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NEW ORLEANS:
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THE RELATIVE MERITS OF THE TWO PARTIES.

Parties, reprobated by the unreflecting, are co-existent with constitutional and representative government. They are the means by which the discordant elements of the body politic are united and directed to one common end, the preservation of the material welfare of the people, in which all partisanship should be subordinate.

Keeping these truths in view, and having no object but the redemption of our State from its present deplorable condition, we propose to discuss the relative merits of the Democratic and Reform parties, as means by which this most desirable end may be accomplished.

It is alleged by the advocates of the Reform party, that the Democratic party represents a minority of the voters of the State, and that no portion of the colored population will coalesce with it for any purpose, inasmuch as the negroes universally believe that it has not only been identified with their slavery in the past, but is pledged to remand them to that condition. While the Reform party pledging itself to an honest administration of public affairs—equally beneficial to both races—holding out to the negro the expectation of an equal partition of the public offices and a compulsory social equality, and by its name offering no salient points of objection to his prejudices, asserts that it can draw into its ranks a sufficient number of colored voters to carry the State.

This is, we submit, a fair statement for all that is claimed for the Reform party by its most zealous adherents.

In our opinion these premises are each and all open to dispute, as not only doubtful but as being gratuitously assumed, against all rational probability.

It is not true that the colored voters in the State outnumbered the whites, although it is acknowledged that Warmoth's fraudulent registration in connection with the corpse and criminal indifference of a very large number of the white population—among whom were our *most respectable citizens*—who failed to register, gives *color of truth* to this allegation.

The Reform party, in pledging itself to inaugurate an honest administration of public affairs, can claim no pre-eminence over the Democratic party, which has been working zealously for years to accomplish the same end.

The Reform party holds out to the negro, as an inducement to join its ranks, the allurements to office, and the fascinations of a compulsory social equality.

The Democratic party, on the contrary, although recognizing without reservation the political and civil equality of the races, yet, in regard to the distribution of offices, it says to the colored population, "become members of our party—that party which has for its object the common interest of all, without distinction of color, and you shall obtain the offices in proportion to the adherents you bring into our ranks, and commensurate with your fitness in point of education and intelligence."

As to social equality, they make no declaration promises, holding it as an axiom that legislation can no more accomplish this than it can change the laws which govern the material universe. The Democratic party believes that good but much evil will result from endeavoring to encourage by legislation the blending of races, and that any attempt at legislation to overcome this deep-seated instinct will be offset in consequence, and cause additional evil instead of good.

When the Radical Party, after abolishing equality or the appearance of equality between the races, and thereby destroying the old relations of master and servant, and creating a new relation between them, that of employer and employed, which they claim to be the true Republican system, and which they attempted to establish by force of arms, and by the Reconstruction Acts, which they claim to be the true Democratic system, and which they attempted to establish by the bayonet, and by the Constitutional amendments, they found that they had made a mistake, and that the negro was not fitted for the position they had assigned him, and that he was not willing to occupy it, they abandoned the attempt to force him into it, and left him to find his own level.

The Democratic party, in its efforts to restore peace and prosperity to the country, has not attempted to force the negro into any position, but has left him to find his own level, and to occupy that position in which he is most comfortable, and for which he is best fitted.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the public schools, but has left him to establish schools for himself, and to educate his children as he thinks proper.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the jury box, but has left him to exercise the right of suffrage, and to hold office, as he thinks proper.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the social circle, but has left him to choose his own associates, and to regulate his own social relations.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the churches, but has left him to choose his own religious associations, and to worship God as he thinks proper.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the jails, but has left him to obey the laws, and to avoid the penalties for violating them.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the penitentiary, but has left him to avoid the crimes which lead to that institution.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the graveyard, but has left him to avoid the causes which lead to premature death.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the poor house, but has left him to provide for his own support, and for the support of his own poor.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the asylum, but has left him to provide for his own insane.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the hospital, but has left him to provide for his own sick.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the cemetery, but has left him to provide for his own dead.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the ballot box, but has left him to vote as he thinks proper.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the legislature, but has left him to choose his own representatives.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the executive office, but has left him to choose his own governor.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the judiciary, but has left him to choose his own judges.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the municipal government, but has left him to choose his own mayor and municipal officers.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the police force, but has left him to choose his own police.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the militia, but has left him to choose his own militia officers.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the State Guard, but has left him to choose his own State Guard officers.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the fire department, but has left him to choose his own fire department officers.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Metropolitan Police, but has left him to choose his own Metropolitan Police officers.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Assessors, but has left him to choose his own Board of Assessors.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Appraisers, but has left him to choose his own Board of Appraisers.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Administrators, but has left him to choose his own Board of Administrators.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Aldermen, but has left him to choose his own Board of Aldermen.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Assistants, but has left him to choose his own Board of Assistants.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Councilmen, but has left him to choose his own Board of Councilmen.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Delegates, but has left him to choose his own Board of Delegates.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Commissioners, but has left him to choose his own Board of Commissioners.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Trustees, but has left him to choose his own Board of Trustees.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Managers, but has left him to choose his own Board of Managers.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Visitors, but has left him to choose his own Board of Visitors.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Inspectors, but has left him to choose his own Board of Inspectors.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Examiners, but has left him to choose his own Board of Examiners.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Supervisors, but has left him to choose his own Board of Supervisors.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Overseers, but has left him to choose his own Board of Overseers.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the Poor, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the Poor.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the Asylum, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the Asylum.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the Hospital, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the Hospital.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the Cemetery, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the Cemetery.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the Jail, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the Jail.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the Penitentiary, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the Penitentiary.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the Police, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the Police.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the Fire Department, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the Fire Department.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Police, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Police.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the State Guard, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the State Guard.

The Democratic party has not attempted to force the negro into the Board of Directors of the Militia, but has left him to choose his own Board of Directors of the Militia