





SENATORIAL CONVENTION.

From the Winchester Virginian. Pursuant to public notice, the Senatorial Convention assembled at Winchester on the 1st inst...

The Convention was called to order by R. W. Baylor of Jefferson, and on his motion, EDWIN W. MASSEY of Clarke, was appointed President, pro tem.

From Frederick: Stephen D. Timberlake, James Hanberry, Wm. Smith, James Robinson, Joseph B. Hackney, Edwin S. Baker, Col. Henry Richards, Capt. John W. Pifer, Jacob Richards and John Cox.

From Jefferson: James Castleman, Parkinson D. Shepherd, W. A. Castleman, John Alexander, Paul Pierce, Dr. John J. Janney, John Burdell, Jacob Edwards, Bennett Russell, Levi Hiett and Edwin W. Massey.

On motion of Mr. Baylor, a committee consisting of two from each county in the district was appointed by the Convention to be governed in the transaction of the business before it.

From Washington and J. T. Little from Jefferson: S. D. Timberlake and J. B. Hackney from Frederick; James Castleman and John Alexander from Clarke.

The committee retired and after a few moments deliberation reported by their Chairman, that they were divided in opinion as to the rule by which the convention should be governed.

Mr. Washington suggested in addition to the above, that all nominations be handed in to the Convention in a paper, that the names be announced from the Chair, and that no gentleman should be permitted to advocate before the Convention the claims of any of the nominees.

The report of the committee was concurred in, and after a brief discussion of the subject, which had been referred to the decision of the Convention, it was determined by a vote of 20 to 18, that the choice of the Convention in regard to the nomination should be declared by a majority of the delegates present.

The following nominations were then handed in to the President—Hermes L. Opie of Jefferson, S. D. Timberlake of Frederick, Robinson Scovels of Jefferson; Gen. James H. Carzon of Frederick; A. J. O'Bannon of Jefferson; Richard E. Byrd of Frederick; W. Wood of Frederick; and E. W. Massey and Col. James Castleman of Clarke.

The two latter gentlemen having tendered their names in accordance with the compromise which had been made by their respective friends, respectively asked leave to withdraw from the contest.

The Convention not being inclined to restrict the field of choice, did not entertain their proposition, and the balloting having commenced, resulted as follows:

Table with 4 columns: Name, County, Votes, Total. Includes names like H. L. Opie, S. D. Timberlake, Robinson Scovels, etc.

The President announced that the popular Democratic vote of the District was 1839, and he required 817 votes to make a choice, and as no one had received that number, a 2d ballot was taken as follows:

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There being again no choice, a third ballot was then called, which resulted as follows:

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The following Preamble and Resolutions were then offered by Mr. Baylor, and on motion of Col. Castleman, were unanimously adopted by the Convention.

Whereas it is proposed to hold a Democratic State Convention in the City of Richmond on the 23rd instant, for the purpose of promoting the Democratic cause in the "Old Dominion," and more especially, for the purpose of appointing Electors for President and Vice President of the U. States, for the State of Virginia: And Whereas, it is all important that the appointment be conferred on a gentleman of high moral worth and known political integrity and firmness, and believing that the Hon. Wm. Lucas, of Jefferson county, possesses in an eminent degree, (in the opinion of this Convention,) all the elements requisite to constitute a popular, able, and efficient Elector—Be it therefore, unanimously Resolved, That this Convention respectfully recommend to the State Convention, the Hon. WILLIAM LUCAS as Elector for this District.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing Preamble and Resolution be transmitted to A. R. Wood, Esq., with the request that he lay the same before the Democratic State Convention, and that he, as well as the delegates to the said Convention, from this Senatorial District, be requested to advocate said appointment.

On motion of Col. Castleman, E. W. Massey, Esq. of Clarke, was unanimously recommended by the Convention as a gentleman eminently qualified to fill the place of Assistant Elector, and our delegates A. R. Wood, Esq., and the delegates from this Senatorial District, are respectfully requested to urge his appointment.

On motion of J. W. Beller, the 4th Thursday in March, and the town of Winchester was agreed upon, as a suitable time and place, for holding the said Convention in this Senatorial District, for the election of Delegates to the National Convention, which is to assemble in the City of Baltimore on the 4th Monday in May next.

On motion of the same, the thanks of the Convention were tendered to Messrs. Tucker, Keiser

and Thomas, for the eloquent remarks with which they respectively favored the Convention during its sitting, and that each of the gentlemen be requested to furnish a copy of their addresses for publication.

The thanks of the Convention were then tendered to the President, Vice Presidents and Secretaries, and upon motion of Dr. Janney, the Convention adjourned to such day as the President in his discretion may deem proper to re-assemble it.

It is due to Mr. Byrd, to state that he was voted for in the Convention without his knowledge or authority, and it was well known that prior to the assembling of that body, he had uniformly answered all applications on the subject, by declaring his unwillingness in any event, or under any circumstances, to accept the nomination. It is also proper to state, that whilst the balloting was in progress, a gentleman rose in the Convention and stated he was authorized to say that Mr. Byrd did not desire the nomination, and would not accept it.

["In justice to Mr. O'Bannon, we deem it also proper to say, that he preteriously declined having his name brought before the Convention.—The use of it by some of his more partial friends, was contrary to his wish.—Ed of Sp.]

DOINGS AT RICHMOND.

Correspondence of the "Spirit of Jefferson." RICHMOND, February 3, 1848.

DEAR SIR:—I owe you an apology for my silence for a week or so past, and am almost ashamed to acknowledge "the corn" in one instance at least, but the old saying is, that "open confession is good for the soul," and therefore I must tell you that with all the rest of the boys, I was looking at the soldiers and following the drum and fife, when I might have been employed in writing a few lines to you and the readers of the "Spirit" whom I am glad to learn from your read my letters with pleasure.

Well, as you have no doubt seen from the full account in the "Richmond papers," we have had several of the Heroes of the Mexican war here as the guests of the State, and also of the Masonic fraternity, and I assure you for one, I derived much satisfaction in meeting and conversing with these distinguished gentlemen, and brave and accomplished officers of our Army.

I will not comprise in the compass of a letter one-fifth part of what I should like to communicate to you of my conversation with these gentlemen, and therefore shall not attempt to do more than glance at their visit here; but when we meet again (if God should spare our lives) in the merry-time of Spring, I may apply "in propria persona" what I now omit.

I suppose you have never seen the brave and gallant QUITMAN, he, whose undaunted bravery; and military prowess at Monterey, at Vera Cruz, and upon every field of renown in the Valley of Mexico, has shed such brilliancy over our arms, and placed his name and his deeds among the proudest and most enduring records of American History. Well, then, let me give you an idea of "the man" as well as I can remember him. He is a noble looking fellow, and as man my imagination had always pictured a warrior—one who had seen service; and not a "holiday soldier" who flounces on extra occasions in all of the gawdaw finery of Virginia militia white on "general muster day." Aye! before my mind's eye there is a soldier about six feet in height, large, well developed muscular frame, with a large massive head thickly covered with hair, now rapidly turning grey; observe that forehead, it is well developed, and has delineated upon it the traces of thought; that is a fine face, the large grey moustaches and whiskers add much to the character in which we must regard and contemplate it; how quiet, contemplative and yet how fixed and determined is the whole countenance—that blue eye, how wild, yet how fixedly steady; but observe again—listen! the brave soldier is giving an animated description of the landing of our troops at Vera Cruz—now of the storming of Cerro Gordo—now of the scaling of the walls of Chiapullepe—see how it sparkles—he "flights the battles" or again "the flag is there" and he is happy—but from the heights he looks back—"the rank and file" are thinned—he tells of many a gallant soul who was cut down in his tracks—now the sturdy soldier who has waged his blood in blood—is melted to tears! Such is the composition of QUITMAN, the gallant American Volunteer, whose name is now known throughout the enlightened world, and whose deeds are the theme of every tongue.

He is a noble specimen of what Republican Institutions do for her sons. Twenty years ago he left his native home in the State of New York, poor, penniless, and friendless (as I heard him say in a speech before the Masonic fraternity) to seek a home and his fortune in "the wilds of the West." His capital was a determined heart, upon which was inscribed "there is no such word in my vocabulary as fail," and a good education which two affectionate sisters, by the aid and assistance of their needles, enabled him to obtain. With these he went to "the sunny South" where he met the cordial welcome of warm hearts and open hands, and there commenced his career, and soon won his way to honor and fame. His new friends conferred honor after honor upon him. He served them in their Legislature—represented them in Congress—as a judge of their courts, and there it was that he met to arms he laid aside all, and went into the field where he has won the green laurels which now cluster around his brow. He is a remarkably modest man—not a brilliant but a sensible orator, and take him all in all is a man to whom a stranger would take a mighty liking.

There is there another of our ghostly beholders you observe that well built man standing near General QUITMAN, quite a contrast indeed. I suppose he is five feet ten inches in height, just about a much slighter built man than I had supposed him in my imagination to be. Really he looks quite young, not over thirty-five years of age, certainly he cannot be forty yet; his hair is very black—yes, what a fine head he has—his forehead is very well formed indeed, strongly indicative of a sprightly and mirthful turn of mind, his eye you observe is very fine—black, penetrating, and observing—true, and you might add full of fun and fight. I consider that a finely modeled nose, and those black moustaches do not look so bad; in fact, that is a fine face, take it altogether; there is courage, generosity, and talent, all happily blended together very true, and how expressive of the Irish character that is Gen. SHIELDS, as he has just jocularly himself one of "the best native Americans ever born in Ireland." I heard him "make several speeches" while he was here, and really he is one of the most agreeable orators that I ever listened to. His speech at the "Masonic Hall" was thrillingly eloquent; a beautiful specimen of a noble mind and a generous heart. One looks at this gallant soldier, and feels almost amazed to think him a living man; for you know he was several times severely wounded, and once wounded in the breast, the ball passing through his lungs.

But there is a fine looking young officer dressed in the uniform of a Captain of Volunteers, you mean the one now engaged in such an animated conversation with Robert G. Scott, Esq., of this city. Yes, let us get a little nearer to him, and hear what he has to say. Ah! he is telling of the sad fate of the "Palmetto Regiment" who

only one year ago left their homes with 1020 men, the elite spirits of the State, at the head of which was the gallant Butler who fell while gallantly leading his "gallant men" to the charge at Cherabasco. Poor fellows, how few are left to tell the tale of disease and battle have taken nearly all of them to their final account. Listen how he pours his encomiums upon Shields, who led "the gallant few"—46 men who came out of the fight with 56 balls in their bodies. He is a well made young man—yes, nearly six feet tall, has a keen eye, good head, but of brave countenance, quite impulsive in his feelings. I should judge, graceful in his manners; I dare say he would make a good speech. Listen! he is about to toast "the Palmetto Regiment"—"tis done—now he is about to reply—he seems to be overcome with sad recollections—look, tears glisten in his eyes—he is now increasing his feelings—he is warming up—he that was a noble sentiment—see how indignantly he repels the idea that "South Carolina does not love the Union"—he tells of her Marions and Sumpters, of her Butler and his gallant companions who sleep in glory upon the soil of Mexico, and who saved their devotion to the Union with their blood and their lives. That young man they tell me is a gallant soldier—you see he is a good speaker—yes, quite an eloquent and effective orator. South Carolina has many sons of whom she can boast and among them is Captain BLAND.

But, come, let us return to the room—another toast has been given, and there is a speech going on—hark! what a voice—how effective—it must be amid the din of battle—how it sounds like we are born to command. But come, "lets in. Upon my word, it is a fine looking fellow, upwards of six feet in height, and built from the ground too, very muscular, finely proportioned, like Quitman, he looks like he had seen service, and been used to the camp; he speaks well, makes very strong points indeed—yes, and speaks right up to the point. One of "Old Rough and Ready" kind of fellows, but he is very much to be trusted. The result has been that "the friends of the Union" have already been held, and the subject has been warmly and ably debated; and on Monday night next another meeting is to be held, after which I shall frankly and fully state "the condition of affairs" to you and my reform friends. I like that best very much, you see, we stand and how we stand, and what we have to hope for. 'Till then I shall forbear.

The contested election from Harrison county, between Col. Joseph Johnson the sitting member, and John S. Duncan, Esq., has been before the House for several days, and up to this day, has been progressing with great interest and good feeling; but the contestants have been indulging towards each other this morning great asperity, which I am sorry to see, for the question before us is a strictly legal one, and the House, sitting as Judges, must determine the point of law, and wherever the decision of the Judges falls, the parties must abide by it. The question of who is Democrat should not mingle in the contest—the point of law is now before the House—the merits of the case, if you choose to term it so, are not now under consideration. The point at issue is, (that is the chief point,) whether the notice published by the contestants, and signed by the name of Duncan, is sufficient and legal? Duncan objects to the notice for the following reasons:—

1st. That the notice of contested votes upon the part of the returned member, Col. Johnson, as presented to the committee, is not, nor does it purport to be, in the hand writing of said Johnson.

2d. That the name of said Johnson, upon the list of objected votes is not signed by himself, nor does it purport to be signed by any other person for him, nor is said list directed to any one.

3d. That there is neither an affidavit as required by law, of the service of said notice, nor is there any affidavit as required by the statute of 1834-5.

4th. The said Duncan objects to the admissibility of the evidence offered to prove either the service or the legal regularity of the list said to have been served on him, or of the list produced by said Johnson to the committee.

5th. He has also objected to the admission of the evidence of Johnson, as insufficient and illegal, and proceeded to investigate the case fully on all other grounds, so that in case the House should disagree with them upon that point, (which if maintained will end the controversy,) they would be in full possession of the facts, and would be able to decide upon the merits of the case. Mr. Scott, of Fauquier, delivered a powerful argument to-day against the legality and sufficiency of Johnson's notice, and to-morrow Mr. Moncure, of Stafford, will reply, and from his great ability a powerful reply is to be expected. The subject now before the subject now, but will try and furnish you hereafter with a fair and impartial view of the above case.

The fears which I expressed to you at the commencement of the session have been realized—the Hon. John W. Jones is no more—thus has gone out in death another of the shining lights of our country. His death has been announced in both Houses of the General Assembly, and appropriate resolutions of condolence entered upon the journals of both Houses.

I cannot yet form an idea when we shall adjourn. Yours, &c., PHILLO.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

Rumors of a Treaty of Peace, &c. The mail of yesterday brings important intelligence from Mexico. Among other matters, there is a rumor, which was generally credited at the city of Mexico, that the commissioners of Mexico had agreed with Mr. Triat on a proposition to the American government for peace, based upon the terms originally offered by Mr. Triat at Tacubaya, on the 28th of August, which propositions were at that time rejected by the Mexican government, and the reduction and capture of the city followed.

Whether there be truth or not in this rumor, time alone will demonstrate. A part of the assessment (\$150,000) levied by the Scott on the Mexican States, has been paid. The Patriota, of Aguascalientes, says it has received various communications on the existing state of the country. Some of the writers propose to call Santa Anna to the dictatorship, whilst others suggest a national convention, to deliberate whether peace shall be made or the war continued.

There have been several outbreaks among the Mexican Army. In the city of Mexico, Puebla, &c., they are in a state of insubordination. Santa Anna is reported as being at Orizaba, preparing for another campaign.

From the Rio Grande, the New Orleans Picayune has the following: At Monterey, Gen. Wool's Headquarters, an express was received from Saltillo from Col. Hamtramck, in command of the forces there, stating that a report had reached him from a source entitled to credit, that a force of Mexicans, 10,000 strong, under command of Gen. Bustamante, were marching down upon Saltillo. The report even particularizes the points from whence the troops had been raised, but so frequent are the stampedes upon that line, very little credit was attached to the report. Our forces there were in good condition, and perfectly willing to be attacked whenever the enemy thought best to make the experiment.

GOLF MILLS.

The valuable Property on the Shenandoah river in this county, known as Strider's Golf Mills, and advertised for sale in our columns for a month past, was sold on Tuesday and Wednesday last. The Water power, including about 140 acres of Land, was sold for \$9,000. The purchaser was Mr. ELLIS from Philadelphia, who designs immediately erecting a Paper Mill, and such other Manufacturing establishments as it is deemed practicable to erect on the most valuable one, and we do not doubt that in a few years it will be the most extensive manufacturing Depots in the State, will be permanently established.

The Lands adjacent to the Mill Property, had been laid off into lots of from one-eighth to ten acres, and were all sold at a price varying from \$15 to \$125 per acre. The Land was very poor, and except for building lots, is worth comparatively nothing. Many of the citizens of Harpers Ferry were purchasers, and design immediately to commence building up a new village.

See you have noticed the appointment of the Senate Committee upon the petition of the people of Clarke county asking legislation upon the subject of the free negro population thereof. The petition is very numerous signed, and by many of the most respectable, intelligent and wealthy citizens of that county. The Committee have not yet reported, but I learn from Mr. Stowers of Berkeley, that the committee have had several very interesting meetings and that the subject has been ably discussed, and that a report will be made to the House ere long on the subject, the character of which you shall be advised of at another time. This subject is full of interest—of difficulty, and the more I reflect upon the more its importance rises in my mind, and I have no doubt when it reaches the House from the committee it will lead to a warm debate—indeed, the debate upon its reference to a select committee was animated, and participated in by Messrs. Jacobs, Mayo, Conway, Stewart, Dorman and others. I feel very sensibly the evil of this degraded population in our midst, and if their removal can be brought about it is very desirable. I have no doubt upon my own mind of the right of Virginia to make the removal should her Legislature choose to exercise that right. To deny that would be to surrender her whole police regulations over the negro population, and to adopt the doctrines of Massachusetts in her controversy with South Carolina, and upon the basis of which Mr. Hoar a few years since was obliged to leave the "Palmetto State." But as I cannot give my views in full now upon this interesting subject, shall postpone to another time, if not during the session, perhaps after my return home, as I know the people of our whole region of country are deeply interested in the subject. I have much documentary evidence in my possession connected with this subject, which I may desire you perhaps to publish in your columns, and which will impart much useful information to your readers. I feel much cheered in my hopes of Virginia's regeneration and future prosperity, by seeing her people so deeply interested in the various subjects of a State's government, and the development of her resources, the increase of her population and the education of her people. You have also noticed the movement upon the floor of the House for the call of a Convention.—The gentleman who submitted that resolution of the subject, brought in a fine looking fellow, upwards of six feet in height, and built from the ground too, very muscular, finely proportioned, like Quitman, he looks like he had seen service, and been used to the camp; he speaks well, makes very strong points indeed—yes, and speaks right up to the point. One of "Old Rough and Ready" kind of fellows, but he is very much to be trusted. The result has been that "the friends of the Union" have already been held, and the subject has been warmly and ably debated; and on Monday night next another meeting is to be held, after which I shall frankly and fully state "the condition of affairs" to you and my reform friends. I like that best very much, you see, we stand and how we stand, and what we have to hope for. 'Till then I shall forbear.

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THE MARKETS.

BALTIMORE MARKET.—Reported weekly for the "Spirit of Jefferson," by Walter & Co., Flour and Commission Merchants and General Produce Dealers, Baltimore. BALTIMORE, Saturday morning, February 5, 1848.

J. W. BELLER, Esq.—Dear Sir: Flour was in fair demand from the close of our last week's report up to Wednesday evening with sales of \$2500 bbls at 97 cents per quarter. The market was quiet, and the price of the steamer Acadia at Boston with 15 days late news from Europe, put a stop to all further operations—both shippers and dealers preferred waiting for the news. Flour was sold in lots of 1000 bbls at \$5.50. On Thursday and Friday sales of 1000 bbls at same price. The demand has been moderate owing to scarcity of money, but we are satisfied prices will touch bottom with us under the present views. In New York and Philadelphia, dealers have been firm at previous prices, without sales in the day. 1000 bbls were sold at \$5.50. On Thursday and Friday sales of 1000 bbls at same price. The demand has been moderate owing to scarcity of money, but we are satisfied prices will touch bottom with us under the present views. 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