

"Marriage of the Free Soil and Liberty Parties," 1848

This is a political cartoon portraying the alliance between Free Soil Democrats and Whigs and the abolitionist Liberty Party during the election campaign of 1848.

John Van Buren, son of Martin Van Buren (labeled as John Van Barnburner, left): "Walk up, dad. You can hold your breath till the ceremony is over, and after that you can do what you please."

Antislavery Editor Horace Greeley (second from the left): "Go, Matty, and kiss the bride. That is an indispensable part of the ceremony."

Free Soil Presidential Candidate Martin Van Buren (third from left): "I find that politics, as well as poverty, make one acquainted with strange bedfellows."

Benjamin F. Butler, Van Buren ally (middle): "Who giveth this man to be married to this woman?"

African-American woman (fourth from the right): "Come here, my flower. You is a great stranger, and I want to get acquainted wid you."

African-American man (second from right): "I nebber hab berry good pinion ob the gemman; but if he ax pardon for all he hab done and said agin us, I will shake hands wid de gemman."

African-American woman (right): "Mercy on me! How bashful he is!"