

Lexington and Yadkin Flag.

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VOL. I.

JAMES A. LONG, Editor.

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No discount on these rates.

At a regular meeting of the National Council of the American Party, begun and held at Philadelphia, on the 5th of June, A. D. 1855, the following was adopted as the Platform and Principles of the Organization:

I.—The acknowledgment of that Almighty Being who rules over the Universe, who presides over the councils of nations, who conducts the affairs of men, and who, in every step by which we have advanced to the character of an independent nation, has distinguished us by some token of providential agency.

II.—The cultivation and development of a sentiment of profoundly intense American feeling; of passionate attachment to our country, its history and its institutions; of admiration for the purer days of our national existence; of veneration for the heroism that precipitated our Revolution; and of emulation of the virtue, wisdom and patriotism that framed our constitution, and first successfully applied its provisions.

III.—The maintenance of the Union of these United States as the paramount political good; or, to use the language of Washington, "the primary object of patriotic desire."

1st. Opposition to all attempts to weaken or subvert it.

2d. Uncompromising antagonism to every principle of policy that endangers it.

3d. The advocacy of an equitable adjustment of all political differences which threaten its integrity or perpetuity.

4th. The suppression of all tendencies to political division, founded on "geographical discriminations, or on the belief that there is a real difference of interests and views" between the various sections of the Union.

5th. The full recognition of the rights of the several States, as expressed and reserved in the Constitution; and a careful avoidance, by the General Government, of all interference with their rights, by legislative or executive action.

IV.—Obedience to the Constitution of these United States, as the supreme law of the land, sacredly obligatory upon all its parts and members; and steadfast resistance to the spirit of innovation upon its principles, however specious the pretenses. A-voicing that in all doubtful or disputed points it may only be legally ascertained and expounded by the judicial power of the United States.

And, as a corollary to the above:

1. A habit of reverential obedience to the laws, whether National, or Municipal, until they are either repealed or declared unconstitutional by the proper authority.

2. A tender and sacred regard for those acts of statesmanship which are to be distinguished from acts of ordinary legislation, by the fact of their being of the nature of compacts and agreements; and so, to be considered a fixed and settled national policy.

V.—A radical revision and modification of the laws regulating immigration, and the settlement of immigrants. Offering to the honest immigrant who, from love of liberty or hatred of oppression, seeks an asylum in the United States, a friendly reception and protection. But unqualifiedly condemning the transmission to our shores of felons and paupers.

VI.—The essential modification of the Naturalization Laws.

The repeal by the Legislatures of the respective States, of all State laws allowing foreigners not naturalized to vote.

The repeal, without retroactive operation, of all acts of Congress making grants of land to unnaturalized foreigners, and allowing them to vote in the Territories.

VII.—Hostility to the corrupt means by which the leaders of party have hitherto forced upon us our rulers and our political creeds.

Implacable enmity against the prevalent demoralizing system of rewards for political subserviency, and of punishments for political independence.

Disgust for the wild hunt after office which characterizes the age.

These on the one hand. On the other: Imitation of the practice of the purer days of the Republic; and admiration of the

maxim that "office should seek the man, and not man the office," and of the rule, that the just mode of ascertaining fitness for office is the capability, the faithfulness, and the honesty of the incumbent or candidate.

VIII.—Resistance to the aggressive policy and corrupting tendencies of the Roman Catholic Church in our country, by the advancement to all political stations—executive, legislative, judicial, or diplomatic—of those only who do not hold civil allegiance, directly or indirectly, to any foreign power, whether civil or ecclesiastical, and who are Americans by birth, education, and training—thus fulfilling the maxim: "AMERICANS ONLY SHALL GOVERN AMERICA."

The protection of all citizens in the legal and proper exercise of their civil and religious rights and privileges; the maintenance of the right of every man to the full, unrestrained, and peaceful enjoyment of his own religious opinions and worship, and a jealous resistance of all attempts by any sect, denomination or church, to obtain an ascendency over any other in the State, by means of any special privileges or exemption, by any political combination of its members, or by a division of their civil allegiance with any foreign power, potentate, or ecclesiastical.

IX.—The reformation of the character of our National Legislature, by elevating to that dignified and responsible position men of higher qualifications, purer morals, and more unselfish patriotism.

X.—The restriction of executive patronage, especially in the matter of appointments to office, so far as it may be permitted by the Constitution, and consistent with the public good.

XI.—The education of the youth of our country in schools provided by the State; which schools shall be common to all, without distinction of creed or party, and free from any influence or direction of a denominational or partisan character.

2nd, inasmuch as Christianity, by the constitutions of nearly all the States; by the decisions of the most eminent judicial authorities; and by the consent of the people of America, is considered an element of our political system; and, as the Holy Bible is at once the source of Christianity, and the depository and fountain of all civil and religious freedom, we oppose every attempt to exclude it from the schools thus established in the States.

XII.—The American party, having arisen upon the ruins and in despite of the opposition of the Whig and Democratic parties, cannot be in any manner responsible for the chaotic and confused condition of either. And the systematic agitation of the slavery question by those parties, having elevated sectional hostility into a positive element of political power, and brought our institution into peril, it has, therefore, become the imperative duty of the American party to interpose for the purpose of giving peace to the country and perpetuity to the Union. And, as experience has shown it impossible to reconcile opinions so extreme as those which separate the disputants; and, as there can be no dishonor in submitting to the laws, the National Council has deemed it the best guarantee of common justice and of future peace, to abide by and maintain the existing laws upon the subject of slavery, as a final and conclusive settlement of that subject in spirit and in substance.

And regarding it the highest duty to avow their opinions, upon a subject so important, in distinct and unequivocal terms, it is hereby declared, as the sense of this National Council, that Congress possesses no power, under the Constitution, to legislate upon the subject of slavery in the States, where it does or may exist, or to exclude any State from admission into the Union because its constitution does or does not recognize the institution of slavery as a part of its social system; and expressly pretermittting any expression of opinion upon the power in Congress to establish or prohibit slavery in any Territory, it is the sense of the National Council that Congress ought not to legislate upon the subject of slavery within the Territories of the United States, and that any interference by Congress with slavery as it exists in the District of Columbia, would be a violation of the spirit and intention of the compact by which the State of Maryland ceded the District to the United States, and a breach of the national faith.

XIII.—The policy of the Government of the United States, in its relations with foreign governments, is to exact justice from the strongest, and do justice to the weakest; restraining, by all the power of the government, all its citizens from interference with the internal concerns of nations with whom we are at peace.

XIV.—This National Council declares that all the principles of the Order shall be henceforward everywhere openly avowed; and that each member shall be at liberty to make known the existence of the Order, and the fact that he himself is a member, and it recommends that there be no concealment of the places of meeting of subordinate councils.

E. B. BARTLETT, of Kentucky,
President of National Council.

C. D. DESHLER, of New Jersey,
Corresponding Secretary.

JAMES M. STEPHENS, of Maryland,
Recording Secretary.

A RAW ONE.—We heard of an editor once who had his press stopped, while working the inside form, to correct a mistake on the outside. It wouldn't have done for him to have been in our streets the other day when that drove of cattle passed through. He might have been taken for a hay stack.—
The Pennant.

Communications.

For the Lexington and Yadkin Flag.
THE YADKIN PLANK ROAD.

I see in the Flag of 24th August, under the Editorial head, an article charging J. W. Thomas, J. M. Leach, Henry Walser and William March, of being guilty of such a degree of neglect as cannot and should not be tolerated, in the loss of the Yadkin Plank Road Charter, which passed both Houses of the last General Assembly. Now it is true, that the same article which makes the above charge, also charges the Speakers and Clerks of the two Houses, with being guilty of the same offence.

Without attempting to meet the charges against any one except myself, I will state my surprise that the editor of the Flag, should make the charge against any set of men, and include my name among the number. He must recollect that at a meeting of the Stockholders of the Yadkin Plank Road Company, in the Court House in the town of Lexington, when the same charges were against us, that there stated in a public speech, that early in the Session, I introduced the Bill in the Senate, that it passed its third and last reading, was then sent to the House of Commons; that it passed the House with amendment to conform with a general law on the subject of Plank and Turnpike roads. The Bill then came back to the Senate for consideration, on my motion, it was referred to the Committee on corporations, (as I desired to examine the amendments) the clerk, by mistake handed it over to the committee on Internal Improvements. Mr. Fisher being chairman of that committee, I went to his seat, examined the amendments, found all right, requested him to report it back to the Senate and recommend that the Senate concur. Mr. Fisher did as I requested and the Senate concurred in the amendment.

I then stated in the Court House, before the Stockholders of the Yadkin Plank Road Company that the Bill had passed both branches of the Legislature, and was then the law of the land, and all that was lacking, was the signature of the speakers of the two Houses. The editor must recollect, that at this part of my statement in the meeting of the Stockholders, that the chairman of the meeting, Col. Samuel Hargrave, called me to order, that he considered, that was not the place to defend myself against a personal charge when I took my seat, and did not appeal from the decision, (although I was satisfied I was in order) because I had made a full statement before I was called to order. Now the editor of the Flag must recollect, that he followed me and stated that I was in order, that if it was a personal matter, it was a public matter, that we were then in a Plank Road meeting, the charter of which was lost, and in as much as I was a member of the Legislature that passed the charter, and it was lost, it was not only in order, to make the statement, but that it was my duty to do so; the Company demanded it, and the public required it. Now I once more ask the Flag man, if what I have said in regard to the case, is true, (all of which I can prove by the Journals and personal testimony,) if he cannot strike my name out of the bill of charges, I ask him what more he would have had me to do, to complete and perfect the law? what more would he had the members of Davidson and Davie to do? We passed the Bill through both branches of the Legislature. Would he demand of us to take hold of the two speakers' hands, (as he would an old woman who was about to make her mark on an answer in a bill of equity) and hold on to the hand until the signing was done. If the Flag man really believes the duties of members of the Legislature extend, as far as I have intimated, I confess I am surprised, that he ever aspired to the high position which I have attained, of representing the people of Davidson in the Senate of North Carolina.

In addition and in conclusion, I will say to friends and enemies, that if you will look in the journal of the Senate of 1855, page 154, in the business of January 10th, you will read as follows:—that is, if you can read print.

Mr. Fisher from the committee, on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred the engrossed bill to incorporate the Yadkin Plank Road Company, reported the same, back to the Senate, and recommends that the Senate concur in the amendments of the House of Commons.

The amendments were concurred in, and the House of Commons informed thereof by message.

Feeling satisfied, that the proof offered, will satisfy all my friends, and the public generally, I will say to my enemies, if you do not believe my statement, and you cannot read print, as no doubt many of you cannot, I will ask you to call on C. F. Fisher Senator from Rowan. John A. Gilmer, Editor of the Flag.

Senator from Guilford, both of whom will bear me out even to your satisfaction, that I am not to blame, but that I did as much for the passage of the Yadkin Plank Road Bill, as any man could do.

But before I close, Mr. Editor, I will say that the loss of the Yadkin P. R. charter, was not the main cause of the defeat of our road. Had the Wilkesboro' and Mocksville P. R. Bill never passed, appropriating a large amount of money by the State, our road would never have been defeated. Many of the Mocksville people believed, if our road was killed, the Wilkesboro' road would stop there; and that thereby Mocksville would be the terminus, and make a large town thereby. I told them if they defeated ours, it would defeat both—that individuals would not take the stock necessary to get the State in, if the road did not reach the Railroad. And there were other reasons and other persons, who united with the Davie people to defeat our road, and to use your own words in your charge, let me ask you, if in the defeat of the Yadkin P. R. at the meeting in Mocksville, if there was not foul play, or such a degree of neglect, as cannot and should not be tolerated. You was present at the meeting, when the Road was killed. I was not: I was one of the special Court, that day, and attended to that duty, was in present when the dreadful deed was committed. I charge this, you can't prove an alibi. I make no personal charge; the road has been killed, let the let the public know who did it, and how the horrid deed was committed. "Come, gentlemen, (including yourself, Mr. Editor) no dodging—no shirking, face the music, an indignant and injured public demand investigations." I am, Respectfully,

J. W. THOMAS.

HIGH DOINGS IN KANSAS.

The people of Kansas, betrayed by their Governor, and assailed by the combined hosts of the Northern Abolitionists, who are crowding upon the territory the off-scourings of Europe and Yankeeedom, and tampering with the slaves, have had a very difficult part to play. But they appear to be rough customers, and quite equal to all emergencies. Nothing but the extraordinary circumstances by which they are surrounded could excuse the expedients to which they resort. But self-defence, the safety of themselves and property, justify any measures.

Recently, the people about Atchison, having satisfactory reasons for believing that there were abolition emissaries in their midst, well provided with money, tampering with their slaves, and endeavoring to excite insurrection, they held a public meeting and warned all such characters to depart forthwith, or they would be dealt with in a summary manner. Some of them took the hint and absconded. Others refused to do so, and one of them, a Rev. Mr. Butler, was subjected to the mild punishment of being rafted down the Missouri.

On his arrival at St. Louis, he furnished the St. Louis Democrat with an account of his expedition, which is subjoined.

The "Squatter Sovereign" has the following notice of the affair, from which it may be inferred that a like treatment will be visited on all who merit it.

"After various plans for his disposal had been considered, it was finally decided to place him on a raft composed of two logs, firmly lashed together; that his baggage and a loaf of bread be given him; and having attached a flag to his primitive bark, emblazoned with mottoes indicative of our contempt for such characters, Mr. Butler was set adrift on the great Missouri, with the letter R. legibly painted on his forehead.

He was escorted some distance down the river by several of our citizens, who seeing him pass, several rock-heaps in quite a skillful manner, bade him adieu, and returned to Atchison.

"Such treatment may be expected by all scoundrels visiting our town for the purpose of interfering with our time-honored institutions, and the same punishment we will be happy to award all Freesoilers, Abolitionists, and their emissaries. If this should prove insufficient to deter them from their dastardly and infamous propensity for negro stealing, we will draw largely on the hemp crops of our Missouri neighbors for a supply of the article, sufficient to afford every jail-bird in the North a necklace twelve feet in length.

"With confidence we appeal to the Squatter Sovereigns of Kansas, to know if our slaves shall be tampered with? Will they allow the Greeleys and Sewards of the Northern States to inundate our broad Territory with the scurf and scum collected from their prisons, brothels and sink-holes of iniquity? Is society, composed of such ingredients as these, a proper school for the morals of your children? Are such men fit companions for your daughters? Such women fit wives for your sons?

Squatters of Kansas, if ever the eyes

of the world were fixed on a political contest, they are gazing on you now. Your brethren of the Slaveholding States have placed their cause in your hands. They have declared Kansas the Thermopylae of the South, and you the Spartan band, that must defend it from the foul invasion of Northern fanatics. They have crossed the Rubicon, broken through all restraint, and forced us to the final issue. Our rights are trampled on, and we cry in vain for redress. We are now battling for the very existence of our institutions. We have found the Federal Constitution, which they profess to reverence so highly, impotent and unable to protect us. Their pledges are all broken and worthless, and now only two alternatives remain. We must either again submit to a compromise with a party possessed of an invincible majority, a party whose very act has declared them purjured, or we must rise, unanimously, and drive the foe from our midst. In order to accomplish this end, no mercy can be shown, and none is needed. Let your action be as immutable as the Median Law.

Citizens of Kansas, can you hesitate which course to pursue? If your self-esteem is insufficient, your interests are enough to decide you. If you hesitate now, you are lost. Your brethren of Atchison have taken a bold, manly and decided stand. Unassisted, they pledge themselves to purge their town, and its vicinity, from the polluted presence of Abolitionism. Without your aid, more they cannot do. Give it us, and Kansas shall soon claim her proper place among her sister States, in a Southern Republic.

If the Abolitionists seek war, it shall come, and sooner than they wish, and if you are good men, and true, it shall be "war to the knife, and knife to the hilt."

The Louisville Councils on the Late Riots. The City Councils of Louisville, Kentucky, after a full and patient investigation of all the circumstances of the late riot, have adopted a report, unanimously, which points to the foreigners as the first to commence the bloody and destructive work of that fatal night. We have heretofore presented the most conclusive proofs, by affidavits that this was the case, and we now take pleasure in adding the weight of the City Councils of Louisville to those statements. The party or paper that disputes the validity of the testimony, or the correctness of the report, is certainly entitled to the palm for preserving impudence and misrepresentation.

THE REPORT. Mr. Gillis, from the Committee on Police, to whom was referred the Mayor's message in regard to the election riots, made the following report, which was adopted unanimously:

To the Common Council, City of Louisville: The Committee on the Police, to whom was referred a message from the Mayor, concerning the destruction of life and property in the city of Louisville, on Monday August 6, 1855, have had sundry conversations with many of their fellow-townsmen, upon points immediately connected with this much-to-be-regretted occurrence, and have obtained information therefrom of a character unmistakable in its connexion with the origin of the election riots.

On the day of the election, a portion of your committee visited various parts of the city, and were rather surprised that otherwise to find such universal quiet and good-feeling at the polls throughout the city; and had it not been for the foreign population commencing the difficulties in every instance, the day would have passed more peaceably than is customary on such occasions. So far as your committee are apprized—and we believe we are correct in making the assertion that there was no occurrence of an improper or serious nature at any voting-place within the city—all disturbances originated at a distance therefrom, and were commenced by foreigners, with a wilful and premeditated determination to destroy indiscriminately the lives of American citizens.

The property known as "Quinn's Row," at the corner of Eleventh and Main streets, was a complete armory. For three weeks previous to the election, arms and ammunition were stored therein, and the owner and occupant of the premises, (Quinn) in conversation with sundry gentlemen, asserted that said guns would be used against the Americans, and actually exhibited balls which had been moulded for the purpose of shooting from said guns.

In order to substantiate this accusation, we refer to David L. Beaty, a member of this council, and to George W. Griffey, street inspector for the western district. There were also several others present whose names it is not important to mention.

On the day of the election, several Irishmen were seen in the cellar of Quinn's house, moulding bullets, and numerous others going in and coming from the buildings with guns, pistols, and bowie-knives, &c. Mr. Griffey further informed your committee that he is employed in removing the rubbish from the premises recently the residence of said Quinn, and that he has taken therefrom the remains of muskets, rifles, shot-guns and pistols. Other fire-arms were carried off by persons making their escape from said houses before and after they were fired.

From this Irish armory, from this Jesuitical resort, and by a den of assassins therein congregated, the first attack was made, the first blood was shed, the first murder committed in the 8th ward.

By these priest-ridden foreign hirelings, and from within the walls of these desecrated habitations, peaceable and quiet Americans were shot dead without provocation while in the discharge of their daily and legitimate business. This premeditated, unprovoked, and indiscriminate slaughter of innocent men, was more than Americans could endure.

On Shelby street, between Walnut and Broadway, the houses occupied by foreigners were mostly supplied with guns, and unoffending passers-by were shot at from nearly every dwelling in that neighborhood, and many of them badly wounded. In various other portions of the ward, murderous attacks were made by foreign papists on unsuspecting Americans, and doubtless at the instigation of those higher and more skilled in the dark deeds of Catholicism.

After a thorough investigation of this whole subject, your committee conclude that the foreign-born population, aided by would-be Americans, planned and set in motion the machinery from which all disturbances originated on the day of the election.

It must be an admitted fact, that the killing of so many estimable American citizens, and that, too, by the Pope of Rome, was enough to create in the breasts of every true American a feeling of revenge, and if, in the moment of excitement, and from causes undeniably just, they manifested a retaliatory disposition, your committee cannot, and will not impute to them a censure therefor.

In proof of every declaration herein made, whether direct or implied, your committee refer to the accompanying testimony, as published in the Weekly Journal of the 15th instant. The committee ask that the evidence as above named, be spread on the Journal of the council, and further, that this report be adopted. JOS. A. GILLISS, Chairman.

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Mr. Atchison Bibb, in a speech lately delivered in Frankfort, Ky., gives Sam's history thus:—Sam was an immaculate conception. He was born in Philadelphia on the 4th of July, 1776.—He was born talking. His first words are found in the Declaration of Independence which shook the thrones of Europe to the centre. King George while he was young, undertook to whip him because he was sassy. With the help of George Washington he licked the King's forces and took as much land as he wanted. Sam married an American woman called Constitution, and has by her thirty-one sons and daughters, all of whom are now living, and occupying lands from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean. Constitution has five or six young ones still at the breast. Sam's family, however, are peculiar. They all feed, fatten and thrive upon constitution's republican milk and obey their mother. Sam protects his family by throwing around them a great flag glittering with the blood of martyrs of liberty. Sam and his family are now the greatest people on the face of the earth. Sam, like other men of large families, has had his troubles. The Northern boys kick up occasionally because the Southern boys own 'niggers'. Sam says to them: We must have cotton; we must have rice and sugar; these 'niggers' seem to have been made by the Lord to stand the climate of the South, and we can't get along without them. So the boys hear the old man and look Constitution in the face and agree to have no further quarrel. Sam is also troubled about the foreign people. So many of them are coming over here to his plantation who don't like and don't understand his republican ways that he is afraid that some day they will pull down the old republican mansion. Sam says to his children: Always be united, and don't suffer the old house to be pulled down.

A young beauty beheld, one evening, two horses running off at locomotive speed, with a light wagon. As they approached, she was horrified at recognizing, in the occupants of the vehicle, two gentlemen of her acquaintance.

"Boys," she screamed in terror, "Jump out—quick—jump out—especially George." It is needless to say that her sentiments as to "George" were from that time forth no secret.

When is a horse not a horse? When he's a-trotting.

Procrastination is the thief of time.