PITTSBURGH POST.

THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

Adopted at the Cincinnati National Convention.

Resolved, That the American Democracy place their trust in the intelligence, the patriotism, and the discriminating justice of the American people.

Resolved, That we regard this as a distinctive feature of our political creed, which we are proud to maintain before the world as the great moral element in a form of government springing from and held up by the popular will; and we contrast it with the creed and practice of Federalism, under whatever name or form, which seeks to palsy the will of the constituent, and which conceives no impeachment too monstrous for the popular credulity.

Resolved, therefore, That entertaining these views, the Democratic party of this Union, through their delegates assembled in a general Convention, coming together in spirit in concord, of devotion to the doctrines and faith of a free representative government, and appealing to their fellow citizens for the purpose of giving utterance to their views and purposes, have put forth the following declarations of principles avowed by them when on former occasions, in general Convention, they have presented their candidate for popular suffrages.

1. That the Federal Government is one of limited power, derived solely from the Constitution; and the grants of power made therein ought to be strictly construed by all the departments and agents of the Government, and that it is inexpedient and dangerous to exercise doubtful constitutional powers.

2. That the Constitution does not confer upon the General Government the power to commence and carry on a general system of internal improvements.

3. That the Constitution does not confer authority upon the Federal Government, directly or indirectly, to assume the debts of the several States, contracted for local and internal improvements, or other State purposes, nor would such assumption be just or expedient.

4. That justice and sound policy forbid the Federal Government to foster one branch of industry to the detriment of any other, or to force the industry of one portion to pay tribute to the industry of another portion of our common country; that every citizen and every section of the country has a right to be protected and fostered upon an equality of rights and privileges, and to receive such aid and protection of persons and property from the Government as may be extended to any other interest of the country; that it is the duty of every branch of the Government to give fair and practical effect to the most rigid economy in conducting our public affairs, and that no more revenue ought to be raised than is required to defray the necessary expenses of the Government, and for the gradual, but certain extinction of the public debt.

6. That the proceeds of the public lands ought to be sacred to pay applied to the national objects specified in the Constitution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution of such proceeds among the States as also to any act in policy and in spirit inconsistent therewith.

7. That Congress has no power to charter a corporation, or to make an appropriation for any work, improvement or object, not authorized by the Constitution, and that the veto of the President is a sufficient check against the passage of such bills; that we do not deem it expedient or proper that the veto power should be in any other way impaired or restricted; that we do not believe it to be the function of the Executive to express, in advance, his approval of any bill not yet matured into a law; that we do not believe it to be the function of any department of the Government to express, in advance, its approval of the constitutionality of a bill not yet a law; and that we do not believe it to be the function of any citizen or citizens to express, in advance, their approval or disapproval of any act of Congress, or any decision of the Supreme Court, on questions of Constitutional law which may come before them for adjudication.

8. That the Democratic party will faithfully adhere to and uphold the principles laid down in the Resolutions of 1798, and in the report of Mr. Madison to the Virginia Legislature in 1799; that they regard the principles therein contained as the creed of a party, in the political creed and is resolved to carry them out in their previous meaning and import.

And that we may more distinctly meet the issues on which we have fought, and conquered, we do hereby reaffirm our previous resolutions of the Baltimore Conventions of 1852 and 1856, and in the spirit of those resolutions we present the following as the sum of our political faith:

1. *Resolved*, That Congress has no power to interfere with, or control the domestic institutions of the several States, and that such States are the sole judges of their own domestic institutions, and that they are solely responsible for the morality and expediency of their institutions, under the Constitution as it is, and as it was intended to be, when they formed it, and that any attempt by Congress to impair the stability of the domestic institutions of the States, by the passage of any law, or by any other act, is a violation of the Constitution, and a dangerous and alarming usurpation of power, which, if not promptly arrested at the threshold, may lead to the subversion of the rights of property in all the States of the Union.

2. That the Democratic party will faithfully adhere to and uphold the principles laid down in the Resolutions of 1798, and in the report of Mr. Madison to the Virginia Legislature in 1799; that they regard the principles therein contained as the creed of a party, in the political creed and is resolved to carry them out in their previous meaning and import.

And that we may more distinctly meet the issues on which we have fought, and conquered, we do hereby reaffirm our previous resolutions of the Baltimore Conventions of 1852 and 1856, and in the spirit of those resolutions we present the following as the sum of our political faith:

1. *Resolved*, That Congress has no power to interfere with, or control the domestic institutions of the several States, and that such States are the sole judges of their own domestic institutions, and that they are solely responsible for the morality and expediency of their institutions, under the Constitution as it is, and as it was intended to be, when they formed it, and that any attempt by Congress to impair the stability of the domestic institutions of the States, by the passage of any law, or by any other act, is a violation of the Constitution, and a dangerous and alarming usurpation of power, which, if not promptly arrested at the threshold, may lead to the subversion of the rights of property in all the States of the Union.

2. *Resolved*,