

Southern Citizen.

WHAT DO WE LIVE FOR, BUT TO IMPROVE OURSELVES AND BE USEFUL TO ONE ANOTHER?

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From the Raleigh Register.

THE GREAT WHIG CONVENTION.

Pursuant to a recommendation of the Whig Central Committee, the Whigs of North Carolina assembled in Convention at the Capitol, in the city of Raleigh, on Thursday, the 7th of December, 1843.

At 12 o'clock, the Convention was called to order by Richard Hines, Esq. Chairman of the Central Committee, and on his motion, for the purpose of organizing the Convention, Gen. Samuel F. Patterson was temporarily called to the Chair, and Weston R. Gales was appointed Secretary.

On taking the Chair, Gen. Patterson made an appropriate acknowledgment for the honor conferred on him, in a brief address.

On motion of Mr. Cherry, the Secretary proceeded to call over the Counties of the State alphabetically, for the purpose of ascertaining which of them are represented in Convention, and the names of the Delegates.

On calling the roll, the following Delegates appeared as the representatives of their respective Counties, viz:

Anson—E. Nelms, H. Sturdivant, Joel Gaddy, J. W. Allen.
Bertie—W. W. Cherry, George Gray.
Beaufort—J. B. Bonner, W. H. Tripp.
Buncombe—Wm. J. Brown.
Cherokee—M. Francis, Felix Axley.
Chatham—W. P. Taylor, James Taylor.
Carteret—W. H. Arundell, Benjamin Leecraft.
Caswell—W. M. Lewis, J. E. Wooding, F. Lewis, N. H. McCain.
Cabarrus—Moses Pitts.
Caldwell—A. C. Williamson.
Davidson—J. M. Leach, James A. Long.
Edgecomb—R. H. Battle.
Franklin—Weldon Person, Marcellus A. Williams, Charles Raboteau, W. Simons, Isaac W. Davis, J. H. Norwood, John H. Whitefield, D. S. Hill, Joseph B. Littlejohn, Joseph A. Whitaker.
Granville—H. J. Roberts, V. Winfree, J. B. Simms, Wm. B. Crews, C. W. Allen, William Fleming, Jas. Gooch, Clement Wilkins, Samuel S. Downey, P. H. Winston, Alexander Fleming, Wm. L. Peace, Ivey Harris, Charles E. Russ, Horace L. Roberts, James T. Littlejohn.
Greene—Wm. H. B. Taylor, Joseph B. Greene.
Guilford—J. Brannock, C. A. Gillaspie, J. H. Lindsay, Jesse Wheeler, Col. A. Clapp, Col. Wm. Gott, John Hiatt, Maj. Robt. Donnell.
Halifax—W. P. Pope, Th. P. Devereux, Robt. C. Bond.
Hyde—David Carter.
Haywood—M. Francis.
Jones—Wm. Foy.
Johnston—John McLeod, Thos. Bagley, John Leach, J. B. Beckwith, N. Win-

iams, D. McPherson, W. R. Lee, Julius A. Stevens, B. R. Hinnant, Edwin Rains, Wm. G. Rains, H. W. Husted, Henry Sasser.

Lincoln—H. W. Carroll.

Lenoir—W. Dunn, Jr., Thos. S. Clark.

Macon—M. Francis.

Mecklenburg—Dr. Wallace.

Moore—Jas. McGilvery.

Montgomery—G. J. Cochran, David A. Boyd, Jas. C. Roper.

Nash—Kelly Rawls.

New Hanover—Asa A. Brown.

Northampton—W. Barrax.

Orange—Hugh Waddell, George Hurdie, Samuel L. Holt, Willis Barbee, John Cameron, Henry K. Nash, Walter A. Norwood, H. K. Witherspoon, Walter A. Thompson, Richard J. Ashe, John Lewis, Edward Lewis J. W. Carr, Thomas L. Carter.

Onslow—Owen Huggins.

Pasquotank—Peter W. Hinton.

Person—John Barnett, M. McGeeheo.

Pitt—Dr. Elias J. Blount.

Randolph—W. J. Long, J. E. Leach, Alfred Brower.

Richmond—Saunders M. Ingram, Dudley B. Jones, E. D. Covington, J. W. Covington, Alex. Covington, J. P. Leake.

Rowan—John B. Lord, Samuel Silliman.

Rockingham—Will. R. Walker, John B. Brodnax.

Sampson—Elam Godwin, T. D. Meares.

Surry—J. A. Lillington, C. J. Cowles.

Stanly—A. C. Freeman.

Stokes—B. R. Wagoner.

Tyrrel—J. J. Lindsay.

Wake—C. L. Hinton, J. H. Bryan, Daniel Murray, Henry Mordecai, Richard Hines, A. Jones, T. M. Oliver, W. R. Gales, J. W. Harris, D. S. Cranshaw, G. E. Badger, J. Mordecai, R. Tucker, R. Harrison, Louis Feck, C. Manly, G. W. Haywood, Giles Underhill, Jno. Babb, Stephen Stephenson, Wm. Ashley, Wm. Cranshaw, Jno. Buffalo, G. C. Battle, W. J. Ramsey, A. Williams, T. J. Lemay, John S. Powell, Bradford Utley, S. F. Patterson, S. W. Whiting, Jno. H. Manly, Richard Seawell, R. W. Haywood, Henry W. Miller, Wm. G. Hill, W. J. Langdon, S. Beasley, B. Rogers, T. H. Snow, E. A. Jannay, William Laws, John Ligon, W. F. Smith, Drury King, Jno. Shaw, Moses King, John J. Lee, Mann Stephenson, Sol. Allen, Chas. Horton, James J. Litchford.

Wayne—Jas. Griswold.

Washington—J. J. Lindsay.

Warren—G. E. Spruill, S. E. Phillips, J. G. Yancy.

The Secretary having reported the names of the Delegates, and the Counties represented, on motion of Mr. Hines,

Resolved, That the Chairman of this Convention appoint a Committee, to be composed of one delegate from each Congressional District, for the purpose of recommending the necessary Officers for this Convention.

Whereupon, the Chairman appointed the following gentlemen to constitute said Committee, viz: Messrs. Francis, Lord, Lillington, Lindsay, of Guilford, Nash, Hale, Meares, Cherry and Rawls.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Convention re-assembled, pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Francis, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following recommendation of Officers for the Convention, viz:

For President.

George E. Spruill, of Warren.

Vice-Presidents.

John Barnett, of Person,
Peter W. Hinton, of Pasquotank,
John W. Covington, of Richmond,
Alfred Jones, of Wake.

Secretaries.

Weston R. Gales, of Wake,
Edward J. Hale, of Cumberland.

The Report was unanimously confirmed; and

Messrs. Hines and Francis were appointed a Committee to conduct the gentlemen selected to their appropriate seats.

The President, on taking his seat, addressed the Convention as follows:

Gentlemen of the Convention.—I tender you my hearty thanks for the honor conferred upon me of being called upon to preside over this large, respectable and intelligent body of Whigs. To this distinction I can offer no claim, except one which I share in common with every member of this Convention—my devotion to Whig principles. I have had little experience in the duties of this Chair, and must therefore rely myself upon your kindness to overlook my errors and to assist me in the faithful discharge of its duties. I need not observe to you how important to all deliberative bodies is the observance of rules of order—and I trust that you will cheerfully lend me your support in carrying out these rules fairly and impartially.

Gentlemen.—The Whig Central Committee, some two months ago, requested the Whigs of the several Counties of the State to assemble in their primary meetings to appoint delegates to this Convention. That call was responded to from the Seaboard to the Mountains, from the Northern to the Southern limits of the State. There is probably not a County in the State, which has not held its meeting and appointed a long list of delegates to this Convention. And although from various causes many have failed to attend, still it is a source of gratification to find so many in attendance from nearly all sections of the State. Those primary meetings have not only appointed delegates to this Convention, but have passed resolutions, pledging their support to Whig principles, Whig measures and Whig men.—The spirit, zeal and harmony by which these meetings have been animated has indeed been admirable, and affords a sure pledge of the triumph of Whig principles in 1844.

We are met here to select a suitable Candidate to be voted for by the Whigs of the State for Governor in 1844—and to appoint two delegates for the State at large to attend the Baltimore Whig National Convention. The names of many gentlemen have been brought forward by their friends as entitled to the support of the Whig party for Governor, and it is surely a matter of pride to find in our ranks so many Whigs, any one of whom would worthily and honorably fill the Governorial Chair. It is your duty to select one out of this list to be recommended to the Whigs of the State, and in the discharge of this duty, I am sure I need not urge upon you the necessity of discarding all personal preference, and going for that man who will most effectually rally the Whig party in 1844—so as not only to secure his own election, but to secure a majority in the next Legislature, and above all to carry an overwhelming vote for the Whig Candidate for the Presidency. The individual that shall be found to combine the qualities necessary to accomplish these objects will, I trust and believe, receive your hearty and unanimous support.

I do not, Gentlemen, deem it necessary on this occasion to go into an exposition of Whig principles and Whig measures. The very fact of your being here at this inclement season from remote parts of the State, proves that you fully understand and properly appreciate them. I can only, in conclusion, express my fervent wish that that Being who presides over the destinies of nations, will so govern and control your deliberations that they may result in such measures as will redound to your own honor, and to the glory, happiness and welfare of our Country.

On motion of Mr. Francis, the Rules of Order, for the Government of the House of Commons, at its last Session, were adopted for the regulation of this Convention.

Mr. Badger moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee be raised, to consist of two Delegates from each Congressional District of the State, to take into consideration and report to this Convention, the several subjects proper for its action, and the action proper to be taken thereon; and that the members composing the Committee, be appointed by the Delegates from the said congressional Districts, respectively.

Mr. Nash moved to amend the Resolution, so as to provide, that one Delegate be appointed from each Congressional District, and that the Committee be authorized to vote for each County embraced in their several Congressional Districts, according to their respective representation in the House of Commons.

The question was first taken on the amendment, which was negatived.

Mr. Miller then moved to amend the Resolution, by striking out the word "one" from each Congressional District, and inserting, "one from each county represented in this convention."

After considerable discussion, this amendment was rejected, and the question recurring on the original Resolution moved by Mr. Badger, it was decided in the affirmative.

The Delegates from the several Congressional Districts, thereupon assembled, and appointed the following gentlemen to compose said committee, viz:

First District—M. Francis and Felix Axley.

Second—John B. Lord and Moses Pitts.

Third—N. H. McCain and John A. Lillington.

Fourth—E. Nelms and Julian E. Leach.

Fifth—George E. Badger and E. J. Hale.

Sixth—T. D. Meares and William Foy.

Seventh—T. P. Devereux and Hugh Waddell.

Eighth—William H. Tripp and Jos. B. Green.

Ninth—George Gray and William Barrow.

The convention then adjourned until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

Friday morning, Dec 8

The convention met, pursuant to adjournment. After the reading of the Journal,

Mr. Raboteau, of Franklin, desired that a Letter addressed to the Delegation from Beaufort county by Hon. Edward Stanly might be read. The Letter was accordingly read as follows:

Washington, Dec. 2d, 1843.

Gentlemen:—Finding it impracticable, without serious loss and neglect of business, to attend the State convention, as I desired to do, I deem it due to my friends and to myself, to write what I should have said in substance, could circumstances have justified my going to Raleigh.

The convention will be called on to select some suitable person, to become the Whig candidate for the Governorial office of the State: and, as we must all perceive, difficulty may possibly arise, if the friends of several gentlemen, who have been named, should urge their claims, I desire, after mature deliberation, for reasons I will give, to decline the nomination. Those reasons are the following: I think no man is justified, from a desire of advancing his own promotion, or gratifying his ambition, however laudable, in occupying a position, which may embarrass his friends, mar the harmony which has hitherto characterized the Whig party in our State, or do anything which, by possibility, may detract from our strength.

I believe that several who have been named in different sections of the State, are more competent to the task than myself, and would more cordially unite us. I know they are older and abler soldiers. It is right, therefore, that they should be preferred to the younger and less efficient.

With great reluctance I add, that, for six years, my attention has been given, not occasionally, but devoted to the Whig cause. During that period, I have entirely neglected my own business. I cannot, without improperly troubling you with private matters, say more than this—an imperious sense of duty calls on me to give some attention to domestic affairs, more especially, as there is no necessity for my services.

I hope I shall be believed when I say, if circumstances required my efforts, it mine were deemed (as they are not) of more avail than those of several others, no personal reasons could restrain me from entering upon any task, to which I could be invited by a Whig convention.

I trust I possess the confidence of the Whig party—I know I deserve it, and I will not needlessly make professions. To you, and to the Delegates from this district, (for whom this letter is intended,) I may without vanity, point to the past, as affording abundant evidence of my willingness to forget myself, for the public good.

Let me not be understood, therefore, as refusing from personal considerations alone, to consent that my name should be considered as one of those from whom the selection is to be made, but out of regard to other facts just mentioned.

I hope that none of our friends will be influenced by a desire to bring my name forward, on account of the unjust and odious gerrymandering of our last Legislature, for it has been of great benefit to me. I have no mortified pride to gratify, no wounded feelings to soothe. What Patriot would not rejoice in having an opportunity afforded him, of falling in the front rank, in such a cause, with such noble hearted, generous friends?

I wish it were in my power, to express the gratitude I feel, for the kind expressions of confidence and regard evinced for me, by the people in this district, and in other parts of the State.—To know that I possess their good opinion, while it animates me for the future, brings an inestimable reward, for the efforts I have heretofore made in the public service. I shall hereafter shew my gratitude, though I cannot give utterance to it.

In the coming contest, I shall not be a listless or inactive spectator; for I know the Whig party is honest, that it is pure and disinterested. I believe the prosperity of our country, and the salvation of our free institutions, depend on the success of our measures.

The glorious, and good Old North State, has many worthier sons, but none more warmly attached to her than myself. And should the time ever arrive, in the absence of abler men, when I am wanted to aid the Whig cause, or to serve the State, I shall be found ready.

In the service of either, labor will be pleasure, no matter what the personal sacrifice to me.

Very truly yours,
EDW STANLY.

Col. Joshua Tayloe and others.

The reading of the letter was frequently interrupted by rapturous applause.

Mr. Waddell, from the General committee, appointed yesterday, to report the several subjects for action by the convention, and the proper action to be taken, made the following Report, viz:

The Committee report that three subjects require the action of the Convention. First, the nomination of a candidate for the office of Governor. Secondly, the course to be adopted by the Whigs of this State as to the Vice Presidency. And, thirdly, the selection of two delegates to the Baltimore convention for the State at large.

As to the first, the committee, after a full consideration of every thing deemed material to a right decision, and a full and frank interchange of opinion, have with entire unanimity, resolved to propose to the convention the name of the Hon. WILLIAM A. GRAHAM, of Orange. Though, unnecessary, it is certainly not improper, in announcing this result to the convention, to say of this gentleman, that with a reputation in private life without spot or blemish, with a clear understanding of our institutions, and a thorough devotion to the best interests of his country, a firm adherence to the great conservative principles of the Whig party, an intellect enlarged, powerful and acute, he has an energy which, in maintaining what is right, and in discharging his whole duty, can neither be wearied by labor nor impeded by opposition. And yet, so happy are the elements of his character combined, no circumstances of persecution, no sudden excitements or collisions, have ever caused him to swerve from a just and dignified consideration of what was due to others or to himself. With this gentleman, as our leader, your committee have no doubt of triumphant success. And they are highly gratified in adding,