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# The Kent News.

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, POLITICS, GENERAL NEWS, &C.

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THE KENT NEWS,

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

*Devoted to Agriculture, Literature, Politics, and General News.*

EDWARD MANSFIELD,

PROPRIETOR.

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## POETRY.

*Written for the Kent News.*

### TWILIGHT BEAUTIES.

BY LILEA.

Come, sister, come with me and let us 'mid
Our wildwood home's soft beauties stray;
Sol's golden, sunny eye is almost hid
Behind yon mountain hill, so dark and gray:
The gentle breeze—list, sister, how it sighs
Amid the trees so gently, softly low—
Methinks it breathes of Hope, when fairer skies
And brighter days shall crown our hearts than [now.

Come, sister, hark! 'tis a gentle voice
That fain would whisper in thine willing ear,
Such sweetly-thilling words that would rejoice
A heart bowed low with sorrow's sighing fear.
I seem to hear it murmur as along
It softly roams over verdant earth and lea—
"Be happy"—'tis the burden of its song, [me.
Then come, sweet sister, come, oh! come with

Look! those clouds, how golden in their hue!
How glorious in the Sun's last lingering ray!
O! with what rapture may we stand and view
The slowly-fading glories of a summer's day!
A sunset scene! What glories there sublime?
It fills my soul with wonder and delight,
Yet, still a few more sands of sober Time,
Will lose this beauty in the gloom of night.

Here let us sit, my sister—sweet retreat,
'Tis from intrusion sacred, my loved bower,
Hither I wander oft, and gladly seat
My languid limbs in musing twilight hour;
Our gaze can wander far o'er dreamy waste,
Its here we sit beneath the vines' soft shade;
Here we may dream of love and deeply taste
The joys of solitude, more congenial to the glade.

Dost see, my sister, yonder sparkling rill,
Along whose pebbly coast it calmly glides?
Oh! how I love to stray to yon bright hill,
And linger by that steamlet's moss-grown sides.
And dost thou see that barque slow gliding o'er
Its bosom, where it widens near the sea?
It 'minds thee, sister, of sweet hours before
Thy soul knew care, when life was bright to [thee.

Hark! sister, hear! 'tis music's sighing strain,
That floats unconscious on the twilight air;
It comes so softly, list! that strain again—
'Tis heavenly, 'least its home might well be there.
Perchance some lover sighs o'er blighted hopes,
And thus in Music's charms seeks for repose—
Seeks to forget the wildness of his love, which opes
No kindred fount in her who caused his woes.

Behold those flowers, sweet sister, are they not
Fit emblems of our changeful life's decay;
We live but for a while, then die and are forgot,
Like wayside flowers, which bloom but for a day.
But see that clustering rose, how droops its head
In blushing beauty 'neath our ardent gaze—
It hath my willing heart a captive led,
Sweet queen of Flora's gifts, the flower of praise.

But, sister, is thy heart not joyous now?
Have twilight beauties not thy soul made glad?
The scented-laden breeze has kissed thy brow;
Then have the thoughts not flown which made thee sad?
But twilight now is deepening into night,
And Cynthia throws around her silver beams;
We'll leave our vine-hid grot, and say good-night
To thee, may Hope be bright, with gladsome dreams!

*Montgomery County, Pa.*

☞ "Do you love me dear Simon?"

"Do I love you! Ask the sun if she loves the flowers; ask a cold kitten if she loves a warm brick. Love you!—show me the man who says I don't, and I'll cave his head in with a cistern pole!"

Whew! ain't that spirited.

☞ Somebody says a wife should be like roasted lamb—tender and nicely dressed. A scamp adds: 'and without *sauce*.'

## POLITICAL.

### Speech of Hon. A. J. Donaldson,

(NEPHEW OF GEN. JACKSON)

*At the American Meeting in New York.*

The mention of my name on this important occasion, in connection with the Hermitage, and the hero and patriot that word recalls to your memory, is a sufficient indication of the thought that is uppermost in your mind, and to which I must address myself.

You desire to hear how I, an old friend and relative of Andrew Jackson's,—his private Secretary during his Presidency, and for more than thirty years, up the last hour of his life, enjoying the freest access to all his papers, and maintaining the most intimate and confidential relations with him,—can defend the principles of the new organized American party.—Listen to me, fellow citizens, and I think I can satisfy you, not only that I am consistent, but that every motive of patriotism and public duty demanded of me the abandonment of a party which no longer practised the old-fashioned democracy of Jefferson, Madison and Jackson, but has done all that it could to bring into discredit the most essential and characteristic features of that democracy.

Franklin Pierce came into power, to use a sea phrase, in the wake of the compromise of 1850. The measure, carried through by the united action of such statesmen as Clay, Webster, Cass and Houston was welcomed in every corner of our wide spread Union as a rebuke to those factions which had labored under the garb of States rights, to bring the Federal and State authorities in open conflict with each other. At several places in New England Mr. Pierce stigmatised the opponents of that measure as moral traitors. He went so as to compliment me for my services in, what he called, a battle for the Union. He declared that in that battle he stood where General Jackson did.

Now call to mind what General Jackson did—what he said—and what the democratic party maintained when the country was in the crisis to which Mr. Pierce alluded. Do you remember the ordinance of South Carolina arming her citizens, establishing test oaths, and declaring her determination to carry into execution her threat of nullification? the proclamation of General Jackson, denouncing the whole proceeding as unauthorized, rebellious and traitorous—the force bill passed by Congress with great promptness, enabling the President to repel by force all the opposition to the execution of the laws? And then, gentlemen, do you remember the unanimity with which not only the Democratic party applauded its President, but how the great body of the American people looking above party and surveying only the good of the country, came forward by thousands and thousands to testify their respect for a stateman who faltered not in the performance of a high constitutional duty? Mr. Jefferson had said of Gen. Jackson, after the victory of New Orleans, that he filled the measure of his country's glory. But the patriotic American people proclaimed when the old hero carried the constitution unhurt through the stuggles with nullification, that his name would hereafter stand by the side of Washington as the preserver of the Union. Yes, gentlemen, it was here in New York, that countless thousands came forward to greet the old hero, and New England not less than New York saluted with the acclamation of joy, and love the man who, when the safety of the Constitution was threatened, declared fearlessly that he would not survive its fall, but would uphold it, come what might.

Now, gentlemen, this was democratic practice in 1832. Let us now see how General Franklin Pierce has acted in a crisis which he has admitted to be full of similar perils to us and our posterity.—When the compromise was passsed you all know that there was a party called, at the North, Abolitionists, and at the South, Nullifiers, who insisted that that measure was a base surrender of State Rights, and who set on foot measures which, if carried out, would have produced immediate bloodshed and civil war. This party at the south had an organ whose columns teemed with the dirtiest abuse of every man who would not subscribe to its scheme of holding a Southern Congress, with powers not only to declare the compromise unconstitutional, but to provide for its resistance, precisely as South Carolina had done in 1832. When the great and lamented Webster delivered his speech on the occasion of laying the corner of the new capitol, the response of this Southern Rights democratic sheet was, that it was a vain ceremony—that the people of the South should be putting their arms in order, to attack the North, instead of indulging hopes for the persevation of the Union.

Gentlemen, one of the first acts of Mr. Pierce was to give the editor of that disunion sheet an important Consular and Diplomatic office. And if you examine the character of his appointments generally you will find that in every quarter of the country they have been marked by an open contempt for his profession as a friend of the doctrines of the democratic party.

Yes, gentlemen, I assert, without the fear of successful refutation from any quarter, that the conduct of President Pierce is distinguished, if distinguished for anything, for insidious opposition to the doctrines always maintained by the Democratic party on the subject of State Rights. Mr. Madison has told us over and over again that his party in 1798, repudiated the doctrine of nullification as claimed by South Carolina in 1832, and as insisted on by the Southern Convention assembled at Nashville. You remember the celebrated letter of Mr. Madison, in which he thanks Mr. Webster for his able refution of the absurd idea that a State could inforce her own construction of the constitutionality against the consent of the other States, and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The records of Tammany Hall will also bear witness that the party supporting Mr. Jefferson and Madison during the time of embargo, and up to the assemblage of the Hartford convention, maintained every where, in and out of Congress, that the General Government possessed the power of removing any and every obstruction to the execution of the laws passed in pursuance of the Constitution.

I advert to these great and leading facts to remind you where I stood, and where General Jackson stood, and where the Democratic Party stood, on this doctrine of State Rights.

Suppose, gentlemen, that in 1800 Mr. Jefferson had lavished his favors on those who passed the alien and sedition laws—or that the war party in 1812 had called to the cabinet or the chief military commands, men who held out the blue lights to the enemy, or that General Jackson in carrying out his measures against the Bank of the United States, or the system of internal improvements as advocated by Mr. Adams, should have given the high places of Government to his opponents—would you not have called the policy of doing so suicidal and unjust? Suppose that in 1832 a Cabinet had been formed of men who opposed the policy of the government and the sentiment of the country in respect to the doctrine of nullification and secession, what would the people have thought of it? To ask such a question seems almost to insult the common intelligence, for even in the worst Government in Europe it is admitted that public measures of importance can only be entrusted to those who are friendly to such measures, and that when the measure change, the men to execute them must change accordingly.

We have seen numerous illustrations of this fact in the recent conduct of the British, French and German Governments and even in Turkey. But here in the United States, where public opinion is omnipotent, where discussion is as free as the air, and where the statesman looks to the people for reward, elevation and renown, when his labors and services entitle him to be considered the author of a system calculated to aid the prosperity, preservation and happiness of the country. President Franklin Pierce undertakes to set up the doctrine that the patronage of office can supercede the relation between a measure and its supporter, and that the true way to govern a people is to conciliate all parties by giving place to leaders without reference to their agency in defeating or advocating the great principles of a virtuous administration.—You have had the evidence, gentlemen, of this doctrine in your own city, when you saw the noble and honest Bronson thrown down and crushed, because he would not become instument of a miserable attempt to conciliate abolitionists and freesoilers, by selling out the Custom House offices to them, as the huckster does his beef and his corn. The the spectacle which you have witnessed has been felt in every quarter of this wide Union.

Now, compare the practice of this administration on this subject with that of General Jackson, or every and all of his predecessors. The maxim has been to look to honesty, fidelity and capacity, and above all not to bring the patronage of the federal government into conflict with the freedom of elections. Why, gentlemen, so far from looking to these conditions in the use of the appointing power, it seems to be the duty of the Attorney General to telegraph or cause to be telegraphed, on the eve of important elections, just what is necessary to defeat candidates who have not given in their adhesion to this new school doctrine about State rights. Look at Washington, and what do you see there that changes the view I have taken of President Pierce's infidelity to the great principles of Democracy? Did you ever hear of Mr. Marcy standing by anybody or helping anybody because he took the true position in the great battle which Mr. Pierce declared was necessary to be fought in order to save the country from the abolitionists and the nullifiers? From the time he betrayed Mr. Van Buren, when the scheme of the sub-treasury was first started, has he ever been known to risk a thought, or venture an act, calculated to rescue the right from the wrong? Long and difficult persuasion induced him to preside over some meeting where an effort was made to heal the party division in the State by recognizing acquiescence in the compromise as the duty of all members of the party, but no one ever heard of him when the measure remained for months and months the captive of the malignant passion brought into action by the nullifiers of the North and the South.

Turn next to the War Department, filled by the chivalrous gentleman from Mississippi. After doing all he could to inflame the people of the South, he takes the back track when he finds they could not be induced to nullify or secede, and says he will follow the people. But he is as much of a nullifier to-day as Mr. Wilson of Massachusetts, or any other Nothern fanatic. But it is useless, gentlemen, to multiply instances of Mr. Pierce infidelity to his pledges as a Jackson Democrat. I suppose there is not a man in our whole country, conversant with the politics of the day, but what will admit that he has failed, signally failed as a President and statesman. And the results of his administration, what are they but the natural consequences of his abandonment of the old maxims of Democracy, for the new fangled notions of such men as Davis, of Mississippi, Seward, of this State, and Wilson, of Massachusetts? One has as much right to nullify as the other, that is: no right at all. The principle on which they stand has been repudiated by all true democrats since the foundation of the government. But there are conventions in the South, and perhaps in the North, where men calling themselves democrats, speak of supporting Mr. Pierce's measures. Now, I should like to know what he has done except to turn out a few good men who were true to the principle on which he came into power, and to put in their places men of nullifying sympathies.—This may be called the distinguishing measure of his administration.

The next in importance are the attack on Greytown, the Ostend Conference, and the recent display of our naval force before Havana. No one, I believe, has ventured to characterise his vetoes as measures, any more than he would advert to the essay of some school-boy on morals or metaphysics, as philosophy. He has quoted a little from one President, and a little from another, but even the most rabid of his party have voted against his recommendations, without thinking himself any the worse or better new school democrat therefor. No, gentlemen, if you examine closely these conventions, you will find that they are not democratic in the old constitutional sense. The nominee of one of these conventions in Tennessee proposes to give the public land to foreign immigrants, to change the Constitution, and is known as Jacob's Ladder man, that is, he is a man who gets power by ascending a ladder which has a round for every one to stand on. In the Georgia convention you will observe that nullification is the leading idea. The talk is there about retaliatory measures; about making hostages out of individuals and property belonging to the citizens of Massachussetts. They forget that two wrongs never make a right. They never think of respecting the old sentiment of democracy that the Constitution and laws of the United States, in pursuance thereof, are supreme, and must be executed. And if we had a President, gentlemen, such as old Jackson, you would not hear of those retaliatory measures, nor such disgraceful spectacles as are now being played in the neighborhood of Bunker Hill. But alas! we have none. This great Republic must forever lament that a proclamation from Mr. Pierce would be just such an affair as his attack on Greytown and the establishment of the Ostend Conference. What could he do with a Secretary of War who believes in the right of nullification, and an Attorney General who is known only to the nation as an abolitionist, ahead even of Giddings and Seward? He commenced to govern the country by a union of these two elements of disunion, and he can do nothing to save that will not involve him still deeper in disgrace. Why, gentlemen, it ought not to surprise us if we hear to-morrow that this Mr. Wilson, who preaches so furiously against the fugitive slave law, has influence enough to turn out Cushing and take his place in the Cabinet, on the principle that a fresh horse can travel faster than a jaded one.

But, fellow citizens, I turn from these unpleasant pictures to the platform on which I have thought an old Jackson man could stand with consistency and honor. You have seen that the country stands abashed at the enormous pretensions of this school. Nullification in the South is the highest passport to public favor, and stretches out its hand to nullification in the North for succor and aid. Can a sound Jackson man, or a Clay whig, witness the fraternization without agreeing to bury their former differences on minor questions, and make one united effort to rid the country of such a systematic attack on the body politic? It is the object of the American party to accomplish this.—You see from the extracts which I read that the Union sentiments of Washington and Jackson constitute the platform.—President Pierce and Mr. Seward have formed their coalition in such a way as to secure the foreign vote, and to enlist the Catholics as partizans in that cause.—To counteract this coalition, the American party propose to modify the naturalization laws, and to enter into political brotherhood with no ecclesiastic or sectarian, who professes to owe allegiance to any power higher than the Constitution of the United States. There is no wrong here done to any human being.

The foreigner, who has acquired the rights of citizenship, as he values those rights, cannot object to place them beyond the assaults of those paupers and criminals who are landing on our shores by the thousand. Nor ought the Catholic to feel surprise that the American mind looks with distrust and apprehension upon a hierarchy which in all other countries has sought to connect the Church and State and whose history has been one continual struggle for dominion in temporal as well secular matters. We are charged, gentlemen, with establishing a religious test, and assailing the great natural light of all human beings to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own conscience. The charge is false.—The position of the American party on this question is as clear as daylight. It simply announces to the Catholic bishops that if they possess the power to organize their communicants with political train bands to support a system dangerous to liberty, and subversive of the constitution it is lawful to oppose them—by our votes at least—until they can show that their allegiance to the Pope is subordinate to that of obedience to the Constitution of the land. The Pope claims infallibility—the power of pardoning sins. He claims the right of deposing princes and potentates. Let his followers satisfy us that these pretensions are not claimed by them and they will find the American party as willing to meet them in the bonds of a common and equal citizenship as any other class of churchmen. I dismiss this part of the subject with the declaration that the idea incorporated into the platform, that Americans must rule America, is as old as the Constitution, and has been maintained by all the early statesmen of the land. It is not the proscription of the Catholic, but a timely and salutary warning to him that if the influence of his church is brought into the political arena as an element of power, it will be opposed with candor and frankness, and, I trust, with success. I come now, gentlemen, to that portion of the platform which disposes of the question of slavery. We have met it with firmness. We declare that Congress has nothing to do with it. That the Constitution recognizes it in three instances, and that beyond this recognition it is a local thing. We are not insensible to the fact that the bill erecting governments in Kansas and Nebraska has caused a great agitation, and has rendered the interposition of conservative men of all sections necessary to tranquilize the country.

But how can those conservative men act? Can they do anything but invoke the people to survey once more the true character of this question, and apply to it the old doctrine of our fathers, that slavery is a local institution, and must be regulated by the authorities having competent jurisdiction over it. It is impossible to restore the Missouri Compromise because the people of those territories have, under existing laws, rights which Congress cannot touch. No matter what may be thought of the folly and recklessness of Mr. Pierce and his cabinet, in re-opening the slavery question, by the passage of the bills in question, all dispassionate men must admit that their repeal is now an impossibility, or, if practicable, that the repeal would only widen the breach between the North and the South. Under the treaty by which we acquired Louisiana, slavery within its limits was placed on the same footing that it was in other territories of the United States. But the South, in 1820 for the sake of peace, consented that it might be excluded from the country north of 46 20. Mr. Pierce and his nullifying friends, North and South, were not satisfied to let well enough alone. Nothing would satisfy them but to re-open the question and to do so under the pretence that the compromise of 1850 required the course they pursued. Now I put it to you, fellow citizens, and to all intelligent men in our country, if I am not speaking according to the facts, when I assert that if the proposition to repeal the Missouri Compromise had been made a part of the compromise of 1850, the whole measure would have been lost. Nobody ever dreamed that the final settlement of the slavery question at that period had reference to other objects than those proposed in the bill of compromise. But it was necessary for Mr. Pierce and his adjuncts North and South to get up another agitation, and they accordingly threw out this firebrand.

The North could say that the pro-slavery men had violated a compact, and cancelled the obligation to execute the fugitive slave law. The South could say that it had obtained at last its rights, and that the nullifiers were victors. What cared they for the good of the country, provided that the agitation gave them the power to make a President? With Mr. Davis at the head of the slavery party, and Mr. Seward at the head of the anti slavery party, how easy would it be for these leaders to make a bargain and keep the politicians in their places. It was the old ride and tye game; the nullifier of the North was to have the horse in 1856; the nullifier of the South was to have him in 1860. But gentlemen, this American party puts its veto on this unhallowed attempt to convert sectional jealousy into a premanent source of political power. It tells this new school of democrats that it prefers to stick to the creed of Washington and Jackson; that its motto is—"Our Federal Union must be preserved." Are we not authorised to say that this is the true American sentiment, and that if we adhere to it we shall conquor and put an end to this contest about slavery? I think we are. In hurrying my remarks to a close I think you will agree with me when I say that it was no longer possible for an old Jackson democrat to act with Pierce and his friends. He could not do so without acknowledging the lead of such men as Wise, in Virginia; of Davis, in Mississippi; Seward, in New York; Wilson, in Massachussetts, Douglass, in Illinois, and Atchison, in Missouri. These men are all acting as a unit in support of the modern theory of State rights, allowing that a State may nullify an act of Congress, and go out of this Union when she pleases. They may call themselves slavery or anti-slavery men. They have a common purpose to accomplish at the expense of the old landmarks of patriotism, as established by those who founded and who reformed our system.

You never hear one of these State rights men in Virginia talk of Madison as the exponent of the constitutional relations between the States and the federal government. If Mr. Pierce were to tell his cabinet that he was determined to fall back on Gen. Jackson's doctrine in 1832, they would fly off as wolves do when the huntsmen sound the note of attack and pursuit. There is but one road open to the true patriot, and that is to unite in the leading principle of the great American party.—In this manner we can elect a President who will not disgrace the country by Ostend Conferences; in this manner we can wipe out the stain which has been cast upon us of introducing a corrupt foreign influence into our council; in this manner we can teach those who seek to use the Catholic vote as a political monopoly, that whilst we respect all the rights of religious freedom, we know how to disarm the advocates of a system that makes the allegiance due to the United States subordinate to that which is due to a foreign potentate.

What say you, then, gentlemen, to our platform? Do you not justify me in flying to it for relief from the coalition which exists between Mr. Pierce and nullifiers and abolitionists?—a coalition which did more to build up sectional jealousy and strife than any other coalition which has ever existed in our land.

By this coalition, nullification enjoys the honors and high places of government in the South, and Mr. Cushing knows how to tell his old abolitionists to rest quiet—that principles are eternal and never change. He can say with truth to Wilson, Summer and Seward, that offices are small things when weighed in the balance with great measures. Let the South have its time to-day, ours will come to-morrow. It will be impossible for the chivalrous Davis, the self-sacrificing Douglass, not to allow us the privilege of following their example.

But we tell these smart higher law men that the spirit of Washington and Jackson is not extinct, and that the people are rallying, as in days of old, to the preservation of the true principles of the Constitution—that *men, tried men* are taking their posts, and that the cry *"Americans shall rule America,"* will sweep away the miserable jugglers who, under the garb of democracy, would sell their country to the Pope of Rome, provided they have the privilege of monopolizing his favors.

Let our motto then be, *"Our Federal Union—it must and shall be preserved."* *"Americans shall rule America."*

### A STORY OF THE TIMES.

About the time of the last State election and while the party spirit ran high, an energetic Know-Nothing canvasser, in a very fiery speech delivered in Millville, Worcester County, Mass., worked the foreign population up to a point of indignation past all endurance. The day following a crowd of Irishmen were collected in the street, brooding over their fancied injuries, a gentleman named Holden, noted for his eccentricity, advanced among them and to their great delight commenced a violent denunciation of the new party.—Beneath his magic influence the alien audience became, in their own estimation, the pillars of our Republic, and as he warmed in his subject, Know-Nothingism withered to a bare name under his scorching touch, while cheer after cheer burst from the excited throng, now rapidly increasing.

"Who," asked he, "built our railroads?"

"Irishmen," was the enthusiastic reply.

"Who dug our canals?"

"Irishmen!"

"Who built our State Prisons and our Alms Houses?"

"Irishmen" thundered a hundred voices.

"Who *fill* them?"

Waiting in vain for a reply, their whilom companion, clenching his fists, shouted,—

"IRISHMEN!—YOU DEVILS—IRISHMEN!"

☞ "I say Bill, Jim has been caged for stealing a horse."

"Served him right; why did'nt he buy one and not pay for it, like any other gentleman?"