# Frederick Douglass' Paper.

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VOL. IX.---NO. 28. ROCHESTER, N. Y., JUNE 27, 1856. WHOLE NO. 444.

**FREDERICK DOUGLASS' PAPER is Published at No. 25, Buffalo Street, (opposite the Arcade, )every Friday morning, by FREDERICK DOUGLASS.**

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## Our Correspondence.

For Frederick Douglass' Paper.

### FROM OUR SAN FRANCISCO CORRESPONDENT.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 16th, 1856.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS: SIR:—We are in the midst of a fearful excitement—an excitement which, I fear, will not abate until much blood has been shed. James King, Editor of the *Evening Bulletin*, has been shot on a public thoroughfare, by James P. Casey, also an Editor. The circumstances tend to show it was the work of a foul conspiracy to suppress the *freedom of the press.* James King was formerly a Banker in this city—was wealthy—but failed, not as Adams & Co., and a host of others have done, by taking the benefit of the "Bankrupt Act," but by calling in his creditors and satisfying every demand. This left him without a dollar, literally without a cent to support himself and family, consisting of a wife and eight children, the oldest not more than fourteen years.

In this dilemma, a few friends suggested the idea of establishing a paper, accompanying the suggestion with the means necessary to the establishing thereof. Mr. King consented. The Press ridiculed the idea of starting another paper, especially by one who could not be supposed, in consequence of a life time in other pursuits, to bring to its conduct the qualifications necessary to its success. In due time, the *Bulletin* made its appearance, and its advent was an *era* in the history of San Francisco.—The people were astounded at its boldness in exposing corruption in high places. Men who were thought to be *sans reproche*, perfect models of integrity and probity, were proved by this "scourge," the *Bulletin*, to be demons of vice and iniquity. The *Bulletin* became popular with the masses. Its readers were numbered by thousands. The Editor was assaulted; he worsted his assailant; he was challenged; he refused to fight a duel, but invited assaults with arms, or otherwise; this his enemies tried, but were worsted in every instance. King is a powerfully made man, of great physical and moral courage. Meanwhile the *Bulletin*, and its fearless and faithful Editor, became household words and was considered a permanent and necessary institution. But in the midst of his bright and honorable career, he is assassinated by a felon, J. P. Casey, a graduate of Sing Sing. The Vigilance Committee who have slumbered since the fearful time of '50 and '51, are re-organized.

*May 17th.*—King still lives; and the probabilities are that he will recover. No demonstration as yet has been made. The authorities (Casey's friends) are guarding the jail with cannon. The Vigilance Committee numbers three thousand of our most respectable citizens, and are constantly adding to their numbers.—The press, with but few exceptions, endorse the action of the people. The *Herald* took sides with Casey; the result is, the loss of nearly all its patronage. Its size is reduced less than one half of what it was. The people demand a thorough purging of the entire State of all those who live by gambling, ballot-box stuffing, shoulder striking, &c. James King is lost sight of; the question now is, whether upright, honest and intelligent men shall henceforward rule, or whether thieves, blacklegs and cut throats, as tools of ambitious and designing politicians of the worst stamp, shall, as they have hitherto done, continue to occupy places of honor, trust and emolument.

As I write, the telegraph announces the organization of Committees in the interior, with the view, should the emergency demand, of proceeding to San Francisco to sustain the people against the authorities. The Governor has arrived, and has had a conference with the Committee. At first they demanded possession of the prison, and the custody of Casey, Cora, and others; but finally modified their demand to an equal occupation of the prison and custody of the prisoners. Some of the people demand the hanging of all the officials, from the Mayor, down to the lowest officer.

The papers are filled with the startling words, Assassination! Conspiracy! Treason! Murder! and the like; a portion of the military refuse to support the authorities, and have disbanded, and re-organized as independent companies.—We may well exclaim, as did the virtuous Ro[illegible]n, "Oh! Tempora! oh! Mores!" when men [illegible]sinated for the legitimate exercise of [illegible] prerogative guaranteed by the Con-[illegible]

[illegible]—To-day the sun shed [illegible] most solemn, impos-[illegible] beheld by morta[illegible] [illegible]mittee, numbering [illegible]mpletely armed, [illegible] to the county [illegible] spectators.—[illegible] sound was [illegible]d tramp [illegible]word of [illegible]he un-[illegible] Ar-[illegible]s x-pounders in front of the entrance; after which, they demanded of the Sheriff J. P. Casey, and Charles Cora, the assassins. The jail was defended by a company called the *Blues*, and very blue they became on seeing the people, in the majesty of their power, "armed with a just quarrel."

The Sheriff, after a little parleying, opened the door, and the Committee took the prisoners, placed them in carriages, and conveyed them to the Committee rooms. To-morrow, they will be tried, and if found guilty, will be executed.

The city is perfectly quiet; thieves, murderers, *et id omne genus*, are leaving in all directions; a feeling of security and safety pervades the entire city. Not a murder, not a theft, not even a street fight, has taken place since the organization of the mysterious and much dreaded Vigilance Committee. I have sent you an *Evening Bulletin*, which will give you full particulars.

Mr. M. W. Gibbs, of the firm of Lester & Gibbs, leaves for the Atlantic States in the next steamer. Mr. Gibbs has identified himself with every movement of the colored people in this State, having for its object their social and political elevation. He has also contributed to our elevation by his business tact and success in establishing and conducting the firm of which he is a member. But more anon.

WM. H. NEWBY.

For Frederick Douglass' Paper.

### A VOICE FROM A NEW ORLEANS PRISON.

PARISH PRISON, New Orleans,
May 19th, 1856.

MR. EDITOR:—I write you a line for publication, that your colored readers and vessel-going friends may be apprised that a trap is set for them in this wicked place. If they fall into it, communication with their friends is next to impossible.

New Orleans is a place frequented by our sea-faring and river-going colored people.—These should know that false charges are made against them, and all means are resorted to, to imprison them. Free papers are of no use, unless framed in the State, and recorded in the city. Those arrested in the city, having free papers from any other State, must prove them genuine, which is the same as proving themselves free, and will cost them as much.

Sir, I am a sea-faring man, and by a municipal regulation have been imprisoned several times. I had to pay each time from $70, to $75, in order to be released. I saw in the Recorder's Office the coat of arms; under it was the figure of JUSTICE. What mockery! Justice in a Recorder's office, where freedom to breathe as a man is not allowed, where a man must prove his freedom, every time a hungry policeman chooses to arrest him! There is a large number now in prison, who will be compelled to "prove their freedom;" but how many I know not, as we are kept six or seven in a cell. In our part, are David Givens, Shippensburg, Pa.; James Hickman, Smyrna, Del.; John Reese, New York, (removed;) Henry Brown, Cincinnati; Wm. Brown, Philadelphia, Pa.; and Josiah Morgan, Carlisle, Pa.

Persons often unsuspectingly leave their vessels, and are invariably imprisoned. Having no money and no friends near, their letters intercepted for reasons which may be conjectured, they are in a sad state, you may depend.—"State prison," "sold for jail fees," "sent up the coast," are words often whispered; but what becomes of those who are not able to prove their freedom, I know not. Their examinations, trials, &c., are all secret. No Reporters are allowed in the sanctuary of the Law-dealers of the city. One thing I know; *in trying those cases, those who prove their freedom*, and have no money to pay their jail fees, remain in jail, doing prison-work, at 25 cents per day. Then, after having thus paid their jail fees, they must stay until discharged by the Grand Jury. John Taylor, of Harrisburg, Pa., and James Webster, a resident of Pennsylvania, were here eleven months working, as prisoners, to pay their jail fees, although they had "proved their freedom."

Yours, truly, SEAMAN.

For Frederick Douglass' Paper.

### INDIGNATION MEETING--REV. H. H. GARNET IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, PENN., June 14, 1856.

Quaker City at last has spoken. The week just closed has been one brim full of interest. Our order of exercises began with a rousing mass meeting in "Independence Square," to denounce the recent ruffianly assault of the black-hearted ruffian, Brooks,—and it did its work well. The great heart of Philadelphia poured out her indignation in thunder tones, such as made old Independence Hall quake and tremble as in former times, when the oppressed hurled their terrible anathemas within its then upright walls against stamped paper and taxes on tea. Mr. Choate somewhere tells us—"There is an eloquence of an expiring nation; the sweetest, most mournful, most awful of the words which man may utter, or which man may hear, the eloquence of a perishing nation." If you could have heard those soul-stirring, eloquent words, in denunciation of the Brooks outrage, as they leaped, scorching hot, from the lips of men before strangers to the rostrum, you might have thought of Mr. Choate—no, Heaven save us! not of him, but of his words above.

Besides this, our heretofore one-sided, ostracized press, deaf to the atrocious proceedings of Judge Kane, deaf to the groans and appeals of Kansas, deaf to the cowardly assault on Greeley, and the murder of the Irish waiter,—not deaf to them, but chuckling over them all, has come up squarely and plumply in denunciation of the infamous, hell-black crime and insult of South Carolina.

Close on to the heels of all this indignation came Senator Douglas, accompanied by Howell Cobb, of Georgia, and the pliant tool, Cass; they came to expound Democracy to us, Quakers! Old Cass got hissed soundly. Cobb was a little more successful; but nobody cared for his miserable trash, spoken in the most dry unoratoric manner possible. But Douglas, obnoxious as were his doctrines, was listened to quietly and respectfully throughout.

Last, but not least, came another long sought event. At our earnest solicitation, we had the pleasure of greeting an orator more finished and eloquent than any preceding him. Philadelphia had long yearned to extend the hand of welcome to the scholar, the orator, the patriot, the Christian, Rev. Henry Highland Garnet. This week brought the opportunity, and how eagerly did she seize it! Mr. G. was with us just a week, speaking to hungry audiences every evening, and sometimes in the day. His farewell address was given yester-eve. It was *eloquence*, such as Henry Ward Beecher or Wendell Phillips might equal but not excel; such, a lifetime seldom hears more than once. At its close, E. D. Bassett rose, and, after a brief prologue, offered the following preamble and resolutions:

"We, the citizens of Philadelphia, having in response to our solicitation, had the pleasure of a visit from the Rev. H. H. Garnet, who has but recently returned to this his native land, from several years' residence in Great Britain, the Continent of Europe, and the West India Islands,—and *whereas*, we have felt ourselves honored by his noble presence, encouraged by his eloquent and sympathizing voice, and instructed by his wholesome and valuable counsel, do therefore

[illegible] Rev. Henry Highland Garnet, of eloquence, classic and unsurpassed; of fame, untarnished; of character, pure and brilliant; we recognize an able, eloquent, and fearless champion, standing in the foremost ranks of the hosts of that Freedom which now seems about to proclaim itself universal, living everywhere in the hearts of men; and of his own people, the colored race, a weighty and faithful exponent of whom we, as colored men, are proud to claim kindred.

2. That our unfeigned, heartfelt thanks are due, and we hereby tender them to Mr. Garnet, for the series of able discourses with which he has favored us during the present week; and particularly do we desire to give expression to our high appreciation of his searching and masterly exposition of the true relations to us, as exemplified in British Slavery and Emancipation, and of the designs of that accursed institution which has so long crushed and disfranchised our people, trampled down all laws between man and man, and outraged those of the living God.

These, after a couple of brief and spicy speeches from D. B. Bowser and your old friend, J. C. Bowers, were unanimously adopted.—Somebody now rose and said something, when all at once up comes a rush of people to the church altar—to take sacrament? No. What then? We were fumbling after, found, and leaned to throw in our usual contribution, a fip, when lo! to our utter consternation, there lay scattered in grand confusion, a great heap of bank notes, on one of which we saw a figure '5'! hard glittering halves and quarters, and better than all, a fine sprinkling of little yellow spots. One fip didn't go out of our hand single or alone. It is said that Mr. Garnet departed sixteen ounces Troy heavier than he entered.

This morning we saw Mr. G. entering the steamer for New York, accompanied by several of our distinguished fellow-citizens, and host of friends, male and female, all to bid him, Hail and farewell.

E. D. B.

### LETTER FROM A. A. LUCA.

RAVENNA, O., June 15, 1856.

MR. DOUGLASS: DEAR SIR:—Circumstances, rather than inclination, have induced me to "lay down the fiddle and the bow," to take up the pen instead—and, (from the fact that I was never "in practice,") I fear that my "notes" will be anything but "harmonious." Still, hoping that my "audience" will overlook the imperfect "execution," considering it as the "first appearance," also that my subject will serve to draw attention from the manner in which it is presented, I will "stop" the "prelude" and "introduce" the "theme."

Your suggestion that our "travels" might be interesting to many, and your kindness in tendering the columns of your paper as a medium, have persuaded me into giving our Ohio experiences.

A person who stays *at home* cannot realize the marked difference that characterizes the inhabitants of the different States, though gazing, perhaps, with all the acuteness of a philosopher, on the features which the newspapers and other channels of information present—the light will fail to reach and discover the sharper outlines. Though this will hold good in others, I am referring more particularly to a social point of view. For instance, take the towns and villages of this State, and, as a general thing, there is much less refinement and none of the classifications of society which pervade those of the East. I will relate an incident which occurred a short time ago, and gives an idea of the "ways and means" of the people in this part of the "Reserve." At one of our concerts a Southern man found fault with one of our Anti-Slavery songs, and after a demonstration in keeping, left the room. Just before closing, we announced another concert, and on reaching the hotel, found that a body of men had convened and decided on asking of us a repetition of the same song—inviting him to attend—and if he recapitulated his demonstrations, he should be taken out and whipped. He got wind of the kind intentions and kept clear.

While in Cleveland, we "put up" at the "Bennet House" and we were called to take our (two first) meals after the others had finished. This fact touched our sensitive feelings, and on going to the proprietor to protest, we found some of the boarders were before us, and discountenancing, in unmistakable terms, such treatment of ourselves. A favorable change was speedily made, and with this you will receive one potent instrument used!

* * * * *

I find that I am branching out to a greater length than I anticipated, and not wishing to take undue advantage of your kindness, I will close, and reserve more of the same till another time.

A. A. LUCA.

THE WORKING OF SLAVERY.—Extract from a letter to the Editor of *The Tribune*, dated West Point, Ga, June 7th:

"Great excitement has prevailed in the adjoining County of Alabama for some days since, in consequence of a most horrid case of suicide and murder by a negro woman, who tied two of her children to her back and jumped into a mill-pond and drowned herself and children, while her husband, who was ironed and had a bell on like a stray steer, stood on the bank and shouted—for which he was hung. All this occurred in Chambers County in the last week, and in the adjoining County of Macon an insurrection was attempted by the slaves of a man who had almost famished the poor creatures, for which two were hung and one shot. Such things are most gratifying to the poorer classes who would willingly have the slaves all removed."

☞ The marriage of Prince Frederick William with the Princess of England, is now deemed certain, and the officers of their future household are already selected.

## The Platforms.

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

*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 upheld 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 imposture 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 a spirit [illegible] devotion to the doctrine [illegible] and appealing to their fellow citizens for the rectitude of their intentions, renew and re-assert before the American people, the declaration of principles avowed by them when, on former occasions, in general convention, they have presented their candidates for the popular suffrages.

1. That the Federal Goverment 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 goverment; 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 Goverment to foster one branch of industry to the detriment of any other, or to cherish the interests 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 and secure 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 for 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 calculated 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 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 men 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 to the safety of the funds of the Government, and the rights of the people.

9. That we are decidedly opposed to taking from the President the qualified veto power by which he is enabled, under restrictions and responsibilities amply sufficient to guard the public interest, to suspend the passage of a bill whose merits cannot secure the approval of two-thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, until the judgment of the people can be obtained thereon, and which has saved the American people from the corrupt and tyrannical domination of the Bank of the United States, and from a corrupting system of general internal improvements.

10. That the liberal principles embodied by Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence, and sanctioned in the Constitution, which makes ours the land of liberty, and the asylum of the oppressed of every nation, have ever been cardinal principles in the Democratic faith, and every attempt to abridge the privilege of becoming citizens and the owners of soil among us, ought to be resisted with the same spirit which swept the alien and sedition laws from our statute books.

And WHEREAS, Since the foregoing declaration was uniformly adopted by our predecessors, in national Convention, an adverse political and religious test has been secretly organized by a party claiming to be exclusively American, it is proper that the American Democracy should clearly define its relations thereto, and declare its determined opposition to all secret political societies, by whatever name they may be called.

*Resolved*, That the foundation of this union of State having been laid in, and its prosperity, expansion and pre-eminent example in free government built upon entire freedom in matters of religious concernment, and no respect of person in regard to rank or place of birth; no party can justly be deemed national, constitutional, or in accordance with American principles, which bases its exclusive organization upon religious opinions and accidental birthplace. And hence a political crusade in the nineteenth century, and in the United States of America, against Catholics and foreign-born, is neither justified by the past history or the future prospects of the country, nor in unison with the spirit of toleration and enlarged freedom which peculiarly distinguishes the American system of popular government.

*Resolved*, That we reiterate, with renewed energy of purpose, the well-considered declarations of former Conventions upon the sectional issue of Domestic Slavery, and concerning the reserved rights of the States,—

1. That Congress has no power under the Constitution, to interfere with or control the domestic institutions of the several States, and that such States are the sole and proper judges of everything appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the Constitution; 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 friend of our political institutions.

2. That the foregoing proposition covers, and was intended 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 act being designed to carry out an express provision of the Constitution, cannot, with fidelity thereto, be repealed, or so changed as to destroy or impair its efficiency.

3. 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.

4. 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 its political creed, and is resolved to carry them out in their obvious meaning and import.

And that we may more distinctly meet the issue on which a sectional party, subsisting exclusively on slavery agitation, now relies to test the fidelity of the people, north and south, to the Constitution and the Union—

1. *Resolved*, That claiming fellowship with, and desiring the co-operation of all who regard the preservation of the Union under the Constitution as the paramount issue—and repudiating all sectional parties and platforms concerning domestic slavery, which seek to embroil the States and incite to treason and armed resist-[illegible] avowed purpose, [illegible] Territories; and whose civil war and disunion—the American Democracy recognize and adopt the principles contained in the organic laws establishing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska as embodying the only sound and safe solution of the "slavery question" upon which the great national idea of the people of this whole country can repose in its determined conservatism of the Union—NON-INTERFERENCE BY CONGRESS WITH SLAVERY AND TERRITORY OR IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

2. That this was the basis of the Compromises of 1850—confirmed by both the Democratic and Whig parties in national Conventions—ratified by the people in the election of 1852—and rightly applied to the organization of Territories in 1854.

3. That by the uniform application of this Democratic principle to the organization of territories, and to the admission of new States, with or without domestic slavery, as they may elect—the equal rights of all the States will be preserved intact—the original compacts of the Constitution maintained inviolate—and the perpetuity and expansion of this Union insured to its utmost capacity of embracing, in peace and harmony, every future American State that may be constituted or annexed, with a Republican form of government.

*Resolved*, That we recognize the right of the people of all the territories, including Kansas and Nebraska, acting through the legally and fairly expressed will of a majority of actual residents, and whenever the number of their inhabitants justifies it, to form a Constitution, with or without domestic slavery, and be admitted into the Union upon terms of perfect equality with the other States.

*Resolved*, finally, That in view of the condition of popular institutions in the Old World (and the dangerous tendencies of sectional agitation, combined with the attempt to enforce civil and religious disabilities against the rights of acquiring and enjoying citizenship, in our own land) a high and sacred duty is devolved with increased responsibility upon the Democratic party of this country, and as the party of the Union, to uphold and maintain the rights of every State, and thereby the Union of the States; and to sustain and advance among us constitutional liberty, by continuing to resist all monopolies and exclusive legislation for the benefit of the few at the expense of the many, and by a vigilant and constant adherence to those principles and compromises of the Constitution, which are broad enough and strong enough to embrace and uphold the Union as it was, the Union as it is, and the Union as it shall be, in the full expansion of the energies and capacity of this great and progressive people.

1. *Resolved*, That there are questions connected with the foreign policy of this country, which are inferior to no domestic question whatever. The time has come for the people of the United States to declare themselves in favor of free seas and progressive free trade throughout the world, and, by solemn manifestation, to place their moral influence at the side of their successful example.

2. *Resolved*, That our geographical and political position with reference to the other States of this continent, no less than the interest of our commerce and the development of our growing power, requires that we should hold as sacred the principles involved in the Monroe Doctrine: their bearing and import admit of no misconstruction; they should be applied with unbending rigidity.

3. *Resolved*, That the great highway which nature, as well as the assent of the States most immediately interested in its maintenance, has marked out for a free communication between the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, constitutes one of the most important achievements realized by the spirit of modern times and the unconquerable energy of our people. That result should be secured by a timely and efficient exertion of the control which we have the right to claim over it, and no power on earth should be suffered to impede or clog its progress by any interference with the relations it may suit our policy to establish between our government and the governments of the States within whose dominions it lies. We can, under no circumstance, surrender our preponderance in the adjustment of all questions arising out of it.

4. *Resolved*, That in view of so commanding an interest, the people of the United States can not but sympathise with the efforts which are being made by the people of Central America to regenerate that portion of the continent which covers the passage across the Interoceanic Isthmus.

5. *Resolved*, That the Democratic party will expect of the next Administration that every proper effort be made to insure our ascendancy in the Gulf of Mexico, and to maintain a permanent protection to the great outlets through which are emptied into its water the products raised out of the soil, and the commodities created by the industry of the people of our Western valleys, and of the Union at large.

### AMERICAN PLATFORM.

1st. An humble acknowledgement to the Supreme Being, for His protecting care vouchsafed to our fathers in their successful Revolutionary struggle, and hitherto manifested to us, their descendants, in the preservation of the liberties, the independence and the union of these States.

2d. The perpetuation of the Federal Union, as the palladium of our civil and religious liberties, and the only sure bulwark of American Independence.

3d. Americans must rule America, and to this end, native-born citizens should be selected for all State, Federal, or municipal offices, or government employment, in preference to all others; nevertheless,

4th. Persons born of American parents residing temporarily abroad, should be entitled to all the rights of native-born citizens; but

5th. No person should be selected for political station (whether of native or foreign birth,) who recognizes any allegiance or obligation of any description to any foreign prince, potentate or power, or who refuses to recognise the State constitutions (each within its sphere) as paramount to all other laws, as rules of political action.

6th. The unqualified recognition and maintenance of the reserved rights of the several States, and the cultivation of harmony and fraternal good will between the citizens of the several States, and to this end, non-interference by Congress with questions appertaining solely to the individual States, and non-intervention by each State with the affairs of any other State.

7th. The recognition of the right of the native-born and naturalized citizens of the United States, permanently residing in any Territory thereof, to frame their constitution and laws, and to regulate their domestic and social affairs in their own mode, subject only to the provisions of the Federal Constitution, with the privilege of admission into the Union whenever they have the requisite population for one Representative in Congress; provided always, that none but those who are citizens of the United States, under the constitution and laws thereof, and who have a fixed residence in any such Territory, ought to participate in the formation of the constitution, or the enactment of laws for said Territory, or State.

8th. An enforcement of the principle that no State or Territory ought to admit others than citizens of the United States to the right of suffrage or of holding political office.

9th. A change in the laws of naturalization, making a continued residence of twenty-one years, of all not heretofore provided for, an indispensable requisite for citizenship hereafter, and excluding all paupers and persons convicted of crime, from landing on our shores; but no interference with the vested rights of foreigners.

10th. Opposition to any union between Church and State; no interference with religious [illegible]

11. Free and thorough investigation into any and all alleged abuses of public functionaries and a strict economy in public expenditures.

12th. The maintenance and enforcement of all laws constitutionally enacted, until said laws shall be repealed, or shall be declared null and void by competent judicial authority.

13. Opposition to the reckless and unwise policy of the present administration in the general management of our national affairs, and more especially as shown in removing "Americans" (by designation) and conservatives in principle, from office, and placing foreigners and ultraists in their places, as shown in the truckling subserviency to the stronger, and an insolent and cowardly bravado towards the weaker powers; as shown in re-opening sectional agitation, by the repeal of the Missouri compromise; as shown in granting to unnaturalized foreigners the rights of suffrage in Kansas and Nebraska; as shown in its vacillating course on the Kansas and Nebraska question; as shown in the corruptions which pervade some of the departments of the government; as shown in disgracing meritorious naval officers through prejudice or caprice; and as shown in the blundering mismanagement of our foreign relations.

14th. Therefore, to remedy existing evils, and prevent the disastrous consequences otherwise resulting therefrom, we would build up the "American Party" on the principles hereinbefore stated.

15th. That each State Council shall have authority to amend their several constitutions, so as to abolish the several degrees and institute a pledge of honor, instead of other obligations, for fellowship and admission into the party.

16th. A free and open discussion of all political principles embraced in our platform.

### REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

The Committee on Resolutions, through Hon. David Wilmot, Chairman, reported as the principles and aims of the Republican party, the following platform:

Whereas, This Convention of delegates assembled in pursuance of a call addressed to the people of the United States, without regard to past political differences or divisions, who are opposed to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise; to the policy of the present Administration; to the extension of Slavery into Kansas; and in favor of the admission of Kansas as a Free State; of restoring the action of the Federal Government to the principles of Washington and Jefferson; and for the purpose of presenting candidates for the offices of President and Vice President, do resolve as follows:

Resolved, That the maintenance of the principles promulgated in the Declaration of Independence, and embodied in the Federal Constitution, are essential to the preservation of our Republican institutions; and that the Federal Constitution, the rights of the States, and the union of the States, shall be preserved.

Resolved, That with our Republican Fathers, we hold it to be a self-evident truth that all men are endowed with inalienable right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," and that the primary object and ulterior designs of our Federal Goverment is to secure these rights to all persons within its exclusive jurisdiction; that as our Republican Fathers, when they had abolished Slavery in all our national territory, ordained that no person should be deprived of "life, liberty or property," without due process of law, it becomes our duty to maintain this provision of the Constitution against all attempts to violate it, for the purpose of establishing Slavery in the United States, by positive legislation, prohibiting its existence or extension therein. That we deny the authority of Congress, of a territorial Legislature, or any individual or association of individuals, to give legal assistance to Slavery in any territory of the United States, while the present Constitution shall be maintained.

Resolved, That the Constitution confers upon Congress sovereign power over the territories of the United States, for their government, and that in the exercise of this power, it is both the right and duty of Congress to prohibit in the territories, those twin relics of barbarism, Polygamy and Slavery.

Resolved, That while the Constitution of the United States was ordained and established in order to establish a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, and secure the blessings of liberty, and contains ample provisions for the protection of "life, liberty and property," of every citizen, the dearest constitutional rights of the people of Kansas have been fraudulently and violently taken from them—their territory has been invaded by an armed force, a spurious and pretended legislature, judicial, and executive officers have been set over them, by whose corrupt usurped authority, sustained by the military power of the government, tyranical and unconstitutional laws have been enacted and enforced, the rights of the people to keep and bear arms have been infringed,—test oaths of an extraordinary and entangling nature, have been imposed, as a condition for exercising the right of suffrage, and holding office; the right of an accused person to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury, has been denied—the right of the people to be secured in their houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures have been violated; they have been deprived of life, liberty and property without due process of law—that the freedom of speech and of the press have been abridged—the right to choose their representatives have been made of no effect—murders, robberies and arsons have been instigated and encouraged, and the offenders have been allowed to go unpunished; that all these things have been done with the knowledge, sanction and procurement of the present Administration, and that for this high crime against the Constitution, the Union and humanity, we arraign the Administration, the President, his advisers, agents, supporters, apologists and accessories, either before or after the facts, before the country and before the world; and that it is our fixed purpose to bring the actual perpetrators of these atrocious outrages and their accomplices to a sure and condign punishment hereafter.

Resolved, That Kansas should be immediately admitted as a State of the Union, with her present free constitution, as at once the most effectual way of securing to her citizens the enjoyment of the rights and privileges to which they are entitled, and of ending the civil strife now raging in her Territory.

Resolved, That the highwayman's plea, that "might makes right," as embodied in the Ostend circular, was in every respect unworthy of American diplomacy, and would bring shame and dishonor upon any government or people that gave it their sanction.

Resolved, That a railroad to the Pacific Ocean, by the most central and practical route, is imperatively demanded by the interests of the whole country, and that the Federal government ought to render immediate and efficient aid in its construction, and as an auxiliary thereto, the immediate construction of an emigrant route on the line of the railroad.

Resolved, That appropriations by Congress for the improvement of rivers and harbors, of a national character, are demanded for the accommodation of our existing commerce, and Congress is authorized by the Constitution, and justified by the obligations of government, to protect the lives and property of its citizens.

Resolved, That we invite the affiliation and co-operation of the men of all parties, however differing from us in other respects, in support of the principles herein declared, and believing that the spirit of our institutions, as well as the constitution of our country, guarantees liberty of conscience and equality of rights among citizens who oppose all legislation impairing their security.

### COLORED HOME.

The Sixteenth Anniversary of the Colored Home was celebrated yesterday at 3 o' clock p. m., in the Chapel of the Home, Sixty-fifth street, near Second avenue, in presence of a large number of citizens, the greater portion of whom were ladies.

The exercises were opened by the Rev. Mr. GOODSELL, who gave out a hymn, which was sung by the congregation; after which Mr. WALKER of Brooklyn offered up a fervent prayer on behalf of the Home.

Dr. FITCH, the resident physician of the establishment, then read the Annual Report, from which we glean the following:

"Reviewing the past year the officers and their number, with the exception of the late lamented Mrs. Geo. Douglas, have been spared, and that they have been allowed, through the medium of this charity, to dispense the bounty of a Christian community to many who otherwise might have been left to the precarious and uncertain supplies of individual beneficence.—A certain good-natured, thoughtless benevolence often prompts people to bestow alms indiscriminately upon applicants, under the impression that the machinery of a public institution, like the Home, is too complex and difficult to manage for their small contributions ever to reach the object to be benefited; and in some societies called charitable, there seems some foundation for this apprehension; but we think no such feeling should exist in the case of the Colored Home. Its unpaid Board of Officers and Managers meet once a month to transact its financial and other business such as hearing reports from the various Departments of the Institution, and to consult together for its interests. The First Directress spends some hours at the Home each week, to obtain an intimate knowledge of its wants; to encourage the exercise among its inmates of all kindly and virtuous conduct; to correct abuses, and, if need be, enforce discipline among insubordinates.

"Any colored person in need of aid, instead of seeking it at the hand of private charity, should apply for admission to the Home, and he or she will at once be furnished with accommodations there; these consist in good rooms, plain, wholesome food, and decent clothing, together with medical attendance and nursing if these are necessary; in short, as much physical comfort in every respect as our resources, by careful economy, will allow. Added to these, our Chaplain and a large Committee of the Board of Managers, by assiduous efforts on the Sabbath and week days, seek to enlighten the understandings of the ignorant, instruct the consciences of the depraved, and pour the consolations of Christian faith into the hearts of the children of affliction.

"The number of pensioners has been unusually great during the past Winter; all the wards of the house having been crowded, yet neither then nor at any other season of the year past, has it been visited by any epidemic or dangerous disease; for this we desire to thank our kind Preserver and Benefactor, and to take encouragement from his favoring smiles, to labor still more efficiently for the future.

"We think the health of the place due, under Providence, to the very efficient services of our resident and assistant physicians, who, by constant watchfulness and personal attention, have warded off much disease that might otherwise have visited us.

"By the sale of some real estate bequeathed to the Home some years since by Mrs. Jacob Shatzel, and hitherto not very productive, the institution has recently received an increase in its means of usefulness in one direction; but as the legacy was restricted to a certain class of objects, the increased value of the fund will not benefit, except indirectly, the larger and more worthy class of pensioners."

After an earnest appeal for the aid in behalf of the Home, the report continues:

"Through the medium of this Society we may contribute to the support of a numerous class, who can receive aid in no other way; for however we may deplore the tone of feeling prevailing in society toward this portion of its members, so long as it exists, separate institutions must be sustained for their benefit."

The report regrets that the Rev. C. C. Darling had found it necessary to resign the office of Chaplain to the House in consequence of other duties, and trusts Providence will raise up as good a man to the charge of souls. It also speaks in grateful terms of the gratuitous labors of the Rev. Mr. Peters, and other Christian ministers of various denominations, and concludes by relating several instances of good which have been done through the influence of the Reading Committee, whose reports show an account of 103 recorded visits by the ladies of the Board and a few others, and there are probably nearly as many more paid by those who have made no record. The visits are for the purpose of reading and instruction in religion and praying with the inmates of the house.

The following is the number of pensioners in the Home:

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|---|---|---|
| Number remaining May 1, 1855, | | 267 |
| Number received since May 1, 1855, | | 374 |
| Number of births since May 1, 1855, | | 19 |
| Total, | | 660 |
| Of these have died, | 104 | |
| Discharged *pro forma* or dismissed, | 258 | |
| Total, | 362 | |
| Leaving now in the Institution, April 30, 1856, | | 298 |

The Treasurer's Report shows an expenditure of $11,453 30, while the receipts are $11,854 63, being a balance in hand of $111 33.—The Building Fund shows the amount of Collection, Revenue Bond and Interest to be $1,282, and the cash paid Corporation on Revenue Bond to be $1,275, being a balance on hand of $700.

The Shatzel Fund is entirely exhausted.

After the reading of the report was concluded, interesting addresses were delivered by the Rev. R. G. PARDEE, New York Sunday School Union; the Rev. Mr. WALKER of Brooklyn.

A collection was then taken up, during which the Pensioners sang a hymn.

After which the Rev. Mr. JOSLIN concluded the exercises by pronouncing the benediction.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

REMOVE THE CAPITOL.—A prominent Democrat of this city has started a petition for the removal of the Capitol from Washington to Cincinnati, or some other point where the Representatives will be free from the assaults of Slavery Ruffians. It will get hosts of signatures.—*Albany Journal.*

We sincerely hope that the projects to remove the American Country seat to this city will receive no sort of countenance from any quarter. We have recently had a National Convention among us, and that is enough for one generation. Let us alone, if you please.—We are an industrious, pains-taking people, and want as little as possible to do with the vermin that swarm around the Capitol.—*Cincinnati Commercial.*

☞ Mr. Sumner, though still suffering, has been able to leave Washington for the residence of Mr. F. P. Blair, a few miles out of town.

KILLED BY CHEESE.—A shoemaker in Abington, Mass., recently died suddenly from eating a large quantity of skim-milk cheese.