



CLEARFIELD, July 6, 1859.

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

AUDITOR GENERAL.

RICHARDSON L. WRIGHT

OF PHILADELPHIA.

SURVEYOR GENERAL.

JOHN ROWE

OR FRANKLIN COUNTY.

PRIMARY ELECTION.

At a meeting of the Democratic Standing Committee of Clearfield county, held at Clearfield June 28th, 1859; the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Democratic voters of the several boroughs and townships are hereby notified to meet at their respective places of holding primary elections on Saturday August 6th, 1859, between the hours of 2 and 5 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of nominating candidates to be voted for at the general election on the second Tuesday of October.

L. J. Crans, Esq., was elected Secretary of the Committee.

R. J. WALLACE, Chm.

Douglas and the Presidency.

WASHINGTON, June 22, 1859.

MY DEAR SIR:—I have received your letter, inquiring whether my friends are at liberty to present my name to the Charleston Convention for the Presidential nomination.

Before this question be finally determined, it will be necessary to understand distinctly upon what issues the canvass is to be conducted. If (as I have full faith they will) the Democratic party shall determine in the Presidential election of 1860, to adhere to the principles embodied in the Compromise measures of 1850, and ratified by the people into the Presidential election of 1852, and reaffirmed in the Kansas Nebraska act of 1854, and incorporated into the Cincinnati platform of 1856—as expounded by Mr. Buchanan in his letter accepting the nomination, and approved by the people in his election—in that event, my friends will be at liberty to present my name to the Convention, if they see proper to do so.

If, on the contrary, it shall become the policy of the Democratic party (which I cannot anticipate) to repudiate these time-honored principles, on which we have achieved so many patriotic triumphs; and in lieu of them the Convention shall interpolate into the creed of the party such new issues as the revival of the African slave trade, or a Congressional slave code for the Territories, or the doctrine that the Constitution of the United States either establishes or prohibits slavery in the Territories, beyond the power of the people legally to control it as other property—it is due to candor, to say that, in such an event, I could not accept the nomination if tendered to me.

Trusting that this answer will be deemed sufficiently explicit, I am very respectfully, your friend, S. A. DOUGLAS.

To J. B. DIXON, Esq., Dubuque, Iowa.

We do not care to notice at great length the foregoing letter of Judge Douglas. In the main, so far as history, facts and principles are concerned, we concur in its contents, and only regret that we cannot give it an unqualified endorsement.

But we are unable to see what the Judge means by laying it down as a condition precedent to his acceptance of the Presidential nomination, that the Democratic party shall not "interpolate into its creed" "the doctrine that the Constitution of the United States, either establishes or prohibits slavery in the territories, beyond the power of the people legally to control it as other property." In all fairness we must regard this as a most extraordinary proposition. When did the Democratic party attempt to fix a doctrine for the constitution? Why should the Judge have originated this new and singular idea? We have yet to learn that the Democratic party intend undertaking to establish any doctrine for the constitution; having always understood, and acted upon the belief, that they accept it as it is; leaving its definition, in all disputed cases to the judiciary, and that is precisely what Judge DOUGLAS contended for in the case of Kansas and Nebraska. That favorite measure of his declared that the people should be "subject only to the constitution," on all questions touching their domestic affairs, slavery included; and times without number he has declared that the extent of the authority of the people under that act could not be determined by Congress, but must be referred to the judiciary. Does he now mean to say that the Democratic party may determine the effect of the constitution on this point, and if that doctrine does not suit him, he will not accept the nomination? What would he say, should the Supreme Court expound the constitution one way and the Democratic Convention another. We take it to be the essence of the Democratic faith, to which we believe the Convention at Charleston will adhere, that Congress shall hereafter, as in the case of Kansas and Nebraska, confer upon the people and their local legislature, the utmost degree of control over the subject of slavery in the Territories, which the constitution will permit; the measure of the authority so delegated to be ascertained by the Judiciary in any and all disputed cases; and in addition

and above all, that the spirit of the constitution, when so defined, shall be carried out in fact and in deed; that there shall be no grumbling about the existence of a right in the citizen that he is not allowed to enjoy; or about the legal means in the majority of the people to destroy the constitutional rights of the minority. The word of promise to the ear, to be broken to the hope. If Judge DOUGLAS means to countenance this species of Democracy, then we differ with him radically. Nothing can be more demoralizing or mischievous.

However we might agree with the sentiments of Judge DOUGLAS' letter, it is too obvious that the assumption on his part, that the Democratic party, of which he seems to pride himself upon being a member, could under any circumstances abandon its long cherished principles, and do other absurd and dishonorable things, is to say the least in exceedingly bad taste. Nor do we think it becoming in any man, however talented, accomplished and distinguished, to present the American people conditions precedent, upon which he would consent to serve them in the Executive Chair of the nation. No man, not even JACKSON or WASHINGTON, ever presumed to this before. Nor has Judge DOUGLAS seen proper to do so until now, although his name has been used in that connexion for the last twelve years. The office of Chief Magistrate of the United States is the greatest distinction in the world, and the American people are too proud to accept the services of any man in that station as a favor to them.

As for the nuggets of the revival of the slave trade and a slave code in the territories, which seem to have disturbed the "little giant's" dreams, and awakened his sensibilities, he knows perfectly well that the Democratic party do not intend to accept any such dogmas at Charleston, nor will they have force enough to require even serious consideration. He knows further, that the Democracy, by almost a common voice, have agreed and will agree, that the people of the territories shall exercise all their authority and control over slave, and other property, which is competent for them to do under the constitution. This they shall have and enjoy, from any molestation or dictation from any quarter. More, it is not competent for Congress, nor any authority upon the face of the earth to confer upon them. What more can he or any one else desire; unless it be that one class of citizens in the territories, because in the majority, shall deprive the other because in a minority of their legal rights. If that is what Judge DOUGLAS meant, then we think that the Charleston Convention will reverse the order with him, and lay down conditions precedent, upon which they will take him or not take him as their candidate. But we hope the Judge means nothing of the kind; on the contrary, that when he is fully understood, he intends to act in harmony with the party, and yield something of his own peculiar notions to perfect that harmony, non verba.

It is time to Organize.

By the proceedings of the Democratic Standing Committee, inserted in another column, our friends will see that the first step towards an efficient organization for the approaching election has been taken.

We hear loud complaints of the appointment of a Standing Committee by the late County Convention. It is true that the delegates composing this Convention were appointed for a special purpose—that of deciding upon a system of making nominations. When they went beyond this, they exceeded the powers delegated to them. But our friends will recollect that the present (or late) Standing Committee was appointed in December, 1857, that it has been our custom to appoint said Committee every year, and that several of the members of the old Committee were also placed on the new one, and finally, that this new Committee was formed merely because it was supposed that a new one ought to be formed, and without the slightest objection to any member, or any act, of the old Committee, and therefore we trust that no one will harbor the slightest objection to this part of their proceedings. It is by no means a position to be coveted, and we are quite sure that no member of the old Committee will have the least objection at being thus relieved of the responsibility.

We hope this effort of the Committee to organize for the coming election will be vigorously seconded by our friends throughout the county. The township Committee of Vigilance should have an early meeting, and adopt those means that are best calculated to effect a thorough and complete organization in every district.—Our party is as strong as ever it was.—There are no changes from our party to the opposition. The opposition build their hopes upon what they imagine to be disaffection among Democrats. In this they will find themselves vastly mistaken.—Democrats may differ upon minor points within their party; but they will not allow such differences to drive them into a position of antagonism with their party.

This feeling exists throughout the State. Our party was never in a better condition to carry an election. The few bad men, who have weight to distract our party, by getting up an Anti-Lecompton ticket find themselves completely deserted. The people refuse to follow them, knowing that they would but lead them into the camp of the enemy.

COMMITTEE OF VIGILANCE.

The standing Committee of the Democratic party of Clearfield county have appointed the following vigilance committee for the purpose of holding the primary election, distributing tickets, &c. viz.

Buccaria, G. W., Caldwell, Frederick Shoff, Elam Bakestraw,

Bell, Jas. B., Sunderland, Robert Elder,

Lewis Smith,

Boggs, L. W., Munson, Jno. W., Kyler,

Jacob Dimeling,

Bradford, James Stewart, David Holt,

S. P. Wilson,

Brady, John P., Dale, George W., Long,

Jacob Kunta, Jos. Lines, Jr., Frederick Korb,

Burnside, Jas. M'Murray, Frederick Shepard, James Savage, Jacob A. Breth,

Chest, Daniel Gorman, Thos. F. Garley, Robert McCally,

Cleerfield, Isaac Johnson, J. L. Morgan,

Daniel Litz, Wm. M. McCullough,

Covington, John Briel, Lawrence Flood,

John M. Reiter,

Curwensville, Wm. A. Mason, John McNaal, Daniel Faust,

Decatur, Cyrene Hore, Solomon Hamerschlag, Richard Hughes,

Ferguson, Hiram McCracken, Wm. L. Moore, George E. Tubbs,

Fox, James McClelland, N. M. Brockway,

Girard, Abraham Kyler, Ellis McClelland, H. J. Hite,

Goshen, E. R., Livergood, Robert C. Shaw, A. A. Read,

Graham, Jacob Whillm, Jacob Hubler, John Holt,

Houston, Phillip Hevener, John C. Tyler, H. Woodward,

Jordan, Jos. Patterson, Thomas Smith, Peter Bloom,

Karthus,

Knox, Wm. Sloss, Reuben Caldwell, Peter Mays,

Lawrence, Hugh Orr, John Daugherty, Jr., John Shaw Jr., Maj. J. B. Heissey,

Morris, Jos. D. Denning, Jas. McClelland, Daniel Little, Jno. B. Kyler,

New Washington, J. M. Cummings, G. W. Stewart, Russell M'Murray,

Poor, R. Denver Jr., James Johnston, Thos. Daugherty,

Pike, W. A. Bloom, D. C. Dale, Richard Freeman, J. H. Fleming,

Union, Wm. F. Johnston, Nathan Lines, Horace Courtney,

Woodward, Jas. Alexander, James A. Hegarty, Jno. Coulter,

The attention of the members of the above Committees, is called to the rules of the party, adopted in convention on the 21st of June, 1859, by which they are required to advertise the time and place of holding the primary election, a reasonable length of time previous thereto; also, after the holding of said election, they will certify the returns thereof and place them in the hands of one of their number or give a written deposition to some known democrat who shall meet one member of said Committees from each township or borough, at the Court House in Clearfield, on Tuesday the 9th of August, 1859, at 2 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of casting up the votes and declaring the nominees.

It will also be the duty of the Convention of Committee-men to elect three Conference to meet similar Conferences from Blair and Cambria, to nominate a candidate for Senator, and also three Conference to meet those from Jefferson, Elk and McKean, to nominate two candidates for Assembly.

R. J. WALLACE, Chm.

According to the last advices from the seat of war in Europe, a decisive battle was expected to take place about the 25th or 26th of June. Napoleon had called for a re-inforcement of one hundred thousand men, and Austria, with her King as commander in chief, was concentrating her whole strength for a struggle, the result of which would be life or death to her.

In the meantime Prussia and all Germany, are making the most formidable preparations for war, apparently to operate in support of Austria, though this is denied; whilst Russia is making equally formidable preparations avowedly in support of France. This all looks like getting up a pretty well matched contest.

The new British ministry is fully organized, with Russell at its head. It will be an able administration, but if Germany and Russia become engaged in the present struggle, they will have quite enough to do to keep England in her present position of neutrality.

The next news is looked for with great anxiety.

THE FATAL DUEL NEAR MOBILE.—Young Vick, who was killed in a duel near Mobile last week, was a son of Col. Henry Vick, of Mississippi. His antagonist, Jas. Stith, was a son of Commodore Stith, of Vicksburg. Of the duel, a correspondent of the Picayune writes:

"All preliminaries being arranged, and the weapons placed in the hands of the belligerents, the usual command was given. Each gentleman answered, audibly, 'ready.' At the word 'fire,' Mr. Vick brought his weapon down and discharged it. At once, Mr. Stith fired, and his antagonist fell instantaneously dead! The ball took effect immediately under the left cheek, and ranging upward, passed into the brain where it lodged. The unfortunate victim fell, stiffened himself out, and was dead before his seconds reached him. What a change! A robust, manly form, vigorous and healthy!—a second, and it lies a bleeding corpse! 'There's honor for you.'

The weapons used were rifles—distance forty paces. Vick was the challenging party.

CASE WITH CUBA.—Mr. DODS, Ex-Minister to Spain, who was represented by some of the opposition presses and correspondents, as hostile to the purchase of Cuba, and as having ridiculed the efforts of Mr. Buchanan in that behalf, is now out in a letter, favoring the purchase, endorsing the President's recommendation, and deeply regretting the position of the thirty million bill in the Senate. He also says that the chief obstacle in the way of an honorable acquisition of the Island, arises from the course taken against the measure by the opposition presses in this country.

This was precisely the case with the purchase of Louisiana and Florida, and also with the acquisition of Texas, California, &c.

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