

SIGNAL OF LIBERTY.

Wednesday, September 22, 1841.

LIBERTY TICKET.

For President, JAMES G. BIRNEY, of New York. For Vice President, THOMAS MORRIS, of Ohio.

For Governor, JABEZ S. FITCH, of Calhoun Co. For Lieut. Governor, NATHAN POWER, of Oakland Co.

"IN ESSENTIALS, UNITY; IN NON-ESSENTIALS, LIBERTY; IN ALL THINGS, CHARITY."

LECTURE ON SLAVERY.

James G. Birney, of N. Y., will lecture on Slavery at the Court House in Ann Arbor, next Monday evening at half past 6 o'clock. The public generally are invited to attend.

STATE CONVENTIONS.—It will be seen by the notice in another column that the State Central Committee have appointed a series of State Liberty Conventions in different counties. Now concerning these, we have a few suggestions to make, which may be useful to some, and will injure nobody.

1. The appointment of a Convention amounts to nothing in itself. You all know this, and yet it ought to be remembered.

2. The number present at the Conventions will be determined by the readiness of every abolitionist to attend them, and his efforts to induce others to be present. They will be large or small as zeal or indifference prevails. Let none be found who are lukewarm.

3. The usefulness of these meetings will depend greatly upon the spirit manifested by those who attend. Every one who can speak to edification. (and who cannot speak on this subject) should prepare himself to add something to the interest of the meeting if it is but a mite. Think how highly a certain person was spoken of by the Lord.—"She has done what she could!" Could any thing have been said more highly to her praise? If you will do as she did, you can obtain the same commendation.

4. Foreign aid cannot be relied on. We must abolitionize ourselves, and not wait to be acted on in a state of passiveness. A disposition to do nothing till we are incited by others, shows an inglorious, lazy disposition in any body. Remember that, and exert yourself.

5. In the absence of public lecturers, and of funds to pay them, one of the greatest means of doing good, will be to obtain at the Conventions, as many subscribers as possible for the Signal. No candid Whig or Democrat can pay for and read the Signal or any good abolition paper for a year without being fully convinced that our principles are right, and will succeed.

The Vote Message.

We publish this document to-day on account of the great importance of the subject, and the relation it bears to our national affairs. It will be seen that the President thinks he cannot conscientiously sign this bill, but intimates that he will bring forward a plan of a Fiscal Agent at the next session which will suit him.

Whether it will meet the desires of those who have labored for a United States Bank, we think is fully determined by his decided opposition to their views as expressed in the two messages. Such being the case, although a Bank, or a Fiscal Agent may be established at the next session of Congress, it is obvious that it will be far from meeting the views of those who have supported the plans already rejected. The only way then, in which such an institution as they wish can succeed, is by putting it through both Houses of Congress by a vote of two thirds. Such a vote cannot be had during this presidential term. We apprehend also that in New England and New York there is a growing indifference to the existence of such an institution among those who formerly advocated its claims. We conceive, then, that for the present, if not for the future, the question of a great National Bank, of discount and exchange must be laid aside.

With regard to the effect of this result upon the national politics we are not now prepared to speculate. We wish rather to call attention to the fact this "GREAT INTEREST" is, for the present, disposed of.

Many of our friends who had been known for years as decided abolitionists, felt last year, that they must, for this once, vote the whig nomination in order to secure the safety of those other great interests which that party advocated. They were successful, and the old administration, which they conceived had been disastrous to the country, was removed, and the other great interests which they had in view, have received the attention of a session of Congress called for that express purpose. The Sub-Treasury has been repealed. The distribution of the proceeds of the public lands has been placed on a permanent footing, and a General Bankrupt law has been passed, whose influence will extend to the remotest

parts of the Union. A Fortification bill has also been passed, providing for the defence of the country, while provision has been made for the supply of the necessary expenses of the nation. These great interests, then, have received the attention which they deserved, and have been finally disposed of.

Now we come to our Whig abolition friends once more, after the expiration of a year, and ask them if they are prepared to go with us in support of the principles of liberty. Their great pecuniary interests have been preserved and settled, and what now shall hinder them from attending to their own rights and those of the slave?—This same Whig Congress, which promised to defend the right of petition, has carried its outrages upon it farther than any preceding one. From injuring a few it has proceeded to assault the rights of all. Does this fact entitle the party to the confidence and support of the friends of liberty? The threats of the slaveholders to persist to the last extremity in resisting the right of petition, and all measures for the removal of the abominations of the National District, and the stand recently taken by them in reference to the appointment of Northern men to office, call loudly upon all whig abolitionists to determine whether they will longer continue to vote for a party which is obliged to do the bidding of the slave power in order to retain its ascendancy. We venture the prophecy, that this call will be responded to at the present time. On account of the settlement of those pecuniary interests which were formerly dear to them, and also because of the pro-slavery policy of the dominant party, many who last year voted with the Whigs will now join the liberty party with a hearty good will, and those who will not do so, who have formerly been reckoned among abolitionists, will become hardened in heart, and for the sake of a mess of political pottage will sell their consciences, and their reputation for love of liberty, and identify themselves with those who value human rights far less than party or pecuniary interests, and among whom they ought always to have remained.

To all Whig or Democratic abolitionists who have hitherto acted with those parties, we would propose this inquiry: Have you any reason to expect that the party with which you act will be reformed and become a Liberty party, so that the rights of men will receive that consideration and protection from those parties which their importance demands? If this cannot be expected it follows at once, that you support a pro-slavery party, and oppose an anti-slavery one; and how long can you do this, and be an abolitionist? Let it be distinctly remembered that he who now votes with either of the great parties, votes against equal rights;—against a Liberty party, and against having equal and exact justice rendered to all men. A moment's consideration will convince any one that this declaration is neither harsh nor untrue. Which party is prepared to do equal justice to all the inhabitants of this State? Neither. Which one dares to advocate a jury trial for all our colored citizens? Neither. Which one is for the abolition of slavery in the National District? Neither. And yet shall an anti-slavery man be found acting with such parties, and at the same time opposing a Liberty party which advocates these measures? If such an anti-slavery man exists in the State, let him forever abjure the name, and take one more congenial to his practice.

In the remarks we have made above, respecting the Whig abolitionists, we shall not be understood as conceding the correctness of their principles, or that any combination of pecuniary distresses is a sufficient reason for doing wrong, or that they were not to blame for voting a proslavery ticket last fall. We have merely assumed the ground taken by themselves, and have demonstrated, from their own showing, that if they intend to act for the cause of human rights, they have no longer any excuse; the supposed efficacy of their former pleas having all passed away, and that they must leave their imaginary neutral territory, and henceforth appear before the world, as voting abolitionists, or voting pro-slavery partisans.

The Michigan State Journal begins to advocate the principles of the Liberty party. Witness the following noble sentiment in the last paper.

"We tell you, Jacobins, that the RIGHTS OF MEN are not empty abstractions or idle words for demagogues to win power with. But substantial and living realities, comprising all legitimate means and securities which enable people to improve their condition in this world, and exemption from all unnecessary dangerous temptations which might peril their immortal well being."

We hope the Editor, having discovered that the rights of men are realities, will support the "legitimate means and securities" which will enable all the people to "improve their condition." Suppose the Journal should advocate "the legitimate security" of a trial by jury to all the colored people of this State, and no longer treat the subject as an "empty abstraction."

The reign of terror in Cincinnati.

The last Philanthropist brings the particulars of the late mob in that city which lasted several days. We have condensed the following account from some ten columns of that paper.

On the evening of Tuesday, Aug. 31, a quarrel took place between a party of negroes and some Irishmen which was renewed on the night following, and several persons were wounded on both sides. The mob attacked a negro boarding house where it was said a fugitive was secreted, and it was reported that guns or pistols were fired. The disturbance was quelled by the interference of some gentlemen of the neighborhood, and the police took no notice of the riot whatever. On Thursday night, another rencontre took place in a different part of the city, between some boys and young men and a party of negroes, in which two of the former were stabbed. They recovered, and afterwards acknowledged they were the aggressors.

There was much excitement during Friday, and the negroes took the precaution to arm themselves. About 8 o'clock in the evening, an immense mob assembled to attack the negro quarters. Many of the prominent leaders were strangers, chiefly from Kentucky, strongly backed up by boat hands from the river. The Mayor addressed this assemblage, but they would not hear him, but cried out: "down with him"—"run him off"—and commenced an attack on a negro house. The negroes fired upon the assailants and several were wounded. About one o'clock the mob procured an iron six pounder, and loaded it with boiler punchings, &c. and discharged it three times into the negro quarters. Many of the negroes fled, and a portion of the military having been called out, the mob was kept at bay.

A meeting of the citizens was held at the Court House in the morning at which the Mayor presided. They resolved to observe the laws and discountenance mobs and that the Township Trustees enforce the law of 1807, requiring security of negroes pledging themselves to enforce it to the letter, until our city "is relieved of the effect of modern abolitionism," assuring "our Southern brethren," to carry out that "act in faith"—and to deliver "up, under the law of Congress forthwith," every negro who escapes from his master and comes within our borders.—They requested the Mayor, Sheriff, and the civil authorities, to proceed at once to the dwellings of the blacks and disarm them of all offensive weapons—and recommending search for offenders against the laws, immediate legal proceedings against them, and an efficient patrol to protect the persons and property of the blacks, during the existence of the present excitement, and until they give the bonds required by the act of 1807 or leave the city. They "Resolved, That we view with abhorrence the proceedings of the Abolitionists in our city, and that we repudiate their doctrines, and believe it to be the duty of every good citizen by all lawful means to discountenance every man who lends them his assistance."

During the day parties of men and boys scoured the streets and dwellings, and secured all the negroes they could find, and brought them to one place, where they were kept surrounded by sentinels. The city authorities disarmed the negroes and marched 250 of them to jail for safe keeping, accompanied by an immense mob, with deafening yells. In the evening, notwithstanding the presence of a large military force, which offered little or no opposition, the mob broke into the Philanthropist office and broke two presses into pieces with sledge hammers and threw them into the river, except some fragments which were carried to Kentucky as trophies of victory. The type had been removed. Several negro houses were broken open, in different parts of the city and the doors, windows and furniture totally destroyed. The negro church was destroyed, and several houses adjoining it. They attacked the confectionary establishment of Burnett (against whom a recent mob was directed) and thoroughly riddled that and the houses of several abolitionists, and were proceeding to fire or otherwise destroy a book establishment, when some twenty or thirty of the leaders were arrested and put in jail, and the disturbance ended.

It was the intention of the mob to attack the persons as well as the property of abolitionists, but the timely arrival of Governor Corwin on Saturday, and his efficient exertions disconcerted their plans. Says the Philanthropist—

"The slaveholder has triumphed. All he required, is granted. The evening of that day consummates his triumph. The "move," sure enough, is no "idle" one, but is "carried out in good faith" towards "our Southern brethren." Two presses are thrown into the river; property to the amount of thousands of dollars is destroyed; and, as if to make the infamy of the city beyond all parallel, after having disarmed the blacks, marched the men to jail, and pledged the faith of the city to protect their wives and children and property, the mob is suffered to demolish their houses, break open their trunks and bureaus, and violate their women! Hell itself must

tremble at such an atrocity; and if this city does not humble itself in dust and ashes, Heaven's curse will yet sink it lower than Sodom."

The Cincinnati Chronicle says:

"In respect to the firing of the negroes, the right and wrong of such an attack depends upon the circumstances of the attack. A man's house in his castle, by the common law. His right to use weapons of defence is one of the last resort, in self-defence, only justified by necessity. The letter of the law will justify it in the defence of property; but we think in self-defence, that force should only be used in case of personal, or threatened personal, attack. This is a matter of opinion.—The result showed in what extremity they were. For we are told, on good authority, on Saturday night, the persons of one or more negro women were violated under circumstances of inhuman barbarity!—Now, we say that the man who won't defend his family from such desperadoes, has not human blood.

Dr. Bailey avows his determination to continue the publication of the Philanthropist if the abolitionists will only furnish the means. He declares he will give place to the mob, no, not for an hour. The printer's loss amounts to about \$300.

We are well persuaded the abolitionists of the great State of Ohio will not suffer their only paper to be thus put down by a mob.

"Throwing away Votes."

A friend who was formerly a Whig, said to us the other day that he had determined to vote the Liberty ticket this year, altho' he confessed it looked very much like throwing away his vote. He could not see distinctly what good it would do. This remark led us to reflect on the subject, and we came to the following conclusions:

1. Every vote cast for sustaining the principle that all men ought to be free, is not thrown away upon the slaveholders.—Far from it. They have an absorbing interest in it. The very announcement of the fact, that for the first time since we became a people, votes for universal liberty, cast by an organized party, pledged to that object, were put into the ballot boxes in thirteen states, in the same year, filled the hearts of many slaveholders with alarm and anxiety. While we resorted only to petitions and moral suasion, they refused to receive the one, and resisted the other. They were politically safe by securing the aid of our obedient proslavery members of Congress. But when the principles of liberty should be revived in all their purity and excellence, and the spirit which incited our fathers to suffering and death should revisit their children, who could tell what the result might be? The spirit of Adams and Hancock might spring forth from the dead in the persons of their descendants, and revivify the principles which once made the hills of New England to ring with freedom. The very fact that any number of men can be found who are willing to lay aside party prejudices and party differences to resist their usurped authority over the slave and the free, is ominous to them. It is a foreboding of evil—it speaks to their interests and their consciences, assuring them that their oppressions will no longer be borne unresisted. Is it nothing to them that the number of those in Vermont alone who have sworn eternal hatred to slavery has increased in less than one year from 319 to more than 2000? Such intelligence will not be read by them with indifference.—And every vote thus given for liberty must in the nature of the case, tell effectually on the slaveholders. On them it cannot be thrown away.

2. It is not thrown away on the interests of the oppressed free people of color. Every vote given for equal rights aids in bringing their wrongs and disabilities distinctly before the public view, in dislodging prejudice and in swelling the amount of those influences which will yet remove the erroneous views of the white population, and put all the colored people upon that footing to which their intellectual and moral qualifications shall entitle them.

3. The liberty votes are not thrown away upon either the Whig or Democratic parties. If they were not of any consequence, they would not be sought for by those parties. They are esteemed to be of very great moment, and strenuous exertions are used by them to prevent their adherents from joining the Liberty party.—In most of the States, the parties are so nearly balanced that a few votes turn the scale, and it becomes all important to secure those few. Gov. Morton was elected in Massachusetts by a majority of one vote in about one hundred thousand. Now what signified all the efforts of the unsuccessful party to secure 50,000 votes while they lacked that one? When a voter leaves the Whig or Democratic party, and becomes

an abolitionist, he both diminishes the strength of his former friends and adds to that of their opposers; and hence every Liberty vote may be truly said to count doubly for liberty, and against slavery.

4. Every additional vote given for liberty encourages its friends. It is not thrown away on them.

5. Every Liberty vote tends materially to purify the churches from slaveholding influences. This may be thought a singular proposition, and yet it will be found strictly true. Here is a church where all the voters are so impressed with abhorrence of slavery, that they vote against, all slaveholders who may be nominated for office and against all parties which support the enormities of the system.—When the same men are assembled in the church meeting, do you think they will vote for a slaveholder, or a proslavery man for minister, or deacon, or elder?—They certainly will not. And when they have excluded such men from political fellowship they will not long give them the privilege of communion in the church. The influence of the ballot box thus tells effectually on the anti-slavery progress of the churches.

6. He who votes a liberty ticket, and by the force of moral principle bids adieu to his old party influences, and in the face of opposition gives his suffrages for the cause of human rights, greatly benefits himself. He raises himself in the estimation of community. He is regarded with respect and confidence. At the election in Oakland county last fall, a gentleman whom we could name if it was proper, was seen to go up to the polls with a long list of written tickets. He had been known as a whig, and as a man of remarkable candor and firmness. When questioned, he said that he intended to vote a Liberty Ticket throughout.

"But" said one, "why throw away your vote? You know that Birney will not be elected."

"I know" said he, "that he will not be elected this year: but my business is to DO RIGHT. God requires me to use all my political and moral influence in behalf of human liberty; and that I am determined to do, whether others will do so or not."

"But what are these other written votes you have here?"

"They are the names of friends of Liberty in this County whom I intend to vote for to fill all the county offices."

"Will any body join you in voting for these men?"

"I do not know. I have given myself no uneasiness about that. My business is to vote for good men; and if no one will join me, I shall do it alone."

The course of this man made a strong impression on others, and it strengthened his own moral feelings and his intellectual energy. By following out his convictions, he became a nobler and a better man than before: and his vote was not thrown away, but at the coming and each succeeding election it will increase and multiply exceedingly.

If, then, it be true that every vote given for human rights must necessarily strengthen the friends of Liberty and dishearten its enemies—if it diminishes pro-slavery influences in the churches and benefits the slave and the free colored man—and if it adds to all the nobler qualities of the mind in those cases where such a vote is given for the sake of moral principle, who would count such a vote thrown away? Among the 7000 who voted for Birney, we have never yet heard of one person who regretted he had thrown away his vote upon such a cause. On the contrary, they remember the fact, with pleasure, and in the same circumstances they would do the same thing again.

On the other side, he who votes with a pro-slavery party, encourages the slaveholder, saddens the slave, hinders the cause of universal freedom, sanctions the prejudices of community, oppresses the free colored man, strengthens pro-slavery influence in church and state, encourages mob and lynch law, helps to cheat the North of its money, and aids in destroying its liberties. Who would not count a vote given for such purposes, or one followed by such results, most emphatically THROWN AWAY?

Important from Washington—resignation of the Cabinet.

Messrs. Ewing, Bell, Badger, Crittenden and Granger have resigned their respective offices in the Cabinet. Mr. Webster, in a published letter, has signified his intention to remain at his post, at least for the present, and seems to regret that such an abrupt proceeding should have been made.

The new Cabinet, of President Tyler, is composed of the following persons:

- Daniel Webster, Secretary of State. Walter Forward, of Penn., Secretary of the Treasury. John McLean, of Ohio, Secretary of War. A. P. Upshur, of Virginia, Secretary of the Navy. C. A. Wickliffe, of Ky., Post Master General. Hugh S. Legare, of S. C. Attorney General.

