

OREGON MASS CONVENTION.

At a very large and enthusiastic meeting of the citizens of Illinois, convened at a beautiful grove near Fairfield, in Wayne county, on Thursday, the 7th day of August, 1845,—on motion Col. John S. Hatcher, of Union, presided, and the following gentlemen were named as officers of the day, as follows: President of the day—Hon. Walter B. Scates, of Jefferson.

Vice Presidents: Col. John S. Hatcher, of Union, Maj. Daniel Powell and Col. Samuel Slocumb of White, Thomas S. Hick, Esq. of Gallatin, Col. R. A. D. Wilkens of Jefferson, A. P. Corcor, Esq. of Williamson, Jos. H. Reed, Esq. of Richland, H. P. Boyakin, Esq. of Marion, Dr. James Mahon, of Wabash, Charles Burns, Esq. of Edwards, Charles H. Clark, Esq. of Hamilton, Lyman Trumbull, Esq. of St. Clair, Hon. O. E. Fields, of Coles, James Metcalfe, Jr., of Randolph, Gen. Alex. Campbell, of Wayne.

Secretaries: Henry W. Moore, of Gallatin, Finney D. Preston, of Wabash.

The President pro tem, put the question upon their appointment as stated, and the same was carried in the affirmative.

Hon. W. B. Scates, on taking the chair, called the attention of the multitude to the object which had brought them together, adverted to their right, to assemble to deliberate upon their public affairs, and briefly and impressively gave his concurrence in what seemed to be the views and feelings of his countrymen upon the important subject of the maintenance of the American title to Oregon.

Dr. Daniel Turney, of Wayne, offered the following:

Resolved, That the title of the United States to Oregon, between 42 and 54 degrees and 40 minutes north latitude, is clear and indisputable, and is as much considered by the Government of the United States.

Resolved, That the people of the United States, would not willingly part with any portion of it; and it is therefore inexpedient and unwise to renounce the proposition to compromise the pretended claims of Great Britain, heretofore submitted by this Government.

Resolved, That it is incompatible with the honor of this nation to surrender a portion of her territory, to secure another, or to buy territory.

Resolved, That, in our opinion, Great Britain will not renounce her pretended claim by treaty, and therefore it is inexpedient to negotiate upon the subject.

Resolved, That the Government of Europe tolerate none other than monarchies upon that continent; therefore, it is alike the duty and interest of this Government, (privileged by the law of nations,) in securing her peace and property and the perpetuity of republican institutions, to prevent the extension of monarchy, and to possess or jurisdiction upon this continent—for these reasons, among others, the government should terminate the joint occupancy of Oregon, as soon as is consistent with the existing treaty with Great Britain, and should be especially vigilant in ascertaining the policy of that grasping power, with reference to the rich country of California, and prevent it from falling under British domination or control.

Resolved, That this government should not suffer any interference of foreign governments in the politics of North American Republics, and so soon as such interference is manifest, it should be met by decided resistance, and if resisted, by prompt and far less pacific action on the part of the United States.

Resolved, That this government, for the maintenance of our title to Oregon, should encourage emigration thither by giving bounties of land, and by extending possessions or jurisdiction upon this continent—for these reasons, among others, the government should terminate the joint occupancy of Oregon, as soon as is consistent with the existing treaty with Great Britain, and should be especially vigilant in ascertaining the policy of that grasping power, with reference to the rich country of California, and prevent it from falling under British domination or control.

Resolved, That we hold to the established maxim: "In peace prepare for war." and in the event of war, the Government of the United States should fight the gall—build the National Army conceived to have been established by law at Fort Mifflin, complete Depots and establish dock-yards on the western waters—make the Illinois and Michigan canals, and other great works, and other national works, and do such other acts as are necessary to put our borders in an adequate state of defence.

After the disposal of the above series of resolutions, Dr. Daniel Turney offered the following:

Resolved, That we, also, are rejoiced at the prospect of the speedy completion of the Illinois and Michigan canal, whereby commerce will be facilitated, the lake country fortified, and the canal properly brought into market on fair terms, and the people of the State relieved of a large portion of the public debt.

Resolved, That we regard the reputation of debts, honestly contracted, as the greatest disgrace a people can suffer, and, cherishing, as we do, the obligation of honor and honesty, we are willing to make, and erect such sacrifice of money or property, to relieve our State from so foul a stigma, so unjustly attempted to be cast upon us.

Charles H. Constable, Esq., of Wabash, being introduced by the chair, spoke on the various resolutions embraced in the first series of resolutions, supporting them with great dignity and ability.

Hon. John A. McClelland, of Gallatin, was next presented to the meeting, and addressed it in a stirring and able exposition of the commercial and military importance of Oregon to the United States, and in demonstrating the necessity of its maintenance by them, and their ability to do it.

Hon. Sidney Brees, of Clinton, being likewise presented, expressed his satisfaction at having the opportunity of seeing so many of his fellow citizens of Illinois, assembled to deliberate upon a great National question, and dwelt at some length and with force and consistency upon the importance of the American title to the whole of Oregon; concluding with great beauty and power, upon the general spread of Liberty and Republicanism.

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MR. CUSTIS AT NEW YORK.

The arrival of G. Washington Park Custis, Esq., in this city has been considered an epoch in history. The adopted child of the great Patriot, one always near his person, sleeping the same room, dining at the same table, hearing all said, and witnessing all done by the illustrious patriot—to whom he left Mount Vernon, his favorite seat; who had his confidence, shared his affections, and who was devoted to his illustrious relative—the arrival in this city of such a person, after an absence of fifty years, is an event worthy of public notice. So that after visiting all the places remarkable in the history of our revolution, our worthy friend, Alderman Peters, set apart yesterday for Mr. Custis to receive the visits, at his splendid residence in Lenox Place, not only of the men of the present day, but all those spared by Providence, who were the friends and companions in arms of the great Washington, and it was a very delightful re-union, interesting in all its details.

The best time we believe Mr. Custis spent in New York was with the General, when he came to be inaugurated as President of the United States, which ceremony was performed in the old City Hall, where the Custom House now stands. The chair in which he sat is preserved in the Common Council room, and the iron railing against which he leaned in the balcony, is now a feature at New York.

Washington, it will be remembered, was rowed across the river, in a barge, and in that barge was Mr. Custis. Mr. Ming, sen., now in the Custom House, was in the barge also, and remembers the circumstance, if we mistake not, perfectly well. But to the re-union.

It was about ten o'clock when we entered Mr. Peters' mansion—a fine tenement splendidly furnished, and also elegantly decorated, ornate, and with a cottage, and all the little incidents that go to render a dwelling a sort of paradise. After partaking of the numerous luxuries spread by the hospitable host, we entered the apartments. Such an array of age and worth combined as met our vision, we shall never forget. There were veterans who had fought in the battles of their country, and who had not only adhered to the old style of dress—the broad skirted coat, breeches, low shoes, and white silk stockings. Here were officers of whom history makes honorable mention—gentlemen who, though journeying among us with the bleachings of many winters upon their heads, are still hale, hearty, vigorous and light-hearted. Yes, there were those who had taken active parts in the battles of their country, and who had lived in that period, enlarged as it is called "old times"; and beside them stood the sons of revolutionary s