

It seems to me, folly of the darkest sort, to estrange from the Republican party at this time, a body of men of this character, simply because they believe in the application of a fundamental principle of the party.

When majorities are secured and permanent it may do for a party to take such a course; but we have to meet hereafter, not the Democracy alone but a fusion Democratic-Republican opposition.

It may not prevail everywhere this year — though it is very doubtful if we can pass a majority in the House — but in '96 we shall have to meet it in every State west of Pennsylvania.

The question is, can we afford to estrange the colored vote of the North which is every day growing more compact and determined, and the white voters who stand with us for the rights of it.

izenship also?

My nomination would ^{element} conciliate
ate and make enthusiastic all this
in every state,
~~sections of voters~~ and, draw
many from the Populist ranks,
not because they desire my ^{acknowledgment}
recognition, but because they believe
in the sincerity of my professions
on this subject and have confidence
that I ~~would bring it forward~~
~~and re-introduce it in public assembly~~
~~timid and make it a question~~
~~time of controversy~~ would not
only support but would devise
and bring forward measures
which would promote
and secure the rights of the citizen.

In other words, they believe that I would so act as to restore ~~con-~~ the confidence of the Republican party in its own principles, and lead it to ~~secure their~~ support and maintain them, without having to make an issue with it.

Practically to illustrate, I think we stand in about the same relation to the Republican party, that the Free Soil or Abolition element did to the Silver Gray Whigs, previous to 183-4.

The Whigs occupied much the same relation to the question of Slavery that the Republicans do, to citizenship. They were in favor of liberty, on the sly, but did not think it wise to say anything about it. What they asked of the Free Soil element was that they should be credited with this purpose, without being required to commit themselves. It seemed a pretty scheme but you know how it worked. It will always work so because the men who believe in human rights and personal liberty will ~~be~~ always, when the tug comes,

subordinate every other consideration to that.

I think the climax has come. I do not want to see a schism. I do not believe in ~~dividing~~ ^{dividing} or dividing to conquer. Because of this, and because of this only, I have become a candidate.

^{know}
I ~~believe~~, that with a status in the House I can hold this element to the support of ^{in every state of the Union,} the Republican party in 1896.

I believe that with such opportunity, I can show the Republican party that its

interest and ^{advantage} ~~opportunity~~ - lie in
promoting the cause of citizenship
rather than ignoring it. In other
words, I wish to avoid a split
if I can.

Nothing can be lost, for
the author of "John Workman's
Motions" ~~can~~ can be trusted
to stand by protection, till
the lock dog is hung, because
he believes in it more
sincerely than in liberty.

Because, I am in perfect har-
mony with both wings of this

difference, can practically the heart
of one line of thought and
would confidently make an
efficient and creditable expo-
nent of the other, I desire to
propitiate between them and
hold them together.

I do not think any one will
question that I would do honor
to the party and the District,
as a Representative, and it seems to me that
the true interests of the party
demand that no issue of
this sort should be raised

against it at this time. I think
such an issue, pressed with vigor
as it would be, with a nucleus
already secured, of over 200,000
votes in the states of the North,
would be very favorable to its
success in the Presidential
campaign.

I do not say this wishing
you to intervene, but much
desiring that you should un-
derstand the real conditions.
I have no doubt that the present
~~conditions~~ marked a decided
crisis in political affairs and

Whatever may be the outcome,
I do not wish any one to
venture to say that I neglected
any means which might
lead to effective and har-
monious co-operation be-
tween the two wings of
sentiment, within the Republic's
own party. My idea of "practical
politics," is the appeal to the people,
but I think it wiser that this ap-
peal should be made by the
party of progress than by a
^{section of the same}
~~section~~, demanding progress. I am

not "in politics" for myself, but
for a principle, and that is
the character of the men who stand
with me. ~~We want peace~~

We want peace, but if we
cannot get it & candidly ~~think~~ ^{believe}
we are dangerous enemies, because
we shall not fight for ourselves
but for a principle the party
cannot combat without
joining hands with the Bourbon

Democracy. Politically, also, we have
nothing to lose. The colored

~~Democracy~~ ^{any} citizen cannot be any worse off than
he now is, nor ^{can} the white believe
in the rights of the citizen, ^{even}

imagine a more hopeless condition
than that which has resulted, as
we truly believe, from Republican
apathy and mistake. We are not
resentful, ~~as I am~~ but we
are determined to do what we
can. We believe that justice and
right, and, (I say it reverently)
God are with us. I believe hearty co-
operation between the two lines of thought
to be best for both and that
~~severe~~ separation a schism or
"split" is ~~in~~ upon this question, is
peculiarly dangerous to the party.

Respectfully

Wm

If

As for myself, I know I am only one of them "do-d literary fellers"; but I do not depend upon the party for my following and I get a hearing on the strength of what I write and what I believe, not because ~~I~~ of party favor. Such a man is, as I have proved myself, by "A Fool's Errand," "Bricks without Straws," "John Workman's Nations," "A Bystander's Notes," and other work, an influence that must be reckoned with along the line of ^{special study and belief} his ~~freedom~~ ^{my} ~~views~~ ^{strength}. I have given ~~the~~ strength wholly to the Republican party because it has been

my constant hope that through it would
come the betterment of ~~these~~ ^{harsh} conditions.
I still believe it, but if forced to ab-
andon that belief, I ~~have~~ ^{see} no rea-
son to doubt that ^{very} many ~~thousands~~
who have shared ^{it with me,} that belief would
share also my doubt.

Under these circumstances, I think
it well for ~~every~~ Republican leader to
consider whether it would ^{not} ~~be~~ better
to hold and stimulate ^{our} ~~any~~ allegiance
by giving a fair hearing to the principles I represent,
to the party, rather than to weaken and
discourage it. I do not see that I
would ^{personally} lose anything by failure to re-
ceive the nomination: I do think
the party would be ~~weakened~~ ^{strengthened} ~~from~~

~~may be~~ ~~the~~ weakened by the loss of faith in it that would result therefrom.

I submit these views for your consideration, because I am unwilling to make them public until a necessity to do so shall arise, which I trust ^{never} ~~will~~ will. I wish you to understand, however, that we fully mean to have a hearing on this question before the people. If such hearing can be obtained without any antagonism we greatly desire it. If not we must have the hearing anyhow. It is not at all a question of my election, except as that is a specific and tangible recognition of the principle I represent.

P. S. — The declaration
of Harrison as a candidate
for 1896, which comes, ^{on} today's
paper makes this matter
of peculiar significance. He is
one whom the U. S. R. A. could
never again support.

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If it will not, we must open it ourselves, at whatever cost.

I represent, in this movement, the conservative element who believe that the Republican party can be brought into hearty accord with us without the necessity of an actual rupture which would endanger seriously its chances of success in '96. We hold that, with the known bias of the strongest Republicans in the House, it will be possible to mark out a course on this subject which will be entirely satisfactory to the party, if only we can have one Representative who has thoroughly studied the question in all its phases and has confidence in its solution by legal means. ^{an independent} More than half the representatives in the Council, think this an impossibility and favor action upon ~~that~~ line. They are willing, however, to permit the experiment to be tried and hope it may succeed.

It was to prevent this necessity of an actual rupture that I announced myself a candidate.

It was because I wanted this position to be fully understood by those who are concerned with the general welfare of the party, that I sent you my letter. My position is peculiar and I want it fully understood, that there may be no doubt in regard to it, whatever may occur.

Three times the Republican party has abandoned citizenship and stood on protection alone. In 1874, when human rights were left out of its platform and in 1890 and 1892, when ~~they were~~ eliminated from the campaign.

The same thing was true of the old Whig party. It stood on ~~one~~ protection without human rights from 1832 until 1860. It won only in 1840 and 1843. ~~It~~ ^{Following} "Free speech and free Men" to its principles the Republican party leaped to victory at once and never lost its ^{hold} until its presidential candidate proposed to swap the rights of 3,000,000 citizens for a few protection votes in Congress, by the farce of a "non-partisan commission!"

I am really sorry to make the issue and ~~take~~ the course I am compelled to pursue; but to refuse to do so would be to give the lie to all the political views I have ever expressed, and abandon the most important principle involved in our politics.

Very sincerely yours,