



THE Columbia Democrat

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Choice Poetry.

Kindness. O speak a word of kindness, It may heal a broken heart; And to those who go on in blindness, It may new life impart.

Mother's Injunction on Presenting her son with a Bible.

Remember, love, who gave you this, When other days shall come; When she who had thy earliest bliss, Sleeps in a narrow home.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

We annex a short biographical sketch of the nominees of the late Baltimore Democratic Conventions. JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE, OF KENTUCKY.

ding by that grave and with the memories of the great dead about him, "the mere legend of politics" appeared contemptible to him.

In the Thirty-second Congress, Mr. Breckinridge was instrumental in securing an appropriation for the completion of the cemetery near the city of Mexico, in which the remains of the officers and soldiers who fell in battle or otherwise in or near the city of Mexico should be interred.

Though Mr. Breckinridge did not seek to be constantly before the House, he took a very distinguished position, and sometimes in debate was sharp and effective.

Mr. Giddings, in the course of a speech (16th of March, 1852) on the Compromise Measures and Fugitive Slave Law, denied that the Federal Government had power to pass laws by which "to compel our officers and people to seize and carry back fugitive slaves."

With the debate on the Nebraska Bill, in March, 1854, Thirty-third Congress, Mr. Breckinridge's name is intimately connected. It was during this discussion that he declared himself in favor of perfect non-intervention, and said that he would not vote for the bill if it proposed to legislate slavery into Nebraska and Kansas.

"Sir," he said, in continuation, "I care nothing about refined distinctions or the subtleties of verbal criticism. I repeat the broad and plain proposition, that if Congress may intervene on this subject it may surrender the principle, and broken away from constitutional limitations, you are driven into the very lap of arbitrary power."

In recognition of Mr. Breckinridge's identification with the views of the Administration, President Pierce tendered to him the mission to Spain; but the honor was respectfully declined, family matters compelling Mr. Breckinridge to this course.

candidates, they quickly, one by one, changed their votes, the several delegates making neat and appropriate speeches in announcing the change.

On the removal of the Senate from the old and time honored chamber, which had been the scene of so many great events of American history, to the new one, the Vice President made a feeling address. He gave an historical outline of the exigencies to which Congress was put in its early days—holding its sessions, as the chances of war required, at Philadelphia, Baltimore, Lancaster, Annapolis, and Yorktown, and during the period between the conclusion of peace and the establishment of the present Government, at Princeton, Annapolis, Trenton and New York.

Three days after this exciting and gratifying scene, his neighbors gathered to congratulate him at Lexington, and he then, in an address to them, reiterated the views of his Nebraska Kansas speech, and the platform upon which he was placed before the people.

"The whole power," said he, "of the Democratic organization is pledged to the following propositions: That Congress shall not interpose upon this subject in the States, in the Territories, or in the District of Columbia; that the people of each Territory shall determine the question for themselves, and be admitted into the Union upon a footing of perfect equality with the original States, without discrimination on account of the allowance of prohibition of slavery."

He was elected Vice President, having received 173 Electoral votes, being 59 over William L. Dayton, the Republican candidate for the same office.

As President of the United States Senate, he took the chair of that eminent body early in the first session of the Thirty-fifth Congress, December, 1857, and, with some intermission, caused by the illness of his family, presided during that stormy session.

At Florence, Kentucky, on the 24th of July, 1858, the Vice President, then being in residence in his own State, attended, by invitation, a meeting of his fellow citizens, and addressed them in an eloquent speech on the topics of the day.

In the great struggle in Illinois between Senator Douglas and the Republicans and seceders from the Democracy, the Vice President sympathized with the former. Though he did not endorse the course of Senator Douglas in the session of Congress then recently closed on the Leocompton question, he sympathized with him, and desired his success, "being the leader of the Democracy of Illinois in their present fight against Black Republicanism."

who could read and write, was invited to the clerkship, and promptly accepted it. For his three day's service in this position he received six dollars with which capital he immediately opened a school and obtained forty scholars, whom he taught for three months at three dollars each.

One year after his admission, while not yet twenty two years old, and not over eighteen months a resident of Illinois, the Legislature elected him Attorney General of the State. In December, 1835, he resigned this office, having been elected to the Legislature by the Democrats of Morgan county.

In the recent (August) election in Kentucky, a majority of the members of both branches of the Legislature were returned favorable to the election of the Vice President to the United States Senate, as successor to the Hon. J. J. Crittenden, whose term expires in 1862.

After such a record, it is needless to dwell on the popularity or merits of the man, or to commend the appreciation which has thus carried out the recommendation in favor of an infusion into our political life of some young blood and intellect.

STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, OF ILLINOIS.

STEPHEN ARNOLD DOUGLAS, was born at Brandon, Rutland county, Vermont, on the 23d of April, 1813. His father a native of New York, and a physician of prominence, died suddenly of apoplexy when his son Stephen was little more than two months old.

He was chosen by a majority of four hundred. In 1844 he was re-elected by a majority of nineteen hundred, and again in 1846, by nearly three thousand majority. He did not take his seat under the last election, having been in the meantime elevated to the United States Senate for six years, from March 4, 1847; in which high position he has continued ever since.

He was an early advocate of the annexation of Texas. As Chairman of the Committee on Territories, in 1846, he reported the joint resolution declaring Texas one of the United States; and he ably sustained Polk's Administration in its war measures toward Mexico.

Senator Douglas has declared himself in favor of the acquisition of Cuba, when that island can be obtained in a manner consistent with the laws of nations and the honor of the United States.

As Chairman of the Committee on Territories, first in the House and afterwards in the Senate, he reported and carried through the bills organized the Territories of Minnesota, Oregon, New Mexico, Utah, Washington, Kansas Nebraska, and also the bills for the admission into the

Union of the States of Iowa, Wisconsin, California Minnesota and Oregon. He early took ground touching the slavery question as involved in the organization of and the admission of new States. He held that Congress should not interfere one way or the other.

On the 25th of March, Mr. Douglas, from the Committee on Territory, reported to the Senate two bills—one for the admission of California as a State, the other for the establishment of Territorial Governments in Utah and New Mexico, and for the adjustment of the Texas boundary.

Mr. Douglas now devoted himself exclusively to his profession, and distinguished himself especially in a case touching the rights of foreign born voters. In 1840, he entered upon the Presidential contest in favor of Van Buren and Democracy with great ardor.

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position for four hours—sometimes appealing to them—then ridiculing—then denouncing their cowardice in combining to put down with force and violence a single man, who used no other weapons than truth and reason. His efforts were futile. The mob grew supreme; and having held them at bay from eight o'clock in the evening of Saturday till past twelve, in the midst of their imprecations and violence, he retired, pursued by the mob, to his hotel.

Immediately issuing notices making appointments throughout the State, he appealed to the people to rally in defence of the great principle that every community should govern itself in respect to its local and domestic affairs. He did not appeal in vain. The people of Illinois did rally, and, in the Presidential election of 1857, gave Mr. Buchanan a Democratic majority upon that distinct issue.

On the "naturalization question" Mr. Douglas has not been less bold and consistent. His entire career has been marked by his defence and vindication of the rights of naturalized citizens and men of foreign birth who have made their homes in this country.

1852, the name of Stephen A. Douglas was brought before the Baltimore Convention for the Presidency, and again at the Cincinnati Convention, where, on the 16th ballot, he received 122 votes. After this he withdrew, by telegraph from Washington, his name in favor of Mr. Buchanan.

EXECUTION OF HARDEN. BELVIDERE, N. J., July 6.—Jacob S. Harden was executed this afternoon, at twenty-five minutes of two o'clock, in the jail yard, in Belvidere, for the murder of his wife, Hannah Harden, on the 7th of March, 1859, in the village of Anderson, township of Mansfield, Warren county, N. J., by administering poison.

At nine o'clock Harden expressed a desire to visit the scaffold, which was granted. He stood for nearly five minutes upon the trap door, perfectly calm and composed, and made a close examination of the gallows. After which, he was conducted back to his cell.

About an o'clock, his spiritual advisers, the Rev. Messrs Day and Kirk, visited his cell, where they remained for an hour, during which time they engaged in prayer and singing. He was then visited by his counsel, Messrs. Shipman and Dupuy, who bid him good bye.

The cap was drawn over his eyes, the nose was attached to the main pulley, and at twenty-five minutes to two o'clock he was launched into eternity. The fall, which was four feet, did not break his neck. After hanging one minute, a partial contortion of the muscles was perceptible, and at twenty minutes of two there was a slight pulsation. At fifteen minutes of two o'clock he was pronounced dead by Drs. Tattison and Clark.