

## DEMOCRATIC

### State Judicial Convention.

HARRISBURG, June 11.—The Democratic State Convention, to nominate candidates for Judges of the Supreme Court, met this morning at 10 o'clock, in the Hall of the House of Representatives, and immediately organized.

JAMES M. PORTER, of Northampton, was on motion of Mr. CESSNA, unanimously appointed temporary Chairman.

B. E. CHAIN, of Montgomery; S. L. YOUNG, of Bucks; R. B. ROBERTS, of Allegheny, and R. A. LAMBERTON, of Dauphin, were on motion appointed Secretaries to the temporary organization.

Mr. N. B. LOWRY moved to call the list of undisputed delegates, so as to get a correct list, and proceed to the consideration of disputed seats. Agreed to. The list was accordingly called by the Chairman, and corrected by the Secretaries.

Mr. Whallon, of Erie, moved the following resolution:

"Resolved, That this Convention proceed now to decide the contested seats in the following order: First taking up the districts in which the number of delegates is greatest, and proceeding in that order until all districts are disposed of having more than one delegate, and then in geographical order with the single seats, beginning at the north-east and proceeding westward."

Mr. Lowry moved to amend to take up contested seats in alphabetical order.

Mr. Cessna moved to amend the amendment so as to provide that the contested seats be taken up, the largest districts first, and then the single seats in alphabetical order.

Mr. Whallon's motion was amended by Mr. Cessna was adopted. The Convention then took up the Philadelphia County case.

On motion of Mr. Cessna the Convention adopted the Rules (so far as applicable) of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

Mr. Stokes moved that the credentials of the Philadelphia County Delegates be read, which was agreed to and done.

Mr. Lombert of Dauphin, moved to admit the Delegates elected by the Convention of which Wm. Curtiss was President.

At the suggestion of Mr. Lowry and others the Convention agreed to hear one delegate from each side.

Mr. Small desired to know if there was any rule of precedence. The Chair said, the gentleman first addressing the chair was in order and declared Mr. Small entitled to the floor.

Mr. Small gave way to Mr. Rhey, who moved to limit the speakers to half an hour each.

Mr. Wilson moved to amend so as to make the limit an hour.

Mr. Criswell, Huntington, moved to amend the amendment so as to make the limit forty minutes.

Mr. Wilson suggested to hear the first speaker half an hour, the next an hour, and then give the first speaker an additional half an hour to reply.

Amendment to the amendment negatived.

The Resolution as amended was adopted, and one speaker from each side was allowed one hour to state his case.

Mr. Small then proceeded to state the case of the contestants. He was followed by Mr. Brightley, for the popular Delegates. Mr. Small replied, and was requested, ruled out of order by the Chair for irrelevancy.

Mr. Cameron moved for the appointment of a committee to investigate and report whether either of the claimants is entitled and if either, which set. The motion was stated by the Chair, and debated by Mr. Strong against, Mr. Burnside in favor, and Mr. Hirst against.

Mr. Hickman moved to amend Mr. Cameron's motion so as to provide for a Committee to which to refer all contested seats. Amendment ruled out of order.

Mr. Rigby objected to all committees, as the Convention had already determined by resolution, to decide for themselves. Two hours had been already consumed in hearing the case. The Convention had it—and should not put in a shape to consume more time, which a reference to a Convention would be sure to do.

Mr. Lowry spoke in favor of the Committee, as it stated that but 40 Delegates were present when regular Delegates were elected, which should be investigated.

Mr. Stokes argued against the committee, stating that the best evidence in regard to numbers was the certificate of the officers, reported the following:

**President—WILLIAM WILKINS.**

**Vice Presidents—James M. Porter, Simon Cameron, Dr. T. J. Stoeck, Franklin Cooper, Stephen D. Anderson, Levi Foulkrod, Jos. M. Ritterson, Israel Thomas, Dr. Jesse Young, C. W. Everett, Newton D. Strong, N. W. Sample, C. D. Glominger, James Hill, Asa Packer, Thos. P. Potts, Paul Leidy, James Burnsides, A. Porter, Wilson, John R. Shannon, E. B. Chase, Timothy Ives, Arnold Plummer, Murray Whalen, James Keenan, Wm. Kerr, James A. Gibson, Wm. Hopkins, James Lee, J. A. Fulton, W. H. Miller, Job Mann, Joseph F. Ard, Harrison P. Laird, Franklin Keecher.**

**Secretaries—J. M. B. Petrikon, James L. Reynolds, Henry J. Schale, W. T. H. Pauley, John Hickman, Wm. H. Wallace, John Oakford.**

The report as read was adopted, and the gentlemen named declared officers of the convention. They then assumed their positions.

Judge Wilkins was welcomed to the chair by the retiring chairman, Mr. Porter, who said he was glad to resign it to such able hands, and still more gladly, as it was not the first time he had done so.

On taking his seat, Judge Wilkins made a feeling and forcible address, in which allusion was made to the novelty of the experience about to be tried and the dangers that surrounded the new judicial organization.

The question then recurred on admitting the following delegates from Philadelphia county: Stephen D. Anderson, Joseph Colling, Levi Foulkrod, John Oakford, F. D. Brightley, Wm. Byrly, Joseph Lippincott, James McClaskay, Daniel M. Fox, John Cummings, Henry M. Nixon, Jimie M. Cessna, Jos. M. Ritterson and Anthony M. Ritterson, and Anthony M. Tolton, and was decided in the affirmative without calling yeas and nays. The above gentlemen were accordingly admitted.

The Convention then proceeded to consider the Lancaster contest. The credentials were read. The question at issue was the same as that of the Reading Convention, viz.: Whether the County Committee, which called the County Convention which met in March 1851, was regularly authorized to act for the Democracy of Lancaster when that Convention decided in its affirmative.

Mr. Wilkins moved to admit Wm. Hammon, Walter G. Evans, James Eby, Henry Shaffer and Joseph M. Watts.

Mr. Cessna moved to amend by inserting the names of Geo. Sanderson, David Laird, Henry E. Loman, John S. Bougherty, and Andrew Leader.

The same names of preceding as was observed in the Philadelphia case was ordered for.

Mr. Hirst, here, by general consent moved that the hour of adjournment of the morning session should be one o'clock, and adjourned sine die.

that the hour of meeting of the afternoon sessions should be three o'clock, which motion was adopted.

Mr. Reynolds then proceeded to state the case of the Sanderson delegation.

Mr. Amwako stated the case of the contesting delegates.

While Mr. Amwako was speaking, the four of one arrived, when the Convention adjourned until three o'clock.

HARRISBURG, June 11.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**—The Convention reassembled at 3 o'clock, when Mr. Amwako resumed his remarks urging the claims of himself and colleagues to seats in the Convention.

Mr. Reynolds replied at considerable length to Mr. Amwako's argument.

Mr. Amwako then addressed the Convention against the admission of the Fordney delegates.

Mr. Whallon followed on the other side.

Col. S. W. Black took the floor, and made an eloquent, able, good-humored and witty speech, in reply to Mr. Wilcox.

Mr. Whallon, of Erie, moved the following resolution:

"Resolved, That this Convention proceed to ballot rite esse, for candidates to be placed on the ticket for Judges of the Supreme Courts of Pennsylvania, and that each delegate, as his name is called, shall vote for one person from the State at large, and that at the end of each ballot in which any person shall have received a clear majority of all the votes polled, the candidates who shall be the highest in vote shall be placed on the ticket, and that the balloting shall continue until five estadiates are thus selected.

The motion to postpone was adopted.

The following nominations were then made: James Campbell, J. G. Bishop, J. S. Black, Luther Kidder, Richard Conder, Walter H. Lowry, Jno. N. Conyngham, Joel Thomas, Thomas S. Bell, Ellis Lewis, Geo. W. Woodward, David Krause, Mtn. C. Rogers, H. Hepburn, J. M. Maynard, A. J. Wilson, H. N. M'Allister, John C. Knox\* Sammon Hepburn, James Thompson, R. P. Fenlon.

Those marked thus were withdrawn.

Mr. Wright read a letter of withdrawal from Judge Conyngham.

He read a letter also from Judge Woodward, stating the only condition on which he could consent to be a candidate, namely, that it should be necessary to the success of the party.

Judge W. declared himself in his letter for Judge Kidder. The letters were ordered to be entered on the minutes and published.

Mr. Wilcox addressed the Convention on Judge Woodward's letter. He was a friend—an early and abiding friend of Judge W.; but he had several times voluntarily and temporarily declined being a candidate, and had pointed to Judge Kidder as a fit man, the North had come to vote for Judge K.

After much discussion, Messrs. Charles E. Debris, Charles W. Everhart, Edward J. Fox, and Wm. Kinsey, were admitted by a vote of 63 to 50.

One or two other contested seats of little importance were disposed of, and the convention at a few minutes past 10 o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

SECOND DAY.—June 12, 1851.

The Convention assembled at 8 o'clock, and proceeded to the consideration of the dispute for the seat of Mr. Jacoby of Montgomery.

Mr. Stokes moved that the credentials of the Philadelphia County Delegates be read, which was agreed to and done.

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At the suggestion of Mr. Lowry and others the Convention agreed to hear one delegate from each side.

Mr. Small desired to know if there was any rule of precedence. The Chair said, the gentleman first addressing the chair was in order and declared Mr. Small entitled to the floor.

Mr. Wilson moved to amend so as to make the limit an hour.

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try to the Hon. Jas. M. Porter, and the temporary hours, which were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Leet moved that the Convention proceed to nominate persons to be balloted for as candidates of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania, for Judges of the Commonwealth. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Porter moved that each delegate should vote for five persons, the five highest providing such persons have a majority of the whole number of votes cast—to be declared elected. Mr. Lowry offered an amendment striking out the number five, and inserting the number one. Mr. Leet voted for five persons, the five highest providing such persons have a majority of the whole number of votes cast—to be declared elected.

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