

PICNICS AND POLITICS

To the Editor of the Brooklyn Eagle:—

At this season of the year it is customary for many of our metropolitan churches to give a pic nic [sic] for the gratification and enjoyment of the members of their Sunday Schools and the replenishing of their funds. It is also usual for them to solicit others than their own congregation to join with them in their festivities at fifty cents per capita. This is all very well, for there are a great many who can spare a day only, and with their families enjoy themselves in a quiet way, leaving the cares of business behind. But when the lead men or ministers of these parties get up on board a crowded barge to deliver a political harangue, calling out, if there are any Democrats on board, and being answered in the affirmative, proceed to pour out upon their devoted heads, such epithets as “black-hearted traitors,” “the cause of the present troubles,” and “the democratic party, the robbers of the government,” &c., &c., in the most low foul-mouthed stump-speech style of oratory, I think it is time for all respectable people to stay at home, and let snivellers [sic] have the fun themselves.

If we went to their churches when such christian sermons were preached, we could have the privilege of retiring, but after paying for a privilege, we have and claim an immunity from insult to our personal feelings, for there is no way of avoiding it. Of course such language could not but produce among a promiscuous [i.e. diversified] assemblage of 500 persons discordant sentiments, and when interrupted and told that persons did not wish to hear politics discussed, but that they came for pleasure, another reverend observed, let such “brutes” (i.e. Democrats) retire to the other end of the boat. My view is let such fanatics stay at home until they can learn how to treat their guests, and not attempt to create a row (which came near being successful), on a crowded boat where so many women and children are congregated together.

UNION.

(We understand that the pic nic of the Universalist Sunday Schools of the city took place yesterday at Dudley’s Grove, and presume the above statement must have reference to the proceedings on that occasion. We know nothing of the accuracy of the report except that it comes to us from a respectable source and well authenticated.

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