

TERRITORIAL CONVENTION.

The Territorial Convention, composed of delegates from the various counties, to nominate the People's candidate for delegate to Congress from Utah, met at twelve noon today, at the City Hall, in accordance with the published call of the Territorial Central Committee.

The Convention was called to order by David O. Calder, and, by unanimous vote Judge Elias Smith was elected temporary chairman, who, in a few appropriate remarks thanked the Convention for the honor conferred on him, in electing him to that position.

On motion, John T. Caine was elected temporary secretary.

On motion, the following were appointed, by the Chair, a committee on credentials—

D. O. Calder, of Salt Lake; W. B. Preston, Cache; W. W. Cluff, Summit; John W. Hess, Davis; L. W. Harrington, Utah; and Silas Smith, Iron County.

The committee retired and during their absence in response to a call, the convention was addressed by Hon. Erastus Snow, from Washington County. He treated briefly and clearly upon the duties of the members of the convention, and alluded to the political position of the people of Utah.

Hon. L. Farr, from Weber County, also spoke in answer to a call. He alluded to the fact that this was the first convention strictly of this nature that he ever had convened in Utah, and he felt it to be a proper step, and one that would have a favorable effect in enabling the citizens of Utah to secure their rights to statehood. He treated upon the importance of the people giving due consideration to their political privileges. He was pleased to observe the people were manifestly declaring and making manifest their desires in this regard. He had no doubt the best man that could be found would be chosen as a candidate by this convention to represent Utah in Congress.

Hon. Jonathan Wright, from Box Elder, being called upon, responded in a speech. In his view the great majority of the people of Utah had been treated as political outcasts. So far as he was concerned he was not quite so sanguine as some were regarding the near approach of the time when Utah would be clothed with statehood. Yet he was hopeful that some time in the future Utah would assume the high position to which she was entitled.

Hon. W. H. Hooper, of Salt Lake, was called upon for a speech, but respectfully declined, on account of the shortness of time. The committee on credentials shortly afterwards returned and reported as follows—

To Hon. Elias Smith and Delegates of Convention: Gentlemen—Your committee on credentials, having examined the certificates of delegates elect, find the following persons entitled to seats in the People's Territorial Convention, as representatives from the counties named—

Salt Lake County.

Daniel H. Wells, David O. Calder, Wm. H. Hooper, Archibald Gardner, Wm. Jennings, Isaac M. Stuart, Robert T. Burton, Reuben Miller, Joseph F. Smith, Elias Smith, A. Miner, A. C. Pyper, James Sharp, A. M. Cannon, J. R. Winder, J. M. Benedict, John T. Caine, Jos. S. Rawlins.

Utah County.

A. O. Smoot, W. Bringham, Hyrum Winters, L. E. Harrington, David Evans, Jonathan Page, William Price, W. B. Pace.

Juab County.

Joel Grover, John M. Haws, C. Foote.

Millard County.

Edward Partridge, David Thompson, B. H. Watts.

Beaver County.

W. Fotheringham, Richard S. Horne, A. M. Musser.

Iron County.

Jesse N. Smith, H. Lunt, S. S. Smith.

Kane County.

A. Nebeker, C. Pulsipher.

Washington County.

Erastus Snow, D. D. McArthur.

Sevier County.

George P. Wilson, Wm. McBride.

Sanpete County.

John B. Maiben, Wm. S. Seeley, Amasa Tucker, James A. Allred, Geo. W. Bradley.

Wasatch County.

A. Hatch, N. Murdock.

Summit County.

W. W. Cluff, S. F. Atwood.

Morgan County.

Willard L. Smith, Richard Fry.

Davis County.

Anson Call, Wm. R. Smith, John W. Hess, John Gailey.

Box Elder County.

Jonathan C. Wright, George W. Ward, O. G. Snow.

Tooele County.

John Rowberry, W. C. Rydall.

Weber County.

Franklin D. Richards, C. W. Penrose, Joseph Stanford, Lorin Farr, L. J. Herrick.

Cache County.

Brigham Young, Jr., Wm. Hyde, Moses Thatcher, W. W. Merrill, John Jardine, Samuel Roskelly, W. F. Littlewood.

Rich County.

John Nebeker.

Respectfully submitted,

D. O. CALDER, Chairman.

The report was received and the committee was discharged.

The roll being called, all the delegates answered to their names excepting two, one of whom subsequently made his appearance.

Permanent organization being now in order, on motion the following were appointed, by the chair, a committee to nominate officers—

J. R. Winder, Anson Call, Willard G. Smith, A. Nebeker, W. G. Fotheringham, John Rowberry, and Oliver G. Snow.

During the absence of the committee, Hon. C. W. Penrose answered to a call for a speech, delivering a lucid and appropriate address, in which he reviewed the political situation in Utah, and clearly defined the duties of the convention and the people generally in regard to their duties as citizens. He did not take quite so melancholy a view of the prospects for Utah to become a State as that expressed by a previous speaker. Circumstances had materially changed of late, and he thought they were becoming more favorable than heretofore. The ability of Utah to govern herself was becoming widely known.

Hon. L. E. Harrington was called for and responded in a suitable address. He felt assured that the status of the people of Utah as a political organization would soon change to one of greater advancement. He was a believer in the overruling power of a Divine Providence, which would guide the destiny, political and otherwise, of Utah.

The committee on permanent organization reported as follows—

For President, Daniel H. Wells; Vice Presidents, A. O. Smoot, Abram Hatch, Erastus Snow, Jesse N. Smith, Joseph F. Smith, B. Young, Jr.; Secretaries, John T. Caine, Moses Thatcher and Richard S. Horne; Chaplain, Elder R. D. Richards; Sergeant at Arms, Joel Grover.

The report was received and the committee discharged. The names mentioned in the report were put separately to the convention and each was voted into the positions unanimously.

The President briefly acknowledged the compliment paid him.

The organization being now completed, the Convention was opened with prayer by the chaplain.

The President stated the object of the Convention, and that its further consideration was now in order.

Hon. W. H. Hooper delivered an address in relation to the advisability of taking steps with a view to soliciting the powers that be for the admission of Utah into the Union. He treated not only upon local political issues of the day, but those also of a more general character. He moved for the appointment of a committee of nine, by the chair, on resolutions, which was carried unanimously.

The President appointed the following—

W. H. Hooper, E. Snow, F. D. Richards, Jesse N. Smith, C. W. Penrose, L. W. Harrington, J. C. Wright, Richard Fry, John B. Maiben.

On motion a recess was taken until 7 p.m.

EVENING SESSION.

The convention re-assembled at 7 p.m., according to appointment.

The roll being called, all answered

to their names, excepting four, who subsequently made their appearance.

Hon. W. H. Hooper, chairman of the committee on resolutions, submitted the following report, which was received and the committee discharged:

STATEHOOD.

The people of Utah, in convention assembled, by virtue of their long residence in this once desert region, their fidelity to the general government, their industry, frugality and respect for wholesome laws and regulations, the stability of their institutions, their efficient school system, extending to every settlement in the Territory, with an enrollment of 22,820 scholars out of a school population of 35,696; the enterprise and perseverance which have rendered them self-sustaining, and their rapid increase to a population of 150,000, a numerical strength in excess of the States of Oregon, Nevada, and Colorado, hereby firmly and respectfully claim admission into the Federal Union as a State, in conformity with constitutional provisions and general precedent, and in accordance with desires expressed in former conventions and repeated petitions to Congress.

The favorable position of Utah, in the center of this great country, her connection with the world by means of the trans-continental railway, and the local connecting roads projected and built through the energy and skill of her own people, without municipal, county, territorial or federal aid; her system of telegraphic communication, embracing 2,000 miles of wire; her immense wealth in iron, coal, lead, copper and the precious metals; her vast agricultural resources and growing manufacturing interests; her past prosperity and her brilliant prospects, form a sufficient guarantee of a future population and ability amply sufficient for the maintenance and perpetuity of a State government of equal importance and influence with many of the existing States.

Whereas, A territorial form of Government, though it may be adapted to the requirements of early settlers on the public domain, while unable themselves to sustain a government fully in accordance with republican institutions, does not meet the necessities of a community whose wants and interests have multiplied with age, growth and experience; and

Whereas, It is evident from the history of our nation and the spirit of its institutions that the territorial form of government was never intended to be a permanent feature of our system, but was only designed and adopted to prepare the way for settlers upon the public lands to organize State governments and enter the Union as speedily as possible, to enjoy the same rights and privileges as the people of the original States; therefore

Resolved, That our delegate in Congress is hereby requested to take immediate steps to procure the necessary legislation for the admission of Utah into the Union as a State, and during the pendency of the enabling act, to urge the passage of the bill authorizing the people of all the territories to elect their governors and other officers, in accordance with the idea of popular sovereignty.

EDUCATION.

Whereas, Education is recognized by all civilized nations as absolutely necessary to the welfare and progress of the people, the maintenance of that liberty which is secured by law, and the attainment of the objects for which governments are instituted; and

Whereas, The Government of the United States has, by liberal grants of land for the support of universities and common schools, aided the cause of education in the various states of the Union, while these favors are withheld from the territories; and

Whereas, The territories are evidently in much greater need of assistance from the general government than the States; therefore

Resolved, That our delegate in Congress is hereby requested to endeavor to procure such legislation as will secure to the territories the university and school lands, which under the present system are reserved until those territories arrive at the dignity of statehood, subject to such restrictions and regulations as Congress may consider prudent, to prevent any improper appropriation

tion of the proceeds arising from the sale of those lands.

IRRIGATION.

Whereas, The vast area of tillable land within the boundary lines of the Rocky Mountain territories is, by reason of the aridity of the climate and the limited rainfall, almost useless for agricultural purposes without artificial irrigation; and

Whereas, Many of the thousands of acres are left entirely uncultivated because of the immense cost of constructing canals from distant streams; and

Whereas, It is for the best interests of the nation that the hardy pioneer should be assisted in reclaiming the desert wastes and opening to settlement the regions uninhabited; therefore

Resolved, That our delegate to Congress is hereby instructed to take the necessary measures to obtain from the Government grants of land to irrigating companies organized and incorporated under the laws of the territories, subject to such provisions as will secure the object in view, and thus fertilize the soil now useless, prepare the way for pleasant homes on lands now vacant and desolate, and by increasing the supply of food, facilitate the development of our immense mineral resources, and materially add to the national wealth and prosperity.

SILVER CURRENCY.

Whereas, Experience has demonstrated that the demonetization of silver has worked injury to the silver producing sections of the country, and the masses of the people; and

Whereas, Silver has been one of the standards of value from time immemorial; and

Whereas, The national debt, the great incubus that weighs down the nation, is legally payable in coin without distinction; and

Whereas, Silver is one of the staple products of this Territory; therefore

Resolved, That our delegate in Congress is instructed to use all the influence he can legitimately command to procure the remonetization of silver as an unlimited legal tender.

STUMPAGE.

Whereas, The timber law of the United States, enacted in the year 1831, upon which the present unjust stumpage regulations are based, was enacted to meet the necessity of preserving certain kinds of timber for the use of the navy; and

Whereas, Those regulations are manifestly inapplicable to the Rocky Mountain regions, where no such timber exists, as the law was framed to protect, and where the scanty timber grows only on the mountain tops, in deep cañons, or in rugged ravines, unapproachable without the construction of costly roads; and

Whereas, The use of such timber can be obtained with so much difficulty and expense is absolutely necessary to the settlers for fuel, fencing, building and mining purposes; and

Whereas, The federal government has recognized the right of farmers, miners and others to use portions of such timber, thereby, for certain purposes, abandoning previous rigid restrictions; therefore

Resolved, That our delegate in Congress is hereby requested to endeavor to procure such amendments and modifications of the timber law as will relieve this and other Territories from the impositions of the stumpage system, and secure to actual settlers the use of the timber necessary to their convenience, which will tend to the speedy and substantial development of the country, while it will deprive the Government of little or no revenue, the proceeds of stumpage in these regions now being swallowed up by official expenses.

GENERAL.

And, Whereas, We desire nothing for ourselves which we are not willing to share with neighboring Territories, and want no special legislation for Utah, but general laws for the good of every Territory barred out of the Union by the prevailing anti-republican territorial system; therefore

Resolved, That our delegate in Congress is hereby requested to co-operate with the delegates from other Territories for the attainment of all the rights and privileges which we claim or desire for the Territory of Utah, the future free and powerful mountain state, which will yet pour out her treasures and shed forth her light upon all the growing commonwealths which are joined by the inseparable bands of our great and glorious union.

After being read twice and slightly amended, the foregoing preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Convention.

On motion of Mr. A. Miner, the Convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Erastus Snow in the chair, for the consideration of the nomination of a candidate for Delegate to Congress from Utah.

It was carried unanimously that the nominations be made by counties.

Hon. D. H. Wells came forward and presented, in nomination, in behalf of the delegation from Salt Lake County, the name of George Q. Cannon, the presentation of that gentleman's name being greeted with hearty applause.

Hon. D. H. Wells addressed the Convention upon the able manner in which Mr. Cannon had represented the people in Congress during the time he had already served them in that capacity, and made other remarks pertinent to the occasion.

The motion was seconded by Hon. W. H. Hooper, who also spoke eulogistically of the gentleman placed in nomination.

Hon. A. O. Smoot, in behalf of Utah County delegation, also nominated George Q. Cannon. Hon. L. E. Harrington seconded the nomination of Utah County, the other delegates manifesting their unanimous approval of the same.

The other counties followed in their order, unanimously placing Mr. Cannon's name in nomination, as follows—

Juab County, moved by Mr. Joel Grover; Willard, moved by Mr. E. Partridge; Beaver, moved by Mayor W. B. Fotheringham, seconded by Mr. A. M. Musser; Iron County, moved by Hon. Silas S. Smith; Kane, moved by Mr. Charles Pulsipher; Washington, moved by Hon. Erastus Snow, seconded by Mr. D. D. McArthur; Sevier, moved by Mr. G. D. Wilson; Sanpete, moved by Mr. John B. Maiben; Wasatch, moved by Hon. Abram Hatch, seconded by Mr. N. Murdock; Summit, moved by Hon. W. W. Cluff, seconded by Mr. S. F. Atwood; Morgan, moved by Mr. Willard G. Smith; Davis, moved by Mr. John W. Hess, seconded by Mr. W. R. Smith; Box Elder, moved by Hon. Jonathan C. Wright; Tooele, moved by Hon. John Rowberry, seconded by Mr. W. C. Rydall; Weber county, moved by Hon. F. D. Richards, seconded by Hon. Lorin Farr; Cache, moved by Hon. Brigham Young, Jr., seconded by Mr. Samuel Roskelly; Rich, moved by Mr. John Nebeker.

The question on the nomination being called for, it was put and carried without a single dissenting vote.

On motion the committee of the whole arose and reported their action to the convention, the report being unanimously accepted.

The nomination of George Q. Cannon was then put and carried by acclamation.

On motion the Territorial Central Committee was sustained by the Convention, and the delegates nominated and elected a member from each county represented, as follows—

Utah County, Mr. W. N. Dusenbury was nominated; Juab, Mr. Joel Grover; Millard, Mr. F. M. Lyman; Beaver, Mr. John R. Murdock; Iron, Mr. Edward Dalton; Kane, Mr. Wm. A. Bringham; Washington, Mr. Adolphus R. Whitehead; Sevier, Mr. George T. Wilson; Sanpete, Hon. George Peacock; Wasatch, Mr. Joseph Hatch; Summit, Mr. Alma L. Smith; Morgan, Mr. Samuel Francis; Davis, Hon. Joseph F. Smith; Box Elder, Mr. A. Christensen; Tooele, Mr. Wm. Jeffries; Weber, Hon. F. D. Richards; Cache, Hon. Brigham Young, Jr.; Rich, Mr. William Lee.

The roll was then called and the organization sustained as the People's Territorial Central Committee.

On motion of Hon. W. Jennings, Honorable D. H. Wells, W. H. Hooper and A. O. Smoot were appointed a delegation to wait upon Hon. George Q. Cannon and inform him of the action of the Convention.