American Eagle.

E PLURIBUS UNUM

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER:--Devoted to Local, General and Foreign News, and the Dissemination of American Principles.

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American Platform,

Adopted at the Session of the National Council, February 21st, 1856.

1st. An humble acknowledgment 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.

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 shall rule America*, and to this end, *native*-born citizens should be selected for all State, Federal, and 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 recognises any allegiance or obligation of any description, to any foreign prince, potentate or power, or who refuses to recognise the Federal and 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 in 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 hereinbefore provided for, an indispensible requisite for citizenship hereafter, and excluding all paupers, and persons convicted of crime, from landing upon our shores; but no interference with the vested rights of foreigners.

10th Opposition to any union between Church and State; no interference with religious faith, or worship, and no test oaths for office.

11th 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.

13th Opposition to the reckless and unwise policy of the present administration in the management of our national affairs, and more especially as shown in removing "Americans" (by designation) and conservative in principle, from office, and placing foreigners and ultraists in their places; as shown in a truckling subserviency to the stronger, and an insolent and cowardly bravado towards the weaker powers; as shown in reopening sectional agitation, by the repeal of the Missouri Compromise; as shown in granting to unnaturalized foreigners the right of suffrage in Kansas and Nebraska; as shown in its vascillating course on the Kansas and Nebraska question; as shown in the corruptness 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" upon 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.

RESOLUTIONS

Adopted by the Old Line Whig Convention of Maryland, which assembled in the city of Baltimore July 10th, 1856.

Whereas, The Whigs of Maryland, in General Convention assembled, believing that a crisis has arrived in the political affairs of the country which renders it the patriotic duty of every good citizen to use all proper exertions to check the progress of sectionalism and disunion, present to their political brethren, and to the national and conservative portions of all parties in all sections of the Union, the annexed declarations of their principles and purposes:—

Declaration of Principles.

1st. That the Whigs of Maryland adhere to the principles of their party, in the maintenance of which they elected Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore, (applause,) and having stood aloof from all participation in present party organization, declare their intention to maintain their independent position until such time as they may deem an active reorganization advisable—disavowing all political disabilities on account of religious creed, and the fullest enjoyment of the right of conscience, neither abandoning any old, or adding any new principle, except such of a purely national character as the progress of the country may require.

2d That the Whigs of Maryland enter upon this Presidential struggle with the Constitution as their guide, and the preservation of the Union from the designs of sectional parties, as an object superior to all party affiliation, or the attainment of partizan purposes;—and cordially invite "*Union for the sake of the Union.*" (applause,) in their effort to restore the country to that condition of internal harmony which prevailed between the North and the South when the present administration came into power.

3d That in Col John C. Fremont, the candidate of the so-called Republican party, we recognise an adventurous and successful explorer, altogether without experience in governmental affairs, and totally unqualified for the proper performance of the duties of President; and consider the platform of the Convention which nominated him as promulgating doctrines anti-Republican, unconstitutional and fanatical; calculated to foment discord, increase sectional agitation, and, if sustained by the people, to lead to civil war and an ultimate dissolution of the Union—we, therefore, utterly repudiate both as unworthy the support of the National Whigs of Maryland.

4th That the platform of the Democratic party, of which James Buchanan has declared himself the embodiment, proclaims doctrines and purposes with regard to our foreign policy calculated to tarnish the national character by countenancing aggressive designs on friendly nations—designs which we regard as in total subversion of the general principles of right and justice which were ably carried out by President Fillmore (applause) during an administration that was of the Washington standard—patriotic and conservative, and gained for him throughout the country the proud title of "Model President."

5th That as one of the participators in the Ostend Conference, which misrepresented the national character, and caused distrust and suspicion among the friends of republican institutions throughout the civilized world, we regard James Buchanan as a dangerous and unsafe man to be entrusted with the Executive power of the country.

6th That in the present position of the Democratic party and its candidates we see nothing that promises a termination of sectional agitation—nothing to restore peace and harmony to the country—but find that party, whilst opposing the fanatical sectionalism of the republican party, to hold a position of extreme partizan and sectional bias—the success of which may tend to prolong the present unhappy condition of affairs, and give room for renewed attacks on the integrity and permanency of the Union.

7th That as Whigs, who delighted to honor Henry Clay whilst living, and revere his memory as one of the great good men of the nation—knowing him to have been honest, pure, patriotic, and devoted to the glory of our common country—we regard James Buchanan as the man who, above all others, knew the utter falsity of the calumnious charge of "bargain and corruption," and who, through partizan animosity, not only withheld his testimony but indirectly countenanced and promulgated the charge.

8th That we recognise Millard Fillmore (applause) as one from whose antecedents the country can expect, in full security, a truly national Administration—firm, moderate, and tranquil—an Administration equal and impartial to the North and the South, regardless of all sectional issues—faithful to the Constitution and the laws—a national man with national principles—whose conservative character and views are calculated to allay the sectional strife that now threatens the stability of the Union, by compromise, concession, and a purpose single to the welfare, harmony and the prosperity of the whole country.

9th That, as citizens of one of the Southern and slaveholding States, anxious for the restoration of a kind and brotherly feeling between all sections of the Union, and the eradication of all sectional animosity and agitation, we call on our brethren of the North and of the South, of all parties, to pause—to allow time for the operation of that great American safeguard, calm and serious reflection—and to look to the future with minds free from sectional and partizan feeling, having only in view a determination to meet the approaching crisis as patriotic citizens, and not as sectional partizans, gulded by passion, prejudice, and an unnatural animosity against those who should be regarded as brethren by all the ties of a united country and a common destiny.

10th That in the Hon. Millard Fillmore, we recognise a consistent and conservative Statesman, (enthusiastic applause,) in whose whole political career and history there is nothing to fear from excessive partizanship, national mischief making, or self-aggrandizement—but every thing to expect that will tend to the national tranquility, and the honor and glory of our common country—and in the language of Henry Clay (applause) we commend his claims for election on the ground "that he has administered the Executive Government with signal success and ability—he has been tried and found true, faithful, honest and conscientious."

11th That we deem it inexpedient to present a separate and independent candidate for the Presidency, and commend the foregoing resolutions to the consideration of our political brethren throughout the Union.

AMERICAN EAGLE

R. S. TALL,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

POETRY.

Written for the "Eagle."

Would I were with Thee.

BY SAMUEL H. COCHRAN.

Would I were with thee when the morn
From out his quiver pours,
Rejuvenated and new born
The earth—enchanting hours;
When joyous matin psalmody
Is echoing from sea to sea,
When dew drops sparkle in the glen,
Would, fairest! I were with the then.

Would I were with thee when the day
Meridian glory wears;
When young delight from ray to ray
A novel message bears;
When from the mountain summits gleam
The token of a lover's dream,
When hushed the verdant landscaps lie,
My heaving bosom deems thee nigh.

Would I were with thee when sweet eve
A blessing and a pray'r,
In ev'ry yearning breast doth leave
To succor and to cheer;
When twilight harmonies combine
To make this sphere of ours divine,
When all that's lovely blesses men,
Would, sweetest, I were with thee then.

Would I were with thee night and morn,
At noonday or at eve;
With thee my pathway to adorn,
Till life itself must leave
The memory of those stars that beam
Beatic through each varied dream,
Till heaven my devious course shall clear—
Would, fairest, I could meet thee there.

Would I were with thee every hour,
In all thy thoughts that own
The deathless spells of love's great power,
In every season known;
A ray, a star-beam I would be,
To shine through all thy destiny;
Would Mollie I were ever thine,
A worshipper at beauty's shrine.

MISCELLANY.

DRIFTING.

It was not a great while ago that a man fell asleep in his boat on the Niagara river. During his slumber the boat broke loose from her moorings, and he woke to find himself shooting down the rapids directly towards the cataract In vain he shrieked for help, in vain he tried to row against the current, he drifted on, and on, till his light craft upset, when he was borne rapidly to the brink of the abyss, and leaping up with a wild cry, went over and disappeared forever.

In the great battle of Gibralter, when the united fleets of France and Spain attacked the impregnable fortress, one of the gigantic floating batteries broke from her anchorage and began to drift directly into the hottest of the British fire. The thousand men, who formed the crew of the unwieldly mass, vainly strove, to arrest its progress or divert it from its path. Every minute it drifted nearer to the British guns every minute some new part took fire from the red-hot shot, every minute another score of its hapless defenders were swept, like chaff, from its decks. The most superhuman efforts failed to prevent its drifting, with its human freight, to inevitable death.

A ship was wrecked at sea. The passengers and crew took refuge on a raft, the boats having been stove in the attempt to launch them. For days and weeks these unfortunates drifted about without oar or sail, on the hot, brazen tropical ocean.—At last their provisions failed, and then their water. Still they drifted about, vainly looking for a sail, or hoping for a sight of land. The time had now come when that fearful alternative became inevitable—death from starvation or feeding on human flesh—and they were just beginning to cast lots for a victim when a vessel was seen far away on the distant horizon; they abandoned their terrible design; the stranger would approach. The ship came towards them. She drew nearer and nearer They strove to attract her attention by shouts and by raising their clothing; but the indolent look-out saw them not. They shouted louder; still they were not seen. At last the vessel tacked. With frantic teror they arose in one body shouting and waving their garments. It was in vain. The unconscious ship stood steadily away. Night drew on, and as the darkness fell the raft drifted and drifted in the other direction, till the last trace of the vessel was lost forever.

So it is in life. The intemperate man, who thinks he, at least, will never die a drunkard, whatever his neighbor may do, only wakes to find himself drifting down the cataract and all hope gone. The sensualist, who lives merely for his own gratification, drifts into an emasculated old age to be tortured by passions he cannot gratify, and perish by merciless, agonizing diseases. The undisciplined, who never learn to control themselves, who are spendthrifts or passionate, or indolent, or visionary, soon make shipwreck of themselves, and drift about the sea of life, the prey of every wind and current, vainly shrieking for help, till at last they drift away into darkness and death.

Take care that *you* are not drifting.—See that *you* have fast hold of the helm.—The breakers of life forever roar under the lee, and adverse gales continually blow on the shore Are you watching how she heads? Do you keep a firm grip of the wheel? If you give way but for one moment you may drift helplessly into the boiling vortex. Young man, take care!—It rests with yourself alone, under God, whether you reach port triumphantly, or drift to ruin.

An Indian Superstition.

Among the numerous lakes which, in the Western States of the Union, pay the tribute of their waters to the great Lake Ontario, that of Saratoga, is principally remarkable for the beauty of the surrounding landscape and for the calm which reigns around it, ever undisturbed by the winds and storms. This personal quietude of the beauteous locality has given rise to a superstitious belief among the Indians. They say that the Great Spirit, who dwells here, wishes not the slightest noise to ruffle the tranquility of his retreat and will punish the rashness of the one who, in arossing the lake, should utter a single word; the boat they believe would instantly sink.

Sometime since an English lady embarked on Lake Saratoga in a canoe manned by Indians, who did not fail, before starting, to give her to understand that if she desired to avoid exposing herself to certain death, she would have to observe profound silence until the other side should be reached. They started the day was delightfully calm, not a breath of air was stirring, and the canoe glided as noiselessly as a shadow over the scarcely rippled waters.

About a mile from the shore, that is about the middle of the Lake, the lady, wishing to convince the Indians of the folly of their superstition, uttered as loud a cry as she was able. Terror seized the Indians, their countenances were marked with its strongest lines—they fully expected to perish instantaneously. Nevertheless they plied their oars with mechanical energy in silence, and the opposite shore was reached almost with the rapidity of an arrow. This reached the fair Anglaise began to banter the Indian chief on their credulity. He with a haughty, disdainful air, however, retorted:—"Madam! The Great Spirit is indulgent and compassionate; he knows that a white woman cannot control her tongue!"

The Loss of a Wife.

No man but one who has been called to mourn the loss of a dear and beloved companion can fully appreciate the beauty and truthfulness of the following article, which we copy from an exchange:

In comparison with the loss of a wife, all other bereavments are trifling The wife! she who fills so large a space in the domestic heaven; she who busied herself so unwearily for the precious ones around her; bitter; bitter is the tear that falls upon her cold clay! You stand beside her coffin and think of the past. It seems an amber-colored pathway, where the sun shone on beautiful flowers, and the stars hung beautiful over head. Fain would the soul linger there—no thorns are remembered save those young hands may unwillingly have planted.

Her noble, tender heart lies open to your inmost sight. You think of her now as all gentleness, all beauty, all purity—But she is dead! The dear hand that has lain upon your bosom rests in the still darkness upon a pillow of clay The hands that have ministered so untiringly are folded, white and cold, beneath the gloomy portals. The heart whose every beat measured an enternity of love lies under your feet. The flowers she bent over in smiles bend now above her in tears, shaking dew from their petals, that the verdure around her may be kept green and beautiful.

Four Great Men.

It is a remarkable fact that the career of four of the most renowned characters that ever lived, closed with some violent or mournful death.

Alexander, after having climbed the dizzy heights of his ambition, and with his temples bound with chaplets dipped in the blood of countless nations, looked down upon a conquered world, and wept that there was not another one for him to conquer, set a city on fire and died in a scene of debauch.

Hannibal, after having, to the astonishment and consternation of Rome, passed the Alps; after having put to flight the armies of the mistress of the world, and stripped three bushels of gold rings from the fingers of her slaughtered knights, and made her very foundations quake—fled from his country, being hated by those who once exulting united his name to that of our God, and called him Hannibal—died at last by poison, administered by his own hands, unlamented and unwept, in a foreign land

Cæsar, after having conquered eight hundred cities, and dyed his clothes in the blood of one million of his foes; after having pursued to death the only rival he had on earth, was miserably assassinated by those he considered his nearest friends, and in that very place the attainment of which had been his greatest ambition.

Bonaparte, whose mandates kings and emperors obeyed, after having filled the earth with the terror of his name, deluged it with tears and blood, and clothed the world with sackcloth, closed his days in lonely banishment, almost literally exiled from the world, yet where he could sometimes see his country's banner waving over the deep, but which could not or would not bring him aid,

Thus four men, who from the peculiar situation of their portraits, seemed to stand as the representatives of all those whom the world called GREAT—those four, who each in turn, made the earth tremble to its very centre by their simple tread, severally died—one by intoxication, or, as some suppose, by poison mingled in his wine—one a suicide—one murdered by his friends—and one in lonely exile.

BROTHER JONATHAN.

The origin of this term, as applied to the United States, is as follows:

"When General Washington, after being appointed commander of the army of the revolution war, went to Massachusetts to organize it, he found a great want of ammunition and other means for its defence; and on one occasion it seemed that no means could be devised for the necessary safety. Jonathan Trumble, the elder, was then Governor of the State of Connecticut; and the General, placing the greatest reliance on his Excellency's Judgment, remarked: "We must consult brother Jonathan on the subject." The General did so, and the Governor was successful in supplying many of the wants of the army, and thenceforth, when difficulties arose, and the army was spread over the country, it became a by-phrase, "We must consult Brother Jonathan;" and the name has now become a designation for the whole country as John Bull has for England.

John's Share.

Dad, said a hopeful sprig, how many fowls are there on the table?

Why, said the old gentleman, as he looked complacently on a pair of finely roasted chickens, that were smoking on the dinner table, 'why my son there are two.'

Two, replied the smartness, there are three sir, and I'll prove it.

hree! replied the old gentleman, who was a plain matter-of-fact man, and understood things as he saw them, 'I'd like to see you prove that.'

Easily done, sir, easily done! Aai'nt that one? laying his knife on the first.

Yes, that's certain, said his dad.

And ain't that two? pointing to the second, 'and don't one and two make three?'

Really! said the father, turning to the old lady, who was in amazement at the immense learning of her son, 'really wife, this boy is a genious, and deserves to be encouraged for it. Here, old lady, you take one fowl, and I'll take the second, and John may have the third for his learning.'

A SENSIBLE FOREIGNER.—The Courier des Etats Unis, of New York, disgusted with the Ostend platform, and fillibuster Cincinnati resolutions, says:

"We have already expressed our opinion and our personal preference for Mr. Fillmore. In spite of our profound antipathy for the party whose flag he bears, we consider him more than ever the man whom the United States, ought, by acclamation, to call to the Presidential chair. He is the only one from whom, if elected, the country can expect, in full security, an administration firm, moderate and tranquil—such as the United States has now so much need.

THANKSGIVING DAY.—Vermont and New Hampshire have united with Maryland, Missouri, Connecticut and Maine in designating the 20th of November as thanksgiving day.

☞If a young woman wishes to have herself published as "fascinating, beautiful and accomplished," let her pack up her best clothes in a dirty towl, crawl out of the back upstairs window, some dark night and elope with the man who feeds and curries her father's horses. It is a big price to pay for compliments, but it will bring them, just as a rain-barrel bets musquitoes. In fact, we never knew a woman to make a very decided fool of herself, in any way, without enhancing her charms two or three hundred per cent by the time her case got into the papers.

☞A woman was giving evidence in a certain case, when she was asked by the lawyer:

Was the young woman virtuous previous to this affair?

Was she what?

Virtuous; was she chaste?

Chaste? she was chased about a quarter of a mile!

☞A man who wanted to buy a horse asked a friend how to know a horse's age.

By his teeth, was the reply.

The next day the man went to a horse-dealer who showed a splendid black horse. The hore hunter opened the animal's mouth one glance, and turned on his heel

'I don't want him,' said he, 'he's thirty two years old'

☞A young lady explained to a printer the other day the distinction between printing and publishing, and, at the conclusion of her remarks, by way illustration, she said, "you may print a kiss on my cheek but you must not publish it"

☞The woodman who "spared that tree" has run short of wood, and is almost splitting with vexation to think how green he was. He now 'axes' a donation from the gentleman at whose reques this destructiveness was stayed

THE MERRIMAC.—The Navy Department has intelligence that this superb specimen of American Naval Architecture in here late trip across the Atlantic arrived out in fourteen days and one hour from land to land, and in fifteen days from port to port. During the trip she made 292 miles in twenty four hours.

Uncommonly intelligent are the coroner's juries in Mississippi. Recently twelve men in Warren county in that State returned a verdict that 'the decease died by the will of God or some other disease unknown to the Jury."

☞A doctor knows a human body as a cabman knows a town—he is well acquainted with all the great thoroughfares and turnings—he is intimate with all the principal edifices, but he cannot tell what is going on inside of any of them.

☞A Chicago broker, famous for his shrewdness, took a trip by railroad the other day, and sat down at the end of the last car, because he considered the use of the money worth something while the conductor was coming through the cars.

☞A Frenchman in Canada thus advertises his better half, who had left his bed and board:

NOTESS—My wife—that's Catrine—she left my hous—shant ax me—any man trus him on my name that's loss for you.

LOUIS LA FLAMME.

A NEW PLATFORM.—At a Buchanan meeting in Portland, a few days ago, a Sag Nicht orator mounted a brandy cask and opened his speech by exclaiming: "*I stand upon the Platform of my party.*"

☞Recently one of the most renowned French pulpit orators, the Abbe de Deguerry, observed in a sermon:—"Women now-a-days, forget in the astonishing amplitude of their dress, that the gates of Heaven are very narrow."

PEDAGOGUE.—First little boy, what is your name? Little boy—Jule Pedagogue—Oh, no; your name is Julius.—Next little boy—what is yours? Second boy—My name is Billions.

☞A Western editor wants to know whether the law recently enacted against carrying concealed weapons, applies to doctors who carry their pills in their pockets.

Rubies and babies are the emblems of of love—especially the babies. Pa ain't I growing tall? Why, what is your height sonny? Seven feet lacking a yard. Pa fainted.

A felon generally uppears on the end of the fingers and thumbs.

Sometimes on the end of a rope.

It is singular that the initials B. R stand for Black Republican, Border Ruffian, Beecher Rifles, and Bigoted Romanist!

A Lady asked her gardener why the weeds always outgrew and covered up the flowers. Madam, answered he, the soil is mother of the weeds, but only step-mother of the flowers.

A ten dollar mirror was offered as a prize to the ugliest man at the Illinois State Fair.