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HARRISBURG CONVENTION.

Proceedings of the Convention assembled at Harrisburg, March 4, 1824, for the purpose of forming an electoral ticket to be supported by the democratic republicans of Pennsylvania, at the ensuing election for President and Vice President of the United States.

This being the day appointed by the democratic citizens of Pennsylvania, for holding a state convention to nominate a ticket of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, to be supported at the ensuing election, one hundred and twenty-five delegates assembled at the court-house in Harrisburg, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

The convention was organized by appointing Jacob Holgate, Esq. President, William Wilkins, Esq. and Jacob Spangler, Esq. Vice Presidents, Thomas Burnside and Wilson Smith Secretaries.

Mr. Porter offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas the democratic citizens of this Commonwealth have especially conferred upon this convention the power to nominate electors for the high and important offices of President and Vice President of the United States; and whereas, in making these nominations, it is our duty and our pride justly to represent the sentiments and wishes of our constituents, and vigilantly to guard against ultimate defeat.

Resolved, That we will not sanction the nomination of any citizen as a presidential elector, who is not certainly known to be cordially disposed to acquiesce in and to promote the views of the democracy of Pennsylvania, by voting for that great republican statesman, patriot and hero ANDREW JACKSON, as the chief magistrate of this nation.

And on the question, will the convention agree to the same; a motion was made by Mr. Roberts to postpone the consideration of the name, for the purpose of introducing the following as a substitute:

Whereas the democratic republicans of Pennsylvania feel themselves to form an integral part of the democratic party of the United States; and with such feelings, in the selection of candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency, they can alone act with a majority of that party, with either consistency or the hope of safety. In departing from this course, the separate states, by making selections of and adhering to particular candidates, can hardly fail to produce the result of a non-election by the electoral colleges, and a devolution of the choice on the house of representatives. Such an occurrence could not fail to involve the most alarming consequences, the least of which would probably be an election of these high officers by a small minority of the people.

Wishing to avert the chances that may visit on the country such untold and disastrous evils, this meeting, representing the democracy of Pennsylvania, do

Resolve, That they approve of the nomination made by a meeting of the republican members of congress at Washington, of William H. Crawford of Georgia, as a candidate for the office of President, and of Albert Gallatin, of Pennsylvania, as Vice President.

And on the question, will the convention agree to do, the yeas and nays were required, and are as follows: Yeas 2, nays 123. And so it was determined in the negative.

Another motion was then made by Mr. Roberts to postpone the consideration of the original resolution, for the purpose of introducing the following as a substitute:

Whereas this meeting consider there has yet been no satisfactory ascertainment of the wishes of a majority of the great republican party of this union, in relation to candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency; And whereas the democratic party of Pennsylvania have at all times hitherto been governed by a desire to promote harmony among that party throughout the union, by yielding to a reasonable extent their own partialities for individuals, and thereby have attained to a high consideration for steadiness and disinterestedness among their brethren of other states; And whereas at no time in our history has a cautious and conciliatory course been more strongly called for, whether we regard the preservation of internal tranquility or our relations to foreign nations and the state of the world; it has not only become a question of mighty moment to select a citizen for the office of President of tried virtue and talents, but that that election should be made in the manner designed by the constitution, by the votes of a ma-

majority of the people, and not by the votes of the states and a minority of the people. This meeting, therefore, impressed with these high and serious considerations, think it expedient not to nominate at this time candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency, and do resolve to recommend to the suffrages of their fellow citizens, in an electoral ticket, a list of names whose high standing and unquestioned claims to public confidence are the best, while it is the only pledge they will ask for the wise and faithful discharge of the high trust which may be confided to them.

And on the question, will the convention agree so to do, a division of the question was called for, to end with postponement; and on the question, will the convention agree so to postpone, the yeas and nays were required, and are as follows: yeas 5, nays 120. So it was determined in the negative.

A motion was then made by Mr. G. B. Porter to amend the resolution under consideration, by striking out all that follows the word "that," in the first line, and inserting the following:

[Resolved, That] the electoral ticket, to be agreed upon by this convention, shall be composed of men of known democratic principles, who are believed to be friendly to the election of and will vote for that great statesman, revolutionary patriot and hero General ANDREW JACKSON as President of the United States.

Which was agreed to, and the resolution as amended, and the preamble, were severally considered and agreed to, yeas 134, nays 1.

Mr. Lawler then offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the convention now proceed to the nomination of a candidate for Vice President of the United States, to be supported by the democratic republicans of Pennsylvania.

And on the question, will the convention agree to the same; a motion was made by Mr. G. B. Porter to postpone the same for the purpose of introducing the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That this convention decline any nomination of a candidate for Vice President of the United States, considering it more prudent to leave to the college of electors, when they shall have assembled, to vote for such person as may then appear to be the candidate of Pennsylvania for this important office.

And on the question, will the convention agree so to do, it was determined in the negative. The question recurring, will the convention agree to the resolution offered by Mr. Lawler, the yeas and nays were required, and are as follows: yeas 92, nays 33. So it was determined in the affirmative.

The following gentlemen were then nominated as candidates for Vice President: John C. Calhoun, Henry Clay, Albert Gallatin, William Findlay, John Tod, Daniel Montgomery. And the names of the members being called over, it appeared that the votes were as follows:

John C. Calhoun had 87 votes; Henry Clay had 10 votes; Albert Gallatin had 14 votes; William Findlay had 8 votes; John Tod had 8 votes; Daniel Montgomery had 1 vote.

On motion, Messrs. Porter, M'Ilvaine, Burnard, Walker and Ogle were appointed a committee to report resolutions expressive of the sense of this convention, on the subject for which it is assembled.

On motion, the convention adjourned until eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

March 5, 1824, the convention assembled, all the members present.

Mr. G. B. Porter, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That this convention disapprove and condemn the late caucus of a minority of the republican members of congress at Washington, at which William H. Crawford was nominated for President, and Albert Gallatin for Vice President, as it was a flagrant departure from the established usage of the republican party, being held by a minority contrary to the known wishes and sentiments of a large majority of the democratic members of congress, and in total disregard and contempt of the voice of the people; this convention cannot consider that caucus as held with a view to promote the harmony of the party by uniting upon the most deserving for the office of President, but with the single view to promote the interest and success of William H. Crawford, one of the candidates only, and in the vain hope that the American people might be thus deceived into a belief that he was the regular democratic candidate.

And on the question, will the convention agree to the same, it was determined in the affirmative, by nearly a unanimous vote, two votes only in the negative.

Mr. Porter, from the same committee, further reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That the present alarming crisis demands a chief magistrate, around whom the nation would rally with unbounded confidence, in the hour of danger; a patriot tried and distinguished in the council and in the field. Without detracting from the acknowledged merits of the other candidates, no one is so pre-eminently possessed of those qualifications as General AN-

These who voted for Mr. Clay, Mr. Gallatin, Mr. Findlay, Mr. Tod, and Mr. Montgomery were generally understood to do so; but on a second ballot would have voted for Mr. Calhoun.

DREW JACKSON. We rest his nomination upon his own superior merits and strong claims upon the gratitude of his country, and not upon the weakness of his opponents. An able advocate and judge, a distinguished legislator and governor, an incorruptible patriot, a skilful, brave and successful general, and an enlightened statesman; at the early age of 14, he was a soldier of the revolution, a wounded prisoner in a British prison; and during the late war, he toiled through hardships, through fatigue and danger in the service of his country. We do, therefore, earnestly recommend Gen. ANDREW JACKSON for the first office in the gift of the American people.

And on the question, will the convention adopt this resolution, it was unanimously determined in the affirmative.

The same committee also reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That the signal services and unsullied democracy of JOHN C. CALHOUN, his enlightened views of national policy, and fearless devotion to the public good, have made him the candidate of the State of Pennsylvania for the office of Vice President; and that the electors be instructed to support this illustrious statesman, this sincere friend of JACKSON and of his country.

And on the question, will the convention adopt this resolution, it was unanimously determined in the affirmative.

On motion, the convention proceeded to the selection of electors of President and Vice President.

On motion, Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft an address to the citizens of the United States, recommending to their support the distinguished citizens whom this convention have selected as candidates for President and Vice President.

Which was agreed to, and ordered, That Messrs. Wilkins, M'Ilvaine, Walker, Ogle and Fox be the committee for that purpose.

On motion,

Resolved, That a general committee of correspondence be appointed for this state, at the seat of government thereof, and that the said committee inform each elector nominated of his being placed on the ticket; and should the said committee ascertain that any of the said electors are opposed to the election of the candidates this convention have selected, they are hereby authorized to strike the name of every such person off the ticket, and substitute another or others in the place thereof; and the said committee be also authorized to fill any vacancy which may occur in the ticket prior to the election.

Ordered that Messrs. Molton C. Rogers [secretary of state] Jacob Bucher, William Clark [state Treasurer] Christian Gleim, Charles Mowry, Francis R. Shunk, Samuel Douglas, Adam H. Orth, and John S. Weistling be the committee for the purposes expressed in the said resolution.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee of correspondence, to consist of not less than three, nor more than nine persons, be appointed in each county of the state, and that a list be furnished to the general committee of correspondence aforesaid.

On motion,

Resolved, That the proceedings of this convention, signed by the presidents and secretaries, with a list of the names of the delegates attached thereto, be published.

JACOB HOLGATE, President. JACOB SPANGLER, WILLIAM WILKINS, Vice Presidents.

Extract of a letter, to the Editors of the Washington Republican, dated Harrisburg, March 4, 1824.

DEAR SIR: I have this moment returned from the Convention, and hasten to communicate to you the result. The votes were as follow:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Votes. FOR PRESIDENT: General A. Jackson 124, William H. Crawford 1. FOR VICE PRESIDENT: John C. Calhoun 87, Albert Gallatin 10, Henry Clay 10, William Findlay 8, John Tod 8, Daniel Montgomery 1.

If a second ballot had been necessary to obtain a majority, there would have been an accession of 25 votes more for Mr. Calhoun. The scattering votes were given in pursuance of special instruction, which the delegates very properly considered as binding upon them as long as their candidate had a reasonable prospect of success—had it not been for this consideration, the vote would have been for Mr. Calhoun 112; Mr. Gallatin 6; Mr. Clay 6.

The resolutions to support the candidates nominated were unanimously adopted, and an electoral ticket will be formed accordingly; of the success of which there cannot be the slightest doubt.

Mr. Roberts, our late Senator, moved

a resolution to approve the nomination of Mr. Crawford and Mr. Gallatin, made at Washington. He had some difficulty to get his resolution seconded, and when the vote was taken, it stood 133 against, and 2 in favor of your little Washington Caucus.

The policy of Virginia is well understood here, and although she can drill 66 scattering members of Congress into a caucus, to register the decrees of Richmond, she can get but two men out of the whole delegation in a state convention in Pennsylvania to offer the slightest support to the Virginia ticket. She must not suppose that her mere fiat can change principles, or convert a minority into a majority, with all its proper attributes of power; nor that, because her favorite candidates have usually been chosen, that, therefore, any candidate she may prefer must be chosen, nor that any anti-republican means which she may resort to in order to support her favorite candidates will be sanctioned by Pennsylvania. I am aware that you preferred Mr. Calhoun to any other candidate for the Presidency.—You cannot entertain a higher opinion of his talents and genuine qualifications than I do. But I have indulged, perhaps, an old fashioned notion, that the Presidency ought to be kept as long as possible in the revolutionary line. We owe it to our country, to venerate, and to teach our children to venerate, the spirit of those times. There is great safety in it, and it furnishes a most valuable lesson to posterity. Mr. Calhoun ought to be kept longer in the field. His vast mind will infuse itself into the vitals of our system, in whatever station he may be placed. The same may be said of Mr. Adams and Mr. Clay; the republic will have employment enough for all her best talents, in which they cannot be degraded. I rejoice that we have so great a rivalry of virtue and talent, and I wish to see them all employed to the best advantage. The highest honor of our country is a noble object of ambition, and those who endeavor to obtain them through faithful efficient public service, whether in the field or the cabinet, deserve our respect and confidence, while it is the duty of every good citizen to resist the pretension of those who seek elevation by the mere contrivance and machinery of petty cabals. The decision in favor of the ticket formed here has been a free and spontaneous expression of the public will, and it ought to be so understood; but not in hostile opposition to any other existing political interest of the nation, except that of the minority caucus at Washington. We have selected our candidates, not because we did not entertain very high respect for some of the others, but because they claimed our highest respect, and harmonized most cordially the whole republican interest of the state. Yours, &c.

[BY REQUEST.] From the Columbian Observer. To the freemen of the United States: The Liberal and the Candid.

That ANDREW JACKSON had any probable prospect of success for the Presidential chair, the politicians and leading men of the country heretofore affected to disbelieve. That the People should have any voice or agency in the appointment of their chief magistrate, was a principle so new as to be without converts; all willingly voted in the belief, that the management of a chosen few, styling themselves Democratic Republicans, would be able in midnight caucus to prescribe a rule of action, by which to bind the opinions and consciences of others. But the calculation has failed: expectation has been disappointed. The people have awakened to a knowledge of their rights. Their voice has sounded through Pennsylvania; it has reached the tops, and swelled through the valleys of her mountains, and with undivided strength they are pressing forward to the maintenance of their rights, and to the support of their favorite candidate.

No longer is this man viewed with indifference. Fears now are beginning to be entertained for his success; and as a consequence, detraction is to be resorted to, and unfounded stories circulated against him. The tocsin is already sounded, and the old story of temper and discretion is again to be harped upon. The writ of Habeas Corpus suspended and a Judge confined, cruelties practised in war, and the execution of Arbuthnot and Ambrister, are to be made, and are made, the basis on which to erect their batteries of envenom. It is enough to know that Jackson is the People's candidate, and that he is the dangerous competitor of Caucus management, for his opponents in their majesty, to assail and traduce him; to ransack the volume of his life and come forth maliciously charged, with the gleanings of their industry.

JACKSON is charged with being the author of the Semble War; that he caused it, and brought the country into it. Heretofore, this accusation was made against General Gaines. I say it is not true as it regards either of them, and the history of the times sustains me in the assertion. The policy of the U. States towards our Southern Indians, had been of the most liberal and forbearing character, we had cherished and protected them when the first intelligence of any disposition on their part to be at variance, was in an assault upon one of our out posts, (Fort Mims,) where three hundred women and children were butchered and burnt. Under the orders of his state, subsequently approved by the general government, JACKSON marched to meet and subdue them! The Horse Shoe battle terminated the war. And here, as a previous condemnatory sentence, it is alleged that he continued to kill and destroy even after the battle was over, thereby endeavouring to enforce the idea, that neither submission nor surrender could find protection. Facts need only be presented. Let the authors then, by reference to the "Life of Jackson," at page 150, read the account of this battle, and so far from discovering anything to warrant the imputation cast, they will find, that overtures for surrender were made and refused by the Savages themselves. "Gen. JACKSON," says the historian, "perceiving that further resistance would only involve them in utter destruction, sent a flag accompanied by an interpreter, to propose to them a surrender and to spare the further effusion of blood;" but instead of accepting it the Indians opened a fire which wounded one of the party. At this battle "four men who surrendered, and three hundred women and children were taken prisoners."

Here then is this mighty unfeeling offence, where the impression sought to be produced in the public mind, is, that every soul, and in cold blood too, was put to the sword; whereas, on reference to authority, we find that an overture for several surrenders was made and refused, and that three hundred persons were taken—not butchered, as charged. This battle terminated the Creek war and peace was concluded between them and the United States. But the form of the peace, and stipulation of the treaty, it is maintained, brought on the Seminole war; and that, inasmuch as Jackson concluded the negotiation, he is therefore to be viewed as the author of the evil. For those who thus can argue, and deal in bold assertion, it is a little unfortunate, that their positions can by proof be so easily swept from them. But it is the old story so harped upon in 1819: the same which Abner Lacombe pressed in his report in the Senate, and the same which the honorable Henry Clay so feelingly urged in the House of Representatives, when his soul melted to tenderness in behalf of Arbuthnot and Ambrister, the murderers of our people, while not a sympathy, with him, beat for those of our women and children, who, through their councils, had been inhumanly butchered. Mr. Clay said on enquiring into the painful incidents of this war, its origin he feared would be found in the famous treaty of Fort Jackson; a more dictatorial spirit he had never seen displayed in any instrument. It consisted of the most severe and humiliating demands! What a contrast is exhibited between the contemporaneous scenes of Ghent and of Fort Jackson. "The United States demands" is repeated five times. "Why, Mr. Clay, and those who quote him as authority, should impute the rigid demands of this treaty, as fault and crime to JACKSON, they best can tell. Mr. Clay then knew, and those who reiterate the charges now know, that General JACKSON acted in that negotiation under the positive orders of the President, (Mr. Madison,) and is entitled for the use of the word "demand" so obnoxious to the honorable Mr. Clay, to just as much censure, as would a captain be, for executing the orders of his General. I say the government directed him to do it, and it was his duty as a faithful representative to obey; if there be fault, it is imputable not to him, General Armstrong, who was Secretary at War, and who spoke the fiat of the executive, in the instructions given relative to this treaty, says, "It has occurred to me, that the proposed treaty with the Creeks should take a form altogether military, and be in the nature of a capitulation; in which case the whole authority of making and concluding the terms will be in you exclusively as commanding General." Such is the language used. It was not a treaty of peace, nor intended as such; where mutual covenants, & reciprocal interests, were to be regarded. No such instructions were given; no such order issued; but a very reverse course was ordered, to wit, that it must be in the nature of a capitulation, and therefore were the

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