Transcription

"Union Meeting—Organization of Military Companies."

UNION MEETING—ORGANIZATION OF MILITARY COMPANIES.— A meeting was held at the American Hall last night for the purpose of forming a Union Guard.— Mr. Henry Sharp was called to the chair and H. H. Weedon appointed Secretary.

The chairman stated the object of the meeting, when a committee was appointed to draw up resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. The committee retired for the purpose.

On motion the Secretary was requested to draw up a roll which he did.

Mr. Weedon and others, being called upon entertained the crowd with brief speeches. The committee returning reported the following, which were unanimously adopted.

We, the undersigned committee appointed to draft resolutions and suggest a plan for the purpose of organizing a Union Club, would submit the following: That a committee of five be appointed to draft a constitution and by laws for the government of the Club.

Whereas, our beloved country is threatened with dismemberment by a band of traitors, and believing our first allegiance due to the Federal Government,

Resolved, that it is our unalterable determination to stand by the stars and stripes at all hazards.

Resolved, Our banner must bear the motto the "Union and the Constitution must and shall be preserved," and for the enforcement of that motto, we declare ourselves willing to sacrifice, if necessary, our fortunes and our lives.

Mr. Henry Echols being called upon made a patriotic speech. He said he had lived under this government for sixty four years, and enjoyed its benefits and blessings, and was in favor of maintaining it at all hazards. He said he had volunteered the last time we whipped the mother country, but before he reached the point to which his company had been ordered, a peace was announced. He didn't know whether his starting was the cause of the peace or not, but so it was. He spoke in earnest denunciation of the leaders of the Secession movement, and said they ought to meet the doom of traitors. He believed that the policy which the government had inaugurated, would be the best thing that could happen to us all, if the treason could be checked, and that the disunionists themselves, when they came to realize what a splendid fabric they tried to tear down, would bless the government for preventing them. His speech was heartily cheered.



Transcription

John Trimble, J. A. Holliday, James Armstrong, Wm. Leonard and H. H. Weldon, were appointed to draw up a Constitution and By Laws for the government of the Club.

A resolution was also adopted, earnestly recommending the other Wards of the city to form similar companies.

Some thirty young men then signed their names, pledging themselves to become members of the Company.

On motion, the meeting adjourned to assemble at the call of the Committee.

Citation: Wheeling *Daily Intelligencer*, April 16, 1861.