

Raftsmans Journal.



S. B. ROW, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CLEARFIELD, PA., APRIL 2, 1856.

Memories of the Philadelphia Convention.

FOR PRESIDENT, MILLARD FILLMORE. VICE PRESIDENT, ANDREW JACKSON DONNELSON.

THE UNION STATE CONVENTION.

This body, which met at Harrisburg on last Wednesday, to nominate a State ticket for the support of all opposed to Locofocoism, adjourned on the 27th, after having accomplished the purposes for which it was called.

ALL these nominees are gentlemen of high character, undoubted qualifications, and personal influence and popularity in the respective localities in which they reside.

Mr. Phelps is an American, and now represents Armstrong county in the House of Representatives. He was formerly a Whig, is a lawyer by profession, and for many years edited the York Republican.

Mr. Phelps is an American, and now represents Armstrong county in the House of Representatives. He was formerly a Whig, is a lawyer by profession, and for many years edited the York Republican.

AS THIS is probably the only ticket that will be presented in opposition to the Democratic State ticket, there will be no difficulty in individuals deciding which they shall support.

DEMOCRATIC RETRENCHMENT.

Last fall the people were frequently assured by the Democratic leaders that, in case their party was successful, numerous reforms would be effected and the strictest economy practiced in our State affairs and finances.

WHY MEXICO IS AN ANARCHY.—The immense wealth of the Roman Catholic Church in Mexico is often spoken of as account of its influence in political affairs.

WAR EXPENSES.—The Chancellor of the British Exchequer, in a statement made to Parliament, estimates the cost of the two years' war with Russia at £43,564,000 or about \$200,000,000.

A DRY SPELL.—Late advices from Isle au Sal, Cape de Verdis, state that the Island was healthy, but water was exceedingly scarce, no rain having fallen for four years, which caused the cattle to die in great numbers.

A "NEIGHBORLY" SALUTE.

In last week's issue of the Democratic organ in this place, we find an article, headed "Roorbacks Re-appearing," in which we are charged with "endorsing an unmitigated and wholesale falsehood," by publishing a set of resolves of the New Hampshire Legislature of 1847, which were said to have been written by Franklin Pierce, and which conflict with the present position of his party on the slavery question.

THE LIQUOR LICENSE BILL.—The committee of conference settled upon a license bill which was submitted to the two Houses of our State Legislature on Friday last.

DEATH OF J. BIDDLE GORDON, Esq.—It is with feelings of deep regret that we announce the death of J. Biddle Gordon, Esq., of this borough.

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.—On Monday of last week, Mr. Speaker Banks appointed L. D. Campbell of Ohio, Mr. Howard of Michigan, and Mr. Oliver of Missouri, to proceed to Kansas for the purpose of fully investigating all the troubles of the Territory.

WHY MEXICO IS AN ANARCHY.—The immense wealth of the Roman Catholic Church in Mexico is often spoken of as account of its influence in political affairs.

WAR EXPENSES.—The Chancellor of the British Exchequer, in a statement made to Parliament, estimates the cost of the two years' war with Russia at £43,564,000 or about \$200,000,000.

A DRY SPELL.—Late advices from Isle au Sal, Cape de Verdis, state that the Island was healthy, but water was exceedingly scarce, no rain having fallen for four years, which caused the cattle to die in great numbers.

FOR THE RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES A VIOLATOR OF THE PUBLIC FAITH.

MR. EDITOR.—Some time since, I published in your valuable Journal a number of charges, preferred against the Chief Magistrate of our Republic, and as these charges have elsewhere been declared untrue, I now will, with your permission, proceed to make good every charge specified in my communication.

The Missouri Compromise was a clear and specific contract, entered into by and between the people of the Free States, of the one part, and the people of the Slave States, of the other, and ratified by their representatives in Congress.

LETTER FROM JOS. B. McENALLY, Esq. Mr. S. B. Row—I perceive in the last number of the "Clearfield Republican" an editorial article in regard to myself, under the caption of "Good Bye, Mac."

Now, nothing could be farther from the truth than that statement. I never entertained such an opinion. On the other hand, I always believed that the repeal of the Missouri Compromise by the Nebraska bill was in the highest degree unwise and improper.

On the score of consistency, I would not like to make an even exchange with the editor of the Republican. There may, however, be some little difference in our ideas of consistency.

But the real question of public interest is not, whether I or some other private citizen has been consistent in his political course, but whether the people ought to sustain the party that endorses the course of the present National Administration.

THE EDITOR OF THE REPUBLICAN has a right to think otherwise, and to convince his neighbors if he can. But of one thing he may be assured, that to use my columns in needless personal assaults on private citizens is not the way to enlighten the community on public questions.

A HORRIBLE TRAGEDY took place six miles east of Bridgeport, in Madison county, N. Y., on Sunday the 23d of March. The wife of a drunken, worthless fellow, named Mathew Ward, murdered four of her children in cold blood.

PROTECTION OF SLAVE PROPERTY.—By the law passed at the late session of the Virginia Legislature, to prevent, as far as possible, the vessels navigating the streams tributary to the Chesapeake Bay, the pilots are required to search every vessel outward bound, to ascertain if any fugitive slaves are aboard.

pro-slavery Congress, that fraudulently swept from the free States, the last vestige of national right, by declaring the Missouri restriction, "inoperative and void." Thus, the President, by one single act, removed the last barrier, that had been mutually, and sacredly raised by our fathers, against the encroachments of slavery.

And in reference to the editor of the Republican, I have only to say, that if he intends to write in the style of low and vulgar insult, he will not be noticed.

LETTER FROM JOS. B. McENALLY, Esq. Mr. S. B. Row—I perceive in the last number of the "Clearfield Republican" an editorial article in regard to myself, under the caption of "Good Bye, Mac."

Now, nothing could be farther from the truth than that statement. I never entertained such an opinion. On the other hand, I always believed that the repeal of the Missouri Compromise by the Nebraska bill was in the highest degree unwise and improper.

On the score of consistency, I would not like to make an even exchange with the editor of the Republican. There may, however, be some little difference in our ideas of consistency.

But the real question of public interest is not, whether I or some other private citizen has been consistent in his political course, but whether the people ought to sustain the party that endorses the course of the present National Administration.

THE EDITOR OF THE REPUBLICAN has a right to think otherwise, and to convince his neighbors if he can. But of one thing he may be assured, that to use my columns in needless personal assaults on private citizens is not the way to enlighten the community on public questions.

A HORRIBLE TRAGEDY took place six miles east of Bridgeport, in Madison county, N. Y., on Sunday the 23d of March. The wife of a drunken, worthless fellow, named Mathew Ward, murdered four of her children in cold blood.

PROTECTION OF SLAVE PROPERTY.—By the law passed at the late session of the Virginia Legislature, to prevent, as far as possible, the vessels navigating the streams tributary to the Chesapeake Bay, the pilots are required to search every vessel outward bound, to ascertain if any fugitive slaves are aboard.

UNION STATE CONVENTION.

WEDNESDAY, March 26, 1856.

The Union State Convention composed of delegates from the American, Republican and Whig parties, met in the Hall of the House of Representatives at 12 o'clock, and was temporarily organized by the selection of John Covode as President, and Messrs. Beatty, Funk and Ingham as Secretaries.

AFTERNOON SESSION. The Committee reported the following gentlemen for permanent officers of the Convention. The report was unanimously adopted:

- President—GIDEON J. BALL. Vice Presidents—H. Jones Brooke, Wm. Stewart, Dr. John Wright, Thos. E. Franklin, Josiah Copley, E. Beatty, C. Thompson Jones, Andrew Carns, J. F. Linderman, Jon. Knight, Henry Johnson, Sam'l Royer, L. M. Guffin, D. C. Boal, R. P. McDowell, Wm. Jessup, J. M. Oliphant, Thos. J. Power, J. B. McEnally.

The following committee on resolutions was then selected—Messrs. M'Callmont, Flanigan, Strong, Small, (Phila.) Cooper, Corman, Shalinshe, Downing, Myers, Cowell, Franklin, Killinger, Fisher, Weaver, M'Lellan, Small, (York), Smith, (Cumb.), Ingham, King, (Cambria), Bowser, Mercer, Olmstead, Derrickson, Chamberlain, Howard, Gazzam, Lawrence, Scull, Moorhead, Morrison, Coulter and Palmer.

EVERING SESSION. Mr. M'Callmont on the Committee on resolutions, reported the action of the Committee. The report was read; and each resolution acted upon separately.

As finally adopted, they are as follows: WHEREAS, The freemen of Pennsylvania, opposed to the National Administration, are divided into political organizations, holding on some questions of governmental policy diverse opinions; yet it is believed that a large majority of the freemen of this State are agreed upon the momentous issues forced upon the country by the repeal of the Missouri Compromise; by the undisguised policy of the National Administration to impose by violence and fraud Slavery upon Kansas, contrary to the wishes of a large majority of the inhabitants; and by its unjust, illiberal and Anti-American preference in the appointment of men of foreign birth over those born upon the soil, to offices of trust and honor, as well as in the distribution of its patronage; And Whereas, Agreement in principle is the only bond that can unite effectively honest men in political action: Therefore, Resolved, That, animated by the spirit of concord, we will cordially unite in the support of the candidates to be nominated by this Convention, upon the basis of those principles upon which we are mutually agreed.

Resolved, That the present National Administration, by the exercise of an unwarrantable influence in the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, at the instance of selfish and sectional politicians; by the removal of honest and competent men from offices of honor and trust; in order that their places might be filled by inefficient and corrupt partisans; by refusing to protect the freemen of Kansas in the enjoyment of the rights designed to be secured to them by the Constitution and laws of the United States;—thereby showing itself powerful for mischief, but feeble in the maintenance of laws for the protection of the people and the honor of the country—has justly forfeited all claim to the confidence and respect of the people of this Commonwealth.

Resolved, That we will use all honorable means to check the evils inflicted upon the country by the unjust and sectional measures adopted by the present National Administration, brought about by the exercise of its patronage; that we are utterly opposed to the admission into the Confederacy of Slave States formed out of Territory once consecrated to Freedom; and also to the extension of Slavery into any Territories of the United States now Free.

Resolved, That we cordially disapprove of the interference of foreign influence of every kind in our civil and political affairs; and are equally hostile to the interference of the government or people of the United States in the affairs of other nations, regarding any such interference as unwise and in conflict with the recommendation of Washington's Farewell Address, which inculcates with emphatic earnestness, the propriety of avoiding the adoption of any policy which might involve us in unprofitable and dangerous controversies with foreign nations.

Resolved, That the respect and confidence of this Convention and the people of this Commonwealth are due to the present Chief Magistrate of the State and to the members of his Administration, for the integrity, purity of purpose and sterling patriotism manifested in their official conduct, and we heartily commend them to the support of every citizen who values the honor and interests of the State, and can appreciate the virtues of devoted and faithful public servants.

THURSDAY, March 27, 1856. The Convention met at 9 o'clock and proceeded at once to the nomination of a candidate for Auditor General:

- Sankoy, - - - 7 Washburn - - - 3 Phelps, - - - 91 Evans, - - - 7 Foust, - - - 3 McConkey, - - - 7 Bradford, - - - 2 Waterhouse, - - - 1

DARWIN PHELPS, of Armstrong county, having received a majority of all the votes, was unanimously declared the nominee for Auditor General.

The Convention then proceeded to nominate a candidate for Surveyor General:

- Laporte, - - - 84 Coban, - - - 4 Shedaker, - - - 6 Brown, - - - 3 King, - - - 3 Snively, - - - 9 Myers, - - - 7

was unanimously declared the nominee for Canal Commissioner.

On motion of Mr. Howard a State Central Committee, consisting of one from each Senatorial district, was selected by the delegates from the several districts—as follows:

- 1. Joseph B. Flanagan, Jacob Dock, Phila. 2. Henry L. Benner, Oliver P. Corman, Charles Thompson Jones, Phila. 3. William H. Shingle, Montgomery. 4. H. Jones Brooke, Delaware. 5. Daniel R. Clymer, Berks. 6. Henry T. Darlington, Bucks. 7. Peter Martin, Lancaster; George H. Lebanon.

- 8. C. F. Muech, Dauphin. 9. E. J. Hagenbuch, Lehigh. 11. David Wills, Adams. 12. Abraham Forsy, York. 13. E. Beatty, Cumberland. 14. David C. Boal, Centre. 15. John Penn Jones, Blair. 16. Philip T. Maus, Montour. 17. William H. Jessup, Susquehanna. 18. Gen. Ashley M. Hills, Clearfield. 19. William Stewart, Mercer. 20. John W. Horne, Crawford. 21. Michael Weyand, Beaver. 22. A. H. Miller, Thos. L. Shields, Alleghy. 23. Thomas Miller, Jr., Washington. 24. Gen. William H. Kootz, Somerset. 25. Philip Clover, Clarion. 26. Israel Gutelius, Snyder. 27. Robert Stitt, Westmoreland. 28. Robert M. Palmer, Schuylkill.

The Committee met after adjournment, and elected H. Jones Brooke of Delaware county, Chairman.

DISASTER AT LEAS.

One hundred and thirty-five lives lost.—On the 16th of January last, the packet-ship John Rutledge, Capt. Kelly, of New York, left Liverpool for New York, having on board one hundred and twenty passengers, and a crew of officers and men numbering sixteen—making in all 136—all of whom perished excepting one, Thomas W. Nye, of New Bedford. During her passage she encountered severe weather. On the 18th of February, she passed several icebergs, and on the 19th she entered a field of ice, from which she could not release herself. At about 10 o'clock on the 20th, the John Rutledge struck an iceberg, and at about 6 o'clock she went down. There were five boats on board, in which one hundred and thirty-four persons were to be saved, two having already perished. Four boats pushed off before the one, in which Mr. Nye was. The last boat contained only 13 persons, of which four were women, and one a little girl. Mr. Atkinson, the mate, put his wife into this boat and while he and the carpenter went to sound the pumps, a heavy sea struck the boat, which broke her from her moorings and drifted her from the ship, which was rapidly sinking, leaving the mate, carpenter and from 30 to 35 passengers on board. The distress and suffering of those in the boat is described as most heart-rending. Cast upon the open seas without a compass, among the fogs and mists of the banks of New Foundland, surrounded by drift and berg ice, their prospects were gloomy indeed. Day after day passed with springing hopes, which the dreary nights turned to bitterness and despair.—On the third day one man died—then a woman—both were dropped into the sea. The fourth day came and no ray of hope, but the same angry sea, the same leaden sky—no water, but a small quantity of food, and the cold so intense that it almost froze the marrow. This day their despair was increased again with which, which hove in sight, disappeared again without having seen them. A burning thirst soon fell upon all, and heedless of young Nye's appeals, they fell to drinking salt water—wild delirium ensued. They grew mad and madder and besought each other to kill them; then they dreamed of sitting at sumptuous feasts and spoke of the rare dainties which mocked their grasp; of the delicious beverages which they in vain essayed to quaff.

At length worn out with the intensity of their physical and mental sufferings, they grew more subdued, their baggard faces became rigid; their wild eyes assumed a glassy look, and their shrunken forms seemed gradually to subside—the next lurch of the boat tumbled them off the seats, dead! Such were the sights which young Nye witnessed daily. As they died, he threw their bodies into the sea; as long as his strength lasted. On the sixth day there were only himself, a small woman wrapped up in two blankets, and the little girl alive in the boat. Before sunset the child died, and on the day following the woman breathed her last. He had strength enough to throw the body of the child overboard; but that of the woman, together with the bodies of three others, was so coiled up under the thwart that he was unable to extricate them. Feeling a strong sense of drowsiness creeping over him, he fastened a red shirt and a white shirt to an oar, and hoisting it to attract any passing vessel, he coiled himself up in the stern of the boat and dozed away the hours, dreaming of being at home in New Bedford with his family.

Fearing that he too might be delirious, he fought against these influences, and kept himself awake by various means. On the 25th of February a ship hove in sight of the lonely bay. He says that he saw her before those on board discovered him, and he was sure from the first that they would pick him up. That vessel was the packet ship Germania, Capt. Wood, from Havre, bound to New York. When Capt. Wood descried the solitary boat, he ordered one of his own quarter-boats to be lowered, and sent an officer to see what it contained. As they approached him poor Nye groaned "For Jesus Christ's sake, take me out of this boat." They did take him out, with womanly tenderness, and with the boat and his fearful load in tow, rowed back to the ship. The young sailor was quickly transferred to the comfortable cabin of the Germania, and his late companions, already far gone in decomposition, were thrown into the sea. The boat was half full of water, and the bodies washing about in it had covered the seats and sides with blood.