

The apparent purpose and the action of the late Convention, assembled in the City of Raleigh, on the 4th day of September, having met the open disapprobation of many Republicans in the State, and raised serious apprehensions of discord in the party, the undersigned beg the indulgence of their fellow-citizens in submitting the following views, and exhorting all truly loyal and Union men to harmony and unity of action, regardless of the temporary and accidental prevalence of injudicious and unfortunate counsels.

The UNION REPUBLICAN PARTY of the nation must be re-constituted. The present troubles and to restore the late Union Government to complete harmony with the General Government, and to render such restoration permanent,—to prevent a speedy renewal of recent strife, and to guarantee the future safety and integrity of the Union, the party has, as a result of its deliberations, certain fundamental principles, the establishment of which, as the popular sentiment of the voting masses in the lately rebellious States, is held as a condition precedent to their being admitted to the exercise of political powers in the nation.

It must be borne in mind that these States are to be restored not merely to being governed themselves, but to the exercise of equal powers in governing the whole country. Before the Union, and waged a war for the establishment of certain principles of their own until they were secured by those in whose government they now seek to be made again participants and equals. Before being restored to the rights and powers of governments, it is not unreasonable that they be required to renounce the principles for which they waged the unsuccessful war, and accept such as are now prescribed as essential to the general peace and welfare.

But, inasmuch as the people themselves, and not the States, are the real repository of political power, it is required that they give evidence of a popular renunciation and acquiescence in general, and not merely a temporary acquiescence from expediency, in order to recover the power to renew the late strife and revive a lost cause. Reconstruction has been delayed only because the failure, so far as the late Convention is concerned, and for the establishment among them of a prevailing sentiment in accordance therewith. The preparatory policy of Congress has been conducted step by step with this view. Its first step was to wait for a voluntary renunciation of the principles which were the cause of the late strife, and a sufficient number of individual citizens supposed to entertain hostile purposes were to be excluded from the exercise of political powers to give to the well disposed the ascendancy and control in public affairs. This proposal was rejected by such majorities and in such a spirit that it was considered to have become necessary to create a new political element in the rebellious States by conferring the elective franchise upon the rebel population, and to establish military governments for the maintenance of obedience and order while the spirit and disposition of our people were being again tested. In this condition of affairs we are now called upon to act.

The principles sought to be established upon the sound basis of popular sentiment, as preliminary to reconstruction, may be fully summed up in two propositions, viz: 1. A faithful and willing adherence to and support of the Union and of the government of the United States, and a quiet submission to its authority under the Constitution.

These are the principles of the UNION REPUBLICAN PARTY, and are the only basis of a true, national, and permanent restoration. The rights and powers appertaining to a recognized State in the Union, awaits and is dependent on the establishment of these principles as the prevailing sentiment of the people. The government has refused from exceptions for reason, from banishments and from confiscation. It does not now suspend any threats or us; but appeals to a voluntary sense of returning loyalty and duty. The masses of our people who have been so long excluded from participation in the rights and powers appertaining to a recognized State in the Union, awaits and is dependent on the establishment of these principles as the prevailing sentiment of the people.

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of their own race, and of one officer, lately in the federal service (Gen. Lullin), who met only to reproach and insult for raising his voice in advocacy of moderation and prudence.

The election of Gen. Abbott as permanent President of a North Carolina Convention, was followed by the election of four Secretaries, two of whom were strangers lately located among us, and two colored men. It could hardly be expected that the Congress of the United States would be likely to view the action of a Convention so controlled, as expressive of the true sentiments of this State, or the success of a party under it as affording sufficient evidence of the temper and spirit of our people, to justify the restoration of the State to its rights and powers in the general government.

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