Donaldsonville Chief.

A Hint for Bores.

Some years ago there lived a gentleman of indolent habits in Sussex, who made a business, in the winter season, of visiting his friends extensively. After wearing out his welcome in his own immediate vicinity last winter he thought he would visit an old Quaker friend, some twenty miles distant, who had been a school fellow of his. On his arrival he was cordially received by the Quaker, he thinking his visitor had taken much pains to come so far to see him. He treated his friend with great attention and politeness for several days, and, as he did not see any signs of leaving, he became uneasy, but bore it with patience till the morning of the eighth day, when he said to him:

"My friend, I am afraid thee will never visit me again."

"Oh yes, I shall," said the visitor; "I have enjoyed my visit very much; I shall certainly come again."

"Nay," said the Quaker, "I think thee will not visit me again."

"What makes you think I will not come again?" asked the visitor.

"If thee does never leave," said the Quaker, "how canst thee come again."

His visitor left.

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Liberal Republican Platform.

Address and Declaration of Principles Adopted by the Convention of Liberal Republicans in Cincinnati, May 3rd, 1872.

THE ADDRESS.

The administration now in power has rendered itself guilty of wanton disregard of the laws of the land, and has usurped powers not granted by the Constitution. It has acted as if the laws had binding force only for those who are governed, and not for those who govern. It has thus struck a blow at the fundamental principles of constitutional government, and the liberties of the citizens.

The President of the United States has openly used the powers and opportunities of his high office for the promotion of personal ends. He has kept notoriously corrupt and unworthy men in places of power and responsibility, to the detriment of the public interest. He has used the public service of the Government as a machinery of partisan and personal influence, and interfered with tyrannical arrogance in the political affairs of States and municipalities. He has rewarded with influential and lucrative offices men who had acquired his favor by valuable presents, thus stimulating demoralization of our political life by his conspicuous example. He has shown himself deplorably unequal to the tasks imposed upon him by the necessities of the country, and culpably careless of the responsibilities of his high office.

The partisans of the administration, assuming to be the Republican party and controlling its organization, have attempted to justify such wrongs and palliate such abuses, to the end of maintaining party ascendancy. They have stood in the way of necessary investigations and indispensable reforms, pretending that no serious fault could be found with the present administration of public affairs, thus seeking to blind the eyes of the people. They have kept alive the passions and resentments of the late civil war to use them for their own advantage. They have resorted to arbitrary measures, in direct conflict with the organic law, instead of appealing to the better instincts and latent patriotism of the Southern people by restoring to them those rights the enjoyment of which is indispensable for a successful administration of their local affairs, and would tend to move a patriotic and hopeful national feeling. They have degraded themselves and the name of their party, once justly entitled to the confidence of the nation, by a base sycophancy to the dispenser of executive power and patronage unworthy of Republican freemen. They sought to stifle the voice of just criticism, to stifle the moral sense of the people, and to subjugate public opinion by tyrannical party discipline. They are striving to maintain themselves in authority for selfish ends by an unscrupulous use of the power which rightfully belongs to the people, and should be employed only in the service of the country.

Believing that an organization thus led and controlled can no longer be of service to the best interests of the republic, we have resolved to make an independent appeal to the sober judgment, conscience, and patriotism of the American people.

THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

Therefore, we, the Liberal Republicans of the United States, in National Convention assembled at Cincinnati, proclaim the following principles as essential to just Government:

1. We recognize the equality of all men before the law, and hold that it is the duty of Government in its dealings with the people to mete out equal and exact justice to all, of whatever nativity, race, color, or persuasion, religious or political.

2. We pledge ourselves to maintain the Union of these States, emancipation, and enfranchisement, and to oppose any reopening of the questions settled by the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth amendments to the Constitution.

3. We demand the immediate and absolute removal of all disabilities imposed on account of the rebellion which was finally subdued seven years ago, believing that universal amnesty will result in complete pacification in all sections of the country.

4. Local self-government, with impartial suffrage, will guard the rights of all citizens more securely than any centralized power. The public welfare requires the supremacy of the civil over the military authority, and freedom of person under the protection of the *habeas corpus*. We demand for the individual the largest liberty consistent with public order, for the State self-government, and for the nation a return to the methods of peace and the constitutional limitations of power.

5. The civil service of the Government has become a mere instrument of partisan tyranny and personal ambition, and an object of selfish greed. It is a scandal and reproach upon free institutions, and breeds a demoralization dangerous to the perpetuity of republican government. We therefore regard such thorough reforms of civil service as are of the most pressing necessities of the hour; that honesty, capacity, and fidelity constitute the only valid claims to public employment; that the offices of the Government cease to be a matter of arbitrary favoritism and patronage, and that public station become again a post of honor. To this end it is imperatively required that no President shall be a candidate for re-election.

6. We demand a system of Federal taxation which shall not unnecessarily interfere with the industry of the people, and which shall provide the means necessary to pay the expenses of the Government, economically administered; the pensions, the interest on the public debt, and a moderate reduction annually of the principal thereof; and, recognizing that there are in our midst honest but irreconcilable differences of opinions with regard to the respective systems of protection and free trade, we remit the discussion of the subject to the people, in their Congressional districts, and to the decision of Congress thereon, wholly free of Executive interference or dictation.

7. The public credit must be sacredly maintained, and we denounce repudiation in every form and guise.

8. A steady return to specie payment is demanded alike by the highest considerations of commercial morality and honest government.

9. We remember with gratitude the heroism and sacrifices of the soldiers and sailors of the republic, and no act of ours shall ever detract from their justly-earned fame, or the full reward of their patriotism.

10. We are opposed to all further grants of lands to railroads or other corporations. The public domain should be held sacred to actual settlers.

11. We hold that it is the duty of the Government, in its intercourse with foreign nations, to cultivate the friendship of peace, by treating with all on fair and equal terms, regarding it alike dishonorable either to demand what is not right, or to submit to what is wrong.

12. For the promotion and success of these vital principles and the support of the candidates nominated by this Convention, we invite and cordially welcome the co-operation of all patriotic citizens, without regard to previous affiliations.

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The consolidation of Italy, so long fragmentary and impotent, into one powerful State, with Rome as its capital; the humiliating of France through a series of crushing defeats, ending with the siege and capitulation of her proud and gay metropolis; the expulsion of the Bourbons from the Spanish throne, and the substitution for them of a scion of the most liberal among royal houses; the virtual absorption of the kingdoms of Saxony, Wurtemburg, Bavaria, with Baden, Hesse, the Hanse Towns, etc., under the headship of Prussia, into the triumphant and powerful empire of Germany; and the arming of Russia to reassert her preponderance in the Councils of Europe, or to prosecute her often postponed but never relinquished designs on the great city founded by Constantine and the vast but decaying and anarchial dominion of the Sultan, all combine to invest with profound interest the ever-changing phases of our tidings from the Old World. *The Tribune*, through trusted correspondents stationed at all points in Europe where great movements are in progress or imminent, aims to present a complete and instructive panorama of events on that continent, and to mirror the prolonged struggle between middle-aged Feudalism and Ecclesiasticism on the one hand and Nineteenth Century skepticism and secularism on the other. Recognizing a Divine Providence in all that proceeds and is, it looks hopefully on the great conflict as destined (like our own recent convulsion) to evolve from strife, disaster, and seeming chaos, a fairer and happier future for the toiling masses of mankind.

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