

To the people of Muskingum!

THE

Abolitionists.

Beware of Wolves in Sheep's Clothing

A disorganizing and revolutionary spirit is abroad, engendered and fostered by foreign emissaries and foreign money, to undermine and destroy our civil and religious institutions, under the specious garb of conscience and religion. From recent information, this evil spirit is showing its *cloven foot* wherever the people will tolerate it. The County of Muskingum is, unfortunately, infested with a little club of incendiaries and traitors, prowling to and fro, making appointments at Churches and School houses, &c.—collecting the unwary women and children, and even men—scattering the seeds of discord and unhappiness in neighborhoods—among families; separating fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters.—And it is know to be a fact, that these ABOLITIONISTS are secretly aiming to associate and ultimately to bring about an amalgamation of NEGROES with white people. It is to be regretted, that some of our citizens, who have heretofore been seduced by foreign influences to take upon themselves to give *lectures* upon ABOLITIONISM, dragging in the scripture to aid in their wicked crusade against particular sections of the Union. Let, therefore, all moral, discreet, peaceable, upright and decent people, of all parties, political and religious, who are friends to the Government and Churches of their own choice, pause and reflect upon *future consequences!*—Beware, in time, of countenancing their appointments to preach and lecture, and hold private discussions upon this exciting subject. Watch your schools and school-books!

Ohio is a free State. The Constitution was formed upon free principles. All the laws which have been created are conformable thereto, and are exactly what the ABOLITIONISTS pretend *they* want them to be, excepting that Ohio will not quarrel with other sovereign States of the confederacy. We have no negro slaves in Ohio—and we want none! This, then, is positive evidence, that the ABOLITIONISTS are secretly aiming at something more than meets the public eye—their seditious conduct must be upset and change the form of the Government.—THEY ARE OPPOSED TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE U. STATES, as all *their* petitions to Congress show. The *Abolition of Slavery*, in truth, has nothing at all to do with their REAL designs. *They* are even aiming to deceive the very *negroes* themselves. —They are not *the* friends of the negroes. Or, why the immense amount of money which are paid to hired agents to run about preaching and lecturing, profanely coupling the Bible with negro picture-books, and negro tracts and newspapers, in order to make out their case, and to impose upon the feelings of honest, well-meaning people? Look at the mobs produced by the inflammatory acts and conduct of Abolitionists! Look at the mobs at Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington City, New Orleans, Natchez, St. Louis, Alton, Vicksburgh, Cincinnati, and Putnam, besides thousands of other towns in the U.S.—, where Abolitionists are permitted to get a foot-hold to insult the people. ABOLITIONISTS have been at the bottom of every mob that has taken place in the United States within the past five years, to say nothing of the wretched divisions in the regular churches of Zanesville and Putnam, as well as every were else. The Churches in truth have been rent assunder by this diabolical spirit—and yet these

A Muskingum County History transcription of an anti-abolitionist broadside from 1838 (continued)

incendiaries hypocritically pretend that all the mobs are raised by other people. But it is not true. Who ever heard of those numerous mobs until these instigators of sedition commenced their operations at the North? Nobody. Look at the case of LOVEJOY the murderer at Alton, Illinois, who in cool blood shot down a man by the name of BISHOP—and for that murderous outrage, one of Bishop's friends shot Lovejoy! And now behold! this murderer LOVEJOY is held up in the pulpits as a Martyr and a Saint; and funeral sermons are preached wherever they can get people to listen to their base hypocrisy and insolent audacity.

Ask yourselves if there can be any religion in the movements of these foreign spies and incendiaries; and domestic traitors, who are acting under THEIR influence? No—there cannot be—it is utterly impossible; because the artful ones know they are seeking to destroy the very constitution and laws which daily protect all REAL christians, of every denomination in the United States.—Look again at the movements of these preachers of sedition in handing around petitions to get unwary females, from the highest to the lowest grade, and school children of both sexes, for the purpose of distracting the national councils by their unconstitutional applications! and these fire-brands are eagerly caught up in England and elsewhere to decry our free institutions—that the American republic cannot stand, and thus bring about intentionally, a dissolution of the Union.

With pleasure it is seen that all the Newspapers of Zanesville have taken this subject up by announcing a public county meeting on the 7th of April—and it is earnestly hoped that every man will come forward to the Court-house in Zanesville, and do as they are doing in the North and West; and pit those instigators of mischief down. There are no fears, if the people will but understand *their* nefarious designs. That *they* will ultimately be forever put down, there is no doubt.

March 1838.

By Many who know their plans & schemes.