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National Democratic Ticket.

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For President,

For President,

GEORGE B. McCLELLAN.

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For Vice-President,

For Vice-President,

GEO. H. PENDLETON.

GEO. H. PENDLETON,

Electoral Ticket.

Electoral Ticket.

ELECTORS AT LARGE.

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GEORGE W. SUMMERS, of Kanawha.
JOHN J. JACKSON, Sr., of Wood.

GEORGE W. SUMMERS, of Kanawha.
JOHN J. JACKSON, Sr., of Wood.

First District.

First District.

JOHN J. DAVIS, of Harrison.

JOHN J. DAVIS, of Harrison.

Second District.

Second District.

WM. A. HANWAY, of Monongalia.

WM. A. HANWAY, of Monongalia.

Third District.

Third District.

JOHN J. THOMPSON, of Putnam.

JOHN J. THOMPSON, of Putnam.

ADDRESS TO THE CITIZENS OF WEST VIRGINIA.

The time being near at hand when the people will be called upon to exercise a most important and long cherished privilege, and to discharge a most sacred trust—that of voting for a suitable person to fill the office of President of the United States, the "Central McClellan Club" of the city of Wheeling, in the faithful discharge of a duty devolving upon them, beg leave to submit the following facts and suggestions, relative to the unhappy condition of our country, to your careful and candid consideration.

usurpations of loathsome and detestable tyrants. It behooves every voter to reflect well before he casts his vote for any person to fill so high and responsible a station. As one of the candidates now before the people asking their suffrages for this office, has had the management of our governmental affairs for the last four years, a brief review of his administration would seem necessary in determining the choice of candidates.

In doing this we shall endeavor to speak as become citizens of a once free country, and who desire to preserve and maintain that freedom which brooks no despotic

We propose, therefore, to take a cursory view of the political acts of the present Chief Magistrate. When he entered upon the duties of his office, the country was prosperous and measurably happy. Now it is drenched in fraternal blood. The unex-

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ampled career of our national prosperity, which commanded the admiration of the world at the commencement of this Administration, has been suddenly checked—industry has been paralyzed—the half famished laborer groans under a most onerous taxation—confidence in the stability of our institutions is rapidly diminishing—financial ruin is staring a disheartened people in the face—a public debt, equal to one fifth of all we own, as a nation, is saddled upon us—dismal forebodings as to the future hang over the country like a funeral pall. These are but a few of the almost countless evils that have fallen upon us within the last four years.

And why is this? Is it the legitimate result of a wicked, civil war? If so, then why is not the war brought to a speedy and an honorable close? Have not the people promptly responded to the calls of the President for soldiers? The cries and lamentations of the numberless widows and orphans is a sufficient answer. Is it for the want of money to meet the requirements of this terrible conflict? Let a national debt of nearly four billions stand as an answer that this improvident Administration has had all that its insatiate greed desired. Then why is not the rebellion put down? Why is not peace restored to this distracted and bleeding country?

Is it not time to pause, and see if we cannot ascertain the cause of this deplorable and wicked failure. The present incumbent was elected to office by the votes of a fanatical and sectional party. To secure the triumph of that party, Mr. LINCOLN has sacrificed whatever of patriotism he may have possessed. Yielding to the "outside pressure" from the radical Abolitionists he has forsaken the political landmarks of our fathers, and has avowed a purpose and a policy wholly subversive of the Government he has sworn to support and at variance with the spirit and letter of the Constitution he most solemnly vowed to defend. To force his *one idea* upon a Union-loving people he has destroyed the lives of half a million of white men in the visionary attempt to elevate the negro to an imaginary standard. In fine, his whole administration has been a concatenation of experiments and a frightful tissue of hallucinations and criminal blunders.

And now, citizens of West Virginia, will you permit this blunderer and political mountebank to be continued in office, that another four years of intense suffering and sorrow may be heaped upon an already disheartened and despairing people? We cannot believe that you will do so, for so certain that, from any fortuitous circum-

stances, should Mr. LINCOLN be re-elected, the liberties of this country will be numbered among the things that were. This is no fiction, no idle dream of fancy. The reality would stand out in bold relief, as plain as the noon-day sun. That the present incumbent meditates a military despotism is clearly evinced in every political act of his from the issuing of that most detestable emancipation proclamation up to the present perilous hour. No palliation, no excuse, no plea of *military necessity*, no assumed higher power, called the *war power*, can be urged in defense of the high handed and criminal usurpations of Constitutional rights which have characterized his ignoble administration.

Pause, then, citizens of West Virginia, and ponder well the condition of our country. Study carefully the cause of all our distress and degradation. We anticipate your logical and just conclusions, as there can be but *one* solution of the matter—blind and fanatical imbecility instead of sagacious statesmanship.

And do you ask if there is no chance of escaping the awful calamity that now awaits us—no ray of hope that the evils frowning in the impending future may be averted? We answer that there is one vista of hope and only one. It is the last lingering star of promise—the elective franchise—the sacred privilege of the ballot box. Therefore, if you would be freemen, arouse and by your united voices and votes hurl from places of power and trust those who have disgraced the exalted position to which they were elevated by accident, and have brought shame upon the name and nature of American liberty. As you prize the Union with all its attendant blessings, act with energy, with concert, and we verily believe that success will crown your noble efforts, by electing GEO B McCLELLAN, President of the United States. Then will the morning of national peace and prosperity dawn upon a rejoicing people.

What a noble standard bearer for so noble a cause! He fights for the Union as it was, the Constitution as it is, and for the enforcement of the laws. The integrity of the Union is the only condition of peace. The rights of the States are respected.—Conciliation and compromise his motto, and this, he says, must dwell in the councils of the nation, and in the hearts of the people. And who, of all others in the United States, should be more acceptable to the citizens of West Virginia, than GEN. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN? In the dark winter of our discontent, and in the midnight of our deep despair, when the daring cohorts of rebellion were sweeping over the mountains and

through the valleys of our State, then appeared the brave, the intrepid, and the noble-hearted commander, GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, and rolled back the red billows of secession and dissipated the threatening cloud of distress that was lowering over our land. As a commander he respected the rights of the citizen. As a defender of the Constitution he demanded obedience to the laws. State institutions were safe, and pillage and outrage unknown. For his chivalrous conduct and timely succour, the citizens of West Virginia owe him a debt of gratitude which can only be partially paid in a unanimous effort to elect him to the highest office within the gift of the people.

We implore you, therefore, to rise in the majesty of your strength, and save your country from the terrible ruin that now threatens to engulf it. If you love peace and order—if you desire to see industry and prosperity take their wonted position—if you wish to transmit to future generations, the sweet blessings of a free government, which, for three-fourths of a century showered its benefits upon us, we entreat you to unite, as one man, and vote for McCLELLAN and PENDLETON. Do this and all will be well.

For your further information we would state that the great Democratic party of the United States met in the City of Chicago on the 29th day of September last, and with a unanimity, hitherto unknown in such assemblies, nominated GEORGE B.

McCLELLAN, of New Jersey, as a candidate for the Presidency, and GEORGE H. PENDLETON, of Ohio, a candidate for the office of Vice President of the United States—And, although West Virginia was not represented in said Convention, yet the Democrats and conservative citizens of this State, through the agency of a "State Executive Committee," have brought out a full electoral ticket, embracing the names of the following gentlemen, who are now before you for your suffrages. The electors at large are G. W. SUMMERS, of Kanawha, and JOHN J. JACKSON, of Wood. The District electors are JOHN J. DAVIS, of Harrison; WM. A. HANAWAY, of Monongalia, and JOHN J. THOMPSON, of Putnam. These gentlemen are of high standing, acknowledged ability, and known integrity, being eminently qualified for the distinguished position in which they have been placed before the public.

We are further authorized to say that the Provost Marshal of West Virginia guarantees that there shall be no interference with the freedom of election. In view of these facts, we most earnestly urge upon you to organize county tickets, and rally to the polls. Bring out your whole strength and strike such a blow for your country as will cause despots to tremble and freemen to rejoice.

By order of the
McCLELLAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

National Democratic Platform.

1. That in the future, as in the past, we will adhere with unswerving fidelity to the Union under the Constitution, as the only solid foundation of our strength, security and happiness as a people, and as a framework of government, equally conducive to the welfare and prosperity of all the States, both Northern and Southern.

2. That this Convention does explicitly declare, as the sense of the American people, that after four years of failure to restore the Union by the experiment of war, during which, under the pretense of a military necessity or war power higher than the Constitution, the Constitution itself has been disregarded in every part, and public liberty and private right alike trodden down and the material prosperity of the country essentially impaired, justice, humanity, liberty and the public welfare demand that immediate efforts be made for a cessation of hostilities with a view to an ultimate Convention of the States or other peaceable means, to the end that at the earliest practicable moment peace may be restored on the basis of the Federal Union of the States.

3. That the direct interference of the military authorities of the United States in the recent elections held in Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri and

Delaware, was a shameful violation of the Constitution and a repetition of such acts in the approaching election will be held as revolutionary and resisted with all the means and power under our control.

4. That the aim and object of the Democratic party are to preserve the Federal Union and the rights of the States unimpaired, and they hereby declare that they consider the administrative usurpation of extraordinary and dangerous powers not granted by the Constitution; the subversion of the civil by the military law in States not in insurrection; the arbitrary military arrest, imprisonment, trial and sentence of American citizens in States where civil law exists in full force; the suppression of freedom of speech and of the press; the denial of the right of asylum; the open and avowed disregard of State rights; the employment of unusual test oaths; and the interference with and denial of the right of the people to bear arms in their defence, as calculated to prevent a restoration of the Union and the perpetuation of a government deriving its just powers from the consent of the governed.

5. That the shameful disregard by the Administration of its duty in respect to our fellow citi-

... who are now, and long have been prisoners of war in a suffering condition, deserves the severest approbation on the score alike of public policy and common humanity.

6. That the sympathy of the Democratic party is heartily and earnestly extended to the soldiers of

our army and the seamen of our navy, who now are and have been in the field under the flag of their country, and in the event of its attaining power, they will receive all the care, protection and regard that the brave soldiers and sailors of the Republic have so nobly earned.

General McClellan's Letter of Acceptance.

ORANGE, New Jersey, September 8.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter informing me of my nomination by the Democratic National Convention, recently assembled at Chicago, as their candidate at the next election for President of the United States.

It is unnecessary for me to say to you that this nomination comes to me unsought.

I am happy to know that when the nomination was made the record of my public life was kept in view.

The effect of long and varied service in the army, during war and peace, has been to strengthen and make indelible in my mind and heart the love and reverence for the Union, Constitution, laws, and flag of our country, impressed upon me in early youth.

These feelings have thus far guided the course of my life, and must continue to do so to its end.

The existence of more than one government over the region which once owned our flag is incompatible with the peace, the power, and the happiness of the people.

The preservation of our Union was the sole avowed object for which the war was commenced. It should have been conducted for that object only, and in accordance with those principles which I took occasion to declare when in active service.

Thus conducted, the work of reconciliation would have been easy, and we might have reaped the benefits of our many victories on land and sea.

The Union was originally formed by the exercise of a spirit of conciliation and compromise. To restore and preserve it, the same spirit must prevail in our councils, and in the hearts of the people.

The re-establishment of the Union in all its integrity is, and must continue to be, the indispensable condition in any settlement. So soon as it is clear, or even probable, that our present adversaries are ready for peace, upon the basis of the Union, we should exhaust all the resources of Statesmanship practiced by civilized nations, and caught by the traditions of the American people, consistent with the honor and interests of the country, to secure such peace, re-establish the Union, and guarantee for the future the constitutional rights of every State. The Union is the one conception of peace—we ask no more.

To me add what I doubt not was, although unexpressed, the sentiment of the convention, as it is of the people they represent, that when any one State is willing to return to the Union, it should be

received at once with a full guarantee of all its constitutional rights.

If a frank, earnest, and persistent effort to obtain those objects should fail, the responsibility for ulterior consequences will fall upon those who remain in arms against the Union. But the Union must be preserved at all hazards.

I could not look in the face of my gallant comrades of the army and navy who have survived so many bloody battles, and tell them that their labors and the sacrifice of so many of our slain and wounded brethren had been in vain; that we had abandoned the Union for which we have so often periled our lives.

A vast majority of our people, whether in the army and navy or at home, would, as I would, hail with unbounded joy the permanent restoration of peace, on the basis of the Union under the Constitution, without the effusion of another drop of blood. But no peace can be permanent without Union.

As to the other subjects presented in the resolutions of the Convention, I need only say that I should seek in the Constitution of the United States and the laws framed in accordance therewith the rule of my duty, and the limitations of executive power: endeavor to restore economy in public expenditure, re-establish the supremacy of law, and, by the operation of a more vigorous nationality, resume our commanding position among the nations of the earth.

The condition of our finances, the depreciation of the paper money, and the burdens thereby imposed on labor and capital, show the necessity of a return to a sound financial system; while the rights of citizens and the rights of States, and the binding authority of law over President, army, and people, are subjects of not less vital importance in war than in peace.

Believing that the views here expressed are those of the Convention and the people you represent, I accept the nomination.

I realize the weight of the responsibility to be borne should the people ratify your choice.

Conscious of my own weakness, I can only seek earnestly the guidance of the Ruler of the Universe, and, relying on his all powerful aid, do my best to restore Union and peace to a suffering people, and to establish and guard their liberties and rights. I am, gentlemen, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE B. McCLELLAN.

Hon. Horatio Seymour, and others, Committee.