

North



State.

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VOL. III. NO. 105

SALISBURY, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1868.

[WHOLE NO 396

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B. R. MOORE,

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THE STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

THE PLATFORM.

We the Delegates of the Democratic and Conservative people of North Carolina, in Convention assembled, do

Resolved, 1st. That we approve of the nomination by the National Democratic Convention of Horatio Seymour for President, and Frank P. Blair for Vice-President of the United States: that, in these men we recognize statesmen of experience and eminent ability, of sound political principles, of unswerving public and private character and unbounded patriotism, and as such we recommend them to the hearty support of the people of North Carolina.

2d. That we approve of the platform of principles adopted by the said Convention; it speaks in no doubtful sense, its language is explicit and meaning clear. The issues presented to the country are plainly and unmistakably defined, and with a free and fair election we confidently believe they will be endorsed by a large majority of the people; and with that endorsement must come such a change in the administration of the National Government as will restore the Constitution and give peace, harmony and prosperity to the country, and especially to the down-trodden States of the South.

3d. That it is our earnest desire and intention to bring about those wholesome and necessary changes by the peaceful means of the ballot box; and all efforts to produce a contrary belief, coming from what quarter they may, are but the tricks of interested partisans of a desperate political faction, bent upon perpetuating its power by any means and at all hazards. They are attempting to alarm the people of this State by the false cry of revolution and war, threatening them at the same time with military force; while in other States of the South, they have not hesitated to take from the people the election of Electors of President and Vice-President, and to confer it upon Legislatures, the members of which were elected under military rule, without freedom of choice and with no regard to the question of Presidency, in order to secure the electoral votes of such States for the Radical candidates in disregard and defiance of the just rights of the people of such States and of the whole country.

4th. That it is our frank purpose now, and has been, since the close of our late civil war, to accept and abide by, in good faith and without disturbance, the legitimate fruits and consequences of that war, to yield to the Government of the United States a cheerful submission and allegiance, and to perform all the obligations of good citizens to their rightful government. And we do proclaim that, in asking recognition on terms of equality in that grand copartnership of States which constitute our Federal Union, we do so with no hostile intent; on the contrary we wish to share its benefits and its duties, to rebuild our waste places under the protection of its flag; to re-establish the old era of good feeling in our common country, to thwart the designs of un-patriotic men every where who seek to perpetuate discord and division, and to participate in the blessings as well as the burthens of the government.

5th. That we have seen with indignation the complete overthrow of our late excellent system of State government and laws, and the adoption of others in their stead heretofore unknown to our people, unsuited to their condition and utterly adverse to their habits, their wishes and their interests; and with this change has come the election to high places of profit and trust of men in most instances without character or qualification, and not a few of whom are mere adventurers from abroad, having no interest in common with the people of the State, and no fitness whatever for the stations which they have reached by means most unworthy and disreputable.

6th. That the attempt by the Governor of this State, aided by his extreme partisans in and of the Legislature, to have himself clothed with authority to appoint, organize, equip and keep on foot a large standing force of not less than 6,000 men, to be selected and officered and commanded by him, with power to any member of the said force to arrest any citizen without authority or warrant from any civil officer or Magistrate, was a measure clearly violative of the Constitution of the United States as well as that of the State; dangerous to the liberties of the people and well calculated if not intended, to produce bloodshed in our midst; and as such it deserves to be reprobated by all well disposed citizens of the State.

7th. That the measure subsequently introduced and which is now pending, and will in all probability be adopted, however artfully disguised, is but the same measure under another name, with one or two of its objectionable features altered; but which yet clothes the Governor and his creatures and partisans with hitherto

unheard of powers, which are susceptible of great and dangerous abuse in the hands of men who have shown but too plainly a disposition to rule the people of this State by the bayonet, and as we believe to attempt the control of the next election by that means. We most earnestly recommend to the people of the State and especially to our political friends, to give no occasion or excuse for the use of military force; but nevertheless to yield none of their just rights.

8th. That the Governor of this State, having proclaimed it as the policy of the Radical party to suffer no one to hold any office, appointment or place in the State, however humble, who will not lend his aid and promise his support to that party, and which policy he and his political friends are now vigorously enforcing to effect the exercises of the elective franchise, it is the sense of this Convention that the people have the right to counteract such policy by all lawful means, if they think proper so to do. That any citizen of the State, therefore, has a manifest right, of which he cannot be lawfully deprived, to employ, or not to employ, or cease to employ, any person whatever when any existing contract terminates; and that any attempt on the part of the Legislature, by any pretended law to deprive any citizen of such right, or to impose any penalty or penalties for so doing, will be in violation of the Constitutional rights of the citizen.

9th. That to obtain success in the approaching Presidential election, every effort should be made by our friends to perfect their organization, and no legitimate means should be spared to bring every voter, favorable to our cause, to the polls. To that end we most earnestly recommend to our friends to organize at once Seymour and Blair Clubs in every county and every District, with active canvassers, whose duty among other things it shall be to see that all our friends entitled to vote are duly registered and brought to the polls, and that unqualified persons are not allowed to register or vote.

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AN ACT

TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That the Commissioners of Counties shall have power, (a majority of such Commissioners who are duly qualified being present), to establish, alter, discontinue or create such separate places of elections in their respective counties as from time to time they may deem expedient, giving thirty days notice thereof, by advertisement in some public journal, if there be one in their county, in three public places and at the Court House in their county.

Sec. 2. The Secretary of State shall, prior to the tenth day of September next, provide for and forward to the Commissioners of Counties, suitable registration books for each election precinct as established for the last previous election, and a suitable number of the blank forms of oaths, prescribed by Article VI, section 4, of the Constitution.

Sec. 3. In case the Commissioners of Counties shall not receive, on or before the first day of October next, a sufficient number of registration books and blank forms of oaths, as above prescribed, they shall provide themselves with the same at the expense of the State.

Sec. 4. The Commissioners of Counties, or, in case no Commissioners shall have qualified, the Governor, shall, on or before the fifth day of October next, select one Justice of the Peace for each election precinct in their counties, who shall act as Registrar of voters for such precinct. He shall be furnished with a registration book and blank form of oath, and shall at times, from the fifteenth day of October next until the day of the next Presidential election, receive and register such qualified voters as may offer, administering the oath provided by the fourth section of the sixth article of the Constitution, to which oath he shall require each elector to subscribe previous to registering his name in the registration book. He shall receive a fee of five cents for each voter registered, to be paid out of the County Treasury.

Sec. 5. The County Commissioners, or, in case no Commissioners shall have qualified for their respective precincts, (counties), the Governor, shall, on or before the twentieth day of October next, appoint two electors in each precinct, who shall, with the Registrar, be judges of elections at the next ensuing Presidential election and shall, fifteen days previous thereto, appoint one Justice of the Peace and two electors in each precinct as judges of elections for every ensuing State, County and Municipal election. The judges of election shall attend at the places for which they are severally appointed, on the day of election, and shall be sworn by the sheriff, or, in his absence, by some Justice of the Peace or other officer authorized to administer an oath, to conduct the election fairly and impartially, according to the Constitution and laws of the State; and in default of acting, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Such judges, in addition to the powers conferred upon

them by this act, shall have all the powers and duties heretofore vested in inspectors of elections, not inconsistent therewith, and be subject to the same penalties.

Sec. 6. Every male person born in the United States, and any male person who has been naturalized, twenty-one years old or upwards, who shall have resided in the State twelve months next preceding the election, and thirty days in the county in which he offers to vote, shall be entitled to registration upon application.

Sec. 7. Except in cases provided for in section eleven, of this act, no person shall be allowed to vote at any election unless his name shall be found upon the registration books of the precinct in which he offers to vote, unless he shall take and subscribe the following oath: "I, _____ do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith; that I have been a resident in the State of North Carolina for twelve months, and in the county of _____ for thirty days, and that I have neither registered nor voted during this election in any other precinct." Such person having taken this oath shall thereupon be registered.

Sec. 8. It shall be the duty of the judges of elections to keep the registration books for their precinct at the place of holding the election during the day of such election, and to register therein the name of any legal voter, first administering the oath as provided in the last section, before receiving the vote of any elector not previously registered.

Sec. 9. Immediately after any election, the Judges of election shall deposit the registration books for their respective precincts with the Registrar of Deeds of their counties.

Sec. 10. It shall be the duty of the Registrar of Deeds, previous to any election to be held after November next, to furnish the judges of election for each precinct with the registry books for their precinct.

Sec. 11. The Registrar of voters shall, at the request of any legal registered voter in his precinct, furnish a certificate of registration, stating the county and precinct in which such voter shall be registered, and shall make an entry of such certificate against the name of such voter on the registration book. Upon such certificate of registration such elector may vote in any precinct in his county, without further registration.

Sec. 12. Upon receiving such vote, the judges of elections shall fold such certificate of registration with the ballot of the elector offering to vote thereupon and deposit it in the ballot box.

Sec. 13. All acts and sections of acts, ordinances and sections of ordinances, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Sec. 4. This act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified the 24th day of August, A. D., 1868.

AN ACT

To amend an Act entitled "An act to provide for the Registration of Voters."

The General Assembly do enact:

SECTION 1. That the Justice of the Peace appointed by the Commissioners or by the Governor to act as Registrar of voters in each election precinct, as provided in the fourth section of an act entitled "An Act to provide for the Registration of Voters," shall make out two copies of the original registration book for the purposes hereinafter mentioned; which said copies, when certified to be correct by the Registrar, shall have all the legal force and effect of the original registration book.

Sec. 2. That the County Commissioners, or, in case no Commissioner shall have qualified, the Governor, shall, on or before the 20th of October next, appoint six collectors at each precinct who shall, with the Registrar, be judges of election at the next ensuing Presidential election; and the said six electors shall take the place of the electors provided for in the fifth section of the said act and shall perform all the duties which have been conferred upon them.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the judges provided for in the preceding section to provide at least three separate ballot boxes on the day of the election at their precincts for the convenience of voters, and as many more boxes as they may think

necessary. Two judges shall preside at each of the three ballot-boxes, and if a majority of the judges think more boxes necessary, they shall appoint two additional judges for each additional box. The Registrar shall assist at all the boxes.

Sec. 4. The Registrar of voters shall furnish the original registration book and the two copies hereinafter provided for, to the judges of the election in the precinct for which he is appointed; he shall furnish one copy to the judges of each of the three boxes, and if there be more than three boxes, he shall furnish one additional copy for each additional box.

Sec. 5. The Registrar shall receive one cent for each name copied from the original registration book.

Sec. 6. Any person who shall, with intent to commit a fraud, vote more than one time, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction, shall be imprisoned not less than six nor more than twelve months, or fined not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars at the discretion of the Court; and any registrar of voters or any clerk or copyist who shall make any entry or copy with intent to commit a fraud shall be liable to the same penalty.

Sec. 7. No registered voter shall be challenged on the day of election, but those offering to register on the day of election may be challenged, and every person applying for registration before the election may be challenged at that time in like manner.

Sec. 8. All acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 9. The Secretary of State shall furnish a printed copy of this to the Commissioners of each county.

Sec. 10. This act shall be in force from and after its passage.

Ratified the 24th day of August, A. D., 1868.

(Signed,) JOS. W. HOLDEN,

Speaker of House of Representatives.

(Signed,) TOD. R. CALDWELL,

President of the Senate.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

Office Secretary of State,

Raleigh, Aug. 28th 1868

I, Henry J. Menninger, Secretary of State, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original act on file in this office.

H. J. MENNINGER,

Secretary of State.

STATESVILLE FEMALE COLLEGE.

Prof. E. F. Rockwell, has taken formal possession of this institution of learning, and is busily engaged in arranging the College in the best manner for the accommodation of young ladies the ensuing session, which will begin the 1st Monday in September. All the Assistants have been engaged with an eye to their superior qualification, and the most flattering inducements are offered the public for a large attendance of young ladies.

We are pleased to learn that Miss A. B. Armstrong, of Augusta, Georgia, will take charge of the Musical Department in the Statesville Female College.

Miss Armstrong has had ten years experience as a teacher of Music, and always as principal. She comes with very flattering recommendations from Rev. Dr. Wilson, and others of Georgia.—Statesville American

Blind Tom was put to an old and well known musical test at Danbury, Conn., last week. A pianist played an original composition, and while both hands were playing at each end of the instrument he introduced his nose in the centre of the piano. Tom played the piece immediately after him, even to the nose introduction, convulsing the audience with laughter.

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The Editors of the Watchman and North State and AMERICAN, to save themselves from loss, and to induce cash payments for publishing Legal advertisements, have adopted the following scale for publishing the same, hereafter, and invite the attention of Clerks of the Courts, and other interested parties to the terms proposed.

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