

The Easley Messenger.

J. R. HAGOOD, EDITOR.

NARROW-MINDEDNESS OF THE SALUDA ARGUS.

We will not, nor could we, censure any newspaper for advocating one of its own good citizens for the position of Congressman from any particular district; but when any such paper stoops so low as to ignore others whose fine qualifications of head and heart recommend them to the good will of the people, then the action of such a weak paper should be severely criticized, and the light of knowledge should be sent into its sanctum for the enlightenment of its obscure editor. As is well known, the Third Congressional District has in the field four candidates. All these number among the most worthy sons of Carolina, and yet the "Saluda Argus" fails to recognize anything like merit in any one of them save the Hon. D. Wyatt Aiken. It publicly, and very foolishly, terms the other candidates as "up-starts," when itself should not have the presumption to foster much more than a private opinion of the men, in as much as it seems to be such a poor judge of human nature. Will the "Argus" give us the grounds upon which it bases its very unbecoming slander? To force such an opinion on the public mind without due cause, is preposterous in the extreme, and should be considered unworthy any man who sits upon the editorial tripod. How nearly acquainted with the life of Col. R. E. Bowen is the editor of the Argus? He says that the only man that has yet been brought out, whom he could conscientiously support is Col. Aiken. This may be the case, but should he, because he could not conscientiously support the others, term them as upstarts? It is true, they have the start-up, and we would like to see them continue to mount the ladder of fame. Such attempts at disparagement, on the part of the Argus, regarding Bowen, Johnstone and Murray should fail to place anything to its credit. 'Look next time, before you leap.'

Gov. GROVER CLEVELAND, of N. Y., will, no doubt, be the Democratic nominee for President, and is the strongest man that could be chosen, S. J. Tilden not excepted. If the party will manage right, and stick close to him, the chances are good to elect him. The South casts 153 votes, N. Y. 36, and we will only need Connecticut and New Jersey or Indiana to elect him.

Official Proceedings of the Democratic County Convention.

Pursuant to the call issued by the County Executive Committee, the Democratic County Convention met in the Court House June 21st, 1884. D. F. Bradley, County Chairman, called the Convention to order at 12 o'clock M. and after reading the call under which the convention had assembled, announced as the first business in order, the election of permanent officers of the Convention. J. R. Gossett, Esq., nominated D. F. Bradley for President of the Convention; unanimously elected. W. B. Allgood nominated J. E. Boggs for First Vice-President. W. M. Hagood nominated J. R. Gossett for Second Vice-President, and J. E. Boggs nominated T. W. Folger for Secretary. These gentlemen were all unanimously elected.

On motion, the following Committee on Credentials, consisting of one from each club, was appointed by the Chair: Pickens Court House club, J. H. Newton; Easley, A. W. Hudgens; Pumpkintown, J. D. M. Keith; Dacusville, G. W. Bowen; Liberty, W. D. Glenn; Central, S. W. Clayton; Nine Mile School House, L. M. Berry; Cross Plains, Geo. McAdams; Eastatoe, H. J. Lewis; Shady Grove, John W. Thomas. The committee retired and after a short session returned to the Convention and reported the following list of delegates who had been duly elected by their respective clubs:

PICKENS.—D. F. Bradley, J. E. Boggs, W. T. Bowen, W. T. McFall, J. H. Newton, W. B. Allgood.

CENTRAL.—S. W. Clayton, T. W. Folger, R. G. Gaines, W. F. Johnston, B. D. Garvin, B. J. Johnston, Joseph Werner.

EASTATOE.—J. L. Lewis, H. J. Lewis.

SHADY GROVE.—J. W. Thomas, W. A. Martin.

HURRICANE.—L. M. Berry, J. N. Murphree, John Gillespie.

DACUSVILLE.—W. W. F. Bright, W. T. Field, J. C. Alexander, W. H. Anderson, R. L. Anderson, B. A. Foster.

LIBERTY.—M. T. Smith, Laban Mauldin, A. T. Clayton, A. F. McCord, D. J. Greer, G. E. Robinson, W. D. Glenn.

CROSS PLAINS.—C. H. Carpenter, J. W. Hunt, N. A. Christopher, Geo. McAdams.

PUMPKINTOWN.—G. M. Lynch, V. S. Jones, J. D. M. Keith, S. T. McHugh, A. B. Talley.

EASLEY.—W. A. Hamilton, T. A. McMahon, J. A. Easley, T. J. Bowen, J. R. Gossett, A. W. Hudgens, W. A. Hendricks, Isaac Williams, J. R. Hagood, John Higgins, Wm. McMahon, J. S. Latham, W. M. Hagood, W. W. Phillips, Elias Day, Dr. R. J. Gilliland, Jr.

On motion, the following delegates to the State Convention were elected by acclamation: W. B. Allgood, C. H. Carpenter, J. R. Hagood, J. P. Cary, J. J. Lewis and J. H. Bowen.

On motion of J. R. Gossett, the candidates for Congress, present, Messrs. Bowen, Murray and Johnstone, were invited to a seat on the floor of the convention. The Chair appointed J. R. Gossett, B. J. Johnston and J. E. Boggs as a committee to wait upon the Congressional candidates and inform them of the action of the convention. The committee retired and within a few moments thereafter conducted the gentlemen above mentioned to seats upon the floor of the Convention.

The Chair announced as the next business in order, the election of six delegates to the Congressional Convention. Before the election of delegates J. E. Boggs, Esq., arose, and in an eloquent and happy speech placed in nomination for Congress from the 3rd

District, Col. R. E. Bowen, of Pickens County. Mr. Boggs paid a high tribute to the character and merits of Col. Bowen, which brought down the house in rounds of applause.

J. R. Hagood, in a very earnest and eulogistic speech seconded the nomination, and presented the following preamble and resolution:

"Whereas, It is of the highest importance that the 3rd Congressional District should have as a Representative in the Congress of the United States a man of sound and matured judgement and patriotic motives, thoroughly identified with the people and who understands their desires and necessities and whose fidelity to the service of the State in the past, on the battle-field and in the councils of the State, is a guarantee of his devotion in the future; and whereas knowing that in the person of Col. R. E. Bowen such a Representative is to be found, and, without disparagement to the other distinguished gentlemen who are aspiring to Congressional honors from the 3rd District, the Democracy of Pickens County in Convention assembled, take great pleasure and pride in representing to their fellow Democrats of the 3rd Congressional District, the name of our distinguished fellow-citizen, Col. R. E. Bowen, as a man who would ably, honestly and satisfactorily represent them in the Congress of the United States; therefore be it Resolved, That our delegates to the Congressional Convention be, and they are hereby, instructed to vote for Col. R. E. Bowen so long as his name is before the Convention.

Resolved further, that the following delegates be elected to the Congressional Convention: D. F. Bradley, A. B. Talley, W. M. Hagood, A. W. Hudgens, J. E. Boggs, R. G. Gaines."

The Chair suggested the propriety of separating the question in as much as it might be desired by some to place before the Convention another list of delegates. J. R. Gossett, Esq., moved to separate the question, whereupon Mr. Hagood said he would separate the question without a formal motion. The preamble and first resolution were adopted unanimously and enthusiastically. Mr. J. R. Hagood then placed in nomination the list of delegates named in the last resolution. Mr. J. H. Newton placed in nomination the names of the following gentlemen: J. A. Easley, C. T. Martin, B. J. Johnston, T. W. Folger, J. R. Gossett and J. H. Newton. Another delegate nominated G. W. Bowen.

On motion, the delegates were elected by ballot, which resulted as follows: D. F. Bradley, 41; A. W. Hudgens, 44; A. B. Talley, 43; J. E. Boggs, 41; R. G. Gaines, 33; W. M. Hagood, 35; J. A. Easley, 13; C. T. Martin, 9; B. J. Johnston, 7; T. W. Folger, 15; J. R. Gossett, 20; J. H. Newton, 15; G. W. Bowen, 14. Fifty-seven votes were cast, necessary to a choice 29. The six first mentioned candidates were declared duly elected.

The next business in order was the election of six delegates to the Judicial Convention. W. M. Hagood offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted: "Recognizing the efficiency, fairness, promptness, integrity and ability of Hon. J. L. Orr, we hereby instruct our delegates to vote for his nomination for Solicitor of the 8th Judicial Circuit."

J. E. Boggs, Esq., nominated the following gentlemen as delegates to the Judicial Convention, who were elected by acclamation: G. W. Taylor, C. T. Martin, B. J. Johnston, R. J. Gilliland, Jr., W. T. Bowen and J. H. Newton.

J. R. Gossett offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, That the Executive Committee of the 8th Judicial Circuit is respectfully requested to designate Easley as the place for holding the Judicial Convention."

Dr. R. J. Gilliland, Jr., offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that the Congressional Convention should be held at Seneca City."

The Convention then entered into an election of a County Chairman. W. M. Hagood nominated D. F. Bradley, who was unanimously elected.

The following members of the County Executive Committee were confirmed by the Convention: Pickens C. H., H. C. Grady; Easley, J. R. Gossett; Liberty, Thomas Parkins, Central, S. W. Clayton; Nine Mile School House, J. E. Gillespie; Shady Grove, Jasper Herd; Dacusville, G. W. Bowen; Cross Plains, C. H. Carpenter; Pumpkintown, W. B. Jones; Eastatoe, H. J. Lewis.

The proposition submitted by the County Executive Committee in reference to a division of the County into three sections for the purpose of selecting candidates for County Commissioners, was, after debate participated in by Messrs. V. S. Jones, J. R. Gossett and J. E. Boggs, rejected by a decided majority.

The Chairman was authorized to appoint alternates to all the Conventions when a principal could not attend.

J. E. Boggs offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the mode of nominating the various officers in this County, including two Representatives in the Legislature, Clerk of Court, Sheriff, Probate Judge, Coroner, County Commissioners, County Treasurer, County Auditor and one Trial Justice in each Township, shall be by primary election.

Mr. Boggs also submitted the following rules for governing the primary election, which were adopted:

Resolved, I, That the Managers of the primary election for each club, and their clerks, immediately before opening the polls, shall repeat aloud after the presiding officer of the club the following pledge: "I do solemnly pledge my sacred honor that I will faithfully perform all the duties incident to my position as Manager of the primary election to the best of my ability."

II. The polls shall open at 7 A. M. and close at 5 p. m., when the votes shall be immediately counted publicly, openly and in the presence of such members of the club as may choose to be present, by the Managers and Clerks under the supervision of the presiding officer of the club, without adjournment or interruption, until the same is completed, and the result shall be immediately declared. If two or more ballots shall be found folded together compactly, only one shall be counted and the other destroyed, if they bear different names the same shall be destroyed, and not counted. If more ballots shall be found on opening the box than there are names on the poll list, all the ballots shall be returned to the box and thoroughly mixed together, and one of the managers, or the clerk shall, without seeing the ballots, draw therefrom and immediately destroy, as many ballots as there are in excess of the number of the names on the poll list.

III. Only enrolled Democrats of each club, of the age of twenty-one years, who have resided one year within this State, and sixty days within this county, next preceding the general election, and who have been duly registered upon the books of the Supervisor of Registration as qualified electors of this county, shall be entitled to vote. And each person presenting himself to vote shall, if not known to the managers as a bona-fide Democrat, furnish satisfactory proof that he voted or co-operated with the Democratic party in the last general election, and that he did not vote for any candidate who was in opposition to the regular nominated Democratic ticket, and shall before depositing his ballot take, in good faith, the following pledge: "I do solemnly affirm that I am a duly enrolled member of a Democratic Club in this county, that I have duly registered my name with the Supervisor of Registration as a qualified elector of this county, that I voted, or co-operated with the Democratic party in the last general election, and did not vote for any candidate in opposition to the regular