

Reading Democratic Convention.

GREAT SPEECH OF COL. BIGLER.

LETTER OF COLONEL BLACK.

PROCEEDINGS IN DETAIL.

Correspondence of the Pennsylvania.

READING, June 5, 1851.

I thought to be able, by this time, to send you full details of the proceedings and balloting of the Convention on the several matters disposed of by that body yesterday, but I find events hurrying on too rapidly to admit of this just now, and must content myself and your readers for the present with brief references to the facts as they occur. I will therefore take up the chain of narrative at the point of disconnection yesterday. When my letter was closed the Convention had under consideration the contested Senatorial seat for the Cambria District, in which Adam Moses, Esq., claimed under the authority of one conference, and H. L. Patterson under that of another. After the contestants had been heard, a ballot was taken on the issue, the result of which was favorable to Mr. Patterson. He accordingly took his seat. Thomas A. Maguire then contested the seat of John C. O'Neill. The adverse claim was so weakly supported that the Convention decided by acclamation in favor of Mr. O'Neill. Then came up the great question of the day, the contest between the BIGLER and FRAZER delegates from Lancaster city and county. The interest excited by this issue was profound and universal. It was the topic of conversation everywhere; and when it was at length reached by the Convention the lowest murmur of conversation ceased; and silence and absorbing attention at once pervaded the large assemblage with which the Court House was thronged.

The credentials of both sets of delegates were read by the clerks. In those of the BIGLER delegates, James L. Reynolds, Esq., was substituted, as Senatorial delegate, for Wm. B. Fordney, Esq., and in those of the FRAZER delegates, Col. Frazer was substituted for Peter Martin, Esq. At this stage of the proceedings, Mr. Sterigere, of Montgomery, suggested the propriety of hearing two of the claimants from each delegation on the merits of the case, which being on motion agreed to, Mr. Amwake, of the FRAZER set, proceeded to state their case. The details being very voluminous, and involving references to a great number of inaccessible papers, I must necessarily omit for the present. The great issue was this: whether the County Committee, which called the Convention of March, 1851, by the action of which the FORDNEY delegates were elected, was at the time of calling that Convention a living, and regularly organized and authorized body, having the right to act for the Democracy of Lancaster. Mr. Amwake, in a very respectable speech, contended it was not. He was followed by Mr. Swarr, of the same county, on the other side, who after a brief reference to the necessity of saving the time of the Convention, read, in a most elegant and impressive manner, a printed statement of the claims of the party with whom he was acting. Mr. Swarr was followed by Col. Frazer. His speech was of several hours' duration, in the midst of which, the hour being late, he gave way to a motion to adjourn to 7 o'clock in the evening. After the reassembling of the Convention, he engaged the attention of the delegates some two hours longer in addition.

The address of Col. Frazer was marked by great earnestness and feeling, and general propriety of manner, but it failed greatly in force of argument. It was to all who heard it the effort of a "strong man struggling in a morass." He was followed by James L. Reynolds, of Lancaster, in a masterly and convincing argument, supported with a mass of facts that told with great effect in the Convention. Excepting an irregular debate by some of the delegates following this, the address of Mr. Reynolds ended the discussion.

A motion was then made, that the delegates elected in November, 1850, be admitted to seats in the Convention, to which an amendment was offered, substituting the delegates elected in April.

Mr. McCalmont offered the following, as an amendment to the amendment:

Resolved, That James L. Reynolds be admitted as the Senatorial Delegate, and James Patterson, Samuel Parker, Hiram B. Swarr, J. B. Baker and N. B. Wolfe, as Representative Delegates from Lancaster county to this Convention.

Of special importance moved to postpone the subject Would that the Convention in favor of ad-

And clung to honest work, though pride may spurn the toiling crew. The tattered garb, the crownless hat, Yet God and Nature cry aloud, The man is none the worst for that!

Threatened Rupture in the W Party.

Mr. William Lewis, the Collector of up on tons for the District of Philadelphia. The years more triumphant, and will be followed as follows: from which there have been made to have him taken upon the resolution Cooper and the it was agreed to, and Messrs. opinion of Reynolds, James Patterson, Dr. Saml. rad and B. Swarr, J. B. Baker and N. B. President declared the regularly authorized Rates from the city and county of Lancaster. re B. Amwake subsequently appeared as a substitute for Dr. Parker.)

On motion, the Senatorial Delegates were appointed a Committee to report a list of officers for the permanent organization of the Convention.

On motion, the Convention then adjourned to Thursday morning at 9 o'clock.

SECOND DAY.

JUNE 5.

The Convention assembled in the Court House at 9 o'clock a. m., and proceeded to business.

Mr. Hale moved that the Chair appoint the State Central Committee, and that the Committee consist of 17.

Mr. McDonough moved to amend so as to

make the Committee equal to the number of Senatorial Delegates.

This was subsequently, at the suggestion of Mr. Sterigere, modified so as to provide that the members of the Committee shall be selected from the several Senatorial Districts. The subject was then, on motion of Mr. Frailey, postponed for the present.

The Committee to select officers for the permanent organization, then reported the following list of officers:

PRESIDENT—HON. J. L. GILLIS.

Vice Presidents.—C. Kugler, F. Vanzant, C. Worrall, P. Conroy, T. Brown, C. Mason, M. Van Dusen, A. H. Tipping, J. A. Morrison, D. Fister, J. Patterson, S. Morrett, J. Kennedy, G. M. Lauman, E. Tolan, J. P. Felty, S. N. Bailey, Ira Day, S. Strohecker, J. P. Anderson, G. P. Steel, J. Blanding, D. L. Sherwood, M. C. Trout, N. Snyder, D. Bois, Henry M'Cullough, W. W. Dallas, J. D. Leet, G. W. Bowman, J. S. McCalmont, R. C. Hale, D. Fullwood, C. Frailey.

Secretaries.—B. F. Sloan, E. P. Dunn, W. Shaffner, A. McCammon, D. Rankin.

The officers took their stations, when Judge Gillis, the Chairman, acknowledged the honor done him in a very excellent address.

The Convention then, on motion of J. C. McCalmont, proceeded to nominate candidates from which to select one to be supported by the Democratic party of Pennsylvania at the next election for Governor of the Commonwealth.

G. R. Barrett nominated Wm. BIGLER, of Clearfield.

Wesley Frost, of Westmoreland, nominated Col. SAMUEL W. BLACK, of Allegheny.

The Convention being about to take a ballot, Col. Keenan, after a few words of explanation and the warmest protestations of esteem and support on the part of the friends of Col. BLACK, presented the following letter withdrawing his name:

PITTSBURG, May 27, 1851.

GENTLEMEN:—The nomination of Col. Bigler by the Democratic State Convention, is already an ascertained certainty.

The purpose of this letter is to request that you will depart from your instructions, and not name me as a candidate for the office of Governor.

Concept of thought and unanimity in the evening of preparation, gives goodly promise of a glorious day in action. Let not me be an obstacle in the way of perfect harmony, but rather let us rejoice that we in the West can minister to the triumph of the Party that knows no section in State nor Country.

If I did not believe that the entire nation was interested in our success at the State Election, I might not be so earnest at the first of the fight; but I do believe that the security of the Union depends upon the issue in Pennsylvania, and, therefore, "in my heart of hearts," feel most anxious.

Governor Johnston, against whom and towards whom I never have, and never will employ an unkind word, has dedicated himself to a reelection. His resources are neither few nor feeble. Suppose he succeeds, it is a declaration on the part of Pennsylvania that she is determined to disturb the measures of conciliation and compromise which have put rest to sleep. To these measures the Democratic party is so far committed; and he, I think, equally committed on the other side. Let the centre of the Union shake the Union, and what becomes of the trembling branches of the tree? I do not belong to the school of secure sinners, who do not think there is any need of alarm, because danger does not thunder daily at our doors. Nor do I admire the blind bravery of men who will not look at perils because, like a pursued ostrich, they can hide their heads in the sand; but I do admire those who, calculating not the value of the Union, but the danger of it, endeavor, by wise and just means, to still the storm before it breaks upon the best hopes of the true heart. And they are to be the more admired because the storm breaks and wastes itself upon them, and not upon their country.

The peace of this Union has been troubled, and may be troubled again. Let us not, by hollow professions, but by acts of fidelity and firmness, be true to every several right the Constitution gives to every several section of the country. Then we are Americans and worthy of the name.

You will excuse me for running into this earnest expression, but I feel it all, and cannot keep from saying it. I consider the American Union the greatest human institution that was ever formed, and next to the Christian religion, the greatest blessing our misfortune has ever met, to make easier the burdens of a weary life, and I regard even the danger of its dissolution as a disaster most deeply to be deplored.

We can groan and sweat without much agony, under the load of life's sorrows, so long as we have a country. But take that away and we have no heart for anything, and no manhood to meet anything.

When the Mozelle exploded some years ago, on the Ohio river, the arms and legs, with the heads and hearts of men were seen flying through the air. That was very terrible, and exploded, dismembered, and destroyed. The its beauty, and its destruction, because of

It is impossible not to love the thought and the man who made the thought, as well expressed as this: "The States of the Union, distinct as the billows, and one like the sea." And may we not add: the waves of the sea roll in their appropriate spheres, wrapping themselves daily and nightly around each other, and are broken only when driven against the rock or the shore. The wisdom of our fathers rising from the mighty deep of the spectral past, beeches us to avoid the breakers which they carefully and safely shunned.

Very truly,

SAMUEL W. BLACK.

To the Delegates from Crawford, Westmoreland, Beaver, Lawrence, Allegheny, &c.

The letter was loudly applauded, and after the reading was finished the Convention invited Col. BLACK, on motion of Mr. Lowry, to address the mass meeting to be held in the evening.

J. B. Sterigere rose to ask the Convention to incorporate with the proceedings of the Convention the letter of Col. Black, which was accordingly ordered.

Col. Keenan concluded his remarks in relation to Col. Black's letter, by moving the nomination, by acclamation, of Wm. BIGLER, of Clearfield, as the Democratic candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania, which was seconded and carried unanimously by the Convention, and ratified by the populace with the highest demonstrations of devotion and enthusiasm.

On motion of J. D. Leet, the Convention proceeded to nominate candidates for Canal Commissioner.

J. Alexander nominated Seth Clover. J. Stewart " J. B. Bratton. J. C. Plumer " Wm. Seaight. G. W. Bowman " Wm. S. Campbell. A. Snyder " George Merriman. Charles Frailey " James Y. James. David Fister " Daniel Kutz. Jonathan Ayres " Wm. W. Wilson. John Laporte " C. R. Bell.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot, as follows—Mr. Forney and Mr. Lowry acting as tellers:

Table with 5 columns: Name, 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th. Rows include Clover, Seaight, Bratton, Campbell, Merriman, James, Kutz, Bell.

In the interim between the ballottings, the Convention on motion appointed J. S. McCalmont, J. W. Forney, and John Laporte, a Committee to wait on Wm. BIGLER, of Clearfield, and inform him of his nomination by the State Convention, assembled at Reading, as the candidate of the Democracy of Pennsylvania for Governor of the State.

Between the fourth and fifth ballots Colonel BIGLER was introduced by the Committee, and received by the Convention and audience with every demonstration of enthusiasm and respect. When the applause, which lasted several minutes, had subsided, Col. BIGLER rose and said:

You have designated me as the Democratic candidate for the office of Governor of my native State. For the manifestation of your distinguished confidence and high regard, I thank you most sincerely—and through you, my fellow citizens, of the entire State, whom you represent so well, and the manner of its consummation, are alike grateful to my feelings. The signal unanimity which has characterized your proceedings on this point, has excited in my mind the liveliest sensations of gratitude, and inspired me with the highest hopes of the future. I accept this distinguished honor, gentlemen, in a spirit of most profound gratitude and humility—sensible, deeply sensible, that it has resulted far more from the liberal confidence of my fellow citizens, than from any merit on my part, or from any evidence to be found in my past or future career that I am competent to discharge the duties of the exalted station for which you have named me.

But while I am thus gratified with this event, and deeply grateful to you as the agents of the people in bringing it about, I am not insensible of the responsibility, labor and anxiety of mind which it must necessarily entail upon me in the canvass for an election; nor am I unmindful of the fact, that should your action be endorsed by the people of the State, I shall find myself but ill prepared for the high and important trusts which will be confided to me under the Constitution; nor can I forget that many of my fellow citizens, whose rights and interests would be committed to my charge, are more desirous of the honors and better qualified to fill the duties of the station than myself. It is these considerations more than any other that impress me with the deepest humility and the strongest distrust of myself in approaching the responsibilities of the canvass before the people. But I have resolved to enter upon the ordeal of a public life, and if elected, upon the duties of the office, with the firm determination to deal justly towards all men, and to act in accordance with the dictates of judgment and conscience, relying upon the guidance of Heaven and the indulgence and forbearance of my fellow citizens for support.

May I not congratulate you, my fellow Democrats, on the evidence of unity and good feeling in the Democratic ranks, which are presented in nearly every State in the Union. These are the signs of better and brighter days for our party and principles. It shall be my constant aim, as I have no doubt it will be the desire of every Democrat within the hearing of my voice, to extend and strengthen this unity of feeling until it shall have restored the Democracy of the State and Union to "power and place"—until it shall have raised our flag and our principles to their present temporary prostration. For my own part, I have no enemies to punish; all that was unpleasant and painful in the preliminary steps of the party, in reference to the action of this body, is forgotten and forgiven by me. I shall know no distinction among Democrats—no division or faction of our party, but recognize one common, united, harmonious and enthusiastic Democracy, inspired by a patriotic determination to maintain and carry out the great political truths which constitute the basis of the Democratic creed, as expounded by Jefferson and Jackson.

No public service could be so grateful to my feelings as that connected with my native State—now more than ever the Keystone of the Federal Arch—the home of my ancestors—the centre of all my hopes and attractions. Since I first observed political events, I have watched her career with deep anxiety, and have noticed her rapid growth; the extension of her political surface; the development of her agricultural and mineral wealth; and the extension of her commerce, with feelings of profound gratification. She has, too, kept pace with her sister States in advancing the arts and sciences, and in the construction of public improvements for the use of her citizens. But I admire her more for the general prosperity and happiness which she affords to the toiling masses of her people; but still more, if possible, is she to be admired for her patriotic and unflinching devotion to our glorious National Union. She has, and not, it is true, in this brilliant career, been without her days of trouble; she has come up through many tribulations; she has, on more than one occasion, within the recollection of the youngest man in this Convention, encountered the storms of financial adversity. But the fidelity of her people has thus far, as it will in future, preserve her honor unimpaired. Through the want of experience and accountability on the part of her agents, and economy in the use of her means, her debt was swelled far above the necessary cost of her improvements. The facilities for borrowing money, about the period she was most deeply engaged in the construction of these works, contributed largely towards the increase of her debt. The exercise of an unlimited system of credit in the individual transactions of the country—in the transactions between Banks, Corporations and Communities, engendered by a prodigal emission of paper money—constituted the elements and laid the foundation of a financial hurricane, which shortly after burst upon the country with unequalled violence, prostrating indiscriminately the innocent with the guilty; robbing the laborer of his hire and filling the land with distress and misery. Before this storm, Pennsylvania, for a time, was compelled to give way. A vain attempt was made in this crisis, it is true, to supply her wants by a resort to mere expedients, the only effect of which was to postpone the evil day and to aggravate the disease; and in 1842 she lay prostrated beneath a funded debt of 38 millions with a million of unpaid interest and over three millions of a domestic debt demandable at Treasury every day. That she could have been honorably extricated from such a vortex seems almost incredible. But it was accomplished, and to have had the oppor-

tunity of a humble participation in this laudable work, will ever be to me a reminiscence full of interest and gratification. If elevated to the high trust for which you have named me, it will be my special pride and ambition, as it will be my duty, as far as in me lies, to relieve our good Commonwealth of her present burthens; to husband her means and guard her honor. True, I am not of that school of political philosophy which teaches the doctrine that the people can be made rich and the country prosperous by mere acts of legislation, or that the wealth of the country is to be created by the paper money which may be thrown into circulation. All experience has demonstrated, in this country, as well as in others, the fallacy of this doctrine, and proven that a superabundance of this latter element never fails to mislead the productive industry of the country, and to be followed by the most baneful consequences to society. I think the wealth of our country consists in the energy, enterprise and labor of the people and the production of our soil under the genial influence of our climate. To give the industrial interests of the country, therefore, untrammelled action with fair facilities for developing the resources of the State, with a sound currency and such other restrictive measures as will guard labor against the encroachments of capital, is about all that can be done by Legislation. It may answer the purpose of the demagogue to profess to accomplish much more, but the heresy is too transparent to mislead even the most dull of comprehension.

May I now call your attention, for a few moments to our common country. This continent seems to have been reserved by Providence as the theatre on which to prove man's ability for self government. This great problem has been fully solved, and during the experiment the friends of legitimacy on the Eastern Continent, have looked on with fear and trembling. Not only has this great truth been established, by an experiment, but in its progression it has dealt out a greater degree of prosperity to the people and a greater aggregate of happiness to the laboring masses, and a greater rapidity of growth, and improvement to the country, than has ever marked the career of any other nation on the face of the earth. In 1608, the first colony was planted in Virginia, and in 1620, the Pilgrim Fathers landed at Plymouth, a handful of oppressed humanity, seeking a spot, however secluded from the balance of the world where they might enjoy political freedom—their choice under their own vine and fig tree, and there should be no lord to molest or make them afraid. The seeds of freedom sown by these excited Patriarchs, soon took root and extending into other parts of the continent. The offspring of this patriotic band, are soon found in conflict with the tyranny of the mother country. 1776 finds this an independent Republic, guaranteeing political and religious freedom to all its citizens. Since that period to the present, the growth of the country has been almost magical. The 13 original States, embraced an area of about 1,000,000 square miles, and contained a population of less than three millions, not much exceeding the population of our own State, and no more than that of the great Empire. We now have thirty-one States and six territories, with a population of over twenty-three millions and an ocean boundary of over three millions of square miles. This ratio of increase in population up to the close of the present century, would give the United States a population of 130 millions, when perhaps, our country will stand in advance of any other civilized nation, in point of wealth, commerce and military prowess. Even the great Bear of the North, backed by his horde of seventy millions, will look upon this picture with dismay. And yet, notwithstanding the extension of our territorial limits, the facilities for transporting persons and intelligence has kept more pace with our expanded boundaries, railroads and telegraph wires—the great arteries of time and space, are constantly drawing these vast extremities into close proximity, and promoting that intercourse between our citizens, which is so essential to their peace and quiet, and so efficient in removing prejudice and error. This retrospective view is almost startling. State after State has been added to the 13 original Blocks of our National Pyramid, until its summit completely peers above the doubts and fears of friends, and the jeers and taunts of enemies abroad. It stands like a mighty monument to attest the ability of man for self government, a beacon light to the friends of human liberty in all parts of the world—a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, to guide on those patriotic spirits, who still continue to struggle against the political heresies of the old world.

The American Democracy have had something to do with the foundation and progress of this mighty structure. The great Democratic party, more than any other, have appreciated the true destiny of our country, and favored the progressive principles which constitute the great elements of our national success. While I have no disposition at this time to disparage or criticise the policy of the organized opposition which has ever existed against this party, I cannot refrain from alluding to some of the issues between these parties, in which that opposition, according to the teachings of experience, was most eminently wrong, and the Democracy right, to say nothing of the differences in the organization of the Government, or of the monstrosities committed under the administration of the elder Adams, and subsequently wiped out by Mr. Jefferson. Such was the case in the great struggle for the acquisition of Louisiana—in the conflict about the war of 1812, and about the war after it had been declared—in the prostration of the United States Bank—in the establishment of the Sub-Treasury in resistance to the creation of a new Bank—in opposing the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands—in resisting the adoption of the bankrupt law; in the annexation of Texas; in the war with Mexico; in the acquisition of California; in maintaining the just and constitutional rights of all sections of the Union and extending equal encouragement and protection to all the great interests of the country, and to all classes of the people, with exclusive privileges to none. It is to the history of these events and doings, and to the prosperity of the country when under their charge, that the great Democratic party of the nation can appeal for vindication of its career, and for evidence of the wisdom and justice of Democratic policy. These party differences, however, my friends are not to be complained of. They are the legitimate offspring of our republican institutions. This opposition to the Democratic party proceeds from our fellow citizens, equally with us interested in the prosperity of the country, and no doubt equally anxious to promote what they conceive to be her true interests.

The past history of the country is full of lessons of wisdom and admonition, and he is a fool, who will not consult the teachings of experience. The future is bright, and full of hope, though not unclouded, and we should consult the past, to learn how to remove this small remaining cloud in the future. The ordeal in which our glorious Union has been struggling for some time past, is not yet fully cleared. The distant notes of a mighty sea. The like receding surges of a mighty sea. The Haven of safety is not fully attained on the one hand, nor has the Rubicon been entirely passed on the other. The crisis is still critical, and calls for the exercise of great prudence, of skill, of love, of justice, and of firmness on the part of those who are now at the helm of our ship of State. If well directed she will weather the

storm; if unskillfully managed, she may possibly be stranded. Seventy-five years ago she was launched on the troubled waves of political experiment, with half masts, shattered sides, open seams, tattered canvass, with disensions in the crew. While thus weak and her crew inexperienced, she encountered the waves of prejudice and doubt, and ever and anon the mighty breakers of monarchical hostility. Her very helm, and canvass, and crew, are demanded by British insurrection. But she glides on and floats on. She next mounts the billows of internal dimensions fomented at Hartford, the head winds of nullification threaten her with the loss of a star from her flag; she next encounters the adverse winds and breakers of States Rights, Territorial Rights, and the Extension of slavery. The violence and confusion of this storm will high unmanned her seamen; her canvass is fretted by the breeze; her majestic masts bow to the resistless winds; and her vast proportions are played with by the "raging billows." The alarm came—all hands to the rescue was the common cry, and he who had heretofore rested on his oars, came, and he who had differed with his fellow sailor, came; these all united their efforts; they subdued and bound the disobedient and turbulent crew, righted the masts, adjusted the canvass, and guided the glorious old ship of State to the haven of safety—not quite. She is in full view, however, "masted, and canvassed, and flagged," as was never vessel seen before. Her sides are sound, her bottom well copped, and her helm works well. She extends her cable for the shore, and there is but one bar, and that a sand bar, in the way of her approach. Who, let me ask, with an American heart in him, will stand by and see her stranded on this? Who will not reach out his hand for her? Who will not sacrifice a tithe of his peculiar notions and interests to bring this glorious vessel safe into harbor? To maintain, in good faith, my fellow-citizens, the letter and spirit of the several measures of compromise, as adopted by the late Congress as a final adjustment of the vexatious slave controversy, as I am determined to do, as the democracy of the whole Union are constrained to do, may be to reach for the cable, and to tie the old vessel up safe in harbor.

Then, fellow-citizens, whether I be called to the distinguished station for which, in your profuse partiality you have named me, or whether I remain a humble citizen of an obscure corner of this State, my efforts shall be directed towards the perpetuity of our Union of States. The countless blessings of its continuance, I have no language to describe. The horrors of its prostration are too frightful to be contemplated. We should regard it as the pearl above all price—venerate it as the Ark of our political Covenant, which cannot be touched without being desecrated. I know no North and no South, no East and no West—but one grand entire country, and in the language of a distinguished American statesman, "I go for the Union first and last, one and inseparable, now and forever."

The Convention then resumed its business. Mr. Hale withdrew the name of Mr. Wilson, and after the 2d ballot Mr. Kutz was withdrawn. Mr. Barrett moved the appointment of a Committee on Resolutions, and proposed a Committee of 5. Mr. Lowry proposed to make it 33, equal to the number of Senators. Mr. Sterigere offered a compromise, and proposed 9, which, after a short debate, was agreed to.

The Convention then, at 12 o'clock, adjourned till 2 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The Convention met at 2 o'clock. R. A. Lamberton was admitted as substitute for Mr. Brubaker of Dauphin.

Committee on Resolutions.—G. R. Barrett, G. F. Mason, G. W. Bowman, F. W. Hughes, G. H. Hutter, J. B. Sterigere, J. S. McCalmont, Wm. A. Galbraith, Geo. M. Lauman.

On motion, then resumed the balloting for Canal Commissioner, as follows:

Table with 4 columns: Name, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th. Rows include Clover, Seaight, Bratton, Campbell, Merriman, James, Bell.

The Chair then announced Seth Clover, of Clarion, as the Democratic nominee for Canal Commissioner, which was on motion unanimously confirmed and greeted with applause. Messrs. Hastings, Innes and Plummer were appointed a committee to wait on Seth Clover, to acquaint him with his nomination.

The subject of appointing a State Central Committee was then taken up and debated as to the manner of appointment and the number of the committee. After a long conversational debate, participated in by Messrs. Laporte, Sterigere, Frailey, Lowry, Plumer, of Westmoreland, McCalmont, Hale, and McCammon, it was determined to appoint a committee of nine.

G. F. Mason offered the following resolution: Resolved, That the next meeting of the State Convention be held at Harrisburg, on the 4th of March next.

Mr. McDonough moved to amend by inserting Reading.

Mr. Vandye moved to amend further by striking out all names and inserting Philadelphia.

Amendment to amendment lost. Amendment lost.

Resolution to meet at Harrisburg on the 4th of March next, carried.

Mr. Rice offered the following resolution of thanks to the people and authorities of Reading.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention is hereby cordially tendered to the Commissioners of the county of Berks for the use of their Court House, and to the citizens of Reading, for the kind and hospitable treatment extended to us during the deliberations of this Convention.

The Committee to wait on Seth Clover to inform him of his nomination, reported that they had seen him, and that he accepted the nomination, and regretted his inability to attend the Convention and make his acknowledgments in person.

I regret to say that Mr. Clover is confined to his room.

The President announced a ratification meeting for the evening in front of the Court House. 4 P. M.—Recess for half an hour.

On the re-assembling of the Convention, the main business being then disposed of, a committee of one from each Congressional District was appointed to report resolutions. The Committee soon after reported unanimously a series

of resolutions, thoroughly national in their character, which were adopted by the Convention by acclamation. The following are the resolutions:

Resolved, That the time has arrived when not only the prosperity of the people, but the preservation of our blessed Union, requires that the Democratic party, in all its measures, shall strictly and faithfully adhere to the fundamental principles established by its wise, patriotic and glorious founders; and among the most important of these principles we may enumerate a strict construction of the Constitution of the United States, a total abstinence on the part of Congress from the exercise of all doubtful powers; a sacred regard for the rights reserved by the Sovereign States of which the confederacy is composed; an absolute non-interference by the people of the several States, with the domestic institutions peculiar to each; and a right economy in the expenditure of the taxes raised from the people, confining the appropriation of public money by Congress to national objects, plainly authorized by the Constitution.

Resolved, That these vital principles of Democracy been faithfully observed in the administration of the National Government, since March, 1849, we should not now witness the spirit of discord and alienation which so prevalent prevails between the north and south on the question of domestic slavery—threatening as it does eventually to dissolve the Union; should we have occasion to deplore the enormous appropriations of public money, approaching, in a time of peace, to the war standard of expenditure, and endangering an entail upon our posterity of the fatal incubus of a permanent national debt.

Resolved, That the Democratic party of Pennsylvania are true to the Union, the Constitution and the laws, and will faithfully observe and execute, so far as in them lies, all the measures of compromise adopted by the late Congress, for the purpose of settling the question arising out of domestic slavery, and this not only from a sense of duty as good citizens of the republic, but also from the kind and fraternal feelings which they cherish towards their brethren of the slaveholding States.

Resolved, That the Sixty-second Act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, passed on the 3d of March, 1847, denying under severe penalty, the use of our State Jails for the detention of fugitive slaves, while awaiting their trial, ought to be expunged from our Statute books, both because it interposes obstacles, by means of State legislation, to the execution of the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, and because it is a virtual disregard of the principles of the compromise, and is calculated seriously to endanger the existence of the Union.

Resolved, That the matter of levying duties on foreign imports by the general Government, we are in favor of the reciprocal interchange of our products with the other nations of the earth in consonance with the enlightened spirit of the age, recognizing clearly the practice of the Government to maintain and preserve in full vigor and safety, all the great industrial pursuits of the country.

Resolved, That in Col. William Bigler, our candidate for Governor, we recognize a long tried, able and faithful Democrat, in whom there is no guile, and a man, who by his own eminent merit, has risen to the exalted position which he now holds in the affection and respect of his fellow-citizens. We hail him as the worthy representative and chosen standard bearer of our great and glorious principles, and pledge ourselves to do battle for the cause of Democracy under his banner, until we shall achieve a signal victory and redeem the Keystone State from the misrule of its present Whig Government.

Resolved, That we will cordially support the election of Seth Clover, as Canal Commissioner, believing him to be an able, honest, and incorruptible Democrat, and well qualified to discharge the duties of that important and highly responsible office.

After the passage of the resolutions, the disposal of some incidental concluding business, and a good speech from the President, Judge Gillis, the Convention adjourned sine die.

MOUNTAIN SENTINEL.

ANDREW J. RHEY, EDITOR.

EBENSBURG, PA.

Thursday June 12, 1851.

THE "SENTINEL," has much the largest circulation of any paper published in this county—and as an advertising sheet offers superior inducements to merchants and business men generally. Those desiring to make use of this medium for extending their business, can do so by either sending their orders direct, or through the following agents: J. B. Palmer, Esq., New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR GOVERNOR,

WILLIAM BIGLER,

OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,

SETH CLOVER,

OF CLARION COUNTY.

Democratic County Convention.

The Democratic citizens of Cambria county will meet at the election houses in their several townships and Boroughs, on SATURDAY the 28th day of June inst., for the purpose of electing two delegates from each election district, to meet in County Convention at the Court House in the borough of Ebensburg, on TUESDAY the 1st day of July next, whose duty it shall be to nominate a ticket to be supported by the Democracy of the county at the ensuing fall election.

The polls will be kept open in each election district from two until six o'clock P. M. in order to afford every democrat an opportunity of voting.

By order of the County Committee, JAMES MURRAY, Chairman. June 5th 1851.

The proceedings of the Reading Democratic Convention occupy the entire inside of this week's paper. We are confident that nothing could be published more congenial to the wishes of our subscribers, and in our next issue we shall attend to all matters necessarily postponed. Read the proceedings, and resolve in your own mind to go for the nominees of the party, with all your strength and influence.