



No 4265.428



GIVEN BY

George F. Partridge.

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George F. Partridge
Sept. 22, 1905

ADDRESS OF THE

LIBERTY STATE COMMITTEE.

4265.428

*To the voting friends of freedom and emancipation in
Massachusetts :*

FELLOW CITIZENS :—

The revolving year is again hastening on the day when you will be called on to renew your self-consecration on the republican altar, and to have your numbers ascertained and your energy measured and recorded on the annals of the Commonwealth. In the year 1840 there was a little band, comprising only 1081 voters, who resolved to give their suffrages in favor of liberty; all the rest of our fellow-citizens determined to vote once more with those parties whose joint influence and alternate reign has for seventy years built up and glorified the system of American Slavery. The increase of numbers of the Liberty Party in Massachusetts is as follows :

Liberty voters in 1840 in Massachusetts,	1,081
1841	3,488
1842	6,382
1843	8,901
1844	9,635
1845	8,316

It is not easy to fill our minds with an adequate view of the responsibility which attaches to the act of voting. It is by that act chiefly, that the people govern. When you have given your vote, you have put the matter out of your hands; but yet you remain responsible to Heaven and to Humanity for the consequences of that vote. This is a serious view of the matter, and it is just. Let those look to it, whose votes made Tyler president, and enabled him to carry the annexation of Texas, all but the last act; and to station the army on the borders of Mexico, which has produced the present war. Let those look to it, whose votes made Polk president, to carry out so consistently

what his predecessor had begun. It was the votes of freemen that created those Senators, who made John C. Calhoun Secretary of State by acclamation. It was by voting that Winthrop was enabled to recant the declared opposition of Massachusetts to the deed of annexation, and the war which followed. And votes placed Briggs in a position where he could enrol our glorious Commonwealth as a volunteer, to display her patriotism in carrying on this war of invasion and conquest against a sister republic. Take care, then, fellow citizens, how you vote. The accumulated public sentiment of a whole year, like a great balance wheel, expands its momentum by a single act, upon the operation of our government and the destiny of our country, beyond recall. See to it, then, that your votes so record your will, that you will never have cause to regret them. The Liberty Party are clear of the responsibility of these mingled calamities and crimes, by having given all their votes in unison with their declarations against the authors of every one of these measures, and against the party influences under which these measures have been carried.

The Liberty party is opposed to this war, utterly and wholly, in all its acts and parts, in its inception, its causes, conduct, and consequences. It is the only party that stands in that position, or which can claim that honor. And it ought therefore to receive the support of all good citizens, who believe the war to be wrong in itself, and disastrous to the country and to freedom in its results.

There is a mystery about the origination of this so called war, which if not explained, is calculated to alarm the friends of constitutional liberty. It is said that we are at war with Mexico. President Polk declares it, and Congress affirms it, almost by a unanimous vote. When and how did that war

WAR! WAR!

IT IS

NOT TO

BEGIN? The people of the U. S. have empowered no branch of the government to bring them into a state of war, except by act of Congress. The people of Mexico have established the same principle in their constitution. Granting, for the argument, that two nations may be brought into a state of war by the act of either one of them, it is yet plain that the relation of war cannot be created without the act or will of one or the other. But in the case before us, neither Mexico nor the United States has ever constitutionally willed the state of war. Our own government affirms that war exists between the two nations by the act of Mexico, which is a denial that it exists by the act of the United States. The President of Mexico declares that Mexico, although sufficiently provoked, yet in fact, has not made war, because it is only the Congress of Mexico that has power to make war. Suppose our government had been deceived by forged despatches, and made to believe that the Congress of Mexico had officially declared war: would not the disclosure of the truth make it our first duty to rescind our mistaken declaration? There is too much reason to think that our rulers were not deceived, when they put forth the untrue affirmation that war exists by the act of Mexico.

Surely, it is of great importance for a people who rely upon written constitutions for the protection of their own liberties, to pay a sacred regard to the written constitutions of other nations. By this rule, we are wholly precluded from assuming that war exists by the act of Mexico; and the act of Congress based upon this assumption, must therefore be all wrong. And as our government, by declining to declare war as its own act, and saying that war exists by the act of Mexico, has virtually admitted that IT would not have declared war for all the existing grounds of complaint, it follows that the further continuance of the war is utterly without justification, as its beginning was unconstitutional. It is not in fact a legal war, and no act has ever been done by either government to make it a state of war.

It is said by Gen. Houston that war exists by the continuation of the war between Mexico and Texas. But this supposition is forbidden by the constitutions of both countries, as neither has declared war against the other by act of Congress.— For the same reason, no act of the President or of a general officer of either government could originate a state of war. Neither President Tyler, by ordering troops to Texas, nor President Polk by or-

dering the army to the Rio Grande, nor General Taylor, by invading the acknowledged territory of Mexico, and declaring its ports in a state of blockade, could possibly cause war to exist *by the act of the UNITED STATES*, for only Congress can declare war. By the same rule of construction, no letters of the ambassador Almonte, nor proclamations of President Paredes, nor movements by General Arista, could cause war to exist by the act of Mexico, for only the Congress of Mexico can make war. The most that these functionaries could do on either side, would be to furnish the other party with just and sufficient *cause* of declaring war by *its* act. Let those who would urge upon us any obligation or duty, as growing out of the existence of war, first tell us when and by whose authority the war began. And if it never had a constitutional or valid beginning, how can it ever impose on us any constitutional or valid obligations? And if not, any attempt to impose such duty upon us is a plain usurpation, so dangerous in its tendency that it must be a meritorious act to resist it at every hazard. Congress can no more bind us to support an unconstitutional war, than the British Parliament could bind our fathers by the Stamp Act. It is only by refusal to obey, that such usurpation can be stopped in the bud. Let the name and praise of John Hampden be our warrant, and his conduct our example.

The guilt of this anomalous condition, which is neither lawful war nor honorable peace, is justly to be charged to the so-called Democratic party, which has been involved in it by its shameless servility to the Slave Power. It has grown out of the series of frauds, false pretences, and deceitful movements by which the annexation of Texas to this Union was consummated. Could we look at the results, disconnected from the loss of national honor, and from the fearful sacrifices of blood and treasure which in the righteous judgments of heaven, are likely to follow, we might smile at the adroitness with which the managers of annexation have played their tricks, so as not only to bring their party rivals, the Whigs, very extensively to participate in, and ratify the annexation of Texas, (without even the poor apology to liberty of reserving the section north of the 36th degree free from slavery,) but to vote almost unanimously for the false assertion that war exists by the act of Mexico, and even to sanction the needless, wanton, dangerous projects of the administration, for a war of invasion and partition upon the territories

of Mexico. The arch-fiend never concocted a more skilful plot to neutralize the opposition of moral and religious and conservative men which might thwart his schemes of mischief. And yet there is one aspect of this nearly unanimous vote of Congress in favor of a lie, which affords some ground of hope, as all sense of shame is not lost. It proves that neither the administration, nor their whig rivals in the race of war, *dared* to meet before the civilized world the responsibility of creating a state of war with Mexico. The chance of making the lie answer as a screen, seemed more feasible than that of justifying a declaration of war on our part, for all the provocations we have received from Mexico.

It is with no pleasure that we thus charge and arraign the rulers of our country. But how can we hope to rescue our country from the base thralldom of overseerism, except by a fearless exposure of the infamy and ruin to which that contemptible oligarchy is hurrying us, unless the patriotism of our citizens can be rallied for the overthrow of its usurped dominion? It is because we love our country and are resolved to save it, that we make bold to tell you the naked truth. We say that this whole scheme of warfare is as unjustifiable as the falsehood on which it is grounded. There was no good reason for sending the army across the Nueces. After that was done, there was no good reason for planting the army on the bank of the Rio Grande, with batteries threatening the town of Matamoros. After that was done, there was no reason for calling out fifty thousand volunteers to defend General Taylor, who has shown that he was abundantly able to take care of himself, and who declares that he did not want any help for his defence.

But our mortification is greatly deepened by the fact, that our own Massachusetts has been, by her political leaders and representatives, palpably and officially pledged in favor of this wicked war of invasion. It is to her honor, indeed, that one of her Senators, and one half of her representatives in Congress, had the courage to vote against the war bill. But pains have been taken to proclaim that the other Senator whom Massachusetts has made her idol, encouraged his son to undertake to raise a company of volunteers for the war. And this is lauded by the city organs of that great commercial and manufacturing interest, which has pensioned the father for his services as Senator. Nor

can we forget that the representatives of the Suffolk and Essex North districts recorded their names in favor of the bill, with its lying preamble.

But this is not all, nor the worst. There is one man, who in his person officially represents the whole people of Massachusetts, and acts in their name and on their behalf, by virtue of his office. This man was chosen Governor because he was believed to hold certain principles, one of which was a deep abhorrence of slavery and a determined opposition to the domination of the slaveholders, and another was a declared belief that the annexation of Texas was so wholly unconstitutional, that it would have no validity or binding force whatever, and would be identical with a dissolution of the Union. As soon as the act was passed authorizing volunteers for this war, the Secretary of War wrote to the Governor of Massachusetts informing him of the State's quota of soldiers to carry on the war. The plans and policy of the war, and all the facts and falsehoods of the case, were well understood. Neither the volunteer act nor any other law of Congress required anything of the governor; and there was no law of the State which empowered him to act the part of a drummer or recruiting officer, to raise volunteers for the federal government. No interference of his could give even a formal facilitation to the business. The people of Massachusetts had repeatedly declared, by the unanimous resolves of their State Legislature,—that they would have no part nor lot in the annexation of Texas, or its consequences. And yet Governor Briggs, in the face of this known will of his constituents, and in the face of his own avowed principles, and without the slightest necessity or even warrant of law, made haste to issue his proclamation under the seal of the Commonwealth, earnestly appealing to the patriotism of the citizens, to enrol themselves as volunteers for the vigorous and successful prosecution of this war against Mexico!

By this act as its stands, Massachusetts has volunteered for the war. Unless the people reverse it by their votes, they are concluded and shut up from ever objecting to this war, either in regard to its beginning, its causes, conduct or consequences. Your Governor has made it your war, and has pledged your patriotism to carry it to a speedy and successful conclusion. It is on this point we wish now to make an appeal to the ballot-box.

Will you vote that war exists by the act of Mex-

ico, that fifty thousand volunteers are needed to carry it on as a war of invasion and conquest, and that patriotism requires the citizens of Massachusetts to volunteer to carry it to a speedy and successful conclusion? If so, you may vote for the Democratic party, whose representatives made the war, or for the Whig party, whose representatives have eagerly ratified it and volunteered to carry it on. By not voting at all, you silently connive at what you cannot justify. It is only by a vote for the Liberty party that you explicitly clear yourselves from all this guilt.

If proof were wanted that this interference of Gov. Briggs with the business of enrolling volunteers was neither needed nor authorized, and was wholly inoperative in regard to said enrolment, let it be observed that the Secretary was under no necessity to apply to the Governor at all, but could have managed the whole business himself, as he has in fact done in regard to Col. Stevenson's regiment in New York; that there was no act which the Governor was in any way authorized to perform; that neither the volunteers nor the officers could ever be for one moment under the Governor's command; that the volunteers do not, as such, in any sense belong to the militia of Massachusetts, but belong to the army of the United States; that no lawful provision is made either by Congress or our legislature for one dollar of the expense growing out of the Governor's interference, that Congress has already refused to provide for any expense incurred by volunteers who have not been actually mustered into the service of the United States; that in the face of the Governor's appeal, although considerable numbers of citizens have been unsettled from their business and thrown within the influence of the rum-shops, spending time and money which ought to have gone to their families, or their creditors, yet it is not known that one company has yet been able to complete its enrolment and organization, so as to present itself in a condition for mustering into service.—Is there therefore no patriotism in Massachusetts?

See, now, in what a position Massachusetts is placed by that proclamation, as the *volunteer* supporter of the Mexican war! We must confess it is a rare conjunction of circumstances, that has enabled a Governor of the State by one act to commit so great a crime involving so much evil. Yet it is in the power of the people to retrieve it almost

entirely, by one day's faithful service at the polls in November. Will you not do it?

We deny the doctrine that patriotism requires of any man to volunteer any aid in carrying on this war. Why should we volunteer? Our country is in no danger of being conquered by Mexico, or very seriously injured in any of its great interests.—Those who have begun the war have all the power of the government in their hands; they can raise money by taxation to the last dollar of property in the country; they can enrol and draft every man in the United States to serve in the militia; they have voluntarily taken the responsibility of beginning the war; let them play out their own game to the end, and answer for all its consequences.—Let them reap the reward of their profligacy and falsehood. The political leaders of our State, by their eagerness to secure the honor of being full of zeal for carrying on this war, while professedly opposed to the war itself, have gone far to realise the boastful declaration of Mr. Wise, that it was in the power of the slaveholders at any moment to plunge the country into war, and then opposition would be crushed to silence. They have thus destroyed for the time the security of individual opinion, the rights of conscience, and that high prerogative of personal independence, without which civil liberty is the most odious tyranny. Mr. Polk and Governor Briggs, and the politicians that bid them, or do their bidding, are not our country. Nor can their decrees, honest or corrupt, bind our judgment or compel us by any voluntary act to uphold what our souls abhor. We were born free; we are at least as free under the federal constitution as our fathers were under King George, and neither obloquy nor proscription shall preclude us from doing what we can to save our country, by exposing and overthrowing the slaveholding parties and administrations, which have by turns unhappily obtained the control of the government, and which have united for carrying on this war.

We shall not insult your understandings by proceeding to prove that both the annexation of Texas and the war which has followed it originated with the slaveholders, and are the legitimate fruits of slavery. Texas was notoriously annexed to strengthen slavery against abolition; to create a wider market for the homebred slaves, "the viginial crop" of Virginia and the older slave states; to furnish a new soil for slave labor as fast as the curse of barrenness spreads over the present slave

territory ; and above all, by a Bonapartean movement of overseerism, by the Slave Power, to cripple and confound the politicians, parties and people of the country, and produce a salutary awe of their despotic masters, which may suppress even the utterance of a desire to break away from their usurped dominion. How completely they have succeeded, let the craven spirit which now pervades Congress, let the tone even of the Boston press, tell. And the conquests made in this war, to which you have been summoned by your own Executive, will doubtless enure to the extension of the dominion of slavery over all the territory that may be acquired. Nothing can be more idle than it is for papers and politicians, themselves courting and supplicating the slaveholders, to prattle about prohibiting the further extension of slavery by the power of the United States, or the admission of more slave States, as fast as territories can furnish a scanty population. The only influential opposition to the extension of slavery, is that which puts slavery itself upon the defensive, and drives it to the wall to struggle for its own existence.

The present posture of affairs furnishes overwhelming proof, were it needed, to satisfy every reflecting mind of the utter incapacity of the existing old parties, or either of them, to offer any effectual resistance to the encroachments and usurpations of the Slave Power. When we speak of these parties, we mean to be understood of their combined action as organized parties, marshalled under certain leaders, and struggling for certain objects in which slaveholders and non-slaveholders have a common interest. In both these parties, slaveholders rule with absolute sway, and thus secure the verification of Mr. Clay's declaration, that neither of these parties has any view to the emancipation of the slaves as a part of its policy.

It shows, too, in the light of almost a century's experience, the insufficiency of our institutions to circumscribe this giant evil, or to protect the liberties of the people against its encroachments.—From the day when John Adams told Samuel Adams that it was necessary to give the South the command in order to secure their fidelity to the infant revolution ; and especially from the adoption of the present constitution of our Union, the Slave Power has gone on with a steady and continual progress of assumption, now using the Democratic

party as its allies to give it new conquests, and then employing the conservative influence of the Anti-Democratic party to secure its acquisitions. The admission of Missouri and the annexation of Texas as Slave States, are but stages in its career of usurpation. For fifty-seven years the friends of freedom have maintained an ineffectual struggle in defence, but have been baffled in every instance, have never gained one victory, have been continually driven back, have given the slaveholders first the balance and then the control of the Senate, have grown weaker, and more submissive, and less hopeful, until at length, on the annexation of Texas, multitudes of Northern men gave up in despair, and were ready to agree to serve without complaint or resistance, provided only, that the conquerors would mercifully consent to spare them the pecuniary benefits of a protective tariff a few years longer. Even this humiliating surrender has been treated with scorn, and the blow which was so slavishly deprecated by the Whigs of New England and the Democrats of Pennsylvania, has been struck by the slaveholders, without deigning a word of pity or explanation. There is no longer any power left of giving further resistance ; and the haughty overseers believe that now they can have everything their own way.

There is no hope that the Free States can ever escape from this thralldom, but by a radical change of policy on the subject of slavery. WE MUST TAKE THE AGGRESSIVE ! We are driven back to the wall, and must turn. We must henceforth unite in a firm resolve, not only to resist the further encroachments of slavery, but to employ the powers which the constitution gives us, with inflexible firmness, to promote the peaceful extinction of slavery itself. Here is our only hope. Unless the non-slaveholders of the country, North and South, can now be rallied on this ground, it is manifest that nothing awaits us but a still deeper degradation, and a still more disastrous domination of the Slave Power. Have we not bowed down long enough ? The example of New Hampshire shows that the people think so, and that they are ready now to lay aside every other question, and unite on Anti-Slavery ground, just as soon as their leaders will let them. Now is the time and now the hour to raise high the banner of the Liberty party, which was organized six years ago for this very purpose, and which can never be turned aside

from its one object,—**THE PEACEFUL AND CONSTITUTIONAL ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.**

And we are quite sure this can be done, if the non-slaveholders will only unite their exertions, on the basis of constitutional and uncompromising opposition to slavery. A brief view of what we could do will show how infallibly certain it is, that the principles and policy of the Liberty party, if persevered in, will destroy slavery from the whole country, without encroaching upon the rights of a single individual, or offering the least violence to the constitution.

In the first place, there would be the abolition of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia. Slaves are now held and bought and sold in that District, solely by authority of the Act of Congress, extending the laws of Maryland over the District. Had Congress incorporated in that act a single clause, to the effect of "*excepting all such laws as are supposed to authorise the holding of mankind as slaves,*" slavery would have ceased the moment the District passed under the authority of the Federal Government. An act repealing so much of the laws of Maryland as may authorise slavery, would free every slave in the District; and the same laws which now prevent kidnapping in Massachusetts, would consign to the penitentiary every man who should attempt to re-enslave the freed people. So general is the belief that this ought to be done, that nothing but the political control of the slaveholders has prevented it from being done long since. It is highly probable that other parties will eagerly forestall the Liberty party in doing this deed of justice, as soon as this party gives those decided proofs of speedy growth and certain triumph, which leave no room for uncertainty. The Anti-Corn-Law League in England, which was the exact counterpart of the Liberty party, so far as the different constitutions and usages of the two countries would allow, has carried all its objects, and dissolved by its own limitation, before it had elected twenty members of parliament. Our object is larger, more amplicated, and less directly in the power of Congress, but we may hope that so far as the District of Columbia is concerned, it will be done by others by the time we shall have carried half a dozen States.—Mr. Calhoun assures us that the District is **THE KEY OF SLAVERY.** And when we have gained this Gibraltar, we shall need no prophet to promise us the whole land.

The exclusion of slaveholders from office, is our next potent weapon. The slaveholder is guilty of a high crime, and all such ought to be excluded from the honors of office. This crime is peculiarly anti-republican, and its effect upon our country is most disastrous, making every man who upholds it worthy to be considered a public enemy. It is suicidal, therefore, for us to trust and honor slaveholders. Now consider how devoted the slaveholders are to politics; how dependent large sections of the South are upon the public crib, and how diligently the slave party avails itself of political power, and we see that this one principle strikes out the main pillar of the whole system, and slavery must fall. Let us have anti-slavery men in every post-office and custom-house and land office, throughout the South. Let them understand that they can have no mail, which is not superintended by a non-slaveholder. Let it be known that no man can be retained in any office, high or low, who holds slaves. Let the people of the United States declare by their votes, that no slave holder can ever hope to be president or vice president of the United States, or judge, or ambassador, or secretary, or commissioner, or even clerk in the Departments, who has not forsworn slavery, and the politicians of Kentucky and Virginia, and even of South Carolina and Mississippi, will make haste to qualify themselves for public honor, by not only freeing their own slaves, but by exerting themselves to rid their States of the evil. How soon if the people of the North were in earnest, would Delaware and Maryland and Missouri, be added to the list of free States! The whole system would be driven from the country in less time than any of us dare to imagine.

There are many other acts of specific legislation, within the power of Congress, which will hasten this consummation. The repeal of the vile Act of 1793, in regard to the recapture of fugitives from slavery, the prohibition of the inter-state slave trade, the reform of the judiciary, the recognition of the equal rights of citizens of color, in Washington city and elsewhere, and the amendment of the constitution so as to abolish the representation of slave property in Congress, will all help on the result. There are doubtless many other measures that will disclose themselves, whenever it is settled that the government is henceforth to be administered, in all its branches, for the overthrow of slavery, as it is now administered for its support and extension. A few years' prevalence of Liber-

ty principles will give us a reformed judiciary, as the final guaranty of the whole. Among so many general clauses of the constitution, whose full scope and application has never yet been tested, and is yet imperfectly understood, there will doubtless be found powers of legislation, not now acknowledged which the Liberty party keeps itself free to employ for the accomplishment of its end, by pledging itself against nothing but a breach of the constitution.

Here, then, is full authority for our enterprise. We can abolish slavery, if we will. We have undertaken to do it. And unless our resolution fails, we cannot but do it. Only satisfy the people that it can be done, and we believe they will resolve to do it. Carry to their minds the conviction that it is in their power, and they will abolish slavery in ten years. Where will you find a man who will say, that if the Constitution had put slavery *directly* in the power of the federal government, he would not vote to abolish it? Ask him to put his name to that declaration. There is no man so base among us. Then ask him how he can justify himself in not using the power which the Constitution has given him, to do the same thing indirectly, but hardly less speedily?

There never was so favorable a time for the Liberty party to advance. Both the old parties are distracted and disorganized, and disgusted with their slave masters. The people at large are opening their eyes upon the arrogance of the overseers. The revolution in New Hampshire, by which two anti-slavery Senators have been chosen, is an omen of what is to come. The same results could easily be attained in Massachusetts, in Vermont, and in Maine, were there found men with the courage and energy of John P. Hale, to break up the old dominant majorities. The fact that we have this year a Senator to choose, as well as members of Congress, ought to stimulate our efforts. It is highly probable that the Congress chosen this year, will choose the next President.— Let us prove ourselves men, and men competent for the deliverance of our country from its worst enemy.

Let us not be diverted from our aim by any incidental object. If we can be convinced that a national organized party is not necessary to the overthrow of slavery, let us abandon it. But it is necessary. No power short of this can control the politics of the country, or cope with the power of slavery. Both the other parties have been drill-

ed and trained and built up, with great pains and long practice, under the direction of slave-holding leaders, and are fitted only to be the tools of the Slave Power, which contrives always to keep them so nearly balanced that neither can be any thing but by their help, and the slaveholding section has it always in its power to compel submission by the threat, "Do this or we will break up the party." How can parties thus made for slavery, ever do the work of liberty?

But if we are to have a Liberty party, we must stand by it, and not allow ourselves to be led away, by any subordinate object—even to resist some specific encroachment of slavery, or to elevate some honored anti-slavery men to office. It is our firm union, our unconquerable perseverance, our steady increase, that is to give us final success. The Whigs of the North withdrew their opposition to Texas, and then voted for the war, to save the protective tariff—and what have they got by it? They have taxed the country at least a hundred millions of dollars, to be thrown away among the chapparals, or spent in demoralizing our young men and in butchering our neighbors—in the hope of gaining ten years for the tariff, and have lost it. Are we to follow such leaders as these?

Beware of every thing that will give strength to the old parties, for all their strength goes ultimately to strengthen slavery. We see in the case of Governor Briggs, that a vote for an individual, a candidate of one of those parties, though given on the ground of his professed personal opinions and principles, in effect goes to the support of the party, even against those declared principles. We must vote for our own men, and keep entirely aloof from those parties. Had two hundred thousand anti-slavery men, of either or both the old parties, given their votes for the Liberty ticket in 1844, Texas could not have been annexed, nor the old Tariff repealed by Texas votes, and we should have had no war with Mexico.

To bring out the whole anti-slavery strength of the State at the next election, we need a thorough organization in every county, a faithful and energetic committee in every town, and a vigilance man in every school district, with a large circulation of newspapers, as well as tracts and pamphlets; a complete enrolment of our men; care and promptness in making our district, county, and town nominations; personal efforts in conversing with our neighbors, to remove their difficulties, allow their prejudices, satisfy their scruples,

and urge them to vote for liberty. Let the true Anti-Slavery Democracy of Massachusetts be faithful until the 9th of November, and we may even hope that for all practical purposes the State is ours—for liberty.

The only real enemy from whom we have any thing to fear, is apathy. Let us leave that to the parties which serve slavery. Let us improve this hour of their prostration and disorder and despondency, to push along the column of Liberty. Let us meet together in our neighborhoods, let us assemble by counties, let us animate one another to the work. And if the God of our fathers has any remaining thoughts of mercy for so guilty and ungrateful a people, He will smile upon our exertions to purge his heritage from the sin of oppression and the curse of slavery, and our country may be free. Let us resolve not to leave to our

children the fearful inheritance of slavery, aggravated as it must be if our present enterprise fails.

By the Liberty State Committee.

CALEB SWAN, Chairman.

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| Laban M. Wheaton, | Wm. Anthony, |
| J. M. Whiton, | J. D. Hathaway, |
| A. D. Hatch, | Richard Hildreth, |
| Willard Sears, | W. H. Brooks, |
| John G. Whittier, | Otis Cary, |
| H. M. Chamberlain, | Dan Weed, |
| Ebenezer Hunt, | Joshua Leavitt, |
| Charles Forster, | Wm. Jackson, |
| Andrew T. Nute, | James G. Carter, |
| Charles White, | R. B. Hubbard, |
| Thomas W. Ward, | Jasper Bement, |
| George H. White, | Joel Hayden, |
| J. P. Williston, | John Shorey, |
| Appleton Howe, | James Ford, jr, |
| Hiram Cummings, | Joseph Mash. |
| G. W. Sterling. | |





