

George Bancroft on Kansas--To the People of New York.

FELLOW-CITIZENS: The proper solution of the question before the country, which, in some of its aspects, is the most momentous that has been presented since the adoption of the Federal Constitution, is self-evident; but that solution has been so thwarted that it is made necessary to revert to first principles, and to take counsel of the people, who are the source of wisdom and of power.

So, then, we have seven sets of witnesses against Leocompton: the circumstantial evidence of the Leocompton Convention; the Kansas press; the Kansas delegate in Congress; the series of Kansas Governors--four in one year; the Kansas Legislature; the Kansas people. All, all declare that the people of Kansas reject the Leocompton Constitution.

We are assembled to protest against forcing the Leocompton Constitution upon the people of Kansas against their will. Bear with me, fellow-citizens, if, in the fewest possible words, I speak to the facts in the case, to the right, and to the means of redress.

It is said that the whole affair is of little consequence; that the wrong, if it be a wrong, is a small one. But there is in political justice no such thing as a small wrong. A small wrong contains within itself the seeds of all evil.

It is further said that the people were factions, and as they meant, at any rate, to reject the Leocompton Constitution, it was right not to give them a chance to do so.

It is said they should be punished for not going to the polls at the bidding of men who were believed to be disposed to defraud them. They went to the polls the first moment that they were satisfied of any chance of a fair return, even though suffering under great disadvantages in the apportionment of representatives.

It is said that the people of Kansas, once admitted into the Union, may change their Constitution. If this is dishonestly said, I will not use the language which would properly describe the proposition. If, as it is to be presumed, it is honestly said, and I assure it is honestly said by the President, then why give to the men of Kansas a reversionary right where they have a right of possession?

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The cardinal point on which the great question turns is this: Is the Leocompton Constitution the choice and will of the people of Kansas? I say it is not, and I shall prove it.

But it is urged the men of Kansas are in rebellion. The imposition of a loathsome and rejected Constitution is an odd remedy for pretended rebellion, which, as far as I know, has no precedent, except in King Geo. and the British Parliament in 1774.

Next: Kansas, by act of Congress, has a right to a delegate in Congress, charged with the duty of speaking for its people. They have now a delegate who is undoubtedly the choice of the people, and is the first Kansas delegate ever chosen by the people.

There is now no insurrection in Kansas; there is no rebellion there. Cease to dispute the unquestionable right of the majority, and the star of peace will rise serenely, the storm will be lulled, and the waves subside.

Next: ask the line of Governors appointed by Presidents themselves: Geary, Walker, formerly Senator from Mississippi, and recently proposed for a place in the President's Cabinet, and highly commended by the President himself; Stanton, so lately member of Congress from Tennessee, all agree. And I would not fear to ask Denver, the present incumbent; he will certify that even a fraction of the party against the Leocompton Constitution is more numerous than the whole of its friends.

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without their assent? Is form everything, and substance nothing? Is appearance every thing, and truth and right and reality nothing? There is not a precedent for enforcing a Constitution against the consent of the people. The principles of popular ratification is sanctioned in the Minnesota act.

Redress must come from the people of the United States. They in their strength must remedy the existing evil, by a distinct expression of their will. The moment is fraught with dangers, which the adoption of the Leocompton Constitution would only aggravate.

It is derived from the worst examples of the worst periods of revolutionary France when minorities usurped power over a nation by terror and reckless daring. If the rule of the majority Convention is now formally sanctioned by Congress, it will be a most dangerous precedent.

We will not make an appeal to the south, as such; but if any part of the Union has cause for alarm at the increase of the power of a Convention, suddenly called together, we should say it is the South; and were Jefferson alive, we should on this occasion have a pretext from his pen. The guiding principle of his statesmanship was to consult the people and to reverse the people. But what do I say?

The policy of enforcing the Leocompton Constitution on an unwilling people is neither wise, nor expedient, nor possible. Principle is the true diviner's wand by which the President of a free people sways the millions, and secures majorities for his measures in Congress.

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An editorial article in the New Orleans Delta of the 26th asserts that the South have already opened the slave trade, and that a regular depot has been established in Mississippi, on the Pearl river.

The Pacific Hotel Catastrophe.

How Mr. Barker escaped--his statement. Mr. Thomas M. Barker, of Jefferson City, agent of the Jefferson Examiner, relates the following: "I occupied room No. 21, about the centre of the hotel, in the third story, and was awakened about three o'clock by a bustling noise in the hall, and a faint cry of 'fire.'"

On motion of R. McDivitt, a committee of three was appointed in behalf of the Association, to draft resolutions expressive of regret for the death of Miss H. N. Benedict, Miss S. H. Schuyler, and Miss L. J. Hildebrand, members of the Association.

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The Steamship Moses Taylor arrived at New York from California, on Saturday, with \$1,500,000 in gold. There has been a multitude of suicides and bloody affrays.

Huntingdon County Teachers' Institute.

Pursuant to a call issued by the Board of Managers, the Association assembled on Monday, 22d inst., in the public school room occupied by Miss C. T. Benedict in this place, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

A majority of the executive committee being absent, on motion, A. R. Miller, J. M. Stonebreaker, H. Wilson, and Miss N. McDivitt were appointed to fill said Committee, and the following subjects presented for discussion:

1st. The Teacher's first duty on opening School. 2nd. Best method of teaching Grammar and Composition. 3rd. Best method of teaching Geography.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to furnish the papers of our county and the Pennsylvania School Journal, with a copy of the above proceedings.

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Resolved, That we deem it our duty as well as our right, in this enlightened and intelligent community, to meet together for the purpose of discussing these subjects best calculated for our mutual improvement, interest and advantage, as well as the cause of general education; and, inasmuch as we are a Democratic County, Institute, the most efficient means of bringing us together for that purpose--Therefore.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the officers of the former year for the faithful and efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties, and also express our sincere regret for the loss of those gentlemen who have addressed us during the services of this Institute.

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