

THE REGISTER.

LIGONIER, FEBRUARY 25, 1856.

Republican State Mass Convention.

At a meeting of the Republican State Central Committee, at Indianapolis, it was unanimously agreed to call a State Convention to be held at Indianapolis on the 1st day of March next, at 10 o'clock A. M., to extend to all persons without regard to past party designation, opposed to the Lecompton policy of the present administration, a cordial invitation to attend and participate in its deliberations for the purpose of forming a new party, to be known as the "Free State Party," on the 1st inst., by a special Committee of Federal office-holders and exponents who, while professing an adherence to the principles of the Lecompton party, cordially approved and endorsed the administration in its efforts to force Kansas into the Union as a Slave State, contrary to the wishes of a vast majority of her citizens.

In order that all the Committees may be fully represented, it was also agreed to recommend to the people of each county to hold meetings at an early day, "protesting against the Slave Convention," and to call a State Central Com.

JNO. D. DEPREES, Chairman.

County Convention.

The meeting called by the Republicans of this County, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the State Convention, to be held at Indianapolis on the 4th of March, though not largely attended, made up in spirit what it lacked in numbers.

If ever Republicans had felt any hesitancy in opposing the craven maw of the slave power, it is now all dispelled by the infamous course pursued by the present Administration in power. The confidence felt and expressed was, that although beaten in the great contest of 1856, yet the more than fulfilment of the iniquity prophesied in the election of Mr. Buchanan, having been realized, shows beyond the possibility of a doubt, the necessity of an organization founded upon the principles of the Republican Party. In common with Republicans all over the Union, the feeling was strong that in the "bitter waters of experience," now being drank by the American people, although grievous to be borne at present, yet, that it would be efficacious in curing the true frenzies of the country of the "black vomit" of a false and tyrannical Democracy.

For a more extended notice, we refer to the regular report in another column.

Regulator Notes.

The confession of McDougal, promised us last week, has not (for wise reasons doubtless,) been furnished us. We shall, therefore, wait the proper time, but trust that it may be furnished us for next week's issue.

We have but one arrest to note since our last issue, and that is of a Mr. Helm, of Whitley County. The smacking out of this prisoner was accomplished through the agency of PAYNE, one of the first taken, who has done the Regulators and the State an incalculable service by the important information furnished by him. His connection with the gang, although comparatively short, yet from his active efficiency, was at once raised to the first rank, and, of course, full confidence awarded him. Thus his acquaintance became general; and, so far as the committee are able to judge, he has laid open, from time to time, all that was important in bringing his former accomplices to justice.

The last one arrested, Helm, was taken at his house, three or four miles from Columbia, Whitley County. Some bogus silver coin, as also composition for making more, were found with him. He seemed much excited from fear of "being hung."

He has stated since his arrest, that while search was being made, that directing the attention of the persons searching to some other portion of the house, he was able to secrete, in the roof of his house, some \$60 of bogus gold coin, directing his wife to destroy it as soon as all left.

The prisoner, with the guard, passed through our place, on Monday evening, en route for Indianapolis.

"During the past week, we have been presented, by a "better half" with a nice little B—'remonstrance.' Now is the time to subscribe for the *Northern Indiana*, \$1.50 in advance."—North Indiana.

Well now, that's a new experiment to raise subscribers for one's paper. Hope that you will receive a suitable encouragement; but your subscribers must take into consideration the frailties of human nature, and not render the first experiment too successful, for who knows how much one's brain may be crazed after repetitions of former splendid successes. Subscribe liberally, friends, for the *Indiana*, but don't pay in too fast; preserve the equilibrium of your editor by all means.

We find the following "Good one" going the rounds of the papers:

The Egyptian Torch-Light, a Democratic paper, published at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, has for its motto: "Egyptian darkness and Jackson Democracy—One and inseparable."—Mound City Emporium.

LECOMPON DANCE.—We find the following little "sign of the times" in an exchange. It is very applicable to the Democratic party of the present day:

"Wheel about, and turn about,
And do just what we turn about.
And every time it turns, we turn about
The further South we go."

The Test Question.

The House of Representatives, at Washington, was brought to a test on the Lecompton swindle, on the 8th inst., as our readers are already informed.—

The question was on the motion of Mr. Stephens of Georgia, to refer the President's Lecompton Message, and the accompanying documents to the regular standing Committee on Territories.—

Mr. Harris of Illinois, moved to amend

the amendment of the gentleman from Illinois, to refer the Message to a select Committee of fifteen, with instructions."

Now, Babel broke loose. All sorts of ejaculations were uttered. "We've got 'em!" cried an ardent young gentleman, "The Slave Power is dead!" replied an enthusiastic lady. "Sailing rather close to the wind, one is in a good working majority!" replied a grave man.

The reading of Harris' resolution was demanded by a score of voices. It was read, and the yeas and nays ordered, amid such confusion that the gavel was put into repeated requisition to obtain sufficient silence for the Clerk to call the roll. I noticed that the excitement was chiefly on the Pro-Slavery side. The Anti-Lecomptonites having barely escaped defeat on the main question, and yet, having escaped it, sat calm and stern, awaiting the final issue. The result was, ayes one hundred and fourteen; nays one hundred and eleven. So, the proposition was adopted by a majority of THREE. Harris, pale as ashes, but firm and steady in the moment of victory, rose, and in clear tones, said, "Mr. Speaker, I move to reconsider the vote just taken, and to lay that motion on the table." This is always the clenching motion at the close of a hard fought struggle—it requiring two thirds to take such a motion from the table. The yeas and nays were again called, and Harris' motion prevailed.

The hereditary Chivalry of the South was beaten, in pitched battle, by the Roundheads of the North; on a field where for thirty-six years, they had won so many trophies.

From the N. Y. Tribune.

Anti-Lecompton Demonstration in New York.

FIVE THOUSAND DOUGLAS DEMOCRATS PRESENT.

The Chinese Assembly Rooms were crowded last evening by a large and intelligent gathering of citizens, without respect to party, assembled to hear the history of the latest wrongs against Kansas told by one of its chief Territorial officers, appointed to his post by the present Administration. The hall was crowded soon after 7 o'clock, and many left without being able to gain admittance, though the notice of the meeting had been limited, and the weather was exceedingly cold. At 7½ o'clock Mr. McMasters, editor of the Freeman's Journal, called the meeting to order, and nominated the Hon. George Bancroft to preside. The nomination was received with loud cheers.

Mr. Bancroft said: The first duty that claims our attention is the perfection of the organization of the meeting. I beg leave, therefore, to read to you the names of those gentlemen among whom are Democrats of the oldest standing, the longest service, and of the utmost constancy and fidelity to the true principles of Democracy and freedom. The Germans of the city, too, were burning with indignation at the thought that the system by which the liberties of Germany had been suppressed, should be brought into effect in these free United States.

Mr. Bancroft then read the list of Vice Presidents and Secretaries, the announcement of which was received with loud applause.

[Among the list we observe the names of ex-Mayor W. F. Havemeyer, Jas. A. McMasters, editor of Freeman's Journal; E. G. Massaro, editor of Courier des Etats Unis; O. Ottenderer, editor of Staats Zeitung; Geo. B. Miller, ex-editor of Journal of Commerce; Edward C. West and other prominent influential Democrats.]

Hon. Geo. Bancroft first addressed the vast audience which numbered full 5,000 men. He began by saying, that the principle of forcing the Lecompton Constitution on an unwilling people, is diametrically at war with the fundamental principles of Democracy. The same principles also that lie at the bottom of this attempt to deprive the people of Kansas of their rights are dangerous, if not fatal for liberty and property, and in their tendencies lead straight toward disorder and despotism. [Applause.] The delay which has attended our assembling has enabled me to ascertain that the voice of the conservative body of the men of property, of standing and of wealth in this city, is and must be by the necessity of the case opposed to a system so revolutionary and disorderly in its character.

Now there was much running to and fro on the floor. Long heads were put together. Some Anti-Lecompton Democrats, whose knees were thought to be shaky, or their spines not of the stiffer sort were drawn hastily into adjacent cloak rooms. Some important persons, not members of the House, were there. Ominous whisperings were indulged in. One Democratic member was heard to say, with an emphasis which rather startled another Democratic member, "I don't care a d—n for the patronage of the Administration. I shall vote as I please."

The calling of the roll went on—Two or three men at the close changed their votes. The hum of conversation on the floor sank to a silence painfully profound, and even the flirting of simpletons in the galleries ceased, as the Clerk handed an ominous little bit of paper to the Speaker. It trembled in Col. Orr's hand, as he announced, "In the affirmative, one hundred and thirteen; in the negative, one hundred and fourteen. The nays have it. The motion of the gentleman from Georgia is lost! The question now recurs upon

LETTER FROM THE HON. S. A. DOUGLAS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11, 1856.

GENTLEMEN.—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your kind invitation to address the Democracy of New York, on Friday night, in opposition to the effort being made to force Kansas into the Union with

the amendment which the people of that Territory have repudiated and rejected at a fair and valid election by more than ten thousand majority. The time has now arrived when the Democracy of the whole country should hold meetings in the cities, towns and counties, and proclaim, in tones that command respect their devotion to and determination to sustain and carry out in good faith the great principles of self-government which lie at the foundation of all free institutions, and which proclaim their determined and unyielding hostility to the consummation of a scheme so monstrous as to force a constitution at the point of the bayonet down the throats of an unwilling people.

It is regret that my public duties, as well as illness in my family, demand my constant attention here, and thus deprive me of the honor which I should otherwise enjoy in accepting your kind invitation.

I have the honor to be, very truly,
Your obedient servant,

S. A. DOUGLAS.

Fellow citizens, I have the honor to-night to present to you my friend of many years, the friend of the late President Polk, of Tennessee; I have to present to you to-night, and ask you to listen to his tale, and then form your opinions whether we ought or ought not to protest against the Lecompton Constitution. [Loud and prolonged cheering.]

Mr. Stanton was greeted with several enthusiastic rounds of applause.

We have not space for the speech of Mr. Stanton, which was able and eloquent, and strong from his stand point. He reviewed the whole grounds of controversy between the Lecompton and Douglas Democrats, and of his own official acts, including his removal for doing his plain, honest duty.

The delivery of this address occupied more than three hours, but it was listened to throughout with the most profound and unflagging attention.

At the close, a lengthy series of resolutions was adopted, denouncing the imposition of the Lecompton Constitution on the people of Kansas, and commanding Gov. Walker, Secretary Stanton, and Messrs. Douglas, Harris, Haskin and Wise.

The Douglas Democrats of New York city have taken a stand decidedly more free-soilish than the same class of people in Chicago.

County Convention.

Pursuant to a call published in the Noble County Register, the Republicans of Noble County met in convention at Kendallville on Feb. 22, 1856, and organized by calling PHIL VERMILYEA Esq. to the chair, and appointing Dr. R. C. S. REED Secretary.

On motion of G. F. Clark, A. B. Miller, J. Haxby and Wm. B. Dunn were appointed a committee on Resolutions.

On motion, a committee of five were appointed to select Delegates to attend the State Republican Convention to be held at Indianapolis on the 4th day of March next.

The chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, in behalf of said committee, presented the following Resolutions, which were read and unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the Republicans of Noble County adopt, as a standard of principles, the Philadelphia platform adopted in 1856, together with the various resolutions passed at the convention of the Republicans party of this State since that time.

Resolved, That we repudiate the extra judicial opinion delivered by a majority of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Dred Scott case, in which they assert in effect that the Constitution of the United States carries Slavery wherever that instrument has effect, the will of the people to the contrary notwithstanding.

Resolved, That the duplicity and treachery of James Buchanan in repudiating and decrying the principles which he formerly supported as the very essence and touchstone of Democracy, and more particularly his recent and glaring attempt to falsify facts, pervert history, and contravene the popular sentiment as appears by the recent message on the Lecompton Constitution, presents him and his supporters as persons utterly unworthy of the confidence and support of the true Democracy of the Union.

The committee on Delegates presented the following to compose the delegation to the State Convention: J. Palmer, W. M. Clapp, H. S. Towsley, R. C. S. Reed, H. Cromer, G. L. Gale, Lake Erie, W. Mitchell, G. F. Clark, Daniel Orlin, Isaac Tibbets, J. Wolf, H. Bassett, N. Prentiss and H. Wheeler, which report was received and unanimously adopted.

On motion, every good Republican in the county was added to said delegation.

It was ordered by common consent, that the proceedings of this convention be published in the *Noble County Register*.

After which, amusing and interesting remarks were made by Miller, Dunn, Haxby and others, when upon motion the convention adjourned.

R. C. S. REED, Sec'y.

Kansas must inevitably be a Free State. Her destiny in that respect was sealed by the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, in 1854. [Noble Co. Dem.

Exactly—just as true as that you will find the regions of *dark despair* happier than Heaven, and that the devil is a purer and holier being than Jehovah. Parallel cases, sir, although yours is a little the strongest in contrast.

"Kansas is, at this moment, as much a Slave State as Georgia or South Carolina. [Buchanan.]

Hurra for "Buchanan and Free Kansas." Reader do you believe in the doctrine of total depravity.

A NOBLE REWARD.—Yesterday afternoon the clerk of a banking firm in Wall street lost a package of money and checks amounting to \$20,000. It was picked up by an apple woman, at the corner of William street, and very soon returned by her to the owners, who magnificently rewarded her with a present, in current funds of two hundred cents. [N. Y. Tribune.]

WE ARE HAVING AN EXCELLENT RUN OF SLEIGHING, AND THE BOYS ABOUT TOWN ARE MAKING THE MOST OF IT—EVERYTHING IN THE SHAPE OF SLEIGH, PUNG OR CUTTER BEING BROUGHT INTO REQUISITION.

Temperance Meeting.

At a meeting of the citizens of Ligonier held on Tuesday evening, Feb. 23. A. McC. CLURE was called to the chair.

On motion a committee of three, consisting of Albert Banta, J. Lower and A. M. Latta were appointed to wait upon the Rev. Wm. Woolcott and invite him to deliver an Address on Temperance on Friday evening next.

A. McC. CLURE, C. A.

MESSES. BANTA, LATTER & LOWER.—Gentlemen.—It will give me pleasure to comply with the invitation of citizens of Ligonier and vicinity expressed through you, to address them on Friday evening, at the Methodist Chapel, on the subject of Temperance. I will prove to the audience that the Liquor Traffic is worse than horse-stealing—worse than highway robbery—worse than murder—that these crimes, when committed with the evils of the Liquor Traffic, white into innocence.

Yours, &c. W. WOOLCOTT.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Burning of the Pacific Hotel.

St. Louis, Feb. 20.

The burning of the Pacific Hotel proves to have been a much more terrible calamity than was reported this morning. There were about 100 persons in the House, between forty and fifty of whom are missing. The following are the names of the persons as far as known to have been killed.

Bruce McNitt, Burkhardt Wurst, Paul Sternill, Mrs. Jenny Jones and child, all of St. Louis; Johnson of Chicago; Henry Rochester, and T. Hart Strong, Rochester, N. Y.; Wm. Saunders Taylor, Geo. Crane, and Miss Jones residences unknown; Charles Davis, Wm. Cunningham, Terre Haute and Alton R. H.; Miss Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard, nine persons in one room, names unknown, and a negro boy.

The following persons were seriously injured; James F. Geary, Reporter for the St. Louis Leader; Elihu Hays, N. Y.; Jonathan Jones, Wm. Towns, Wm. Turner, and — Sharpe, watchman of the House.

The fire caught in a Drug Store, under the Hotel, and the flames spread so rapidly that before the inmates could be aroused, the stairway was enveloped in flames and all egress cut off, except by the windows. Many leaped from the third story, and were horribly mangled or instantly killed, and many more, unable to reach the windows, were burned in their rooms. Several bodies are supposed to be in the ruins, and hundreds of excited men are energetically engaged in removing the rubbish.

The wounded were promptly taken in charge by their friends, or sent to the hospital, where their injuries were promptly attended to. Several of the wounded cannot possibly recover. The loss of property is upwards of \$50,000.

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New York Items.

New York, Feb. 20.

The storm ceased this afternoon, leaving about six inches of snow on the level.

The trains on the Hudson River & Harlem R. R. came through in good time.

On Thursday evening, while the convicts in the State Prison at Sing Sing were filing into the mess room for supper, five of them made a rush for the river, which is frozen, thinking to escape on the ice. They were pursued and fired upon by the guards, and all brought back, when three, were found to be wounded. Two of them will probably die.

The steamer Africa is below, and will probably be up by 8 o'clock.

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More Quarrelling.

Washington, Feb. 20.

An altercation took place to-day at the dinner-table at Brown's hotel, between Hon. Jas. B. Clay and Mr. Culom, late Clerk of the House. Subsequently Mr. Culom struck Mr. Clay in the face with his open hand.

This morning Ex-Lieut. Rhind posted Commander Boutwell as a liar and coward, near the Navy department. It is understood that the difficulty originated several years ago, on the Pacific, but was recently renewed before the naval court of inquiry.

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From