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M. P. Roberts, Editor

PLATFORM OF THE NATIONAL PARTY OF THE MUSKOGEE NATION

We, the delegates of the National Constitutional party of the Muskogee Nation, in convention assembled at Okmulgee, Muskogee Nation, do in the exercise of the inalienable and sovereign prerogative of a free and independent people, declare the hereunder appended resolutions a true exposition of our party measure and principles.

Resolved, That the intention and end of government should be the attainment to, and the preservation of the happiness and prosperity of the people: and to this end it should be stable in its character, republican in its form, and should accord the largest degree of liberty to its people consistent with progress and justice.

Resolved, That the constitution and laws of a nation should be simple to be easily understood; impartial

and uniform, imparting exact and equal justice to all citizens, without regard to color or previous condition; and their enforcement should be certain, so that none can wilfully violate without meeting speedy and sure punishment.

Resolved, That though we firmly believe in internal improvement, and hold that the proper financial support should not be withheld from any department of government, we are convinced that in all efforts for advancement there should be had the closest regard for strict economy, and that governments should subsist within their income.

Resolved, That we deeply deplore and sincerely regret the financial and general political policy of the present administration. Many of our citizens were induced to support the present incumbent of the executive chair, under the promise that impartial Justice should be administered: that our financial condition should be improved: that strict rectitude and efficiency should be had in the National officer and that there should be pursued a general policy which would cement the affections of our people. But each of these promises have been signally broken.

1. Our public debts within the past four years have been more than doubled. Our public securities have greatly depreciated in value, and a deficiency of thousands of dollars have been caused by an over issue of executive warrants.

2. There has been shown a favoritism, in that some of our best officers have been illegally and without cause removed and others equally good, have by a course of carelessness, inefficiency and wilful wrong doing on the part of the chief executive been forced to resign; and persons of admitted incompetency, whose names when submitted to the National Council, for the positions, have been rejected, have been illegally placed by the chief executive, in the place of those legally elected and by him illegally removed. The constitutional right of trial by jury has been ignored and the right of jurisdiction over our own citizens within the limits of our domain has been relinquished to parties without authority, and contrary to the spirit and structure of our written law.

3. A vacillating and uncertain policy has been pursued which has tended to increase our difficulties. impede the uniform administration of law, and has introduced disturbing causes, which have lessened the confidence

in, and respect of our people for our system of government.

5. Resolved, That we firmly pledge ourselves to support all practicable measures tending to correct the misfeasance in office, which has crept into our public affairs during the last four years, and to establish uniformity in the operation of our laws, insuring exact and equal justice to all.

6. Resolved, That in the selection of the legislative, executive, and judicial officials of our Nation, there should be exercised great care, to choose none but honest, competent, firm men; and any aspirant to political honors, who has ever been guilty of dishonesty or deceit towards his constituents, incompetency or neglect in office, or wanting in sufficient firmness in advocating, and so far as is legal, enforcing what he conceives to be for the good of his country.

7. Resolved, That the rights of our citizens abroad should be protected by our home government, and to this end an enlightened and wise system of laws governing the extradition of persons and property should be formulated. We pledge ourselves to use our influence in favor of, and to support all just measures looking to that end.

8. Resolved, That our treaties with the United

States and our compacts with the different Indian nationalities should be strictly adhered to, that the various rights, privileges and immunities promised, and the interests guaranteed therein, should be constantly kept in view, that the obligations entered into by the United States to our nation should be strictly fulfilled, and that there should be no change either in our political relations with the U. S. Government or in our tenure of lands.

9. Resolved, That we place sincere trust in the people of the United States, and believe, that although that government has made many mistakes in its dealings with the Indians, and has thereby brought upon our people much suffering and wrong, that yet is paling towards us, in the main is right, and that it will respect the obligations and adhere to the compacts which it has made with our people.

10. Resolved, That the education of our children is of vital importance to our advancement and propperity^s as a Nation; and that in order to insure the protection of our rights in the future, and a proper degree of respect for ourselves abroad we must make ourselves intelligent, and must encourage our institutions of learning at home.

11, Resolved, That all our interests and the interests of civilization centre entirely in peace; and we hereby pledge ourselves to foster and support all measures tending to promote internal harmony, and the peaceful relations between ourselves and other Indian nationalities and the Government of the United States.

JAMES McHENRY,
Chairman of Convention