National Council

met at Philadelphia, June 5, 1855.

James W. Baker, of N.Y. city, President.

Henry Wilson's speech, Thursday, last.

Come on Platform appointed Friday morning.

(Bowles to Wm. Tribune.)

"There is an old editor in Vermont who does not act here as he would have his readers believe he acts. He votes against the North very freely, and shows no disposition to stand up with the rest of the true North for the just and right. Does Vermont propose to go out of the Union? And therefore is it necessary that her representatives should sacrifice everything else to such a catastrophe? Some of them do not think so, if Gov. Hetchen and others are as true as her mountains, air is strong and pure." (June 8th)

Officer elected on the 8th:

E. B. Bartlett, Ky., President. (Or E. White)

Cotton candidates were

Baker, Richard of

Sec., Carding, etc.


Freeman, 7th, Nov. 1854, etc.

C. W. Decker, N. J., Cor. Secretary.

James M. Stephens, Md., Rec. Secretary.
Clay had a clear field for the presidential nomination and, in the early stages of the campaign, his prospects were good. The nomination went to Wm. H. S. Judah, to the reasonable disappointment of President Van Buren, tempted as he was by the promise of victory. It is easy to believe, in a match so unequal, that it was not at least to make the vote of New York certain for Clay. Van Buren's defeat in 1840, his friends maintained, was due solely to the financial crisis of 1837, for which he was in no wise responsible. They asked his vindication now. He had himself been idle in pursuing this end. His tour through the West in 1843 gave proof of his popularity with the men of his party and the nation.

An incident of this trip, supplied by Mr. Joshua T. Reed, is hardly a degeneration here; and is specially interesting to the historian; it gives of the only known meeting of the two men, Polk and Fillmore. Who can it chiefly succeed?

In 1843, when Mr. Van Buren and Commodore Rockwell reached the West, and gave out that they would reach Springfield on a certain day, but their friends knew from the condition of the roads that their expectations would not be realized, a party was formed, and Lincoln, though not of their politics, was pressed into the service.
Monday, June 11, Platform Committee reported

The minority report was signed by

W. J. Johnston, Pa.
A. D. Spenne, Iowa
Thomas H. Ford, O.
Anthony Colby, Vt.
J. S. Dayward, Ill.
John W. Foster, Mass.
Rath Greene, R.I.
Jno. A. Barrett, Vt.
Schuyler Colfax, Iowa
D. E. Wood, Wis.
J.侈gythall, Mich.
Wm. J. Phelps, Oly. 12

Indors to 1st clause:

Richard Clement, Del.
L. D. Deabler, N.Y.

13. (Eighty days of session — Thursday.) Platform

adopted at a late hour.
September 9th, 1855

Judge Cone, Chairman.

Mr. Ellis. If the great pending question can first be got
over, the rest will be easy. Suggest that some gentlemen at once
introduce the subject.

Chairman. Suggest select committees of three, on each side.

Gov. Brown. Hope Mr. Ellis will present his views.

Mr. Ellis. Has only a resolution as a substitute for a question.

Mr. T. Will not oppose it, if it can be done respectfully.

Chairman. Resolution.

Resolved, That we regard the repeal of the Missouri Compromise
as an act of the Provision in the Kansas & Nebraska bill. We hold the subject, as
wise, inexpedient, unnecessary, and

called for, by public sentiment at the time of said repeal; and
that we deeply regret the passage of the Provision in the Kansas and Nebraska
bill, above referred to, as an inexpedient amendment of the question of

slavery. Nevertheless, being of the opinion that the present state of affairs
in the Senate of the United States, and in view of the disposition of the
Executive on this subject, a restoration of Missouri Compromise,
even if otherwise desirable, would be impracticable, and that
motions, which rights have been acquired in Kansas & Nebraska, under
said act, organizing said territories. Be it therefore

Resolved, that whilst we may deplore the repeal of said
Missouri Compromise, and condemn the conduct of those who brought
said act to that measure, we are of the opinion that it would be
wise, and inexpedient, to embarrass the citizens of Kansas and Nebraska,
by any legislation tending to interfere with the free action
of the citizens of said territories, in the future formation of their respective
constitutions and in the execution of their local laws.
Dec. 15, 1837. Caucus Platform members 32 - I show only 29 votes. According to my 1834 records, thirteen distinct planks of the Platform voted on in Cowpens.

The members from N.C., Ga., and Va. (then a majority) voted on the Platform.

The "Caucus Platform" is efficiently described in the summary of the resolution given below - the first resolution voted one - year of the Union, by the following Southern members: Hon. Wm. S. Cooper, Mr. Hamilton R. Tunnel, Mr. H. M. Williams, Mr. J. N. Williams, Mr. J. S. Williams, Mr. J. C. Brown, Mr. J. S. Brown.
Voted. That every gentleman of the committee be called upon to express his views on slavery.

Mr. Sallfay

Dopkins

Corne., is willing to go as far as consistent with honor and the preservation of slavery. Resolutions. As't interference of the general govt in State territories, or S. C. or refusal to admit Slave State, that Congress has as much power.

Dopkins. Concedes.

McCall. Ditto.

Bunnington. We want success. No Southern State has yet been call'd. It is impossible to go into the contest without one or more of the Southern States. Congress is bound to carry every Southern State on the American issue. Opposes extending territory, that will carry S. C. well cary the South. Henry must be kept off the platform from entirely. Threatens a Southern Confederacy, subject all idol. act with steel.

Note to call for rep.

Burruss. Georgia platform. Cong. no power over S. in state or not to refuse adm. to Slave States.

Gamble. Anti-agitation.

Phelps. None.

Randall. None. Agrees to Georgia platform.

Johnston. Court. Supreme Court. Rest. M. C. subject to right of settlers.

Chichester. (Non-interference.)

Ellis. None res.

Green. None.

Ford. None.

Pike. Approves Ga. platform. Subject as much to any part of the Union to be kept one.


Ward. None.

Calley. None.

Smyrn. Anti- Nebraska & State Sovereignty.


Sallfay. Rest M. C.

Ford. do.

Sayward.  
Brown.  
Riley.  
Bland.  
Clement.  
Cooper.  

Colby.  -  Local Whig.  
Johnston.  -  Middle position.  

Discussion between Johnston, Cunningham, McCull, Brown, on the Missouri Compromise issue, mainly.