



The Weekly Enterprise.

A DEMOCRATIC PAPER, FOR THE Business Man, the Farmer and the FAMILY CIRCLE.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY BY A. NOLTNER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

OFFICE—In Dr. Thessing's Brick Building.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Single Copy one cent, in advance, \$2 50

TERMS OF ADVERTISING: Grand advertisements, including all legal notices, 75 cts. per line, 1 w. \$ 2 50

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Broken Pledges.

[From Pomeroy's Democrat.]

The Republican National Convention which nominated General Grant pledged the party to non-interference in the right of the States to designate who should be entitled to the ballot. Upon that pledge they went into the election, and through the public belief in the verity of that pledge they won the support of several State Rights doctrine States. That pledge weakened the force of Democratic opposition to Grant, for it contained the essence of the Democratic creed, and they had nothing to say against the Republicans on that head. When the party had secured Grant's election, and as soon as he was in power, and the emergency presented itself, his Congress spurned the pledge by which the right of a State over its own domestic affairs was destroyed.

Then it was that the Democratic party in and out of Congress seized the opportunity, and hurled their thunderbolts at the usurping and pledge-breaking Republicans. The speeches in Congress uttered by Democratic members were lurid with the fire of condemnation and assault, and the Democratic press of all sections double-leaded their editorial columns of scathing crimination. They one and all denounced the "new departure" of the Republicans as an outrage upon party, as an attack upon the Constitution, as a falsehood that no decent man would practice in private life; indeed, as a deed of monstrous villainy to which no freeman could possibly submit. But all that is now among the dead issues, and the party that committed that so rank offense must be condoned for the very deed which formerly was so past forgiveness. This forgiveness, and more than that—the endorsement required of the Democratic party by the late Democratic (?) Conventions in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Iowa—of the great fraud, is basely urged as necessary to the success of the Democratic leaders in the next election. This sudden Democratic conversion to the Republican villainies is perhaps the most startling and astounding wonder of this wonderful era, and honest men are looking impatiently for the next great trick of the political acrobats.

But what worse have the Republicans been guilty of in this pledge-breaking business than the Democrats?

In 1868 the National Democratic Convention met in New York. Men of all the sections were in attendance. They were fresh from the people, fresh from the war, fresh from the examination into all the crimes of the Republican party, of their usurpation and violence. What did the Democratic Convention do?

Deliberately, basing their deliberation upon the sense of justice, of law, of constitution, of liberty, they promulgated a series of resolutions denouncing the new amendments to the Constitution, denouncing the usurpations of the Republican Congress, and went into the contest with those denunciations upon their banners. They failed with Seymour and with that platform of denunciation. Do they think that failure now and attribute it to the denouncement of these amendments and the process by which they were secured, and so thinking and longing for power are they taking a back track and perpetrating a huger crime than did the Republicans, in order to win at the next trial? If they denounce the Republicans for breaking the great primary pledge of their platform, published at the same time, can they hope now to escape attack from their own party for committing the very same offense?

How can the Democratic party be right to-day for doing that which the Republicans were so wrong in doing in 1868?

The Republicans wanted to win, and they played a trick by which they won. We all denounced that trick and threatened revolution because it was a trick. Is success so sweet that crime cannot tarnish victory! Are the Democratic Conventions to hold such doctrine of infamous disregard of sacred obligations and not except a universal cry of shame from all the country side?

Are these workers of iniquity to arrogate to themselves and their polluted hands, the power to anathematize Democrats because they will not endorse their villainies and falsehood and total abandonment of principle? Are thieves to sit upon the bench and sentence judges to imprisonment? Are political harlots to drive virtuous people from the common highway as unfit to breathe the common air of Heaven with them?

Are these conventions, tainted and odorous with corruption, to force their fetid influence upon the great masses of the Democratic

party? Is justice to be costumed as a troll for decent people to take fashion from? Are these schemers to work at their plans of fraud, and obtain power by such prostitution of the noble theories of the Democratic party, making that party agents to accomplish their dishonorable triumph? These questions must go before the people. That people will read this writing, written as it were upon the world's wall; and they must see to it that they perish not with Balthazar and his courtiers in the debauch of his despotism.

The Tax on Labor.

[From the Chicago Democrat.]

That government which pays most attention to the best interests of its laboring classes is the only safe one. The workers of a nation are its real strength, and if a nation would be strong she should see to it that her workers are protected. They need its protection for the reason that their time is wholly given to their work, and it is left to the legislators to see that no laws are made opposed to their interests. Unfortunately, Governments in all ages have been too often administered in the interests of the dominant classes and in those of the moneyed aristocracies, while the toiling millions have been forgotten, and their daily laborily required. As wealth increases, the tendency is to concentration in the hands of the few, and those favored few find time and opportunity to watch legislation, and in a great measure mold and control it in accordance with their own selfish purposes, while the millions who toil, have neither time nor means to influence legislation in their own interests. The oppression which European laborers meet with is due to the bad laws which have come down with slight changes from past generations. In England and upon the Continent labor is oppressed, and this, in a great measure, is chargeable to the existence of a vicious system of government, which, with various modifications, has come down to them from former generations. Privileged classes have principally held the reins of authority in their own hands, and domineered over the humbler classes who have been doomed to toil for subsistence, and regarded them, by reason of their lowly condition, as being entitled, in the providence of God, to nothing more than the bare necessities of life. Princes and nobles and the privileged orders must, however, live commensurate with their rank and high position, and consume among themselves the nation's wealth. For them were especially, governments ordained of God; while the toiling masses can only live by their permission, and be content with such blessings and privileges as may be awarded to them by the clemency of those who tower above them. In America, however, we shall have none of this. Every man must stand on his own feet, and their shall be no legislation for the benefit of class. Particularly, there shall then be no obstacles put in the way of the workman. So far from blocking his progress, every means must be sanctioned by which he can elevate and advance himself. Therefore it is that a tax upon labor is the most suicidal and stupid policy that any government can pursue. Any policy that compels the laborer to toil for a bare subsistence; any act of legislation which makes it hard, year by year, to meet passing demands for necessary subsistence, shutting out the fond hope of better things in the future, paralyzes the arm of the laborer, breaks his spirits, cools his ardor in the pursuit of happiness, and makes both him and his offspring in course of time absolutely valueless to the State. All the heavy burdens which, through our injudicious tariff system, enhance the value of the actual necessities of life, are only so many direct taxes upon labor, and ought to be repealed. No party can retain power long in this country that advocates or supports such a system. It is a grievous wrong to the State, and still greater wrong to the State. Tax the luxuries, let the necessities go free. This is the only true and safe policy, for it is the only policy which secures future blessing to a country like our own.

By the workings of the Radical tariff laws the custom on certain necessities amount to two hundred million a year, and the American corporations collect some eight hundred millions more on the manufacture of the same things. And this is protecting the laboring classes of the country!

Take the selfishness out of this world and there would be more happiness than we should know what to do with.—Josh Billings.

The Ku-Klux Bill a Failure.

The infamous Ku-Klux bill was designed as a political engine, says the S. F. Examiner. It was expected that it would enable Grant to control the elections in several of the States. It was intended to convey the idea to the people of the North that the South was still full of rebellious spirits leagued together in secret associations for the purpose of overthrowing the Union. The Radical leaders confidently expected that, through the agency of their noising Committee, and by the testimony of suborned witnesses, they could get up a mass of evidence proving everything desirable. The result has not realized their expectations. Every scalawag yet pumped for evidence has been convicted of perjury, and a mass of unimpeachable testimony proves conclusively that all the stories about Ku-Klux-Klans are without foundation. A Washington dispatch to the New York World of date June 23d, gives the following bearing on this subject: "The Radicals will probably be forced to abandon the Ku-Klux investigation. It is demonstrated that it can no longer be made to subserviate party purposes, and build up a pretext for bayonet rule in the South. The evidence this week has run counter to the hopes of the Republican members of the Committee, and a long recess till next Fall or an adjournment sine die may be soon looked for. The testimony given yesterday and to-day regarding the condition of affairs in Alabama and South Carolina has been so strongly fortified as to upset three-fourths of the clap-trap and hearsay evidence given by the sealwags and carpet-baggers whom Horace Greeley characterized as thieves and plunderers. Today Judge Busted, Republican United States Judge for Alabama, gave evidence confirming the editorial in the Republican State organ of Alabama, as telegraphed from Montgomery, and showing that the stories of ex-Senator Warner and Judge Parsons regarding the condition of affairs in that State are absolutely false. Judge Busted covered the whole ground. He testified that since 1865 there had been but one instance of resistance to a process of his court, and that came from a Radical Auditor of the State who had refused to obey an injunction issued by the court. There had been no disrespect to the court or the law on the part of the people, and he was perfectly well satisfied that the people of Alabama intended to obey all the laws of the United States and interfere with no man on account of his politics or his religion in Alabama. He regarded life, liberty and property as safe as in any New England State. He flatly contradicted the evidence of the itinerant preacher, Lakin, given last week, that there were thirty-three indictments pending in his court, and added that he held three terms of court every year in the northern, central and southern portions of the State, and therefore had good opportunities to learn the true state of affairs. During his evidence he stated that in 1868 Warner was excused from serving as a grand juror on the ground that he was a State Senator in Ohio, and yet the next year he was elected as a United States Senator from Alabama. Judge Busted spoke of the late Radical State administration as wanting in character and full of ignorance."

And so it is the Radical leaders have all the odium of passing an act wholly unauthorized by the Constitution, grossly violative of some of its plainest provisions, in conflict with the whole spirit of free government and an insult to the people of the entire Union, without deriving any of the party benefits from it, contemplated in its passage. Thus it is that vaulting treason has overleaped itself. This vile attempt to confer more than imperial powers on the President may prove in its operations a dead letter; but as a precedent for Congressional usurpation it is fraught with seeds of direct danger. It is by gradual encroachments upon the rights of the people that despots are established. So long as the Radical leaders can retain power without taking it by force, they will follow the usual forms. When it becomes necessary, however, to show their hands, they are determined to find themselves fortified by precedents which will authorize any high-handed outrage on free government. And herein lies the danger of these usurpations. They must be wiped out and condemned, or they will work the overthrow of popular institutions.

Damaging Developments.

The Ku-Klux bill is likely to result in some good after all. A Washington dispatch says: Official developments will shortly be made that will put the President in a sad plight for interfering with the judicial machinery of a Federal court, and preventing its officers by removal from even enforcing the Radical military or enforcement law. It has already been stated that the Republican United States District Judge of Arkansas called the attention of the Grand Jury a few weeks since to the features of this law which punished corruption and intimidation in elections for Federal offices. The result was that some thirty indictments were soon found for violations of the statute, and among them was one against Senator Clayton. The United States Marshall and District-Attorney were about to enter upon the prosecution of these indictments when their sudden removal was announced from Washington. Their successors have never taken up the cases, and the prosecution of the Arkansas Radical ballot-stuffers has thus probably been abandoned through Executive influence. Both of these officials have been summoned to appear before the Ku-Klux Committee and give a complete history of this most remarkable transaction on the part of the President. Although Republicans they had not the fear of the notorious Clayton before their eyes, and seemed determined to punish him under the law had not Grant and Clayton prevented that.

The New York Sun says: "President Grant no longer has a follower among the Republicans of New York, except among the officeholders, and they are not for him except for the time being. His inconceivable stupidity in breaking the Republican party in pieces; his corruption in appointing men to office; his quartering his own worthless relations upon the Treasury; his betrayal of the Cubans to Spanish slave-traders in consequence of money paid to Sidney Webster; and his elevation of a convicted bribe-taker to high office in the State Department, have disgusted honest Republicans with him. His administration is the most indecent ever witnessed in this country. May the like never be seen again."

On the pretence of negotiating a new loan, the leading officials of the Treasury Department at Washington are, one by one, leaving for holiday at the expense of the Government, which pays them at the rate of ten dollars a day while on these missions, besides ten cents a mile for the cost of travel. These treasury excursionists always come back richer than when they started.

Republican Reign.

[From the Chicago Democrat.] A public opinion that would have been a shame and a disgrace at any time in American history was born at the rise of the Republican party and during the civil war. Principles of government held sacred from the very dawn of the Revolution were discarded. The very name of Liberty was laughed at and despised, and just men were dragged into dungeons, under the idiotic charge of having sympathies. Opinions that gave birth to this Republic were punished as a crime. The moral and social sinks of society were ransacked to find fitting tools for both the civil and military administration. Brawling loafers were appointed to the seats of judges, and drunken generals and bar-tenders, were created into tribunals for the administration of civil justice. Those who had not sold themselves were cringing beneath the lash of a demoralized public opinion, that spared not one principle that was held sacred by the founders of the Republic. We never yet doubted the lessons of history which attest that no such madness, no such gigantic usurpation and usury, ever yet went unpunished. "Truth crushed to earth will rise again." All the way along the track of time, from the days of Cataline to the still more abhorred days of Stanton and Seward, are strewn wrecks and misarrangements of the cunningest schemes of usurpation and tyranny. Among a brave and intellectual people, liberty is sure to overthrow tyranny in the end. The truth of God is, that there is no peace, no safety, to those who attempt to rule by usurpation and oppression, except where people are utterly void of intelligence and manhood. For a time, public opinion may support the grossest wrong and despotism, but that time will always be short, in proportion to the degree of popular intelligence and the general love of liberty.

Witchcraft.

A SINGULAR CASE AT FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS. [Frankfort (June 24th) Correspondence of the Du Quoin Republican.] Two young ladies, daughters of James Williams, living about eight miles from here, have been attacked in a singular manner by what is said to be witchcraft. Witchcraft, or whatever craft it may be, it puzzles the best physicians. The young ladies were first affected about the first of April. I think that it was known among the neighbors that there was something wrong with them, but any strangeness in their actions was generally attributed to insanity. Matters remained thus until last Wednesday, when their father called upon a physician of this place, and got him to visit them. Since that time their actions have become generally known, and both men and women have gone to see them. Some fifty or a hundred persons are there every night, and they say it is quite entertaining to witness their performances. They are perfectly sane during the day, but at the approach of night they become frenzied and uncontrollable, performing feats that the best acrobats could hardly perform. Scaling the house, they dance upon the comb of the building, apparently with perfect ease and impunity, uttering at the same time the most hideous and frenzied screams. Very frequently they take something like fits, or spasms, and fall perfectly stiff; but if they chance to be on the housetop, they never fall off, however near the eave they may be. They are aged respectively 16 and 18 years, and are both rather small, both being below the medium height. During the day, at which time they are perfectly sane, they seem to be rather modest and reserved, but will converse freely with any one. They are fond of music, and play upon the dulcimer. The spell comes upon both at or near the same time, generally between sundown and dark, and first manifests itself by both of them breaking into a run. They then run north, in the direction of the house of an old lady who, they say, has been practicing witchcraft upon them. They say she has recently put harder spells upon them, on account of their telling something that she forbade, and that she and a cat are with them in their housetop dance. They have a language which they use in conversing with each other, and which they try to understand; but it's "Comanche" to everybody else. There are some strange things connected with them. They catch and eat all the flies they can get hold of, until nausea is produced, when they both vomit at the same time. What one does the other is also doing. Their gestures are alike and simultaneous. They seem to both be moved by one controlling power. The foregoing is a statement of the facts as correct as I can learn them. You can imagine the excitement when I tell you that, since I began to write, nearly fifty people have passed through our little village on their way to see the girls.

Plea for Those who Sleep in the Morning.

The fact is, as life becomes more concentrated and its pursuits more eager, short sleep and early rising become impossible. We take more sleep than our ancestors, and we want more. Six hours' sleep will do very well for a ploughman or any man who has no other exhaustion than that produced by manual labor, and the sooner he takes it after his work is over, the better. But for a man whose labor is mental, the stress of whose work is on the brain and nervous system, and is tired in the evening with a day of mental application, neither early to bed nor early to rise is wholesome. He needs letting down to the level of repose. The longer the interval between the active use of the brain and its retirement to bed, the better the chance of his sleep and recuperation. To him an hour after midnight is probably as good as two before it, and even then his sleep will not so completely and quickly restore him as it will his neighbor who is only physically tired. He must not only go to bed later, but must lie longer. His best sleep lies in the early morning hours, when all the nervous excitement has passed away, and he is in absolute rest.

Democratic idea of liberty: Every man has a right to do as he pleases, so long as he pleases to do right. The liberty of conscience touches every one to do unto others as they would have others do unto them.

The Old Federalist.

The personal government of John Adams with its rigid and seditious laws and other odious enactments; the old Hartford Convention Federalists; the brutal Know-Nothing roughs, with their brutal outrages; the witch-burning Puritans; each and all had some excuse for an existence, and some redeeming qualities. But the personal purity of Cotton Mather and John Adams has no parallel in the present Government. Corruption boils and bubbles through every department. A vicious system of taxation, that draws the life-blood from all the industrial interests of the nation; an outrageous banking-law, that allows a few men to plunder at will all other business interests; the remorseless gangs of official pirates, who have been pensioned on the country; the disgraceful tampering with the Supreme Court; the entire disregard of Constitutional right and obligations, have never had any parallel in this country. No President before Grant was ever guilty of falsehood and bribery, nor so utterly reckless as to regard relationship as the best recommendation for office. No honest man, bearing Grant's record in mind, will defend the present Administration unless it be from partizan motives. Whatever the old Federalists did they were at least honest. Whatever the Know-Nothings did they did not disgrace their manhood. The Republican party has but one thing to boast of, and that is the magnitude of its errors.

Men and Women.

What is it that makes all those men who associate habitually with women superior to others who do not? What makes that woman who is accustomed and at ease in the society of men, superior to her sex in general? Solely because they are in the habit of free, graceful, continued conversation with the other sex. Women in this way lose their frivolity, their faculties awaken, their delicacies and peculiarities unfold all their beauty and captivation in the spirit of intellectual rivalry. And the men lose their pedantry, their humors, or vulgar manner. The coin of the understanding and the heart changes continually. The asperities are rubbed off; their better material polished and brightened, and their richness, like the gold, is wrought into the finer workmanship by the fingers of women than it ever could be by those of men. The iron and the steel of their characters are hidden, like the character and armour of a giant by studs and knots of precious stones, when they are not wanted in actual warfare. Satan never hated holy water as the Radicals hate truth. Give them a sign favorable to their cause for a foundation and they will build lies higher thereon than was the Tower of Babel. However, it does little harm. Let them enjoy their rancid security while they may. The time is near when their falsehoods will be exposed and their fabrics upset as effectually as were the walls of Babel, with even more confusion.

A highwayman in the Western wilds asked his victim whether he would prefer to give up his money or life. The reply that neither was preferred, the gentlemanly but abrupt robber said, "But my dear sir, you are wandering from the subject," and took both.

A lover who had just parted from his "fair one with the golden locks," says—"Her last words fell like great rocks, into the sea of my sorrow, and splashed the briny water into my eyes."

The difference between Jefferson Davis and Ulysses Grant is that one is a traitor without honors, and the other a dishonest traitor. The one accepts nothing, and the other accepts everything from a horse to a bull-pup.

The fellow who called tight boots comfortable defended his position by saying they made a man forget his other miseries.

Revels is said to be meditating a bill to strike out the word "White," as an "invidious distinction," from the name "White House."

Somebody has written a book called "What shall my son be?" We should imagine it would be a boy.

"Johnny, what do you expect to do for a living when you get to be a man? I'll get married, and board with my wifes mother."

The sea of matrimony is not always a smooth one. By the light of the honeymoon you can always see rocks ahead—the cradle.