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WILLIAM LEWIS,

—PERSEVERE—

Editor and Proprietor.

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NO. 7.

Original Poetry.

THE WANDERER'S GRAVE.

BY LEWIS.

Far from the scenes of childhood;
Far from the loved one's side,
In Sierra Nevada's wildwood,
The youthful wanderer died.

Political.

ADDRESS

OF THE DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE.

To the Citizens of Pennsylvania:

It has been usual for the State Committee, representing the Democratic party of Pennsylvania, to address the people of the State pending important elections.

The Democratic State Convention upon the second day of March last, and at its re-assembling in June, made nominations for the offices of Governor, Canal Commissioner and Judge of the Supreme Court.

For Governor, Gen. Packer, of Lycoming, was named, after a spirited contest, and his nomination was then unanimously and rightfully confirmed.

It is agreeable to add, that our candidate has a solid and reputable character in private life, and that his estimable qualities have endeared him to a large circle of friends who can enter upon his support with feelings of enthusiasm as well as with convictions of duty.

It is not believed that his career in Congress exhibited any high capacity to promote the interests of the people of Pennsylvania, and it is certain that his recent course in the office he now holds, has been calculated to lower the judicial character by connecting it with extreme and violent partisan disputes.

Nimrod Strickland, of Chester county, was named by the Convention for Canal Commissioner. He needs no recommendation at our hands, for his integrity, firmness and capacity are not disputed and are widely recognized.

By reason of the declination, by Chief Justice Lewis, of the re-nomination tendered him by the Convention, and the calling of Judge Black to the post of Attorney General in the National Administration, the Convention, upon its re-assembling in June, found the duty devolved upon it of naming two candidates for the Supreme Bench.

Second—Internal Improvements to be constructed at the charge of the national treasury, to facilitate internal trade, and assist in developing the material resources of particular sections. No clear authority for outlays of this description appearing, and the manifest dangers to which they lead being apparent, the action of our Federal Government on this subject has been rightfully and wisely arrested.

discharge the arduous and responsible duties of the highest judicial position under our Constitution.

Such is the ticket formed by the delegates representing the Democratic party, and support of it is confidently asked in view of the character of the nominations. But confidence and support is also invited upon the general grounds of policy and principle upon which our party stand.

The usefulness of organized parties is sometimes denied and often doubted. But in view of historical facts it cannot well be questioned that they are incident to free governments, and arise of necessity under their operation.

Now, the Democratic party is simply the representative of a school of opinion, and its creed is given it by those who founded and have subsequently supported it.

They held that over-act in government was a great evil—the most difficult to be guarded against, and therefore the most dangerous—and that both within and without the Constitution powerful guards against it were required.

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To illustrate our remarks, we will refer briefly to a number of measures of public policy heretofore proposed to the general or State Government, and upon which divisions of opinion have existed among public men and parties.

First—A bank created by the General Government, owned, in part by it, and intended for the regulation of the currency, and to afford facilities to commerce and business.

Second—Internal Improvements to be constructed at the charge of the national treasury, to facilitate internal trade, and assist in developing the material resources of particular sections.

Third—Excessive duties upon imports, to the extent of prohibition, or to the production

of revenue beyond the legitimate wants of government. The federal power of imposing duties being for the expressed object of Government support and the liquidation of public indebtedness, its exercise for an entirely different object would seem unwarranted, and would be unjust to interests or individuals against whom a discrimination is thus produced.

Fourth—The distribution of moneys from the national treasury among the States, believed to be equally unwarranted by the preceding measures, and inevitably tending to the production of speculation and extravagance in the States, has also been resisted, and except upon a single occasion, prevented.

Fifth—A bankrupt act, dissolving the relations of debtor and creditor in a manner and to an extent unauthorized by the Constitution, disastrous to private rights, injurious to morals, and to the encouragement, mainly, of one of the least meritorious classes of society—the speculator and spendthrift.

Sixth—Appropriations of public moneys or lands, to objects of doubtful constitutionality or utility; connected with which, may be mentioned the allowance of claims, insufficiently established or unjust. The Democratic principle strikes as decisively at all projects for assailing the treasury, for an individual, a class, or a section, in the absence of clear right to justify the demand, as it does at other unwarranted or doubtful measures.

Seventh—The exercise of jurisdiction by the General Government over slavery in the territories, to the exclusion of local decision thereon. Legislation by Congress upon slavery beyond the express requirement as to return of fugitives, is to be doubted, and if regard is had to high judicial decision, expressly denied, as a valid exercise of power.

Eighth—The establishment of corporations, either excessive as to number or vested with inordinate powers or privileges; and especially for pursuits or business within the reach of individual means and skill. Under which head is to be particularly noted, the chartering of banks beyond the business wants of the community, locating them at points without adequate commerce or exchanges to afford legitimate occupation, and failing to impose upon them such guards against abuse and fraud as are demanded by experience.

Ninth—The authorizing of municipal subscriptions to railroads and other corporate bodies to the encouragement of speculations, corruption and the accumulation of public debts. The proposition now before the people for the amendment of the Constitution to prevent this in future, is but in affirmation of the principle we have been considering; for the decision of a divided Court in favor of legislative power to authorize such subscriptions, has not removed all doubts, and has left the powerful objections to the system, upon grounds of expediency, untouched and irresistible.

Tenth—The sale or surrender by Government, in whole or in part, of any of its constitutional powers confided to it by the people. The attempt to do this in the late act for the sale of the Main Line of the Public Works; an attempt which was denounced by the State Convention, and has since been pronounced unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, may be cited under this head, and deserved that reprobation which it has generally received.

Eleventh—Sumptuary laws, by which dress, food, drink, equipage, or other like concern of use, habit or fashion, is coerced. The interference of law in such cases would seem to be unuseful, and is of doubtful authority.

Twelfth—Finally, measures directed against a class or sect, and intended to degrade them or limit their civil privileges. It is affirmed that neither religious belief nor birth place will furnish grounds for ostracism or a denial of common right.

Such are some of the leading measures upon which political divisions have taken place, and on their careful examination it will be seen, that they can all be resolved into the general question whether the powers and action of government shall be extensive or limited. And if we should pursue the subject further, this view of the fundamental ground of difference between public men and parties would be but confirmed and strengthened.

We are left then to choose sides in the struggle between power and liberty—between a government that meddles and one that abstains—between political New Englandism and the Virginia doctrines of 1798. Neutrality is not possible, for almost every public question that arises compels us to a choice between contending parties, and the schools of opinion which they respectively represent.

It has been fashionable for apostates from our party to claim that they retained their principles unchanged, and even opposing parties occasionally advance pretensions to the faith and doctrines of Jefferson. How unfounded such pretensions are, whether advanced by apostate or party, will appear from considering the measures of public policy they propose and support.

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that "if we have a doubt relative to any power, we ought not to exercise it." Much more may we deny their discipleship, if we find their measures connected with intolerance in religion, proscription of adopted citizens, or aggressions upon territorial or state rights, which is manifestly a true description, at this moment, of the parties opposed to us.

The (so-called) Republican party makes high pretensions and challenges their examination—but there can be little difficulty in determining their character and value, and assigning the party which holds them true position before the public. Especially will it be a work of ease, to explode its pretension to sound opinions as held by former Republican Presidents, and to bring it within the condemnation which they directed against the heretical movements of the times in which they lived.

The resistance made about 1820, to the admission of Missouri into the Union, was similar to the recent conduct of those who misdescribe themselves as Republicans. In both cases the proposition was, that Congress should prohibit slavery in territories (or cause it to be prohibited) prior to their admission as States.

The argument against this was stated by Mr. Madison, in the Walsh letters, under all the high sanctions which his abilities and his position as the leading author of the Constitution, could confer upon it. And it is as well established as any historical fact can be, that Mr. Jefferson was opposed to the Missouri agitation throughout, and to prohibitions of slavery by Congressional coercion as then proposed.

His celebrated letter to John Holmes, dated 22d April, 1820, furnishes conclusive proof of this, and confirmation of the fact will be found in other parts of his published correspondence. In his letter to John Adams, of December 10, 1819, he says, that "from the battle of Bunker Hill to the treaty of Paris, we never had so ominous a question; it even damps the joy with which I hear of your high health and welcomes to me the want of it."

He says to Mr. Monroe, March 3, 1820—"the Missouri question is the most portentous one which ever yet threatened our Union. In the gloomiest moment of the Revolutionary war, I never had any apprehension equal to that which I felt from this source." To Mr. Short, April 13, 1820, he writes—"Although I had laid down as law to myself never to write, talk, or even think of politics; to know nothing of public affairs; and had therefore ceased to read newspapers; yet the Missouri question aroused and filled me with alarm."

The old schism of Federal and Republican threatened nothing, because it existed in every State, and united them together by the fraternalism of party. But the coincidence of a marked principle, moral and political, with a geographical line, once conceived, I feared would never more be obliterated from the mind; that it would be recurring on every occasion, and receiving irritations, until it would kindle such mutual and mortal hatred as to render separation preferable to eternal discord."

He says to Joseph C. Cabell, January 31, 1821—"How many of our youths, who (Harvard College) now has learning the lessons of Anti-Missouriism. I know not; but a gentleman lately from Princeton, told me that more than half were Virginians. These will return home no doubt deeply impressed with the sacred principles of the Holy Alliance of Restrictionists!"

And to Gen. Breckinridge, he writes, February 11, 1821. "The line of division lately marked out between different portions of our confederacy is such as will not soon, I fear, be obliterated; and we are now trusting to those who are against us in position and principle, to fashion to their own form the minds and affections of our youth. If, as has been estimated, we send three hundred thousand dollars a year to the northern seminaries for the instruction of our own sons, then we must have five hundred of our sons imbibing opinions and principles in discord with those of their own country. This canker is eating on the vitals of our existence, and, if not arrested at once, will be beyond remedy."

In a letter to Mr. Madison, in reference to the Missouri question, he declared that Rufus King, (a distinguished Federalist) was "ready to risk the Union for any chance of restoring his party to power, and wriggling himself to the head of it."

On another occasion, he declared the question to be a mere party trick, "that the leaders of federalism defeated in their schemes of obtaining power * * * have changed their tact and thrown out another barrel to the whale. They are taking advantage of the virtuous feeling of the people to effect a division of parties by a geographical line, expecting that this will insure them, upon local principles, the majority they could never obtain on principles of federalism."

And, finally, his letter to Gen. La Fayette, dated November 4, 1823, contains his judgment of the whole movement, expressed with his usual directness and vigor. He says—"The Hartford Convention, the victory of Orleans, and the peace of Ghent, prostrated the name of federalism. Its votaries abandoned it through shame and mortification, and now call themselves republicans, and now call themselves democrats, the principles are the same. * * * On the collapse of federalism with us, though not its extinction, its leaders got up the Missouri question, under the false front of lessening the measure of slavery, BUT WITH THE REAL VIEW OF PRODUCING A GEOGRAPHICAL DIVISION OF PARTIES, WHICH MIGHT ENSURE THEM THE NEXT PRESIDENT. The people of the North went blindfold into the snare, followed their leaders for a while with a zeal truly moral and laudable, until they became sensible that they were injuring instead of aiding the real interests of the slaves, THAT THEY HAD BEEN USED MERELY AS TOOLS FOR ELECTORNEER-

ING PURPOSES, AND THAT TRICK OF HYPOCRISY then fell as quickly as it had been got up."

This is an admirable description of the Republican party of the present day—of the causes which led to it, and the objects of its founders. The picture is drawn by the hand of a master, and represents the feature of the subject with fidelity and exactness. Republicanism, being but a reproduction of Missouri agitation, bears precisely the same description, and is obnoxious to precisely the same censure. And it is to be remarked, that like its predecessor—it invokes the legislation of Congress in a case of rank impediency and doubtful power, and hence falls within the condemnation of the general principle to limited action by Government, which has been a topic of this address.

But a view of modern Republicanism would be incomplete without some particular notice of the features of its career. Without tracing its early movements in the organization of Abolition societies, the circulation of incendiary matter through the mails, agitation by petitions to Congress, clamorous opposition to the annexation of Texas, and to the prosecution of the Mexican war, and the acquisition of territory to which it led; it will be sufficient to notice somewhat the Wilmot proviso which preceded, and the Kansas dispute which accompanied, the organization of the Republican party in its present form.

The Wilmot Proviso was offered in Congress in 1846, as an amendment to a war bill, and was (briefly described) a proposition to prohibit slavery in Mexican territory to be acquired. It created contention which continued some four years. The national harmony was disturbed and the public business impeded by it, until it became necessary for patriotic men, in Congress and out of it, to unite their utmost efforts to restore peace and secure such legislation as was absolutely necessary for the territory in question. The Compromise Measures were therefore passed in 1850, and eventually received the general approval of the people. In fact, in 1852, both the great parties of the country endorsed them in their platforms, and their wisdom and propriety are not now a subject of general dispute.

The Territory we acquired from Mexico by the treaty of peace—the treaty of Gaudaloupe Hidalgo—was comprised of nearly the whole now included in the State of California and the Territories of Utah and New Mexico, and the Proviso, if it had been adopted, would therefore have had application solely to them. But the Proviso was never adopted or applied by Congress to either. California was admitted into the Union as a State with the Constitution she formed for herself without any decision by Congress on the subject of slavery within her limits. That was adjusted by herself in her Constitution, and by her own act therefore she entered the Union as a free State. In the acts for the organization of Utah and New Mexico as Territories, there were no provisions prohibiting or authorizing slavery, but it was expressly provided that they should eventually come into the Union with or without slavery, as the people of each should decide, in forming Constitutions preparatory to admission. Seven years have elapsed since these Territorial acts were passed, and no complaint has been made against them, nor has slavery been established in either territory. It is, therefore, proved that the Wilmot Proviso was wholly unnecessary to the exclusion of slavery, and that the agitation from 1846 to 1850 to secure its enactment, was a thing of arrant folly as well as of real evil.

There stand the facts! no longer to be perverted or denied, and they exhibit the Proviso agitation in its true character. Not adopted, it is soon to have been unnecessary. Productive of great mischief to the country in the contention and alienation it caused, it was a mere abstraction, a thing neither practical nor useful.

A desperate attempt was made last year to carry the Presidential election upon a Kansas agitation, in which the same class of actors appeared that did in the Missouri agitation of 1820—men "ready to risk the Union for any chance" of establishing their party, "and wriggling themselves to the head of it." But, a just judgment was pronounced upon these people and their project, in the election of Mr. Buchanan, and they will soon be obliged to select some other topic upon which to disturb the public tranquility, and struggle for the attainment of power. Their spasmodic attempts to keep up excitement without any practical or useful object in view, but simply that they may thrive upon discord and passion, are even now received by the public with a feeling bordering very nearly upon contempt.

The American people are practical and sagacious. They will require some practical good to appear in any movement to which they are invited; and when due time has elapsed for reflection, they will try parties and party measures by the standard of principle and not of professions. The Wilmot Proviso was utterly extinguished by Webster on the 7th of March, 1850, in the demonstration of its inutility, and was therefore delivered over to history as an imposture; and approval of the Kansas-Nebraska act of 1854, has been growing more and more general as its conformity to sound principles has been examined and established. That unnecessary things shall not be done, and that the citizens of each political division of the country shall determine their local institutions, are, in fact, propositions so reasonable and just that it is surprising they should ever have been questioned.

Three years ago, the Democratic party of this State chose defeat before dishonor. It stood up for toleration and equal rights, against the passions and prejudices of the time, because constitutional and just principles demanded it. And now, with a new antagonist—the Republican party—it still stands in the path of duty, with its past course vindicated, and with the highest claims to public confidence and favor. While it is not insensible to ideas of progress and improvement, and will seek to apply those that are practicable and just, its duty as a great conservative organization to preserve the principles

of the government and the institutions of the country from degeneracy, will not be neglected. In brief, if trusted it will be true, and the people will receive, as heretofore, the "peaceable fruits" of good government and honest rule.

C. L. BUCKALEW, Chairman.
J. N. LUTHERSON, } Secretaries.
R. J. HALDEMAN, }

Interesting Miscellany.

ORANGE PEEL.—The especial attention of parents and others is called to the following facts:

The New York Journal of Commerce learns that a little son of Robert Olive, of that city, about five years of age, is now lying in a very critical condition from the effects of eating orange peel. Parents cannot be too cautious in keeping orange peel from their children, as it contains an active poisonous oil, which in many instances has caused the death of persons who indiscreetly made use of them. Life is jeopardized every time the rind is taken into the stomach.

POISONED BY A SPIDER.—A gentleman of this city, who visited the West with the great railroad excursion, had his pleasure spoiled by the bite of a spider. After passing a night in Cincinnati on his way out, he rose from his bed, noticing a slight red spot between the joints of the thumb and index finger of his right hand. It was about as large as a sixpence, and encircled with a white rim not unlike the sting of a mosquito. He took no special notice of it at first, but four hours after he rose the sore spot had swollen and grown insufferably painful. He then went to the physician, who told him there were but two creatures in the western country which could produce the effect, and thought the gentleman had been bitten by a rattlesnake or a black spider. The excursionist knowing that he had not slept with a rattlesnake concluded that the spider must have been the offender, and he had probably slipped into the bed and distilled his venom during the hours of slumber.

The doctor rubbed the wound with ammonia, and the sufferer, undergoing extreme torture, left for St. Louis on the same day. His hand and arm some distance above the wrist had swelled to double their usual size, while the dull, dreadful, unintermitting pain, which had extended beyond the swelling to the arm pit, reminded him of the jumping of fifty toothaches. In consequence of his sufferings, he was obliged for some days to remain in bed, trying Dalley's Pain Extractor to bring the mysterious swelling to a head, but it acted too quickly. After suppuration, a large amount of festering matter was brought out by the lancet. But another ulcer, accompanied with less painful swelling, at once formed, and with his hand bandaged for this, the suffering excursionist returned to New York. His hand, still disabled, presents a shocking inflamed appearance, but since his arrival lancet has done something to relieve the second afflictive visitor.

Such are the symptoms as described by the patient, who could hardly sleep for ten days in consequence of his sufferings.—N. Y. Ev. Post.

WOMAN'S DEVOTION.—One of the most striking incidents in the fearful tragedy near Quebec, was the conduct of Mrs. Bloomfield, in saving two children. She held to a rope with one hand, keeping the head of one child above the water with the other, and holding the other up by fastening her teeth in its dress. So heavy was the load that two of her teeth gave way and were lost, yet she still retained her hold. At last a boat came towards her, and men were screaming all around her to be taken on board. She could not scream, but a man seeing her situation brought a boat to her, telling her she needed help most. Then her strength gave way at the prospect of relief and safety, and she came near drowning before she could be lifted into the boat.—She was a slight, delicate woman in appearance, and one wonders how she was ever able to endure so much. Our readers will exclaim what will not a mother do! But these children were not her own. One of them, aged eighteen months, is named JEMIE, as Mrs. Bloomfield heard it called on board by its parents, who were from Glasgow, and were both lost.

A QUEER RESULT.—The Know Nothings when in a large majority in our State Legislature two years since, passed a law that no devise or bequest made by a testator to a religious, charitable or benevolent institution, should be valid, unless the last will and testament containing the devise or bequest had been made and executed at least thirty days before the death of the testator. This strange law had been made that Roman Catholic priests surrounded the death beds of the members of their church, and extorted from the dying legacies for their Churches and other religious institutions. Of course, the law was general, but the Know Nothings put it on the statute book to meet the cases of the Catholic Church. Strange enough that the very first place this law takes effect is in this county, and in the case of a benevolent Protestant institution of learning—Westtown School. This establishment belongs to the Orthodox friends and they there educate youth having membership, or a birth-right in their society, at a merely nominal price. A member of the Society of Friends named Maxwell, recently died, and left by will \$60,000 to Westtown School. The testator died before his will was thirty days old, the case was carried to the Supreme Court and the decision is that Westtown School loses the \$60,000. One thing is certain, that the Know Nothing Legislature has not been of much pecuniary value to the Society of Friends.—West Chester Republican.

From what we can learn, M'Kim, who is to expiate his crime upon the gallows on the 21st of August next, looks upon death with stoic indifference. A prisoner in an adjoining cell, who is also manacled, often passes jocular remarks with M'K., such as asking him "how he likes his jewelry"—alluding to the chains by which he is surrounded. M'K. appears to enjoy such jokes, and frequently, although they cannot see one another, jumps up, clanking his chains, which gives his next door neighbor an opportunity of judging that he is still in possession of his jewelry.—Blair County Whig.

One of the most eminent British physicians has lately published a work, in which he falls back on what was substantially the theory of Hippocrates more than two thousand years ago. The theory is that modern practitioners have been in the habit of giving too much medicine; that nature needs only to be assisted at critical points; and cannot be forced, and that, in many cases, where the disorder has been fatal from the first, medicine is wholly useless.