



SIGNAL OF LIBERTY.

Wednesday, October 13, 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."

NATIONAL AND STATE ADDRESSES.

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Our Travelling and Local Agents, THROUGHOUT THE STATE, ARE ESPECIALLY REQUESTED TO NOTICE THE TERMS ON WHICH THIS PAPER IS PUBLISHED. AS IT IS EXPECTED THEY WILL MAKE THEIR COLLECTIONS AND REMITTANCES IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH, IN EVERY INSTANCE.

COUNTY CONVENTION.

A Convention of the Liberty Party of Washtenaw County, will be held at the Court House at Ann Arbor, on the 22d day of October next, at 2 o'clock, P. M. to nominate a candidate for County Commissioner, in the place of Darius Pierce, resigned. T. FOSTER, Ch'mn County Cen. Com.

Our Organization.

It will be seen that by examining the nominations in our paper of last week and the notices of Conventions yet to be held, that the Senatorial Districts will be completely organized in a few days, and candidates nominated. Representatives for the Legislature have been nominated from the most settled counties of the State, comprising a large share of the population. Will not our friends in the other counties meet together immediately and thus complete the organization of the State. There is a time when a beginning must be made in each county, and if it be true, as the New Jersey farmer expressed it, that Liberty votes hatch, it will be desirable to have some laid up against next spring. If there are but a dozen advocates of universal liberty in a county, nominate one of your number, and vote for him.—You will thus strengthen each other. In voting, as well as in religion, faith is increased by good works. If you would strengthen your faith, exercise it. Besides, the votes of twelve friends of universal freedom are of too much value to be scattered on two pro-slavery parties—or withheld altogether from the ballot box. Come out, then, brethren, wherever you are, and let your light shine.

The Conventions.

It will be seen by the notices that State Conventions are to be held at Jackson on the 19th, and at Ann Arbor, on Friday, the twenty-second day of October. Let there be a general convocation at these places. They are both central points and are surrounded by some hundred of good abolitionists, who ought all to concentrate there on those days, and get acquainted with each other, and strengthen one another in every good work, especially in the work of the slave's earthly redemption. Let none forget the time, nor wait for a further call. Let each neighborhood make its own calculations for attending. The most pressing work of the farmer will then be past, and business can be laid by for a day or two, to afford time for brethren to meet and look one another in the face.

There have been more disturbances in Cincinnati since the great mob there. On the 14th an assault took place upon some of the watchmen at a disorderly house, whither they had repaired to preserve the peace, and two of them were dangerously wounded.

An attempt has also been made to burn the Reformed Baptist Church in that city, by setting fire to a quantity of shavings introduced into the church by the incendiaries for that purpose, but the flames were seasonably discovered and extinguished.

The Whig county convention which met on Monday last, nominated the following candidates for the State Legislature.

SALMON L. HAIGHT, of Saline. CHARLES J. F. VAIL, of Ann Arbor. CHANCEY KNAPP, of Ypsilanti. THOMAS BLACKWOOD, of Superior. HEMAN TICKNER, of Pittsfield. For County Commissioners, HIRAM ARNOLD, of Seio. ALLEN BUCK, Ypsilanti, to fill vacancy.

Whigs and Abolitionists.

A few weeks since, John Thomas, a Liberty Candidate from the seventh Senatorial District, N. Y. wrote a letter to a friend in Marathoc, and placed it in a letter rack in the store of Dickson and Hibbard. It was seen there on Wednesday morning by Mr. Dickson, the clerks, and other individuals. It disappeared during the day, and early next morning a handbill was in circulation, publishing the contents of the letter, and comments thrown over the signatures, and by the authority of the Whig Central Corresponding committee of the county. This statement was published in the Cortland Democrat, and is uncontradicted as far as we know, and shows conclusively that the Whig County Committee had the meanness to steal and break open the letter, or to publish it after it was stolen. It does not appear that they came by it in any honorable way.

In this letter, Mr. Thomas says that it is an important object at the present election (in New York State) to defeat the Whigs, because if defeated now "they will be gone forever," and he gives his opinion that such candidates ought to be nominated as will secure the greatest number of votes from the Whig ranks. The State Journal has published a part of this letter and charges us with having the same design in view, "to defeat the Whig party," and seems to hold us answerable for all John Thomas has written.

Now to this we reply, that we can and will answer for ourselves and our opinions; but we cannot assume the responsibility of backing up all the sentiments advanced by the abolitionists of the great State of New York, in their letters to their intimate friends as often as whigs may choose to steal and publish them. That Mr. Thomas was correct in thinking that if the Whigs in New York should be beat at the next election "they are gone forever," we are not well enough informed to be able to affirm. We should think, however, from the small majority of Gov. Seward, (being as we believe only six or seven thousand) and from the number and untiring zeal of the abolitionists, & from the fact that they are chiefly from the Whig party, that he might be correct in his supposition. Should the abolitionists in that State give ten thousand votes this year as they probably will, and the increase during the next year be as great accordingly as it has been this year, we should think such a result not at all surprising.

In reference to the charge of the Journal, that our great object is to defeat the Whigs, "and thus elect the loco foco ticket," the general course of our paper has demonstrated its falsity. But for the benefit of the Journal, we will say again,

1. That we believe that the twenty-five thousand slave-holders of the South, by means of the 25 congressional votes which they cast for their property, by always uniting in favor of every measure that is supposed to be beneficial to the South, and by shifting their votes and influence from one political party to the other, to secure any object they have in view, do in reality wield the balance of power, and govern both parties, and consequently the nation; and have reduced the North, in many respects, to the condition of a conquered province.

2. That the Whig party is now completely subject to this slave power of the South, as demonstrated by various facts which we have published from time to time in our paper—especially by the appointment of eight or nine foreign ministers from the South, and only ONE from the North, and his nomination hung by the gills for the purpose of disgracing him for weeks together, and was only finally assented to because it would not exactly do to reject the particular friend of the prime minister, Mr. Webster: By the refusal of Congress at the extra session, to receive the petitions of the people—a Whig measure:—and by giving to the South 364,000 dollars a year as a premium for holding slaves. These things are of recent occurrence, and show how unsafe it is to trust our liberties for interests in the keeping of a party that has a Southern master.

3. That we seek as our ultimate object the overthrow of the SLAVE POWER at the South which now governs both parties; and having been driven to organize politically for this purpose, we shall get as many votes as we can consistently and honorably from both political parties.

4. That unless the great body of the people are more corrupt than we suppose, we shall succeed in overthrowing the slaveholding monopoly; and in doing that we shall not go out of our way to attack the measures or principles of either political party, only so far as their views and efforts may come in conflict with our ultimate object.

5. That any representations from any quarter that the Liberty party is organized and sustained for the purpose of defeating the Whigs, and thereby elevating the Democrats to power, are false and unfounded.

We have thus frankly stated our object, and we have only to say further, that we hope the Journal and the other Whig papers in the state are honorable enough not to attribute to us motives which we deny, and which they cannot prove.

Hon. John S. Barry.

This gentleman has received the nomination of the Democratic party of this State for Governor. We have abstained from all remarks upon his qualifications, political or religious, which have been quite fully discussed in the papers, and we merely intend now to allude to the course he pursued last winter, in reference to the petition of Nathan Power and others, relative to a trial by jury of fugitive slaves. When this petition was presented to the Senate, Mr. FULLER, of this county, moved its reference to the Committee on State Prison. We considered this motion at the time, as intended for an imposition upon us, but Mr. FULLER subsequently explained his course, by stating to us that he was Chairman of that Committee—that he was favorable to the passage of such a law as was asked for, and he wished the petition to come into his hands, that justice might be done to the petitioners.

Mr. Barry said: "That our Southern friends contend that the Legislatures of the free States had no right to pass laws interfering with their rights by granting to slaves who are fugitives from justice, a trial by jury.—The other States had not passed any such laws as is contemplated by the petitioners. When a demand was made for such fugitive, the southern owner had the right to take back to the State from which the fugitive escaped, his property."

In the above paragraph, we understand Mr. BARRY to declare himself opposed to granting our colored population a jury trial, when claimed by a slaveholder. When the slaveholder claims the colored man's dog or his horse, a jury trial is secured to him.—The rights of property must be preserved by all the safe-guards of law. But when a MAN is at stake—his liberty and all his interests for life, this candidate for Governor thinks a jury trial would be an interference with the facilities which the slaveholder ought to possess for seizing his prey, and he therefore thinks it better that any colored citizen of this State may be liable every night to seizure at midnight, and without ever knowing the testimony against him, be hurried out of the State before day-light, without a trial, without counsel, without witnesses or an adjournment of court, and without the least opportunity of proving his title to freedom. Every colored person in this State is thus exposed continually. Shall the friends of equal rights support a candidate for Governor who is desirous of thus perpetrating these facilities for land piracy, and of continuing the oppression of a down trodden race, just to please the man-catcher!—We have no confidence in that Statesman, of whatever party he may be, who wishes to deprive any portion of his fellow citizens of their just and equal rights. Such a man ought not to be entrusted with power.

Secondly, we object to him on the ground of his ignorance on the subject of human rights. He had been a legislator for several years, and had not learned that several States had passed such a law as was contemplated by the petitioners. Did he not know that the question was then up before the N. Y. Legislature, and had not that fact excited his attention to the subject? Now York has now passed such a law; and we would inform Mr. Barry and all whom it may concern, that it is so effectual, that not a single case of a claim under it has yet been reported. The 50,000 colored people of that State can now sleep at night without the fear of being dragged from their beds at midnight by the man-thieves, and hurried off to bondage without a moment's warning.

We are aware that many of our most intelligent citizens have not yet fully examined this subject, and we shall do what we can to spread before them and before our Legislators such statements respecting it as will enable them to see that what we ask for ought to be granted, and that such a legislative act will not only do justice to the colored man, but will be no detriment to those legislators who shall advocate the measure, of whatever party they may be.

KALAMAZOO CONVENTION.—We publish to day the proceedings of the friends of our cause in this county, excepting a part of the resolutions, which we were obliged to omit on account of their length and the pressure of other matter. A friend writes us from the Convention: "Our cause is constantly advancing, and the labors of Mr. Treadwell have been well received and blest. The friends are active, united, harmonious and vigilant. The ides of November will show a large increase of votes. We intend to be the Flag County of the Flag State."

At Kaskaskia, Illinois, the county seat of Randolph, a lawyer named Whitehead, was knocked down, kicked, and trampled upon as he was coming out of court, under the eyes of the judge himself, but was rescued by some of the citizens. Mr. W. was counsel for a colored man who had instituted a suit for his freedom, and some persons of the place were apprehensive that if the suit progressed, some of the colored people held as slaves since the expiration of the time, and against legal right, might also sue for and recover their freedom.

Board of Foreign Missions and Slavery.

We mentioned last week that a report had been made by a committee of the Board upon a memorial from certain ministers of New Hampshire, praying the Board to express their views on Slavery, and no longer preserve "a studied silence" on the subject.—After the report had been read, the following debate ensued:

Rev. Dr. SKINNER hoped that some modification would be made of one or two paragraphs of the Report. He was pleased with the spirit of the whole, but he was sure that our friends at the South would be grieved at some of the forms of expression which might be readily altered.

T. BRADFORD, Esq. seconded the suggestion of Dr. Skinner. The same thoughts had occurred to him while the Report was reading.

Rev. Dr. BATES hoped the Report would be recommitted without debate and the alterations made.

Rev. Dr. WOODS was sure there must be a misapprehension of the report, as its simple object was to declare that the Board did not feel called on to express any opinion for or against the subject of slavery, and this was the current of the report from beginning to end.

Rev. Mr. GREENE hoped the report would be adopted as it is. No one could object to the words; they expressed the sentiments of all reasonable men. He had his own feelings, strong and decided on the abstract subject, but as a member of the Board, he had no right to touch it.

Rev. Dr. WOODS said that he would for himself have preferred to omit the paragraphs to which exceptions had been taken. But it must be remembered that these memorialists are worthy men, representing a very respectable portion of men in New England; they are not men stamped with radicalism, but of kind, serious feelings, who can be satisfied with a fair exhibition of the views of the Board. To prevent a schism in New England, which would deprive the Board of a large share of its contributions, he hoped the report would be permitted to stand.

Rev. Dr. DOW thought that it was as mild a report as could be expected, and he trusted it would be adopted. He thought every man was in conscience an anti-slavery man; and though he was by no means an abolitionist in the modern sense of the term, he thought it the duty of the Board to give utterance to its views in the language of this report.

Rev. Dr. COX said that he would make a few remarks, though no man had been more misrepresented than he on this subject. He had been mobbed and all but murdered for his supposed opinions. He urged the immediate disposal of the subject, and by no means to re-commit, and thereby bring up the question to-morrow when the house would be crowded. He suggested a single verbal amendment.

The discussion was further continued by Rev. Drs. Skinner, Anderson, Bates and Woods.

Rev. Dr. PALMER, of South Carolina, said that all reasonable men would be satisfied with this report; and there were some men whom no report would satisfy. He thought it was a judicious report, and should be adopted.

Chief Justice WILLIAMS explained the difficulties of the Committee in framing the report; and said that they would have preferred not to touch the question; but finding it must be met, in order to do justice to themselves and the subject, they thought it proper to submit this paper. They regard slavery as an evil, but it is an abstract question with which the Board have nothing to do, and the report so declares.

Rev. Mr. BLODGET, of South Carolina, said the report would satisfy the South. All the South asks is, that the Board will attend to its own business, and so long we shall be glad to co-operate. Let other societies do what they please; this Board has nothing to do with them. This appears to be the doctrine of the Report, and he believed it would be satisfactory to the southern friends of the Board.

The question was taken on Dr. Bates' motion to re-commit and lost. The report of the Committee was then unanimously adopted.

Several things worthy of notice were developed by the discussion.

1. The very first idea that entered any one's mind was that the South would not like the report.

2. There was danger of a schism which would deprive the Board of a large share of its contributions. Here was a difficulty on the other side.

3. The committee who made the report intended to steer a middle course, and treat it as "an abstract question," but they were obliged to lean a little against slavery in order to preserve the contributions of "a very respectable portion of men in New England."

4. It was considered dangerous to discuss this question with "a crowded house." It should "by no means" be done. It might produce a schism. The inference is, that this business should be disposed of with a thin house, with as little discussion as possible.

5. Just as soon as the Board was advised by Mr. Blodget, that the south would be satisfied, the report was adopted in a trice, without a dissenting voice!

6. How polite these southern gentlemen are! "All the south asks is, that THE BOARD WILL ATTEND TO ITS OWN BUSINESS!" And yet the entire contributions from the thirteen slave States do not amount, probably, to more than a *fraction* of the whole sum actually contributed to the treasury of the Board.

The Median Committee have resolved to send the Mendi people at once to their own country, and will now make their appeal to the benevolent for the means.

Whigs and Abolitionists.

We have been credibly informed that at an abolition convention recently held in an adjoining county, several leading whigs proposed to some of the abolitionists that if they would give up their third party organization, the whigs would carry out the measures for which the abolitionists were contending, viz: the right of trial by jury for fugitive slaves, and the extension of the right of suffrage to the negroes. The abolitionists declined acceding to the terms, stating that their petitions had been treated disrespectfully, last winter, by the whig legislature. The whig leaders may succeed better in other places than they did at this, therefore a word of caution may be necessary.

The above facts show two things: First—that the whig leaders are dubious of the result of the approaching contest, without the aid of the abolitionists.—Secondly—that the whig leaders are willing, secretly and covertly, to pledge their whole party to the support of a measure which they dare not openly avow and advocate, viz: the extension of the right of suffrage to negroes. Let the whigs openly and boldly avow that they are in favor of negro suffrage, and they will find themselves in a hopeless minority in Michigan.

Mich. Democrat.

Whence the facts above mentioned were obtained we do not know, nor in which 'adjoining county' they occurred. The Democrat need not be alarmed with the apprehension that the Whigs will succeed better in other counties with their propositions.—The Abolitionists have been deceived and beguiled too often by the fair promises of 'leading Whigs' and leading Democrats too, to put confidence in any such offers of service. Whether the Whigs will succeed at the coming election "without the aid of the Abolitionists" cannot now be known.—The Whigs have doubtless counted the cost, and are prepared to abide the issue. As a matter of course, they can receive no "aid" from any advocates of the Liberty party which will imply the abandonment of their own nominations. The friends of Liberty will pursue a straight forward course, until they succeed in their objects. We have nothing to hope from the good will of either party; and if they ever favor our objects, their favor will be extorted from their fears on account of the power of our organization. We know distinctly where we stand in reference to both parties, and know how to appreciate the propositions which may be thrown out by either.

One word as to the propriety of negro suffrage. We conceive that our colored citizens should have the right of suffrage, and we believe that before long they will have it. They have the privilege of voting in most of the New-England States. Why should they not? We should like to have the Democrat bring forth its strong reasons, (if it has any,) against granting the right of suffrage to all colored American citizens, who pay taxes, and are permanent residents of the State.

ONE WORD.—We perceive the abolitionists of this State have made a nomination for Governor and Lieut. Governor, and have made nominations of Senators and Representatives, in some of the Districts. We wish our democratic friends to recollect that similar nominations were made last year, but when the time came around for the election, many of those who belonged to the whig party, and who professed to belong to the Abolition party also, and who did in fact belong to the society, went into their meetings and urged the inpropriety of voting the abolition ticket, as it was a trying and close contest, and that it was important that the whig ticket should triumph; and we wish them to understand too, that when the trial came on at the polls, the great body of the whigs who had acted with the abolitionists, cast their votes for 'Tippecanoe and Tyler too' the latter of whom is now placed in the Presidential chair by the hand of Providence, and by their aid; and we wish them to understand also, that the great body of those that did hold out true to the last, and who voted the ticket were such as would otherwise have voted the democratic ticket. It is well enough to recollect all these things.—Free Press.

The specifications set forth by the Free Press in the extract above, we believe, to be substantially correct, except the last. There is no reason to believe that the great body of those who voted the Liberty ticket in Michigan last fall would otherwise have voted the Democratic ticket. While there are many voting abolitionists who were formerly Democrats, we believe it would be found upon a full examination, that a majority of them have been Whigs. Let them come from which party they will, the influence of their original party views fast melts away, and when once committed to the Liberty party, they become identified with its success. We expect to receive continued additions to our ranks from both parties of such as love liberty and equal rights more than the aggrandizement of their parties, or the success of pecuniary party projects.

We can also tell the Free Press that a large proportion of those professed Abolitionists who voted for "Tyler too" last fall, are now fully with us in the support of a Liberty party, as the next election will show.



