

Lafayette Courier

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THE COURIER

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY,
AT
LAFAYETTE,

YAMHILL COUNTY, OREGON.

BY
J. H. UPTON,

PUBLISHER AND EDITOR.

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UNFORTUNATE.

The Oregonian is singularly doomed to be edited by thieves. Since Dryer went out of the concern it has gone through excruciating trials and tribulations, editorially. We will commence with the Penitentiary convict, Walton, that served a term as quill driver for the concern, whose mantle, if we mistake not, fell upon Holbrook. The latter named gentleman has been openly charged by his party with being a "Sanitary thief," since he quit the Oregonian in 61. His mantle descended upon Clark, the "School Fund and fee bill thief," and his, upon the literator and cynic, who remains about the premises, possessing neither vice nor virtue, nor ability, and who was compelled to submit to being superceded and supplanted as chief fiddleman, by the Baker eight hundred dollar legislator, and the man who stole the hogs from "Jones." Have you seen Jones?

Voters, Think!

The Radical Candidates for offices of State, are opposed to taxing bonds, and undertake to manufacture a sympathy in favor of the bond holder, by saying he loaned the government money when the government was obliged to have it, and so we are in honor bound to protect him against taxes and pay him his semi-yearly interest in coin.

Now let us think a little and examine this pretense. The money Shylock bought those bonds, not with money that was good to the government, dollar for dollar, but with green backs which they got for from forty to forty-five cents on the dollar; and this is all it was worth to the government. Thus for \$450, in money, 1000 dollars of these 7-3-10. per cent. interest bonds were procured. Now add to this 7-3-10. per cent. interest, 5 per cent. taxes, including State, County, Road and School tax, which the laboring man is compelled to pay on his thousand dollars worth of property, and it will be seen that the bond holders interest is fully equal to 12 per cent. per annum. So on an investment of \$450 he draws yearly one hundred and twenty dollars in coin, so in less than four years he has all back that his thousand dollars in bonds cost him, with the full thousand yet undisturbed. Is it not plain that this system is a curse to the government and works a stupendous injustice to the whole people? Then why defend so iniquitous a scheme of plunder, fraud and theft.

Toiling thousands of Yamhill County! Think of the Shylock with his lady seated by his side, riding over the Roads you have labored and sweat to make, while he will contribute nothing toward making your burden lighter. Think of the taxes you pay to school his children. Think of what it costs you to keep your Courts to protect him in the undisturbed enjoyment of his bonds, and think of the onerous taxation the very existence of those bonds has brought about. The interest on these bonds must be paid twice a year in coin. Remember that, and remember also that the labor of the country alone produces revenue. Remember these things we say, and vote the Democratic ticket, and we will thus be soon able to set things right.

To the Voters of Grant County.

PORTLAND, May 14th, 1866.

FELLOW CITIZENS OF GRANT COUNTY:

As the nominees of the Democratic party for Congress and Secretary of State, we had designed visiting you during the present campaign, and had made appointments to meet you at various places in your county. After reaching Auburn we found the road over the mountains quite impassable, and were thus compelled to abandon the trip. We regret this exceedingly, as at this particular time it would have afforded us sincere pleasure to have discussed before you issues which we conceive to be of vital interest. These issues are not only important, but to a great extent entirely new, and in the consideration of them it would be well indeed, if we could divest ourselves of party prejudices, and approach the subject "with malice toward none, with charity for all," with heads capable of understanding and hearts willing to receive the truth. The platform adopted by the two parties whose candidates solicit your suffrages are already before you,—between them, and not between men, are you to choose. What a contrast! Is not one ambitious, deceptive and demagogical—the other bold manly and patriotic? The great question, however, is that of reconstruction. What should be our course toward those States whose people were lately in insurrection? There are but two positions. The one suggested by President Johnson, and the other indicated by Congress. The first embraces the idea that the Southern States have not been, and therefore are not now, out of the Union,—that they are free and equal members of the Union, and as such, entitled to all the rights and privileges belonging to such a condition.

This is President Johnson's position, and in it the Democracy, as well as many who have long opposed the Democracy, sustain him. The plan of congress is, that these States are out of the Union—at all events, so far out that they shall not be allowed representation in the National Council—a right which unquestionably belongs to every State in the Union, until such time as congress shall have declared them entitled to such representation. This is the question of the Republican party here and elsewhere. Which is correct? This you are to decide next June. For what purpose was the war waged? Was it to preserve or destroy the Union? If it was for the former, and it was not a failure, the policy of Johnson is correct. Was it waged for the purpose of conquest or for the suppression of the rebellion? If for the former, the position of the Republican party may be consistent though certainly not magnanimous; but if for the latter purpose merely, and it has been accomplished, the policy of the President and the Democracy, is the only true one. In a resolution adopted by congress after the war had fairly begun, it was solemnly declared that the war was waged, simply "to defend and maintain the supremacy of the constitution and to preserve the Union with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired." Mr. Lincoln never recognized any other object, and it is for this that we are contending. The Southern States have done all that either Mr. Lincoln or Mr. Johnson suggested as necessary to a friendly reception on the part of the Northern States, and yet they are denied the rights of States. They have abolished slavery, they have repealed certain laws, they have repudiated their debts, yet congress requires more. When is there to be an end? What is to be the ultimatum? Their design evidently is not reunion, but the indefinite postponement of such a thing. Consistency, even in wrong, may be admired. It bespeaks at least some sincerity and honesty. The Republi-

can party can lay but a poor claim to such a thing. They recognize the South as in the Union, so far as the duties of States are concerned, but out of the Union when their rights as States are involved. They are in the Union for the purpose of taxation, but out of it for the purpose of representation. We are laboring to preserve this sacred principle upon which this Government was founded—the inseparability of taxation and representation—and insist that congress has no authority to deny admission to representatives who possess the requisite constitutional qualifications, and we denounce, in the language of our platform, "the present action of congress as an unwarranted assumption of power, revolutionary in its tendency and dangerous to the liberties of the people."

To the provisions of the Freedmen's Bureau and Civil Rights bills, together with the unanswerable objections set forth in Johnson's vetoes of the same, we invite your attention. The first was defeated by the decision, the firmness and patriotism of the President—yet it serves to show the animus of that party. The latter is no less objectionable, and as it is an existing law, we must boldly meet it. We oppose it because it conflicts with the rights of the States, and inevitably leads to negro suffrage and the perfect equality of the races, socially and politically. The constitution of our State, aiming to preserve a white man's Government for the benefit of white men, inhibits negro immigration. This law entirely abrogates this clause in our constitution. The act admitting Oregon into the Union guaranteed to us the free and uninterrupted exercise of this right. Are you willing to admit that your liberties and the rights of your State are thus entirely at the mercy—the discretion of a wild, capricious and fanatical body? And if their design was not universal suffrage, if their purpose was merely to protect the freedmen in the enjoyment of the fruits of his labor, why did they invest him with all the dignity and rights of an American citizen, and remove those barriers which God and the laws of the land placed between the races? Why not content themselves by securing the negro those rights which the unnaturalized foreigner enjoys under our laws? Are negroes and Chinese entitled to greater protection than an Englishman, German, Irishman or Frenchman? Why, then, such extraordinary legislation in their favor? God grant success to that party which alone has the will to save this Republic from the miserable fate of the anarchical government of Central America.

To the sixth Democratic resolution we would also particularly call your attention: Do you favor the establishment of a privileged class of citizens—a moneyed aristocracy indeed, who while living in wealth—reveling in luxury—enjoying all the benefits and blessings of Government are yet relieved from bearing the duties and burdens of citizens? If not, resist at the polls the further exemption of bondholders, rich men, from taxation. Consider calmly and well Congress' plan of reconstruction, the report of the committee of fifteen, the Freedmen's Bureau and Civil Rights Bills, the present bond system and Sherman's proposed Loan Bill and you will then realize the fearful tendency of Republican legislation.

It is to the centralization of power, the equalization of the races and the concentration of wealth in the hands of the few. Before such a condition of things the happiness and liberties of the American people will go down forever.

JAS. D. FAY,
LAFAYETTE LANE.

Some of the Mothers in Yreka have grown so affectionate that they give their children chloroform previous to whipping them.

Democratic

STATE PLATFORM,

ADOPTED IN CONVENTION AT
Portland,

APRIL 5, 1866.

1. Resolved, That we affirm as the creed of our political faith and practice, our steadfast devotion to the following principles, viz: Equal and exact justice to all men of whatever state, party or sect; the support of the state Governments in all their rights, and of the Federal Government in all its vigor; a jealous care of the elective franchise; the supremacy of the civil over the military authority; opposition to the centralization of power; economy in all public expenditures; the general diffusion of education; the encouragement of morality and the highest civilization; the right of every man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience; freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of the person under the protection of the habeas corpus.

2. Resolved, That the action of the majority in Congress in refusing to admit the Representatives of eleven States, is an unwarranted assumption of power upon the part of Congress, revolutionary in its tendency, and dangerous to the liberties of the people; that we do and will sustain President Johnson in his determination and efforts for the complete restoration of all the constitutional rights of all the states, and we unreservedly approve his veto of the Freedmen's Bureau and Civil Rights bills, and all his constitutional efforts to prevent the financial majority in Congress from changing or destroying our cherished form of Government.

3. Resolved, That the position assumed by President Johnson, that the Representatives from the Southern States ought to be at once admitted to seats in Congress, and that legislation affecting such States while they are unrepresented as unconstitutional, meets with our hearty approval.

4. Resolved, That the assumption of the opposition that the Democratic party is in favor of repudiating the public debt, and that it is in favor of nullification and secession, is slanderous and false.

5. Resolved, That we endorse the sentiment of Senator Douglas; that this Government was made on a white basis for the benefit of the white man, and we are opposed to extending the right of suffrage to any other than white men.

6. Resolved, That the exemption of United States bonds from taxation is substantially the exemption of rich men from taxation because they are rich, and the taxation of poor men because they are poor, and we are in favor of taxing those bonds for county, State and municipal purposes.

7. Resolved; That strict and impartial justice demands that the expenses of the General Government, as well as of the State Governments, should be borne by the people according to their ability, and not according to their necessities; and hence that we condemn now, as in the past, a protective tariff that tends, necessarily to oppress the masses for the benefit of the rich.

8. Resolved, That in a Democratic Government the real sovereignty rests in the people; and all efforts tending to wrest power from the people is a war upon them, revolutionary and dangerous; and that the existence of national banks after the experience we have had with and without them, especially in times of peace, is a subject of just alarm.

9. Resolved, That the unlawful and shameful squandering of the people's money by our present State officials meets with our emphatic condemnation.

10. Resolved, That we will ever hold in grateful memory those through whose patriotic, not mercenary or partisan services, the dignity of the Republic and the integrity of the Union were preserved; and we denounce as a base insult to the gallant, daring and heroic dead, the present efforts of the Radicals to convert their victory into a partisan triumph, seeking to make the late war one of conquest, instead of the suppression of the rebellion—for subjugation instead of restoring the Union—for the negro instead of the white man.

11. Resolved, that the miners should be encouraged and protected in the free use of the mines.