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WASHINGTON, FAYETTE CO., O., THURSDAY, JULY 11, 1867.

NO. 33.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

THE STATE OF OHIO, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, WILLIAM HENRY SMITH, Secretary of State.

A RESOLUTION Relative to an Amendment of the Constitution providing for the Extension of the Elective Franchise.

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, (three-fifths of the members elected to each House agreeing thereto), That it be and it is hereby proposed to the electors of this State to vote, at the next annual October election, upon the approval or rejection of the following amendment...

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

Judge of Fayette Common Pleas Court—A. S. DICKER, of Highland County. Probate Judge—B. F. THOMAS. Prosecuting Attorney—J. B. PRIDDY.

UNION CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The following comprises the Union Central Committee of Fayette County. Union—Capt. Allen Heagler, Curran Millikan and M. J. Williams.

SCHOOL EXAMINERS.

D. C. EASTMAN, H. H. EDWARDS, J. B. PRIDDY. The Board meets at Washington on the third Saturday of every month...

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

J. B. PRIDDY, Attorney at Law AND NOTARY PUBLIC, Washington, Ohio.

BUSINESS CARDS.

D. FURTWÄNGLER, Jeweler, and dealer in and repairer of Watches, Clocks, &c. Washington, Ohio.

NEW BLACKSMITH SHOP.

HAS opened a new Blacksmith Shop on the alley East of Fayette street, near by opposite John Paul's Livery Stable...

GEORGE SAXTON.

Has opened a new Blacksmith Shop on the alley East of Fayette street, near by opposite John Paul's Livery Stable...

Horse-Shoeing.

Patrons solicited. GEO. SAXTON, 24th May 16th, 1867.

LOTHES WRINGERS.

Grain Cloths Wringers—the best article for sale by J. S. BEREMAN.

AN ORATION DELIVERED AT New Holland, July 4th, 1867, BY Hon. J. H. L. SCOTT, Of Fayette County, Ohio.

Respected Fellow Citizens: Listening to the words of wisdom read in our hearing by our venerable and eloquent brother, and feeling the inspiration of the soul-stirring music, I cannot avoid exclaiming, "Truly it is good for us to be here!"

I am one of those who believe that in this nation all the nations of the earth are to be blessed. And I think that in God's providence, we are the chosen nation through whose instrumentality, chiefly, the blessings of Christianity are to be, and will be, spread all over the earth.

But let us see if we cannot trace the hand of High Heaven, not only in the first planting of our nation, but all the way down to the present. I deem this as being the most important idea to which I can possibly call your attention—one in which we are all more deeply interested than any other, as it includes all others; or rather, it is the grand fundamental principle underlying the whole fabric of our Republican institutions.

We this day have greater cause of rejoicing than ever before. Our nation was received upon probation through a baptism of blood, and now she is taken into full communion through another baptism of fraternal blood—set apart, consecrated forever to Freedom—and the covenant sealed by the best blood of her glorious sons!

Another year is marked upon the great dial of Eternity, and our 92d National Anniversary calls us forth "to revel in its light," and to thank our souls may well be said, when we contemplate the fearful cost of this privilege—when we think of the long, long list of heroes—fathers, sons, husbands, brothers and lovers who went forth "at their country's call," in the pride of their strength, and in the glow of patriotic fervor, but who returned to us no more; yet, when we estimate the worth of the boon their sacrifice secured to us, to posterity, to the world; when we contemplate the brilliant halo which encircles them; when the radiant crown upon their noble brows in the Patriot's Heaven; when, in our imagination, we see the benignant countenance and radiant smile of the immortal Washington, as he looks approvingly upon them, this auspicious morning, we may well rejoice; and our joy will be all the deeper and purer in the reflection that we were deemed worthy to suffer and to sacrifice for such a country! Our joy is not the wild burst of giddy revelry and thoughtless exultation, but the deep, chastened joy of conscious patriotism. Oh, ye bereaved ones! we weep with you in your deep sorrow for we have a beloved uncle and six noble cousins sleeping the long, last sleep away in the sunny, but blood-stained, South. We rejoice with you in your star-strewn glory!

The world does not hold a nobler race of men, or a more patriotic, self-sacrificing set of women, more lovingly, true, angel-hearted daughters of Eve! But here language fails me, and I desist.

In casting about for a theme suitable to this occasion, so many present themselves that it is very difficult to select, and several of them will, doubtless, be presented by the able speakers who are yet to address you. After long deliberation, I have chosen one, not only suited to an intelligent, patriotic, Christian audience, but also worthy of your careful consideration.

Let me invite your careful attention while I attempt to present it. It is THE HAND OF GOD MANIFEST IN OUR HISTORY.

If we take a glance over the civilized world, noting each distinct nation, we shall find none apparently more prosperous, more virtuous, enlightened and free—more favored by High Heaven than ours. In every region on the globe, our glorious Republic is known and feared, respected and honored. The benign equity of our laws, the genius of our Institutions, and the humanitarian and equalizing spirit and tendency of the principles of our Government, cause tyrants to quake upon their thrones, and exiles to leap for joy!

The rapid rush of events during the last five or six years, has almost bewildered us, and thrown the Past—not simply the hoary Past, but the recent Past of our young nation—into the shade; and such is the mighty whirl of events, and the near and rapid looming up of the portentous Future, strongly attracting our forward gaze, that it requires an effort on our part to compel a backward glance.

Yet the day and the occasion demand a brief retrospection. It is with patriots now as it was with the patriots of the Revolution—we must be guided by the lamp of experience. The Past furnishes the key to unlock the Future. But as we are in the midst of living, present issues, which crowd upon us and almost overwhelm us with their

magnitude, our reference to the Past shall be brief; and our aim shall be to endeavor to ascertain what is required of us as patriotic, enlightened, and Christian citizens, in the present; and what our work must be as preparatory to the Future, that our glorious, blood-bought, priceless Institutions may be preserved, perfected and perpetuated.

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5. God's hand is as clearly seen in the remarkable preservation of the Pilgrim Fathers, after they had landed on our shores, exposed to the hidden scalping knife of the savage. It were simply impossible for personal bravery or any man tower of strength, to have secured them from the accumulated dangers which beset them on every hand. As you are aware, the country swarmed with thousands of red-warriors, armed and on the watch for their white prey, and urged on by the almost blood-thirsty Frenchmen. And let me, right at this point, remind you of the gracious interposition of Divine Providence, as shown in their early history, by the discomfiture and defeat of a powerful armament sent against them; for before it could reach our shores, the Lord commissioned the elements to fight against it, and the proud fleet was scattered, dismasted and broken, to the four winds!

But, hurrying down the stream of history, mark the strange, the unaccountable confusion and perplexity of the councils of Great Britain, when the long dormant seeds of war sprang up in the bosom of the Revolutionary heroes! How palpable the voice of wisdom foretold her Parliament and her council-chambers and how the spirit of her king, her nobles, and her common people, covered to a grossly ignorant policy. The mighty in council and in arms were alike uncertain and imbecile. The like had never before occurred in this pusillanimous nation. Can you otherwise account for this?

Our illustrious Fore-Fathers, when they landed on these wild and desolate shores, undoubtedly had a grand object in view. They were free from the tyranny and despotism of the old world, and the human mind and heart had full and free scope—hence, they thought, they resolved, and they acted as rational, moral and responsible men. Their minds became enlightened, their hearts were purified, their affections and feelings elevated and refined. It is no wonder, then, that down to the dawn of the revolution, their high aim was to implant deep in the minds of their sons and daughters, a love of freedom, a supreme regard for the God of freedom, and an undying thirst for knowledge, by which freedom was to be maintained. These facts became manifest to the mother country, and in the mad fury of her perplexed counsels, she strove to hold the supremacy, as above noted.

Permit me right here to repeat what I said on another occasion, in addressing a company of soldiers, forty-seven of whom had just volunteered out of my school. It was on the 4th of July 1863, hence will not be inappropriate to-day. While referring back to the deeds of the heroes of '76, and the inauguration of the Revolutionary war—the causes of that war—but more especially to the heaven-born and heaven-blessed blessings which were secured to us by that war, and for the preservation of which they were now called upon to go forth and fight again the battles of our country, I said:—"While our reverend Fathers were petitioning and yet hoping for justice, in an unexpected hour, the Lion of England was let loose upon them in terror and in wrath. Far o'er the cerulean waters of the Atlantic, was to be seen a dark and ominous cloud, rising slowly, but steadily, heaving up from the horizon. Impelled by winged winds and wild tempests, it moved apace, bearing within its armor the sable engines of death and desolation. Finally, it gained the zenith, and amid the glaring blaze of lightnings fierce, the maddening storm burst upon astounded millions, while from mountain, forest and plain, groans and lamentations ascended, sad and mournful as the midnight wail over the slain in Egypt. Then were the dark days—the times that tried men's souls. Tyranny, in wrath, bared its arm, grasped the sword, and bathed it in the reeking blood of the innocent. Why was it our forefathers, in this trying hour, pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor, in defense of their Country? Why was it that so many brave heroes sank down upon the bloody field, never more to rise until the doom of the world? It was because principle was involved—principle, dearer than life, stronger than death."

But to return to our point. When the Revolutionary war broke out, at the very period when the doctrines of millions, when all that is dear and valuable to man was at stake, and the hopes of America, the hopes of the world, seemed to be on the point of being blasted forever, the Almighty prepared and set forward him through whom was to come salvation—the immortal Washington appeared on the arena of battle!

It is clear that a mysterious and all-wise Providence selected him as the angel who was to lead the armies of Freedom to victory and to conquest. It can appear in no other light when we contrast the two contending parties—the wealth, the

skill, the discipline, the resources of war, all being in favor of our British foe. "But our course was brilliant and successful." He met the veterans of a hundred hard-fought fields, and wearing the laurels of victory, and they were "bravely beaten." Our country was indeed, and its rights and privileges were confirmed and acknowledged by the voice of nations, and secured by the wisdom of our fathers.

The framing and adopting of our Constitution, the great pillar of our country's glory, is one of the most important blessings by which the United States is distinguished. We surely can see the Hand of Providence in the spirit, character and actions of those noble heroes in forming this instrument which gives to us the dearest rights and the best privileges ever granted to man. And we think we see this spirit still manifest in the disposition of the heroic patriots of the present day, to extend these glorious privileges to all human beings.

As soon as this glorious instrument was adopted, our free institutions sprang forth in great power, and the "Ship of State" was launched upon the ocean of Time amid the shouts and acclamations of millions of freemen, and the admiration of an awe-struck world. Extend its blessings to all, and again let the shouts of freemen rend the heavens, and enter the ear of the Most High! Devotion to principle made us free; a like devotion will keep us free.

Under our constitution, and the smile of Heaven, prosperity has always crowned our country. She has increased in territory and in population, in riches, enterprise and renown. Her religious, literary and political institutions are unsurpassed, perhaps, on the face of the earth.

While we might enumerate, hour after hour, striking manifestations of Divine favor toward our country, as traceable in her short history, perhaps we have adduced a sufficient number of instances for the present occasion, especially as we are addressing an intelligent and Christian audience. But there is one other which has always impressed my mind as being of peculiar significance, and a manifest mark of Divine interposition, given, as it were, to convince the most credulous. I refer to the death of those two venerable patriots, Jefferson and Adams. On the morning of our fiftieth national anniversary, they were both basking in the brightness of a nation's smile; but before the sun went down on that auspicious day, they were gathered to their fathers! Can any one pass over this imperishable mark of Divine interposition and not feel and acknowledge its full force?

Now, my friends, what are we to infer from all these manifestations of Divine favor? Do they not clearly show that our country is ordained to take a high and important position in controlling the destinies of this earth? If we are only true to ourselves, our country can never retrograde; but she must prosper, she must go forward, gathering strength and stability as she advances. She has just taken a long stride forward, and to-day stands higher in the estimation of the world than ever before; is nobler, greater, and more powerful; is more firmly established, because she stands squarely on the immovable rock of eternal justice. The Almighty has determined in her favor, so far as we can judge; and Columbia is still "the child of the skies," and rapidly arising to imperishable glory. So long as the principles of the Gospel of Jesus are permitted to be deeply imbedded in her institutions; so long as her organic structure is firmly wrought with the principles of equal and exact justice, she cannot fall. She is supported by pillars of strength and beauty, that can suffer no decay, and that bid defiance to tyranny, despotism, oppression, treason, demagoguism—nay, to the tooth of time itself. Indeed, the mind staggers under the contemplation of the stupendous purposes, in the accomplishment of which our country is to be the honored instrument.

Though our country is yet in her infancy, she is untrammelled and unconfined, and bears in her bosom the elements of great and glorious promise. What may she not yet perform? Her voice is rising higher, and swelling to a louder note in other lands; and wherever the Star Spangled Banner sweeps the free air of heaven, there will our nation's influence be felt, and the fame of her doings enkindle a flame and arouse a spirit which all the rivers of the world cannot quench, nor armed legions subdue! We stand as the beacon of Freedom to the whole hemisphere, and our light will soon blaze brightly on every island, sea and mountain on the globe, guiding multiplied myriads onward to the goal of humanity, until the world shall proclaim universal emancipation from chains and slavery, and man assume his legitimate place in the great scale of intelligent being.

We have proved ourselves invincible upon the battle-field in every contest—in the Revolutionary war—in the war of 1812—in the war

with Mexico—and in the great Rebellion, and taken on our own shores, we may safely defy the world. But while these things, in the common estimation of the world, are deemed of great importance, and are matters of which, in one sense, we may justly be proud, yet to the mind of the Philosopher and patriotic Christian, they are of minor importance; are things, in truth, which we hope may soon pass away—the necessity for which we hope may soon cease. While this, however, is yet the case, let me point you to that which ennobles us far beyond the glory of military prowess—far superior to the fame of thrashing the most mighty nations on earth, either at home or abroad. I refer to moral achievements. "For achievements of moral sublimity, never equaled or surpassed since time began, our country stands pre-eminently conspicuous." Enterprises and emanations, that bear the royal signature of Heaven, are projected on every land. Movements of a high and lofty import, which appear to cast far into the shade all previous movements, since the hour of man's redemption, are shaking the universe, and forcibly intimate the near approach of wonderful events.

Our resources are almost unlimited, and our spirit bold and daring. It is but natural for us to place our country in the front rank of the evangelical host—her stars pouring light on the millennial dawning, while her soul-waking trumpet breaks upon the ears of slumbering millions.

But let us not forget, while contemplating these glorious prospects, revealed to us by the torch of inspiration, that these are high and holy privileges, and involve fearful responsibilities. We should fear and tremble, lest we forfeit these favors of the Almighty, and turn from us the beams of His munificence. We may bring about the sudden downfall of all our high hopes, by becoming forgetful of His mercy, and setting at naught His counsels.

THE MEANS TO BE USED. If we love our country and her institutions, we must use the means to preserve them. Religion and education are the essential means. "No nation can remain free unless it be virtuous and enlightened. When we, as a nation, abjure virtue and truth, and neglect to cultivate our intellectual and moral powers, our name is blotted out, our glory faded, and all our bright hopes and alluring prospects buried to the shades of an eternal night. If we lack principle our government is but an empty name, our freedom a mockery, and our boasted institutions a shame and a curse. A warning voice comes up to us from the mouldering ruins of desolate kingdoms, empires, and republics, "loud as seven-fold thunder," bidding us "Beware!" There is danger. A mighty deluge "once tumbled round the world" and nothing could save the reckless sons of earth. The five cities of the plain were consumed. Pharaoh and his host, chariot and charioteers, sank in the depths of the Red-Sea,—all for not heeding the admonitions of Heaven. Babylon the great, with her deep, massive walls, lofty towers and gates of brass and bulwarks which bid defiance to the engines of war, tottered and fell, and vanished like a dream. Where is the Persian empire? Where is Greece? Where is Rome? And where, without intelligence and virtue, without justice and principle, will America one day be?

We must have schools and churches; we must have education and virtue. All must be imbued with the spirit of intelligence and pure christianity. This must be the case with the masses, or it will be impossible for us to retain our liberty.

When Science and Religion—intelligence, virtue and patriotism—go hand in hand, you might as well attempt to uproot the everlasting rocks and hills, and cast them into the midst of the sea, as to wrest from us our glorious privileges or rivet upon us the vile chains of slavery!

We have just passed through a fiery ordeal—we are now in the midst of troublous times. But I confidently believe that the same Hand which has led us thus far, will carry on our gallant ship to fulfill her great mission, and accomplish her glorious destiny. I thank God that there is sufficient intelligence among our masses to justify this hope! True, the Almighty shakes the forest with his winds, but the forest is not destroyed. He jars the heavens with his thunders—but the heavens do not fall! He agitates the ocean with storms, which winds and earthquakes, but it remains unbroken! By these agitating processes, the foul atmosphere is purified—the stagnant waters are renovated. Our government is not so fragile that it can be easily jarred into fragments. If it becomes corrupt, its political elements must needs be purified. But the hope of permanent prosperity must be based upon the principles of Religion and Education. The universal establishment of Free Schools, and their prosperous and efficient operation are our great security for the

future. It is not only right that our youth be educated, but it is absolutely necessary that it should be done, and that all the means for its accomplishment should be speedily adopted and practically used.

"What will become of the West," says the great Beveker, "if her prospective riches up to such a majesty of power, while those great institutions linger, which are necessary to form the mind, the conscience and the heart of this vast world?"

As we all see in this country, no business enterprise stands still.—"This is an age of lightning"—of Railroad speed, and almost Railroad recklessness in every thing!

Go to the vast lakes that lie along our northern borders; harbors are thick along their shores, and almost every wave bears on its heavy bosom, a burthen of life and wealth! Go to the ocean, on either hand—the white sail of commerce is everywhere. Go to the rivers, that mark with silvery lines, the boundaries of some twenty common-wealths, and traverse our States in all directions—hundreds of steamboats navigate their waters. The States are bound together firmly by the iron and steel tracks of Railroads; and everywhere, we knit our thoughts together, with a telegraphic wire! And this steam and lightning, like the swift current of a swollen river, have given an impetus to every department of business enterprise. I find no fault with this—indeed, I am glad that such is the case. But is there not danger that in this whirlpool of business—in this boiling blood of enterprise—the higher, and nobler, and purer purposes of life may be forgotten? and the nobler, fairer virtues of humanity be swallowed up in the mad scramble for wealth and power? My friends, connected with this headlong, if not insane, rush for riches and power, there is a question of deep and vital import and interest to every lover of his country and his race. Do the intelligence and virtue of the masses keep pace with these other improvements in our glorious West? All must admit—all be admitted—that without virtue and intelligence, society has no balance wheel—no regulating principle. Our speed toward wealth and power may be rapid as lightning and strong as the whirlwind, yet if these elements be wanting, we are without chart or compass; and the swifter our progress, the more terrible our destruction.

But some may say that these great improvements are of themselves an index to the intelligence and virtue of the masses. He looks out upon the growing cities, rising as by magic—the tremendous R. R. trunks, running in every direction, and rapidly extending to the Pacific to complete the mighty highway of nations; the splendid steamers; the interminable lines of telegraph, and thinks, "Surely the people must be intelligent where such improvements are found." But this is not a necessary conclusion. These works are the projects of a few great, enterprising minds, and are not, necessarily, any evidence of a general intelligence among the masses. As a familiar illustration: It may take some fifty men to constitute the officers, directors and contractors upon a Railroad. It may take a thousand or more hands to build it. The fifty may be intelligent, but the thousand laborers need possess the knowledge only of the simple use of the tools with which they labor.

How much better would it be for both laborer and employer, if it were only the projectors were men of intelligence, but likewise, the thousand laborers, men of thought and education. And right there the idea is enforced upon our attention, that the only correct or safe system of education in a Republican country like ours, is one which offers to the child of the day laborer, equal opportunities to cultivate his mind, with the child of the wealthy employer; and that the only sure guaranty we have for the preservation of our Liberty and the happiness of our homes, lies in the successful operation of such a system.

Let me be understood, for I deem this an important point. It is the boast and glory of our institutions, that our grand system of Public Schools, affords equal facilities to all grades and classes. The child of the rich man and the child of the poor man, should be educated together. Rank or condition of family, should not be regarded in the education of our youth; but every child should stand upon his own merit and occupy in the school room just such position as merit may command for him. Nothing can be more hostile to the prosperity and well-being of any people, than to be divided into classes and orders.

A rich, lazy aristocracy, scornful toil, and avoiding the laboring classes, would prove a worse curse, than for a whirlwind to sweep over the land, or an earthquake to sink it to the lower depths! It is to the great laboring classes that our national prosperity is owing, and that person who deems it a compromise of dignity to labor, or to associate with the laborer, is unworthy to live in a Republican government!

Humanity is a unit. It is but one body, though composed of many members. We may call the men who think—those whose intellects control the affairs and shape the destinies of the world—the Head. Those who put into execution the measures devised by the head, are the Hands. Its Feet are those who toil—those who perform the mere drudgery of labor; hence those who are despised, slighted, ill-fed, badly clothed and poorly paid.—Yet without the feet, the body can neither stand nor walk.

This is why Humanity has always