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June 16, 1859.—ly.*

ADDRESS OF THE

Republican Executive Committee,

OF PHILADELPHIA.

To the People of Pennsylvania.

It is an imperative duty, on the part

of those inexorably opposed to the extension

of slavery into territory now free, to

organize agreeably to the recommendations

of the National Republican Executive

Committee, issued in August last; and

accordingly, the CENTRAL REPUBLICAN

CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA has been formed

for the purpose of earnestly advocating

the rights of man, and the rights of labor

and the true doctrine of free government,

as proclaimed in the platform of the

Republican party, and for securing the

triumph of these vital principles in the

Presidential election of 1860.

Object of the Organization.

This Club will devote itself to the

formation of a correct public sentiment on all

the great issues of the day, in order that

the spread of the giant curse of slavery over

the virgin lands of the West may be

arrested; that the sectional and profligate

party now dominant in the national

councils may be driven from power; that

just and adequate protection to the

labor of the country may be definitely

secured; and that the government may

recover its lost purity, by the triumph and

restoration of the beneficent principles of

WASHINGTON, JEFFERSON, and CLAY.

This Club cordially invites all

freemen who sympathize in these views to

form all minor issues, and regardless of

former political differences, to join the

organization and give their exertions

toward securing victory in the

forthcoming national contest.

Impartiality of the Organization.

This Club established to advance

the cause of freedom, by laboring for

the election of whomsoever THE NATIONAL

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION shall nominate

for President and vice President, and

does not, and shall not, permit itself to

advocate or oppose the nomination of

any of the eminent statesmen who have

been suggested as the nominees. Thus,

this organization is open for the friends

of all the candidates.

Relation to the People's Party.

We know it will be urged that the

principles and aims of the People's party

of this State are similar to the principles

and aims we have briefly alluded to. Our

object is to make them identical and to

bring that party, of which Republicans

form the great mass, into more direct

and earnest co-operation with the

great Republican party of the nation. Our

People's party, though admirably adapted

for conducting municipal and State

elections, is hardly fit, as now influenced,

to conduct a national campaign. It

does not act in concert on national

questions with the Republican party in

the States where victory is certain, and

by whose vote, mainly, can national

success be achieved. We should

instantly take measures to more

closely affiliate with the

Republican party in those States, and

if we, the Republican members of the

People's party, composing a large

portion of that organization, yield

our glorious name to conciliate those

who are honestly acting with us,

they should not object to such

unequivocal declarations of

principles as may assure our

delegation a welcome reception

in the councils of that

great national party.

Terms of Alliance with the People's Party.

Should the call of the National

Republican Convention, the People's

party of our State in order to

make their delegates eligible to

that Convention, must either

send them as Republicans, or

pledge them to principles identical

with those of the Republican

party. We, as Republicans,

shall not recommend to our

fellow Republicans, and other

co-laborers in the cause of

freedom, to agitate for any

change in the name of the

People's party. We intend

to work zealously in its

rank, provided that, in all

its declarations and

measures, that party shall

openly enunciate our

principles, and labor for

their success.

But, while thus frankly

declaring our preference

to principle over a mere

party name, in the same

spirit we proclaim that

we shall not acquiesce in

any call for a "People's

National Convention, if

such a call, in a delusive

spirit of compromise

is resolved upon. To

agree to such a

scheme would bring us

in direct antagonism

with our party in other

States, and

positively endanger our

national success. Out-

side of Pennsylvania,

there is no distinctive

People's party, nor is

there any necessity for

the formation of any. Nothing

can be gained by accept-

ing the plausible sophis-

tries, thinly disguised

under the name of "con-

servatism," which appeal

to us "to conciliate the

Opposition at the South."

Antagonistic as that

Southern Opposition may

be to the Democratic

party, and numbering as

it does some hundreds

of thousands of voters,

scattered over fifteen

States, it cannot carry

one of them! Why, then,

should we jeopardize

our success in States

carried by us in '56

and reliable for us again

in 1860 by an un-

availing attempt to

make southern allies?

Powerless allies, when

gained! It is a fact to

be remembered, in

this connection, that

just twenty years ago

the Whig party, in

National Convention at

Harri-burg, courted

the alliance of the

South, and to propitiate

that section, after

suppressing a declaration

of principles, nominated

JOHN TYLER. Did not

the sweeping success

of 1840 prove to be

a barren victory, caus-

ing bitter dissensions,

and ending in the

extension of the

slave power, and the

subsequent triumph

of the Democratic

party!

Principle, the basis of the Union.

The only real union that

can exist must be one

of principle; the only

combination that can

be successful must

conform to common

sense. To attempt to

force into an unnatural

union unopposed

elements is only to

court defeat. We

must not, however,

be understood as

refusing southern

sympathy for our

cause, or southern

votes for our

candidates—Still

less are we opposed

to the nomination

of Southern statesmen

by the National

Convention. Most

certainly we desire

a party at the South

to co-operate with

us. It must be a

party whose platform

and leaders shall be

the same as in the

free States. It must

be built up in the

spirit of the southern

statesmen of other

better days. Some

of the wisest and

best men of the

South are earnestly

with us, and, under

their heroic leader-

ship, we shall find

a party in nearly

every southern

State openly support-

ing our creed and

our nominees.

What the State Convention

ought to do.

We believe that the

"People's party" is

well calculated to

secure the vote of

our State and a

perfect triumph of

Republicanism, if

the State Convention,

fairly called and

constitutionally

formed, will conform

to the usages of the

old Whig and all

former Opposition

parties in this

State, by leaving

the election of

district delegates

to the National

Convention with

the people of the

several Congressional

districts of the

Commonwealth.

On this essential

point, we have, how-

ever, serious mis-

givings. The call

of the State

Central Committee

for a State

Convention to be

held at Harri-

burg, 22d of

February next,

to indicate their

choice for the

Presidency, to

appoint two

senatorial, and

to designate the

time and man-

ner of electing

district delegates

to the National

Convention" is

before the people.

We ask what

convention is

meant? Is it to

select the

Republican or

the People's

National

Convention that

the delegates

are to be

accredited?

We find other

and more serious

features in

the call to

excite apprehen-

sion, and are

constrained from

a sense of duty,

to solemnly

protest against

it, so far as it

relates to the

district delegates,

for the reason

that the call

is not in

conformity with

the resolution