

Democratic Banner.

BY MOORE & HEMPHILL.

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TERMS.

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THE ENGLISH AND CUBA.

The following is the portion of the speech of Lord George Bentinck, in the House of Commons on the 3d ult., in which he recommended the seizure, by the British government, of the Island of Cuba:

"They would never put down the slave trade so long as it depended upon blockading 10,260 miles of coast. He would do what Capt. Pickington recommended—strike a blow at the head and not at the tail. He would not send an army to destroy every individual horse, but go to the hornet's nest at once, and smother that nest of the slave trade which now exists in Cuba. (Hear, hear.) He had read in the Times an extract from a U. States paper, in which it was stated, that if the United States did not possess herself of Cuba, Great Britain would, and that England had a greater claim by one hundredfold to Cuba than the U. States had to Mexico, because a sum of £45,000,000 was due to British subjects upon Spanish bonds, and Cuba was hypothecated for the payment of that debt. And why did the Americans think that Great Britain would like to have possession of Cuba?—Because they know she could never put down the slave trade so long as it was carried on at Cuba in its present form. He would therefore say at once, let them take possession of Cuba, and settle the question altogether; let them distrain upon it for the debt just due, and too long asked in vain, from the Spanish government.— (Hear, hear.) They would put an end to the slave trade if they could emancipate the slaves of Cuba. If the people of this country thought it right to spend £150,000,000 in putting down slavery, and ruining our colonies besides, would it not be cheap policy to put an end to slavery forever by seizing Cuba?"

The Chancellor of the Exchequer.—But would you seize the Buzza as well? Lord G. Bentinck said the case of Cuba stood upon its own merits, and upon the debt of £45,000,000 due to British subjects from the Spanish Government.—Then, depend upon it, when Great Britain possessed the Havana, as once she did, in 1752, when she held it for about a year and then exchanged it for the Florida, & when she could cut the trade of America in two, no more boasts would be heard of what the U. States could do, such as that which was not long ago uttered by one of her military officers, who declared that they never would be satisfied until Uncle Sam set his right foot upon Canada and his left upon California, embrace the whole of the eastern seaboard, and throw his leg, like a freeman, over the whole continent of South America to Cape Horn, with Cuba for a cabbage garden. That was the course which should be taken to put an end to slavery and slave-trading, and that having been done, there would be no difficulty in the British planter going to the coast of Africa and obtaining, not by purchase, nor by war, but by the inducement of freedom and good wages, any number of Africans he might require for the cultivation of the soil. He thanked the house for having so long listened to him.

A HEAVY BLOW.—A Pennsylvania Colonel, a very particular friend of ours, is very fond of telling a story of which he is invariably the hero. The only fault about some of them is that they are highly colored; in short, he always "draws ye longe bow."

"I was once at Harrisburg," says the Colonel, "on official business. During my stay, a horse-race came off near the capitol, and as I was rather partial to horsetaming, I went to see it." Just as the horses were about starting, some fellow insulted me by jostling me rather roughly. Now, you know I don't often fight, but when I strike, why, then I do strike—so I up first, and hit him a blow that sent him against the fence into a field, carrying with him nine sections of posts and rails. The fellow laid a short time, then raising himself into a sitting posture, he looked wildly around him. "Gentlemen," said he, "has this storm done much damage? Did the lightning strike anybody but me?"

Pittsburg Mercury.

TWO LADIES KILLED.

As the afternoon train of cars on Thursday evening last, were passing from Fitchburg to Aihol, Mass., on the Vermont and Massachusetts line, and when near the crossing, about a mile and a half above the depot in Fitchburg, a horse and sleigh, with two ladies, passed the railroad, when the horse became frightened, and backed the sleigh on the track, by which both of the ladies were thrown out in front of the engine, run over, and instantly killed.—The engine, as soon as the horse was seen to back, sounded the alarm, and the train was nearly stopped when the fatal collision took place. The unfortunate ladies who thus lost their lives, were Mrs. Osborn, wife of Mr. A. Osborn, of Fitchburg, and her daughter Mrs. Jacob Tolman, of West Sterling. The head of one was severed from the body.

Fourth of March Convention.

The gentlemen from the different counties of the Commonwealth elected delegates to the fourth of March Convention, assembled in the Court House, at Harrisburg, at ten o'clock.

On motion of R. H. Kerr, Esq., David Lynch was appointed Chairman of the Convention, for temporary organization.

Alfred Gilmore and E. A. Peniman were appointed Secretaries to the Convention.

On motion of Mr. Frailey, the counties were called over, and the delegates answered to their names.

After some further business, on motion of Mr. Thompson, the Convention adjourned until 2 1/2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At half past two o'clock, the temporary chairman called the Convention to order.

Mr. Lowry, from the committee to report officers for the permanent organization of the Convention, reported the following officers, which report was adopted:

President.

Hon. CHARLES FRAILEY Schuylkill.

Vice Presidents.

R. Frazer, Lancaster.
Hon. James Thompson, Erie.
John A. Bender, Phila. county.
John Stallman, "
J. G. Ryall, Berks county.
John C. Evans, Berks.
Col. Joseph Levers, Columbia.
Samuel Taggart, Susquehanna.
John A. Gamble, Lycoming.
A. Smith McKinney, Cumberland.
A. Parker, Juniata.
J. L. Dawson, Fayette.
Robert Love, Washington.
Gen. Robert Orr, Armstrong.
Dr. J. Attkins, Delaware.

Secretaries.

W. Jack, Westmoreland county.
David Small, York.
Joseph L. Smith, Philada. "
O. H. Mott, Pike.
D. W. C. Brooks, Dauphin "
John Coyle, Allegheny "
James G. Gibson, Philada. city.
James Galloway, Mercer.

On taking the Chair, the President returned thanks in a neat and appropriate address.

Mr. Stambaugh moved a resolution that the rules of the House of Representatives, be the rules for the government of the proceedings of this Convention. Agreed to.

Mr. Stambaugh then submitted the following preamble and resolutions; which were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Democratic citizens of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the established usages of the party, have delegated to this Convention the important trust of electing delegates to the National Convention, to be held in Baltimore, on the 4th Monday of May, next, for the purpose of nominating candidates for President and Vice President, and also to nominate Electors, equal in number to the Senators and Representatives of this State, in Congress, who shall be required to give a written pledge to the Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee of Correspondence, that they will vote for the nominees of the Baltimore Convention, for President and Vice President of the United States.

Therefore, for the purpose of fully and fairly ascertaining the choice of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania for the office of President of the U. States, be it

Resolved, That this Convention do now proceed to vote *viva voce*, for a candidate to be recommended as the choice of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania, for President of the United States; and that the candidate who shall obtain a majority of the votes of this Convention, shall be declared the choice of Pennsylvania Democracy—each and every delegate to use all fair, upright, and honorable means to promote and secure the nomination of the candidate thus selected, by the majority of the Democratic delegates of Pennsylvania, before the National Convention for President of the United States.

The following nominations were then made:

Mr. Whallon nominated, JAS. BUCHANAN.

Mr. Arms nominated, LEWIS CASS.

Mr. Johnson nominated, G. M. DALLAS.

Mr. Lowry nominated, MARTIN VAN BUREN.

The Convention then proceeded to vote for a candidate for the Presidency, and the roll being called over it appeared that

James Buchanan had 84

George M. Dallas 34

Lewis Cass 10

Martin Van Buren 5

James Buchanan having a majority of

of the votes given, was declared to be the choice of Pennsylvania for the office of

President of the United States.

After some further business, the Convention adjourned until 7 1/2 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention again met at 7 1/2 o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Patterson, the Convention proceeded to make nominations for Canal Commissioner, when a number of gentlemen were nominated.

The Convention then proceeded to bal-

lot for Canal Commissioner, which, on the third ballot, resulted as follows:

Israel Painter had 07
William Seagriff 30
William Beatty 14
Timothy Ives 16
George R. Riddle 6

Israel Painter of Westmoreland, having a majority of all the votes, was declared duly nominated the Democratic candidate for Canal Commissioner.

On motion the nomination of ISRAEL PAINTER was unanimously confirmed by the convention.

The convention then proceeded to the nomination and election of Senatorial Delegates to the National Convention at Baltimore, which resulted in the choice of

Wilson McCandless, of Pittsburg.
John W. Forney, of Philadelphia.

On motion of Mr. Brewer, a committee of one from each Congressional district was appointed to prepare an address and resolutions to be submitted to the convention; and motion of Mr. Lowry, the Chair appointed a State Central Committee.

Adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock.

MONDAY, March 6, 1848.

The convention met, pursuant to adjournment, at 9 o'clock.

After the announcement of the committee on the address and resolutions, the convention proceeded to the election of two Senatorial Electors, which resulted as follows:

Wm. Bigler had 99 votes.
David D. Wagner 34
Reah Frazer 50
John Ritter 12
Jas X. McLanahan 12
Joseph Henderson 5
John Bonding 2
John Porter 1
Christian Myers 4
Andrew Wyle, jr. 2
Scattering, 35

William Bigler having received a majority of all the votes given, was declared duly chosen a Senatorial Elector for the State of Pennsylvania.

The names of Messrs. Wylie, Porter, Blanding, Ritter, Henderson and McLanahan, were withdrawn by their respective friends.

The convention then proceeded to vote for a second Senatorial Elector, and the vote being taken resulted as follows:

David D. Wagner had 68
Reah Frazer 59

David D. Wagner having received a majority of all the votes given, was duly chosen a Senatorial Elector for the State of Pennsylvania.

The remainder of the forenoon, and all the afternoon, was spent in selecting Delegates to the Baltimore Convention, and Presidential Electors. The delegate for the (24th) district is Augustus Drum, of Indiana—and our Elector, James G. Campbell, of Butler.

EVENING SESSION.

Mr. Walters moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to report to this convention a suitable system of nominating State and county officers.

Mr. Lowry moved to lay the resolution on the table, which was agreed to.

Mr. Brewer, from the committee on address and resolutions, presented the following address and resolutions, which he stated had been unanimously adopted by the committee:

ADDRESS.

The representatives of the Democrats of Pennsylvania, in Convention assembled, deliberate their political friends upon the prosperous condition of the country; and the brilliant triumph of her arms. Since the delegates of the Democracy of the State last met within this Hall, to make known their choice for President of the United States, vast and important events have illuminated the pages of our history, and affected the destinies of our political union. We look abroad and meet none of the evidences of the "iron" prophesied by Federalism with its thousand tongues. We see our commerce expanding to the most distant ports and whitening the most distant seas. Manufactures have flourished beyond all precedent and example. Mechanics, and corporate and individual industry, are producing to honest enterprise a sufficient competency. Our credit at home and abroad is unsuspected and firm; and exchanges are equal in the midst of a foreign war—and the great measure which separated the government from the Banks, intended only for a time of peace, has preserved our moneyed circles and great cities from the disasters consequent upon all these expansions, which occur during periods of National speculation.

Since 1844, a new and flourishing State has been added to our confederacy; and a war, long deferred by ourselves, and long provoked by Mexico, although it has been prosecuted, (after having been commenced by the latter) into the heart of the enemy's country; and has made those who intended only to prevent aggression, the avengers of accumulated wrongs—has served to elevate our character before the nations of the earth; to display new elements of national strength; and to present

new reasons for the perpetuity of our political institutions. The present general administration, which came into power on the 4th of March, 1845, has lived to see its policy and its principles fully vindicated by the test of time; and the firm & fearless Executive, who did not hesitate to avow his great reforms, and to pursue them unflinchingly to completion, is greeted by the tributes of the reluctant witnesses, who daily confess to the wisdom & foresight of his measures. Pennsylvania, which was the first to be prostrated under the iron hand of free trade—according to the horoscope cast for her by our political seers—still stands before her sisters, with her fair fields unlighted, her iron hills alive with the hum of industry, and her ceasing valleys joyous with the voice of well rewarded toil.

It is under auspicious circumstances like these that the delegates of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania, assembled once more to express their unalterable attachment to Democratic principles, and to re-assert their satisfaction at the experience of the past, and their confidence in the prospects for the future.

The grave duty of expressing a preference between the several distinguished names presented to the country, in connection with the high office of President of the United States, has been committed to this convention by the Democrats of Pennsylvania. We fulfil that duty with a deep sense of its importance and its responsibility. We do not conceal, what indeed it would be in vain to conceal, that the country will require of the Executive, who shall take his seat on the 4th of March, 1849, peculiar abilities. Never before has it been more essential, that a vigilant guardianship of our blessed political Union, should be exercised. Never before has that unequalled political compact, been so insidiously threatened. Never before have the theories of the enemies of our country, assumed a more fascinating or a more dangerous aspect. He that shall govern the helm of the ship of State, for the next four years, must be a man equal to this pressing and formidable emergency. He must bring to the performance of his duties, not only great experience, wise discretion, and a well-poised intellect, but he must show to the country that his fealty to her institutions is not bounded by the horizon of local doctrines, but is broad and general as the spirit of freedom itself. He must respect the sacred and inalienable compromises of the Constitution. He must keep before him always the sacrifices which all portions of the Union made, when that Constitution was launched into being under circumstances full of peril. He must remember that as our territory expands and our civilization progresses—as the genius of Republicanism forces its way down to the very shores of the Pacific, and crushes beneath the wheels of irresistible progress the feeble and bloody despotism of another age—the experiment of free government itself may depend upon the fact, that our Chief Magistrate should be mindful of the experience of the past. However the timid may hesitate and doubt, the mission of this Republic is one which, under providence, cannot be hemmed in by geographical divisions. However the cautious statesman may shrink from and deny the probability of our example civilizing and controlling this entire continent, even while he dreams of calamity, the sublime experiment is vindicating itself, and making still stronger the fabric of religious and political liberty in this hemisphere. To the Democratic party the question is full of interest, for to that party the grave duties arising under it, will be hereafter committed. Surely we have seen nothing in the triumph of Democratic principles, since the organization of our government, to make us fearful in time to come. These principles, and the measures which have been originated under and by them, have ever been assailed and doubted by the Federalists, with equal ability and malignity. From the moment when the illustrious Jefferson proclaimed the great creed upon which our organization has since been founded, to the time when his example was imitated by Jackson, Van Buren and Polk, a busy and relentless antagonism has constantly been on the alert, denying the practicability, misrepresenting the benefits, or anticipating the evil consequences of the Democratic policy. How often have we seen whole communities swayed and misled by the ominous predictions of Federalism, while deploring and deprecating the tendencies of Democratic principles! How often have we seen these predictions alienate those who should have been the first to denounce and deny them! The eloquent and impressive commentary upon this long and consistent hostility to the Democratic creed, is to be found in the fact, that at this day hardly a relic remains of the Federal policy; while thousands who have been among its leaders now bear unwilling testimony to the complete and sweeping success of Democratic principles! We have lived to see Webster bearing witness against a BANK OF THE UNITED STATES, as an "obscure" idea;—Gallatin, admitting the wise provisions of the INDEPENDENT TREASURY;—Johnson, confessing to the wisdom and justice of a LIBERAL TARIFF;—Poinsett, vindicating the cause of our country;—and Clay himself long-

ing for an opportunity of drawing his sword, "in some nook or corner," that he too might "SLAY A MEXICAN." The favorite measures of Federalism are buried deeper than "plummet ever sounded;" and when the entombed cities of other days, now covered with the waters of the earth and the accumulated deposits of centuries, shall be again restored to life and light—then, and not till then, will the trump of political resurrection recall to being the condemned theories of the Federal opposition. They will be recollecting in the fact, that they were hung upon the wheels of Democratic progress, only to be crushed by its irresistible revolutions!—If, then, this be so of the past, why may not our future destinies be confided to the hand of that great party, which has so well deserved its title to the confidence of the country?

The Democracy of Pennsylvania, with these truths before them, proudly submit the name of JAMES BUCHANAN to the National Convention, as their favorite candidate for the Presidency. For a long series of years this distinguished statesman has been connected with the councils of his country; and we are free to refer to his public career, with the assurance that he is singularly well qualified to discharge the duties of that exalted position for the next four years. He comes from a State, to use his own beautiful language, the Democracy of which "holds the balance with steady judgment and enlightened patriotism, between the opposite extremes of consolidation and disunion." Ever since he has been in our legislative halls, this has been the motto which has regulated his conduct. He has been indeed, on all occasions, the vigilant and consistent representative of the Keystone State. In regard to Pennsylvania, to use the language of the address, adopted by the great Democratic State Convention which assembled in this place in 1843, herself one of the very first to abolish slavery, and occupying a position, as it were, between this institution and its misguided enemies, she has ever thrown her weight of character, and counsel, and position, with signal success on the side of the country. This position has been admirably represented in the national councils by Mr. Buchanan. His profound disquisition on the doctrines of State rights, and his consistent opposition to the maddened excitement of fanatical zeal, while pursuing an imaginary evil, regardless of the very existence of our country and our constitution, have become memorable in our political history, and have given his name a warm place, (not only among his countrymen in that region which he has befriended, but every where else,) in the affections of all friends of the country. Pennsylvania thus stands as a barrier between the North and the South, and her gigantic interposition has always been felt with effect, to the disgrace and confusion of those who plotted our common downfall in the name of philanthropy!

Pennsylvania presents this distinguished citizen to the Union, at the very moment when such qualities and such experience as his, are most to be desired in our candidate for the Presidency. By withdrawing his name from the list of Presidential candidates in 1844, Mr. Buchanan increased his title to the respect and consideration of the country, and showed how far above all motive of self he esteemed the union & the ascendancy of the Democratic party. If subsequent circumstances changed the aspect of things, the patriotic spirit in which that act was resolved upon, did not fail any less to commend it to the approval of the Democracy of the Union. That it was appreciated by the distinguished Statesman who came into the Executive chair three years ago, is shown by the fact, that one of the first acts of his administration was to offer to Mr. Buchanan the first place in his cabinet,—a position formerly filled by Jefferson, Adams, Clay, Van Buren, Webster, Calhoun, and other of the master intellects of the age. It is unnecessary to allude to the manner in which he has met the expectations of the President and the country, in this responsible and arduous position, filled during one of the most eventful administrations in our history, and bearing intimately upon our relations with foreign governments. The admiration which greeted his masterly argument on the Oregon question, and which has since applauded the ability with which he has asserted our country's cause, in his correspondence with the Mexican Ministers, is a proof that James K. Polk knew where to find a wise, profound, and an experienced statesman, when he appointed James Buchanan Secretary of State.

We deem it unnecessary to allude, at any length, to the political history of James Buchanan. Every true Pennsylvanian knows it by heart. The ardent young American, who volunteered to defend his country, during the late war—the friend of Monroe, who offered him a foreign mission during his first session of Congress—the friend of Jackson, who appointed him minister to one of the most polished courts of Europe—the able, intrepid, and vigilant Senator in Congress, to which his native State three times elected him, and the skillful diplomatist;—these are the titles which he has successively earned, during a long and honorable career. If he cannot boast of the recollection of a wealthy and aristocratic ancestry, he will at