

A Coming Conflict Between the Negroes and the Germans.

The German press is fully alive to the troubles which the negro vote is evidently producing within the ranks of the radical party. The *Illinois Staatszeitung* forecast from the solid vote of the negroes in favor of Bible reading in the public schools of Cincinnati, that the colored vote will be a ready auxiliary to the advocates of everything known in the United States as blue laws or Puritan narrow-mindedness. Whoever favors Sunday laws, temperance legislation and the enforcement of Bible reading in the public schools will be supported by the colored voter. "This is not a very exhilarating prospect," says the *Staatszeitung*, "but it is not to be wondered at that it is so. Whatever the negro possesses of elementary education has grown in exclusively religious soil and therefore bears the mark of its origin. The negroes have no national history; they have no share in the intellectual development of the people among whom they live; the views of right and state upon which the German radicals have built their political creed are as unknown to the negroes as Hegelian philosophy. The Puritan reverends who undertake the guidance of their education will evidently not be to the advantage of the Germans."

Now, to gain a true insight into this matter it is not necessary to decide either for or against the views of the Germans in regard to the relations in which state should stand to religion or to subjects in general which may or may not be reached by legislation. It is sufficient to know that after the Germans had been induced, by their own views and instincts, as they thought, to assist the negroes in becoming freemen, these same negroes are arrayed in a solid mass against their views; and that the Germans will depend in a measure for the education of their children upon a race which is not entirely uneducated but has, on the subject of education, the very opposite views to those of the Germans. And so it will evidently be in regard to almost every question of an intellectual bearing, where the colored man does not directly discover the purpose of depriving him of his newly-acquired liberties. In all these respects he is sure to become a fanatical partisan, who will never yield to an argument, and the Germans will soon discover that the advantage previously given to the Southern States by adding three-fifths of the slave population to the whole number of free persons in fixing the apportionment for representation and direct taxes, is exactly two-fifths less than the political advantage which the Puritan Yankees will derive from the free negroes. They will absorb their whole on every question of popular liberty, independence of mind and untrammelled progress. They will make use of the negro vote whenever they please to crush the Germans in the same as they have crushed the white men in the South. The Germans are to be thus rewarded for services rendered to New England in the war.—*St. Louis Republican.*

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING A TRADE.—Why is it that there is such a repugnance on the part of parents to putting their sons to a trade? A skilled mechanic is an independent man. Go where he will, his craft will give him support. He need ask favors of none. He has, literally, his fortune in his own hands. Yet foolish parents, ambitious that their sons should "rise in the world," as they say, are more willing that they should study for a profession, with the chances of even moderate success heavily against them, or run the risk of spending their manhood in the ignoble task of retailing dry-goods, or toiling laboriously at the accountant's desk, than learn a trade which would bring them manly strength, health, and independence. In point of fact, the method they choose is the one least likely to achieve the advancement aimed at; for the supply of candidates for positions as "errand-boys," and kindred occupations, is notoriously overstocked, while, on the other hand, the demand for really skilled mechanics, of every description, is as notoriously beyond supply. The crying need of this country to-day is for skilled labor; and that that father who neglects to provide his son with a useful trade, and to see that he thoroughly masters it, does him a grievous wrong, and runs the risk of helping, by so much, to increase the stock of idle and dependent, if not vicious, members of society.

It is stated in the report of the Prison Association, lately issued, that of 14,596 prisoners confined in the penitentiaries of 30 States, in '67 77 per cent., or over 10,000 of the number, had never learned a trade. The fact conveys a lesson of profound interest to those who have in charge the training of boys, and girls, too, for the active duties of life.—Manufacturer and Builder.

DOING THINGS WITH BRAINS.—

The painter Opie was once asked by a pupil of the Royal Academy, "Pray, Mr. Opie, how do you mix your colors?" "With brains sir," was his reply. Other men might have gone into an elaborate account of the process, but this would have left the real secret unexplained at last; so Mr. Opie struck down into the very root of the matter when he replied, "With brains." Brains are needed, not only to mix colors well, but every thing else which makes up life. With a real man at the end of them, they are for everything the best tools in the world. Mix everything with brains and brains with everything. Doing so has given the world everything it has worth keeping or cherishing. The quantity and quality of brains we mix with what we do makes the difference between one man and another; between a Newton and an idiot; between a Raphael and a sign-painter.

SATIRE.—Satire aimed at the character and feeling of another, however polished, is at bottom only ribaldry and Billingsgate. It is not less so when it passes current for wit. It is often an effective weapon in the hands of pot-house politicians; and it would be well if it could be confined to their use. Every one knows that by its use the honor and peace of individuals, families, and communities have over and over again been destroyed. The ancients punished it as a crime. We learn from a fragment of Cicero that the Romans punished it by death. Under the Emperor Valentinian it was a capital offense, not only to write or retail libel, but even not to burn or tear it up when it came into any one's hands by chance.

RETURNED TO OREGON.—We learn that Jonathan Riggs of Lane county, Garrett Riggs, of Polk county, and their families, have come overland, with teams, determined to make their future residence in Oregon. Capt. L. N. English and above named left here two years ago determined to reach South America and make a settlement in the Argentine Republic. They seem to have changed their destination and to have gone to San Diego, Cal., and being disgusted with the prospects there have come back to Oregon, a country which, in their opinion, viewed by the light of experience, is good enough for anybody, and a long ways better and more reliable than California. Old Capt. English has remained at San Diego, where he has acquired property and is doing well.—*Statesman.*

NEW POSTAL AGENT.—While Jasper W. Johnson was in town the other day, the discussion of a little affair that was said to have occurred on a trip down, led to the disclosure of the fact that he was traveling through the State upon a pass signed by James B. Underwood, Special Agent, who certifies that he is engaged on business connected with the Post Office Department. All we have to say on the subject is, that if the exigencies of the mail service require the Department to employ an agent to make stump speeches, it would be advisable to procure the services of some person with more sense and discretion than Jasper.—*Pain-dealer.*

Democratic Platform.

ADOPTED AT ALBANY, MARCH 23, 1870.

1. That we are unalterably attached to the principles of our Republic as expounded by its founders, and the paramount object of their organization shall ever be to uphold and maintain those principles inviolate.

2. That we hold those political parties, who, occupying positions of trust, claiming to be representatives of the people, have usurped the authority confided to them, maliciously trampled under foot our sacred bill of rights, made civil law subordinate to military rule, perverted the functions of Government, and endeavored to concentrate its powers in the hands of an oligarchy, wholly disregarded the will and wishes of their constituents, and maliciously endeavored to disparage, debase and stigmatize the once proud title of American citizenship, as enemies to the best interests of this commonwealth.

3. That the so-called reconstruction measures attempted to be carried out by the present party in power is a nefarious scheme, revolutionary in design, reasonable in execution, one which if acquiesced in as a rightful exercise of authority will establish a most dangerous precedent and imperil the safety and prosperity of our form of government; and that the present Senators in the Congress of the United States from this State in supporting those measures have misrepresented the wishes and outraged the sentiments of the people of Oregon.

4. That the systematic efforts made by that party to extend to the African, the Indian and the Chinaman all the civil and political rights and privileges enjoyed by the white race, evinces a design on the part of its leaders to destroy the high estimate placed upon that invaluable heritage and render despotism less objectionable and more easy of accomplishment.

5. That the ratification of the recently proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to the benighted negro and Indian, and which opens the door for its enjoyment to the heathenish Chinamen, is irregular, arbitrary and unlawful, and we most earnestly protest against its passage by the United States Congress and the pending act designed to enforce this objectionable and illegal provision.

6. That we urge and entreat a repeal of the recent treaty concluded between the

United States and China which guarantees to the latter nation such extensive privileges and immunities to their correspondents and to the American citizens, and of its borders of semi-barbarians, such favorable inducements to swarm upon us in our mineral and agricultural districts, creating competition with our laborers, creating immoral pursuits, disgusting rites, ceremonies and practices in our towns, discourages and repels the immigration of our own race, decrease the population, retard the progress of the enlightenment of education and enlightenment, abstracts from our resources and send away our valuable mineral wealth, and demoralizes and apostatizes our community and in fostering monopolies upon them and despoil them of their substance; that a system of taxation which has for its object the establishment of privileged orders under the Government, either by protecting one class to another or by imposing grievous burthens upon the taxpayers, while conferring favors, exemptions and immunities upon the holders of Government securities deserves no other name than legalized public plunder.

8. That the continual payment of the semi-annual interest on the bonded debt of the United States without abatement, together with other enormous expenses for which the people are taxed, make a burden too intolerable to be borne without an effort to find some speedy means of relief; that the amount of the bonded debt was increased more than two-fold by the venal, illegal and unjustifiable terms of its contraction, and there is neither justice or wisdom in the repeated payment of the principal by the continued payment of the interest; that it is no part of good policy or good government to embarrass the energies of labor and all business enterprises by excessive and oppressive taxation for the exclusive benefit of a combination of untaxed capital; that to relieve the country and to restore prosperity we favor an equitable adjustment of the bonded debt of the United States.

9. That the desire of the present Congress, as manifested by the proceedings, to secure to the wealthy bondholders payment in gold on account of indebtedness growing out of loans of the United States Treasury notes when worth less than one-half their coin value, after the holders thereof have received exorbitant interest thereon, and at the same time leaving the pensioners of the United States, their wives, children or other kindred to be paid in a depreciated currency, exhibits a spirit of injustice unsurpassed in the history of class legislation and fully demonstrates the selfishness of the part of the moneyed aristocracy of the country to influence the establishment of a policy favoring the aggrandizement of the rich at the expense of the poor; a policy which has for its object the concentration of wealth, opulence and power on the one hand, and misery, poverty and slavery on the other; a policy fitted only to a monarchical form of government.

10. That the contract of this State now, as heretofore, are strenuous advocates of a tariff for purposes of revenue only; that the principle of protection for the sake of protection is at war with the diversified interests of the State.

11. That we favor the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, recinding the 14th and 15th amendments.

12. That we are in favor of a liberal policy being pursued by the Legislature of this State, in the bestowal of the land grants to her for the purpose of public improvements.

13. That the Governor and resigning members of the Legislature, in engaging in a conspiracy to overthrow the State government, collect large amounts of coin as revenue, to be drawn from the business and hard earnings of the people, to be able in the treasury, or to be the subjects of gambling speculations in warrants, bonds and other securities, were guilty of a high crime against the Government of Oregon, rendering them unworthy the respect and confidence of the people or of being further entrusted with the administration of the government; and while we thus condemn the action of the Governor and resigning members, we investigatingly approve and endorse the conduct of the Democratic members, in earnestly and faithfully striving to restore and maintain the organization of the Legislature, and provide for the due administration of the laws.

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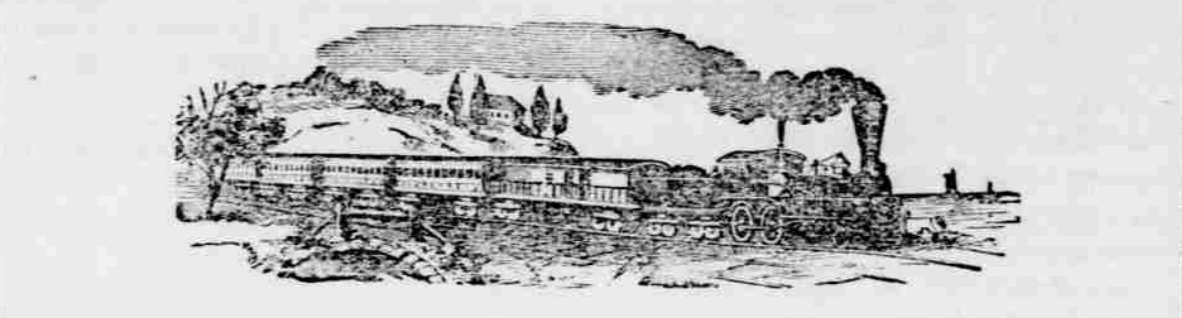
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