

Indiana American.

C. H. BINGHAM, Editor.

BROOKVILLE —

Friday Morning, January 29, 1869.

U. S. Senator.

The election of Hon. D. D. Pratt meets with universal approbation from the Republican party. All recognize his eminent ability, integrity, and adaptation for the position of U. S. Senator. It cannot be said that the Republicans fail to keep up the standard of Senatorship, as Pratt is in all respects Hendricks' equal, and in ability his superior. The friends of Colonel Cumback, however much regretting the failure to secure his election, feel proud that the place is filled by one so able in all respects to reflect honor on the party and State.

We can see no good that will result from a discussion of the "unpleasantness" of the last few weeks in selecting a Senator. It is better to let bygones be bygones, and all unite in harmonious efforts to give lasting peace and prosperity to the country under the new Administration, forgetting our preferences for men while adhering steadfastly to principle and the good of our common country.

Vacancy in the Eighth District.

The election of Mr. Pratt to the United States Senate, creates a vacancy in the Congressional delegation, viz: from the Eighth District, which is composed of the counties of Cass, Miami, Wabash, Howard, Grant, Tipton, Hamilton and Madison. Mr. Pratt's majority in October was 2,287. Among the names mentioned in connection with the vacancy are Hon. James N. Tyner of Miami, Colonel M. S. Robinson and Hon. T. N. Stilwell, of Madison, and Colonel Asbury Steele, of Grant.

Committeemen.

Senator Gifford has been appointed on six different Standing Committees, as follows: On Benevolent Institutions, on Agriculture, on Federal Relations, on County and Township Business, on Legislative Apportionment, and on Prisons. It is made his duty to visit the Northern and Southern Prisons, the Hospital for the Insane, the Blind Asylum, and Deaf and Dumb Asylum, and report to the Senate.

Representative Cory has been appointed on four Standing Committees, as follows: On Railroads, on Insurance, on Organization of Courts of Justice, and on Prisons. It is also made his duty to visit the Northern and Southern Prisons, and report to the House.

Gen. Grant vs. Inauguration Ball.

The following is the letter from General Grant, requesting the omission of the usual "inauguration ball" on the evening of the 4th of March:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE U. S.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 29, 1869.

DEAR SIR:—Understanding that the committee, of which you are secretary, meet this evening for the purpose of arranging for the inauguration ball, I venture to drop you a line to say that if any choice is left to me I would be pleased to see it dispensed with. I do not wish to disarrange any plans made by my friends in the matter of ceremonies attending the inauguration, but in this matter it will be agreeable to me if your committee should agree that the ball is unnecessary.

With great respect, your obedient servant,
U. S. Grant, General.

Thomas L. Tallock Esq., Secretary, &c.

The committee postponed the ball in accordance with the above request.

New Senator.

Hon. Dan'l D. Pratt, the new Senator elect from Indiana, is a native of New York, and a graduate of Hamilton College, in that State. He first went to Indiana as a teacher, and afterward read law with the late Hon. O. H. Smith, at one time United States Senator. On commencing the practice of law, he settled at Logansport, where he has ever since resided. He is of Whig antecedents, a lawyer of ability, and a radical Republican. He was elected as a member of the Forty-first Congress last October, and has received promotion before actually entering the public service at Washington. The unanimity with which he was supported by the Republican members of the Legislature on Friday, indicates his standing with the party, and gives promise that what threatened to be a serious feud in its ranks will be only a temporary disagreement. Mr. Pratt, of course, was not even suspected of any participation in the bolt, or of giving it encouragement. He will worthily represent his State as the colleague of Gov. Morton.

Lieutenant-Governor Cumback is nearly forty years old, full of energy and pluck, and can bide his time. If we do not misjudge, he had a successful future before him. He will emerge from the late conflict still stronger than before, and wield an important power in the future politics of Indiana.

The following is the response of the Hon. Daniel D. Pratt to a telegram announcing his election as United States Senator to succeed Mr. Hendricks:

LOGANSPORT, IND., January 22, 1869.

Hon. A. H. Conner:

The result you announce overwhelms me with astonishment. Express to my friends the gratitude I feel for the unselfed and undeserved honor they have given to me.

D. D. PRATT.

Ballotings for U. S. Senator.

Both Houses of the Indiana Legislature went into Joint Convention at 12 o'clock noon on Wednesday of last week, and balloted twice for U. S. Senator without electing. They meet again at noon on Thursday, and again balloted twice without electing. Adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M., when three more ballotings were had without a choice. At noon on Friday, Dan'l D. Pratt of Logansport was nominated. We give the several ballotings:

FIRST BALLOT.

Cumback	68
Hendricks	63
Thompson	5
Fraser	2
Urth	1
Allen	1
Hughes	1
Total	145

SECOND BALLOT.

Cumback	67
Hendricks	62
Fraser	5
Urth	3
Allen	1
Hughes	1
Total	148

THIRD AND FOURTH BALLOTS.

Total vote for Cumback	67
Total vote for Hendricks	60
Total vote for Fraser	18

FIFTH BALLOT.

For Cumback	66
For Hendricks	62
For Fraser	18

SIXTH AND SEVENTH BALLOTS.

For Cumback	66
For Hughes	58
For Fraser	18

TOTAL VOTES CAST.

Total votes cast	146
Total votes for Hendricks	60

EIGHTH BALLOT.

Necessary to a choice	72
Total vote for Pratt	83

Total vote for Hendricks	60
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Total	143
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The Senate record of the eighth ballot is as follows:

For Mr. Pratt—Messrs. Andrews, Armstrong, Beardsey, Bellamy, Case, Caven, Church, Colley, Cravens, Elliott, Fisher, Fosdick, Gray, Green, Hadley, Hamilton, Hess, Hooper, Houghton, Hughes, Jackson, Johnson of Spencer, Kinley, Rice, Reynolds, Robinson of Madison, Robinson of Decatur, Scott, Stein, Wolcott and Wood—31.

For Mr. Hendricks—Messrs. Bird, Bradley, Carson, Denbo, Gifford, Hanna, Henderson, Hawk, Huey, Huffman, Humphreys, Lasselle, Lee, Morgan, Sherrod, Smith, Taggart and Turner—18.

Mr. Hughes, when his name was called, said:

Mr. President: In casting my vote I desire to say a word by way of explanation.

And in the first place I beg leave to offer my sincere thanks to the Senators and Representatives who on yesterday did me the honor to cast their votes for me for United States Senator. I desire to say that I appreciate the compliment, and under any circumstances where it can be done without the compromise of principle, it will afford me great pleasure to reciprocate their kindness, and to them both collectively or individually I owe a debt of gratitude which I hope to repay.

With reference to the distinguished gentleman in nomination by the Republican party, I desire to say that I did not participate in the caucus which presented his name, and I am entirely free to vote the dictates of my own judgment. Circumstances not necessary to be recapitulated, had placed me in a position where I could not cast my vote for the first nominee of the Republican party. In that matter I was contending for a principle, and that contest being over it is unnecessary to refer to it. In casting my vote for Mr. Pratt, I give him one independent, untrammeled Republican vote, and a vote that is entirely approved by my judgment and my feelings. I believe him eminently qualified to fill the office of Senator with honor to himself and benefit to the State. I cast my vote for Daniel D. Pratt.

The House record of the eighth ballot is as follows:

For Mr. Hendricks—Messrs. Addison, Admire, Barratt, Bates, Boho, Britton, Calvert, Carnahan, Cave, Crofton, Cox, Cunningham, Dittmore, Fuller, Hutchinson, Hyatt, Johnson of Montgomery, Lawler, Logan, Long, McBride, McDonald, McFadin, McGregor, Miles, Miner, Mock, Montgomery, Neff, Odell, Palmer, Peale, Shoaf, Shoemaker, Sleeth, Sunman, Tebbel, Welborn, Wile, Williams of Knox, Zenor and Zollers—42.

For Mr. Pratt—Messrs. Baker, Barnett, Beeler, Bowen, Breckinridge, Bushkin, Davidson, Davis, Dunn, Fairchild, Field of Lake, Field of Lagrange, Furnas, Gilham, Gordon, Greene, Hall, Hamilton, Higgins, Higgins, Huston, Johnson of St. Joseph, Jump, Kerchival, Lamborn, Mason, Milleken, Miller, Mitchell, Monroe, Osborne, Overmier, Pierces of Porter, Pierces of Vigo, Ratliff, Ruddell, Sabine, Skidmore, Smith, Stevenson, Stewart of Ohio, Stewart of Rush, Tabor, Underwood, Vardeman, Vater, Wildman, Williams of Hamilton, Williams of St. Joseph, Williams of Union, Wilson and Mr. Speaker—52.

Mr. Senator Johnson, of Montgomery, and Representatives Chapman, Chittenden, Cory, Ghorley, and Johnson of Parke, were absent on leave, and paired.

Mr. Pratt was declared duly elected Senator.

Congressional.

In the Senate, on Saturday, Mr. Stewart's joint resolution for a Constitutional Amendment relative to suffrage was made the special order for Thursday. A resolution was passed providing for the removal from office of persons in Virginia, Texas and Mississippi who can not take the iron-clad oath. Several reports were made on matters before the Judiciary Committee, but there was no action upon them. Mr. Pomeroy's Pacific Railroad bill was taken up and debated, Mr. Sherman speaking in opposition to it. The death of Mr. Hinds, of Arkansas, was announced, and he was eulogized by his friends.

Mr. Shanks introduced a bill for confirming the title of the Miami Indians to certain lands in Allen and Huntington counties, Indiana. Mr. Boutwell's Constitutional amendment and bill on the suffrage question came up, and Mr. Boutwell made a clear and forcible argument in favor of both measures, in the progress of which he was several times interrupted by Eldridge, Niblack and other Democrats. Mr. Brooks, of New York, gave notice of an amendment, the purport of which is to extend the franchise to women. Mr. Knott, of Kentucky, spoke for two hours against the proposed measures. At the conclusion of the debate the House adjourned.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Indiana American.

WASHINGTON D. C., JAN. 22, 1869.

Mr. Editor.—Your paper is so crowded with good material that I have refrained, for a long time, to add what I feared might be unsavory dross. Permit me now to say several things very briefly. Washington City is quiet socially, and I presume as quiet politically as our own Indianapolis is just now during the pendency of the Senatorial contest. The feeling here among Indianaans is that Cumback is being treated unfairly. It is hoped that the day is not far away when a sober and good man will be considered worthy of honors, and that no corrupt combination can deprive him of well earned distinction.

Congress is doing some good work. But few important measures will be adopted during this session, but committees are hard at work in investigations of frauds, and in the consumption of matters of great importance to the country. The voice of the people who are burdened by taxation has reached the ears of many of the public servants, and some heed will be given to the cry. But the people should carefully see that something is done toward retrenchment in public expenditures more than talk.

The appropriation bills that have been reported from Committees vastly reduce the expenditures of former years under the same heads. But outside of these bills Congress habitually appropriates specially, and gives special relief, and makes donations, and favors corrupt combinations to an extent that is appalling. Thus what is saved at the spigot may be sluiced out at the bung-hole. I think there is more care now than formerly on this practice, and whiskey rings and Indian rings and railroad corporations and all of this kind will have harder work than heretofore to get their baskets full, even if they get them full.

There are many needless leakages from the Treasury of a local character which will not now be corrected. By local I mean they are here in the Capital.

There are a great many persons who are on the rolls of the Departments and receive pay who never do any work. All these should be stricken off, and C. G. Bass should make it a penal offense for any officer to allow it. Yet members of Congress often neglect the appointment of some friend—perhaps a lady—to such a position, and thus are parties to the corrupt practice.

In the furor for retrenchment this abuse of public funds and common honesty will not be corrected.

But the people who are burdened by taxation are not the only ones who are to suffer. The thought that such a thing as this is possible should afford a release from official duty to day, but it is not pleasant to think that such a thing as this is possible.

For nearly sixteen years I have lived in your midst, and I feel that none know me so well as you. I have tried to conduct myself as a neighbor and citizen in a way to challenge your confidence and regard; and your presence here to night in such immense numbers tells me in much stronger terms than words can convey that my conduct has your approbation, and that I have a warm place in your affections. I can find no words to tell you how grateful I am that you have come to night to convince me of that fact. Let me assure you that in the future, as in the past, it will be my aim to strive to merit your regard and confidence, and to join with you in promoting every cause that tends to promote the happiness of our small, yet growing city.

"I did not anticipate this interruption, pleasant as it is, to my home enjoyment, and am now surprised to find myself in the presence of this immense crowd of old friends. The exhausting excitement of the last few weeks, and this unexpected call, will forbid that I should venture to make a speech. A word of grateful thanks, with a brief statement of the political contest through which I have just passed, must be all that you must ask of me to-night."

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