

### IS GENERAL TILTON A SECESSIONIST ?

This is a question that never would have occurred, if General Tilton had not suffered himself to be dragged from his dignified retirement and thrust upon the country as a candidate for office by men who have not only lost the respect of every loyal American, but have forfeited even the rights of citizenship by a persistent opposition to the Government under which they live. Despicable as are the doctrines of State rights and their inevitable fruits, secession, we have comparatively a degree of respect for the man who honestly entertains them through sectional sympathies or educational prejudices, and, for our part, we could far more consistently support such a man than that double-distilled mass of corruption and hypocrisy, the Copperhead party. Had General Tilton kept out of the embraces of Copperheads, his private opinions, however antiquated or odious, might have been tolerated as the whims of a fossil politician, and he himself respected as the same staid, unobtrusive and harmless old foggy he was wont to be in time past. But the General has become the willing tool of a faction which is utterly unworthy even him,—a faction of fanatical destructionists.

whose offenses "smell to heaven," and whose deeds of infamy will follow it through all the generations of time. He is, therefore, no more the sleeping Rip Van Winkle he was; he is the candidate of the Copperhead party for Congress; as such he is a public man, and all his actions, opinions and sympathies, which, in the barely possible event of his election may affect the political status or material welfare of the people of this Territory, become public property, concerning which every citizen has a right to enquire. Thus it is that the question which forms the heading of this article is a proper one—a question the people have a right to ask,—and which, we are rejoiced to know, it does not fall to our lot to answer, but to that of General Tilton's present friends. Out of their own mouths shall he be condemned, or, if guilty, he escapes unwhipped of justice, at present, at least by us. Now hear the testimony of General Tilton's friends:

We are informed, and as the lawyers phrase it, verily do believe, that Urban E. Hicks, present editor and proprietor of the *Washington Democrat*, and a warm supporter of General

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We are informed, and as the lawyers phrase it, verily do believe, that Urban E. Hicks, present editor and proprietor of the *Washington Democrat*, and a warm supporter of General Tilton, was in 1881, printer of a Democratic newspaper, published at Vancouver. We are likewise informed that the aforesaid Urban E. Hicks was actually editor of the same, though

T. M. Reed was nominally the editor. We find in this Democratic newspaper, published on the 4th day of July, 1861, the following passages :

"He, (Gen. Tilton) is not a member of the Democratic party, and we have good reason to believe that he is as strong a Secessionist as there is in the country. He sympathizes with the Southern Confederacy, and is one of their principal apologists in this Territory."

Again, "General Tilton says he is a patriot and a warm supporter of the Union. This is No. 12 (misrepresentation.) We have no doubt Jeff. Davis, Yancey, Stephens and Jo. Lane would say nearly the same thing. We are sure they could with as much propriety."

Now, we beg our readers to remember that these accusations are preferred against General Tilton, not by us, but by a Democratic newspaper, printed, as we believe, by Urban E. Hicks, and partially or wholly edited by him. Are they true or false? Will Hicks tell us? We appeal from the Hicks of to-day, to the Hicks of four years ago. Unburden thy soul, oh, Hicks, of its dread secrets. Let us know the truth. Why did a Democratic newspaper four years ago denounce Tilton as a Secessionist? Was it true then, and is it false now? You are in a dilemma, friend Hicks, and we fear you have fallen into bad company. Clear your skirts if you can, and let us know all about it. If your accusation be true, well might the General say, save me from my friends. If they be false, or not your accusations at all—had you any connection with the newspaper in question, and if so, what? Speak, now, or forever hold your peace.

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