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PENNSYLVANIA POLITICKS.

The politics of this State at this moment attract the attention of the Union, but not more than they merit, for it is no ordinary cause which is there depending. The editor of this paper, although sometimes inclined, has seldom noticed the present contest between those who have been heretofore associated in a common cause, for the destruction of principles which the better part of them now do, or affect to reverence. Our readers will bear in mind that the following address is not the language of FEDERALISTS, but of REPUBLICANS. We take the liberty of beseeching our readers to peruse it with attention, and to remember that it is a picture drawn by those who have an intimate knowledge of the views and designs of their present opponents. A knowledge derived from unquestionable sources.

We have re-published this address, with all its capitals, italicks, dashes, and stars, in order that it might reach our readers in its primitive state from the FREEMAN'S JOURNAL. (Norfolk Ledger.

AN ADDRESS

To the Friends of the Constitution, &c. when met at Vanhook's Tavern, Bucks county, Sept. 14th, by the Committee of Correspondence.

WELCOME friends of the Constitution. Welcome friends of peace and order. You come together to defend Constitutional liberty—the price of blood—the produce of wisdom—the source of our prosperity: to defend it against foreign renegades and other restless spirits, who delight in confusion. You come to unite your councils and endeavours, to reclaim some worthy men, who have been misled by the hoit of office hunters; a hungry crew, who with the Constitution dissolved, that all the offices may be vacated, and depoted of anew.

Never was there a time which called more loudly for the union and exertions of honest men. Certain evil spirits have raised a storm, hoping they can direct its course, and gather spoils in tracing it. THE REPUBLIC IS IN DANGER: THE REPUBLIC IS IN DANGER. The Constitution of the Union—"The world's last, best hope."—The Constitution of Pennsylvania, our own treasure, and our children's inheritance, are brought into jeopardy. Attempts are making to destroy the Constitution of Pennsylvania. We say, to destroy it: for if the adventurers who are seeking a convention, are able to carry it, they will carry themselves, as members of it: The Constitution will fall into the hands of its enemies, whence it never can escape. And think you, will the work of destruction and confusion end here? No, fellow-citizens. The Constitution of the United States is less democratic, and more obnoxious to the party. Already they glance their shafts at it; though they wish, for the present, to conceal the extent of the intended mischief. They expect the revolutionary spirit, (which is infectious) to extend to the other states. How often do you read in the prints of the party, that "the citizens of other states anxiously wait the event in Pennsylvania, and stand ready to imitate our example!" Supposing the best that we can suppose, that our people, warned by the example of revolutionary France, keep back their hands from blood; surely seven years of anarchy will scarce suffice, to revolutionize Pennsylvania, to change the Constitution of the United States, and to make corresponding changes in the Constitutions of the other sixteen states. Fellow citizens; do you not shudder at the prospect of spending seven years in a state of domestic warfare—the father divided against the son and the son against the father—the charities of life destroyed—the hands of friendship rent asunder—property insecure—the peaceable citizen pillaged and oppressed by needy and desperate ruffians? At the end of this revolutionary period, perhaps another party comes into power; begins the work anew and retraces the steps of its predecessors!

This is no imaginary scene. It is painting from the life. Look to the once peaceful mountains of Switzerland. Ten years of revolution and constitution-building, have not enabled those republicans to recover their lost peace; the

waste of property, a century will scarce repair; and the loss of life and morals never can be restored. Look to the Seven United Provinces. The work of revolution began there in '37, and it had not closed at the commencement of the present year. Their best blood has been shed; their colonies taken; their trade annihilated, and they ceased to be an independent nation. To paint the horrors of revolutionary France, the painter must have seen the guillotine at work, and surveyed the scaffolds befouled with human blood: he must have visited the dungeons where a million of prisoners languish unknown and unpitied. He must have heard the atmosphere vocal with the groans of the dying, and felt, himself, the scourge of the oppressor: then, dipping his pencil in blood, he might give us a picture of FRANCE MENDING HER CONSTITUTION.

Friends of peace—will you calmly stand by, and see your deluded countrymen rush into such a scene as this? Will you tamely see them, even endanger their own peace and yours, when you can prevent it? We say you can prevent it. Already the enemy is panick-struck. Courage ye champions of the constitution. The foe is confounded & meditates a retreat. Those who have gloried in the name Revolutionist—those who have recounted so many valuable revolutions, to reconcile you to the one they meditate—a revolution more like to that which Lucifer* produced in heaven—These men prepare to surrender the strong hold of the convention. They find the people unwilling to surrender the charter of their liberty at the demand of Duane & Co. The federalists say no. The Germans of each party say no. The steady and virtuous Germans, headed by Muhlenburg and Heister, have armed in defence of the Constitution. Its enemies now give up the contest. In this county at least, they cease their open assaults and depend on stratagem. The fate of the Constitution, will depend on the representatives we send to the next Assembly.

No matter how the petition stands for or against a convention. An appeal is now made to the people on the subject of the Constitution. Its friends and foes will exert themselves, in promoting representatives of their own principles. If upon counting heads in the representative chamber, a majority are found unfriendly to the constitution, it will be considered as a decisive proof, that the people wish a change: a convention will be called, and the Constitution perish. Yet mark the artifice. In Berks county, in Bucks, probably in all the counties, where the Germans abound, the agitators recommend their candidates, as friends to the Constitution. They tell you, "the legislature have nothing to do with the business; that the people at large, and they only, have a right to alter their government." How was it altered before? By a Convention. Who called the Convention? The House of Representatives.—"But pray gentlemen," say they, "be composed. The convention can only propose amendments. The people have a right to ratify or reject them." How were the amendments adopted in the year '90? Was the Constitution of that day submitted to a vote of the people? It was not. And are our present constitution-menders, likely to be more complaisant? No, fellow citizens. They will present us with a constitution, founded on their own wild theories of government. The people worn out with revolutionary struggles, will accept of it, for the sake of peace. they will accept it because no alternative will be left them, but that of civil convulsion. Now then is the time to keep a good look out. By fraud or force, our opponents will endeavour to return representatives, who think with them. In our county, they hope to slide them in unnoticed, with Simon the Tanner. And truly if they can make Simon governor, no matter what constitution we have. This mild, compliable, good sort of a man, will suffer them to mould and twist the Constitution at pleasure. PROVIDED always, that the same set of men who have slandered the governor, and convulsed the state, should go to Lancaster again.—To prevent this, so far as Bucks county is concerned, is the object of our meet-

ing this day. What is to be done? In the first place, let us bury here our petty quarrels. On the sacred altar of the Constitution let us sacrifice our party passions and prejudices. Let the names REPUBLICAN and FEDERALIST be sunk in the name CONSTITUTIONALISTS—which applies to all. Let us possess our minds of the magnitude of our common danger; and let us unite as a band of brothers, for our common defence. Let us join heart and hand and pledge ourselves to each other, to use every fair and honourable means, to preserve our Constitution; to preserve it, till time and cool reflection shall have ascertained its faults, and pointed out the best mode of redress.—Let us do what in us lies, to prevent that anarchy with which we are threatened. For this end, let us attend the Election—let us take with us the friends of peace: Let us vote the constitutional ticket, headed by the illustrious CHAMPION of the constitution, who may otherwise become the VICTIM of it.

Thomas M'Kean has faults; but they are lost in the blaze of his virtues. He is able, he is attentive and vigilant; and, above all, he is honest and firm. In adhering to what conscience dictates. His administration has proved, that he will not do an unjust thing, to gratify a party, to serve a friend, or to mortify an enemy. If he is elected, he will be the real efficient governor of the commonwealth. If Mr. Snyder is elected, he will be a mere PAGEANT OF STATE. The executive power will be wielded by certain men in Philadelphia; whose names, whose characters are no secret.

Friends and fellow-citizens, carry home with you a lively, a deep impression of the evil that impends your country; and the importance of the present crisis, as the only chance to prevent it. Go to your peaceful and unsuspecting neighbours;—tell them their danger;—awake their energies;—bring them with you to the election.—One united and mighty effort, and PENNSYLVANIA ONCE MORE IS FREE.

SAM'L D. INGHAM, Sec'y.

From the United States Gazette.

To the FEDERAL ELECTORS of PENNSYLVANIA Gentlemen.

The awful crisis has arrived, when an imperious duty demands, that we reflect on our situation, and coolly, but firmly determine, on the part we should take at the approaching election. The occasion is far from an ordinary one, & the event may be momentous to ourselves and posterity. It therefore behoves us to consider well before we resolve, and then to act as if our all were at stake. A little indifference is seldom commendable—at present it is altogether inexcusable. We have held no meetings on the subject that I was privy to, and if individual sentiments are formed, they have not to my knowledge been generally communicated among us. Under these circumstances, it will not, I hope, be deemed assuming, in one of your number, whose former situations of life made him known to many of you, frankly to submit his thoughts to you, and then leave you to act, as reason, conscience, and love for your country may dictate.

While I supposed it best, for the wayward political opinions, that have long convulsed the commonwealth and menaced its dissolution, to be left to their mad career, and to spend themselves in their own folly, I remained a silent spectator of their progress without interfering in their direction. To this I was led, from a real or supposed knowledge of human nature, which taught me to believe, that when the rage and fury of the day, from whatever cause arising, take their course, they will pursue it in spite of all the reason and argument that can be urged to prevent it, until they arrive at a certain point. That point attained, history and experience have shown, that the better part of the infatuated multitude, like "intoxicate men sturmed into sobriety," are apt to start at the precipice before them, and to shrink from the danger to which they had heedlessly run. That time seems to have fortunately come, and if it has, it must be the proper one, for all the federalists to ponder well the situation of our country, and to rouse from their slumbers, with renewed strength for its preservation. We should not suffer the years of inactivity,

which we have passed, to benumb our senses, but we should awake to vigilance, and more than our former exertions. That "the commonwealth should never be despaired of," was a maxim of the ancient Romans, founded in patriotism and genuine love of their country, and it is worthy of every man, whose heart is not alien to the country in which it beats.—That you, to whom I address myself, have no such alien hearts, I well know; and that you will not suffer the commonwealth to perish, I firmly believe.—BUT BY WHAT MEANS SHALL IT BE SAVED? On this interesting question I had hoped that all federalists would think and act alike, and that we may do so is the object of this address.

Some of you may perhaps think, a kind of political amalgamation necessary, and that we should unite in one body with the more moderate or better part of the democrats, who form what is called the third party; but if any of you are of this opinion, I hope the number is small. Federalism will admit of no alloy; and a dereliction of its fundamental truths, in whole or in part, for the sake of office or power, or for any other temporising purpose, would be disgraceful to ourselves, and a degradation to the name that we bear. A spirit of conciliation is, I acknowledge, often commendable, but it can never be so, at the sacrifice of principles altogether correct for others that are but partially so. It is therefore hoped that no such union will be seriously thought of, whatever temporary benefits it might promise to a few individuals. Besides, if the name of Federalist is of such little estimation with any among us that they are willing to exchange it for another, and thereby believe the principles of our great benefactors, who honourably bore it when living, and left the fair inheritance at their deaths to those who survived them.—I, for one, am not of that number.—Some others of you it is said are—but this may heaven forefend! for uniting with the disorganizers in the call of a convention, and the destruction of the present order of things, in the idle hope of the promised perfectability. This is almost too incredible to be worth mentioning. If resentment exists in the minds of any or all of us, it may on proper occasions be excusable, and perhaps justifiable; but its exercise cannot be so, where it carries with it our own destruction, and that of our country. Large allowances should certainly be made for our feelings, but they should not be suffered to league us with the most frantic and ferocious enemies of our country, for the sake of destroying others, in a case too, where we must perish with them. If we do this, we are no federalists; but the blind and merciless victims of our own passions, and we shall be as deservedly trampled in the dust, as the infatuated Britons were by the Romans; or, as the Romans were by the Goths and Vandals.

Some others I believe think, that all federalists should stand aloof, and leave it to the democrats and disorganizers to fight out their own battles, that we may profit by their conflicts, and regain our former power and legitimate rights. This opinion might perhaps be correct, were there reasonable grounds to expect the event, which those politicians predict; but I fear they are mistaken, and that if their advice is followed, we shall be involved in one common ruin by the substitution of a despotick anarchy, bordering on Vandalism, in the place of liberty and order, law and regular government, with their concomitant blessings. I do not mean to say, that we federalists are at present in the equal participation with others, of all these things, but our constitution entitles us to it, and if we are wise enough to preserve it from the hands of those, whose devoted victim it is, we shall one day enjoy our due proportion of them. This is all that can be reasonably expected from any constitution, and as every thing else depends on ourselves, we shall have much to answer for, to our country and posterity, if from lethargy on the one hand, or an ill timed resentment on the other, we do not exert our best endeavours, to avert the evils that await us. We should therefore consider, what conduct, on our part, promises to be most salutary.

You will judge for yourselves, but it appears to me that freely communicating

* Aurora and Lucifer have originally the same meaning.