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A FIGHT IN NEW JERSEY

A SIGNIFICANT CONVENTION OF NEGRO REPUBLICANS.

Union County the Storm-Center—A Strong Platform Drawn by Prof. Jesse Lawson—Senator Kean and Representative Fowler in the Saddle—Vital Issues at Stake.

A stubborn fight for party leadership is now being waged among the Republicans of New Jersey. The storm center of this contest is in Union county, the home of United States Senator John Kean and of Congressman Charles N. Fowler, the leaders of the opposing forces. Union county has also a large quota of intelligent colored voters, who are well organized under a matchless leadership, and they know a thing or two about practical politics, as was evidenced by the conduct of their convention, held at Plainfield on the 19th ultimo.

Colonel Hamilton Fish Kean is chairman of the Republican County Committee, and he is in close touch with all of the voters in the county. The opposing faction attempted to oust him at the primaries held on Monday evening of last week, but the colored voters rallied to his support, and he won out more than three to one. The significance of this victory will be better appreciated when the cause of the fight is understood. For 30 years, Gen. William J. Sewell, of Camden county, was the party leader in the State, and as long as he lived the sceptre of power was in the county of Camden, but with the passing of General Sewell the sceptre of power was transferred to Union county and to the hands of Senator Kean. The fight now is to wrest this power from Senator Kean and place it in other hands, but up to date all attempts in that direction have proved futile, and the indications point to the continued ascendancy of the Kean forces throughout the State.

The convention of colored Republicans, held at Plainfield on September 19th ultimo, gives evidence of the fact that the colored voters of New Jersey are alive to their own interests. The convention was composed of about 150 delegates duly elected by the people. The men came from every walk of life, and they were thoroughly in earnest about the work in hand. They were a remarkably well-behaved set, and every session of the convention was characterized by that decorum which should always mark an assembly of gentlemen.

The moving spirits in the convention were Mr. William A. Kline, of Plainfield, former doorkeeper of the General Assembly; Mr. Hosea C. Hewitt of Cranford, Mr. A. L. Hughes of Rahway, Mr. Charles R. H. Hawkins of Elizabeth, Mr. Richard W. Norwood, Mr. A. Venable, Dr. J. C. Anderson and others of Plainfield, and Mr. Walter H. Thomas of Elizabeth.

MEN OF THE HOUR.



BISHOP CHARLES S. SMITH.

His Eloquent Sermon to Detroit's Oldest and Most Aristocratic Methodist Congregation on "Love the Only Remedy for National Ills Creates a profound Sensation upon the Practical Thinkers and Scholars of the Country."

The platform was drawn by Prof. Jesse Lawson, of Plainfield, chairman of the committee on resolutions. This platform contains the issues which affect the interests of the colored people, not in New Jersey alone, but throughout the country. It favors the Inquiry Commission Bill, the Crum-packer Resolution, and an amendment to the interstate commerce law prohibiting the use of the "jim crow" car. If the colored people expect to get these measures through Congress they must make them issues in the pending congressional campaign. Let them follow the example set by the colored voters of Union county, New Jersey. Here is given the full text of

THE PLATFORM.

We, the colored voters of Union county, in convention assembled, do hereby renew our obligations to the regular organization of the Republican party in our county, and we call upon every colored voter in the county to sustain the hand of the chairman of the county committee in his effort to obtain for the whole ticket and every member on the ticket the largest majority that Union county has ever giv-

en for Republican nominees.

2. We congratulate the people of Union county upon the fact that, after many years of struggle and endeavor and patient waiting, they are now represented by one of their own sons in the person of Hon. John Kean, of Elizabeth. That such representation gives to our county a distinction she has not heretofore had the honor to bear, and it behooves every loyal son of "Old Union" to rally around the standard of Senator Kean and bear in triumph the colors of Union county to the front.

3. That we feel proud of the distinction achieved and the record made in our national Congress by Hon. Charles N. Fowler, another noble standard-bearer of Union county, and we call upon all the voters of the county, irrespective of party or race, who believe that the government should discharge its obligations with the best money the world can produce, to use all honorable means at their command to have

Prof. Albert F. Mando, director of the Mozart Conservatory of Music, New York City, has been making a tour of

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BAPTISTS OF WORLD.

MEET IN CONVENTION AT BIRMINGHAM

A Constituency of Two Millions Represented—Prominent Figures in the Great Body—Work of the Women's Auxiliary—More About the Awful Calamity.

The twenty-second annual meeting of the Negro Baptists of the world was held in Birmingham, Ala., Sept. 17-22, 1902. There were present workers from both continents and races, for besides the throngs of delegates who poured in from all parts of the United States, earnest reports were listened to from interested missionaries from Wales and Africa. When it is remembered that this great gathering represented a constituency of over 2,000,000 colored Baptists, some appreciable idea may be formed as to the size of the convention.

Meetings of the Woman's Auxiliary were held simultaneously with those of the men, the latter at the Shiloh Baptist Church, Rev. T. W. Walker, pastor, and the former at the Sixth Ave. Baptist Church, Rev. Wilhite, pastor. The opening meeting was a joint session. The annual address was delivered by Rev. Walker. Mayor Brennan, of Birmingham, gave them a cordial welcome to the city and pledged the support and co-operation of the white people throughout the city in every way tending to the success of the occasion. Rev. Fisher, of the First Church, delivered an address of welcome on the part of the clergy of the city, and Rev. McEwen, on the part of those of the State. These addresses were bristling with eloquence, wisdom and cordiality, and were responded to in a most eloquent and unique address by Rev. Geo. W. Lee, of Washington, D. C. The time was occupied in receiving reports from the Educational, Foreign and Home Mission Boards, as well as from independent field workers, all of which showed commendable progress.

The Woman's Convention, so ably presided over by Mrs. S. Willie Layton, of Philadelphia, was favored with an address on Missions by Rev. C. T. Walker, of New York. His effort was a powerful one and characterized a great man. This auxiliary reported over \$3,000 raised for mission work during the year. The address of the president, Mrs. Layton, and report of corresponding secretary, Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, were eloquent and forceful and abounded in helpful thought. These will be printed in full in the minutes. Every Baptist would feel proud of the strong men and women coming up to the help of the Lord through this denomination annually, for besides those mentioned, there

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