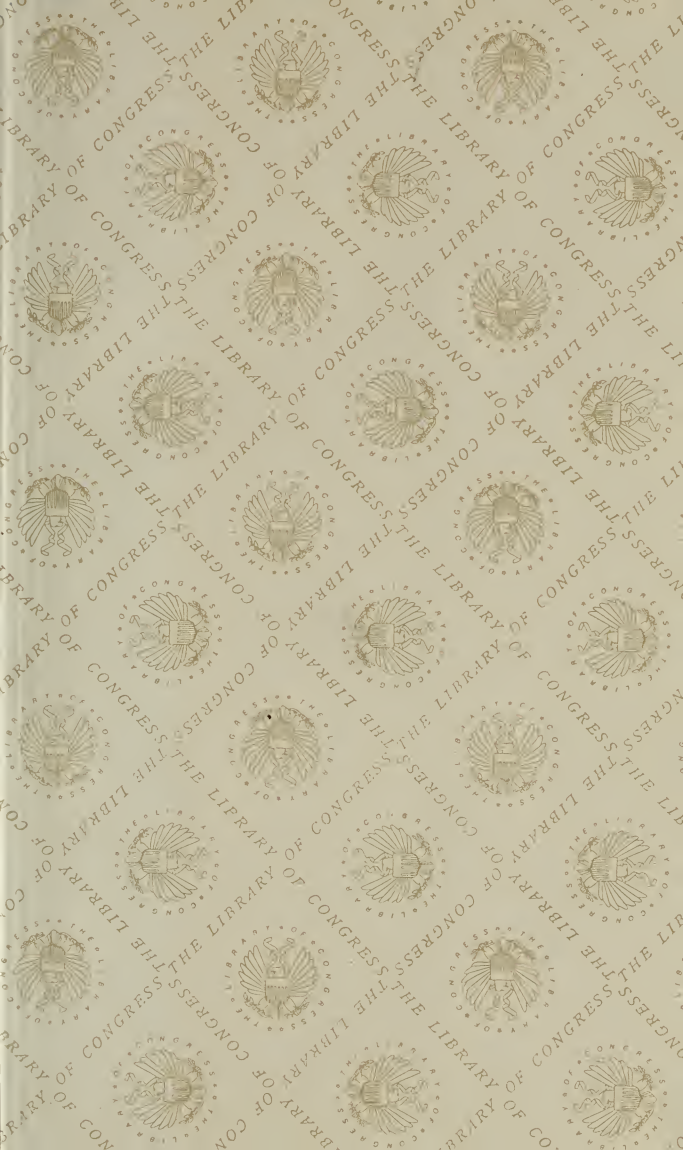


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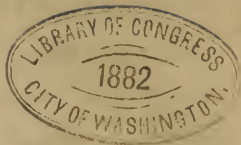
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DEMOCRATIC WHIG STATE CONVENTION.

Agreeably to the call, the Convention met at 10 o'clock, in the Presbyterian Church, in Chambersburg, on Thursday the 13th of June inst., and on motion of JOSEPH LAWRENCE, Esq. was organized temporarily, by calling JOHN BINNS, Esq. to the chair, who on taking the same made the following address:—

Gentlemen Delegates,

I am sensible of the honor you have been pleased to confer upon me—the more deeply sensible of the honor done and the confidence from the entire unanimity with which I have been called to the chair. I shall endeavor by the uprightness, fidelity and impartiality with which I shall discharge the duties imposed, to evince the feelings which crowd around my heart.

I do not anticipate any subject of vital interest as likely to present itself for consideration during the brief period which I shall preside over your deliberations. I am however aware that questions may, and probably will arise in which the feelings of individuals may take a deep interest. In the discussion, if any shall arise on such questions, I feel assured that mutual respect and mutual forbearance will ensure harmony, and cultivate the best and kindest feelings.

The place in which we are assembled will naturally so impress our minds, that in deciding upon the rights of others we shall be careful to do unto others as we would that others should do unto us.

H. D. MAXWELL, of Northampton, and REUBEN KEIFER, of Lehigh, were then appointed Secretaries.

The following delegates appeared and answered to their names :—

Philadelphia City.

John P. Wetherill,
Joseph R. Ingersoll,
Joseph G. Clarkson,
Nathan Sargent,
David Winebrenner,
John Biuns,
Alexander Ferguson,
John M. Scott.

Philadelphia County.

John E. Kean,
William Esher,
Michael Day,
Ralph W. Pomroy,
George P. Little,
John D. Ninesteele,
Truman M. Hubbell,
Joseph Ripka,
William Lloyd,
Thomas W. Duffield, jr.

Lancaster County.

Thomas G. Henderson,
Charles Brooke, jr.
Dr. J. S. Clarkson,
Christopher Hager,
Morris Hoopes.

Chester County.

M. Pennypacker,
John Gillis,
J. B. Chrisman,
T. Haines,
William K. Correy.

Columbia County.

James Pleasants.

Washington County.

Alexander Reed,
Joseph Lawrence,
David Eckert.
Jacob Slagle,

Dauphin County.

John A. Fisher,
Benjamin Jordan,
William Clark.

Franklin County.

James M'Dowell,
George Besore,
George Chambers.

Perry County.

Henry H. Etter,
A. W. Monroe.

Cumberland County.

C. B. Penrose,
Samuel M'Keehan,
John J. Myers.

Schuylkill County.

James S. Wallace,
G. G. Palmer.

Lehigh County.

Tilghman Good,
Reuben Keifer,

Lebanon County.

William Geddes.

York County.

—
T. L. Cathcart,
Henry Kauffelt.
—

Northampton & Monroe Counties.

—
George Weber,
H. D. Maxwell.
—

Juniata, Mifflin and Union.

—
William Butler,
Francis McCoy.
—

Allegheny County.

—
R. M. Riddle,
R. E. Sellers,
F. G. Kay.
—

Delaware County.

—
Casper W. Sharpless,
Joshua P. Eyre.
—

Crawford County.

—
C. B. Power,
Joseph C. Hays.
—

Beaver County.

—
John Dickey,
William Morton,
James Sprott.
—

Northumberland County.

—
M. Bobst,
Robert M'Guigan.
—

Bedford County.

—
John Fletcher,
Henry H. Fore.
—

Montgomery County.

—
R. T. Potts,
Geo. W. Holstein.
—

Mercer County.

—
J. D. Clarke.
—

Adams County.

—
Peter Hulick,
R. F. M'Conaughy,
C. Baker.
—

It was moved that Mr. WATTS, of Erie county, who was present, though not a delegate, be received as a member of this convention, which motion was laid on the table.

On motion, a committee was appointed, consisting of nine members to report officers for the Convention, and rules of order for its government, and the following gentlemen were appointed:—

Messrs. Townsend Haines, Alexander Ferguson, Casper W. Sharpless, R. T. Potts, George P. Little, J. S. Wallace, James M'Dowell, Benjamin Jordan and William Geddes.

And on motion, a committee of like number was appointed to report the business proper for the action of the Convention, and the following gentlemen were appointed:—

Messrs. N. Sargent, Charles Brooks, jr., George Weber, Alexander Reed, R. M. Riddle, J. D. Clark, C. B. Powers, Reuben Keifer and William Butler.

The papers in relation to the choice of Delegates from Adams county, were on motion referred to the following committee:—

Messrs. John M. Scott, George Holstein, T. G. Henderson, George Weber, James Pleasants, John Fletcher, and Robert E. Sellers.

Whereupon the Convention adjourned, to meet at half past 3 o'clock.

Thursday Evening.

Convention met at half past 3 o'clock, according to adjournment.

Mr. SCOTT from the committee in relation to the Delegates from Adams, reported, with the concurrence of both sets of Delegates from that county, the names of Peter Hulick, R. F. M'Conaughy and C. Baker, who were called and took their seats.

Mr. HAINES, from the committee to appoint officers for the permanent organization of the Convention reported the following gentlemen:—

President,
GEORGE CHAMBERS, of Franklin.

Vice Presidents.
ALEXANDER REED, of Washington,
JOHN PRICE WETHERILL, of Philadelphia,
WILLIAM CLARK, of Dauphin,
GIDEON T. PALMER, of Schuylkill.

Secretaries.
ROBERT M. RIDDLE, of Allegheny,
HENRY D. MAXWELL, of Northampton,
THOMAS W. DUFFIELD, jr. of the county of Philadelphia.

And further reported for the government of the Convention, the rules adopted by the House of Representatives of this Commonwealth.

Which report was adopted, and the gentlemen named unanimously elected as officers of the Convention. Whereupon the chairman vacated the chair, and the officers elected took their seats.

Mr. CHAMBERS, upon taking his seat, delivered the following address :—

Gentlemen Delegates :—

I beg you to accept my acknowledgments for the mark of confidence just given to me by your choice to preside over this Convention. On my part I promise my efforts to discharge the duties of the station with attention and impartiality, and I respectfully solicit what I shall need, your kind co-operation and indulgence.

Allow me to congratulate you, on the numerous and respectable body of Delegates which are here assembled, from distant parts of our extended Commonwealth, to deliberate and advise, respecting the abuses of the powers of our Government, by the public servants.

Our national government which was established to promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty and representative government to all the citizens of this Republic, is now perverted by our Rulers to the most selfish, tyrannical and corrupt purposes. I will not detain you to enumerate those many abuses of power of which the Whigs have cause to complain as corrupting and oppressive, as they are known and sensibly felt not only throughout this Commonwealth, but the length and breadth of this Republic. The exposure of those abuses, has led to no reform with those who are in power, and the complaints and remonstrances of the opposition are unheeded and disregarded, as if they had no lot, or part in the matter.

The great business of those now in possession of the powers of Government is to exercise their power, privileges and patronage to preserve to themselves and their friends their official stations; and the Government is administered by the office-holders, for the office holders, regardless of the public interest, and in contempt of the opinions and feelings of those who are not of the dominant party.

The redress for those grievances, and the reform of growing abuses, must be sought through the voices and ballot boxes of a free and honest people.

The men now in possession of the powers of Government must be made to yield them, to those who will bring back the Government to constitutional limits, official accountability, and economical expenditures, and who will administer the Government for the American people, and not for the emolument of office holders.

In the ranks of the Whigs, are to be found men eminently qualified for the highest station in the government. Whatever preferences may be had for men as candidates for that station, it must be admitted by all patriotic whigs, that measures and the triumph of our principles, are of more importance to our country, and ourselves, than the elevation of any man to the Presidency.

Allow me to say to you, that in a common cause requiring union and concert, there should be harmony and concession. Sacrifices will be required of individual wishes, and the man who is found to combine in the several States, the greatest strength, as indicated by the choice of a National Whig Convention, as their candidate for the Presidency, will, I trust, receive the undivided vote of the whigs of the Union and of all others who are opposed to the misrule of Martin Van Buren, and who love their country and institutions more than men.

Our political opponents present a party united, organized and active, with an army of office holders disciplined and officious to influence, direct and controul public opinion, and the action of citizens. Though there is much to condemn in the measures and political movements of the party in power, yet pardon me for recommending, the imitation of their example in the union, perseverance and devotion with which they support the candidate of the party. Whatever divisions may embarrass them in the selection of a candidate, yet when the nomination is made according to the usages of the party, individual predilections and prejudices are surrendered, and the candidate selected by a majority of Delegates, receives the undivided, unbroken and zealous support of the entire party.

The cause of the Whigs is that of the people; they are on the side of law, order and constitutional government, and seek to bring back the government to the principles of the founders of that government, and enforce that economy in the public expenditures becoming Republicans. In a contest involving

those great republican principles, the Whigs, if, united, vigilant, and persevering, must be successful.

Organization is essential to their efficient action, and one of the great purposes of this Convention is, I understand, to prepare that organization. I shall be pleased to promote it, and to unite with you in all measures, that may contribute to the permanency of our republican institutions, maintain the supremacy of the laws, and benefit our country.

Mr. SARGENT, from the committee to report the business proper to be acted on by the Convention, reported as follows:—

1. That a committee be appointed to report resolutions for the adoption of the Convention.

2. That the Convention appoint a committee to prepare and report an address to the Whigs of this State.

3. That the Convention appoint Senatorial Delegates to represent the State at large in the Whig National Convention, to be held at Harrisburg in December next.

4. That the Convention shall take the necessary steps to organize the Whig party of this State, by the appointment of a General or Central State Executive and Corresponding Committee, to consist of fifteen persons, and also of Corresponding Committees in each of the counties in this State.

5. That a committee of finance be appointed.

Mr. PENROSE, of Cumberland, moved the postponement of this report to take up and consider the following preamble and resolutions :

Whereas, the crisis at which we have arrived, demands of every patriot, the devotion of his best energies to rescue the country and the cause of free government, from those who now rule the nation, and who are perverting powers entrusted to them for the public good, to the destruction of the liberty of the people, and to the establishment upon its ruins, of, at best, a limited monarchy, with the forms of a republic only : And whereas, by the combination of means derived from the great patronage of the General Government, and its vast pecuniary resources, there is arrayed against the rights of the people, a formidable power, which will require great and united efforts to overthrow : And whereas, it is obvious that without a perfect and harmonious union of all citizens opposed to the misrule

which now oppresses this country, we must enter upon a hopeless contest : And whereas, in such a crisis, it becomes every true patriot to sacrifice all personal predilections, and every minor consideration and prejudice, to accomplish the great public good, which can be alone effected by a union of all opposed to Martin Van Buren, and his formidable cohorts : And whereas, by reason of unfortunate differences between those who should be united, there is imminent danger of the defeat of the friends of the constitution and the laws, when if they were united, victory would be certain : And whereas, an effort should be made to effect this union—an effort which patriotism urges, and faction only will oppose : Therefore

Resolved, That all the citizens of this Commonwealth opposed to Martin Van Buren, be and they are hereby urged and invited to elect delegates in each county and district in this Commonwealth, equal to the number of representatives to which they are entitled in the Legislature, to meet in Convention at at Harrisburg, on the fourth Monday of August next, then and there to effect a complete organization, and union of the anti-Van Buren party, to have the same fairly represented in the Democratic Whig National Convention, to be assembled in Harrisburg in December next.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that the anti-Van Buren party in the different counties and districts of this State are required by the highest considerations of patriotism to unite in the formation and support of anti-Van Buren tickets in such counties and districts, and that no personal considerations, no minor differences of opinion, will justify division and disunion in the election of anti-Van Buren representatives.

Which motion, after debate, was negatived by the following vote :—

YEAS—Messrs. Day, Chrisman, Correy, Penrose, M'Keenan, Meyers; Etter, Monroe, Butler, M'Coy, Pleasants, Fisher, Jordan, W. Clark, Geddes, Dickey, Morton, Sprout, J. Clark, Cathcart, Kauffelt, Bobst, Fore, Power, M'Conaughy—25.

NAYS—Messrs. Wetherill, Ingersoll, Clarkson, Sargent, Winebrenner, Binns, Ferguson, Scott, Morris, Keen, Esher, Pomroy, Little, Ninesteel, Hubbell, Ripka, Lloyd, Duffield, Henderson, Brooke, Clarkson, Hager, Hoopes, Penney-packer, Gillis, Haines, Wallace, Palmer, Weber, Maxwell, Good, Keifer, Reed, Lawrence, Eckert, Slagle, M'Dowell, Besore, Chambers, Riddle, Sellers, Kay, Sharpless, Eyre, M'Guigan, Fletcher, Potts, Holstein, Hulick and Baker—50.

On motion, the report of the committee was adopted, and the following committees were appointed:

To report resolutions, Messrs. Ingersoll, Pomroy, Penny-packer, Sellers and M'Dowell.

To report an address—Messrs. Sargent, Scott, Lawrence, Haines and Potts.

The Convention adjourned, to meet at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday Morning, June 14.

Convention met and on motion, the chair appointed Messrs. Little, Wallace and Kay, a Committee on Finance.

Mr. Ingersoll from the Committee to report Resolutions, presented the following Report:

Resolved, That this Convention has assembled under the influence of a sincere devotion to the best interests of the country, and an earnest, anxious, and unaffected desire to promote them. The occasion which has called it together is peculiar and in some respects without a precedent. It has arisen from no want of concert of opinion or co-operation in efforts, against errors and abuses in the administration of the general government, against enormous strides of executive power, gross corruptions in practice, mistaken policy, or disastrous measures. We all agree that false principles have been adopted by the present rulers of the nation, and that pernicious theories have been sustained by feeble judgments, and carried into exercise by imbecile hands. A long course of infatuated misconception or wilful disregard of the true policy of the nation on the part of the government, has been rendered effectually mischievous by blind delusion or unmerited confidence on the part of a portion of the American people. Possessed of every ingredient of prosperity, they are made to suffer evils which are ordinarily the incidents of adverse fortune. Throughout the Country, there is a want of the due development of its resources, and of the attainment of a condition to which Providence had seemed to destine it, and some of its fairest regions have been visited by desolation with a heavy hand. It is the conclusion of no biased judgment, the whispering of no selfish or ambitious spirit, the conviction of no excited or impassioned feeling, that these unhappy consequences are mainly the results of a misrule which for more than ten years has controlled the public policy, distorted the public aims, abused the public confidence, and

misled the public will: that the theories of the men in power have been uniformly unsound, and their measures for the most part disastrous.

It is time that this course of erroneous administration should be arrested, and if possible that a change should be effected in the prospects and pursuits of a virtuous people. It is believed that nothing can produce these happy and desirable results, unless power can be withdrawn from the present rulers, and placed in abler hands.

While the intelligence and patriotism of the nation are united in cordial sympathy, and not less assured of the necessity of a change, than resolved to omit no exertions to effect it, the truth is mournfully obvious that the enemies of mis-government do not unite in the precise means by which it ought to be overthrown. Personal predilections are suffered to interfere with the active and vigorous discharge of political duty. There is imminent danger that the strong may be rendered weak, and that their efforts may be defeated, and their hopes disappointed by the influence of divided counsels. To reconcile varying sentiments, and combine, and concentrate an opposition which it is believed requires only union to secure success, is a primary object of this assembly. The first care of genuine patriotism at such a juncture will be the selection of a candidate for the executive chair. The chief magistrate of this great republic should combine qualities which rarely meet in the same individual. Firmness and energy with prudence and discretion—long tried experience with intense activity—courteous and conciliating deportment with unbending power to resist encroachment—dignity without pride—meekness without servility—consistency of conduct and frankness in the avowal of principles, with respect for honest differences of opinion and stern disdain for hypocrisy and unmanly reserve. These properties together with high intellectual merits and uncompromising integrity of character, we believe are found in HENRY CLAY of Kentucky. We cannot assert the existence of them, nor deny the prevalence of their opposites in the conduct and the composition of the present incumbent of the Presidential chair.

The public life of HENRY CLAY, from the time of his entrance as "an orphan Boy" into the halls of the State and general government,—through his career as a representative of a District, of a State, and of the United States,—at home and abroad,—on all occasions and in every station—reflects honor on his Country, and displays an intimate knowledge of

public affairs, and a capacity to unfold that knowledge with force, simplicity and surpassing eloquence. On most of the subjects of prevailing interest he has been the fearless pioneer of public opinion, and on all, the bold asserter of the people's rights: And when passion and party have assumed a fierceness that has threatened to shake the foundations of the government and tear to pieces the Union, his was the mighty mind which stilled the raging of the storm and restored tranquillity to the Country.

Resolved, That this Convention recommends to the National Convention, which is to assemble at Harrisburg in December 1839, HENRY CLAY, as the preferred candidate of the Whigs of Pennsylvania for the Executive chair, in whom they believe every desirable quality is united, and for whom they believe the largest portion of the suffrages of the nation may be obtained.

Resolved, That the Whigs of Pennsylvania will cheerfully conform to the result of the deliberations of the National Convention, confiding in its intelligence and love of country, and in the especial opportunities which it will enjoy, for the selection of an eligible candidate.

Resolved, That for the purpose of effectually organizing the Whig party of Pennsylvania, this Convention do now proceed to constitute a *State Committee* of Correspondence consisting of 15 persons—and that the members of this convention are hereby constituted *District Committees* of Correspondence for the portions of the State which they now respectively represent, and that the Whigs of the Districts not represented be requested to make early nominations of a similar character. That it shall be the especial duty of the said committees, by concert of action, mutual communication, and zealous efforts in their several departments, to promote the patriotic designs of the opponents of the present National administration, in the restoration of confidence, prosperity and dignity to a divided, impoverished and abused people, and as mainly conducive to those ends, to further the election of the distinguished citizen referred to, as the chief magistrate of the nation.

Mr. Penrose moved to amend the same by striking out all after the words "selection of a candidate," and insert the Preamble and Resolutions before submitted by him, which, after debate, was negatived, Yeas 22—Nays 52.

Mr. Dickey of Beaver, then moved to amend by striking out the name of HENRY CLAY wherever it occurs, and insert the name of WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, which after debate was negatived by the following vote :

YEAS—Day, Penrose, M'Keehan, Etter, Monroe, Butler, Pleasants, Fisher, Jordan, Wm. Clark, Geddes, Dickey, Morton, Sprott, J. D. Clark, Kauffelt, Fore, Powers, Hays, M'Conaughy,—20.

NAYS—Wetherill, Ingersoll, J. S. Clarkson, Sargent, Winebrenner, Binns, Ferguson, Scott, Morris, Keen, Esber, Pomroy, Little, Ninesteel, Hubbell, Ripka, Lloyd, Duffield, Henderson, Brook, J. G. Clarkson, Hager, Hoopes, Pennypacker, Gillis, Chrisman, Haines, Wallace, Palmer, Weber, Maxwell, Keifer, M'Coy, Reed, Lawrence, Eckert, Slagle, M' Dowell, Besore, Chambers, Riddle, Sellers, Kay, Sharpless, Eyre, Bobst, M'Guigan, Fletcher, Potts, Holstein, Hulick and Baker,—52.

The Report of the Committee and Resolutions were then adoped.

Mr. Penrose then presented a Protest signed by himself and Messrs. Dickey, Monroe, Etter, Myers, J. D. Clark, M'Conaughy Kauffelt, Wm. Clark, Jordan, M'Keehan, Morton, Sprott, Fore, Butler, Fisher, Geddes, friends of WILLIAM H. HARRISON, who withdrew from the Convention—the protest was laid on the table.

The chair appointed the following named gentlemen on the Central State Committee of Correspondence :

J. P. Wetherill, Joseph R. Ingersoll, John Binns, N. Sargent, John E. Keen, Joseph G. Clarkson, Philadelphia City & County ; Townsend Haines, West Chester ; Charles Brook, jr. Lancaster ; William J. Keim, Reading ; Henry Drinker, Susquehanna ; Tho. G. M'Culloh and Jasper E. Brady, Chambersburg ; Robert M'Guigan, Northumberland ; Thomas Bakewell, Pittsburg ; and Gen. John Dick, Mercer.

Convention then adjourned to meet at 4 o'clock.

Friday Evening.

Convention met in pursuance of adjournment.

Messrs. Power, for himself and Mr. Hay, Delegates from Crawford, announced their intention respectfully to withdraw from the Convention, which they then did.

Mr. Cathcart, from York, then stated that though he was himself friendly to Mr. Clay, yet, from the instructions he had received to recommend Gen. Harrison, and assigning that as a reason in a written communication, asked leave to withdraw, which was granted, and the communication laid on the table.

Mr. Sargent, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported an address, which was read, and, on motion, unanimously adopted.

The convention then proceeded to the nomination of Senatorial Delegates to the National Convention, to assemble in Harrisburg, in December next, and unanimously elected the following gentlemen as such Delegates :—

JOSEPH LAWRENCE, Esq. of *Washington County*,
JOHN ANDREW SHULTZ, of *Lycoming County*.

During the progress of nomination, the following letter from Mr. Shultz, to a member of the convention, was read, and with the consent of the member, placed on the minutes :

*“ Montoursville, June 7th, 1839. }
Lycoming County. }*

My Dear Sir,

Your letter was the first intimation I had of my name having been placed on the Electoral Ticket in favor of General Harrison. No written notice has as yet reached me. In truth I am not well pleased that such a ticket has been taken up. I am myself so anxious, to eject from office the present incumbent, that I am resolved to cast my vote, as a citizen, and if it may so happen, as an elector, in favor of the National Whig Candidate who may be taken up at Harrisburg in December next. My first choice is Mr. Clay, but I am willing to go for General Harrison or any citizen whose principles are well known, to pledge himself to be honest and faithful to the Constitution and economical in the disposal of the public money. It is shock-

ing to think how sadly corrupt our administration of the General Government has been for the last ten years.

Yours very respectfully,

J. ANDREW SHULTZ.

JOHN BINNS, Esq.

Alderman of the City of Phil'a."

Mr. Binns then called up the preamble and resolutions, which he had before submitted, and which were now read and unanimously adopted as follows :

Whereas, the great object of this assembly, and of all representative assemblies, for the selection of candidates is to ascertain which, of the citizens before the public, is the one believed to be best qualified for the station to be filled and most likely to be acceptable to the party, whose representatives are thus assembled :

And whereas, it is of incalculable importance to the liberties & happiness of the people of these United States, that the office of President shall, at the approaching election, be conferred on some individual who will have courage and principle to remove corrupt and incompetent men from office and appoint honest ones in their places, to prevent a repetition of the many outrageous acts of misrule and misconduct which for the last ten years have disgraced the People and the Government, and thus provide, effectually, against the further plunder of the public treasure, and the flight and impunity of the plunderers, of such frequent occurrence, under the present and late administrations of the General Government ; whereby the hard-earned money of the people has been squandered, and the character of the Nation injured in the estimation of the world :—

And whereas, in order to secure the success of such a candidate, it is greatly to be desired, nay, it is indispensibly necessary, that the whole strength of the opposition to the administration of Mr. President Van Buren shall be united, and that all their votes be cast in favor of some one candidate :—

And whereas, the Democratic Whig party throughout the Union are so thoroughly satisfied of the necessity which exists for a reformation in the principles and practices of the administration of the General Government, that they have at every meeting, whether aggregate or representative, which has been held, in language the most unequivocal and unreserved pledged themselves, to give up all personal preferences and heartily unite in support of such candidate as shall be selected by the National Convention, which is to assemble at Harrisburg in December next :—

And whereas, this general determination to submit to the ascertained will of the Majority, has been most imposingly and impressively exhibited by the Whigs of the States of Massachusetts, Kentucky and Ohio, they have each presented a distinguished son as every way worthy to be President of the United States—Massachusetts has presented her Webster, Kentucky her Clay, and Ohio her Harrison; yet in a spirit of all praise and worthy the best days of the Revolution, they have magnanimously declared that whatever may be the strength of their convictions, however affectionately bound up may be their preferences, that they stand ready to offer them all up on the altar of the Public Weal, to ensure the election of the candidate who may be nominated by the National Convention, whether that candidate shall be Webster, or Clay, or Harrison, or by whatsoever other name he may be announced:—

And whereas, while the great body of the Whigs every where thus patriotically declare their determination to surrender personal predilections, local pride and every feeling which could lead to disunion in order to make *certain* the election of a President of pure principles, this convention confidently trust that these beautiful and cheering examples, given by the People themselves, will not be lost upon those who aspire after their suffrages, but that they also, one and all, will make known that they are more anxious to effect a reform in the administration of the Government than to gratify personal ambition:—

And whereas, to ensure the object of the Democratic Whig Party and concentrate its vote throughout the Union, they have elected delegates to a National Convention which is to meet at Harrisburg in December next to select a Candidate, one Candidate for the office of President of the United States:—

And whereas, to concentrate the votes of the party represented in nominating Committees and Conventions, it has long been the wise and prudent practice of all such meetings of all Parties in the State of Pennsylvania, not to permit the name of any individual to occupy a place on the list of candidates for a nomination to office, who is not pledged to abide the issue of the ballot and decline to be a Candidate, if he shall not be the person selected by the Representatives of the party to whom his claims, services and qualifications have been submitted, wherefore be it, and it hereby is,

Resolved, That it be strenuously recommended to the National Democratic Whig Convention, which is to assemble at Harrisburg, in December next, to consider no man's name before their body for nomination, as a candidate for the office

of President of the United States, who shall not be pledged to withdraw it and decline a poll if his name, shall not be the name selected as that of the Candidate of the Party.

Resolved, That it is respectfully, yet with all earnestness recommended to the National Convention, when they shall have selected the Candidate of the Party for the office of President of the United States, to pledge themselves, in an address to the People of the United States, signed with the name of every Member, that they will with all zeal and in good faith support the candidate selected.

Resolved, As the unanimous opinion of this convention, that with frankness and in good faith its members pledge themselves to support, by all honorable means, the Candidate who shall be selected by the National Convention.

Resolved, That in the principles detailed, and the course of conduct set forth, in this preamble and resolutions, will make absolutely certain the election of the Candidate, who shall be nominated at Harrisburg, thus finally and signally overthrowing and ousting from office the men who have so much abused the public confidence, endeavourers to corrupt the public mind and the public press, and dishonorers of the Country by the appointment of unworthy agents in foreign nations.

Resolved, That the President of this Convention be, and he hereby is, requested to take the earliest opportunity of causing this Preamble and Resolutions to be placed in the hands of the President of the National Convention, with a request that he will lay them before that Assembly.

On motion,

Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the Democratic Whig citizens of the different Congressional Districts who have not already elected delegates to a National Convention to meet at Harrisburg in December next, to choose such delegates.

It was also

Resolved, That the Central Committee be authorized to fill any vacancy that may occur in the Senatorial Delegates to the National Convention, and also any vacancy that may occur in said committee.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be offered to the Trustees of this Church for the use of the same, and to the Committee of arrangements for the accommodations prepared by them for the Convention.

It was also

Resolved, That the officers of the convention be a committee to publish the proceedings of this Convention.

On motion of Mr. Lawrence.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be rendered to the officers of the Convention who have presided, for the able manner in which they have performed their duties.

Adjourned.

GEORGE CHAMBERS, *Pres't.*

ALEXANDER REED,	}	<i>Vice Pres'ts.</i>
JOHN PRICE WETHERILL,		
GIDEON T. PALMER,		
<i>Robert M. Riddle,</i>	}	<i>Sec's.</i>
<i>Henry D. Maxwell,</i>		
<i>Thomas W. Duffield, jr.</i>		

NOTE.—In the last resolution reported by Mr. Ingersoll, (inserted on the 11th page) for "District" Committees read *County* Committees.

THE ADDRESS.

To the Democratic Whigs of Pennsylvania.

THE Delegates elected to represent you in the State Convention, directed to be held at Chambersburg on the second Thursday of June, instant, having met at the time and place designated, and discharged according to the best of their judgment the duties assigned them, respectfully submit their proceedings to your consideration.

We came together deeply impressed with the conviction that the present political condition of the country demands from every man who would preserve the inestimable institutions of a popular, representative government, his best exertions. If the fire which our fathers kindled upon the altar of liberty, with their blood and valor, shall not be suffered to expire, ours is the task, as it is the duty, to keep it brightly burning. But this cannot be done without labor, without watchfulness, without exertion.

The contest which has been maintained in this country for more than ten years past between the two great parties into which it has been divided, and in which you have borne a part so honorable and conspicuous, has been between Executive Power, or the monarchical principle, on the one hand, and the popular will, or the principle of self-government, on the other. Stripped of all extraneous, incidental, and minor questions, the great issue has been, and now is, whether the government of this country shall virtually be wielded by ONE MAN, though exercised under the *forms* of a republic, and in the *name of democracy*, and with the power to designate his successor, or whether the President shall be restrained within those safe limits which the constitution has established and defined. Whether the co-ordinate, Legislative and Judicial branches of the government shall be upheld in their respective spheres of action so as to act as checks upon the Executive, or whether *he* shall be suffered to wield a power irreconcilable with their independence and the integrity of the Constitution, and become paramount, irresponsible, and despotic. The fundamental principle avowed by the Republican

party when they came into power, headed by Mr. Jefferson, in 1801, was *the restraint of the Executive within strict constitutional limits*. Such is the principle now advocated by the democratic whigs of the Union. It *then* met the approbation and support of the great body of the people; we look to them to sustain it *now*, and if they are either wise or consistent, we shall not look to them in vain.

From the first dawn of civilization, a struggle has been maintained, with various success, between popular right and Executive prerogative; and the history of this struggle has been written in the blood of those martyrs of Liberty whose names are emblazoned upon her escutcheons:—the Ciceros, the Catos, the Brutuses, the Sidneys, the Russells, and the Vanes; and in the blood of our own revolutionary fathers. That contest is still maintained, even in this land of boasted freedom, and is the motive of our present action.

It cannot be denied that the Executive influence has for some years past been steadily and rapidly increasing, until it has at length become too powerful to be effectually resisted by the co-ordinate departments of the government, or restrained by those checks established by the wise forecast and cautious prudence of the framers of the constitution. It is not our purpose to enter into a history of those events, so full of startling interest, which have occurred during the period referred to and which have gradually changed the character of our government from one of popular opinion to one of practical despotism; they are familiar to all; they have transpired under our own eyes, were witnessed with equal astonishment and alarm by every patriot, and their consequences have been depicted in language of burning eloquence and indignant rebuke. A brief reference however to some of them may not be improper or unprofitable, to show the steady encroachment of that power against which the framers of the Constitution were so anxious to guard, as the most dangerous foe to civil liberty.

It will occur to the recollection of all, whose memories can call up the transactions of some twelve or fifteen years, that General Jackson was supported and elected to the Presidency, chiefly upon the following principles or grounds, which he was pledged, in the most solemn manner to the nation, to adopt and act upon as the basis of his administration; namely:

A single Presidential Term.

The exclusion of members of Congress from offices to be filled by nomination or appointment by the President,

The destruction of party-spirit, by selecting for office the most worthy and capable men without distinction of party.

The "retrenchment" of the public expenses, and The "reform" of various alledged "abuses."

Never were sounder principles or wiser measures announced by a candidate for popular favor; never were they more earnestly, and with apparent sincerity, urged, nor more honestly and enthusiastically supported by an honest and confident people. We may now add, what history has already recorded:—never did an administration so grossly violate every pledge it had given and every principle it had professed. Never was a Chief Magistrate borne with a mightier wave of popularity into power, and never were the bright anticipations of a people doomed to a more complete disappointment.

While the people anticipated the restoration of harmony, and looked to see "*the most worthy*" selected to fill important public stations, they heard with equal astonishment and regret, the annunciation, "by authority," that the President in making removals from, and selections to fill offices, would *reward his friends* and *punish his enemies!* and they saw with mortification and disappointment, this bold despotic avowal carried into effect by an universal sweep from office of all who had not sworn or would not swear allegiance to him. The road to office from this moment ran by the foot-stool of the Executive, and was soon crowded by pilgrims to the shrine of power and patronage. To these it was announced that "*to the victors belong the spoils of office,*" and thenceforth party spirit raged with ten-fold violence and acrimony.

It had been announced in the House of Representatives, but a few days previous to the inauguration of the President, (in 1829) by the committee on "Retrenchment and Reform," composed of a large majority of his personal and political friends, that that body "had a right to expect that the Executive would submit to Congress, at its next session, a *comprehensive scheme of retrenchment*, which should extend to the lopping off of all *useless officers*, and of securing a more effective accountability in those which are retained." The *People* had also "a right to expect" this, for they had been assured that the previous administration had been profuse, wasteful and extravagant. But instead of this, they saw the public expenditures rapidly increased from *thirteen* to FORTY millions of dollars per annum; and instead of any "useless officers" being "lopped off," they saw the Clerks in the Departments in Washington, and in Custom Houses of

New York and Philadelphia, who had been represented as a mere set of "drones," increased from 383, with a compensation of \$346,317, in 1828, to 895, with a compensation of \$780,794, in 1837!

The charge was directly made in the above declaration of the House of Representatives, as it had often been previously, that the public agents had not been held to a strict accountability; and the detection of a defalcation of \$3050, some months after the expiration of Mr. Adams' official term, and which could not have been known to him, was ample proof of the corruption of every officer in the Government. But if the existence of this solitary case indicated such criminal negligence and gross peculations, what inference must be drawn when the public plunderers are counted by *hundreds* and the defalcations amount to MILLIONS? And what are we to infer from the fact that these speculators are retained in office from year to year while their robberies are known to the Government, and in some instances re-appointed for the alleged reason that their *family and connexions are extremely influential and all of them co-operate with the partizans of the Executive!*

But if the people were disappointed in the just expectations they had entertained in regard to the fulfilment of these pledges, they could not doubt that he who had with such patriotic indignation and foresight, declared that "if important appointments continue to devolve upon members of Congress, *corruption would become the order of the day,*" would "feel it due to himself to practice on the precepts he recommended to others." But in the face of this declaration, they saw *thirty one* members of Congress appointed to the most important stations in the gift of the Executive;—more than twice the number that had been appointed during the forty years' previous existence of the Government! Charity herself, can scarcely require us to believe that one who had so solemnly warned the people of the United States against the danger to be apprehended from this corrupting practice, could have been free from the intention of exercising a malign influence upon those members of Congress on whom those favors were conferred; especially when he placed in the hands of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, by whom the Committees of that body were to be appointed, a written promise of a mission to the first court of Europe. The fulfilment of this promise gives rise to a conviction which is irresistible, that *the predictions of the prophet, had by his own act, become recorded truth!*

If "upon the list of Executive duties was inscribed, in characters too legible to be over-looked, the task of reform," which included "those abuses which had brought the patronage of the Federal Government in conflict with the freedom of elections," what was the astonishment of the nation when they saw the interference of Executive subalterns in popular elections especially enjoined by the Chief Magistrate, and become the surest passport to Executive favor! If this interference of office-holders and government agents in popular elections, has given just cause of apprehension to the friends of liberty, how much greater cause have they for alarm when a committee of the United States' Senate, in a deliberate report to that body, not only have the hardihood to sanction the practice, but recommend it as a duty!

One of the chief offences with which Mr. Adams had been charged by the party now in power, was, that by latitudinarian constructions of the constitution, he had assumed a power not conferred upon the Executive by that instrument. But in the memorable declaration "*I take the responsibility*" and "*I will maintain the constitution as I understand it,*" General Jackson virtually trampled that sacred instrument in the dust, and declared himself independent of the judiciary and of all restraint save his own will. In the frequent use of the *Veto* to defeat bills that had passed both houses of Congress by large majorities and by withholding, till Congress had adjourned, another which he could not otherwise prevent from becoming a law, he gave ample evidence that he wanted not the disposition to usurp any power he might deem necessary to accomplish his purposes. This was signally manifested in the removal of a Secretary of the Treasury for having refused to do an act of injustice, which he could not reconcile with his convictions of duty, and for which he was responsible alone to Congress.

The nomination of a successor, and his election by the influence of the power and the patronage of the Executive, which was exerted to its utmost extent to accomplish this purpose, consummated those acts of usurpation and mal-administration which marked the two presidential terms of General Jackson, as a period of conflict between *Executive power* and *republican principles*, and in which the former proved too strong for the latter. Has this conflict ceased, now that the assailant is no longer sustained by the irresistible popularity and criminal daring of a "Military Chieftain?" We regret to say it has not. With the change of the Chief Magistrate, however, its character has changed. It is no longer carried on with a bold

and reckless disregard of public opinion;—by noon-day assaults and undisguised attacks upon the constitution and co-ordinate departments of the Government. It now assumes a disguise, seeks to hide its hostile purpose, and makes its movements in the dark: trick and stratagem now take the place of that courage which scorned all disguise, and hesitated at no responsibility.

The ardent devotion and implicit obedience rendered by his partisans and admirers to the “illustrious predecessor,” were easily transferred to that unseen but much extolled Idol, DEMOCRACY; at whose shrine the present Executive officiates, and whose responses his lips pronounce, being at once the Pythoness and High Priest of the Temple. If the name of *Jackson* could once sanctify any infringement of the rights of the people, any breach of the constitution, any attack upon co-ordinate branches of the government, any violation of law—“*the democratic party*,” that invisible being represented by, and speaking through the Executive, is indued with an infallibility which has not less power to justify whatever is done in its name, however inconsistent with its professed principles, injurious to the country, hostile to popular government, or destructive of constitutional liberty.

However strong the contrast which the character of Mr. Van Buren presents to that of General Jackson, and whatever estimate the people may have formed of the man and the officer, it is certain he wields a power, exercised not in his own name, but in the name of “*the democratic party*,” not less despotic than that of his predecessor!—a power which cannot be exercised by a *single individual* under whatever disguise it may be concealed—and the more effectually it is disguised the more dangerous it is—without imminent hazard to the liberties of the people. The elements of this immense power are, the Executive patronage, and the officers and agents of the government—those who have received, and those who are expecting the reward of their zeal and fidelity to the President, or to the party. These number, probably, not less than 150,000 or 200,000 persons, and scattered as they are over the wide extent of our country, stationed in every city, town and neighborhood, moved by a single impulse, obeying the will of *one man*, acting simultaneously, and with all the energy which hope, fear, cupidity, ambition, and the hatred of opponents can inspire, they constitute the most efficient, well disciplined, obedient, and dangerous army, that ever sustained the cause of despotism or attacked the liberties of a free people.

It is by means of this organized and obsequious corps, and a devoted press, sustained by the crumbs of patronage that fall in such abundance from the Executive table, that the President is able to direct and *control* the movements of "*the democratic party*" with such ease and exactness, and to *create* public opinion, or that which seems to be such, while he appears but to *obey* it. The time *has* arrived which was predicted by Mr. VAN BUREN, when he said, in a report to the United States Senate, "we must look *forward* to the time when the nomination of the President can carry any man through the Senate, and his recommendation can carry any measure through the two Houses of Congress;—when the principle of public action will be open and avowed—the President wants *my* vote, and I want *his* patronage: *I* will vote as *he* wishes, and *he* will give *me* the office I wish for. What will this be but the government of *one man*? and what is the government of *one man* but a MONARCHY?" And we may also say in his own language, "the President has power over the support of the Federal officers; and the power over a man's support has always been held and admitted to be power over his will. The President of the United States is the source of patronage. He presides over the entire system of Federal appointments, jobs and contracts; he has power over the *support* of the individuals who administer the system. HE MAKES AND UNMAKES THEM. He chooses from the circle of his friends and supporters, and *may* dismiss them, and upon all the principles of human action, *will* dismiss them as often as they disappoint his expectations." Out of his own mouth do we convict the President: he himself furnishes us an explanation, if any were wanting, by what secret power he sets in motion this great *machine* which *he* calls the "*democratic party*:"—its operation is seen in its acts. Is a member of Congress to be crushed because he cannot reconcile the support of a favorite Executive measure, with his convictions of duty to his constituents and to his country,—he is denounced by the government press,—that faithful index of the President's WILL—as a traitor to the party; his constituents are required to punish him, or be themselves excommunicated and anathematised, and in more than one instance they have joined to destroy an honest and faithful servant. Is a city or state election to be secured, the train-bands of power are mustered and marched to the scene of action, the sinews of war are furnished by a levy upon the Federal office holders, voters from other States, are enlisted, bullies employed, and the people are not unfrequently driven from the polls by those who never yet exer-

vised the right of a freeman, and cannot appreciate the sacredness of the ballot-box—the citadel of Liberty. Is force required to settle a contested election of members of a State Legislature, at the word of command a mob, headed and led on by a government agent—“whom the President made and can unmake,”—fills the Legislative Halls and promptly settles the question after the approved precedents of a CROMWELL and a NAPOLEON!—clearing the Hall of all but the sycophants of power and the instruments of despotism! And this is done in the *name*, and by the *professed* advocates of DEMOCRACY!!

Is it possible that the American people can be so deluded by this syren cry of *democracy* as to sanction such acts and support such men? Is it possible they can shut their eyes against the monstrous outrages committed in her name upon their own rights? Is it possible they cannot perceive the enormous power the Executive is wielding in her name—a power so dangerous to *republican* institutions? Has history taught them no lessons of experience and caution? Do the wrecks of other Republics, which lie scattered up and down upon this rock of EXECUTIVE POWER, furnish no beacon to warn us? Is it possible the people want the intelligence to perceive, or the frankness to confess, that the measures and acts of the present administration and its partisans, are inconsistent with and repugnant to the principles they *profess* to support? Can it be that they are unable to see any thing inconsistent with *republican* principles in the endeavor to concentrate the whole power and patronage of the government in the hands of *one man*,—in making subserviency to the Executive an indispensable qualification for office, and passive obedience to his will the surest passport to favor? Is there no danger lurking in the establishment of a central power at Washington which stretches its Briarean arms to the uttermost parts of the Union, lays its strong hands upon the local authorities of the States, and endeavors to bend them to its own purposes? Is there nothing to be feared in the attempt of the Executive, repeatedly made, to fasten upon the country, in defiance of the wishes of the people, often and unequivocally expressed, a *Sub-Treasury Scheme*, by which the power and patronage of the President, already too great for the safety of the republic, would be alarmingly increased, the purse and the sword united in his hands, and the public moneys committed to the keeping and *use* of some hundred more government agents—thus increasing the temptation to peculation and swelling the list of public plunderers? Can they see nothing indicative of scornful disregard and insulting oppression of the people, in the

declaration made on the floor of Congress by a confidential friend of the President and the echo of his sentiments, that "*the Sub-Treasury Scheme IS in force, and will be maintained by the President till 1840, IN SPITE OF LAMEN-TATIONS THERE OR ELSEWHERE ?*"

Are those whom "the President has made and can unmake,"—the breath of whose nostrils is Executive favor, the most fit to instruct the people in the principles of *democracy*, independence, and the dignity of *freemen*? Will the people listen to such teachers, and can they learn from them that a jealous watchfulness, and a firm resistance to the first encroachment of Executive authority, are the only means of preserving their freedom? The *democracy* they teach is a mockery and a cheat;—it is a perversion of language to call it such: it is the democracy of the slave who begs, upon his knees, the crumbs that fall from the tyrant's table, and is permitted to partake of them only so long as he exhibits his humility and submission: It is *the* democracy that seeks to enslave our country; it is the cloak of unlimited dominion; the disguise of despotic sway; the deadliest foe to the rights of the people. The advocates of power who vociferate so loudly their *professions* of democracy, well know their pretensions cannot stand the test of honest and fair investigation, and therefore, instead of replying in the language of reason and argument when charged with violating every principle of free government, retort with epithets of scurrility and low abuse, indicative alike of a disregard of truth, disrespect to the community, bad temper, and a bad cause. Most distinguished for this kind of warfare and want of dignity and candor, is the official paper at the seat of government—the paper through which the sentiments of the government are made known to the world, and whose character must be taken as a reflection of that of the chief magistrate and his cabinet.

But while the pretenders to democracy think proper to deal in scurrility, appeal to the passions and endeavor to excite the prejudices of the people,—while they strive to foment the hostility of the poor against the rich, and infuse poison into the minds of the ignorant, we emulate not their example. On the contrary, we desire to address the understandings of the people; to convince their reason; to secure their confidence; to arouse their patriotism; to induce them to read, think, decide, and *act* for themselves; to pin their faith upon no man's sleeve, to take no one's word for truth till tested by themselves, and especially those whose interest it is to deceive and mislead them. We have relied, and still rely on that

fund of good sense and honesty of purpose which is always to be found among an intelligent people, and which though they may for a time be deceived, will eventually dispel the mists of prejudice and error, and enable them to perceive their true interest and discern between their sincere and pretended friends. We believe them to be always right in their sentiments, though sometimes wrong in their acts, and opinions. Epithets and vulgarity cannot long satisfy those who desire light and knowledge, information and *truth*; nor can the cloak of democracy long conceal from their eyes the implements of despotic power, and the wicked designs of ambitious demagogues. We overrate the character, intelligence and sagacity of the American people if they can long consent to be treated as though they were devoid of understanding.

The inclination manifested by the people in almost every section of the Union, to throw off the trammels of political bondage which the existing dynasty has attempted to fasten upon them, is most cheering: it inspires us with new hope and should encourage us to persevere in our opposition to misrule. The people cannot have failed to observe that while the minions of power have been loudly railing against banks and banking, and professing a desire to establish an exclusive metallic currency, the government itself has resorted to the issue of Treasury notes which it refused to receive in all cases for its own dues; thus creating two kinds of currency, one for the office holders and another for the people. They cannot have failed to observe also, that in those states in which the partisans of the Executive and the advocates of a metallic currency constitute a decided and controlling majority, the greatest derangement has taken place in the currency, banks have been most freely chartered, their notes have undergone the greatest depreciation, and the community have suffered most by them. A sufficient commentary this affords, on the *honesty* of those who attempt to delude the people by professing to be opposed to all banks, as well as on their wisdom and financial skill.

Holding the present administration as unworthy the confidence of the American people and hostile in all its measures to the best interests and the liberties of the nation, we deem it the duty of every man who has any regard for his country and would perpetuate her noble institutions, to unite in the great work which has for its object the restoration of the government to the line of safe precedents established by Washington; the restraint of the Executive within the limits fixed by the constitution, and the breaking up of that party

discipline which seeks to control the thoughts and actions of men, makes them the mere vassals of power, and inculcates the doctrine that political success is an object that will justify a resort to any means however dishonorable or illegal. To “reform those abuses which have brought the patronage of the Federal government in conflict with the freedom of election,”—to arrest the downward moral tendency of the country,—to put an end to the frauds and peculations of public officers,—to restore confidence and good feeling among the people, and to elect a Chief Magistrate who will inspire that confidence and cherish that good feeling:—these are the great objects the Whigs of the United States have in view, and in which we invite the co-operation and union of all.

To accomplish this purpose, we have raised the great BANNER of opposition to misrule; the WHIG BANNER; around which our fathers rallied in '76, and which they sustained till victory perched upon their standard. We have inscribed upon its broad and expansive folds those principles which can alone preserve our liberties and perpetuate our republic through all future time: “Eternal vigilance, and watchful jealousy of Executive power, the price of liberty:” “The constitution and the public good, the supreme law:” “The independence of the different departments of the government to be maintained that they may act as checks upon each other:” “A President who shall know no *party* but the nation, no *enemies* but the public enemies; who shall have no political debts to pay, no private wrongs to revenge:” “Universal education, the safeguard of popular government:” “Fidelity to our country, our constitution and our principles.”

Such is our BANNER; and around it we invite all who accord with us in the principles inscribed upon its ample folds, to rally as one man. Whatever may have been our former differences of opinion on great national questions, or on minor matters; or whatever may be our personal predilections for different candidates, we tender the hand of fellowship to all who will join and co-operate with us in the great work of regenerating the government and restoring those principles so emphatically and earnestly urged upon us by the Father of his country. To do this, our present incompetent and corrupt rulers must be discarded, and a Chief Magistrate elected who will combine in himself matured experience, eminent abilities, tried integrity, sound judgment, conciliating manners; firmness, self reliance, and a fixedness of purpose, with a due respect for public opinion, and a thorough knowledge of the people and of their interests.

Thus far we believe there is no difference of sentiment among the great body of the Whigs; but in the selection of an individual to be supported as their candidate for the Presidency, there are, as yet, differences of opinion, and a want of that entire harmony which we hope yet to see, and which is essential to success. Representing the Whigs of this Commonwealth, we believe ourselves expressing their sentiments when we declare our preference for one of the prominent men named as a candidate for the Executive chair, but counsel entire submission to the decision, and hearty support of the nominee of the WHIG NATIONAL CONVENTION, to be held at Harrisburg in December next. To this Convention, as to a mutually selected and unexceptionable tribunal, we hold every true and honest Whig bound to refer the only question on which we differ, and abide the issue in good faith, as the only means of preserving union and harmony. We regret that a small minority of the Convention, who differed from the majority in their choice of a Presidential candidate, should have deemed an expression of the preference of this body for one individual rather than another, a sufficient ground for withdrawing from a body in whose deliberations they had shared, by which they had been attentively listened to, and which adopted no *principle* they did not concur in. If such were the course pursued by *all* the Whigs of these United States, it is apparent there could be no union among them, as each one would consider a different personal preference ample cause for separating himself from the party whose *principles* he professes to support, and thus indirectly aid in the perpetuation of misrule. Such a course we consider disorganizing and inconsistent with the elevated motives that generally inspire the action of the party with which it is our pride to be connected.

The proposition of those who thought proper to withdraw from the Convention, simply, as we must infer, because they found themselves in a minority, was that this Convention should at once adjourn sine die, after having called an *Anti-Van Buren Convention* to be held in August or September next. This the majority did not feel authorized to do even were the measure one of sound policy, which we did not think. We were elected to *organize the WHIG PARTY of this State*, and to do such other acts as were necessary to carry into effect that organization, and incidental to it: and we should not have discharged the duty assigned us had we adopted the course proposed. It would have given us great pleasure, and we were confident it would have been consonant with your wishes, could we have devised any plan by which all the elements of opposition to the general Administration, in this Commonwealth,

could have been united ; but a portion of them having already held a Convention and formed an electoral ticket *pledged* to support a particular candidate without reference to the contingency of his being nominated by the National Whig Convention, we could see no means by which a union could be formed without a sacrifice on our part, both of principle and consistency. All we could do was to refer the question of a candidate to the decision of a National Whig Convention, pledge ourselves to abide the issue of the ballot, and to raise the banner of opposition to misgovernment on a platform broad enough to receive *all* who are opposed to the wicked measures and evil policy of the present administration. This we have done ; and we now invite them *one and all*, to unite with us, and stand shoulder to shoulder, in the great contest. We have heretofore acted with them, so far at least as to support their candidate for governor, and in one instance to elect him : do we ask any thing unreasonable, now that they have not the ability to give a single electoral vote to any candidate they may place in the field, when we request them to aid us in redeeming the country from the political thralldom under which it is laboring ? and can they, if they are sincere in professing their hostility to our present rulers, which we cannot doubt, refuse this reasonable request ? Surely we think not.

We are ready to recognize as *Whigs*, and tender them the hand of fellowship and confidence, all who will rally round the *Whig Banner*, support the principles thereon inscribed, and submit the question of a candidate to the Whig National Convention, with an honest pledge to abide by and sustain its decision. But we cannot recognize as such, nor admit to our confidence, those who persist in a course calculated, if not intended, to defeat the great objects we have in view, and who deem a mere personal preference a matter of greater moment than the emancipation of the country from the most paralyzing political bondage. We exclude no one from our ranks who is willing to aid our cause, and will act with us in good faith ; but we cannot unite with, nor receive among us, those who have pre-determined to pursue a course different from that which our judgment and conviction of duty clearly indicate to be the only proper one.

The reference of the nomination of a presidential candidate to a National Convention, to be composed of delegates representing the whole Whig party of the Union, is the only honorable and fair means by which differences of opinion relative to the comparative strength of the different candidates, and their acceptability to the people, as well as personal predilections, can be ascertained, compromised and settled. To *this*

body the subject has by universal consent been referred, and by *its* decision we shall cheerfully and in all truth, abide.— If others shall entertain different views of duty, and pursue a course less conciliatory, the responsibility of their act rests with them, and not upon us. We have too much confidence, however, in their patriotism, to believe they will persist in a measure calculated to prevent the final union of all who desire a reformation of the government and who wish to see its administration transferred to more honest and competent men.

Having raised the Whig Banner in this State, we again invite all who approve our principles to rally in its support, till it shall float in triumph over the great “Keystone” of the Union. We also recommend, as a necessary means to attain this end, a thorough organization of the DEMOCRATIC WHIG PARTY throughout the Commonwealth. We trust that the active and unremitting exertions of every member of the party will be given to effect this organization. Much can be accomplished by mingling and conversing with the people, and furnishing them with the means of gaining information on public affairs and forming correct opinions of men and measures. We beg leave to press this upon our friends as an *important duty which they should by no means neglect.*

Our great object now is to secure the triumph of our principles by the election of a President who will be guided by and carry them into practice. Holding ourselves bound to support the nominee of the Whig National Convention, we cannot doubt that it will present to the American people, as a candidate for Chief Magistrate and their suffrages, a name that will at once inspire confidence and ensure success;—a statesman not less distinguished by his eminent public services, than by his comprehensive understanding, his expanded views, his manly frankness, and his thrilling eloquence: not less by the warm and zealous support of his country’s cause in the dark hour of defeat and disaster, than by his consistent, unyielding, though almost hopeless opposition to the pernicious measures and inordinate assumptions of power which have characterized the government and oppressed the country for the last ten years: not less as the sagacious author and advocate of those great measures of national policy which have in their operation given an irresistible impetus to the prosperity, and an extraordinary increase to the productive labor and wealth of the country, than as the successful PACIFICATOR of angry collisions which threatened the most serious consequences to the peace and harmony, if not the very existence of the Union. Such a man is HENRY CLAY, of Kentucky; who, springing from the ranks of the people has all his sympathies with them, and has ever labored to promote their interests. Who is in-

debted to his own unaided exertions, an unshaken integrity, the bountiful gift of a strong intellect and a brilliant eloquence, and to his consistency and steadiness of purpose, for the elevated position he has long held in the public eye, and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow-citizens during the protracted period he has been in public life. If to any individual more than another, Pennsylvania is indebted for originating and advocating those public measures which have developed her immense and exhaustless resources, which have put in motion the wheels of her manufactories, opened her mines, given employment to her labor, and poured wealth into her lap, it is to HENRY CLAY: to him, and to a few fearless spirits whose visions like his could pierce futurity, and who were determined to call into action her slumbering energies, she owes an inappreciable debt of gratitude. There is something in the very *name* of HENRY CLAY, which inspires enthusiasm and touches a chord in the heart of every man who can admire a bold and manly bearing, combined with suavity and courteousness of manners; a frankness and sincerity which knows no guile and hides nothing even from an enemy, united with a courage that never shrinks from responsibility on the most trying occasions and fears nothing but dishonor.

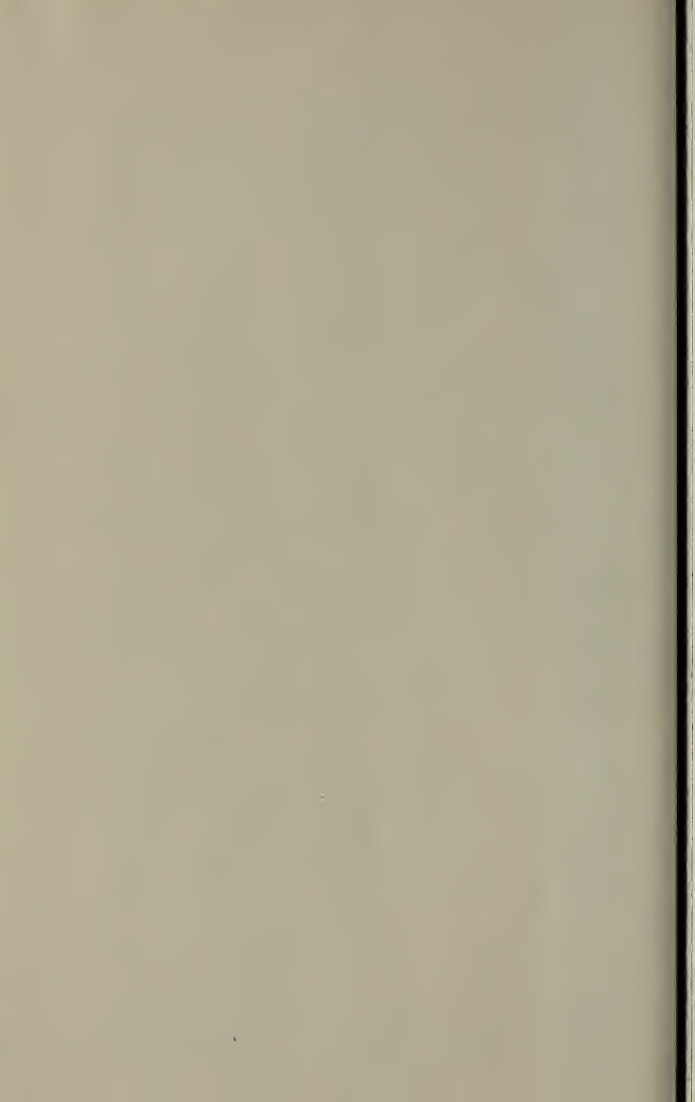
Such is the man we confidently believe able to lead us to victory: and who if elected will restore the nation to her former enviable position, arrest the downward tendency of her political morals, and dignify and adorn, by his own exalted character, the Presidential chair. Who will quell the angry elements of strife, and cause the government to be felt in its influence upon the prosperity and happiness of the people, rather than seen in the intermeddling of its agents in the popular elections.

Let every sincere friend of his country, every descendant of the patriotic Whigs of '76, unite in supporting the cause in which we are engaged and the candidate who shall be selected by the National Convention, and we shall ere long have the proud satisfaction of witnessing our country once more free from the galling shackles of political bondage that have so long oppressed her limbs and repressed her energies. Let our rallying cry be

“UNION AND PERSEVERANCE,”

“OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR CAUSE.”

And while the banner we have raised shall float in the breeze, let its stripes and its stars be untarnished, and the name of WHIG be synonymous with honor and manly independence.







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