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PLATFORM OF THE AMERICAN PARTY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

At a Convention of the American party, held at Raleigh, on the 10th of October, 1855, the following resolutions were adopted.

Resolved, That, as the causes which rendered the secrecy of the American organization necessary in its infancy, no longer exist—all the secret ceremonies of the order whether of initiation, obligations, signs, constitutions, rituals, or passwords be abolished—that we do constitute ourselves into a publicly organized party—that we do challenge our opponents to the public discussion of our principles—and we do hereby invite and invoke the aid and co-operation of all the citizens of the State, without regard to their former political affiliations, in maintaining and carrying out the great aims, principles and objects of the American party.

Resolved, That we do hereby ratify and endorse the principles enunciated in the platform of the American party, by the National Council of the same, begun and held at Philadelphia, on the 5th day of June, 1855, in relation to the political policy of the Government—whilst at the same time, we consider the three great primary principles of the organization, which constitute the basis of our party, as paramount in importance to any issues of mere governmental policy.

Resolved, That these three great primary principles are, first, the confinement of the honors, offices and responsibilities of political station, under our government, to native-born Americans, with a due regard, at the same time, to the protection of the foreign-born in all the civil rights and privileges guaranteed to freemen by the constitution, whether Federal or State.

Secondly, Resistance to religious intolerance, and a rigid maintenance of the great principle of religious freedom—by excluding from office and power, those who would persecute for opinion's sake, who would control the politics of the country through Church influences or priestly interference; and who acknowledge an allegiance to any power on earth, whether civil or ecclesiastical, as paramount to that which they owe to the Constitution.

And, Thirdly, Unswerving devotion to the Union of these States, and resistance to all factions and sectional attempts to weaken its bonds.

Resolved, That in all nominations for political station hereafter to be made by the American Party, sit recommended that the same be done in open public meeting—and that all those who agree with us in principle, and who concur in our aims and objects, shall hereafter be recognized as members of the American party.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the American Party in this State to hold a Convention of delegates, to be appointed in public primary meetings in the respective counties, in Greensboro', on Thursday the 10th day of April next, for the purpose of nominating a candidate to be run by the American party for Governor at the next election—that each county appoint as many Delegates as it chooses, and that the mode of voting in said convention be regulated by the convention itself.

Resolved, That we consider the 23d day of February next—the time heretofore selected by the National Council of the American party, for the nomination of candidates for President and Vice-President, as too early a day for that purpose, and we do hereby recommend to our brethren of the American party throughout the Union, the propriety of postponing the holding of said convention, to some time in the month of June or July.

Resolved, However, lest such postponement may not take place, it is deemed advisable to appoint two delegates to represent the State at large in such nominating Convention—and it is recommended to the American party in each Congressional District to hold primary meetings in the respective counties, and appoint delegates to District Conventions, for the selection of delegates from each respective District a said nominating Convention.

Resolved, That an Executive Central Committee of five, be appointed by this body whose duty it shall be to attend to the general concerns of the American party in this State, to carry on the necessary correspondence, and take such incisive steps

as may be deemed necessary for the more thorough organization of the said executive committee be authorized and requested to appoint a County Executive Committee for each County in the State; and that said County Executive Committee do further appoint a sub-committee for each election precinct in the county, with a view to a more thorough and complete organization of the American party in North Carolina.

FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

Who is Responsible?

The country has waited over a month for the House of Representatives to organize and proceed to business, they have waited in vain, and prospects seem to grow more gloomy. Now the question recurs who is responsible—net who is to blame, for perhaps none are, but who is responsible—for the non-organization and the regular proceedings of Government? We answer, the Administration. What? with a majority against them in the House, and yet responsible! Yes; an Administration always is responsible for carrying on the Government; and nothing but an organized factions opposition in the majority, who refuse to proceed to do anything, can exonerate an Administration from responsibility. An Administration can not fold its arms and say to the opposition in Congress, unite and carry on the Government; or, rather, enable us to do it without our own aid.—But their seems to be two Opposition parties, who, neither agree with each other, nor with the Administration, or form separately a majority. Can the Administration, then, throw off all responsibility because they have not a majority? They are responsible for an organization, and if they are unable to bring other sections to them upon one man, or a single principle or platform, they must go to another section, or unite with another portion, or adopt another candidate, principle or platform. And if, after every honorable effort, they fail, they are bound to take what they may deem the least of two evils, and go over to one or the other section for the purpose of organization; or else to give up the Government, as unable to carry it on.

This would be the case with an English Ministry.—They could not plead the disagreement of the Opposition or the refusal to come to them. They must secure a majority or own themselves beaten and surrender the seals. Now, so far as regards the organization of Congress, the parliamentary principles applies here with full force.—Suppose the triangular fight is continued until the session terminates, without an appropriation bill passed or an act done to sustain the Government, will the Administration be exonerated? Can they evade responsibility by repeating "Richardson 72 Banks 101, Fuller 30?" But why Richardson 72, and he only? Is their no man who could receive more votes than he? After the Administration were defeated before the people upon the Kansas-Nebraska issue, was it a mere cunning device to evade the responsibility of a non-organization to propose for Speaker the very man who carried that obnoxious measure through the House, and who, of course, could not receive a single vote from any section of the opposition? Or was it a matter of shrewd statesmanship to compel the opposition to recognize the Kansas measure after the people had condemned it? The choice of the candidate and the caucus platform would seem to indicate the latter; and the strict adherence thus far looks like an avowal of Richardson and Kansas, or no organization, no Government. Now are the administration willing to put themselves upon that point, and to stick to it to the better end, without change, adjourn Congress and go home, leaving the Government without resources, and in a state of anarchy? If so, the sooner it is avowed and adopted the better. It will save expense and give the people time for consideration. X. Y. Z.

FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA ARGUS.

Fayetteville and the West.

MR. ARGUS: Please permit me through the columns of your useful paper to say a few words respecting your ancient town.

Can Fayetteville expect her share of the trade of the interior without a strong effort? We think it is useless to take the affirmative side of the question.

Any one who is at all familiar with the country bordering on the Central Railroad must be aware of how much business is carried out of the State by that improvement, both into South Carolina and Virginia. In fact the road will almost entirely drain the upper part of our State.

Do the inhabitants of Western North Carolina wish for this state of things?—Most assuredly not. Every one with whom I have talked on the subject was in favor of trading with Fayetteville; if equal facilities were given for getting the products of the State to that market; but it is in accordance with the laws of trade that a customer will seek what he considers the best market.

What is to be done? Will the citizens of Fayetteville permit their trade to languish more and more every day: or will they, giant like, make every just and honorable effort to raise their town to the proper commercial position to which she is entitled by nature? I think their little doubt but that her people will do their duty when they are thoroughly convinced what that is.

Now what is that duty? Before answering this question let us take a look at what is the position of things to the west of us.

At no distant day there will be a western extension of the North Carolina Rail Road from Salisbury. The Yadkin River will also be made navigable from Wilkesboro' to the Narrows—several miles below where the Central Railroad crosses the Yadkin.—This River improvement is intended as a feeder for the Rail Road.

Well, let the well-wishers of Fayetteville finish their Railroad as soon as ever they can to the coal fields; thence with all due celerity to Salisbury, or at least to where the present State Railroad crosses the Yadkin, about 7 miles this side of Salisbury. Let them do this, and they can compete—and very successfully, too—for the trade that may be brought to that point both by the River improvement and the western end of the Railroad. If in addition to this they will make the river as deep as possible from Fayetteville to Wilmington. Your town will then be able to distance any of her inland competitors in the race for trade and wealth. If these things are neglected—much longer, Fayetteville will ere long become a ~~ghost~~ Yours, N. C.

The Lachrymose and the Joyful.

The official journal, the "Union," seems to have two voices in reference to the travail of the House of Representatives in producing a Speaker. Its first tone is one of despondency. It discourses in this wise:

"Worn out with talking, worn out with statements and counter-statements, the majority changed front to day by undertaking to test the virtue of pertinacious balloting, in the vain hope that something would turn up. Ballot after ballot was taken, the Banks vote now coming up to and falling from the old mark, but not to an extent to inspire hope on the one side or excite suspicion on the other. After a fatiguing session of six hours the House adjourned with the general conviction that the prospect of a speedy organization was as gloomy as ever."

The unsuspecting reader would infer from this paragraph that the oracle of the Democratic party was saddened at heart and greatly scandalized at the "pertinacious" spirit of those who prevent an election. But listen now to the spirit-stirring appeals with which it stimulates the Democracy to "stand firm and fast." Hear its advice to the faithful, who, it says, "came to Congress to do their duty according to their principles:

"THE DEMOCRACY STAND FIRM.—The Democratic phalanx in the House of Representatives stand firm and fast! There is no wavering. On Friday evening another caucus was called, and was attended by a majority of the Democratic members, and there, after a full and harmonious interchange of opinions, they unanimously decided as follows:

"Resolved, that we will adhere to our platform and our nominee." This is the sentiment of the Democracy of the Union. Everywhere the firm and united action of the Democrats is applauded, and the slightest faltering now would mortify the noblest party that ever existed in any country.—Let the answer be to all proposals from our opponents that of Paul Jones, in one of his conflicts, when asked if he had surrendered; and truly may we use his words in view of the great issues and contests upon which we are only entering, "surrender," said the hero, "never! The battle has only begun!"

The minority of the House, according to the command here given, must show no signs of "wavering." The "slightest faltering" would "mortify." The sage adviser in this case seems to forget that if his counsels are judicious for a minority, they must be equally so for a larger number; and that if it is noble and patriotic for a band of seventy-five to hold out it must be equally so for the forty or one hundred to do so. The song of the syren never sang so sweetly. The public business is suspended; and a month of the session is past; the President's Message, unfolding the "state of the nation," is kept back from the people. But all this fades into insignificance in the eyes of the Government journal when compared with the sublime patriotism of the "calm, courageous, and uncompromising minority, who, in the plentitude of their of their generosity, after "modestly" denouncing every other portion of the House, offered a "resolution in good faith" inviting the very members they had stigmatized to join them in the election of a Speaker!

The subject is too important for the indulgence of levity, but it is difficult to repress the feeling embodied in a well known couplet:

"To laugh outright would seem a want of grace,
But to be grave exceeds all power of face."

South Carolina upon the Northern Nebraska Locofocos.

We have had occasion frequently to observe that the Northern Nebraska Democrats all voted for the Nebraska bill because they believe it the best thing for securing all the Territories as anti-slavery States in future. Such was the view taken of it by Judge Douglas, and by President Pierce. The latter has read us a beautiful homily upon slavery in his Message. It is all very well; but he ought to have explained why he took so much pains—being a pro-slavery man—to prostrate the Hards in New York.

South Carolina is one of the States that cannot be deceived by this gross fraud. She speaks through the Charlestown Mercury as follows:

"It seems that Mr. Cox, a member from Kentucky, was cruel enough to compel Northern Democrats to the confession upon the Nebraska Kansas bill, and the principles upon which it was defended at the North. He calls up Democratic members from Michigan, and makes them give damning testimony against Messrs. Cass and Douglas. He summons also the Ohio and Pennsylvania Democracy to the same purpose. They unite in testifying that Democrats at the North advocate the Kansas Nebraska bill, not on the grounds of "popular sovereignty," not as a measure of justice and quietus to slavery agitation, but as "the best Abolition measure ever passed," and the surest step in consummation of its final objects. Such is the Democracy of the North, as declared by their own lips; and we in the South are invoked to applaud—nay, more, to entrust our destiny to the keeping of men who tell us that the very test we propose of faithfulness to us is the argument with which they demonstrate their deep hostility. Fanaticism demands practical proofs of their devotion to its cause, and right cheerfully they point to the Nebraska-Kansas bill! One might nearly believe of them, what Mr. Orr, in a burst of patriotic indignation, said in 1850 of the whole North, "they are more hostile to us than any foreign nation on the globe."

Now, we ask, is it with such a party that the people of South Carolina will consent to go into Convention? Presidential elections, one after another, have gone by; and, distrustful of Northern affiliations, acting upon the highest convictions of principle, she has abstained from these National caucuses; and now, when Abolition has poisoned to its core the Northern heart, and the Northern Democratic party publishes its hostility and faithlessness to us, in terms clear and unmistakable, we are called on to abandon our policy, and make common cause with them in the greedy pursuit of place and power. Verily, the spectacle is strange and startling."

So far from regarding the Democratic members in Congress as not answerable for "the existing state of things," we look upon them as the most censurable of the three divisions in the House. Our reason for this opinion is this: the Democrats make a support of and acquiescence in the Kansas Nebraska bill as the test of political orthodoxy. They refuse to recognize, as of the Democratic party, those with whom they once associated in most loving fraternization who do not subscribe to this test. Now, those members of the House—the American faction—who support Fuller, are willing to accept the test—are willing to abide by the existing laws touching all the slavery issues, and have so declared themselves. Nay more, they have expressed a willingness to set aside their own candidate, and vote for an acceptable Democrat, upon the condition that they shall not be required to repudiate their political principles. But no: this is not enough for the Democrats. They demand that the American party shall forswear their principles. They refuse an alliance based upon the Nebraska-Kansas bill, their own test of political soundness, and insist that the Americans shall renounce their distinctive principles, once more assume the livery of Democracy and vote for Richardson. In short, they ask of the Americans impossible things, impose impossible conditions, other than their own test, such as no man of honesty and principle can submit to.

In this way they have prevented an alliance and as a consequence prevented the election of a Speaker, when they have had and do still have it in their power to effect an organization by making a very slight concession. If they will rescind that part of the resolution adopted in their nominating caucus, which denounces the Americans as enemies of civil and religious liberty, and offer a candidate more acceptable and sounder than Richardson, they may organize the House at once, and proceed to transact the public business. But they pertinaciously refuse to do either of these two things. In pursuance of the advice of Col. Orr, they will not yield an iota. Hence, we say the Democrats are the most censurable of the three factions, for "the existing state of things." And we cannot see why it is they are so well satisfied and contented.

Mr. Bright on the United States.

At a public meeting of the Marden Mechanics' Institution, at Manchester, England, on the 14th December, Mr. Bright, M. P., in the course of a speech, deprecating the war, said:

"Many of you have relatives or friends in America. That young nation has a population about equal to ours in these islands. It has a great internal and external commerce. It has more tonnage in shipping than we have. It has more railroads than we have. It has more newspapers than we have. It has institutions more free than we have—the slavery of the South excepted—and which is no fruit of its institutions, but an unhappy legacy of the past. It has also a great manufacturing interest in different branches. This is the young giant whose shadow ever grows, and there is the true rival of this country. How do we stand or start in the race? The United States Government, including all the governments of all the sovereign States, raises in the taxes probably £12,000,000 to 15,000,000 sterling in the year. England this year will raise, in taxes and loans, and will expend, nearly 100,000,000. This population must raise, and will spend, probably, 80,000,000 within the year, more than that population will raise, and in America there is far less poverty and pauperism than in England.—Can we run this race on these terms and against these odds? Can we hope to be as well off as America, if the products of our industry are thus swept away by the tax-gatherer, and in the vain scheme of saving Europe from imaginary dangers? Can poverty be lessened among us, can education spread, can the brutality of so many of our population be uprooted—can all or anything of the good men look for come to us—while the fruits of our industry, the foundation of all social and moral good, are squandered in this manner? Pursue the phantom of military glory for ten years, and expend in that time a sum equal to all the visible property of Lancashire and Yorkshire, and then compare yourselves with the United States of America, and where will you be? Pauperism, crime and political anarchy, are the legacies we are preparing for our children, and there is no escape for us unless we change our course, and resolve to discontinue ourselves from the policy which tends incessantly to embroil us with the nations of the continent of Europe."

The Democratic Candidate for Speaker.
We have been puzzled for three weeks and baffled in all our attempts to discover the true secret of unparalleled devotion of the Democracy in Washington to Gen. Richardson. Caucuses have been held time and again, and he has been nominated over with an increased vehemence, and held up as the only man in the American Congress fit to preside over its deliberations. The House might remain unorganized, public affairs wholly neglected, the peculiar Rights of the South, which they profess to champion, be compromised, and a scandal on free institutions diffused throughout the world, but they would submit to no other election!—What unmentionable something is it, what wonderful property pertains to him, by which he binds the great Democracy to him by hooks of steel? Some have attempted to solve the mystery by reference to Gen. Richardson's defence of the Nebraska bill at home, on the ground that it was a measure of freedom designed for the destruction of slavery. Of a somewhat similar character is the conjecture of the New Orleans Crescent, which gives extracts from a speech of his in 1850, in which he avowed himself for Squatter Sovereignty; and claimed that all the territory acquired from Mexico was free by the laws of nations and nature. We give the extract:

"The territories," said he, "are free now and will forever remain free; they are free by the law of nations; they are free by the law of nature; they will remain free, from cause to which I have already referred.—This should satisfy all, in my judgement who are opposed to the extension of slavery." And again: "I do not, and cannot believe, that our Constitution curries and protects slavery, except in the States; nor do I believe that it should extend this institution. I believe that it was formed for far higher and nobler purposes."

Mr. Fillmore.
At a recent meeting of the American County Convention of Monroe, New York, the following resolution was adopted:—
Resolved, That in the judgement of this Convention, Millard Fillmore has the strongest hold, both on the confidence and the affections of the American people of any living Statesman and he is our first choice as a candidate of the American Party for President of these United States.

Mr. Coffin having resigned his post as Rail Road agent at this place, Mr. John Holt has been appointed to fill the vacancy. Mr. Charles Bradshaw is Conductor in the place of Mr. Holt, resigned.
Salisbury Watchman.

Snow at the South.

The accounts which reach us of the great depth of snow in some places at the North, seem almost incredible. From the quantity fallen here during the recent storm, we imagined that an extra amount must have visited the Northern country, but we had no idea of the extreme severity of the storm! From a private letter we learn the astonishing fact, that in the interior of New York the snow is over the tops of fences, and gate posts are covered up. The roads in the country are completely blocked and rendered temporarily impassable, and people with teams have to break their way through the fields. In some parts of the Black River region in Northern N. Y., there is not a sign of track where the road used to be. Everything looks dreary and desolate, and neighbors in some instances, have not seen each other for days together. Of course the mails have been retarded, and travelling generally impeded or rendered absolutely shocking, while the cold weather has been intense, causing much suffering among the poor especially. God help them at this season in a rigorous climate. In the region alluded to above the snow cannot be less than five feet deep.—Express.

THE STORM AT THE NORTH.—The storm of Saturday last seems to have visited the whole Atlantic coast from Hatteras to Halifax with unexampled severity—the more intense the farther North it has travelled. Its duration was from 15 to 18 hours. In Boston it was the most severe storm that has occurred for seventy years; and in New York the "oldest inhabitant" can remember nothing like it. The mails were all detained, and the city railroad stopped running. At Halifax the gale and snow storm was furious. The snow at 8 p. m. on Saturday was four feet deep, and no immediate prospect of abatement.—Pel. Express.

"The Democratic party has been overwhelmed at the North by Abolitionism, and is powerless, either for its own national ends or the protection of the South." Again, the same paper says: "The party is Abolitionized, dismembered and prostrate."

The above is from the Charlestown "Mercury," the leading organ of the Democracy in South Carolina and it cannot be denied as coming from good Democratic authority. When Democrats thus admit the dissolution of their party, and its Abolitionism, can the southern people hesitate longer to place themselves with the party that stands by their interests?—Sentinel.

PASSENGER COACH DEMOLISHED FOR FUEL.—Philadelphia, Jan. 10.—Two trains from New York arrived at 9 o'clock this morning. They were blocked by snow-drifts twelve miles north of Camden, and while the engine and tender went to Camden for assistance, firewood gave out, and the passengers demolished the fences; they finally destroyed a beautiful car, belonging to the railroad company, for fuel! They were afterwards pushed to Camden by a freight train.

Plain Talk for Ladies.
The western editors are certainly very free speaking individuals, and their rhetoric, like the bowie knives of some of them, is sharp and to the point. One of them speaking of low necked dresses and short sleeves, says:

The prevailing fashion among the ladies, which transposes an angel into a model artist, is universally detested by every gentleman whose good opinion a lady should desire. It blunts the finer feelings of both sexes, and is a disadvantage to the other. A round, plump, white arm is beautiful, and may be admired with all propriety; but an arm shaped like a three cornered file with red elbows is not beautiful, and in competition with a Spanish garrote would stand no chance of being elected to one's neck. A white, round neck, with an alabaster base half concealed by a coquetish collar, is the most bewitching sight in the world; but a large expanse of bony shoulders painted like a patent ham, with its contiguous unprotected territory, has about as many attractions as a newly painted Windsor chair.