

THE DEMOCRAT.

D. E. VAN VALKENBURGH, Editor.

PLATT McDONALD, Associate Editor.

Thursday, January 13, 1870.

The Democratic State Convention.

The convention of the democrats of Indiana, which assembled at Indianapolis last Saturday, was one of the largest, most harmonious and intelligent ever convened in the state. But one county in the entire state was unrepresented, and 1121 delegate votes were cast on the first ballot for secretary of state. The ticket presented to the people of the state is a most worthy one, and met the hearty approval of this immense concourse of the representative men of the democracy of the state.

The convention was called to order at 10 o'clock by Hon. LAURENCE DUVILLE, and Gen. MANSON was chosen temporary chairman, a committee on permanent organization was appointed, as follows:

First district—Thomas R. Cobb.
Second district—W. W. Caldwell.
Third district—W. J. Colvin.
Fourth district—Dr. Samuel A. Troy.
Fifth district—Joseph E. McDonald.
Sixth district—John C. Franklin.
Seventh district—Col. N. T. Catterlin.
Eighth district—Charles E. Lassell.
Ninth district—Gideon Shaw.
Tenth district—L. B. McDonald.
Eleventh district—Monteith Nye.

The next action of the convention was the selection of the following committee of platform:

First district—Wm. E. Niblock.
Second district—Levi Spark.
Third district—William S. Holman.
Fourth district—George Berry.
Fifth district—Dr. R. E. Eads.
Sixth district—John C. Franklin.
Seventh district—Thos. F. Davidson.
Eighth district—N. O. Ross.
Ninth district—Alfred Kilgore.
Tenth district—John R. Crofford.
Eleventh district—D. E. Van Valkenburgh.

After which, the following named gentlemen were chosen as members of the state central committee for the ensuing year:

First district—Eccles G. Van Riper, Vandervelde county.
Second district—John S. Davis, Floyd county.

Third district—Richard D. Slater, Jr., Dearborn county.

Fourth district—Nathan Raymond, Wayne county.

Fifth district—E. S. Alvord, Marion county.

Sixth district—William Mack, Vigo county.

Seventh district—John S. Williams, Tippecanoe county.

Eighth district—James Sweetser, Grant county.

Ninth district—John Ockerson, Delaware county.

Tenth district—Eli W. Brown, Whitley county.

Eleventh district—John P. Early, LaPorte county.

The authority was delegated to the above committee to choose their own chairman.

The committee an permanent organization reported the name of Gen. JAS. R. STACK as chairman of the convention with a vice president from each district, and R. J. BROWN and L. G. MATTHEWS secretaries. After which the convention proceeded to the nomination of a state ticket.

We give, below, the names of the nominees; and the comments of the Indianapolis *Sentinel* on the same:

Norman Eddy, of St. Joseph county, is the nominee for secretary of state. As to his fitness and worth not a doubt can or will be raised. He was not a candidate, but when he was placed before the convention by the promptings of delegates who appreciated his many noble qualities, his nomination was a foregone conclusion. Dr. Eddy, for he was a practicing physician many years in this state before he entered upon political life and the legal profession, was born in the state of New York. He emigrated to Indiana in 1833 and settled at Mishawaka. In 1859 we think, he was elected to the state senate and served the term. In 1852 he was elected to congress for the term of 1853-1855, and made his mark in that body for ability, courtesy and strict attention to the interests of his constituents. In 1856 he was appointed attorney general of Minnesota, by President Buchanan, and filled that position very acceptably to the people of that territory. Dr. Eddy did all that was in his power to prevent the terrible civil war from which the country just emerged, but when the Rubicon was passed and the struggle was left to the arbitration of arms, he tendered his services to the government, and was appointed colonel of the forty-eighth Indiana regiment.

He discharged his military duties with gallantry, zeal and ability. At the battle of Iuka he was shot through the arm and crippled for life. He was appointed collector of internal revenue by President Johnson, but was removed on the accession of General Grant to the presidency. Colonel Eddy has the confidence and respect of the community, political friends and foes alike, in which he has so long lived, and the best evidence of his honesty in the discharge of his official duties, is that he quit public life a poor man.

John C. Shoemaker, of Perry county, is the candidate for auditor of state. Mr. Shoemaker has just the business qualities and the integrity to fit him for the faithful and successful discharge of the important duties of this office, the most important in the state. He possesses the Jeffersonian qualities of honesty, capacity and fidelity to the constitution. His parents were Germans from the Rhine, and he inherits the peculiar thrift of that nationality, and to it he added the energy and enterprise of the western people. As evidence of the confidence of his neighbors in his integrity, practicality and ability, Mr. Shoemaker always runs ahead of his ticket when a candidate for official position. Mr. Shoemaker speaks the German language, and his nomination was warmly supported by the counties that contain the largest German population in the state. Mr. Shoemaker is the right man in the right place.

James B. Rives, of this county, is again placed in nomination for treasurer of state. Mr. Rives is a native of Ireland, but he has been a resident of Indiana for over a quarter of a century, and is as much identified with its interests and prosperity as if to the man born. He has the business qualifications and integrity that will fit him for the responsible position for which he has been named, and this commendation has

the full approval of some of our best business men and heaviest capitalists who know the man.

For attorney general the name of the accomplished lawyer and eloquent orator, Hon. Bayless W. Hanna, is presented. Mr. Hanna, we believe, is a native of Montgomery county. He is a graduate of Wabash college. Mr. Hanna served one term in the state senate. His speeches when a member of that body, and those upon the stump in the various political canvases in which he has taken part, have given him reputation and fame equal to the most gifted of our western orators. We predict that Mr. Hanna will do his part in the cause of this year in redeeming Indiana from the thralldom of radicalism.

Rev. Milton B. Hopkins is the candidate for superintendent of public instruction. Mr. Hopkins is now principal of a seminary at Logansport, and has been practically identified with the educational interests of the state. He is probably the most intellectual, learned, logical and eloquent preacher in the Christian or Campbellite church in the state, and his integrity and experience in educational affairs eminently qualify him for the place he has been named.

The candidates for judges of the supreme court, are Hon. James L. Warden, Hon. Jno. Pettit, Hon. Alexander C. Downey, and Hon. Samuel H. Buskirk. Their ability, professional learning, accomplishments and integrity command them as eminently fit to compose the court of final adjudication.

Mr. Worden is a native of Ohio. He became a citizen of Indiana in 1842, and since then he has been prosecuting attorney, circuit and supreme judge. Learned in his profession, logical and painstaking, his decisions and opinions upon the supreme bench have stood the test of the closest scrutiny, and they have weight as precedents that will compare favorably with those of the most eminent of the judges who have composed that court.

The secretary of the treasury proclaims himself in favor of funding the public debt—twelve hundred millions of dollars divided into three parts: four hundred millions of dollars in twenty years, four hundred millions of dollars in twenty-five years, and four hundred millions of dollars in thirty years, at four and a half per cent. A short calculation will show that at the end of thirty years the people of this country will have paid out thirteen hundred and fifty millions of dollars in gold, in interest alone, upon the secretary's plan, and not one dollar of the principal paid.

I ask you, gentlemen of the convention, to ponder those things deeply. Carry them home with you. Appeal to your republican neighbors, and ask them whether they propose to make themselves endless slaves—like blind horses in a treadmill, to work from sun to sun, from week to week, from month to month, and from year to year, to pay a debt they don't owe, and for the payment and final liquidation of which there is no plan at all.

Gentlemen sometimes say that we should present an affirmative issue as well as a negative one. I am some charged with being good at tearing down the plans of others. Bear with me a few moments longer. We have now outstanding fifteen hundred million of five-twenty bonds, payable at the end of 5 or 20 years; 5 have now expired. They can be paid at any time within the next fifteen years. My plan is to draw in one hundred million this year, one hundred million of dollars next year, and as it were sprinkle it all over the next fifteen years, issuing currency to redeem it, thus paying the bonded debt in better money than it was bought with. [Applause.] And do you say that would inflate too much, and produce too high prices? Let me appeal to business men here; you come up here from every avenue in life. Do you want money? Was there ever such a cry for circulation as there is to-day? I have never known such a want of circulation as there is now in the west here. We have forty millions of people. The cotton crop alone this year calls for three hundred millions of circulation to carry it off. I was in New Orleans last summer, and I speak the voice of the commission merchants there when I tell you that the cotton crop demands a thousand million of dollars, a thousand million more, and the rice crop fifty million more. The poor, impoverished south for their staples needs five hundred millions of circulation. The whole circulation of the country is about seven hundred million of dollars. The opening up of the country west of the Mississippi to the waters of the Pacific Ocean makes other demands for currency. That country alone demands, in the interests of trade, as much or more circulation than all this country together, required before the war. We are certainly very few who cannot spare that amount for a paper giving as much reading matter as the *DEMOCRAT* does.

That we are opposed to any change in the naturalization laws of the United States, whereby admission to citizenship will be made more difficult or expensive; and we especially denounce the proposed plan of transforming the naturalization of aliens to the court of the United States, and abridging the powers of state courts in that respect, as a hardship and expense to the poor and friendless candidate for American citizenship; we recognize the proposed change as the offshoot of intolerant "Know-Nothingism"—the twin relic of radicalism itself.

After the nominations, loud calls were made for D. W. VORHEES, who responded with the following brief speech:

Mr. President, I understand the committee on resolutions are ready to report, and it would not be right for me to detain you with a speech at this time. [Voices, "go on, go on."] I can say to the people of Indiana on other occasions, that my heart, my life, and all that I am, is devoted to the advancement of correct principles, and I believe they are embraced in the organization of the Democratic party. [Cheers.]

Mr. Hanna has already observed one section of this country is held, as it were, in iron, a slave, and now comes the attempts of a despotic political party to deprive the state of Indiana of her unquestioned right, which she has exercised in common with her sister states from the foundation of the government, to regulate the internal affairs of the state herself. It is no longer a question whether the negro shall vote, but whether the white man shall regulate the affairs belonging to his own concern. It is not a question of enslaving the black man, but a question resisting the dismemberment of white votes in Indiana, that we have to meet in the coming contest.

And, Mr. Chairman, I will state how I stand upon another question on which I have no disguise, never have, and never expect to have; and I trust very soon upon the floor of congress to express myself much more fully and elaborately than I can to-day in favor of absolute equality of taxation before the laws. [Applause.] It is for Indiana to assist in making the most progressive and unequal burden upon the labor of the land any nation ever imposed in favor of the east. The circulation there is thirty-six dollars per capita, while in Indiana it is only six dollars. We are not stepchildren to take the leavings of others and more favored ones in the family.

Mr. president, I beg pardon. I am betrayed into saying more than I intended. [Voices—"Go on, go on."] I trust what have said will not be misconstrued. [Renewed cries of "go on, go on."] No more. No more. I send this balance in the *Congressional Globe* as I get back to Washington. [Laughter and cheers.]

A few remarks were also made by T. A. Hendricks, and then the convention unanimously and enthusiastically adopted the following platform, and adjourned:

That the Democracy of Indiana, in delegate convention assembled, declare:

That the Federal Union with all the rights and dignity of the several states should be preserved; and to secure that great national blessing, the constitution must be respected and observed, and every approach to centralized despotism defeated, whether attempted by congress or the executive.

That recent events have, more than ever, convinced us of the infamous and revolutionary character of the reconstruction measures of Congress, and we denounce these measures as an invasion of the sovereign and sacred rights of the people, and of all the states.

That the independence of the supreme court of the United States is essential to the safety and security of the states and the people; and we declare

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the full approval of some of our best business men and heaviest capitalists who know the man.

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