

ANTI-ABOLITION MEETING.

"PURSUANT to public notice, a large and respectable concourse of the citizens of Alton, assembled at the Market House, early yesterday evening, in order to take into consideration the course pursued by the Rev. E. P. Lovejoy, in the publication and dissemination of the

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highly odious doctrines of modern Abolitionism, and the more to allay the spirit of an insulted people, which seemed brewing like a cloud, and darkening our social atmosphere. Although the combination of wealth, interest, and moral power were assiduously brought to bear upon the community in order to deter them from such a course; in boldly expressing their free and unbiased opinions on a subject of so delicate a nature, yet like men born to live and die, untrammelled by party, unseduced by mercenary motives, they met as freemen, determined to oppose, in a manly manner, and by a spirited resistance, the odious doctrine of modern misrule, which has stole on this community in direct violation of a *sacred pledge*.

The meeting was organized by calling to the chair, Dr. Halderman, and appointing J. P. Jordan, secretary.

The object of the meeting then being stated, on motion a committee of three was appointed to draw up resolutions—

Whereupon J. A. Townsend, Dr. H. Beall, and S. L. Miller, were appointed.

The committee, after retiring for a short time, returned and recommended to the meeting the following preamble, &c., which were unanimously adopted:—

*Whereas*, The citizens of Alton are called upon a second time to express their disapprobation of the course pursued by the Rev. E. P. Lovejoy, Editor of the 'Alton Observer,' in publishing and promulgating the doctrines of Abolitionism, and that, too, in violation of a solemn pledge, voluntarily given by him at a former meeting of the citizens of Alton, when an exile he sought their protection, that he would not interfere with the question of Abolitionism, in any way whatever, and that his intention alone was to publish a religious journal:

*And whereas*, On the strength of that pledge, and in

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full confidence that he would, as a clergyman of his profession, hold it sacred, we welcomed him as an acquisition to our place. But now finding, much to our mortification, that he has wantonly violated his pledge, and introduced into the columns of his paper, Abolition doctrines of a most inflammatory character, and continued without regard to his solemn assertion to do so, which we as citizens of a state untrammelled with Slavery, deem it to be improper as well as impolitic, to agitate among us as we can have no benefit from it whatever, but on the contrary, much injury and damage, by eliciting from our sister states, a feeling towards us highly injurious to our community.

1. *Resolved*, That the Rev. E. P. Lovejoy has again taken up and advocated the principles of Abolitionism through his paper, the 'Observer,' contrary to the disposition and will of a majority of the citizens of Alton, and in direct violation of a sacred pledge and assurance, that this paper when established in Alton should not be devoted to Abolitionism.

2. *Resolved*, That we disapprove of the course of the 'Observer,' in publishing any articles favourable to Abolitionism, and that we *censure* Mr. Lovejoy in permitting such publications to appear in his paper, when a pledge or assurance has been given to this community, by him, that such doctrines should not be advocated.

3. *Resolved*, That a committee of five citizens be appointed by this meeting to wait upon and confer with Mr. Lovejoy, and ascertain from him, whether he intends in future to disseminate through the columns of the 'Observer,' the doctrines of Abolitionism, and report the result of their conference to the public.

After the committee had read the preparatory preamble

and resolutions, they were submitted to the meeting, and warmly welcomed—upon which

It was moved that the President appoint the committee—when the following persons were designated :

B. K. Hart, L. J. Clawson, Col. N. Buckmaster, B. I. Gilman, Col. A. Olney, and Dr. J. A. Halderman, by request.

After which Col. A. Botkin arose, and making some pertinent preliminary remarks, offered the following resolution, which was cordially adopted :

*Resolved*, That we, as citizens of Alton, are aware that the Rev. E. P. Lovejoy still persists to publish an Abolition paper, to the injury of the community at large, and as we deprecate all violence of mobs, we now call on him, by our committee, and politely request a discontinuance of the publication of his incendiary doctrines, which alone have a tendency to disturb the quiet of our citizens and neighbours.

opinion destructive of the best interests of Christianity, and an unwarrantable assumption of arbitrary prerogative.

*Resolved*, That the immediate emancipation of the entire slave population, with their admittance to all the privileges, suffrages, offices, immunities, and preferments, civil, political, and religious, in common with ourselves, constitutes the doctrine of modern Abolitionism.

*Resolved*, That while we disapprove the doctrine of modern Abolitionism, we abhor and deprecate the evil of Slavery, and are ready and willing at any time, to give our influence and our money, to promote any system of emancipation, that will better the condition of that oppressed race of the human family, *that is agreeable to the slaveholding states*.

*Resolved*, That all the presses in the West and South, North and East, friendly to the cause of colonization or gradual emancipation, in order to ameliorate the condition and freedom of the African race, are hereby requested to publish the foregoing protest and resolutions against the misrule of modern Abolitionism.

(Signed,)

J. A. HALDERMAN, *Chairman*.

J. P. JORDON, *Secretary*."

July 11th, 1837.