

Territorial Republican Convention.

THE Territorial Republican Convention for the purpose of electing delegates to the National Republican Presidential Convention at Philadelphia, assembled at 7:30 p.m. yesterday, April 5, in the City Hall, there being a full attendance of county delegates, and a number of other citizens present.

On motion of Hon. John Rowberry, of Tooele County, Hon. F. D. Richards was appointed chairman *pro tem* of the Convention. On taking the chair Mr. Richards briefly thanked the gentlemen of the Convention for the honor conferred on him. On motion of Hon. A. Hatch, from Wasatch County, Mr. John Nicholson was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

On motion of Hon. S. A. Mann, the chairman nominated the following committee of three on credentials: S. A. Mann, from Salt Lake County; A. K. Thurber, Utah County; and C. C. Rich, Rich county.

While the committee were engaged receiving the credentials, on motion of Hon. J. C. Little, Mr. C. H. Hempstead was called upon for a speech, but that gentleman being engaged in the preliminary business connected with the Convention, desired to be excused.

Mr. Rowberry was called upon, but also declined. Mr. Whitney being called upon, said he would willingly yield the floor to the Chair.

The Chairman responded in an appropriate speech, in the course of which he said it had never yet been his privilege to cast his vote for President of the United States. He was over fifty years of age and he thought if it ever was to be his good fortune to enjoy that privilege, which belonged to him as a loyal citizen of the United States, it was time he did. If it was still the platform of the party that what had been called the remaining "twin relic of barbarism" should be abolished, he thought that as honest men we might do something towards the amicable settlement of this question. He thought the gentlemen of this Convention were capable of doing something that the party would not think unworthy.

Hon. Jonathan Wright made a short and very humorous speech, which kept the convention in continual merriment.

Mr. Whitney, being again called upon, made a pointed speech. He declared himself a thorough Republican, and he intended to adhere to the party so long as it continued to be guided by the principles which had hitherto actuated it. He thought there was no reason why the Republican party should not be powerfully organized in Utah, among so industrious and virtuous a community as exists here.

He read the following extract from a Memorial to Congress, passed by the Legislature of the Territory of Utah, and approved March 3, 1852, praying for the construction of a central railroad from the eastern States to the Pacific Coast—

Your memorialists are of opinion that the mineral resources of California, and these mountains, can never be fully developed to the benefit of the people of the United States, without the construction of such a road; and upon its completion, the entire trade of China and the East Indies will pass through the heart of the Union; thereby giving our citizens the almost entire control of the Asiatic and Pacific trade; pouring into the lap of the American States, the millions that are now diverted through other commercial channels, and last, though not least, the road herein proposed, would be a perpetual chain, or iron band, which would effectually hold together our glorious Union with an imperishable identity of mutual interest, thereby consolidating our relations with foreign powers in times of peace, and our defence from foreign invasion by the speedy transmission of troops and supplies in time of war.

He felt proud that he found himself located among a people so far-seeing as to be able to make such predictions of the future development of events. It was his conviction that the great Republican party would no longer withhold from the people the rights and privileges they had been so long deprived of, and which inalienably belonged to them.

The report of the committee on credentials was read and adopted, which showed that credentials of the following gentlemen had been received:

We, the Committee on credentials, beg leave to report the following persons as entitled to seats in this Convention—

From Salt Lake County.—Elias Smith, A. P. Rockwood, J. C. Little, S. A. Mann, Samuel Bateman, C. H. Hempstead, John T. Caine, Henry B. Brady, Geo. E. Whitney, W. G. Galigher, A. M. Musser, Dan'l R. Allen, Theo. McKean, J. D. Meagher, Enoch Reese, Sol. Despain, Absalom Smith, Theo. F. Tracy, Henry Rudy.

Utah County.—O. F. Strickland, L. John Nuttall, Oravel Simons, John F. Shields, Wm. Price, W. B. Pace, W. N. Dusenberry, A. K. Thurber, John Brown, L. E. Harrington.

Weber County.—Walter Thompson, J. J. M. Butler, H. S. Erb, Lorin Farr, L. A. Shurtliff, F. A. Hammond, W. V. Davis, F. B. Richards.

Davis County.—Anson Call, Nathan Porter, John Telford, T. F. Ruche, Lot Smith, John R. Barnes.

Summit County.—C. Richens, Alonzo Winters, Ward E. Pack.

Rich County.—C. C. Rich.

Cache County.—O. L. Liljenquist, W. H. Maughan, G. O. Pitkin, C. O. Card, G. Barber, B. M. Lewis, Henry Hughes, David James, W. C. Lewis.

Wasatch County.—David Van Wagner, J. Watkins, J. S. Murdock.

Sanpete County.—G. Peacock, Warren S. Snow, D. Henry, David Candland, J. S. Horn, G. W. Bradley, W. S. Seeley.

Millard County.—Thos. M. King, Thos. Callister, W. H. Stott, F. M. Lyman.

Iron County.—Geo. A. Smith, J. N. Smith, John A. West.

Morgan County.—Robert Hogg, Willard G. Smith.

Sevier County.—William Morrison.

Beaver County.—John R. Murdock, Gideon A. Murdock.

Tooele County.—Wm. Jeffries, John Rowberry, Wm. C. Rydahl.

Juab County.—Jacob G. Bigler.

Box Elder County.—Jonathan C. Wright, Hiram House, Geo. W. Ward, Chester Loveland.

Washington County.—Jos. W. Young, Erastus Snow, Israel Ivins, Saml. L. Adams.

Kane County.—John C. Nalle.

All of which is very respectfully submitted.

S. A. MANN, Chairman.

On motion of Mr. Whitney the following committees were appointed:

Permanent Organization and Order of Business.—Jos. W. Young, Henry B. Brady, Elias Smith, John T. Caine, Theo. McKean.

On Resolutions.—Geo. E. Whitney, L. Farr, Geo. O. Pitkin, A. P. Rockwood and Geo. Peacock.

In response to numerous calls Hon. Geo. A. Smith made a speech, to which a synopsis can do but limited justice. On the 10th of January, 1851, he commenced, in conjunction with others, the settlement of Iron County. It was a county in the Provisional State of Deseret. Shortly afterwards, however, the Territory of Utah was organized and he was elected councillor to the Territorial Legislature. From that day to this most of the Federal officials of the Territory had been the appointees of the government, placed in position without the people having any voice in the matter.

Most of the old issues which existed before we left the States are dead and gone, and should not be revived. Joseph Smith at one time recommended the abolishment of slavery in the nation. He did so because he could foresee the fearful consequences that would be entailed on the Republic were this step not taken. Had this warning been heeded the millions of treasure, and more disastrous still, the vast amount of human blood, expended in the great rebellion would have been saved to the nation. But the advice was not taken and the thing is done and cannot now be undone.

It is true that the Territories had had grievances, and so had the States, but it did no good to rake up old sores. No party is perfect, neither is any human government. All have their failings. The party which elected James Buchanan inaugurated what has been often called the contractors' war, still it is needless to hold a grudge against a party for past matters.

The Republican party, which has been in power for the last eleven years, has had a great deal to contend with. It had the gigantic civil war to struggle with. War naturally induces a great deal of demoralization of many kinds, and it takes a country some time to right itself after emerging from a calamity of that description. The difficulties with which the party has had to contend should be considered, and allowances made accordingly. It is true that through the operations of bigoted or fanatical persons connected with the party, oppressive legislation has been enacted, a sample of which was a bill aimed at the "Mormons," which provided that no church should hold property valued at more than \$50,000, but that bill has remained a dead letter, and is to-day untried. Attempts have been made to get up hostile measures, which have failed. The Cullom bill

could have easily been put through, but the party had too great a sense of justice to do it.

When Governor Harding refused to endorse the acts of the Legislature, by not signing bills passed or commissioning officers elected by that body, when the matter was presented to Mr. Lincoln, he was at once removed and a good, even-dealing man, Governor Doty, appointed in his place, and after him came another just, fatherly man, the late Governor Charles Durkee.

Altogether, considering the prejudice, etc., that has existed against the people of Utah, they have been considerably favored, and should be accordingly grateful. They have not mixed up with politics heretofore because they are here.

We are here in convention for the purpose of electing two delegates to the Philadelphia Convention, at which the nomination for President would be made. This privilege had been accorded us, although were we a State we could send three delegates instead of two. Nevada can send three, although she has only about half the amount of population of Utah. Still this is a liberal extension of privilege and we are grateful therefor, and will take advantage of it. We should send to the Convention well-known and established Republicans.

Some may feel a little sore on account of some things that have transpired during the present administration. It is true that a religious influence has been brought to bear in order to forward the adoption of hostile measures towards us, but it must be said to the honor of the government, that all the illegal transactions that have been done by bigots and fanatics here, against the interests of the people, have, when carried to the heads of the government departments, been decided in favor of right. This has been the case in relation to unwarrantable local actions in matters of taxation, land office affairs, etc. This shows a disposition in the heads of the government to deal out even justice.

It is true that reforms in the republican party administration may be needed. At the same time, for barefaced, wholesale plundering, the Democratic administration of the municipal government of New York would probably bear off the palm.

The founders of these valleys understood the future of this region. When the Hon. J. M. Bernhisel presented the memorial, read from by Mr. Whitney, to Congress he was told he was one hundred years ahead of the times.

The speaker concluded by stating that the people of Utah expected to enjoy the homes they had made here, and all the privileges guaranteed to American citizens, and furthermore that the Republican party would sustain them in exercising those privileges.

The committee on permanent organization and order of business submitted the following report, which was adopted:

Mr. President.—The committee on Permanent Organization beg leave respectfully to report the following as the permanent officers of the Convention—

President—Hon. Franklin D. Richards, of Weber Co.

Vice Presidents—Gen. C. C. Rich, of Rich Co.; Hon. Erastus Snow, of Washington Co.; Hon. George A. Smith, of Iron Co.; Hon. A. K. Thurber, of Utah Co.; Hon. Jonathan C. Wright, of Box Elder Co.

Secretaries—John Nicholson and Wm. G. Galigher, of Salt Lake Co.; and L. John Nuttall, of Utah Co.

Sergeant-at-arms—John D. T. McAllister, of Salt Lake Co.

And beg leave further to report the following as the

Order of Business—1. Report of Committee on Resolutions.

2. Election of two (2) delegates to the National Republican Convention.

3. Election of two (2) Alternates.

4. Nomination of seven members of Central Committee at large by the President of Convention.

5. Election of six (6) members of the central committee—two (2) from each Judicial District.

Respectfully submitted,

Jos. W. Young, Chairman.

H. B. BRADY.

JOHN T. CAINE.

Mr. Whitney, Chairman of Committee on Resolutions presented the following, which was read, and on motion of Mr. Pace was unanimously accepted—

Whereas, We recognize as fundamental political axioms, that all power is derived from the people, and that all officers are chosen and the machinery of government is adapted to carry out the will and policy of the governed; and, whereas, the only mode of expressing the popular will and impressing it upon the administration of public affairs is by the organization of

political parties, pledged to the maintenance of well defined principles; and,

Whereas, the time has now come in the history of this Territory when it is proper that parties should be organized, to the end that the principles which they maintain may be understood and felt, their influence extended, and the blessings of popular intelligence, virtue, freedom and equal rights increased and secured; Now, therefore,

RESOLVED, that we, the delegates of the people elected for that purpose, do hereby organize the Republican Party of the Territory of Utah; and we declare the following to be the principles of the party—

First—The Republican party of the United States had its origin in the necessities of the nation, and was the embodiment of a demand for the purification of the government from the corruptions necessarily growing out of human slavery. True to this mission, it has, under the guidance of an allwise Providence, devised and executed measures by which a more perfect union has been formed, equal justice for all made possible, and the blessings of liberty have become a universal fact. Its vigor in the conduct of the rebellion was followed by wise legislation, perpetuating, by constitutional guarantees, the truths established by the war, rendering the debt of the nation unquestionable and declaring inviolable the right of suffrage. The wisdom of its reconstruction measures will shine in history in fitting companionship with the moderation and clemency shown to its vanquished foes. Exalted in its conceptions and ends, its errors have been those incident to all human agencies. No party in history has so grand a record, and no party in the United States can point to such achievements in the past as pledges for its future.

Second—The public policy of the present administration has, with few exceptions, been in keeping with the high prestige of the Republican party. The public credit has been restored by a careful collection and a faithful application of the revenues; the national debt has been diminished and the rate of interest reduced; taxation has been lightened; many of the obnoxious features of the revenue laws have been abolished; the free list has been extended; the depredations of lawless bands in the South have been repressed; a generous system of bounties and pensions has been established in favor of those who were disabled in the service of the country; every endeavor has been made to render the life and property of the frontiersman more secure by a policy of fairness and kindness towards the Indians; reforms in the civil service have been projected in order to promote its efficiency and heighten the standard of public virtue; a wise regard for the development of the country has encouraged, by liberal grants, the establishment of great highways across the continent, and has devoted the balance of the public domain to the cause of popular education; a firm and dignified foreign policy has maintained the respect of foreign nations and procured the ratification of important treaties.

Third—For the future we pledge the party to a continuance of the measures of the past, with such modifications as experience and the exigencies of the public service may suggest. We regard of prime importance such a financial course as shall bring the national currency to a par with gold; such an adjustment of the customs as shall place its burdens upon the superfluities of the rich and pass over the necessities of the poor, a curtailment of the power of soulless monopolies; such an adjustment of the relations of labor and capital that every industrious and honest man may hope to receive the due reward of his toils; and such a disposition of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, that by their means the foundations of the future greatness of the nation may be deeply laid in popular intelligence and private virtue.

Fourth—While we deprecate the course pursued by many of the federal officials of this Territory, as inimical to the interests of the people, and violative of those great principles of equal rights and civil and religious liberty which have ever been the boast of the Republican party, we indulge the confident hope that the administration, imbued with, and the chosen representative of, those great principles, will in the future accord to the people of Utah their rights and preserve intact the interests of the Territory against the encroachments and irritating oppressions so long and patiently borne by them.

Fifth—We hold it inconsistent with the fundamental principles of our system of government, that any portion of the people should be deprived of a voice in the selection of those who are to execute their laws; and that the Territorial system was established to prepare the people for and assist them in maintaining self-government, and not to rob them of it. While it may be contended that justice to the larger States has hitherto denied us an admission into the Union on terms of perfect equality with them; no principle of justice can be cited for depriving us of the right of administering our own local affairs by agents selected from among ourselves. We hold it to be the bounden duty of the Republican party to provide that the people of the Territories shall have restored to them these national rights, and thus at once lift the hardy pioneers from their present vassalage to the dignity and rights of American citizens.