We saw the tickets which came from the Statesman office at that election, and which some of the owners and employees of that paper most industriously if not impudently electioneered. On these tickets were printed, for President, the names of Mr. Eddy, Ralph Geer, or Joel Palmer, respectively. But not on a single one of them was printed the name of Jas. H. Douthit. This must satisfy uniformed and impartial persons that the Statesman office was inimical to Mr. Douthit's election. But we have stronger proof still. We saw and heard "some of the owners and employees of the Statesman office" offer to voters, and beg of them to vote, tickets with the name of some other candidate than Mr. Douthit, for President. And yet stronger proof: Two well known citizens of Linn county had their membership tickets paid for by an employee of the Statesman office, so that they might vote, and unsuspectingly they voted the ticket he gave them—a ticket which had not the name of Jas. H. Douthit on it, but that of another candidate for the Presidency of the Society. Of these two votes we have information—there might have been other votes similarly obtained, of which no information has reached us. But certainly we have had proof enough to establish the correctness of our charges. The Statesman's object is apparent. It knows we stated the truth; it also knows that many of its readers never see our paper. And in giving the denial it did, it knew that our proofs of its own falsity would never fall under the eyes of hundreds of its readers. Therefore, that denial would answer its purposes, had it been true. But there are plenty besides us who were present at the election, and who equally well know that some of the owners and employees of that paper did oppose Mr. Douthit's election. To come at the thing directly, however, can it name a man connected with the Statesman office who did vote for Jas. H. Douthit for President? Now, show your hand.

CONDENNS ITSELF.—The Abolition San Francisco Flag says:

The Stockton Independent states the case quite strong enough when it says that the tyranny of England over Ireland is such as sends might be ashamed of. England's tyranny over Ireland has been execrable, but at its worst it was mild in comparison to the tyranny exercised by the party in power not only over the South, but over Democrats in the Northern States.

MASSACHUSETTS PHILANTHROPY.—

There are about 700 orphan girls and grown young women soon to arrive on this upper coast—at Olympia and Portland—from Massachusetts. They come to find employment and homes. They have been sent from Massachusetts. It is singular, if not discreditable, that while so much care and so much money are devoted to indolent negroes in that Puritan State, by the patent-right philanthropists of the Equality School, these poor white girls and young women are shipped away like so many slaves, to be apprenticed out to any who will purchase their services, on this coast.

A Vacancy in Benton County.

We call the attention of Gov. Gibbs to another vacancy in the Legislative Assembly, which he seems to have overlooked when he issued his order for special elections to fill vacancies in that body, in the counties of Polk, Yamhill, Clackamas and Grant. There is a vacancy in Benton county. Senator Hovey is no longer a resident of that county. His case is made perfectly clear upon another score however. The Constitution of Oregon says, Art. II, Sec. 19:

"No person holding a lucrative office or appointment under the United States, or under this State, shall be eligible to a seat in the Legislative Assembly." The only exceptions to this provision are for "officers in the militia" who have no annual salary, and postmasters whose compensation does not exceed one hundred dollars per annum. Mr. Hovey is now holding an office in the Surveyor General's office in Eugene City. This disqualifies him for the position of State Senator. He holds a salaried "lucrative" office, under the United States by appointment. Besides, he has removed from Benton county, from which he was elected, into Lane county, which is a distinct and separate Senatorial district. A strong case, save it would be one of death, could not be presented. Therefore, it must have been an oversight in Gov. Gibbs, the failure to order a special election in Benton to fill the vacancy caused in the Senate by Mr. Hovey's disqualification. The people look for his Excellency to correct his error, and issue the order for a special election in Benton. So do they in Linn, to fill Dr. Ballard's vacancy in the same body. The time for the Governor to act is short, yet it is not too late.

CLUBBING HIMSELF.—

Thaddeus Stevens of Pennsylvania, the Abolition leader of the lower House of Congress, in a late speech said: "The ordinance of secession adopted by each State that seceded, declared their separation to be final," and he contends that "to say that during the war those States were in the Union, is to utter an absurdity." Then, agreeably to Mr. Stevens' own argument, the principle of secession is admitted. Yet his own party declare that to accept the doctrine that a State can secede is treasonable.

Mr. Stevens is therefore convicted of treason by the very party of which he is a conspicuous leader. To grant the principle of secession must carry with it the right of any State to determine whether it shall or shall not secede for itself, for it is manifest that other States, or the General Government, cannot "secede" if they cannot even expel it from the Union. And if a State can secede, and its separation from the Union therefore becomes final, it stands to reason that it is utterly impossible for any of its citizens to commit treason against the Union—just as impossible as it is for a citizen of the United States to commit treason against England—should the two countries be at war with each other. Mr. Stevens is proving too much for his own party. His argument would acquit Jeff. Davis at once.

WHAT A QUESTION.—

The Statesman copies the following paragraph from our last issue: The States of California and Oregon have both nullified the act of the Abolition Congress which declared legal tender note a lawful tender for all debts, public and private, except those especially mentioned in the act, and these came not within the purview of the State enactments. In what respects have these States nullified the act referred to? All we have to say in reply is, that we cannot be expected to furnish brains to that paper; that if its editor can conceive of a legal tender, when Congress declares that it is a legal tender, is nullification, we give him up as hopeless. His delinquent subscribers or debtors might practically illustrate the thing to him, by paying him up in legal tender notes at par. After what he asks, we would as soon undertake to wash Lawson, as to try to convince him that is and is not are not synonymous.

SNUBBED.—

We see in late State papers that Horace Greeley recently called at the White House to see President Johnson, and after dancing attendance for an hour or two was obliged to leave without being admitted to the presence." Horace is a radical—the President is trying to build up a "conservative" party. The two won't hitch.

NEW COLLEGE.—

The members of the religious denomination of United Brethren in Oregon propose to erect and fund a College on Mary's river, five miles from Corvallis, the ensuing summer, to be called "Philomath College." The Gazette says over \$18,000 are already subscribed for that purpose. The building is to be of brick, sixty by one hundred feet, and two stories.

MON EXECUTIONS.—

Five men were recently hung by the Vigilance Committee in Montana Territory. The names of four are given, as follows: Jackson alias Jones, Morgan alias Collins, Cooke and Cann Kirby (brother of Billy Kirby); but the name of the other one is not included in the account.

GOLD DUST PRICES.—

At a meeting held at Silver City, Idaho, the following rates were fixed for gold dust: Battery dust \$5 per ounce; Creek dust (clean) \$12; Bannock dust (clean) \$14. A motion to repudiate battery dust as a currency prevailed.

NO NEGRO SUFFRAGE.—

The Constitution of Colorado, now about to assume Statehood, forbids negro suffrage.

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TELEGRAPHIC OVERLAND DISPATCHES. DATES TO OCTOBER 19.