The Orangeburg News.

FIRST OUR HOMES, THEN OUR STATE; FINALLY THE NATION. THESE CONSTITUTE OUR COUNTRY.

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Democratic State Convention.

In compliance with a previous call, a general Convention of delegates from the several Democratic Clubs of this State met on Thursday night, at 7 o'clock, in Calisthenic Hall.

On motion of Col. J. P. Thomas, the Chairman of the Richland delegation, Gen. John S. Preston was called to the Chair, and Messrs. James S. Gibbes and R. C. Shiver requested to act as Secretaries.

On motion, the delegates from the several Districts were requested to present their credentials to the Chair; which was done, and it was found that the following delegations were present:

Abbeville—D. Wyatt Aiken, A. Burt and Leland. W. K. Blake, B. Z. Herndon, F. A. Conner, J. T. Parks, R. A. Griffin, J. K. Vance, James Rodgers, J. N. Young, J. M. Latimer, L. D. Merriman, J. Gillam.

Anderson—Daniel Brown, R. T. Earle.

Barnwell—Joseph Erwin, H. W. Richardson, G. Duhartigle, R. Aldrich.

Chester—W. E. Gill, Major Hamilton.

Fairfield—Dr. J. Robertson, T. W. Woodward, B. D. Elkin, W. J. Alston, H. C. Davis.

Georgetown—A. Forster, J. S. Parker, J. R. Middleton.

Greenville—B. F. Perry, W. H. Campbell, E. H. Stokes, H. A. Gobbe, H. C. Smith.

Colleton—C. G. Henderson, J. D. Malone.

Kershaw—James Chesnut, W. J. DePass, J. M. Davis, T. H. Clark.

Lexington—J. H. Counts, S. P. Wingard, H. Meetze, John H. Meetson, S. M. Ruff, H. Hendrix.

Laurens—Dr. H. E. McSwain.

Edgefield—L. Schillerl.

Marion—W. S. Mullins, J. Eli Gregg, D. Leggett.

Newberry—S. Fair, F. J. Pope, S. R. Chapman.

Richland—John S. Preston, J. P. Thomas, Dr. Trotzeman, Dr. Ray, S. Lynch, W. A. W. White, J. D. Pope, F. W. McMaster, M. Ehrlich, R. C. Shiver, J. G. Gibbes, Thomas Taylor, R. Adams, John Agnew.

Sumter—J. D. Blanding, T. J. McCants, A. Moses.

York—James Mason.

Union—T. B. Jeter, J. G. McKissick, J. E. Ming, E. R. Wallace.

Spartanburg—G. Cannon, J. W. Miller, J. B. Tolleson, W. K. Blake, S. C. Means, T. F. Moon, W. J. Smith.

Orangeburg—F. M. Wannamaker, W. C. Hand, T. McLewen.

A motion to appoint a committee, to consist of one member from each delegation, to nominate officers for the permanent organization of the Convention, prevailed, when the following committee was formed:

Messrs. F. Connor, E. P. Earle, G. B. Lartigue, B. T. Malone, P. W. Woodward, L. Schiller, R. S. Bart, W. L. DePass, J. H. Counts, Eli Gregg, J. L. Pope, H. P. Thomas, James Mason, D. G. McKissick, S. C. Means, F. M. Wannamaker and A. Moses, W. H. Campbell.

The committee retired, and after an absence of a quarter of an hour, recommended the election of the following officers, and their report was unanimously adopted:

President—Hon. A. Burt, of Abbeville.

Vice-Presidents—Gen. James Chesnut, Hon. B. F. Perry, Gen. John S. Preston, Col. J. D. Blanding and Simeon Fair.

For Secretaries—Messrs. James G. Gibbes and W. K. Bachman.

On motion, a committee, consisting of Messrs. Pope, Mullins and Jeter, was appointed to conduct the President to the chair.

Before assuming his seat, the President said:

GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION:—Allow me to return you my sincere and cordial thanks for the compliment you have bestowed upon me this evening. To preside in an assembly of South Carolinians, especially in a moment like this, is an honor to which no one with just pride can be insensible. I shall not, gentlemen, undertake to recite to you. I shall not attempt to indicate the proceedings you may adopt, nor anticipate them. It is enough for me to remark that you have met for the noblest purpose that can engage the human heart or head. You have to save from ruin all that statesmanship can save, and devise plans to preserve the welfare of two races. I assure you of my earnest wishes that your deliberations may be successful.

Rev. Mr. Young, one of the delegates, then opened the proceedings of the Convention with prayer.

The following committee was appointed to prepare business: Messrs. J. P. Thomas, B. F. Perry, W. S. Mullins, B. D. Blanding, Simeon Fair, James Chesnut, Gabriel Cannon, A. M. Foster, and G. B. Lartigue.

A resolution to refer all propositions intended for the action of the Convention to this committee, was adopted.

A paper, was then read by ExGovernor Perry, which, after reciting the wrongs which had been inflicted on the South, before, during and since the war, recommended the adoption of resolutions, declaring that the Convention unite with the National Democratic party of the North; that it send delegates to the National Convention to be held in New York on the proximo; that the people of the State be urged to go to the polls and vote against the ratification of the Constitution, but for State officers; that they organize Democratic clubs in every District, town and hamlet in the State.

Other papers were submitted, and without being read, were referred to the Committee on Business.

The Convention then adjourned, to meet this day, at 12 m.

THIRD DAY.

The Convention assembled at 12 o'clock, yesterday, from A. Burt in the chair. The proceedings were opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Young. The journal of the previous day's proceedings was read and confirmed.

On motion of Gen. Preston, the Presidents and members of Democratic Clubs present, were requested to take seats on the floor of the House.

On motion, the reporters for the press were invited to seats.

Col. J. P. Thomas, Chairman of the Committee on Business, then read the report of the Committee, which, after some discussion, was adopted:

Whereas, in the opinion of this Convention, the interests both of our State and our common country imperatively demand the union of all good citizens and conservative men, under the banner of the National Democratic party, faithful to the principles of the Federal Constitution, as maintained by the fathers of the Republic; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the Democratic party of South Carolina do unite with the National Democratic party of the country, and hold themselves ready, under the Constitution and laws, to co-operate with that organization in all principles, and in all measures, that may be regarded as the interests of the whole country and of all classes of the people.

Resolved, That the people of this State, including all such prepared to act with the party, be earnestly invited to form Democratic clubs in every section of the State.

Resolved, That the people of this State be urgently recommended to go to the polls and vote against the Constitution of the radical faction lately promulgated in Charleston, and to vote for good and true men for all offices within their gift. At the same time in voting for officers under this Constitution, we would put on record our protest against its validity.

Resolved, That under the action of the State of South Carolina, heretofore taken, we recognize the colored population of the State as an integral element of the body politic, and, as such, in person and property, entitled to a full and equal protection under the State Constitution and laws. And, that as citizens of South Carolina, we declare our willingness, when we have the power, to grant them, under proper qualifications as to property and intelligence, the right of suffrage.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Chairman to nominate a State Central Executive Committee, consisting of seven members, a majority of whom shall be residents at Columbia.

Resolved, That the Chairman appoint a Committee of five to nominate to this Convention suitable persons—two delegates at large and one from each Congressional District—to represent the Democratic party of this State in the National Democratic Convention to be held in the city of New York, on the 4th of July next; and that the State Central Executive Committee be authorized to fill such vacancies as may occur.

Resolved, further, That the State Central Executive Committee issue, through the press, such documents as be deemed to the purposes proposed by this Convention.

Before considering this report, it was suggested that the various papers submitted to the Committee be read to the Convention whereupon Gov. Perry, Col. Blanding and Col. Thomas read those papers; and, on motion, they were referred to the Executive Committee, to be revised and published at the earliest day practicable. These able documents, it is believed, will be in print early next week.

The report of the Committee on Business was then taken up. An animated and interesting debate ensued. Mr. Aiken objected to the third section, as indefinite and really inconsistent. He was unwilling to vote for officers under an unconstitutional provision. The section he declared impracticable and invalid.

Col. Thomas replied. It was deemed important to insert this section, in order to bring out the strength of the white vote in the State. He suggested, that in thus voting, we enter our solemn protest against the entire proceeding.

Col. Aiken accepted the suggestion, and the following amendment was added: "But at the same time, we enter our protest against its validity."

Col. Aiken objected, that the fifth resolution did not go far enough. Let the colored man know what he has to expect; give him something tangible. Add to the resolution, that in due time he shall have partial suffrage.

Gen. Chesnut stated that this section caused some debate in the Committee Room. He thought the gentleman from Abbeville was right. We should say that the colored man be made to understand that hereafter he shall have qualified suffrage. He also thought that, in military parlance, it would be necessary to accept the African auxiliary.

Hon. B. F. Perry said he believed it was absolutely necessary to the peace and order of society, that this class of people who had been elevated, should be permitted to vote. It was important to encourage them, and, being encouraged, they would educate themselves and seek to acquire intelligence and property. In Connecticut, two years ago, when this question was submitted to the people, the negroes themselves went forward and voted against universal suffrage on the ground that until their colored brethren had acquired intelligence and property, they were not entitled to exercise the privilege. The same argument addressed itself to a large class of colored people now. Qualified suffrage would ensure the safety and peace of society. In South Carolina, because it would make good citizens of intelligent men; whereas, if not entitled to the privilege, they might be disturbers of the peace. Besides, the privilege would be exercised by so few that they could not exercise a controlling influence in elections. He had entertained these views for many years, and when he went to Washington, President Johnson concurred with him, and said that if the Southern States would adopt qualified suffrage it would disarm and defeat the radicals of the North. The President likewise wrote to the Governor of Mississippi and urged him to employ his influence in securing qualified suffrage in that State. It was the right principle—right, because it is the prize which the colored man has won, and it can do no harm to society. It was, therefore, proper, in going before the people of the State, to let the negroes know distinctly we are willing to concede this partial right of suffrage to those who can handle the tool without damaging themselves. Say this to the black man and thousands of votes would be secured in the coming election, besides doing great good in the preservation of the peace and quiet of society.

Col. Thomas gave his hearty concurrence to the opinions expressed by these gentlemen. He favored this idea ever since the emancipation of the slaves. He agreed with General Wampton when he advocated this measure a year ago, and he agreed with him now. The speaker had been a slaveholder; but he hoped he was a humane and merciful one. Men talk flippantly of the approaching "war of races," but should it come, the speaker would do his part. Let us accomplish a peaceful solution of this question—the solution compatible with the dignity of the white race. The question arises, what shall we do with the 4,000,000 colored people in our midst? In England, Germany and France, difficulties have arisen relative to the right of suffrage by the lower classes. It is suggested that the proposed action is inconsistent with the dignity of the white race; he had faith in the dignity and superiority of the Anglo-Saxon race. But while he held out the olive branch to the colored man, he would let him understand that he could never govern the South—he should participate. We should be prepared to say to them, this is our land.

Mr. Mullins then moved that a Committee of one from each delegation present be appointed to select candidates for the various State offices.

The Chairman stated that there were several papers on his desk, and asked what disposition should be made of them.

On Mr. Mullin's motion, the papers were referred to the State Central Executive Committee.

The different delegations then submitted their nominations for persons to recommend suitable State officers:

Richland, John S. Preston; Laxington, John H. Counts; Spartanburg, G. Cannon; Laurens, Dr. McSwains; Orangeburg, F. M. Wannamaker; Kershaw, W. J. DePass; Colleton, C. C. Henderson; Georgetown, F. S. Parker; York, J. Mason; Greenville, W. H. Campbell; Chester, Major Hamilton; Barnwell, J. Evans; Marion, D. Leggett; Abbeville, D. W. Aiken; Newberry, S. B. Chapman; Anderson, P. Earle; Union, T. B. Jeter; Sumter, T. S. McCants; Edgefield, L. Schiller; Fairfield, W. J. Alston.

The delegates retired for the purpose of selecting candidates.

Under the fifth resolution, the Chairman appointed the following Committee to nominate the State Central Executive Committee:

Messrs. Preston, Blanding, Foster, Schiller and Blake.

The following committee was also appointed to nominate delegates to the National Democratic Convention, to assemble in New York, on the Fourth of July:

Messrs. Campbell, Gregg, Vance, Henderson and Woodward.

The Convention then took a recess until half past 7 o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

The Convention reassembled at half-past 7 o'clock. The Chairman announced that the first business in order was the report of the Committee to Nominate State Officers.

Mr. DePass, the Chairman of the Committee, reported as follows:

For Lieutenant Governor—Hon. Henry W. Richardson, of Charleston.

For Lieutenant Governor—Hon. T. C. Perrin, of Abbeville.

Secretary of State—Samuel Cooper.

Adjutant and Inspector General—Col. J. P. Thomas.

Treasurer—Wm. Hood.

Comptroller General—S. J. Leaphart.

Attorney General—L. W. Hayne.

Superintendent of Education—J. A. Leland.

Gen. Preston, from the Committee to nominate delegates for the State Central Executive Committee, reported the following:

Wade Hampton, J. P. Thomas, F. W. McMaster, Joseph D. Pope, of Richland; Wm. Shannon, of Kershaw; S. McGowan, of Abbeville, and Prioleau Hamilton, of Chester.

Mr. Gregg, from the Committee to nominate delegates to the Democratic Convention in New York on the Fourth of July, reported:

For the State at Large—B. F. Perry, James Chesnut; alternates—John Logan, A. P. Aldrich.

First District—W. S. Mullins, J. B. Kershaw; alternates—[illegible]

Second District—Calvin Tracy, E. L. Bonham; alternates—[illegible]

Third District—J. S. Preston, W. D. Stanley; alternates—[illegible]

Fourth District—D. Duncan, W. D. Simpson; alternates—[illegible]

Gov. Perry moved that the delegations from the different Congressional Districts nominate members of Congress which was agreed to.

After consultation, the following nominations were made:

First Congressional District—Richland, Chesterfield, Marlboro, Darlington, Marion, Horry, Georgetown, Williamsburg, Sumter, Clarendon and Kershaw—J. N. Frierson.

Second Congressional District—Charleston, Colleton, Beaufort and Barnwell—Johnson Hagood.

Third Congressional District—Orangeburg, Lexington, Richland, Newberry, Edgefield, Abbeville and Anderson—S. Merrimon.

Fourth Congressional District—Oconee, Pickens, Greenville, Laurens, Spartanburg, Union, York, Chester and Fairfield—Samuel McAliley.

Mr. Peter seconded by Mr. Cannon, submitted a resolution, that the District Associations nominate suitable persons as candidates for State officers; and also appoint speakers to address the citizens, irrespective of color; besides to provide the ballot boxes, so as, if possible, to prevent fraud. Which was agreed to.

After the adoption of a resolution of thanks to the Chairman, for the faithful discharge of his duties—to which an eloquent response was made, the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

Amongst the papers submitted to the Convention was the following address to the colored people of South Carolina. It was afterwards referred to the State Central Executive Committee, with discretion to publish. The Committee has kindly furnished us with a copy:

ADDRESS TO THE COLORED PEOPLE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Convention of the Democratic party of South Carolina feels it a high and bounden duty to speak to you candidly and earnestly, and with no further apology than that our interests are to a certain extent identical.

You have been suddenly put in position to exercise certain powers, the abuse of which may result disastrously to you and to us. *It is impossible that your present power can endure, whether you use it for good or ill.* The white race already out-numbers you in the South. Disease has made the mortality among you twice what it is among the whites, and the rate is daily increasing. Emigration has carried off thousands of your color to distant States, while it already begins to fill their places with whites from Europe. Let not your pride, nor your pretended friends, flatter you into the belief that you ever can or ever will, for any length of time, govern the white men of the South. The world has never seen such a spectacle, and its whole history, and especially the history of your race, gives no ground for the anticipation. Perhaps, however, you expect to attain power by the aid of the radical party at the North. The Almighty, in His wisdom (perhaps to prevent the amalgamation of the separate races which He created and marked,) has implanted in every human breast a sentiment called the *prejudice of race*, and when this feeling is once aroused, it is one of the strongest and most universal passions of our natures. When your race was among us as slaves, this sentiment slumbered, and only a compassion for you influenced every honest heart—those among your masters—to treat you kindly; those who believed you wronged, to desire to see you free. When you were set free, compassion ceased to exist. When auxiliary power was given you by the radical party, (from motives which all men appreciated and despised,) prejudice of race sprang up. The whites of the South are [illegible] to allay it—here, at least, [illegible] a course and a compromise [illegible] given it nothing to feed [illegible] resulted in such an [illegible] would be mortifying had [illegible] nity to make the effort. [illegible] your political career, so far, has cultivated this prejudice, until it now speaks loud in England and is already rapidly obtaining the [illegible] of the entire North. This is the odium which must soon prove the death of the radical party. It is too strong to be resisted, being the operation of a law of [illegible] in your white radical friends, in spite of their industrious efforts to conceal it, so long as they have use for you? Is it not apparent, also, in the officers, and even the very private soldiers, of the army whose bayonets still prop up your power, only because they are paid to do it? Do you flatter yourselves that your "Loyal Leagues" can prevail against it?" "Blood is thicker than water," and the league which the Almighty has organized is one to which there will be no traitors, when once an issue is fairly made.

To repeal, then, as we began: Your present power must surely and soon pass from you. Nothing that it builds will stand, and nothing will remain of it but the prejudices it may create. It is, therefore, a most dangerous tool that you are handling. Your leaders, both white and black, are using your votes for nothing but their individual gain. Many of them you have only known, heretofore, to despise and mistrust, until commanded by your leagues to vote for them. Offices and salaries for themselves are the lights of their ambitions; and so that they shine, while the sun shines, they care not who is caught in the storm that follows. Already they have driven away all capital and credit from the South; and while they draw eleven dollars a day, thousands among you are thrown out of employment and starve simply for lack of work. What few enterprises are carried on, are only the work of Southern men, who have faith that the present state of affairs is but temporary. The world does not offer better opportunities for the employment of capital than are to be found in the South, but will your radical friends send their money here to invest? Not one dollar. They would just as soon venture on investments in Hayti or Liberia, as commit their money to the influence of your legislation. Capital has learned to shun its sickly touch.

We, therefore, urge and warn you by all the ties of our former relations, all strong and binding in the bonds of our common christianity and all the mutual welfare of our two races, whom Providence has thrown together, to beware of the course on which your leaders are urging you, in a blind folly which will surely ruin both you and them.

We do not pretend to be better friends to your race than we are to ourselves, and we only speak where we are not invited because your welfare concerns ours. If you destroy yourselves you injure us, and though but little compared with the harm you will do ourselves, we would, if we could avert the whole danger. We are not in any condition to make you any promises or to propose to you any compromises. We can do nothing but await the course of event—but, this we do without the slightest misgiving or apprehension for ourselves. We shall not give up our country, and time will soon restore our control of it. But we earnestly caution you, and beg you in the meantime, to beware of the use you make of your temporary power. Remember that your race has nothing to gain and everything to lose, if you invoke that prejudice of race which, since the world was made, has ever driven the weaker tribe to the wall. Forsake, then, the wicked and stupid men who would involve you in this folly, and make to yourselves friends and not enemies of the white citizens of South Carolina.

The United States Grand Jury in Richmond has found a new indictment against Jefferson Davis. It covers fifty pages and details all his offences since the opening of the rebellion.

Judge Pope, of the twelfth Circuit Court of Alabama, was arrested on Monday last, at Jacksonville by the military authorities and confined for failure or refusal to execute the jury order. Judge Pope was an original and all the time Union man.

On Wednesday last, a planter in Chicaw planted about three acres of corn. To allow for the depredations of the crows, and to secure a good stand, he dropped from five to six grains to the hill. On Wednesday night some one or more "artists" entered the field after dark and grabbled hill after hill, every hill in the field, and took off the corn.

At the last session of the conference of the Paris bar this question was discussed: "Can a person who directly aids another to commit suicide be indicted as an accomplice in an act of murder?" The point was decided in the negative. The moral guilt, however, of the assistant, needed no pleading.