

THE RALEIGH TIMES.

"GIVE ME THE LIBERTY TO KNOW, TO UTTER, AND TO ARGUE FREELY, ACCORDING TO CONSCIENCE, ABOVE ALL OTHER LIBERTIES."—MILTON.

NEW SERIES.

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C. C. RABOTEAU, Editor.

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TERMS.

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Office of FAYETTEVILLE ST., ONE DOOR BELOW POST OFFICE.

For the Raleigh Times.

MR. EDITOR: I see that all the Locofoco organs of the State, tho' in favor of amending the constitution, are out in full blast against calling a free and open Convention, directly from the people for that purpose. I confess no disappointment at seeing them take this stand; and think every one who has carefully read Gov. Reid's Inaugural Address would expect them to occupy that platform. It could hardly be expected that the organs of the party would grind out any music but such as would be acceptable to their leader, and calculated to facilitate his march, divide his enemies, and give new life and strength to the forces which support him. The various propositions, in the order they have been brought forward by prominent Locofocos, are well calculated to effect the objects they have in view, which I take to be the prostration of the Whigs in the West for the benefit of the Locofocos of the East. If this in truth be the object, no one can blame the people of the West for acting in self-defence. If we are deserted by our political friends in the East, we must try and do the best we can in and of ourselves. Our political affinities, though ardent, are not strong enough to bind us forever to those who seem willing, on a slight pretence, to betray us into the hands of our enemies. If gentlemen at the East are opposed to amending the constitution by an open Convention, why did they not nip this thing in the bud? Why are they so willing now to cheapen the right of suffrage, without granting an equivalent to those who will be permitted hereafter to exercise this sacred right? Does the question of loss and gain here arise?—blunt their consciences and stop their ears to the complaints of their friends, who are not only being shorn of their strength, but are hereafter likely to be literally trampled into the dust by this piece-meal tinkering operation of amending the constitution by Legislative enactment? This fact will be much more apparent perhaps to many, by noticing separately the various propositions, precisely in the order in which they were presented by their authors. It is admitted that free suffrage, to use the language of Mr. Avery, "neither gives nor takes anything from the East or West." It is at best but a bubble—a humbug—a political toy thrown out by an ardent demagogue for the purpose of pleasing, while it deceives, the people, and benefiting but its projector and his party. And, so far as the people of Western Carolina are concerned, could they be satisfied that all amendments to the constitution would stop here, they might possibly be brought to agree to the bill passed by the last Legislature. But we of the West take it that this is but the prelude of what is yet to come; and that it has been decreed in caucus, that the *ever-stifling* platform of Locofocracy in this State, at the proper time is to have a new plank added to it. In the present campaign, the people of the West are to be denounced without stint or mercy as a band of agrarians and fanatics, by the stump orators and organs of the Locofoco party. This course is recommended in an epistle of one of their file leaders, who says that they can frighten the East into the support of David S. Reid, if they can only hold the Democracy of the West firmly to their support and under their old colors. This is to be done as heretofore I presume, by crying out in favor of free suffrage and in opposition to an open Convention, on the ground of the improbability, organized as the Senate is, of our ever being able to get a bill passed through that body, calling a Convention. Thus, by playing a double game, frightening the people of the East with a prospect of a change of the basis, and at the same time disheartening those of the West, by telling them that such a thing is utterly out of the question, they hope in the approaching campaign to bear Governor Reid and free suffrage triumphantly through, and at the same time, in the same manner, secure a majority in each branch of our next Legislature. If so, they will be able to district the State, revise all our laws; elect a United States Senator for the next six years, &c., &c.

This much the Whigs of the State have lost or are likely to lose, by David S. Reid and free suffrage, in the two first successful campaigns of the party. Let us look back for a moment to the interesting programme of amendments proposed by these leaders to be made to our constitution—

The plank next to be added to the Democratic platform, if the programme is correct, will be General Romulus Mitchell Saunders' famous proposition forbidding any further appropriations by the Legislature for Internal Improvements, unless the bill making such appropriations shall have first been submitted to the people and approved by a majority of them at the ballot-box. Here is a Goliath that is now pampering for party use, and will be next put upon the political track in this State. How admirably adapted to the times will this issue be!—for a-bout this time the State will be indebted some two and a half millions—the great works of improvement now under way will barely have been completed—the taxes of the State will probably have to be raised a fraction for a short time to meet the interest on the State bonds. The people of the East will want the Central Railroad continued to Beaufort, and those of the West go as one man for it to be continued to Knoxville. The friends of the Yadkin & Catawba will be more anxious than ever to have those noble rivers improved from the point where they are crossed by the Railroad to as near their sources as possible. The State will be excited in every quarter upon this subject. What a beautiful field will then be open to Old Roan to display his former talents at dodging on the subject of Internal Improvements!—when he trots out on his new hobby, booted, girded and spurred for the race, in the year of our Lord, 1854! What could Rayer, Stanly, Gilmer, or any other Whig, do with this Don Quixote of the campaign, backed as he would be, by the whole Locofoco party? Nothing, emphatically nothing! He would walk over the track with ease, driving either the gentlemen I have named, and the few dissonant Whigs who might be induced to rally around either or all, in triumph before him. And, under the circumstances described, I have no hesitation in saying, that few, if any, of the counties of the State would return delegates who would refuse to vote for the amendment referred to. In that event, let me ask my friends of the up-country, as well as in many portions of the East, what will be the consequence of such a change in the constitution as is here contemplated? Will there be any chance then of getting works of improvement constructed or repaired? None whatever. The entire West will then be doomed to remain hemmed from their own markets and the markets of the world by the great hills and lofty mountains. North Carolina may boast of broad rivers and bright streams, but not one of them will ever be improved. What of that, if Democracy but remain in power?

This amendment disposed of, how natural will it be for the West to desire to run a candidate for Governor, and it so happens that among the list of constitutional reformers in the last Legislature, Mr. Avery comes next in order, and the plank that he proposes to add to the Democratic platform is the election of the Justices of the Peace by the people. This is a favorite hobby of his; and I have no doubt but that the whole family are somewhat partial to it, as it lay near the heart of his worthy and patriotic grandfather, after whom he has the honor of being named. It is supposed that this amendment will be equally popular with the two former, and of course will carry Mr. Avery into the gubernatorial chair. When he has served out his four years, then Mr. Stevenson, of Newbern, will come forward as the next candidate, and he will propose to add to the platform the election of Judges by the people. It is thought by the time Mr. Stevenson will be called on, the people will have become Democratic enough to elect their Judges with a rush. After Mr. Stevenson has served the party four years, it is more than likely that the more intelligent portion of the people will begin to grow weary of this method of amending the constitution, and will call loudly for a convention for thorough revision. If so, the Democratic party will be prepared for the emergency exactly. James R. McLean, a Western man, in which portion of the State this movement will then as now, be most popular, will be ready and qualified to take the field; and the issue will be upon his bill which passed the House of Commons at the last session by the aid of the Democracy. This proposition was to take the vote of the people upon Convention or No Convention. When the vote is taken, should a majority be found voting against a Convention, it will have no other effect than to prove the Democracy were right in the course they have pursued in relation to the constitution, and that all the amendments they have adopted have been approved by the people separately and jointly.

And this great demonstration of their wisdom, foresight and patriotism, will give our friend McLean popularity enough, to enable him to nominate his successor. On the other hand, should the people decide in favor of a Convention, still they will be fortunate enough to be on the right side, ready to sail with the tide of public opinion.

Feb. 16, 1852. RANDOLPH.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT.—John Fienes Crampton, has presented to the President the letter of recall of Sir Henry L. Bulwer, and his own credentials as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of her Britannic Majesty to this Government.

Leisure is a very pleasant garment to look at, but it is a very bad one to wear. The ruin of millions may be traced to it.

WHIG MEETING IN CLEVELAND.

The Whigs of Cleveland County convened at the Court House in Shelby, on Tuesday, the 10th of February, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the Whig State Convention. When, on motion of Dr. W. J. T. Miller, Isaac Erwin, Esq. was called the Chair, and J. R. Logan, Esq. appointed Secretary.

At the request of the Chairman, G. W. Baxter, Esq. being present, explained the object of the meeting in a brief, but lucid and very appropriate speech, urging the Whigs to vigilance and duty in the approaching campaign.

The following resolutions were then submitted by the Secretary, which, being read separately, were unanimously adopted, to wit:

WHEREAS, various County meetings have recently been held for the purpose of appointing delegates to attend the Whig State Convention, to be held in the City of Raleigh, on the 26th of April next, to nominate a candidate for Governor of the State, and whereas it is deemed advisable and proper that this County should be represented in said Convention; Therefore,

Resolved, That this meeting approves of holding a Convention for the purpose of nominating a Whig candidate for the gubernatorial Chair, and will therefore appoint ten delegates to represent the Whigs of this County in said Convention.

Resolved, That JOHN KERR, Esq., of Caswell, is eminently qualified to fill that distinguished office, and is our first choice as a candidate; yet we will cheerfully acquiesce in the action of the Convention.

Resolved, That Millard Fillmore, by his firmness, integrity and patriotism, in administering the affairs of Government for the benefit of the whole people, without regard to sectional prejudices, has entitled himself to our utmost confidence; and should he receive the nomination for the next Presidency, we will give him our hearty and most efficient support.

Resolved, That we have seen with pride the name of our own Governor Graham, mentioned by the Whig papers of various States, as a suitable person to fill the Second Office within the gift of the people of the Union; a gentleman whose talents, patriotism and high gentlemanly bearing have endeared him to the Whigs of North Carolina, and should he receive the nomination of the Whig Party, we will give him our most cordial support, with a full assurance that he would fill that office like every other to which he has been promoted, with honor to himself and to the Country.

Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting appoint ten Delegates to attend a District Convention, in the event such meeting should be necessary, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the Whig National Convention, to nominate Candidates for President and Vice President.

ISAAC ERWIN, Chm'n.

J. R. LOGAN, Sec'y.

WHIG MEETING IN CHATHAM.

On Tuesday of February Court, in the County of Chatham, a large meeting of the people being called in the Court House, to appoint Delegates to a State Convention to be held in Raleigh, on the 4th Monday in April next, Richardson Faucett, Esq. was called to the chair, and J. Q. A. Leach was appointed Secretary.

Maurice Q. Waddell offered the following Resolutions, which were adopted:

WHEREAS, It has been recommended that the Whig Party of North Carolina shall hold a Convention in Raleigh on the 26th of April, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the office of Governor of the State and for consultation upon the great interests of the country; And, whereas, we, a portion of the Whigs of Chatham, approve of the said time and place of holding said Convention, and are desirous that this county should be represented therein. Therefore,

Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting appoint 25 Delegates to attend said Convention.

Resolved, That we approve of the compromise measures of the last Congress, and that we regard them as a final settlement of the vexed questions to which they pertain, and that while we intend in good faith to abide by them ourselves, we shall require the same of others.

Resolved, That we cordially approve of the Administration of Millard Fillmore.—The difficulties which have encompassed his administration have but served to illustrate his abilities, prudence, conservatism, patriotism and nationality. Guided by the Constitution as explained and enforced by the fathers of the Republic, he has so performed his duties as to win the reluctant approbation of even his political enemies.

Resolved, That we recommend him as our first choice for the next Presidential Term.

Resolved, That we warmly recommend to our fellow citizens in every part of the Union, the name of Wm. A. Graham, for the next Vice Presidency. His own people in North Carolina, who have known him longest and know him best, think he would be a fit associate with that great and pure statesman, Millard Fillmore; like him, he is able, honest, conservative, patriotic and national.

Resolved, That we believe our true foreign policy to be, that which our country has ever pursued. What Washington earnestly inculcated and time and experience sanction, we are not willing to exchange for the dogmas of any foreign emissary, however honored he may be.

R. FAUCETT, Chm'n.

J. Q. A. LEACH, Sec'y.

WHIG MEETING IN WAYNE.

At a meeting of the Whigs of Wayne, held in the Court House in Goldsborough, on Tuesday the 17th instant, J. C. Slocumb, Esq., was on motion of Geo. V. Strong, Esq., called to the Chair, and having assumed it, explained in a brief and appropriate manner the object of the meeting, J. R. Manly was on motion appointed Secretary. On motion of Geo. C. Moses, Esq., the Chairman appointed the following gentlemen a committee to draft resolutions for the action of the meeting, to-wit: Messrs. John Wright, J. H. Everitt, Geo. V. Strong, Geo. C. Moses and Cogdell B. Massey. The committee having retired for a brief interval, returned and reported through Mr. J. H. Everitt the following, which were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, a Convention of the Whigs of the State of North Carolina, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Governor, and appointing two delegates to represent the State at large in the Whig National Convention, is to be held in the City of Raleigh, on the 26th day of April next, of which Convention we heartily approve, and in which we deem it important that we should be represented; And whereas, we think it expedient that a district Convention should be held in this District, for the purpose of appointing a delegate (and alternate) to represent it in said Whig National Convention;—Therefore,

Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting be authorized to appoint 24 delegates to represent this county in the approaching State Convention.

Resolved, That we recommend Greenville as a proper place, and Wednesday, the 5th day of May next, as a suitable time for holding the District Convention, and that the Chairman of this meeting be authorized to appoint ten delegates thereto.

Resolved, That as Whigs, belonging to the great Conservative Party of the country, we entertain an abiding devotion to the Union, the Constitution and its Compromises, and regard the series of measures passed by Congress to settle the questions arising out of our territorial acquisitions, as a settlement in principle and substance, of the dangerous and exciting subjects which they embrace.

Resolved, That having full confidence in the wisdom of the Convention which is to assemble at Raleigh, we forbear to express any preference as to the person who is to be our candidate for the gubernatorial office, and that we pledge our zealous support to him, whom the Convention shall in its wisdom recommend to our choice.

Resolved, That in MILLARD FILLMORE we behold the honest man, the enlightened statesman, the faithful executive, who has the moral courage to adhere to the Constitution despite the opposition of fanatical factions, and a patriotism sufficiently broad to embrace every section, and that he is therefore our first choice for the Presidency of the United States.

Resolved, That the Hon. Wm. A. GRAHAM our warmest recommendation, as the Whig candidate for the Vice Presidency, since in him we recognise a man enlightened, firm, faithful, patriotic and true, who never hesitates to denounce the wrong nor to do battle in the cause of right.

Mr. Geo. V. Strong having been then called upon by the meeting, responded in a very able and eloquent manner.

J. C. SLOCUMB, Ch'n.

J. R. MANLY, Sec'y.

WHIG MEETING IN MCDOWELL.

At a meeting of the Whigs of McDowell County, held in the Court House, on the 28th of January 1852, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the State Convention, the following proceedings were had—Jesse Burgin, Esq., was called to the chair, and Charles Mackney requested to act as Secretary.

Dr. John L. Erwin, being called upon by the Chairman, explained the object of the meeting in a brief and pertinent manner, and then proposed for consideration, the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, after spirited addresses by Col. John Baxter, T. R. Caldwell, Esq., and Geo. W. Baxter, Esq.

WHEREAS, It has been recommended by the Whigs of the State, that a Convention should assemble in the city of Raleigh on the 4th Monday in April next, for the purpose of nominating a Whig Candidate for Governor, and whereas, we, a portion of the people of McDowell County, do approve of the object in holding said Convention.

Be it therefore Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting do appoint ten delegates to represent this county in said Convention.

Resolved, That among the many good and able men of the Whig party in this State, for whom we would cheerfully cast our suffrages, there is no one whom we consider more eminently deserving the favor of the whole Whig party of the State, than our estimable and patriotic fellow citizen, John Kerr, of Caswell county, but we pledge ourselves heartily to the nomination of the Convention.

Resolved, That we have observed not only with unhindered, but increased confidence the honesty, capability and fidelity with which Millard Fillmore has discharged his duties as President of the United States, and do most cordially commend him as our first choice for the next Presidency.

Resolved, That with unqualified pleasure we join our Whig brethren of the State, in recommending the Hon. William

A. Graham, our fellow citizen, for the Vice Presidency, and we can truly say,—"We know him, we have tried him, and we endorse him to the Whigs of the whole Union."

Resolved, That the Chairman appoint fifteen delegates to represent this county in a District Convention, to be held at Asheville, for the purpose of appointing a delegate to the Whig National Convention.

JESSE BURGIN, Ch'n.

CHARLES MACKNEY, Secretary.

From the N. Y. Express.

MR. FILLMORE.

It is stated that in an ABELIAN (N. Y.) paper, that President Fillmore will be *bolded* in this State into a fifty thousand minority, if nominated by the Whig National Convention—that is to say, we have a proclamation from Auburn that fifty thousand Whigs of the Auburn school will bolt his nomination! This is pretty plain talk; and is such as we like to hear, when the thought is indulged in. Plain out-spoken treason commands a certain degree of respect, even if we despise the principles of the traitor. We like to know the worst of things, for then we know how to grapple with them. If there is heroism, however, in the utterance of such a thought, there is a defiance in it also, that justifies preparation and punishment, and that leads us to investigate if the power of treason is equal to the will. We apprehend, however, that the Auburn Pronunciamento is very like a Mexican one, only on paper, intended to scare off the outside barbarians of the South and West from Fillmore, with a consciousness that it is nothing but a paper bulletin at home.

There is not one word of truth in this Auburn Pronunciamento, that Mr. Fillmore has not been, is not now, and is not likely to be as popular as any Whig candidate for the Presidency that can be offered to New York. There are difficulties that environ and embarrass our party in this State, whatsoever way we turn,—such as we do not propose to discuss here, in our columns,—but there is no public man now named for the Presidency so free from difficulty by his position and personal popularity as Millard Fillmore. For every Auburn Whig vote he loses, he will gain from the opposition party; but it is not true that he would lose many *bona fide* Whig votes, if any. The voting threat of 50,000 is only a *brutum fulmen*. Whigs that are Free Soil Whigs, if men of principle, are not going to *Burnside* again as, in 1844, and thus annex another Texas over the Rio Grande, and re-open another Mexican war, as they did then, because Mr. Fillmore has done nothing but what, as a Whig he was pledged beforehand to do; that is, approve Acts of Congress not unconstitutional and execute laws of the United States enacted in pursuance of the constitution. Mr. Fillmore can carry, in 1852, just as good a Whig vote as he got for Vice President, Comptroller of the State or when he was run for its Governor. He has the full strength of the party before the People, not before the politicians, for of them we take but little account, embittered as some of them are; but before the people no man is stronger, & there has not been of late years a stronger man in the State than Millard Fillmore. When run for office previously here, he was just as odious to the Auburn Politicians as he is now; and when run for Vice President, he was run and elected in spite of them, all though their spite was so great as at one time to summon a meeting at Albany, with a struggle to overthrow even Gen. Taylor in order to overthrow the candidate with him. This 50,000 threat we have been hearing in this State for ten or twelve years. Mr. Fillmore has been rising from an humble Member of Congress from Buffalo, to being the Premier of the House of Representatives, at the head of its Finance committee, then Comptroller of the State, then Vice President, and now President; in all and each of which positions he has distinguished himself by eminent ability and faithful service both to his State and country. The 50,000 threat has been the great impetus of his advancement from the start, and if it is persisted in, it will run him for the Presidency and elect him. Human nature and human pride revolt against the persecution of the Auburn bolters, and human generosity always succors an honorable man thus assailed.

To our Southern and Western Whig friends we say, in reply to this Auburn Pronunciamento, (intended for outside barbarians only) New York is just as safe for Mr. Fillmore as for any Whig likely to be put up; and that Mr. Fillmore can carry the State if he is pitted against three, at least, of the gentlemen who are prominent Democratic candidates. We do not say this because Mr. Fillmore is thought of to be a candidate, but because we do not mean to see an old, tried, true, gallant, eminent Whig trampled down or pronounced down. Mr. Fillmore has done well by us Whigs, and better yet by the country; and he is to have an honorable discharge, if discharged at all,—never to be kicked off with impunity. The thing must be done gracefully and gently, if it is done, and when it is done, for a purer man never directed, a firmer hand never held, the reins of government. He has restored the better days and the better principles of the Republic, amid threats and dangers that would have appalled or crushed a weaker man. He became President in the midst of perils and in the fury of sectional excitements that jeopardized the very existence of the nation, and that were plunging it directly into civil war. The first week of

his Administration, he had to change and create a Cabinet, and fix its policy, and tell Texas, by solemn proclamation, with the whole power of the United States Army, concentrating then by order in New Mexico, that if Texas in arms trampled upon a foot of her soil, she would be resisted by the whole power and force of the United States Government. The energy, the solemn, sincere character of that Proclamation, batted the legions of Texas, then in actual organization for the march. But though thus threatening ripening, nay, almost ripened, treason at the South, he was not forgetful of his duty to obey the Constitution, or his duty to carry on the Government in the spirit of the Constitution. He encouraged the settlement of the frightful slavery and anti-slavery issues; he lent the sanction of his influence and the influence of his position for the settlement, and he approved the laws passed for the settlement. These laws he has executed in good faith, as by his oath he was bound to do; and under his administration there is arising a general acquiescence in measures which are now likely to last as long as the Constitution is wisely preserving.

Thus successful, thus admirable, has been his domestic policy, but brilliant and successful beyond all anticipation has been his foreign policy. The beauty of it all has been its calm, confident, sincere simplicity. Amid the Cuba howl and hurricane, when it raged from New Orleans to New York, he sat collected and cool, doing his whole constitutional duty without fear of consequences. The whole South at one time seemed to be judging by its press, ready to devour him for arresting the rupture intended there upon Cuba. He neither heeded threats nor drenched loss of popularity. Washington himself was not more firm and collected amid all the passions of the old French Revolution. Events have shown his foresight and his wisdom, more especially in the settlement of our once serious difficulties with Spain, in the liberation of the Pampero prisoners, and also of Thrasher. So in the controversy with France, who, with England, it was said, was hovering in the Gulf of Mexico with a fleet to search our vessels, to see if they intended an expedition upon Cuba. M. Sarrige, the French Minister, was very emphatically told no such claims of ex-annation would be tolerated; for the Government of the United States was not only willing to put down all Fillmore expeditions, but able to do it, too. In the Pro-Mexican affair, also, we have seen the Administration as earnestly as ever, but yet as firm as possible so express itself that the proudest nation of the earth has made its humble apology for the wrong it had done. Meanwhile our duties to all the Spanish American States have been performed. To the best of our ability we are executing the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo with Mexico. We are doing all we can to stop the forays on the Rio Grande. We have yielded to no temptation to seize Sonora or the Sandwich Islands. Moderation, prudence, respect for the rights of others, as well as decision and energy, have marked and eminently distinguished the whole foreign policy of Mr. Fillmore.

There never has been an administration more successful than Mr. Fillmore's has been in all that it has undertaken, and under it the country has pre-eminently prospered. The adoption of his plans for the better development of our internal resources, by River and Harbor improvements within, and an adequate protection for our industry from without, would more invigorate the labor and prosperity of the country; but that this is not done is not the fault of his recommendations, but the fault of the Legislative Power of the country.—Such a President, therefore, if it be the desire of the Auburn Pronunciamento to supersede him, must be superseded with an acknowledgment of his merits and his services, and, above all, with a clear understanding that his principles and his policy are to be maintained by his Whig successor, whoever he may be. Such a president is not to be shuffled off in order to shuffle off his principles with him.

GOOD WHIG DOCTRINE.

In an article headed "Encourage Home Industry," which appeared in the Raleigh Standard of the 11th inst., we find the following excellent remarks:

"Our first duty, at all times, is to take care of our own interests and bring out our own resources; but this duty is especially imperative and binding at a time like this. Let the motto of every citizen be, North Carolina—the development of her resources—and the encouragement of North Carolina Industry."

If we are not very much mistaken, the above is a concession of what the Whigs of the country have for years been contending. In the first sentence is comprised the sum and substance, (and is almost in the exact words,) of what has fallen from the great American Statesman, Henry Clay, in support of the very same thing we might say, upwards of a hundred times. We agree with the Standard that it is "our first duty, at all times, to take care of our own interests and bring out our own resources." Yes, it is the great business of the Government to "take care of every interest" of the country, and "bring out all its resources."

Waldon Patriot.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 15, 1852.—The whig citizens of Paducah, and several of the adjoining counties, in general convention on Wednesday last, adopted resolutions declaring the sentiments of that portion of the State in favor of John J. Crittenden as the whig candidate for the Presidency. The Convention was attended by nearly 100 delegates.

THE TEST OF REPUTATION.—The Washington correspondent of the Richmond Whig who is also one of its Editors, writes thus from the Federal City, where he has had abundant opportunities in the course of many years' mingling in its political circles, of forming a correct opinion:

"This is, as to public affairs, a wonderfully practical place. It is here alone they can be seen in their realities, can be studied with advantage, can be understood.—There is no other school in which really to learn them. You may get the rudiments elsewhere, and learn, as it were, the grammar of politics; but this is their University, and it is here one must take his degrees."

"Accordingly, it is here alone that men are tried and get their measure. Let them have passed for what they will elsewhere, it is here they must be tested. Few can stand it. Either all shallow and false reputation come, and at once vanish into their proper nothingness; it is an atmosphere fatal to humbugs; they cannot live in it. You say, but the other day, how Kosuth blazed, a meteor of reputation, until he came here, and instantly went out. Too many celebrities congregate here, for any fantastic one to be endured."

"Ah! the renowns that I have seen arrive and at once go to pot here! I would not advise any gentleman who has gotten a false reputation of talents to fetch it to Washington; doing so will bring it to a sudden end, as sure as he is born. Ability on the other hand, never fails to be felt and acknowledged. Here, your Seddon, from whom much was expected, at once took his proper rank; here, your Caskie, will soon find his; here your Governor Johnson enjoyed an extreme obscurity; here, the ardor and vigor of Bots, the capacity of Summers, the astuteness and dexterity of Stuart, were unerringly appreciated."

NORFOLK.—The people of this city are much dissatisfied at their treatment by the Legislature of Virginia. The Beacon says:

In the views presented by our neighbors of the Herald and Argus as to the treatment of Norfolk by the "Internal Improvement Committee of 24," we heartily concur, reflecting as they do the feelings and sentiments of a large majority of this community. We have never desired legislative favors at the expense of other sections of the State—we have never expected liberality at the hands of our rulers, but we do ask for justice to the seaport of Virginia more especially, now that the system is to be permanently settled and our resources pledged for many years to come. To "bide our time" as advised by the Petersburg and Richmond Editors, is to surrender our claims forever. Virginia has the finest seaport on the Atlantic, but has treated it with cold neglect, and seems resolutely bent on its destruction. Other States have fostered their while Virginia has depressed hers, and in violation of all the rules of common sense and common decency, in a spirit of partiality and oppression, would reverse the laws of nature herself to consummate the iniquitous scheme that Norfolk, the second tax-paying city in the State, and her only seaport should be utterly omitted in the grand project of improvements that is to unite this State with the West, in a proposition well calculated to kill off the whole system; and its opponents could not desire a stronger justification for their votes against it than is to be found in the adopted basis of this committee. A pretty idea truly that all others are to be sacrificed to repletion before we are to participate in the benefits of an outlay that is to exhaust every resource of the State.

WILMINGTON, February, 19.—After a portion of our weekly issue had been worked off, between eight and nine o'clock last evening, the alarm of fire was sounded.—Mr. John Nutt's residence on Red Cross Street, was discovered to be in flames and in a short time was totally consumed together with the kitchen and a considerable portion of his furniture.

At half past eleven o'clock the alarm of fire was again heard. A small wooden kitchen in the rear of the Washington and Lafayette Hotel on Front Street took fire, and the flames quickly communicated to the adjoining wooden dwelling house occupied by Peter Harris; spreading thence to the houses of Bernard Baxter, Mrs. Huggins, John Quince, (occupied by J. C. Perry,) the Calhoun house, (occupied by persons whose names we have not learned) all were in the course of a couple of hours burnt to the ground. The brick house of Dr. A. J. DeRosset, Sr., occupied by D. Thaly as a part of the Washington and Lafayette Hotel was partially destroyed.

Mr. Harris lost all his furniture; Mr. Thaly removed his.

"The building at the corner occupied by Fulton & Price, as the Journal office was saved with very slight damage. They removed their printing materials. We are requested by the proprietors to state that their Daily and Weekly issues will appear as usual."

We do not suppose the loss by this last fire will exceed ten or twelve thousand dollars. Mr. Nutt's loss was probably from two thousand to twenty-five hundred dollars. The larger part of which was covered by insurance.—Raleigh Extra.