

From the Memphis Avalanche.

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

The Democratic party, in National Convention assembled, reposing its trust in the intelligence, patriotism and discriminating justice of the people; standing upon the Constitution as the foundation and limitation of the powers of the Government, and the guarantee of the liberties of the citizen; and recognizing the questions of slavery and secession as having been settled for all time to come by the war or the voluntary action of the Southern States in Constitutional Conventions assembled, and never to be renewed or reargued; do, with the return of peace, demand,

1. Immediate restoration of all the States to their rights in the Union under the Constitution and civil government of the American people.

2. Amnesty for all past political offenses, and the regulation of the elective franchise in the States by their citizens, and the payment of the public debt of the United States as rapidly as practicable.

3. All money drawn from the people by taxation, except so much as is requisite for the necessities of the Government, economically administered, should be honestly applied to such payment, and where the obligations of the Government do not expressly state upon their face, or the law under which they were issued does not provide that they shall be paid in coin, they ought, in right and justice, to be paid in the lawful money of the United States.

4. Equal taxation of every species of property according to its real value, including Government bonds, and other public securities.

5. One currency for the Government and the people, the laborer and the office holder, the pensioner and the soldier, the producer and the bond holder.

6. Economy in the administration of the Government, the reduction of the standing army and navy; the abolition of the Freedman's Bureau, and all political instrumentalities designed to secure negro supremacy; simplification of the system and the discontinuance of inquisitorial boards for assessing and collecting internal revenue, so that the burden of taxation may be equalized and lessened; the credit of the Government and the currency made good; the repeal of all enactments for enrolling the State Militia into National forces in time of peace; a tariff for revenue upon foreign imports, and such equal taxation under the internal revenue laws as will afford incidental protection to domestic manufactures, and as will, without impairing the revenue, impose the least burden upon and best promote and encourage the great industrial interests of the country.

7. Reform of abuses in the Administration, the expulsion of corrupt men from offices, the abrogation of useless offices, the restoration of rightful authority to, and the independence of the Executive and Judicial departments of the Government; the subordination of the military to the civil power to the end that the usurpations of Congress and the despotism of the sword may cease.

8. Equal rights and protection for naturalized and native born citizens at home and abroad; an assertion of American nationality, which shall command the respect of foreign powers, and furnish an example and encouragement to people struggling for national integrity, constitutional liberty and individual rights, and the maintenance of the rights of naturalized citizens against the absolute doctrine of immutable allegiance, and the claims of foreign powers to punish them for alleged crime committed beyond their jurisdiction.

In demanding these measures and reforms we arraign the Radical party for its disregard of right, and the unparalleled oppression and tyranny which have marked its career, after the most solemn and unanimous pledge of both Houses of Congress to prosecute the war exclusively for the maintenance of the Government and the preservation of the Union under the Constitution.

It has repeatedly violated that most sacred pledge under which was rallied that noble volunteer army, which carried our flag to victory.

Instead of restoring the Union, it has, so far as its power, dissolved it, and subjected ten States in time of peace to military despotism and negro supremacy.

It has nullified there the right of trial by jury.

It has abolished the habeas corpus, that most sacred writ of liberty.

It has overthrown the freedom of speech and the press.

It has substituted arbitrary seizures and arrests, and military trials and secret Star Chamber Inquisitions, for constitutional tribunals.

It has disregarded in time of peace the right of the people to be free from search and seizures.

It has entered the post and telegraph offices, and even the private rooms of individuals, and seized their private papers and letters, without any specification or notice of affidavit as required by the organic law.

It has converted the American Capitol into a bastille.

It has established a system of spies and official espionage to which no constitutional monarchy of Europe would now dare resort.

It has abolished the right of appeal on important constitutional questions to the supreme judicial tribunal, and threatens to curtail or destroy its original jurisdiction, which is irreversibly vested by the Constitution, while the learned Chief Justice has been subjected to the most

strepituous calumnies, merely because he would not prostitute his high office to the support of the false and partisan charges preferred against the President.

Its corruption and extravagance have exceeded anything known in history, and by its frauds and monopolies it has nearly doubled the burden of debt created during the war.

It has stripped the President of his constitutional power of appointment, even of his own cabinet.

Under its repeated assaults the pillars of the Government are rocking on their base, and should it succeed in November next and inaugurate its President, we will meet it as a subject and conquered people amid the ruins of liberty and the scattered fragments of the Constitution; and we do declare and resolve that ever since the people of the United States threw off all subjection to the British Crown, the privilege and trust of suffrage have belonged to the several States, and have been granted, regulated and controlled exclusively by the political power of each State respectively, and any attempt by Congress, on any pretext whatever, to deprive any State of this right, or interfere with this exercise, is a flagrant usurpation of power which can find no warrant in the Constitution, and, if sanctioned by the people, will subvert our form of government, and can only end in a single centralized, consolidated government in which the separate existence of the States will be entirely absorbed, and an unqualified despotism be established in place of a Federal Union of equal States.

That we regard the reconstruction acts of Congress, so-called, as usurpations unconstitutional, revolutionary and void, and that our soldiers and sailors who carried the flag of our country to victory against a most gallant and determined foe, must ever be gratefully remembered, and all the guarantees given in their favor must be faithfully carried into execution.

That the public lands should be distributed widely among the people and should be disposed of either under the preemption or homestead laws, and to none but actual occupants at the minimum price as established by the Government. When grants of the public lands may be allowed, necessary for the encouragement of important public improvements, the proceeds of the sale of such lands, and not the lands themselves should be so applied.

That the President of the United States, Andrew Johnson, in exercising the power of his high office in resisting the aggressions of Congress on the constitutional rights of the States and the people, is entitled to the gratitude of the whole American people, and on behalf of the Democratic party we tender him our thanks for his patriotic efforts in that regard.

Upon this platform the Democratic party appeal to every patriot, including all the conservative element and all who desire to support the Constitution and restore the Union, forgetting all past differences of opinion, to unite with us in the present great struggle for the liberties of the people, and that to all such, to whatever party they may have heretofore belonged, we extend the right hand of fellowship and hail all such co-operating with us as friends and brothers.

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