

National Republican Platform.

The Republican party of the United States, assembled in National Convention in the city of Philadelphia, on the 29th and 30th days of June, 1872, again declares its faith appeals to its history, and announces its position upon the questions before the country:

1. During eleven years of supremacy it has accepted with grand courage the solemn duties of the times. It suppressed a gigantic rebellion, emancipated 4,000,000 of slaves, decided the equal citizenship of all, and established universal suffrage. Exhibiting unparalleled magnanimity, it criminally punished no man for political offenses, and warmly welcomed all who proved their loyalty by obeying the laws and dealing justly with their neighbors. It has steadily decreased, with a firm hand, the resultant disorders of a great war, and initiated a wise and humane policy toward the Indians. The Pacific railroad and similar enterprises have been generally aided and successfully conducted, the public lands freely given to actual settlers, immigration protected and encouraged, and a full acknowledgment of the naturalized citizens' rights, secured from European Powers. A uniform national currency has been provided, repudiation frowned down, the national credit sustained under most extraordinary burdens, and new bonds negotiated at lower rates. The revenues have been carefully collected and honestly applied. Despite annual large reductions of the rates of taxation, the public debt has been reduced during General Grant's Presidency at the rate of one hundred millions a year. Great financial crises have been avoided and peace and plenty prevail throughout the land. Menacing foreign difficulties have been peacefully and honorably composed, and the honor and power of the nation kept in high respect throughout the world.

This glorious record of the past is the party's best pledge for the future. We believe the people will not intrust the Government to any party or combination of men composed chiefly of those who resisted every step of this beneficial progress.

2. Complete liberty and exact equality in the enjoyment of all civil, political and public rights should be established and effectually maintained throughout the Union by efficient and appropriate State and Federal legislation. Neither the law nor the Administration should admit of any discrimination in respect of citizens by reason of race, creed, color, or previous condition of servitude.

3. The recent amendments to the Constitution should be cordially sustained, because they are right, not merely tolerated because they are law, and should be carried out according to their spirit by appropriate legislation, the enforcement of which can safely be intrusted only to the party that secured those amendments.

4. The National Government should seek to maintain honorable peace with all nations, protecting its citizens everywhere and sympathizing with all people who strive for greater liberty.

5. Any system of the civil service under which the subordinate positions of the Government are considered rewards for mere party zeal is fatally demoralizing, and we therefore favor a reform of patronage and make honesty, efficiency, and fidelity the essential qualifications for public position, with practically creating a life tenure of office.

6. We are opposed to further grants of the public lands to corporations and monopolies and demand that the national domain be set apart for free homes for the people.

7. The annual revenue, after paying the current debt, should furnish a moderate balance for the reduction of the principal, and the revenue, except so much as may be derived from a tax on tobacco and liquors, be raised by duties upon importation; the duties of which should be so adjusted as to aid in securing remunerative wages to labor, and promote the growth, industry, and prosperity of the whole country.

8. We hold in undying honor the soldiers and sailors whose valor saved the Union. Their pensions are a sacred debt of the nation, and the widows and orphans of those who died for their country are entitled to the care of an additional legislation as will extend the bounty of the government to all our soldiers and sailors who were honorably discharged, and who, in the line of duty, became disabled, without regard to the length of service or the cause of such discharge.

9. The doctrine of Great Britain and other European Powers concerning allegiance, "Once a subject always a subject," having at last, through the efforts of the Republican party, been abandoned, and the American idea of the right to transfer allegiance having been

accepted by European nations, it is the duty of our Government to guard with jealous care the right of adopted citizens against the assumption of unauthoritative claims by their former Governments, and we urge continual careful encouragement and protection of voluntary immigration.

10. The franking privilege ought to be abolished and the way prepared for a speedy reduction in the rate of postage.

11. Among the questions which press for attention is that which concerns the relations of capital and labor, and the Republican party recognize the duty of so shaping legislation as to secure full protection and the amplest for capital and for labor the creator of capital, the largest opportunities and a just share of the mutual profits of these two great servants of civilization.

12. We hold that Congress and the President have only fulfilled an imperative duty in their measures for the suppression of violent and treasonable organizations in certain lately rebellious regions, and for the protection of the ballot-box, and therefore they are entitled to the thanks of the nation.

13. We denounce the repudiation of the public debt in any form or disguise as a national crime. We witness with pride the reduction of the principal of the debt and of the rates of interest upon the balance, and confidently expect that our excellent national currency will be perfected by a speedy redemption of specie payments.

14. The Republican party is mindful of its obligations to the loyal women of America for their noble donation to the cause of freedom, their admission to the wider fields of usefulness is viewed with satisfaction, and the honest demands of any class of citizens for additional rights should be treated with respectful consideration.

15. We heartily approve the action of Congress in extending amnesty to those lately in rebellion, and rejoice in the growth of peace and fraternal feeling throughout the land.

16. The Republican party propose to respect the rights reserved by the people to themselves as carefully as the powers delegated by them to the State and to the Federal Government. It disapproves of the resort to unconstitutional laws for the purpose of removing evils by interference with rights not surrendered by the people to either the State or National Government.

17. It is the duty of the General Government to adopt such measures as will tend to encourage American commerce and ship-building.

18. We believe that the modest patriotism, the earnest purpose, the sound judgment, the practical wisdom, the incorruptible integrity and the illustrious services of Ulysses S. Grant, have commended him to the heart of the American people, and with him at our head we stand to-day upon a new march to victory.

What H. G. Knows about Secession. "What I demand is proof that the Southern people really desire separation from the Free States. Whoever assured that such is their settled wish, I SHALL JOYFULLY CO-OPERATE WITH THEM TO SECURE THE END THEY SEEK. Thus far, I have had evidence of nothing but a purpose to bully and coerce the North. Many of the Secession leaders to the Border Slave States tell the people they address that they do not really mean to dissolve the Union, but only to secure what they term their rights—in the Union. Now, as nearly all the people of the Slave States either are, or have to seem to be, in favor of this, the present menacing front of Secession proves nothing to the purpose. Maryland and Virginia have had no idea of breaking up the Union; but they would both dearly like to bully the North into a compromise. Their Secession demonstrations prove just this, and nothing more."—Tribune, January 21, 1861.

"But no success we mean to conquer them—not merely to defeat, but to conquer, to subjugate them—and we shall do this the more mercifully the more speedily we do it. But when the rebellious traitors are overwhelmed in the field and scattered like leaves before an angry wind, it must not be to return to peaceful and contented homes. They must find poverty at their firesides, and see privation in the anxious eyes of mothers and the rags of children."—Tribune, May 1, 1861.

"We utterly deny, repudiate, and condemn the pretended Right of Secession. No such right is known to our Federal Constitution, nor, in fact, to any civilized framework of government. No such right was reserved, or supposed to be reserved, when the States ratified or adopted the Federal Constitution. We do not believe that a mere majority of a community may, in disregard of all existing laws, upset an existing government and put one of their choice in its place. We do not believe the whole population—we will say of Nantucket or Staten Island—have a right, moved by a prospect of unlimited gains by smuggling to the main land, to break off from the Union and annex their island to Great Britain or set up for themselves. We do not believe a nation is, like a mob or mass-meeting, to be dispersed by a thunder shower or a steam fire-engine playing upon it."—Tribune, June 3, 1862.

19. We denounce the repudiation of the public debt in any form or disguise as a national crime. We witness with pride the reduction of the principal of the debt and of the rates of interest upon the balance, and confidently expect that our excellent national currency will be perfected by a speedy redemption of specie payments.

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WILMINGTON, N. C. July 26.

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