



WHIG DELEGATE MEETINGS AND COUNTY CONVENTION.

THE Democratic Whigs of the several townships and boroughs of Huntingdon county, are requested to assemble at the usual place of holding delegate meetings, on SATURDAY, the 8th of January next, to select two delegates from each to represent said boroughs and townships in a COUNTY CONVENTION, to assemble in the Court House, in the borough of Huntingdon, on Wednesday evening, the 12th of January, for the purpose of electing a delegate to the State Convention to nominate a candidate for Canal Commissioner, and to appoint two Conferees to meet those of the other counties of this Congressional district to elect a delegate to the National Convention to nominate a candidate for President of the United States.

By order of the County Committee.  
A. W. BENEDICT, Chairman.

Hon. J. Blanchard has our thanks for very valuable favors received during the past week.

No change in the markets since our last.

This being the holiday season, our readers will excuse the want of variety which our paper presents. Printers must have some recreation as well as other people.

County Convention.

We would respectfully urge upon our Whig friends in the different townships and boroughs of the County, the propriety of sending delegates to the County Convention which has been called to meet on Wednesday evening of the first week of the Court. It is of the first importance that the views of the entire party of the county should be expressed in that Convention on the subject of the next Whig Presidential nomination, so that those selected to nominate a delegate to the National Convention may be enabled to act understandingly. We have our own individual preferences, but do not desire to urge them upon our readers, for the purpose of trying to interfere with the free action of the people. Our attachment to principles outweigh our preference for men, and we shall therefore be happy to act in accordance with the views and wishes of the majority of our party friends throughout the county, whenever they are fully ascertained. We therefore hope that we shall have a full representation and a fair expression of the popular will in the coming Convention.

The Bay State Vocalists.

THE EDDY FAMILY, conducted by Professor COOLIDGE, have been giving Concerts here for several nights past, to crowded houses. Their proficiency in vocal and instrumental music has been witnessed with delight and astonishment by our citizens. The vocalists are four in number, two Ladies and two Gentlemen, hailing from the Old Bay State. They have a choice selection of Songs, Glee, Quartets, &c., which they sing, accompanied by a Melodian of the sweetest notes; and the combinations are admirable. As an evidence of the merits of this musical Family, we may state that their first Concert here was thinly attended, but so highly delighted were those present that at the two succeeding Concerts our large Court-House was a perfect jam. We take pleasure in commending this interesting and entertaining Yankee Family to the lovers of good music, in every community which they may see proper to visit. Indeed, "music hath charms!"

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of three large, fat, elegant turkeys, by way of Christmas presents. Who among our contemporaries can boast more substantial tokens of the kindness of their friends!

We have received a copy of the Catalogue and Register of Dickinson College, for the Academic year 1847-48. This institution is located in Carlisle, Pa., and is represented to be in a flourishing condition.

A destructive fire occurred at Utica, N. Y., on Saturday last. The loss is set down at \$30,000, and the insurance only \$9,000.

The Legislature of this State meets on Tuesday next.

Tax on Tea and Coffee.

The President's Message, and the Secretary of the Treasury's Report, strongly recommends a TAX OF THREE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS on the poor man's Tea and Coffee! It will therefore not amaze any one that the Locofoco presses throughout Pennsylvania are "going it strong" for a tax on tea and coffee. However much our neighbor of the Globe "deprecates the idea of imposing a duty on these articles of consumption by all classes of the people," yet he would rather do that than run counter again to the views of the President and his Free Trade Secretary of the Treasury. The Globe "would infinitely much rather contribute its mite in this way, than adopt the course pursued by the federal leaders by giving 'aid and comfort' to a treacherous and barbarous enemy." What patriotism!

A duty on Tea and Coffee is necessary, we are told, as a war measure. And has it come to this at last? We in the free North are opposed to a tax on Tea and Coffee, because it falls hardest on the poor. Tea and coffee have become indispensable necessities with the poor in the free states, where we are a tea and coffee drinking community. In the south we admit it is not so. The nabob—the wealthy planter—drinks his fine tea and coffee, his wine and brandy, but those who labor, the negroes under their "peculiar institution," consume none of these articles. It is therefore easily seen that such a tax is unequal, unjust and iniquitous—the poor man must have the articles—he must pay as much tax on them as the rich man, rolling in ease and luxuriance.

It is the poor man that shoulders the musket and steps into the ranks, and fights the battles of his country. You find but very few of the rich in this uncomfortable and perilous business. Is this not so? It is so—but it seems to be not enough. The poor man at home must pay for the fighting by a tax on every pound of tea and coffee which he and his family consumes! Such is the plain operation of this war measure—this tax on tea and coffee, for which the Locofoco leaders and editors are trying to procure favor. It is infinitely worse than a direct tax.

"AID AND COMFORT."

It is boldly asserted in the Globe of last week, that the late Clay meeting in Philadelphia, passed the following resolution, and that it was "suppressed" in the published proceedings:

"Resolved, That our Government in waging and continuing the present war with a sister Republic for territorial aggrandizement, is unjust, and deserves a signal rebuke from the American people, and that the sympathies of the civilized world should be extended to a nation defending its homes and firesides from invasion. And that in order to relieve Mexico from her distressed condition, we recommend to the Whig party generally, the propriety of appointing a committee of citizens, (friends of the great Statesman of the West), to solicit subscriptions in money, to be sent to that country."

Now, if the above resolution was suppressed in the published proceedings, where does the Globe get it from? Is it not original with the Globe? Or is it copied from some equally unprincipled Locofoco sheet? We call for the evidence.

Such a resolution was not heard of in the Clay meeting in Philadelphia. The Globe itself furnishes the evidence that it was not made public, for it says it was "suppressed."

Who has read a Locofoco paper during the last year, or since the commencement of the war, that has not contained elaborate columns to prove that the Whigs were giving "aid and comfort to the enemy?" The same was the burden of Mr. Polk's annual message in 1846. Will not the ignorant, semi-barbarous Mexicans be encouraged by the comfortable intelligence that the Locofocos send them? Will they not thank their stars that the great Whig party are collecting money to send to them?—Next to the sending of Santa Anna their ablest general, they will no doubt consider money the most desirable "aid and comfort."

Let us not be accused of "giving aid and comfort to the enemy" by transferring the forged resolution to our columns—it is done to show up the villainy of Locofocoism, and it accompanied with its own antidote. But the Globe publishes it as a bona fide fact, as a demonstration of the views and feelings of the Whig party. And although the resolution is a vile falsehood—a fabrication from beginning to end, it is not the less "aid and comfort" when unaccompanied with a denial.

Next we expect to see the resolution copied by the Mexican press to show the

feelings of a large and respectable portion of the people of the United States; and what powerful arguments the Tory presses at home will make out of that fact, to prove that the Whigs have been prolonging the war by this "aid and comfort" to the distressed Mexicans.

THE NEWS FROM MEXICO.

The news from Mexico which we give this morning, conveys a brighter prospect of than any which has yet come from that country. The election of Anaya to the Presidency—although the Presidency only of a month—the selection by him of cabinet ministers, all said to be favorable to peace,—the declarations of the government to the governors,—and above all, the appointment of commissioners to repair to Mexico and re-open negotiations,—are all pregnant circumstances; but more pregnant still, is the statement in regard to the voting down, in the Congress at Queretaro, of Otero's resolution forbidding the government to make peace on any terms involving the alienation of Mexican territory. If these stories be true, they indicate the triumph of the peace party, and the prospect of a speedy cessation of hostilities. And they indicate, too, the blunder made by the Administration in revoking the commission of Mr. Trist, without arming General Scott with the power to treat for peace. The accounts respecting the movements of Santa Anna are highly contradictory. The story of the revolt in his favor and of his intended movement towards Queretaro, seems scarcely probable.—N. American.

THE PRESIDENCY.

A Washington correspondent says there are many speculations in the city in regard to the Presidency, with both parties, and much is said also in regard to the proper time for holding a National Convention. Some of the friends of General Taylor would prefer that no nomination be made in Convention, and that General Taylor should be elected by a sort of spontaneous effusion of the popular will. I doubt if that be practicable. Delegates have already been selected from several States, and the friends of other candidates are by no means ready to surrender their estimation of the popular will, or their presumed action of a National Whig Convention. The time of the Convention is also a subject of considerable interest.—The people of the seaboard, and engaged in general pursuits of business, can attend a Convention as well in mid-summer as any other time, but not so those of the interior, engaged in agricultural pursuits. The representatives of the yeomanry are anxious that such a day should be selected as will enable this large class of persons, particularly from the Northern Agricultural States, to be present at the deliberations of the body.

The Loco Focos are quite anxious to follow the action of the Whigs rather than precede it. If the Whigs take a civilian, they will take a general, and if the Whigs take a general they will probably select a civilian. Between this and the early part of May, there will be but little done in public, beyond the naming of a day for a Convention, for that I presume must be done by the Whig members of Congress. So far, the friends of General Taylor are the most active, particularly those from the Southern States. The friends of other candidates, however, are not silent. The National Convention must decide between the respective persons, and I hope wisely for the Whig party and happily for the country.

CONGRESS is fairly entering upon the business of the Session. On Monday several very pertinent resolutions of inquiry were offered, which we hope will pass. Among them was one by Mr. Goggin, inquiring of the President for the whole history of the "pass" he gave Santa Anna. This resolution was voted down last session by the heavy locofoco majority in the House.

There has been a little pleasant raillery going on for some time between the editors of the Lewistown Gazette and Hollidaysburg Standard, which we are apprehensive is about to end in an open declaration of war on both sides. In this the season of general festivity and good feeling, we should regret such a termination of the controversy, and was it not for the apprehension of sharing the fate of the man who interfered in a fight between a husband and wife, we should like to throw in a soothing word. Indeed, from our location, a word of this kind would seem altogether proper, but for the reason above stated, we forbear.

Whig National Convention.

There can now be no doubt that the Whigs, generally, of the country, will choose delegates, to represent them in a Whig National Nominating Convention, and abide by its results. We notice, however, with pain, there are a few of the presses, favorable to General Z. Taylor, who oppose a convention, and insist on running him as the "People's candidate." This is rank folly.—Suppose the friends of Scott, Clay, McLean, Webster, &c., should take the same course, what kind of show would our divisions make against the opposition, in the great struggle! And the friends of either of the above named gentlemen would be equally justifiable in doing so, with those of Gen. Taylor. Although comparisons are invidious, in what does Gen. Taylor surpass Gen. Scott? Was his achievements in the last war—a war against a foe worthy of our steel—more brilliant than Scott's?—has his attachment to the Whig cause been of longer duration and of a less questionable character than Scott's? Have his deeds in Mexico eclipsed Scott's? Are his civil capacities so superior to Scott's, as to make him the candidate? And we might make similar comparisons with either of the other candidates named. Admit that Gen. Taylor is the almost unanimous choice of his party; what objections can his friends have, then, to going into Convention. These friends can be there, and give him the endorsement of the Convention. The Whig party adopts no two third rules, but meet together to have a fair expression of the Whig sentiment of the country. If Gen. Taylor is the choice of a majority of the Whigs of the country, he would be nominated; if not, as a good Whig, he should not (and will not) permit himself to be used to distract and defeat the Whig strength. Such friends of Gen. Taylor are his worst enemies. They are placing him in a false position, and one, we feel confident, the old Hero will not permit himself to remain in.

The public sentiment of the country is so strongly in favor of a convention, that there must and will be one; and when the time shall arrive, we feel confident it will be acquiesced in unanimously by the Whig party. Lebanon county has a preference for a candidate, but she has a stronger preference for Whig principles, and will not be the less energetic in the campaign, should some other good Whig and true, be nominated.—This is the spirit that should pervade the party everywhere. Everything for principle, nothing for men. There is no man named for the high station of President by our party, who would not honor the office. But we should take the man most certain to be successful—select him who embodies those characteristics most likely to ensure a triumph. Who that man is will be for the Convention, assembled from every part of the Union, to say; and it will be the duty of every true Whig to adopt their selection as his candidate, and rally to his support with that enthusiasm which shall wrest the wand of power from the present unworthy possessors, and place it in the hands of those who regard American Industry, American Honor, and the American Constitution. We feel a conviction that the Whig Sentinel's cry will yet be, "All's well."—Lebanon Courier.

MR. CLAY.

The Louisville Journal, in commenting upon Mr. Clay's celebrated speech, uses the following language: "We are unprepared to concur in opinion expressed by many of the Eastern editors that this speech will inevitably make Henry Clay the Whig candidate for the Presidency; for we strongly incline to the belief that, even if the mass of the Whig party shall seem disposed to nominate him, he will decline the nomination.—We are all convinced that Mr. Clay will not (and assuredly he should not) permit his name to be used in another doubtful contest."

Gen. Scott, under instructions from Washington, for quartering on the enemy, has issued an order that no more bullion, bars or ingots either of gold or silver shall be shipped from any port in Mexico, until the rate of duty shall be fixed by the authorities at Washington, and that after a certain time specified, no more rents will be paid for quarters occupied by the American army. Subsidies for the army, forage, &c. will be paid as heretofore. The injunctions and penalties of the martial law order, published at Tampico, Feb. 19, 1847, will be strictly enforced.

The elephant Columbus, belonging to a menagerie at Philadelphia, broke the legs of his keeper on Wednesday, dashed a eye to pieces containing wolves and hyenas, killed some smaller animals, and made awful work among the benches, &c. He was finally arrested in his mad career, but not until preparations had been made to shoot him.

CASSIUS M. CLAY.—The citizens of Lexington held a meeting on Monday evening last, at which they resolved to give Captain Clay, on his return home, the compliment of a public reception.—The military companies of Lexington have resolved to tender him the same compliment.

FROM WASHINGTON.

There has as yet been little or no public business transacted by Congress, and will not be until after the holidays.—We make a few extracts from Washington Letters:

Dec. 17. The Senate held no session, to day, and but very little was done in the House.

Mr. Pettit, of Indiana, called the attention of the House to a misrepresentation of his remarks yesterday, which appeared in the "Union," of last evening. He abused his political friend, the venerable editor of the "Union," without stint or charity. And what made the matter still worse, not a few Locofoco members were chuckling at a fast rate in honor of the sport. These bickerings and heart-burnings among the "democracy" will never do—no never! There must be concession—union—harmony! They must each and all bear and forbear, and stick more firmly and devotedly to the everlasting principles of '98 and '99 and "John, of Caroline!" If they do not do this and unite harmoniously upon Buchanan, or Dallas, or Cass, or Woodbury, or Butler, the whigs will walk over the course!

Dec. 20. In the Senate, Mr. Calhoun's resolutions were postponed till the first Tuesday in January. Mr. C. said the conquest of Mexico was the real question before the country, and he should discuss that if a debate ensued on his resolutions.

In the House, Mr. Goggin offered a resolution in relation to the return of Santa Anna to Mexico.

Mr. Grinnell presented a resolution of inquiry whether the President had appointed the officers to conduct the expedition for exploring the Dead Sea.

Mr. Schenck submitted resolutions of enquiry respecting the conquest of New Mexico, and the orders for the same.

Isaac Holmes submitted a resolution calling upon the States to return the old surplus fund of thirty millions distributed among them before any more new loans should be created.

Dec. 22. In the Senate several memorials and petitions were presented.—Among the petitions presented was one by Mr. Hale, from New Hampshire, and another from Indiana, on the subject of slavery, which were ordered to lay on the table by the following vote. Yeas 32, nays 10.

Mr. Cass, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported a bill for raising additional forces for carrying on the war with Mexico.

House.—After a prayer from the Rev. Mr. Gurley, the Journal was read and approved.

The bill appropriating one million of dollars for the Subsistent Department was taken up and passed.

Mr. Lincoln submitted a resolution, which was laid over, asking the President to state when and where blood was shed on American soil during the present war.

Dec. 23. In the Senate, Mr. Johnson of Maryland, submitted a resolution, which was adopted, asking the President to inform the Senate as to the costs of the War, the number of killed and wounded, and the number now in the service.

Mr. Crittenden introduced a bill appropriating twenty five thousand dollars for the purpose of purchasing the Madison papers, which was laid over.

Mr. Fairfield, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill for appointing Assistant Pursers in the Navy.

After the reading of the Journal, Mr. Morris, of Ohio, announced the death of his colleague, the Hon. Mr. Hamer.—After passing the usual resolutions of respect and mourning, the House adjourned till Monday.

What Congress thinks of the Veto.

On Tuesday last, in the House of Representatives, Mr. Wentworth submitted the following declaratory resolution, the answer of the House to the opinion expressed so broadly by the President, in his last veto message, of the unconstitutionality of the internal improvement system:

Resolved, That the General Government has the power to construct such harbors, and improve such rivers as are "necessary and proper for the protection of our navy and our commerce, and also for the defences of our country."

This resolution, after the benefit of all debates, was agreed to by a majority of 138 Yeas to 54 Nays, being a majority of upwards of two thirds.

So much, then, for Mr. Polk's constitutional abstractions and his fine-spun theories about "tonnage duties."—North American.

THE POLICY OF A DEFENSIVE LINE.

embracing the section of Mexican territory we desire, as suggested originally by Gen. TAYLOR, is made the subject of studied and vehement attack by the President and Secretary of War. The principle argument urged in favor of it by Gen. Taylor was, not only that it would secure a peace, but that it would change the character of the war from one of aggression to one of defence. This very important point the President does not notice!

GEN. TAYLOR—THE ADMINISTRATION.

"I KNOW NOT how others felt," said Gen. TAYLOR, in one of his brief and beautiful replies to the complimentary addresses made to him in New Orleans, "but for myself, how much soever I may forget, in the hour of battle, the sad consequences of the strife, they always rush upon my mind afterwards, making my heart sink and causing me to feel like a child. I had hoped to have done more for my country than I have. I thought I might have been enabled to accomplish a speedy and honorable peace—an event essential to the welfare of both countries and particularly so to our own."

How different the tone and sentiment breathed in this simple yet touching effusion from the spirit that coldly runs through the President's official remarks on the subject of the war.

Whatever stress may be laid upon the idea of compelling Mexico to make peace on the basis of our demands; how plausibly soever those demands may be glossed under the vague generalities of "indemnity for the past and security for the future," the belief, we presume, is almost universal that the President's policy of carrying the war with renewed force into "the vital parts of the enemy's country," and of continuing to strike a prostrate adversary, will not result in any peace save such as may be enforced by the occupation of the whole country and the continued presence of our armies there.

This view presents a gloomy prospect. We turn from it to find relief and a cheering hope in the language of the brave warrior, who, in the stern usages of camps and the strife of battles, preserves a heart full of the kindest sympathies and a head always clear, intelligent and self possessed. A speedy and an honorable peace is, indeed, "an event essential to the welfare of both countries, and particularly so to our own." The course of the administration gives no hope of such a peace.—Baltimore American.

Remains of Capt. Caldwell.

The remains of Col. Roberts, of Fayette, Capt. Caldwell, of Millin, and R. C. McGinley, of Westmoreland, arrived in Pittsburg on the steamboat De Witt Clinton, on Thursday afternoon of last week.

The remains of Col. Roberts were escorted from the River through Market street to Fourth, up the latter to Smithfield, and from thence to the Monongahela wharf, where they were received by the Fayette county committee, on board the Brownsville steamboat Packet Louis McLean. The flags of all the steamboats in port, were lowered at half-mast immediately on the arrival of the De Witt Clinton at the wharf and remained so during the afternoon. The U. S. Flag formed the pall which enshrouded the coffin of the deceased, and the music of the muffled drum from a military band accompanied the procession in its march.

After the Brownsville steamer had departed, the procession repaired again to the De Witt Clinton, and escorted the remains of Capt. Caldwell to a store in Market street, and R. C. McGinley to the Exchange Hotel, there to await arrangements for transportation to their respective destinations. The scene was mournful, and a sad commentary upon the effects of war. Tears bedimmed the eyes of many who were present.—The three corpses were brought from Mexico under the charge of Lieut. Kane, who arrived in the steamboat.

Ex-President Tyler, says the Louisville Journal, recently came to this city and staid all night, yet none of our citizens would have known of his being here but for the publication of the lists of arrivals at the hotels in the newspapers. We are told that he was neither called on nor taken by the hand by a solitary individual in the city. He went from here to Frankfort, and the Frankfort editors did not even hear of his being there until some time after his departure. His ex-Accidency's fate will be very poor encouragement to future Presidents to turn traitors.

GENERAL SCOTT AND HIS GENERALS.

The New York Journal of Commerce, in alluding to the recent news from the seat of war, says:—

"We trust there is little or no foundation for the report of the arrest of Gen. Worth and Pillow and Col. Duncan.—The accounts containing this report, left Vera Cruz Dec. 1st; whereas advices from the same port to Dec. 7th, subsequently received, make no mention of it. Again, a letter of Nov. 28th from the Mexican capital, received by a commercial house here, says nothing of the rumor, but speaks as though every thing were going on well. This letter is of a later date from the capital than any other accounts received here."

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A melancholy accident occurred on the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad, on Tuesday last.—When near the Bird in Hand Depot, the cars going at a rapid rate, ran over a female, completely severing her head from her body. Our informant says the accident happened at a short curve; and the moment the engineer discovered a person upon the track, he made every effort to stop the locomotive, but in vain. The unfortunate deceased was aged between 25 and 30 years, and resided in the neighborhood.