

THE GLEANER.

H. S. PARKER, Editor. GRAHAM, N. C., SEPT. 14, 1875.

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THE CONVENTION.

We give in this paper a full synopsis of the proceedings of this body up to Saturday night. We shall continue to give the substance of all this body may do each day, so that our readers shall be kept well posted as to what is being done. It will be seen that the democrats controlled the organization and elected all democratic officers except one, and that our countyman Peter Hughes. He is a one-armed soldier and the democrats made him assistant door-keeper. The organization was completed as soon as could have been reasonably supposed, and the delegates, as will be seen, have gone to work in earnest. We hope, much good from the Convention. Harmony and good feeling seems to have taken the place of any little bitterness that may have been engendered by the contest of electing officers. This is as it should be and we trust will continue. If the spirit of party shall be forgotten in the work now before the Convention, and each delegate will address himself to what his best judgment, unbiased, shall dictate is for the best interest of our whole people and of our State we doubt not that much good will come of the Convention, as unpoplar as the move was with a great many.

MISSISSIPPI.

Gov. Ames is endeavoring to secure Federal interference in the domestic affairs of this State. An election is to be held there soon, and something must be done, lest the democrats carry the State. The Attorney General of the United States don't appear to be the subservient tool of party necessity that his predecessor was. He, upon the application of Gov. Ames for troops, infatuated an investigation, of the causes of this call, the result of which is that there is no manner of necessity for any interference by the general government and that no such state of affairs exists as to authorize it. Gov. Ames made a direct demand for troops. From the news at this writing he will get none. Riots and disturbances of the peace are reported from various portions of the State, but they are provoked by the negroes and are the outgrowth of a heated political campaign. Nowhere is there any disposition to defy the State authorities, or any sort of evidence of an insurrection against the State government. The State authorities are amply able to execute the law, and apprehend and punish all offenders. And so bursts the latest radical bubble, and dies the last effort as we hope, to make radical capital by the manufacture of southern outrages.

THE CONVENTION.

FIRST DAY.

The Convention was called to order by Judge Settle Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. Judge Settle called to his assistance, Messrs Young of Granville, French of New Haver, Cunningham of Person and Bennett of Anson, who took their seats at the clerk's desk in readiness to do clerical duties. The roll of counties was called in alphabetical order. Pending the call Tourgee of Guilford offered a protest against the oath prescribed by the Legislature, signed by himself and twenty-three other radical delegates elect. The chair said the protest would be filed among the Convention papers. Turner of Orange said the chair could do nothing beyond qualifying the delegates. Turner's opinion was disregarded by the chair, and the delegates were sworn in until the county of Robeson was reached. Messrs Sinclair and McEachin, Conservatives, presented certificates of election from the Sheriff of the county. Judge Settle ordered them to stand aside for the present, for the reason as he stated that the question of their election would cause debate. After objections from various members it was agreed that all others holding certificates that might be challenged should likewise stand aside for the present. Under this agreement several were passed over. After all had been qualified, as to whose rights there was no objection Judge Settle ordered the clerk, protem to read the certificates and other papers presented by those who claimed election. After the conclusion of the reading of the papers the chair announced after consulting authority, that the gentlemen holding the Sheriff's certificate (Messrs. Sinclair and McEachin) had a right to qualify. It was then agreed that all who had been ordered to stand aside should come forward, present their certificates and be qualified, which was accordingly done.

SECOND DAY.

Judge Settle called the Convention to order at 10 o'clock A. M. 119 delegates answered. The Chair appointed Messrs. McDonald and Hill temporary door-keepers. A Third ballot for President was had with like result as the two preceding ones. A fourth ballot with same result except Wilcox voted for Reid. Fifth ballot same result as fourth except Dockery voted for Wilcox. Sixth and seventh ballots same result. The eighth and ninth ballots showed no material change, and then after a recess the tenth ballot was had with no election. Judge Settle then proposed to vacate the chair, on account of private engagements and let Dr. Howerston take his place. At the request of delegates he retained his place. The eleventh ballot resulted in Dockery 46, Ransom 59 scattering 14. The twelfth Dockery 55, Ransom 59 scattering 4. A motion to adjourn was here rejected. Thirteenth ballot about same result. The fourteenth ballot resulted in the election of E. W. Ransom the democratic nominee as President of the Convention. Mr. Ransom voted for himself and in casting his vote said: "That he had done everything in his power to facilitate an organization. He had made all sorts of overtures and extended every courtesy without avail. He now saw that there was but one way to get rid of this useless balloting, and to save expenses to an impoverished State would therefore vote for E. W. Ransom." Thereupon Judge Settle announced E. W. Ransom duly elected President of the Convention, and that his duties with the body ceased. Messrs Cunningham and French were appointed to conduct the President to the chair which they did amidst applause from the democratic side of the house, the galleries and lobbies. The President addressed the Convention returning thanks and expressing the hope that the body would address itself to the task of amending our present constitution. He asked the support of the Convention in the discharge of his duties. He concluded by announcing that the Chair was ready to proceed with the dispatch of business. On motion the Convention adjourned until Wednesday ten o'clock.

THIRD DAY.

President Ransom called the convention to order at 10 o'clock. Dixon moved to adjourn sine die. The President ruled that he was out of order. Upon a call of the roll 119 members answered to their names. The election of principal secretary was gone into. Shober nominated Johnston Jones of Wake. Albertson nominated W. R. Richardson of Wake. Jones was elected by 61 votes to 58 for Richardson. Jones was declared elected and qualified. Tourgee then moved the Convention adjourn sine die. Here ensued a long debate as to whether the organization was complete, so that such a motion would be in order. Tourgee withdrew his motion, with the understanding that he should be allowed to renew it after the election of the other officers. The election of Assistant secretary was gone into. W. M. Hardy of Buncombe was nominated by the democrats. J. H. Shultz of Forsythe by the radicals. Hardy was elected by one majority, and took his place at the clerk's desk. The election of Principal Door-keeper was gone into. J. H. Hill of Randolph was nominated by the democrats and Peter Hughes of Alamance by the radicals. Hill was elected by one majority and entered upon his duties. The election of Assistant door-keeper was gone into with W. P. Norton as democratic candidate, and J. H. Jones colored as radical candidate. "A vote being taken Mr. Norton received 63 votes, Jones 48, Hughes 7. Mr. Norton was declared duly elected and entered upon the discharge of the duties of his office. [After the last vote had been taken, Mr. Morehead said that the candidate Jones, he understood, was a colored man in good standing in the Republican party, and he would ask that Messrs. Chamberlain, Dilla and Boyd be allowed to cast their votes for him.] Mr. Tourgee said he hoped the gentlemen would be allowed to vote or not vote as they desired. In other words, to cook their own hash in their own way. Mr. Turner said he had no objection to these gentlemen "cooking their hash"

The chair announced that nominations for President were in order. Mr. Albertson, Rep., nominated C. H. Dockery. Mr. Reid, Dem., nominated E. W. Ransom. The roll was called and Mr. Dockery received 58 votes; Mr. Ransom 59; Mr. Wheeler 1; Mr. Reid 1." Dockery voting for Wheeler and Ransom voting for Reid. Another ballot was had with similar results, when the convention adjourned till ten o'clock Tuesday morning.

FOURTH DAY.

The Convention met promptly at ten o'clock Mr. Jarvis in the chair. Mr. Manning, from the committee to prepare rules for the government of the Convention submitted a long report, action thereon was postponed until 11 o'clock. A resolution requiring the Librarian to turn over the keys of the House and Senate Libraries that the members might have the use of the books was adopted. A resolution was introduced inquiring if certain delegates were not United States officers and if so, that their seats be declared vacant; also a resolution inquiring if certain delegates were not state officers and if so that their seats be declared vacant. A committee was appointed to inform the Governor of the organization of this body. The report of the committee upon rules was adopted. It makes the principal door-keeper Sergeant-at-arms. Norton assistant door-keeper was made door-keeper and Peter Hughes of Alamance was unanimously elected assistant door-keeper. The resolutions of respect to the memory of Hon. Wm. A. Graham were called up and adopted unanimously. Eulogies were delivered by a number of both parties. The Convention adjourned.

FIFTH DAY.

President Ransom in the chair, Mr. Stallings said that in the vote upon the motion to inform the Governor of the organization of the Convention he had voted with Turner in the negative, and wanted to be so recorded. Standing committees were announced by the President. Some thirty-six amendments to the present Constitution were offered and referred to appropriate Committees. A number of resolutions were also introduced, but no vote upon any of them was taken. Herring of Jackson, democrat was elected enrolling clerk and M. Q. Waddell of Chatham democrat was elected engrossing clerk. SIXTH DAY. The President called the Convention to order and being unwell called Mr. Jarvis to the chair. A great number of amendments were offered. A resolution was offered instructing the Committee on Privileges and Elections to examine the credentials of all the delegates and report their exact status, upon this resolution there was considerable debate. The resolution amended as to time for Committee to report, was finally passed. (We shall give in each issue an account of the proceedings of the Convention, that is the substance, which we condense from the Raleigh papers. There have been a great number of resolutions and ordinances introduced, as one of these is passed we shall give our readers a knowledge of what it is. It would be impossible to give an account of all that is said and done, but we will give the substance thereof.) During the past week we were called to Greensboro for a couple of days. We heard some complaining of dull times, but building and improving seems to be the order of the day. There was something of a lull during the summer months but as the fall is upon us the spirit of improvement seems to have broken out afresh. There is no more pleasant place to visit than Greensboro. We stopped at the McAdoo house, and of course our estimate of the pleasure of a stay in the city is to some extent based upon the comfortable entertainment we received.

SIXTH DAY.

The following sketch of the life of E. W. Ransom, the President of the Constitutional Convention now sitting at Raleigh we clip from the Raleigh News. Being from the extreme East he is not known in this portion of the State, and in answer to inquiries which will naturally arise we publish the following as just stated from the Raleigh News. HON. EDWARD RANSOM.—The election of this gentleman yesterday was a happy solution of what threatened to be a protracted difficulty. Elected as an Independent, he was left by the Democrats to follow the suggestion of his own honest convictions. They brought no improper influences to bear upon him, believing that his own judgment would be the true guide, and would bring him into the course that would best serve the interests of the State. They were right. And Dr. Ransom was left to follow the path which has led to the attainment of a position entitling him to be called the savior of the State. He alone stood between order and chaos between the plans of needed, moderate and legitimate reform, and the consummation of the wildest schemes of meditated mischief. We have known enough of Dr. Ransom to believe that would he not be swayed from his purposes of right by the most brilliant offers of reward; Corruption could not mark as its prey one whose love of the State and love of virtue made him proof to temptation. We have before expressed the opinion, that when he was called upon to act, he would act as became the patriot, and not the partisan, and his action of yesterday confirms our judgment. Of course he will be the target for the assaults of the other party. He will be branded as a traitor to that party. He was traitor only to their hopes, not to their principles. He could not ally himself with those who had no higher aspiration than party aggrandizement, no greater ambition than a triumph over their opponents. He will be indifferent to their assaults, satisfied that he can cooperate the party which came here to accomplish the duty of Constitutional reform. He is a Virginian by birth, but for a large number of years a citizen of Tyrrell county. Though an accomplished physician with a large and lucrative practice, he has always been a strict partisan and in every political campaign in his section since his majority has taken an active part.—He was an old line Henry Clay Whig before the war. His county, Tyrrell, was strongly Democratic, but in 1860, he carried it by a handsome majority for Hon. W. N. H. Smith, the Whig Congressional nominee.—As an evidence of the power and influence he exerted in that campaign, the whig ladies of the district presented him with a banner for his gallant services. In 1873 he was elected on the Republican ticket senator from the Second Senatorial District, which position he won considerable reputation by opposition to several schemes proposed and advocated by the party to which he belonged. On his return home he found himself "read out" of the party by the leaders of the district. Cobb, the ex-congressman, then the Republican candidate for re-election to Congress, joined in the war cry against the recreant Ransom. The result was Maj. Yates, the democratic nominee, was elected by over 1,500 majority, a republican loss in the district of 3,000 voters. Early in the late campaign he announced himself an independent candidate for the Convention, as a convention man. He was supported by democrats and republicans and elected by 200 majority. He is one of the most effective stump speakers in Eastern Carolina; a man of superior intellect, remarkable brilliancy, keen foresight, firm as a rock, and immovable from a position he conceives to be right. That he will make a good presiding officer there is no room to doubt. In the course of Baptist doctrinal sermon delivered in Greensboro, Ga., the reverend colored preacher illustrated the difference between the Baptist and Methodist churches by relating an anecdote: "Some years ago a man named 'igion' and 'plied to join de Baptist church. He gin in his experience and was 'fected. So he went right straight and 'fined de Methodists. Some time after dat a bruder Baptist asked him: 'How dis? We wouldn't had you, and de Methodists dun tuk you.' Oh, says he, 'you old Baptist want to make me pay cash down, but de Methodists gin me six months' credit.' A boy of five years was "playing railroad" with his sister of two and a half. Drawing her upon a foot stool, he imagined himself both the engine and conductor. After imitating the puffing noise of the steam, he stopped and called out "New York," and in a moment "Paterson," and "Philadelphia." His knowledge of towns was now exhausted, and at the next place he cried "Heaven." His little sister said eagerly "Top, I des I'll det out here."

in their own way, provided they did it in their same old black pot. After this little spat, and information afforded by Mr. Morehead as to the complexion of Jones, the negro candidate, Messrs. Hinnant, Massey, Holton and Jones, of Yadkin, changed their votes from Jones to Hughes. Messrs. Boyd, Bowman and Dula voted for Hughes. Mr. Chamberlain, of Camden was called to record his vote but did not do so. All of these gentlemen are white Republicans."

Tourgee renewed his motion to adjourn sine die. Motion defeated 57 for and 59 against. Wilcox and Woodfin, radicals, refused to vote. Badger introduced an ordinance for the removal of the disabilities of W. W. Holden, which was placed on the calendar. The President appointed a committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Manning, Jarvis, Shober, Tourgee, and Dockery to prepare rules for the government of the Convention. The rules of the last Senate were adopted until report of said Committee. Buxton offered a resolution vacating the seats of Messrs. Sinclair and McEachin members of Robeson and seating their contestants Messrs McNeill and Normont. The resolution went over under the rules.

Mr. Turner announced the death of Hon. Wm. A. Graham delegate elect to the Convention from the county of Orange. Both Mr. Turner and Mr. Barringer made eloquent addresses, the first in introducing appropriate resolutions and the other in seconding them. The resolutions were postponed in order to give all an opportunity to pay proper respect to the memory of the deceased. Convention adjourned till Thursday ten o'clock.

SEVENTH DAY.

The Convention met promptly at ten o'clock Mr. Jarvis in the chair. Mr. Manning, from the committee to prepare rules for the government of the Convention submitted a long report, action thereon was postponed until 11 o'clock. A resolution requiring the Librarian to turn over the keys of the House and Senate Libraries that the members might have the use of the books was adopted. A resolution was introduced inquiring if certain delegates were not United States officers and if so, that their seats be declared vacant; also a resolution inquiring if certain delegates were not state officers and if so that their seats be declared vacant. A committee was appointed to inform the Governor of the organization of this body. The report of the committee upon rules was adopted. It makes the principal door-keeper Sergeant-at-arms. Norton assistant door-keeper was made door-keeper and Peter Hughes of Alamance was unanimously elected assistant door-keeper. The resolutions of respect to the memory of Hon. Wm. A. Graham were called up and adopted unanimously. Eulogies were delivered by a number of both parties. The Convention adjourned.

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