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The Political Conventions

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Download date	2026-05-18 00:05:32
Link to Item	https://hdl.handle.net/10057/55436

THE POLITICAL CONVENTIONS.

COMPLETE PLATFORM OF THE KNOW NOTHINGS.

THE PIERCE ADMINISTRATION DENOUNCED.

The Nominating Convention Arranged.

Adjournment of the Know Nothing Grand Council.

SEWARDISM AMONG THE KNOW SOMETHINGS.

Organization of the National League.

FINALE OF THE ABOLITION GATHERING,

&c., &c., &c.

Yesterday's Proceedings.

MORNING SESSION.

MODIFICATIONS OF THE RITUAL—THE CATHOLIC TEST RE-AFFIRMED—THE LATE PRESIDENT'S DEBTS TO BE REPAYED—THE PLATFORM, ETC., ETC.
PHILADELPHIA, June 15, 1855.

The Convention met at nine o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The subject of the ritual being still under consideration, the report of the committee in the main was adopted. The only modifications made were slight ones in the tenure and terms of membership, allowing persons twenty-one years of age to join the organization, and giving authority to the Councils to administer the three several degrees at any regular meeting held by them. Other slight changes, making it conform to the platform adopted, were made.

The Catholic test was again brought on the tapis, and elicited a warm debate. Messrs. Lyons, of New York, Raynor, of North Carolina, and others, spoke against its abrogation; and Messrs. Hopkins, of Alabama, and Brown, of Tennessee, and others, in favor. The test was again re-affirmed by a decisive majority.

A committee of inquiry—on motion of Mr. Raynor, of North Carolina—was instituted, to ascertain the amount of moneys expended by the late President out of his own private resources, and to report, in order that the Convention may direct its early re-payment. During the absence of the late President, and without his knowledge, the motion was put and carried by acclamation.

The committee consists of Messrs. Raynor, of North Carolina, and Deshler, of New Jersey.

The Convention adjourned at 2 till 4 o'clock P. M.

On dit—That the Convention proposes to aid the President by lessening his labors and by giving to the late President concurrent jurisdiction with him in the Middle, Eastern, Western and Northwestern States.

The following is a significant fact:—In the Third ward of this city the platform was adopted in Council last evening by vote—ayes, 380; noes, 1.

A mass ratification meeting of the Order has been

and of future peace to abide by and maintain the laws upon the subject of slavery, as a final and conclusive settlement of that subject, in spirit and in substance.

And regarding it the highest duty to avow their opinions upon a subject so important, in distinct and unequivocal terms, it is hereby declared as the sense of this National Council, that Congress possesses no power, under the constitution, to legislate upon the subject of slavery in the States where it does or may exist, or to exclude any State from admission into the Union because its constitution does or does not recognize the institution of slavery as a part of its social system; and expressly premitting any expression of opinion upon the power of Congress to establish or prohibit slavery in any Territory, it is the sense of the National Council that Congress ought not to legislate upon the subject of slavery within the Territories of the United States, and that any interference by Congress with slavery as it exists in the District of Columbia, would be a violation of the spirit and intention of the compact by which the State of Maryland ceded the district to the United States, and a breach of the national faith.

XIII.—The policy of the government of the United States, in its relations with foreign governments, is to exact justice from the strongest, and do justice to the weakest; restraining, by all the power of the government, all its citizens from interference with the internal concerns of nations with whom we are at peace.

XIV.—This National Council declares that all the principles of the Order shall be henceforward everywhere openly avowed; and that each member shall be at liberty to make known the existence of the Order, and the fact that he himself is a member; and it recommends that there be no concealment of the places of meeting of subordinate Councils.

E. B. BARTLETT, of Kentucky,

President of National Convention.

C. D. DESHLER, of New Jersey, Corresponding Secretary.

JAMES M. STEPHENS, of Maryland, Recording Secretary.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

THE NOMINATING CONVENTION—PIERCE'S ADMINISTRATION DENOUNCED—COMPLIMENTARY RESOLVES ADOPTED—THE NEXT SESSION TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK—ADJOURNMENT, ETC.

After the transaction of much miscellaneous business, the Convention proceeded to the consideration of the report on the mode and manner of making nominations in general convention, which report was unanimously adopted. The plan directs the appointment of two at large from the State by the State Council, and one from each Congressional district by the subordinate Councils.

Resolutions denunciatory of the Pierce administration were offered by Mr. Squires, of New York, and adopted—*nemine dissentiendi*.

Highly complimentary resolutions to the energy, efficiency and success of the Barker administration were unanimously adopted.

The next session is to be held in the city of New York, on the first Tuesday in June next.

Illinois, Ohio, and Iowa, in the person of its leading delegates, were present during the session, and participated in the deliberations.

At seven P. M. the Convention adjourned *sine die*, the members all elate with the favorable prospects ahead, and bound to each other in the strongest ties of fraternal concord and fellowship. In a day or two you will doubtless have the Secretary's report. Compliments to the HERALD are "as thick as blackberries," the members universally approving its course, recommending its sagacity and patriotism, and determining to increase its circulation in their several localities.