

# CAPE FEAR.

THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 16, 1876

## NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM, ADOPTED AT ST. LOUIS, JUNE 28, 1876.

We, the delegates of the Democratic party of the United States, in national convention assembled, do hereby declare the administration of the Federal Government to be in urgent need of immediate reform; do hereby enjoin upon the nominees of this Convention and of the Democratic party in each State, a zealous effort and co-operation to this end, and do hereby appeal to our fellow-citizens of every former political connection to undertake with us this first and most pressing patriotic duty for the Democracy of the whole country.

We do here reaffirm our faith in the permanency of the Federal Union, our devotion to the Constitution of the United States, with its amendments, universally accepted as a final settlement of the controversies that engendered the civil war, and do here record our steadfast confidence in the perpetuity of republican self-government; in an absolute acquiescence in the will of the majority, the vital principle of the Republic; in the supremacy of the civil over the military authority; in the total separation of church and State, for the sake alike of civil and religious freedom; in the equality of all citizens before just laws of their own enactment; in the liberty of individual conduct untrammelled by summary laws; in the faithful education of the rising generation, that they may preserve, enjoy and transmit these best conditions of human happiness and hope. We behold the noblest products of a hundred years of changeable history; but while upholding the bond of our Union and great charter of these our rights, it behooves a free people to practice also that eternal vigilance which is the price of liberty.

**THE NEED OF THE HOUR.**  
Reform is necessary to rebuild and establish in the hearts of the whole people the Union, eleven years ago happily rescued from the danger of a corrupt centralism, which, after inflicting upon ten States the rapacity of carpet-bag tyrannies, has benighted the offices of the Federal Government itself with incapacity, waste and fraud, infected States and municipalities with the contagion of misrule, and locked fast the property of an industrious people in the paralysis of hard times. Reform is necessary to establish a sound currency, restore the public credit, and maintain the national honor.

**RADICAL FINANCE DENOUNCED.**  
We denounce the failure for all these eleven years to make good the promise of the legal tender notes, which at a changing standard of value in the hands of the people, and the non-payment of which is a disregard of the pledged faith of the nation.

We denounce the improvidence which, in eleven years of peace, has taken from the people in Federal taxes thirty times the whole amount of the legal tender notes, and squandered four times this sum in useless expense, without accumulating any reserve for their redemption.

We denounce the financial imbecility of that party which, during eleven years of peace, has made no advance toward redemption; that instead, has obstructed redemption by wasting our resources and exhausting all our surplus income, and while annually professing to intend a speedy redemption to specie payment, has annually enacted fresh hindrances thereto. As such a hindrance we denounce the resumption clause of the act of 1875, and we here demand its repeal.

**DEMOCRATIC FINANCE DEMANDS.**  
We demand a judicious system of reparation by public economy, by official retrenchments and by wise finance, which shall enable the nation to assure the whole world of its perfect ability and perfect readiness to meet any of its promises at the call of the creditor entitled to payment. We believe such a system well devised, and above all, entrusted to competent hands for execution, creating at no time an artificial scarcity of currency, and at no time alarming the public mind into the withdrawal of that vast machinery of credit by which 75 per cent. of all business transactions are performed—a system open, public and involving general confidence, would, from the day of its adoption, bring healing to its wings to all our harassed industry, and set in motion the wheels of commerce, manufactures and the mechanical arts; restore employment to labor and renew, in all its national source, the prosperity of the people.

**REFORM IN TAXATION.**  
Reform is necessary in the sum and mode of Federal taxation so that capital may be set free from distrust, and labor lightly burdened. We denounce the present tariff levied upon nearly five thousand articles as a masterpiece of injustice, inequality and false pretence. It yields a dwindling, not a yearly rising revenue. It has impoverished many industries to subsidize a few; it prohibits imports that might purchase the products of American labor; it has degraded American commerce from the first to an inferior rank upon the high seas. It has cut down the sales of American manufactures at home and abroad, and depleted the return of American agriculture or industry, followed by half our people. It costs the treasury five times more than it produces to the treasury, obstructs the processes of production, and wastes the fruits of labor. It promotes fraud and fosters smuggling, enriches dishonest officials and bankrupts honest merchants. We demand that all customs taxation should be only for revenue.

**RETRENCHMENT IN EXPENSES.**  
Reform is necessary in the scale of public expense. Federal, State and municipal out of Federal taxation has swollen from \$60,000,000, gold, in 1869, to \$240,000,000, currency, in 1870. Our aggregate taxation was from \$184,000,000, gold, in 1869, to \$780,000,000, currency, in 1870, or in one decade less than 8 per head to more than \$18 per head. Since the peace the people have paid to their tax-gatherers more than three times the sum for the national debt, and more than twice that sum for the Federal Government alone. We demand a vigorous frugality in every department, and from every officer of the Government.

**WASTE OF THE PUBLIC LANDS.**  
Reform is necessary to put a stop to the profligate wastes of the public lands and their diversion from settlers by the party in power which has squandered two hundred millions of acres upon railroads alone, and out of more than three that aggregate has disposed of less than a sixth directly to tillers of the soil.

**CHRISTIAN CITIZENS AND HEATHEN CHINESE.**  
Reform is necessary to correct the mistakes of our treaties, and our diplomatic relations which have stripped our adopted citizens of foreign birth and kindred race recrossing the Atlantic of the field of American citizenship, and have exposed our brethren of the Pacific coast to the incursions of a race not sprung from the same great parent stock, and, in fact, now law denied citizenship through naturalization, as being neither accustomed to the habits of a progressive civilization, nor exercised in liberty under equal laws. We denounce the policy which thus discards the liberty-loving German and tolerates the revival of the Coolie trade in Mongol

Man women, imported for immoral purposes, and Mongolian men hired to perform servile labor contracts, and demand such modification by Congress as a constitutional limitation, as shall prevent the further importation or immigration of the Mongolian race.

**REFORM IS THE CAMPAIGN ISSUE.**  
Reform is necessary, and can never be effected but by making it the controlling issue of the election, lifting it above the holding class and the party in power seek to smother it. The false issue with which they would enkindle sectarian strife in respect to the public schools, of which the establishment and support belong exclusively to the several States, and which the Democratic party has cherished from their foundation, and resolved to maintain without party or preference for any class, sect or creed, and without contributing from the Treasury to any—the false issue by which they seek to light anew the dying embers of sectional hatred between kindred people, once unnaturally estranged, but now reunited in one indivisible Republic and a common destiny.

**REFORM IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.**  
Reform is necessary in the civil service. Experience proves that the efficient, economical conduct of the governmental business is not possible if its civil service be subject to change at every election—be a prize fought for at the ballot-box—be a brief reward of party zeal, instead of posts of honor, assigned for proved competency and held for fidelity in the public employment. That the dispensing of patronage should neither be a tax upon the time of all our public men, nor the instrument of their ambition. Here again professions falsified in the performance of duty—the party in power can work out no practical or salutary reform.

**REFORM AMONG THE HIGHEST PUBLIC SERVANTS.**  
Reform is necessary even more in the higher grades of public service—President, Vice-President, Judges, Senators, Representatives, Cabinet officers. These officers, and others in authority, are the people's servants. Their offices are not a private prerogative; they are a public trust. When the annals of this Republic show the disgrace and censure of a Vice-President, a late Speaker of the House of Representatives marketing his pulgins as a presiding officer; their friends profiting secretly by their votes as law-makers; five chairmen of the leading committees of the late House of Representatives exposed in jobbery; a late Secretary of the Treasury forcing balances in the public accounts; a late Attorney General misappropriating public funds; a Secretary of the Navy enriched or enriching his friends by percentages levied off the profits of contractors with his Department; an ambassador to England censured for a dishonorable speculation; the President's private secretary barely escaping conviction upon trial for guilty complicity in frauds upon the revenue; a Secretary of War impeached for high crimes and confessed misdemeanors—the demonstration is so complete that the first step in reform must be by the people, honest men from another party. The diseases of one political organization infects the body politic and thereby making no change of men or party, we can get no change of measures and no reforms.

**RADICALS AND RADICALISM MUST BE DRIVEN FROM POWER.**  
All these abuses, wrongs and crimes—the product of the sixteen years ascendancy of the Republican party—create a necessity for reform, confessed by Republicans themselves. But their reformers are voted down in convention and displaced from the Cabinet. The mass of honest voters is powerless to resist the eighty thousand office-holders—their leaders and guides.

Reform can only be had by a peaceful, civic revolution. We demand a change of system; a change of administration; a change of parties; that we may have a change of men.

### THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

**Names of Officers.**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.**  
Governor—Curtis H. Brogden, of Wayne.  
Lieutenant Governor—R. M. Armfield, of Iredell.  
Secretary of State—W. H. Howerton, of Wake.  
Treasurer—D. A. Jenkins, of Gaston.  
Auditor—John Kelly, of Cumberland.  
Attorney General—T. L. Hargrove, of Granville.  
Adjutant General—John C. Gorman, of Wake.  
Superintendent of Public Instruction—John Pool, of Pasquotank.  
Governor's Private Secretary—John B. Neathery, of Wake.  
**JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.**  
Chief Justice—Supreme Court—Richardson M. Pearson, of Yadkin.  
Associate Justices—Edwin G. Reade, of Beaufort; W. B. Rodman, of Beaufort; Thomas Settle, of Rockingham; W. P. Bynum, of Mecklenburg.  
Clerk of Supreme Court—W. H. Bagley, of Wake.  
Marshal—D. A. Wicker, of Wake.

**Officers of the Municipality of Wilmington.**  
Mayor—W. P. Canaday.  
Aldermen—T. M. Gardner, J. J. Cassidy, B. G. Bates, J. H. Neff, R. C. Myers, Hiram Hankins, col., Duncan Holmes, col., W. H. Brewington, col., W. H. Banks, col.  
Clerk and Treasurer—T. C. Servoss.  
Chief of Fire Department—Roger Moore.

**Federal Officials.**  
Collector of Customs—Joseph C. Abbott.  
Deputy Collector—R. W. Chadwick.  
Postmaster—E. B. Brink.

**New Hanover County Government.**  
Clerk of the Superior Court and Judge of Probate—James Heaton.  
Sheriff—S. H. Manning.  
Commissioners—J. G. Wagner, Delaware Nixon, col., Stacy VanAurunge, D. C. Davis.  
Register of Deeds—Geo. W. Bordeaux, col.  
Treasurer—J. A. Hewlett.  
Comptroller—Ed. Hewlett.

**HILLSBORO RECORDER.**  
ESTABLISHED 1820.

**THE OLDEST PAPER IN NORTH CAROLINA.**

**THE RECORDER, APART FROM ITS political merits, offers superior inducements to the merchants of Wilmington as a medium of advertising. It has a large and increasing circulation in the counties of Orange, Alamance, Person and Caswell and especially in those sections of Orange and Alamance most closely connected by the interests of trade with Wilmington. Manufacturers will also profit by the growing spirit of agricultural improvement, and the tendency to the adoption of labor-saving machinery, to reach the eyes and ears of a large and intelligent class of readers through the medium of the Recorder. Address J. D. CAMERON, (NOT 4), Ed. & Prop'r, Hillsboro, N. C.**

### THE NEWSPAPERS OF NORTH CAROLINA:

Wilmington:  
NORTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERIAN, weekly.  
CAPE FEAR, daily (Democratic).  
STAR, daily and weekly (Democratic).

Raleigh:  
CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, weekly, Methodist.  
BIBLICAL RECORDER, weekly (Baptist).  
NEWS, daily and weekly (Democratic).  
SENTINEL, weekly (Democratic).

Charlotte:  
OBSERVER, daily and weekly (Democratic).  
DEMOCRAT, weekly (Democratic).  
SOUTHERN HOME, weekly (Democratic).

Greensboro:  
PATRIOT, weekly (Democratic).  
NEW NORTH STATE, weekly (Radical).

Asheville:  
CITIZEN, weekly (Dem.).  
EXPOSITOR, weekly (Dem.).  
PIONEER, weekly (Radical).

Salisbury:  
WATCHMAN, weekly (Dem.).  
EXAMINER, weekly (Dem.).

Salem:  
PRESS, weekly (Dem.).

Winston:  
SENTINEL, weekly (Dem.).

Statesville:  
LANDMARK, weekly (Dem.).  
AMERICAN, weekly (Dem.).

Morganton:  
BLADE, weekly (Dem.).

Mt. Airy:  
WATCHMAN, weekly (Dem.).  
VISITOR, weekly (Rad.).

Hickory:  
PRESS, weekly (Dem.).

Lincolnton:  
PROGRESS, weekly (Dem.).

Shelby:  
BANNER, weekly (Dem.).

Danbury:  
REPORTER, weekly (Dem.).

Reidsville:  
NEWS, weekly (Dem.).  
TIMES AND MERCURY, weekly (Dem.).

Lexington:  
RECORD, weekly (Dem.).

Graham:  
GLENER, weekly (Dem.).

Hillsboro:  
RECORDER, weekly (Dem.).

Durham:  
TOBACCO PLANT, weekly (Dem.).  
HERALD, weekly (Dem.).

Oxford:  
TORCHLIGHT, weekly (Dem.).

Warrenton:  
GAZETTE, weekly (Dem.).  
CENTENNIAL, weekly (Dem.).

Weldon:  
NEWS, semi-weekly (Dem.).

Tarboro:  
SOUTHERNER, weekly (Dem.).

Rocky Mount:  
MAIL, weekly (Dem.).

Toisnot:  
TRANSCRIPT, semi-monthly (Free Will Baptist).

Wilson:  
ADVANCE, weekly (Dem.).

Zion's Landmark, semi-monthly (Primitive Baptist).

Newbern:  
NUTSHELL, daily (Dem.).  
NEWBERNIAN, semi-weekly (Dem.).  
TIMES, weekly (Rad.).

Washington:  
ECHO, weekly (Dem.).

WHAT NEXT, semi-weekly (Dem.).

Elizabeth City:  
ECONOMIST, weekly (Dem.).

North Carolina, weekly (Rad.).

Gaithersboro:  
MESSENGER, semi-weekly & weekly (High).  
RECORD, weekly (Dem.).  
ROBESONIAN, weekly (Dem.).  
GAZETTE, weekly (Dem.).  
WIDE AWAKE, weekly (Dem.).

Rockingham:  
COURIER, weekly (Dem.).  
SPIRIT OF THE SOUTH, weekly (Rad.).

Wadesboro:  
HERALD, weekly (Dem.).

Polkton:  
ANNONIAN, weekly (Dem.).

Monroe:  
ENQUIRER, weekly (Dem.).

Concord:  
REGISTER, weekly (Dem.).

Sen, weekly (Dem.).

### MISCELLANEOUS.

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\$5 pays for six months, Sundays included.  
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WEEKLY EDITION, published on Wednesdays, one year, \$4; six months, \$1.95; payable in advance.

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Single copy, three cents; one month, sixty cents; two months, one dollar; three months, one dollar and fifty cents; six months, three dollars; one year, six dollars.

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