

electd members of the executive committee from Weber County.

The committee on resolutions at this point entered the room amidst a big burst of applause. They presented the following resolutions, which were read by J. H. Paul, who acted as secretary pro tem.:

The duly elected representatives of the People's Party of Utah Territory, in convention assembled, present the following

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

The Constitution of the United States is a divinely inspired instrument, ordained and established for the protection of life and property and to secure to every individual the most complete freedom compatible with the general welfare.

All laws enacted in pursuance of the National Constitution are paramount. The decisions of the supreme court of the United States are final and authoritative as to the validity and interpretation of those laws, and it is the duty of all good citizens to render willing submission thereto.

All political power is in and with the people. Every loyal citizen should be equal before the law, and in freedom to exercise political rights and privileges. No power or organization, ecclesiastical or otherwise, should be permitted to encroach upon that liberty which is essential to popular government and to personal political independence.

Local self-government is a fundamental principle of American republicanism. Congressional legislation may be needful for the Territories while unable to maintain the burdens, responsibilities and expense of a matured commonwealth, but when competent to exercise the full powers of statehood, such legislation becomes not only needless, but oppressive and opposed to the genius of American institutions. Utah Territory in numbers, wealth, peace, order, intelligence, progress and every qualification for political independence is capable of taking its place among the States of the Union and would add to the strength and glory of the nation, and aid in its perpetuity.

The recent declaration of the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—commonly called the "Mormon Church"—and the action of that body in General Conference, by which marriages in violation of law are forbidden, coupled with the national and territorial legislation on this subject, remove the only substantial barrier in the path of this Territory to the full rights and privileges of political independence.

The discontinuance of polygamous marriages in this Territory renders unnecessary any further legislation by Congress affecting the liberties of the citizens of Utah, or curtailing their rights and franchises.

The voting members of the People's party, forming a large majority of the adult male citizens, have not been violators of law in the past, and have taken an oath to obey the laws of their country in future. Every attempt to deprive them of the elective franchise, is a deadly thrust at the liberty to secure which this government was established.

Public office is a public trust. All officers are responsible to the people for their official acts. Office seekers should not be made office holders. Wise economy, but not parsimony, should govern in public expenditures. Extravagance is as impolitic in public as in private affairs. High taxes, large debts, excessive salaries and expensive sinecures are obstacles in the path of progress and make grievous burdens which should not be borne by a free people.

Freedom of thought, of speech and of action is essential to true liberty and should be secured to all, within the line of infringement upon the rights and liberties of any person or society.

In the selection of public officers this freedom should be fully accorded, in public and in private, in political assemblies and by means of the ballot.

The exclusion of legal voters from registration and from the polls, no matter by whom accomplished or connived at, is a crime akin to treason, which strikes at the heart of the body politic and sheds the life blood of liberty.

The People's Party, while demanding full political freedom for its members, will struggle to maintain equal rights for all citizens and all parties, to secure the purity of elections, to sustain the supremacy of majorities and to establish universal civil and religious liberty.

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas, the governor of this territory has endeavored, by addresses before Con-

gressional committees and in his report for 1890 to the secretary of the interior, to make it appear that it would be for the public benefit to interpose test oaths, having for their object the disfranchisement of many thousands of law-abiding citizens, and also to secure to himself the power to appoint a large number of officers in the various counties, which are, and of right should be, in the gift of the voting people; and

Whereas, The only ends to be reached by such legislation as the governor desires are the rule of the minority and the exercise by himself of more than monarchical power; and

Whereas, The Utah Commission in its report for 1890, to the secretary of the interior, has claimed that elections in Utah, resulting in majorities for the so-called liberal party, have been fairly conducted by officers who have performed their legal duty, and the commission having also recommended further Congressional legislation similar to that desired by the governor; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we denounce the action of Governor Arthur L. Thomas as inimical to the best interests of the Territory and his policy as revolutionary, needless and prompted by the wants of his party and by personal ambition; that the men whom he seeks to dispossess of the elective franchise are loyal to the Government and to Republican institutions, free from the stain of crime, bound by solemn oaths, voluntarily taken, to obey and uphold the law, devoted to their country and the Territory in which they live, and entitled by all that can give them that right, to enjoy the privileges, immunities and liberties of American citizenship; that we are under no obligation to any church, organization, association or individual by which our liberty is in any way curtailed, nor is our freedom to vote for or against any person or question infringed; that the Governor's insinuations to the contrary are false and made without foundation or excuse, and we challenge him to the proof.

Resolved, That the Utah Commission is a useless, expensive and unrepresentative body, the lawful duties of which could be discharged by any ordinary individual; that under its administration election frauds have been made possible; legal voters whose right to vote was beyond question, have been refused registration and the right to cast their ballot, because they were members of the People's Party; persons not entitled to vote and belonging to the Liberal party have been permitted to register and vote; men are holding official positions to which they were not elected, even by the illegal means thus employed; officers who neglected to obey the instructions of the Commission, and who have unlawfully used their offices in the interest of the Liberal party, have been retained by the Commission, and the majority of that body have openly, as well as privately, used their official influence in behalf of the Liberal party, and against the People's Party.

Resolved, That we view their endeavors to procure further inimical legislation against the law-abiding citizens of Utah as a shameful effort to establish minority rule; to work for the interests of a party that seeks to climb into power over the corpse of liberty and the ruins of local self-government, and to retain positions which command for themselves enormous salaries with scarcely any work to perform; and be it

Resolved, That the "Liberal" party is a party of fraud, chicanery, deception and falsehood; that its triumphs at the polls have been wrought by political robbery; that its official record is one of extravagance, jobbery, imposition of enormous taxes, waste of public funds and lack of public improvements; that it has fostered social impurities, winked at flagrant crime, and lowered the tone of public morals; that it seeks to perpetuate its existence by swindling the majority at the polls and by seeking to strike from the hands of freemen the sacred rights of franchise. The "Liberal" party is, therefore, unworthy the suffrage of honest people and ought to be blotted out of the sight of just men.

Resolved, That the People's Party has conducted public affairs with honesty, economy, and justice to all, and that it is pledged to this course in the future; that it has established all the permanent improvements to be seen in the Territory; that it has promoted education and established a competent free school system as soon as circumstances permitted; that in this it received no aid, but constant opposition from the Liberal party; that the People's Party is in favor of public buildings, suitable and ample for municipal, county and territorial purposes.

That we declare our unqualified allegiance to the federal government, recognizing

ing its laws as supreme, and that we will devote our lives, fortunes and all our powers to the maintenance of good government and the extension of liberty to all.

Resolved, That the People's Party has been the unfailing friend of the laboring classes, as is seen in the number of labor home owners that have grown under its fostering care; and that we denounce any system of taxation that is calculated to deprive laborers of the possibility of owning homes, or which will consume their hard-earned substance to satisfy the greed of rapacious office-holders.

Mr. Richards introduced the following:

Resolved, That the Territorial central committee and the executive committee thereof be instructed to immediately enter upon their duties to give the Territorial election matters their most intelligent and energetic action; to open and obtain direct communication with the several county and municipal committees throughout the Territory; that a thorough campaign be inaugurated and carried on to the time of election, and in general to see that the political interests of the People's Party are properly cared for and protected throughout the entire Territory, and to attain these objects we authorize the committee to meet any and all necessary expenditures of funds, and to apportion the sums so expended among the several counties, in the judgment of the committee, and we pledge our several counties to meet their respective portions thereof.

The resolution was adopted.

Hon. F. S. Richards, chairman of the convention, then delivered an address, of which the following is a synopsis: He thanked the convention for the leniency the members had shown him while officiating in the position he had held, and congratulated the convention on the labors that had been performed; the work done was such as must meet with the approbation of the constituents of the gentleman upon the floor. He was sure that whatever had been done was in all sincerity and with the honest conviction of the souls of those who were present. The document adopted would go forth declaring the loyalty of the members of the People's Party, and showing their willingness to obey the laws of the land. [Applause.] Eight years ago, he said, he had the honor to place in nomination the name of the Hon. John T. Caine as a candidate for delegate to Congress from Utah, and to-day he was proud to have had the honor of putting the motion that had nominated him by acclamation. (Prolonged applause.) But our work is not yet done. We have got to meet an enemy that is shrewd, wily and unscrupulous as it is possible for any party to be. Let every man who belongs to this convention, let every member of the People's party, take upon himself some of the responsibility of the campaign. He was not fearful of the result. Fraud has at different occasions defeated the will of the people, but it will not do so this time. (Cries of "No," "No.") If each one did his duty there could be no question but that our party would come out victorious, "but," said the speaker, "if the Hon. John T. Caine should go to Congress with one vote less than I could give him by my efforts, I should feel that I had not done my duty." (Cheers.) Liberty is more to be prized than life itself, and it is liberty that unscrupulous men are endeavoring to wrest from us. The question is, shall they be allowed to succeed in their efforts? (Cries of "No, never!") Then make the people re-