

Negro Suffrage.

We are glad to observe that some of the Republican papers of this State have the manliness to express doubts of the propriety of extending the right of suffrage to class of persons that cannot exercise it intelligently. These journals do not follow the *Press* of this city in all its fanatical theories. They believe that a certain degree of intelligence should be required of every voter, and do not mean to stultify themselves by advocating the extension of the elective franchise to negroes indiscriminately, without any qualification whatever.

The *Winona Republican*, while conceding the probability that negro equality will be carried forward to the point of success, observes:

It may well be questioned whether the sudden elevation of such a great body of ignorant, untutored, almost barbaric persons, to the rights of citizenship would not endanger, if not the actual existence of our free institutions, at least their tranquil operation. This is a question of the highest importance, and it should not be overlooked by those who are about to take action in the premises.

The *Wilton Weekly News*, a radical anti-slavery paper, comes out decidedly against the negro suffrage proposition alleging that it would lead us into difficulties. It says:

Negroes like every other class of man, will be clannish. They will vote together. Politicians will stoop to their prejudices for the purpose of obtaining their votes. Their power at the ballot box will induce amalgamation, and sooner or later we shall sink to the level of the South American and Mexican creoles.

The *News* concludes its article by advocating a proposition to colonize the negroes in some Southern State or Territory, where, by themselves, they might enjoy all their rights unmolested, but disfranchised everywhere else.

The *Valley Herald*, of Chaska, Carver county, edited by HON. CHAS. A. WARREN, late State Senator, is no less decided in its opposition to the measure. We have printed a portion of its article on the subject, and now reproduce it entire, and commend it to the conservative members of the Republican party.

1865 02 24 Suffrage question for former slaves part 1

Clipped By:
boblesk
May 21, 2025