

The subscribers, having exclusive charge of the business department of the Democrat, requests persons who have advertisements to insert or payments to make to call at his office.

MERCER CANFIELD.

At a Meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee, held on Monday the 23d instant, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That it is hereby recommended to the Democrats of the several Parishes of the State to elect delegates to a State Convention to be held at Baton Rouge, on Monday the 5th March next, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the National Democratic Convention, to be held at Charleston, on the 23d of April next.

Resolved, That the delegates be elected on a basis of one delegate for every one hundred votes, and one for each fraction of fifty votes and upwards cast at the last general election for Governor.

J. B. COTTON, President. H. L. HUSLEY, Secretary. feb 1

CALL FOR A PARISH CONVENTION.

The Democratic voters of the several Precincts are requested to hold Primary Meetings on Saturday, 18th inst., and send up Delegates to the Parish Convention to be held in Alexandria on the following

Saturday, 25th February, for the purpose of sending Delegates to represent the Parish of Rapides in the State Convention at Baton Rouge on

Monday, 5th of March next.

Rapides polled 892 votes for Governor, and is consequently entitled to nine Delegates in the State Convention.

Each Precinct is entitled in the Parish Convention to one Delegate for every 20 Democratic votes cast for Governor in the last election, and one additional for every fraction of ten and over; as follows:

Table with columns: Precincts, Votes, Delegates. Lists various precincts like Attanier, Ana-Coco, Neal's, Whiskachita, Burton's, Stanley's, Calcasieu, Cousade, Bayou Rapides, Cheneyville, Lamourie, Leconte, Spring Hill, Coffey, Saddy Creek, Little River, Plaisance, Union, Saddle Bayou, Simms, Wiley's, Laorois, Gore's, Pineville, Alexandria.

By order of the Parish Executive Committee. Alexandria, February 1st, 1860.

We hope that every Parish will note the suggestion of the State Central Committee to send delegates to a State Convention at Baton Rouge on 5th March next.

The Democrats of Rapides will notice the action of our Parish Central Committee calling for Precinct meetings on Saturday 18th February, and for a Parish Convention at Alexandria on Saturday 25th February.

See Mr. HENARE's advertisement.

The public will notice Professor MARZO's advertisement proposing to teach the fashionable modern Languages and Music.

Mr. HULL's advertisement of Lamps and burning fluids—his patent Facet—patent Scissors Sharpner, &c., &c., is found in this issue. No. 6 Chartres street. Remember the place.

We call the attention of Cotton growers to the advertisement of "Fassman's Iron Cotton Tie." Merchants who buy rope for planters may also find it to their interest to examine this matter before laying in a supply for next season.

Mr. Belcher is the Agent, 22 Commercial Place, New Orleans.

We invite attention to the advertisement headed "Sewing Machine Depot 90 Canal st. N. O." While much has been said and written as to the relative merits of the Wheeler & Wilson, the Singer and a number of other Sewing Machines. Sloat & Co., have been quietly pursuing the even tenor of their way, and their Machine has been rapidly gaining favor.

Every family ought to have a Sewing Machine, and every one ought to examine Sloat & Co's Elliptic Machine before purchasing elsewhere.

Remember 90 Canal Street.

Notice Mr. Drinkard's advertisement of the sale in Cheneyville of the "SHADES."

See Mr. Ringgold's Horse and Buggy for sale.

If you want a beautiful and life-like Ambrotype or Photograph, call on Mr. S. J. Woolly at the Masonic Hall, he makes Photographs of all sizes, colored in Oil by Mr. Bushly. This is the most perfect way to get a correct portrait. Call and see their work, they will remain but eight or ten days longer.

By a joint resolution of the Senate and House, the Legislature stands adjourned to Monday 6th inst.

A SOUTHERN REPUBLIC.

(Those in the Southern States who are disunionists in sentiment and who desire a dissolution of the political bonds by which they are united to the non-slave-holding States as a measure good in itself and to be taken as soon as possible, do not, in our opinion, constitute any very considerable portion of the Southern people.) If their feelings and opinions were canvassed it would probably be seen that all of them are led to this position chiefly by the expectation of forming a new Southern Union, composed of all the slave-holding States, after the model of the present confederacy and with all its predominant features. This new Republic, free from the intermeddling of Northern fanatics, free from the pestilential slavery agitation, is the occupant of their constant thoughts. Believing that they deceive themselves with fallacious and uncertain calculations we propose, however unpleasant the theme is to contemplate, to examine briefly the grounds on which they base their hopes.

Let us assume that for good and sufficient cause, for grievances suffered, for constitutional rights violated, for universal Northern hostility plainly declared, or for aggressions threatened by an overwhelming majority of abolitionists in all of the free States, the entire South had seceded from the confederacy. These fourteen States (not reckoning Delaware) would return to their condition of sovereignty and independent nationalities, each absolute within her own border, each entirely at liberty to form any alliance or coalition with any other State or even with any foreign power. They would possess one institution, that of slavery, in common and as far as its influence extended it would favor a political combination; but even in this some of the fourteen would have far less interest than others. In the grain-growing States of Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri, whose slave population does not increase much now and must diminish by the increasing demand for labor in the cotton States, however much the people may be attached to the institutions of their fathers as a matter of pride or on principle, there cannot be the same interest felt for fortifying the Southern system and for enlarging the field of its rule as will be felt in farther Southern States. (The Northern tier of States will continue to be exporters of slaves, selling every year to the cotton States a number nearly equal to the rapid natural increase. They will have a direct interest in maintaining the present prices of slaves and in opposing any cheaper supply of the Southern demand. The advocates of the new Southern Republic expect as a thing of course to get rid of the federal restriction upon the slave trade by escaping from the present union and that each State will be left free to import slaves whence it pleases. It is not probable that the grain-growing and slave selling border States would assent to form parts of a union on terms that might diminish the market value of their slave property from one-third to one-half in a single year. Nor would they consent to bear their share of the taxes and burdens of the almost inevitable maritime war which the restoration of the African slave trade would bring on. Between Missouri and South Carolina, though both slave-holding States, there is no more identity of interests than there is now between Kentucky and Southern Illinois and Southern Indiana. The interests of the Southern Mississippi valley States have no especial or permanent identity with those of the Southern Atlantic States, any more than the agricultural States of the West are identical in interest with the manufacturing States of New England. In fact it has been for some years our settled conviction that in the event of a disruption of the confederacy the States of the Mississippi valley will be the first to form among themselves either a new union or, which is equally probable, an alliance offensive and defensive with mutual free trade and the common privilege of free navigation of the great channel of Western and Southern commerce and all its tributaries,—that such new confederacy or league will include all States and parts of States whose products find their way to a foreign market through the mouths of the Mississippi, whether such States are or are not slave-holding,—and that it will gradually absorb the whole region from the Alleghany range to the Rocky Mountains, excepting only that portion of the North-west which is drained by the great lakes discharging through the St. Lawrence. It is to be expected that, in the new formations consequent upon dissolution of the existing Union, identity of interests will become the basis of the new fabrics and that even States boundaries will be in some cases disregarded.

The danger from Northern aggressions and from the interference of foreign powers would no doubt form a strong incentive to a defensive political union, but that danger would be felt by the different States in various degrees. Some might possibly conceive that they would best consult their own interests by forming a free trade and defensive league with some power capable of assuming their defence.

On the hypothesis which we have assumed it will be the abuse of federal power by a tyrannical majority which will have driven them to secession. They will naturally, therefore, try to guard against such abuse in their new union,—which is only possible by restricting its powers within narrower limits. Hence the new government will be weaker than its predecessor; add to the influence of this weakness of the new federal bond the force of the example of secession which will have been already set and we will find them productive of a great tendency to a new dissolution. Permanent identity of interests or else a constant and imminent common danger alone appears sufficient to render the new union stable.

The foregoing are but brief and cursory suggestions of a very few of the elements which will enter into the great and complicated new governmental problem. It requires sagacity and prescience seldom vouchsafed to men to penetrate the future which dissolution will open to the sovereign States of this confederacy. If we will not take counsel from our fears nor allow fallacious hopes to deceive us. What is right we may do boldly and do safely. We cannot afford to submit to injustice from an oppressive majority power wielding the federal government—it were better for us all to be slain in the attempt to maintain our honor than to survive the disgrace of becoming the vassals, retainers and tenants-at-will of a central tyranny controlled by our abolitionist enemies.

We trust that all citizens of Louisiana so value her inalienable sovereign rights and so cherish her honor that they will not hesitate to annul the bonds which had men ruling a factious, fanatical, sectional party attempt to pervert to the damage of our State, just so soon as remaining in the union is no longer safe or honorable,—without waiting for co-operation of aid or counsel or guidance from any other State whatever,—without any sort of sentimentalism at all but that quietly, bravely, manfully and unanimously taking up their arms, they will show to all the world that they desire to be let alone.

THE INAUGURAL. We give in another place the very able address delivered by Governor Moore to the joint houses of the General Assembly on entering upon the discharge of the functions of his office. We have rarely read a document in which positions so sound are expressed with so much vigor, clearness and simplicity. We look upon it as the corner-stone of the new administration—of that new house which is to be founded on the rock of integrity, around which the winds of faction will howl harmlessly, against which the waves of opposition will dash unheeded. Here in Rapides, where Mr. Moore is known, there is no need of saying that his declarations are the exponents of deliberate resolves, growing out of that prominent trait in his character which leads him to prefer what is just and right above all things else. It may be hard to carry out the programme which his inaugural enunciates; but "where there is a will there is a way" also; no man has more of this will than Governor Moore and he will surely find the way. We like the sensible, dignified and wholly anti-sentimental style in which the incoming Governor treats of the great and overshadowing danger which rises in the Northern sky. Without any sort of appeal to any passion whatever he states the true and solid grounds on which we, the people of Louisiana, stand in this contest. It does not become us to fly off on any sort of false issue; it will not do for us to bear any sort of dishonor or any material violation of our rights. We will join cool, discreet and honest men when involved with them in a common calamity; we will not follow the dictation of warm-hearted but wrong-headed ultraists. We are informed that the beauty of the State as well as its chivalry was largely represented on the 23d ultimo at the State Capital. We learn that the highest encomiums have been bestowed on Governor Moore for the natural, easy, unostentatious but dignified manner in which he went through with the ceremonies of the day, albeit they were attended with something more of parade than suited his tastes and wishes. The inaugural is the theme of general commendation; in fact more is expected from the administration of Governor Moore than there has been from that of any predecessor for many years, and we believe that no rational expectation will be disappointed.

Louisiana Legislature.

SATURDAY, Jan. 21.—The House of Representatives assembled at 10 o'clock this morning. The Speaker in the Chair. Fifty-nine members were present.

After the reading of the Journal the Speaker announced the names of the various standing committees.

Mr. Haynes offered a resolution instructing the Finance Committee to inquire into the expediency of equalizing the tax upon trades and professions by a more strict conformity to the constitutional provision which provides that all property be taxed according to its value; and instructing said Committee to report by bill or otherwise. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Rousseau introduced a bill fixing the salaries of judges of the several districts of the State, which was also referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Haynes introduced a bill to allow a surviving husband to acquire the wife's interest in property by a will of the deceased wife, in cases where there are no children to inherit it. The bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. Allen also introduced a bill to prohibit all persons from hawking and peddling in the State, except such as were citizens of Louisiana. The bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

MONDAY, Jan. 23.—Senate.—The Senate met at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Solomon moved that the Senate concur in the joint resolution from the House inviting the Senate to attend in the Hall of the House at 12 o'clock, m., to witness the inauguration of the Governor elect, Hon. T. O. Moore—carried.

Mr. Smith gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to establish a State arsenal in connection with the State Military Seminary near Alexandria.

The Senate then went into Executive session, and after a few minutes spent therein the doors were opened, and they adjourned over to the hall of the House to witness the inauguration of Thos. O. Moore, the Governor; at the conclusion of which they repaired to their own chamber.

The Lieut. Gov. H. M. Hyams, took his seat and read off the standing committees as follows:

Elections.—Talbot, Smart, Goode, Hunt, Gardner.

Judiciary.—Goode, Stirling, Tucker, Hunt, Talbot, Hough, Phillips.

Banks and Banking.—Stirling, Gardner, Taylor, Hunt, Delany, Salomon, Smith.

Claims.—Smart, Phillips, Delany, Leece, Moore.

Commerce, Manufactures and Agriculture.—Malhot, Cottrell, Lott, Stevens, Patterson.

Charitable Institutions.—Pearce, Pellerin, Hough, Lawrence, Salomon, Patterson, Wilson.

Unfinished Business.—Goode, Pellerin, Womack, Shadburne, Salomon.

Federal Relations.—Taylor, Goode, Hunt, Phillips, Gardner.

Parochial Affairs.—Cottrell, Womack, Moreland, Lott, Moore.

Enrolled Bills.—Phillips, Gardner, Tucker, Hough, Salomon.

Penitentiary.—Tucker, Talbot, Buffington, Smith, Moore.

Library.—Newell, Stevens, Buffington.

Auditing and Superintending the Expenses of the Senate.—Smart, Smith, Laidlaw.

Militia.—Loughborough, Taylor, Flournoy, Laidlaw, Moreland.

Public Education.—Pearce, Smith, Patterson, Loughborough, Leece.

Finance.—Pearce, Taylor, Gardner, Salomon, Leece.

Internal Improvements and Lands and Leases.—Shadburne, Newell, Moore, Taylor, Lawrence, Stirling, Laidlaw, Flournoy, Wilson.

Amendments to the Constitution.—Goode, Stirling, Hunt.

A short time after 12 o'clock, the Senate met the House for the purpose of inaugurating the Governor elect.

The late Governor, Hon. R. C. Wickliffe, before administering the oath to his successor, delivered a feeling and eloquent address.

We are unable, says the Baton Rouge Advocate, to catch his remarks in full, but, in substance, they were as follows:

Fellow Citizens—I appear before you to surrender into the hands of my worthy successor, the reins of government, committed to my hands, four years ago, by the Constitution of the State.

On entering upon the discharge of my official career, I took an oath to support the Constitution of the United States and of this State, and to discharge to the best of my abilities the duties incumbent on me, as Governor of the State of Louisiana.

I hope, my conscience tells me, I have redeemed that pledge. The citizens of Baton Rouge, who have so zealously sustained me in so many dark and troublous hours, I will ever remember with the feelings of a deeply grateful heart; and now, in delivering into the hands of my successor, the charge heretofore imposed on me, I assure him that it is with heartfelt expressions of an honest heart, that I hope, at the close of his official career, he may have full reasons to congratulate himself upon the faithful fulfillment of the trust committed to his hands. In conclusion, I bid you a long and affectionate farewell.

On the conclusion of his address, the Governor administered the oath of office to his successor, who then proceeded to deliver his inaugural address.

The Governor having been installed, administered the oath of office to the Lieutenant Governor elect. The Senate then withdrew to its own chamber, and on motion the House adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, Jan. 24.—The Senate met to-day at 11 o'clock this morning. Hon. H. M. Hyams, Lieut. Governor and President of the Senate, in the chair; twenty members present.

Mr. Salomon introduced a bill to emancipate the slave Emily Norman. The bill was referred.

Mr. B. W. Ferree was unanimously elected President pro tem. of the Senate, during any absence which might occur on the part of the President sworn.

The resolution requesting the Board of Public Works to examine the report upon certain proposed works on the Atchafalaya and Old river, the resolution requiring the Board of Public Works to report certain measures for the improvement of navigation on Red river; the resolution asking information from the Board of Public Works in regard to the practicability of building a dam across Old river, through which Red river comes in with the Atchafalaya. Each of the above resolutions were respectively referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements, Swamp Lands and Leases.

On motion of Mr. Pearce the Senate resolved itself into executive session.

The House met to-day at 10 o'clock, Hon. C. H. Morrison, Speaker, in the chair. Sixty-four members present.

Mr. Gray moved that the joint resolution introduced by him yesterday instructing the committee on public printing to report a bill to provide for the letting of the State Printing by contract to the lowest bidder, be passed over informally.

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The Senate asked the concurrence of the House in the resolution to appropriate five hundred dollars to defray the expenses in inaugurating the Governor elect.

VERNON, Jan. 25.—The Senate met to-day at 11 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Tucker, of St. Mary, was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Banks, in place of Mr. Stirling, declined.

Vouchers for the contingent expenses of the Treasurer and Auditor were received and appropriately referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Shadburne, of Carroll, introduced a bill abolishing and rendering of none effect, articles 140, 131, 132, 133 and 134 of the constitution.

Mr. Salomon, of New Orleans, introduced a bill in relation to testimony in certain cases.

Also, were introduced, House bills relative to the State Librarian and the award of the State printing to the lowest bidder; which the Senate adjourned.

The House met this morning, at 10 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment; seventy-one members present.

Mr. Allen, of West Baton Rouge, offered a resolution giving additional powers to the committee to examine into the accounts of the Swamp Land Commissioners, and to examine into the works ordered, which was adopted.

Mr. Lane, of Orleans, offered a resolution of adjournment till Monday, the sixth of February, on which there was a warm discussion, in which Messrs. Allen of West Baton Rouge, Lane of Orleans, Barthelemy of St. Mary, Austin of Orleans, and Gray of Bienville took part in favor of the motion, and Randall of Ascension, and others, against it; which was finally decided by a vote of 56 yeas to 20 nays.

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