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 practices of Federalism, under whatever name or form, which seeks to palsy the will of the constituent, and which conceives no impropriety or monstrous for the popular credulity.

Resolved, therefore, That entertaining those views, the Democratic party of this Union, through their delegates assembled in a general Convention, coming together in a spirit of concord, of devotion to the doctrines and faith of a free representative government, and appealing to their fellow citizens for the rectitude of their intentions, renew and reassert before the American people the declarations of principles avowed by them when in 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 cherish the interest of one portion to the injury of another portion of our common country; that every citizen and every section of the country has a right to demand and insist upon an equality of rights and privileges, and to complete an ample protection of persons and property from domestic violence or foreign aggression.

5. That it is the duty of every branch of the Government to enforce and practice 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 sacredly applied to the national objects specified in the Constitution; and that we are opposed to any law or the distribution of such proceeds among the States, as alike inexpedient in policy and repugnant to the Constitution.

7. That Congress has no power to charter a national bank; that we believe such an institution one of deadly hostility to the best interests of the country, dangerous to our republican institutions and the liberties of the people, and calculate to place the business of the country within the control of a concentrated money power, and above the laws and the will of the people; and that the results of the Democratic legislation in this and all other financial measures upon which issues have been made between the two political parties of the country, have demonstrated to candid and practical minds of all parties, their soundness, safety and utility in all business pursuits.

8. That the separation of the moneys of the Government from banking institutions is indispensable for the safety of the funds of the Government and the rights of the people.

9. That we are decidedly opposed to the exercise of Executive usurpation, in the shape of vetoes, by which he is enabled to defeat the legislation of the country, and defy the will of the people, North and South, by the Constitution and the Union;

10. *Resolved*, That the following clause, with, and declares the cooperation of all who regard the preservation of the Union under the Constitution as the paramount issue—is expounding all sectional parties and platforms concerning domestic slavery, which seek to embroil the States and incite to treason and armed resistance to law and the powers thereof; and whose avowed purposes, if consummated, must end in civil war and dissolution—the American Democracy recognize and lay the principle upon which the fathers of the republic founded it, and which they have constantly maintained, that each State of the Union has the exclusive right to regulate its domestic institutions, and that the Federal Government has no power to abolish slavery in the States, nor to control any of the domestic institutions thereof, and that all efforts of the abolitionists or others made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery, or to take incipient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences; and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people, and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friends of our political institutions.

11. That the foregoing propositions covers and maintains, to embrace the whole subject of slavery agitation in Congress; and therefore, the Democratic party of the Union, standing on this national platform, will abide by and adhere to a faithful execution of the acts known as the Compromise Measures, settled by the Congress of 1850; "the act for reclaiming fugitives from service or labor," included; which last being designed to carry out an express provision of the Constitution, cannot, with fidelity thereto, be repealed, or substantially changed so destroy or impair its efficiency.

12. That the Democratic party will resist all attempts at renewing, in Congress or out of it, the agitation of the slavery question, under whatever shape or color the attempt may be made.

13. That the Democratic party will faithfully abide by and uphold the principles laid down in the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions of 1798, and in the report of Mr. Madison to the Virginia Legislature in 1799; that it adopts those principles as constituting one of the main foundations of our political creed and is resolved to carry them out in their obvious meaning and import.

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49. *Resolved*, That claiming fellowship with, and declaring the cooperation of all who regard the preservation of the Union under the Constitution as the paramount issue—repudiating all sectional parties and platforms concerning domestic slavery, which seek to embroil the States and incite to treason and armed resistance to law and the powers thereof; and whose avowed purposes, if consummated, must end in civil war and dissolution—the American Democracy recognize and lay the principles upon which the fathers of the republic founded it, and which they have constantly maintained, that each State of the Union has the exclusive right to regulate its domestic institutions, and that the Federal Government has no power to abolish slavery in the States, nor to control any of the domestic institutions thereof, and that all efforts of the abolitionists or others made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery, or to take incipient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences; and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people, and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friends of our political institutions.

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