

Table with 3 columns: Precinct, Vote, Rep.

THE CHANCES.

The Illinois Senator, Douglas, has acquired the reputation of being a very aspiring man. Eight years ago it began to be understood that the rough-hewn gladiator of forensic debate had his heart fixed upon the Presidential Chair and since then the public, both Opposition and Democratic, have become accustomed to treat him and speak of him only as a candidate for the Chief Executive office.

The conduct of the Judge; the language of his friends and the tone of the papers known to be attached to him personally and for personal reasons, show that this common estimate is mere justice. Douglas is emphatically an office-hunter and holding an exalted place already it is impossible for him to turn his longing gaze away from that glittering prize which he believes to be his by right. He never seems to forget and he never allows his friends to forget that he is a candidate. The bearing which defeat might have upon his future prospects was one of the spurs applied to his friends last year to secure his return to the Senate. If defeated it was urged that his chances for a Democratic nomination for the Presidency would be gone. It was openly urged by his friends from the stump that he had higher aspirations, to attain which a re-election to the Senate was altogether necessary.

A man in public life cannot pursue an aspiring course for a great many years without his disposition becoming known to the public, and the reputation of being an aspirant, a permanent, unremitting, life-time aspirant, is not well calculated to fulfil such long-cherished wishes. However worthy and capable a man may be, the public at length become weary with the sound of a name which is systematically dinned in their ears. A high appreciation of talent is an American trait and especially of that sort of talent which becomes conspicuous in political contests and legislative bodies; but another American characteristic is a love of change and novelty—not a frivolous hankering after something new merely because it is new, but a susceptibility of being wearied with monotony. We value our great men at their real worth, but we know that no single man ought to monopolize all praise and honor for talent or even for patriotism. His contemporaries must share in the distribution of honors and praises and a due proportion of both ought to be held in store for their estimable juniors who are just entering political life.

Whenever a man has been for a long series of years a known aspirant for an office, combinations for his defeat will be formed by the friends of all other candidates. Had nothing occurred during the past three years to change the political status of Douglas, had he kept himself strictly in line and joined in the support which Democrats gave to the Democratic measures of the Administration, had he remained as true to Democratic faith and Constitutional rights as he was supposed to be in 1850, had he never bowed the knee to Squatter Sovereignty nor paid tribute to Free-Soil sentiment for Abolition votes—he would still have encountered much opposition from the friends and adherents of other eminent men known to be ambitious of Presidential honors. If, therefore, with a clean record his chances would have been far from amounting to a certainty of success, there is not much to be feared now. The tone of his organs has been so intensely personal, his pretensions have been put forth with such clamorous threats, such pains have been taken to show that unless he is the candidate the Democratic party must fail, that a strong disposition prevails to learn by trial the most that he and his sympathizers can do to damage the Democratic cause. Whenever a man pretends or allows his friends to put up the pretence that he constitutes the Democratic party, the members of that party are very apt to show him that it does not rest upon his shoulders alone and that it can endure even his opposition. If a true analysis of the feelings of the Democracy of the whole country could be made we believe that a general disposition to demonstrate to Senator Douglas that the party can get on as well without him as with him would be discovered. Personal attachment to any man's political fortunes is but a poor substitute for unwavering political faith.

For reasons above hinted at we are disposed to think that in the Northern States the prospect of the adherents of Douglas is waning. When all Black Republicanism comes over to the Squatter Sovereignty camp Douglasism may again become formidable. If a Northern candidate is sought for by Northern Democrats we may be assured that they will endeavor to find one who shall be acceptable to the Democrats of the South.

THE ANNUAL EXPENDITURES.—Official.—Statement of the expenditures of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859, exclusive of trust funds, and payments on account of the public debt.

The Hon. T. J. Semmes.

During the session of the late Congressional Convention here the Democrats of Rapides were favored with a visit from our worthy candidate for the office of Attorney General, the Hon. T. J. SEMMES, of New Orleans. Towards the close of the day, the desire to hear him speak became so great that when the labors of the Convention were ended he was loudly called for; but as the business of the Swamp Land Convention remained to be transacted, the speaking was deferred until 8 o'clock, P. M. At that hour the Delegates and a considerable number of citizens had gathered at the Court House and when Mr. SEMMES was introduced he was greeted with emphatic demonstrations of welcome. He spoke for half an hour or forty minutes and was listened to with thoughtful attention. We shall not undertake to reproduce any portion of his speech nor even to give its substance for the fear of failing to do justice to one of the clearest and most logical summaries of Democratic doctrine we have heard or read. His allusions to the trying and stormy scenes through which the Democrats of Louisiana have passed and in which he was a hard-working participant, were well timed. His vindication of the President was brief and pertinent and his epitome of Democratic doctrine was methodical and lucid. He addressed his remarks solely to the understanding and not at all to the passions of his hearers. His speech was the subject of universal commendation for its perspicuous, condensed and logical style and its method and exactness in language. It was what was naturally expected from one whose mind, well stored with political knowledge, has been schooled in the severe discipline of the law.

We learn from Mr. SEMMES that he is enlisted for the whole campaign and we anticipate for him a hearty welcome in every parish in the State. He will do good service wherever he goes. We hope he will again visit Rapides at an early day to address a larger audience under more favorable circumstances.

Mr. SEMMES was followed by the Hon. R. A. HUNTER and the Hon. HENRY GRAY, in effective and interesting speeches, the audience manifesting their approbation by frequent plaudits.

We regret that in our last issue we had no space for a notice of the meeting when the outlines of the speeches were made distinct in our memory.

Printing for the Blind.

During the past week we have been visited by Mr. D. Sherrod of Mississippi, who is agent for a National Board of Publishers of books, in raised letters, for the use of the blind. It is well known that by the aid of large raised letters the blind are enabled to read with the usual rapidity, and with accuracy. These letters are impressed on thick paper moistened to the proper state, and the impression is rendered permanent by the application of a substance resembling gum-arabic or glue. The sheets of impressed paper are then bound in large volumes. The Bible printed in this manner makes eight ponderous volumes.

This style of publication is very expensive, so that libraries for the use of the blind must long remain limited. But if the Legislature of each State, and the men of wealth benevolently disposed, will unite in establishing a single publishing house according to the plan proposed, it is obvious that publications for the blind can be afforded in greater number and at lower rates than they could be by several local publishing establishments. It is for this purpose that the National Publishing Board has been organized, for whom and under whose direction Mr. Sherrod is soliciting donations in Louisiana as, we think, other agents are elsewhere. It is a part of the plan of the Board to extend to each State the benefit of her individual subscriptions or Legislative donation. If Louisiana, for example, gives fifty thousand dollars to the Publishing House, the blind of the State will receive that amount in books at prime cost.

We can scarcely conceive of an enterprise more worthy of the aid of our fellow-citizens who have eyes, and hearts to sympathize with those who have none. Mr. Sherrod, well recommended by his own intelligence and amiability, is also endorsed by many of the leading philanthropists of the South. We hope that success will attend his generous labors in behalf of the unfortunate.

Our Candidate for Congress.

The B. B. Advocate pays a deserved tribute to our nominee as follows: In the public career of his popular predecessor Mr. Landrum will have both a guide and an emulation, and we truly believe that his talents and honorable ambition will make him a worthy successor of Mr. Sandiego. True to the political education of "home influences," Mr. Landrum's Democracy is devoted to those States' Rights elements of the general Government to the limits created by a man in our National Councils now, who is able to assume an earnest championship of State sovereignty and of the rights of each section of the country against the attacks of the ferociously Federalistic doctrines of Black Republicanism. Our nominee in the 4th District is the man for the place; earnest, business-like, upright and polished, we have every assurance in believing that his public career will be worthy of the confidence of the North-Western Democracy.

Our Candidate for Commissioner of the Board of Public Works.

We venture to say that no nomination made this year in the State of Louisiana, by the Democratic party, is more fitting than that of Gen. DERUSSY, of Natchitoches, for the office of Commissioner of the Board of Public Work. The Chronicle in announcing him as a candidate before the convention speaks of him in terms of appropriate eulogy as follows:

In bearing testimony to the thorough fitness of this gentleman for the position to which he aspires, we take an especial pleasure, and in urging his claims are not inditing one of those cold and formal articles which newspaper editors sometimes write by a kind of involuntary mechanism. We know him to be fully qualified in every respect for the office, we are satisfied that no man in the State has higher professional abilities for the discharge of its duties, than Gen. DERUSSY, and hence our warm, friendly, personal regard, is fully sustained in zealously urging his nomination. It is needless for us to state to the people of the District who Gen. DERUSSY is. For the last thirty years he has been a resident of North Louisiana, fully identified with all its interests, and always ready to aid in all its improvements. A graduate of the West Point Military Academy, his education renders him peculiarly fitted for membership of the Board of Public Works, and a long experience in civil as well as military engineering will render him, in the event of his election, a most valuable member of the Board. If attainments of a high order, a thorough acquaintance with the topography and wants of the District, tried services in the past, both in civil life and in the tented field, when his country required his services, are any recommendation, then we present all these to the consideration of the nominating Convention.

The Baton Rouge Advocate says:

A better man than Gen. DERUSSY could hardly have been chosen by the Convention as a candidate for Commissioner of Public Works. A graduate of West Point, the General is thoroughly versed in civil Engineering in all its branches, and is thus practically qualified to suggest and superintend the works of internal improvement contemplated in the organization of the Board. His soldier-like, straightforwardness of manners, proverbial integrity of character, and recognized capacity for the office, will make his canvass an easy one and his election beyond a doubt.

It appears to us that a scientific man who combines much practical topographical knowledge of the State with his acquirements as an engineer is alone adapted to the office.

Thirty years ago the Legislature of Louisiana should have established a permanent scientific Commission for the purpose of investigating our complicated system of water courses, of ascertaining by study, example and experiment the most effectual means of protection against overflow, of reclaiming submerged lands, of keeping open the navigation of the Mississippi, its tributaries and outlets, of fixing upon the best routes for railways, of applying to practical use for the benefit of the government and citizens of the State, such new discoveries in science as can be made serviceable, of preparing in a condensed form publications for general circulation calculated to diffuse necessary scientific information and of guiding the Legislature in all its acts which are intended to develop the wealth and resources of the State. Under the guidance of such a commission legislation would have been uniform, permanent, economical and adapted to the proposed ends. If expended under the direction of such a commission the money that has been applied for protection, for public works and for the reclamation of overflowed lands, would have returned an abundant remuneration. The cost of the employment of scientific aid to legislation would have brought forth, like the seed which "fell on good ground" a hundred-fold harvest.

What should have been done long ago, may now be accomplished by choosing for Commissioners of the Board of Public Works men of the requisite qualification. It is on this account that we are gratified to present in our list of candidates the name of Gen. DERUSSY to the voters of the Third Swamp Land District. In view of his capacity, his experience and his scientific education, no less than of his high standing as an officer and a citizen, his nomination is one of the best made in Louisiana at any time.

DEMOCRACY IN MAINE.—The Democrats of Maine met in State Convention June 30th at Bangor. The number of delegates was large. A despatch says: The Democratic Convention has nominated Menasha Smith (Administration Democrat) for Governor. The vote stood: Smith, 304; Smart, (Douglas Democrat) 284; scattering, 35. The Convention also nominated as delegates to the Charleston Convention Geo. Shepley and E. Wilder Farley, (Administration) and A. M. Roberts and Bion Bradbury, (anti-Administration Democrats).

The following are the resolutions of the Convention: 1. Resolved, That all political power is inherent in the people; that all free governments are formed in their authority, and instituted for their benefit; that the right of self-government is the fundamental idea of our Republican institutions, and the doctrine of the capacity of the people to govern themselves, the cornerstone of our political fabric, applicable alike to the States and Territories of our Union.

2. Resolved, That the Democracy of Maine reassert the great principle of self-government, popular sovereignty, as the basis of their policy in reference to the organized Territories of the United States.

3. Resolved, That acting upon the principle of absolute non-intervention by Congress with slavery in the States and Territories, which we recognize as eminently just and wise, we are opposed to any legislation by Congress to establish, abolish, regulate or protect slavery in the Territories.

4. Resolved, That we hold it to be the duty of the Democratic party steadfastly to adhere to the principles embodied in the compromise measures of 1850, ratified by the people in the Presidential election of 1852, and reaffirmed in the Kansas-Nebraska act of 1854, (which is founded upon principles as ancient as free government itself, and in accordance with them has simply declared that the people of a Territory, like those of a State, shall decide for themselves whether slavery shall exist within their limits), and incorporated into the Cincinnati platform of 1856, and to resist all attempts to interpolate into the creed of the party such new issues; and we pledge ourselves to resist any attempt to re-open the African slave trade or a Congressional slave code for the Territories, or the doctrine that the Constitution of the United States either establishes or prohibits slavery in the Territories beyond the power of the people to control it.

POLITICAL.

The Democratic candidates nominated in East Feliciana July 2nd were as follows:

For Representatives, Byrthel Haynes, Dr. Robt. M. Kennedy, Sheriff, B. M. G. Brown; Clerk, J. B. Bell, Assessor, Joseph Drawdy; Coroner, Joseph Whitehead.

The Democracy of the parish of Concordia met in Vidua on Monday the 26th ult., and nominated Dr. A. R. Kilpatrick and Col. J. A. Carter as candidates for the Legislature. Dr. Kilpatrick was formerly president of this parish. His old friends and fellow-workers in Democracy will be pleased with this appreciation of his worth and ability.

The Democrats of New Jersey will meet at Trenton in State Convention August 23rd to nominate a candidate for Governor.

The Democracy of Dubuque county, Iowa, in their recent convention to appoint delegates to the State convention, adopted the resolutions of the Democrat of Ohio.

The Senate of Connecticut has rejected the Constitutional Amendment to abolish the distinction of color in the matter of suffrage, by a vote of 16 nays to 5 yeas.

Let it be noted that John G. Saxe, Democratic candidate for Governor of Vermont, is an editor.

The Leavenworth Daily Herald of the 17th June states, in an article upon the recent election in Kansas, that the majority in the Convention will not be more than one or two, either way, and it is as likely to be with the Democrats as the Black Republicans.

The Democrat of Point Coupee has nominated for Representative, J. Lafayette Matthews, J. J. McCrea. For Sheriff, Severin Porche. For Clerk, Alcide Bondy. For Assessor, J. B. St. Cyr. For Coroner, Robert Mberter.

The K. N. party of Terrebonne has nominated a full ticket, Messrs D. S. Cage and H. F. Collins were named for the Legislature; H. Newell, Clerk; A. Bourc, for Sheriff; T. Duplantia, for Assessor; and C. Bellanger, as Coroner. They further recommended the selection of a candidate for Congress, in opposition to the Hon. M. Taylor, a Convention to convene for that purpose to meet in New Orleans the last Thursday of July.

THE ONLY SAFE PARTY.—"Let the mongrels howl!" So exclaims the Gettysburg Compiler, writing on the conduct of the Opposition. It continues: "The country will continue to depend upon the old time-tied Democratic party to uphold and protect the Constitution and the Union of the States, as in times past. In the language of the son of Henry Clay, the Democratic party is the 'only organization which has the will and the power to preserve the Union from dissolution!'"

We are satisfied, says the N. Y. News, that neither Mr. Dickinson nor Mr. Seymour are candidates for the Presidential nomination, though we apprehend either could save the Democratic party in that or in any other capacity, if the interests of the country and the Democratic party required it.

The Kansas Constitutional Convention will consist of fifty-four members and the Leavenworth City Herald of the 19th inst., foists up the election of delegates as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Party, Number of Delegates

JUDGE DOUGLAS.—That sound and steady Democratic sheet, the Pennsylvania, remarks concerning the political manifesto recently telegraphed from Washington by Douglas, under the form of a letter to his friend J. B. Dorr of Iowa:

Now we admit that it is not customary for politicians to joke on so serious a subject, as that of the Presidency; in fact, they all take it quite too much to heart, and speak of it with tears in