

Letter of the Hon. Kenneth Rayner, declining the Nomination for the Vice Presidency.

RALEIGH, June 30, 1856.

Gentlemen:—On reaching this place, I find awaiting me your communication, dated "New York, June 17, in which you inform me, that by the Convention of the American party of the United States, which closed its sessions in that city on the 17th day of June, I have been unanimously nominated as a candidate for the office of Vice President of the United States, with the Hon. Robert F. Stockton, of New Jersey, as a candidate for President."

Allow me, in the first place, gentlemen, to express to you, as I have done through the organs you are, my grateful appreciation of this testimonial of your confidence and regard—my unfeigned gratitude for this exhibition of a wish to confer on me so distinguished an honor. I also fully estimate the honor of having my name associated with that of the gallant Stockton, in connection with the two first basins under government—a man, whose achievements belong to his country's history—who, whether in facing the foe in time of war, or deliberating in the council-chamber in time of peace, has ever proven himself to be bold, conservative and patriotic. Although I have not held this nomination, I proceeded with but few in numbers—yet, the lower they suffered, instead of being less, is, in my estimation, the greater. Considering all the circumstances surrounding them, and the difficulties by which they were environed, their noble conduct, as far as they were able, is a noble example to us all. Those who volunteer as "a fallen hero" are not likely to be moved by selfish considerations; and in their selection of those who are to follow them, their choice is most likely to fall upon those who are supposed to possess the qualities that can be relied on in the hour of trial.

While I agree, in the main, with you and those you represent, in regard to the evils and dangers which now beset our common country, yet I do not, perhaps, view the movements of the times, from exactly the same standpoint as you do. I may quarrel with the end, yet I may differ from you as to the means, of rescuing our country from the dangers which threaten it. Antiquated as the ideas may be, with many who yet profess to belong to the American party, yet I still regard the high principle of the American people to consist of three cardinal points:—1st, Liberty; 2d, Justice; 3d, Integrity. The inauguration of an intestine feeling of American nationality, not only in the administration of the government, but in the feelings and associations of our people—the maintenance of our freedom from all foreign influence—the integrity of our institutions—the independence of our press and of our judiciary—the independence of our Church, which has revealed itself as a great political element in our country, in alliance with a powerful party—and the preservation of our national Union, against all factions, North or South, East or West—these three cardinal principles, far higher, than any mere administrative policy, growing out of our domestic interests, as a nation. The two first transcend in importance anything embraced in the framework or operation of our free institutions. They affect man in his moral and social, as well as in his political relations. Here, then, was a "platform," large enough and strong enough for every man in the Republic to stand on, who loves his own country, and the people of his own country, better than other countries or other people, and who is resolved to maintain inviolate, and who is resolved to maintain inviolate, the Union with its imperfections, rather than run the hazard of disruption.

As long as the American party adhered strictly to these three great principles, as long as it was true to its mission, as long as it preserved its integrity and minor questions as long as it preserved its integrity of a great popular uprising against foreign influence, priestly tyranny, and assaults upon the Union, it swept every thing before it. As long as its members agreed to tolerate difference of opinion, on important questions, and to act together for the general good, nothing could stay its march. The rival parties of the country stood aghast at its whirlwind progress. I am not sure its immense strength, did not originate the excesses of its late disasters. Its friends seemed to think it strange to carry and to carry every thing, and hence they endeavored to engender, on other issues of domestic policy and of sectional interest. Of its enemies, those who openly assailed it with slander and misrepresentation were powerless for harm, whilst others crept with its folds, and sought to pervert its principles and others to say, "It is the only party that betrays it to its foes." And then again the indifferent—those who have no fixed opinions on any question, but who will fight for whomsoever will pay them best I mean the trading politicians—will not be loath to carry out their designs; and that end fitted out, to some extent, the machinery of party politics.

The effect was instantly apparent. As soon as those of one section began to interpose on its creed their views of anti-slavery, and those of another section, their views of pro-slavery—as soon as the direction and management of the order proceeded from the hands of the honest and upright, and who adhered to it for the sake of its principles alone, and it fell under the control of selfish and ambitious politicians—the people of the country saw and felt that something was wrong; and enthusiasm began to give way to indifference and neglect. With its first reverses, they were indignant, and got control of the order became alarmed; and then commenced that series of temperings and blunders, which have ended in justifying the public mind, to some extent, as to our debate aims, and subjecting us to the charge of inconsistency and vacillation. In the various attempts of disarming the enemies of the order, of the weapons of falsehood and perversion, occasions have been made again and again, instead of abating, have only increased the violence of their indignity. In the equally vain hope of making the hatred of the "Romish hierarchy" and of satisfying the croaking cardinal's spleen of lukewarm friends, one of our cardinal principles (I mean resistance to the aggressions of the Romish hierarchy) has been so diluted, that, like Douglas' Kansas bill, it is construed one way in one section, and another way in another. In addition to this, other issues, extraneous to the main purposes of the order, have been added from time to time—differing in different sections, to enable local politicians to save themselves at home, regardless of the effect upon the general good of the order, and a national organization. And it has thus happened, that many who were originally in the front of the movement—many who fought for it with might and main, in the days of its pristine purity—and themselves left far in the rear, and that they have become objects of denunciation and abuse, by those, who have thus travestied its simple and true mission, who held aloof from it in the weakness of its infancy, but who rushed to its aid in the strength of its manhood.

I foresaw the dangers which beset us, and predicted the consequences, at the Philadelphia Convention in June, 1855. I then discovered a growing disposition to try and reconcile the interests of the Romish Church in certain States, by abating the stringency of our opposition to the dangerous assumptions of Papacy—and I warned our friends, that if this was done, it would not only be a compromise of a great principle, but that whilst it would fall to appease the bitter

hatred of Romanism, it would lose us the confidence of the rural population, whose resistance to Popery was perhaps the strongest element, in their attachment to American principles. I there witnessed a struggle between the Northern and Southern Delegates, as to who should obtain a triumph, in the "slavery plank" of the Platform. For myself, I wanted no such plank in it. I used every effort in my power to prevent its insertion. I saw plainly, that plank the American party had to walk that plank, it would do so to its sorrow. First—because the question of slavery is extraneous to the aims and ends of our organization. Secondly—because from the very inherent nature of the order, it could accomplish its mission, only as a national party; embracing true-hearted Americans of every shade of opinion, on the other and minor questions, undivided and undivided, by sectional or local issues. Told not to do to the American party using the question of slavery agitation, as an electioneering hobby—as the anti-American party is doing, laying down a platform to be construed as anti-slavery in one section, and pro-slavery in another. And even if I had yielded to it, I knew, verily, that with the materials of which the American party was composed, no such game could be successfully played out. It will be reflected by many; that I then warned my Southern friends, that even if they could succeed in obtaining the strongest pro-slavery plank, they would be destroyed, by the very discussion of the order, followed (as I feared, I believed, and predicted would be the case) with the loss of our national unity, we should lose the talisman of our strength. I then told them, that the loss of harmony and concert of action would weaken us far more, than the platform would strengthen us, even in the South.

And even now, when our country is writhing in throes of convulsion, the political gamblers, who direct control this same party, are still playing with the question of Missouri Compromise repeal, as a counter in the game; when the stake is nothing short of the Union itself. They are still trying to cheat the people of both sections—telling the South, that the measure extends the area of slavery beyond the line of 36° 30'—and telling the North, that it does away with the guaranty, that slavery may go as far North as that line; and that it will enable them hereafter to interpose against it, South of that line.

The only hope, in my opinion, of arresting this evil of slavery agitation, is by driving from power, the party that uses it, as a means of perpetuating their dynasty. Until this slavery the country will have no peace. The road has not yet been opened to a world of felicity—I would appeal to every national, conservative, Union-loving man, from the Bay of Chaleur to the California gulph, to forget, for the time all their differences, and to unite in one common struggle, against the common enemy of all. Whether pro-slavery or anti-slavery, let the various parties, there is yet time—make an effort to secure unity and concert of action, in contending against a party which is deceiving both; and whose game is, to keep them in perpetual conflict, that the Union may be preserved. The road has not yet been opened to a world of felicity—I would appeal to every national, conservative, Union-loving man, from the Bay of Chaleur to the California gulph, to forget, for the time all their differences, and to unite in one common struggle, against the common enemy of all. Whether pro-slavery or anti-slavery, let the various parties, there is yet time—make an effort to secure unity and concert of action, in contending against a party which is deceiving both; and whose game is, to keep them in perpetual conflict, that the Union may be preserved. The road has not yet been opened to a world of felicity—I would appeal to every national, conservative, Union-loving man, from the Bay of Chaleur to the California gulph, to forget, for the time all their differences, and to unite in one common struggle, against the common enemy of all. Whether pro-slavery or anti-slavery, let the various parties, there is yet time—make an effort to secure unity and concert of action, in contending against a party which is deceiving both; and whose game is, to keep them in perpetual conflict, that the Union may be preserved.

As an American, I would advise, for the occasion, Americanism can never fight the battle upon the truth of its principles, as long as, by the tactics of its enemies, it is embarrassed by other issues, irrelevant to their cause. Americanism must bid the time. Our day will yet come. No matter what course duty may suggest in the coming political struggle—no matter what may be the issue of that struggle—yet, I hope, and believe, the day is not far distant when all these questions will be settled. The road has not yet been opened to a world of felicity—I would appeal to every national, conservative, Union-loving man, from the Bay of Chaleur to the California gulph, to forget, for the time all their differences, and to unite in one common struggle, against the common enemy of all. Whether pro-slavery or anti-slavery, let the various parties, there is yet time—make an effort to secure unity and concert of action, in contending against a party which is deceiving both; and whose game is, to keep them in perpetual conflict, that the Union may be preserved.

Entertaining these views, I have, from the beginning, exerted all my humble influence to preserve harmony and concert of action in the American party, to suppress dissension, and to keep the forces united for the great struggle before us. We have not only to combat foreign domination, Papal tyranny, and disunionism, but we have to contend with a party which has openly allied itself with the two former, and which enforces the latter, by the historical of place and own native vigor will restore it; and it will continue to grow and expand, till its branches will reach the clouds, and the American people shall repose in peace and comfort under its shade.

It may be, that we need more address to teach us clearly and fully the questions, I have stated, and whenever before them, their records should come, will teach us wisdom—will learn as the importance of harmony, and the necessity for concert and union hereafter. For our own destiny is linked to the cause of pure unadulterated Americanism. In this bark I have shipped with me, my friends, I have ever held its destiny in my hands, and the affections of its gallant crew. If, in the Providence of God, it is doomed to destruction, I will cling to the wreck, as long as there is a spar or a timber afloat, and when it goes down in the deep, will be engulfed in the vortex.

With much regard,  
Yours respectfully,  
K. RAYNER.

Messrs J. W. ALLEN, New Jersey; Geo. O. JONES, New York; A. M. BOBNETT, Delaware, Committee.

A Washington Portrait of Mr. Buchanan. The Washington Star, the lesser organ of Democracy, the seat of Government, just prior to the meeting of the Cincinnati Convention, spent its mind pretty freely about "the sage of Wheatland." Hear what he said:

"We do not agree with the Times and the Sentinel in the belief that he is the greatest man now identified with the Democratic party. He has been in public life almost platform a long time. Where is the legislative measure of domestic or foreign policy originated by him that has become a feature in our public history? He has been at the head of our State Department and our minister to the Court of St. James. Where is the treaty negotiated or consummated through his agency, which has been an important commercial treaty with Russia, which is almost verbatim a copy of many similar treaties with other governments, before and since, and in many instances by comparatively obscure Charges d'Affaires on the part of this government."

The idea of his peculiar popularity at the South is worse than a mistake. It is a dangerous misapprehension of the truth. The Southern sentiment is a devotion to him whatever. In her estimation they stand or fall altogether according to their records only are considered.

Now, upon the question of protection, the record of Mr. Buchanan is palpably against the desires of the South as that of any gentleman of any party who has ever been in public life. Upon the question of protection, the record of Mr. Buchanan is palpably against the desires of the South as that of any gentleman of any party who has ever been in public life. Upon the question of protection, the record of Mr. Buchanan is palpably against the desires of the South as that of any gentleman of any party who has ever been in public life.

Upon the Pacific Railroad question he certainly differs as widely from the Democracy of the South as any gentleman. Upon the Pacific Railroad question he certainly differs as widely from the Democracy of the South as any gentleman. Upon the Pacific Railroad question he certainly differs as widely from the Democracy of the South as any gentleman.

So you see, gentlemen, with my views, and in my position, I am unwilling to be restrained in adding to the discord which already exists, unfortunately for us, among those who are battling against the tyranny and corruption of the party in power. I am, therefore, compelled to decline the nomination, so flatteringly tendered to me.

In the views herein presented, and the position herein assumed, don't understand me as intending to quarrel with you, or to quarrel with any of our friends, or to quarrel with any of our friends, or to quarrel with any of our friends.

ing any one measure of the measures of those, who may have resolved to battle under the flag of the gallant Stockton. For from this, as I have said, I possibly may not be able to look at the issue from the same point of view they do.

No man of any party and observation can counsel, from this point of view, that the present condition of the country is dangerous. The present condition of the country is dangerous. The present condition of the country is dangerous.

We frankly confess that we have great distrust, indeed, of the peculiar classes of politicians out of Pennsylvania who have fairly mounted on Mr. Buchanan's back. Nearly every notorious unscrupulous man, who has been in the Democratic ranks, is among them. The latter is unscrupulous and energetic in carrying their points favoring special legislation, and, indeed, everything that the South abominates and for which she has long agonized.

Such, then, is the evidence of a leading Democratic journal, as it establishes these positions:—1. That Mr. Buchanan is a man, and has always been a Protectionist. 2. That he has heretofore been in favor of excluding slavery, by act of Congress, from all the territory of the United States north of 36° 30'.

3. That every Northern Democratic Free-soiler, who has been in the Democratic ranks, is among them. 4. He is for the Pacific Railroad, and in this differs widely from the Democracy of the South. 5. Every sound man at the North claiming affiliation with the Democracy has mounted on his (Mr. B's) back.

What Jefferson said. LET EVERY JEFFERSONIAN READ WHAT HE DID SAY. We often hear the declaration of our opponents that Thomas Jefferson not only opposed, but abhorred the principles and aims of the American party; that we think it well to show the people what his views were upon this matter. The reader will be surprised to find that these views were expressed from a high and noble standpoint, and that it has been such a year of the present decade, we have been glad to read that he has not only been a Free-soiler, but a man, and has always been a Protectionist.

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man in the non-slaveholding States, who, while claiming affiliation with the Democratic party, stands opposed to it upon the great overshadowing issue of the times, is an ardent advocate for Mr. Buchanan's nomination, avowedly because he believes that in administering the government Mr. B. will make the principles of the Missouri restriction, rather than that of the Kansas-Nebraska act.

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they have no "consideration," but would seize upon what they want, "to have their own kind of," restrained only by a coward fear, which keeps their hands from open violence. Here they propose a direct attack upon the laws that protect property. The laws which protect property, also our religion, our lives, the honor of our wives, and the chastity of our daughters. Submit to the arrogant claims they now make, and we shall next be called upon to surrender our altars to sacrifice, our wives to dishonor, and our daughters to shame.

Such are the boldly declared principles of a portion of the non-slaveholding population, and whose numbers in 1850, at the regular increasing rate, will be fifteen millions. Are the people of this country willing that such men should infuse their spirit into our laws, and warp and bias their direction? Are they satisfied to submit their lives, property, religion, and everything else they hold dear, to the mercenary mercies of men who have no higher "consideration" than the "will." Yet, unless the principles of the American party, are carried out, to this complex must it come at last. Deny it, who can or dare?

In saying this, it is unnecessary to say, that we do not, in the foregoing remarks, make the slightest remarks in regard to the educated foreigners of principle, who came to this country. We know that there are many Irishmen, Germans and other foreigners in our city and State, who are among our best, most intelligent, and patriotic citizens, but whose there is one like these, there are twenty of the reverse character. Shall we hesitate to deprive the nineteen of the power of injury, because forsooth we may detract the one from a slight privilege? Do we not indeed do these men a service by taking the ground which protects them, and which has brought no less violence from which we would protect ourselves? Are they not equally interested with us in the supremacy of laws which protect their lives, their property, their wives and their children, as well as our own? If not, they are not good citizens, and do not deserve the boon of citizenship at our hands.

Time has long ago established the wisdom of the great part of the teachings of the great political philosopher. All that he said in favor of the capacity of the intelligent American people for self-government, not only the unparalleled progress of our nation, but in the ample protection its government has afforded to each and every privilege as freemen has been verified. But it was left to the developments of this day and generation to establish a wisdom of the prediction above quoted, as well as the necessity of the solemn warning. Read the extracts from the speech given below. Place the sentiments it embodies, in juxtaposition with the language of Jefferson, and ask yourselves, readers, if its prophecy is not already established?

Brotherhood—For the first time, I speak in an assembly like this. We have not all the same language, but our feelings are the same, they unite with the American people. For the advancement of these sentiments, we must unite with them in our country. In our country, we must have liberty, and many of us have lost in battle our fathers, brothers or sons. Here we are free, but not free enough; we want the liberty of living, (Applause.)

We have fought in Germany for liberty of speech, and the liberty of conscience. The Government presses against us in this movement, but we need not care for that; those papers say, we must act on our own hook. Here we have social liberty of speech and liberty of the press; and when we want any thing, that is just, we are bound to obtain it. (Applause.)

If you don't know your rights yet, hunger will teach them to you. You don't get bread nor wood, and there is plenty of bread. At our revolution in June, we obtained three months credit, and when we had no bread, we obtained it, because we were 200,000 brigades strong. I have nothing further to say, but to say that I put in prison the principles of the social republic. The Tribune said to-day, said that the rich would use us as millions if they were forced to do so; but how they will do the rackets and refuse to give it up. When the rich are hungry, they have no money to buy food, and they are forced to buy it, it must be the same with the masses, help yourselves and then God will help you. We must act like the wolf, and we do not want any auxiliaries! Let us act by ourselves. (Applause.)

Windsor's Double-Acting ROTARY FORCE PUMP. This pump has been patented in England, and is the only one of its kind in the world. It is a double-acting pump, and will pump water up to 100 feet high, and will pump water down to 100 feet deep. It is a very simple and easy to use, and will pump water up to 100 feet high, and will pump water down to 100 feet deep. It is a very simple and easy to use, and will pump water up to 100 feet high, and will pump water down to 100 feet deep.

JUST IN TIME. A Lot of the choicest Skirts, Robe " Cactus " Mohair " Gray " Also, Black Elastic Belts, Patent Leather Belts, and Palm Leaf Fans. W. H. & R. S. TUCKER, July 4, 1856.

REMOVAL. HENRY A. DEPKIN takes this opportunity to inform his friends and the public generally, that he has removed from his former place, opposite the Capitol, down on Fayetteville St. four doors below the Post Office, opposite the Market House. Thankful for past patronage, he solicits a continuance of the same. H. A. DEPKIN, Raleigh, July 3, 1856.

RALEIGH MILITARY ACADEMY.—The 30th session of this institution will commence on the 10th of July, 1856. For particulars write to me for catalogues. J. M. LOVEJOY, Raleigh, July 3, 1856.

FOR RENT, for the balance of the year, a house and lot situated in the South-eastern part of the city. There is a good garden attached, with all necessary vegetables growing for family use. Any person wishing to examine the premises can do so by inquiring at this office. Raleigh, July 9th 1856. 5-4

Candidates in Johnston. The Americans of Johnston have don nominating the following short ticket: SENATE—Haroah Richardson. Commons—Willis H. Saw. Sim.

Permit me, Mr. Chairman, for a moment to speak upon a subject, to which I have never before adverted upon this floor, and to which, I trust, I may never again have occasion to advert. I mean the subject of Slavery. I BELIEVE IT TO BE A GREAT NATIONAL AND A GREAT MORAL EVIL. I THANK GOD MY LOT HAS BEEN CAST IN A STATE WHERE IT DOES NOT EXIST. IT HAS BEEN A CURSE ENTAILED UPON US BY THAT NATION WHICH MAKES IT A SUBJECT OF REPROBATION TO OUR INSTITUTIONS.—James Buchanan.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the newspapers of this city. JAMES HOPKINS, WM. JERKINS, JAMES BUCHANAN.

Terms of the Signal for the Campaign. Semi-weekly \$1.00 Weekly to single subscribers, 75 cts For a Club of ten \$5.00

Mr. Gilmer's Appointments. Wilmington, July 10th. Robeson, Brunswick co., July 11th. Whiteville, July 12th. Elizabethtown, July 14th. Fayetteville, July 16th.

Wednesday Morning, July 9, 1856.

"The foundation of my preference is more than administered the Executive with signal success and ability. He and found true, faithful, honest and"

If there be those either North or South who administer the Executive with signal success and ability. He and found true, faithful, honest and"

NATIONAL AMERICAN TICKET. FOR PRESIDENT, MILLARD FILLMORE, OF NEW YORK.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT, ANDREW JACKSON DONELSON, OF TENNESSEE.

FOR GOVERNOR, JOHN A. GILMER, OF GEORGIA.

AMERICAN ELECTORAL TICKET. FOR THE STATE AT LARGE, L. B. CARMICHAEL, of Wilkes, JOHN W. CAMERON, of Camblerland, 1st District, Lewis Thompson, of Bertie, O. P. Meares, of New Hanover, Jas. T. Littlejohn, of Granville, A. J. Stodum, of Chatham, Gen. J. M. Leach, of Davidson, Gen. A. J. Dargan, of Anson, Jno. D. Hyman, of Buncombe.

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The anniversary of our national independence was celebrated in this City, with more than the usual spirit. The speech of W. W. Holden, on the Union, was well written, and however we may differ with the orator in some particular points, it is gratifying to listen to a well-merited tribute to the value of the Union. The Sabbath school celebration, one of the most interesting features of the occasion, was conducted with order and propriety. After an eloquent and appropriate address from Rev. Mr. Atkinson, of the Presbyterian Church, the little folks partook of the good things provided for them. The display of fireworks at night, we learn, was magnificent. Our two well-dressed military companies added much to the interest of the occasion.

The committee of arrangements and shall deserve much credit for the order and decorum their arrangements secured on this anniversary.

We had the pleasure of hearing the discussion between Messrs. Gilmer and Bragg, at Wilson, on Saturday last. Our space will not permit us to give an account of it in this issue; but we can say to the members and friends of the American party, that our candidate more than sustained his reputation, for ability as a strong and forcible speaker. He took up an exposed in a masterly manner the positions and opinions of his competitor and made him writhe and wince under his well directed and powerful blows. The great issues before the people and the country were discussed by Mr. Gilmer in a manner not satisfactory to his friends, and damaging to the cause.

We shall take occasion in our next issue, to give an account of it in this issue; but we can say to the members and friends of the American party, that our candidate more than sustained his reputation, for ability as a strong and forcible speaker. He took up an exposed in a masterly manner the positions and opinions of his competitor and made him writhe and wince under his well directed and powerful blows. The great issues before the people and the country were discussed by Mr. Gilmer in a manner not satisfactory to his friends, and damaging to the cause.

We give in another column, the letter of Hon. Kenneth Rayner declining the nomination for the Vice Presidency tendered to him a warm and uncompromising advocate of Fillmore and Donelson, and were acquainted with his devotion to the cause, knew that he, devoted as he is, would give his time, his talents, his efforts to the advocacy of the glorious cause of the American party as placed before the eyes of the United States.

Candidates in Johnston. The Americans of Johnston have don nominating the following short ticket: SENATE—Haroah Richardson. Commons—Willis H. Saw. Sim.

Permit me, Mr. Chairman, for a moment to speak upon a subject, to which I have never before adverted upon this floor, and to which, I trust, I may never again have occasion to advert. I mean the subject of Slavery. I BELIEVE IT TO BE A GREAT NATIONAL AND A GREAT MORAL EVIL. I THANK GOD MY LOT HAS BEEN CAST IN A STATE WHERE IT DOES NOT EXIST. IT HAS BEEN A CURSE ENTAILED UPON US BY THAT NATION WHICH MAKES IT A SUBJECT OF REPROBATION TO OUR INSTITUTIONS.—James Buchanan.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the newspapers of this city. JAMES HOPKINS, WM. JERKINS, JAMES BUCHANAN.